

April 23, 2013

Ambassador Luis CdeBaca Ambassador at Large Office to Combat and Monitor Trafficking in Persons U.S. Department of State 2201 C. Street, NW Washington, DC

Dear Lou,

Our working relationship on the issue of sex trafficking goes back to your early days on the Hill and I have appreciated so much your bipartisan efforts and willingness to bring me, as a conservative, into your inner circle so often as you began your tenure in the TIP office. I want to take advantage of that relationship to express my concern about an issue that is at the forefront of my concern as the time for the release of the TIP report draws near.

I am quite concerned about an issue addressed recently by Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ). Concerned Women for America joins him in concern about the allegations of child sex tourism level against former Secretary General of the Dutch Ministry of Justice, Joris Demmink. These allegations are credible and deserve to be taken seriously by the TIP office as you review the Tier status of that nation.

Numerous well-informed, high-placed officials — including Reps. Smith (R-NJ), Wolf (R-VA), Pitts (R-PA), Poe (R-TX), Costa (D-CA) — have brought attention to the lack of an investigation into the actions of Joris Demmink. His actions have been questioned as well by officials in the Helsinki Commission, the Victims Rights Caucus, Mr. Lucus Hartong, a member of the European Parliament, Dr. P.H. Omtzigt, a Member of Parliament for the Christian Democrat Party and a Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

As you finalize the evaluations of all the nations for the TIP report, there are numerous materials available to document the need for a formal, official investigation of Mr. Demmink's actions. The Dutch investigations have been called into question and the above-mentioned dignitaries have asked that a broader investigation be made in order to bring justice to the child victims of sex tourism.

CWA and I join those clamoring for (1) a tier evaluation that reflects concerns about Mr. Demmink's actions and (2) a formal, official investigation of Mr. Demmink in regard to child sex tourism accusations.

Thanks for hearing me out, Lou, and for all you do for the most vulnerable among us around the world.

Warmly,

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