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DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

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**Semi-annual High-level Meeting
Polio Partners Group**

8th December 2017

**Intervention by H.E. Mr. Peter Matt
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

Dear Colleagues,

The High-level meeting is yet again an important opportunity to renew our shared commitment to eradicate polio once and for all. No child should ever again suffer paralytic poliomyelitis. Thanks to the dedication of everyone involved in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) we are closer than ever to reach the goal of a polio free world. The “Polio Eradication and End-game Strategic Plan 2013–2018” is the core element in eradication polio by 2018 and even more importantly sustain a polio-free world.

Liechtenstein has been a longstanding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). In 2017 we made – beside our yearly general contribution of CHF 25'000 – an additional contribution of CHF 15'000 through Rotary Switzerland. With the generous pledge made by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundations to triple contributions made through Rotary International, Liechtenstein's contribution to GPEI for 2017 amounts to CHF 70'000.

We continue to be committed to playing our part in the effort to wipe this devastating global disease. We know that our children remain at risk of reinfection until the disease has been stopped, once and for all.

Let me assure you that Liechtenstein will continue to support the Global Polio Eradication Initiative until we have reached our goal.

I thank you!