



## Madame Josseline C. Féthière – Minister of Commerce - Haiti

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February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To whom it may concern:

Due to the necessity of food aid and relief supply urgently needed by the population, I would request the return of the Pathfinders' team which accomplished so much in its deployment, cut short due to lack of funding. In 7 days, that 8 person team coordinated and directed 140+ Haitians with up to 20 trucks to deliver more than 400 tons of bulk food from the World Food Program (WFP) for the equivalent of 2,302,000 meal rations to more than 100,000 Haitians. Pathfinders were one of the most successful operations at mass relief in our country, and their absence is affecting our response. After reviewing evaluations with the highest commendations of the Pathfinder Commander, Scott Lewis, from two top UN personnel (U – 9, Colonel Nunez and WFP Deputy Director in Country, Thiry), my own views of the necessity of requesting the return of this State of Florida Division of Emergency Management asset were cemented. With these UN leaders adding in “teamwork” and “coordination” as Superior remarks, Pathfinders defines what Haiti needs - right now.

As the Haitian Minister of Commerce, as a Haitian, a woman, and as a caring human being, I expressly request the sponsors to find a way to assist this team in returning to help us in this time of need. Pathfinders, through its listing as an asset of the Governor of Florida, its US private provider, Disaster Solutions, LLC, and/or through its public foundation sponsors at The Eagles Wings Foundation, Inc., offer multiple ways for some agencies to support this cost effective, efficient, and mission oriented team which already has proven its capabilities in the face of great adversity. We need this type of leadership; we need this team; we need this help; we need this hope - urgently.

By focusing on using local survivors and pumping revenue back into our economy in creating jobs while accomplishing day after day the very missions which Haiti so desperately needs, Pathfinders also helped restore a sense of pride. Survivors helping survivors presented a concept which I hope will be replicated. Please help us help ourselves.

Sincerely,

  
Madame Josseline C. Féthière  
Minister of Commerce