LETTER OF GRATITUDE

Dear Mr. Charles J. Hooker, III,

The Ministry of Labor and Social Protection of the Republic of Moldova (MLSP) expresses gratitude for your contribution to promoting and supporting the social inclusion of persons with intellectual and mental health disabilities and other vulnerable groups in the Republic of Moldova.

We appreciate your leadership in the establishment of Keystone Moldova in 2003, which became one of the main partners of the MLSP in the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Moldova. Under your guidance and leadership, Keystone Moldova assisted the public authorities to develop an inclusive legal framework, and innovative community-based social care services and build local capacities to support the transition of persons with intellectual disabilities from residential services to independent living.

The MLSP acknowledges your involvement in the professional development of human services leaders in Moldova through the Open World Leadership Exchange programs and capacity-building programs implemented in the country.

We appreciate your leadership, as the President of the Keystone Moldova board, in supporting persons with disabilities from Moldova in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic through policy development, capacity building, and direct distribution of protected equipment.

We also acknowledge your advocacy at the international level for supporting refugees with disabilities from Ukraine to live a decent life in Moldova. Keystone Moldova, as a leader of the Disability Task Force, continues to be on the frontline, by helping refugees with disabilities with assistive equipment, special nutrition, medications, and winterization items.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication as a leader in humanitarian efforts in the Republic of Moldova. Please accept, Mr. Charles J. Hooker, III, the assurances of my highest consideration.

MARCEL SPATARII,

MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA