

Abbott

Abbott International Public Affairs  
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**EINGEGANGEN**  
23. Juni 2008

Mirjam Hageböling  
Aktionsbündnis gegen Aids / Action against Aids  
Rechtsträger Difäm  
Paul-Lechner-Strasse 24  
72076 Tübingen  
Germany

Dear Mirjam:

I enjoyed seeing you and your colleagues in Berlin recently. We appreciate these opportunities to discuss issues that are important to both Abbott and civil society.

As we were not able to discuss all the issues you raised in your earlier letter at our last meeting, allow me to respond to your concerns.

1. The registration information you refer to has been updated and is available at [www.abbott.com/hiv](http://www.abbott.com/hiv).
2. Abbott is currently validating new diagnostics technology that has the potential to enhance access to diagnostic tests significantly in developing countries. We should be able to provide you with additional detail about this development by mid-year.
3. The Indian authorities have not issued any decision regarding Abbott's patent applications. This fact does not inhibit access to lopinavir/ritonavir in developing countries. In fact, a number of Indian generic manufacturers have entered the market with lopinavir/ritonavir formulations in recent months. However, Abbott's Aluvia tablets remain more affordable in African and least developed countries than these generic products.
4. Abbott recognises the validity of the TRIPS agreement and its flexibilities as contained in international law.
5. You will be aware that the new Thai government is reviewing a number of policies that had been adopted by its predecessor. At the time of writing to you, the compulsory licensing policy remains a topic for consideration in Thailand.

I am looking forward to our future discussions

Regards,



Dirk van Eeden  
Director, HIV Communication & Policy  
Abbott International Public Affairs