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Mr. Paul Wolfowitz
President
The World Bank

Washington, D.C., February 28, 2006

Dear Mr. Wolfowitz,

Dear Paul,

This is to inform you that the Ethics Committee has reviewed two emails from "John Smith" dated January 21, 2006 and February 15, 2006, respectively, which were sent to the Bank's Investigations Hotline and copied to the Executive Directors. The emails allege ethical lapses by the President of the World Bank.

In accordance with its Procedures and in order to determine whether the allegations warranted consideration, the Committee members reviewed a number of documents that were pertinent to an understanding of the basis for the allegations. These included:

- The background documents circulated for the oral briefing of the Personnel Committee (PC2006-0001) held on Wednesday, February 1, 2006;
- The strictly confidential transcript of the Personnel Committee deliberations on February 1, 2006; and
- The Principles of Staff Employment.

On the basis of a careful review of the above-mentioned documents and the information provided by the President at the informal meeting with Executive Directors on February 3, 2006, the Ethics Committee decided that the allegations regarding appointments of Bank staff do not appear to pose ethical issues appropriate for further consideration by the Committee. The Committee also decided that the allegation relating to a matter which had been previously considered by the Committee did not contain new information warranting any further review by the Committee.

Ad Melkert
Ad Melkert
Executive Director

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