We wish to provide a courtesy notification that the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) has approved a $100,000 grant to the Hills Center for Governance at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS).

The mission of the CSIS Hills Program on Governance is to support improved governance in emerging markets through research focused on identifying corrupting influences and their impact on social and economic development. With this MCC grant, the Hills Center for Governance will establish a Governance Center in Nairobi, Kenya, to serve as an independent source of analysis, exchange, and policy recommendations on monitoring and curbing endemic corruption.

The attached summary outlines CSIS Hills Program in Kenya. Members of MCC’s staff are available to meet with you to discuss this grant. If you or your staff would like to arrange a meeting, please contact Mackenzie Coon at (202) 521-3719. The attached summary is being sent to the Congress on December 28, 2006.

Sincerely,

Frances C. McNaught
Vice President
Congressional and Public Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated
We wish to provide a courtesy notification that the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is planning to approve a $100,000 grant to the Center for Strategic and International Studies’ (CSIS) Hills Center for Governance. The mission of the CSIS Program on Governance is to support improved governance in emerging markets through research focused on identifying corrupting influences and their impact on social and economic development. To date, the program has successfully launched four regional governance centers – in China, South Korea, the Philippines and Mexico – that bring together government officials, scholars and private stakeholders to address governance issues and trends of corruption.

With this MCC grant, CSIS will establish a Governance Center in Nairobi, Kenya, to serve as an independent source of analysis, exchange, and policy recommendations on monitoring and curbing endemic corruption. In collaboration with a partner institution in Nairobi, the Governance Center will develop a set of policy recommendations aimed at strengthening safeguards in the procurement of pharmaceuticals and medical devices. One of the areas this program will study is corruption in the sale and distribution of HIV/AIDS drugs in this country where AIDS is a serious health risk. Ultimately, the Governance Center will attempt to catalyze a network of NGO institutions and educators in the field of ethics, transparency and anti-corruption work in Kenya that will generate anti-corruption research and materials; promote the transfer of practical experience in their use to other Kenya-based institutions for adaptation and implementation; and identify additional issues in the anti-corruption field in need of increased identification, education and dissemination.

The grant will partially cover the costs of establishing the Governance Center and fund a conference to help kick off the opening of the Center. The conference will bring together experts from the region to discuss corruption in the health sector in Eastern Africa.