

Johannes BITZER  
President  
Executive Committee of the European Society  
of Contraception and Reproductive Health,  
ESC Central Office,  
Opalfeneweg 3,  
B-1740 Ternat,  
Belgium

Dear Johannes

It is with great pleasure that I write to acknowledge your generous contribution of EURO 10,000 to support our Member Associations in Haiti. Your contribution will help us to continue our essential work in Haiti, assisting the 37,000 pregnant women who now face birth in dangerous, unsanitary conditions.

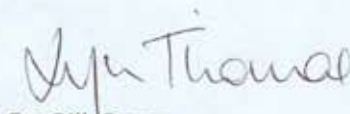
As you are aware, Haiti had the highest rate of maternal mortality in the region before the disaster: a Haitian woman's risk of dying in childbirth was 1 in 47. We know that number is going to climb because many of the health facilities were destroyed.

With 45 per cent of Haitian households headed by women – the economic as well as the psychological mainstay of children, the aged and the sick – we are targeting our relief efforts at them. Women in Haiti were already vulnerable to poverty, exposed to gender-based violence and lacking health care – this earthquake has dealt a heavy blow to women already stretched to the limits of their capacities to support their families.

With your support we will be able to supply more staff, medical supplies and diesel fuel for our mobile clinics and will undoubtedly help save more lives.

Thank you again for your important contribution to our work in Haiti.

Sincerely,

  
pp Dr Gill Greer  
Director-General

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