



August 29, 2014

Richard Sneider
One World Apparel
1515 East 15th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90021

Dear Richard:

I want to take the opportunity to extend CI's gratitude for your support to numerous initiatives in our Pacific Ocean programs. Your most recent hosting to the Kiribati's delegation was most welcomed and validates One World's role in your representation in Conservation International's Chairman's Council. However, I want to highlight your numerous contributions to our Raja Ampat Program in both its financial and participants' support, from our RAPs, to support of the local efforts, and to the equipment and logistics expertise supporting research and environmental protection.

As the epicenter of marine biodiversity, Raja Ampat is essentially a giant repository for the raw material needed for adaptation to global change, so it's actually really important. It has coral that will survive climate change and that will be able to reseed coral areas that are not as lucky and cannot adapt to the coming changes in climate.

Raja Ampat has sponges, coral and other marine organisms that may very well hold the cure to anything from AIDS, to malaria to tuberculosis. The biomedical potential is tremendous and totally untapped. The thought that this would be allowed to go extinct or go through complete decimation before we have seen what it's all worth, is not a prudent way forward.

This is absolutely a global priority from that perspective. By simply protecting Raja Ampat, you protect 75 percent of the coral species. You can't do that from anywhere else in the world.

We've been working intensively in Raja Ampat since 2004 and currently have just over 100 staff members based there. They are strongly focused on setting up and running this network of marine parks around Raja Ampat. They are predominantly ethnic Papuans

that Conservation International has recruited from the local population and we have done our best to train them to become professional conservationists and marine park rangers.

As noted above, Raja Ampat is the global epicenter of marine diversity in the world. This region has over 600 species of coral. By comparison, the entire Caribbean Sea has only 58 species. So you are looking at 10 times the number of species in a much smaller area. Raja Ampat has 1,669 species of fish recorded to date and that total keeps rising every couple weeks. That number is far greater than the Great Barrier Reef, which is also a much larger area.

Evidently, you have chosen this critical global biodiversity treasure as one which must be preserved, nurtured and protected. Thank you and One World for being a steward in environmental conservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russell A. Mittermeier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Russell A. Mittermeier, Ph.D.
President