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Embassy of the Federal Democratic
Republic of Ethiopia - Berlin

Contigo.I.Herbst13.11.06

Mr. Ingo Herbst
Manager
CONTIGO fair trade shop
Wilhelm-Lambrecht-Str. 3
37079 Göttingen

November 10, 2006

Dear Mr. Herbst,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you for the warm welcome and hospitality you so kindly extended to me during my visit to your shop on November 4, 2006.

Please allow me to express my appreciation to the basic pillars of your business principle – fair trade and products of African origin. This is exactly what African and all poor developing nations need from the developed world in order to stand on their own feet. Your business is a perfect example for that.

I am glad that one of the products you deal with is the famous Ethiopian coffee. I have witnessed your amazing sense of coffee quality and your skill of roasting and brewing it. Let me use the opportunity to thank you for demonstrating this skill to me during my visit.

While very happy that our coffee is one of the most important commodities of your business, I wish to call your attention to the existence of many more genuine Ethiopian products which are of interest to your business. It is to be recalled that I have provided you with photos of a few Ethiopian hand made goods such as various jewelry, crosses, traditional cotton fabrics, etc., together with their price list and full address of the producer. I hereby encourage you to have some of these beautiful products in your shop by contacting the producer directly or through us, if you so wish. I have confidence that Ethiopia and your company will mutually benefit from this exercise as they currently are from coffee.

Finally, thanking the Honourable Member of the German Parliament, Mr. Hartwig Fischer, not only for arranging our meeting, but also for accompanying me during the visit, I look forward to see more Ethiopian products in your business.

With best wishes,

Kassahun Ayele
Ambassador