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Rick P Solana,
Scientific Affairs

Dear Rick,

An **urgent matter** that I need to bring to your attention.

In October I was informed that the budget material for year 2000 was due. I submitted a proposal for a continuation of the consultancy/travel work and the continuation of the Children-infectious disease study that was under way in Geneva, being part of my scientific activities in Geneva which have been supported by Philip Morris since 1974. Laureen informed me that a decision on the outcome was to be taken late November in view of the change over after the departure Cathy Ellis.

After contacting Valerie King the other day I now heard that no decision has been taken and that I need to submit again to the SRRC (which was done already in October) with a possible decision to be taken in March.

This leaves me in a most embarrassing situation. The staff in Geneva will not have any salary in two weeks time. All the field work that we have done by recruiting 250 persons for the study, which was to start after the New Year, will be lost and the persons will obviously be disappointed and very difficult to recruit again.

I am fully aware of the need to plan beforehand and have always sent in papers and budget proposals when asked to do so. Obviously I will adapt to any new administrative routines that come into force but the situation that has arisen now is out of my control.

I will give you a call tomorrow to discuss how we could solve the problem.

With my best regards


Ragnar Rylander

cc Valerie King

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