



May 12, 2020

To whom it may concern:

**Subject: Partner Application for Lead Paint Alliance**

The Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology (CEET) at the University of Pennsylvania endorses the goals and objectives of the Lead Paint Alliance (LPA), and we wish to be considered as a future partner in this important global organization. CEET is an Environmental Health Sciences Core Center and is one of twenty centers funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in the United States.

As CEET Director and required by the Alliance, I am attaching the duly completed WHO Tobacco/Arms Disclosure Statement and confirm that CEET will adhere to the principles of the Framework for Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA). The Lead Paint Alliance is a cooperative initiative jointly led by the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme that focuses on the international goal of eliminating children's exposure to lead-based paint and to minimize occupational exposures from this hazard. The Alliance's broad objective is to promote a phase-out of the manufacture and sale of paints containing lead and to holistically reduce or mitigate the many adverse health impacts to vulnerable children in the world community.

The CEET mission is aligned with the goals and objectives of the Alliance, and we believe that joining our efforts would represent a strategic step in expanding the work of CEET internationally. Specifically our mission to elucidate the mechanistic links between environmental exposures and human disease and translate our findings into action to improve the health of vulnerable individuals, and local, national and global communities would be served directly by opportunities for translation of our research in childhood lead poisoning to a broader audience that may benefit from our technical and policy expertise.

The contributions that the CEET could likely make to enhance the work of the Lead Paint Alliance are the following:

- Building on our extensive US experience through our Community Engagement Core, Richard Pepino and Dr. Marilyn Howarth could engage international populations in activities to raise awareness of the human health impacts of lead-based paint exposures to vulnerable populations.

- We have technical expertise and equipment to provide environmental monitoring and mapping in areas that have been identified as having higher concentrations of lead in soils, often from deteriorating paint, and correlate this database to children with elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs) that are living in contaminated environments;
- We can use advanced technology, developed by CEET member Dr. Reto Gieré, to determine sources of lead in various media, including, dust, soil, air, road paint, and water that may characterize the origin of the exposure, and the likely pathway that can result in EBLLs in children;
- The CEET Translational Biomarker Core is equipped with a sensitive ICP-MS capable of measuring heavy metals with speciation in both environmental and biological specimens and can be used for measuring exposure to lead with high sensitivity and specificity;
- Building on our experiences advising governing bodies on policy issues in both Philadelphia and Lancaster, PA on lowering risks in affected neighborhoods, we could serve as a mentor to provide expertise and advice to governments interested in establishing policies and ordinances on risk reduction strategies from lead-based paint exposure, in support of both the UN resolution on lead-based paint and of the “Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint”, which was developed by UNEP and LPA;
- CEET member Dr. Jianghong Liu has researched the impact of lead on sleep, learning and other neurocognitive impacts in children in China followed longitudinally from kindergarten to adolescence and would bring her expertise and insight in this area:
- We can partner with LPA in grant funding opportunities that will increase financial support for Alliance activities or be transferred directly to affected populations;
- Dr. Marilyn Howarth can provide expertise in Occupational and Environmental Medicine, exposure assessment and risk reduction. Dr. Howarth has more than 25 years of clinical experience in the field of occupational medicine caring for patients and advising companies and organizations about reducing lead hazards.

The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint is an important means of contributing to implementation of paragraph 57 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and to resolution II/4B of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM). Our traditional work through the CEET seeks to include this type of collaboration with global organizations.

After reviewing LBA's goals and objectives with my colleagues, we believe that CEET can both "learn from" and "contribute to" the Alliance in meeting the challenge that has burdened children across the globe for more than a century. I submit our application, and hope that we will receive a favorable reaction from your committee.

I, Trevor Penning, understand that this letter of intent is not legally binding and that a copy of this letter of commitment and the Center of Excellence in Environmental Toxicology will be publicly listed on the Lead Paint Alliance website.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trevor Penning". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'T' and 'P'.

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