

March 17, 2017.

Selection Committee  
United Nations Public Service Awards – UNPSA

*Recommendation Letter to the United Nations Public Service Awards*

To the members of the selection committee:

I would strongly recommend the Brazilian initiative "**Center for Information on Wildlife Health**" developed by the **Institutional Platform for Biodiversity and Health of the FIOCRUZ (Oswaldo Cruz Foundation)**, a secular institution dedicated to health and science and committed to SDGs and the conservation of biodiversity as a basis for sustainability and the quality of life.

The initiative is absolutely innovative and I have been able to accompany it since its initial elaboration, in the execution of the “National Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Institutional Consolidation Project- Probio II”, supported by the Global Environment Fund and BIRD with the objective of mainstreaming biodiversity public policies and practices in the various sectors in Brazil.

Thus it is a pleasure to be able to indicate the initiative to the Award since the progress achieved is concrete and has reached one of the most difficult challenges in public project management, which is its integration into the institutional structure. Now the initial project is engaged into the presidency of FIOCRUZ, it constitutes a platform and its actions and activities are incorporated in the strategic planning 2014-2018 and in the institutional Agenda 2030. In addition to the internal recognition that even provided the nomination by the Presidency to this Award, the group enjoys external recognition.

Among the results obtained I highlight:

The use of the concept and practice of citizen science as a basis for the inclusion of vulnerable communities inhabitants of Brazilian ecosystems in the monitoring of the wildlife health by mobile free applicative (SISS-Geo). The records with photos and GPS localization are real-time observable and generate emergency alerts for diseases and

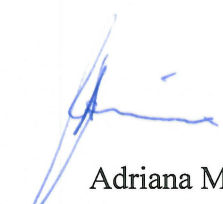
predictive models so that control and prevention actions can be identified before wildlife pathogens affect people.

The full development of the Platform that houses the app, the CISS website and the mathematics models that provides accessible information on the relationship between human and animal health and the importance of maintaining ecosystems and sustainability to fight against poverty and social and environmental injustices.

The action of the initiative in the current emergency of Yellow Fever in Brazil, which has killed more than 300 people and registered more than a thousand cases of epizootics. The dead primates recorded in SISS-Geo resulted in 22 warnings and immediate notification and action of the public system of health surveillance.

These and other results detailed in the application form certainly qualify the initiative as one of the most innovative, consistent, and widely replicable for developing and megadiverse countries, where the circulation of pathogens is quite unknown, as well as their relationships with loss of biodiversity, and where, the breakthroughs of environmental destruction are neglected and drivers of human and environmental poverty.

Sincerely,



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