*info*Dev

Information for Development Program

3 August, 1998

Mr. Pierre Genevier
53 Rue de l'Amiral Mouchez
F-75013 Paris
France

Re: **Project Esculape**: A system to collect statistical data in real-time from CCE/NIS countries to
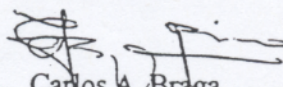international organizations using Internet and Java id#: 980420-278

Dear Mr. Genevier:

Thank you for submitting your proposal. Following an internal review, we feel that it will
not be competitive with other proposals we have received. This does not reflect a lack of intrinsic merit in
your proposal, but rather that other proposals were more in consonance with the specific evaluation criteria
and priorities of the program.

Reviewers were doubtful that this project would have significant impact in developing countries.
Although the proponents are computer field specialists with all the necessary skills to develop web sites, the
task they offer to undertake goes much beyond computerizing and covers economics, social and medical
sciences. There is, therefore, a bias towards computer engineering which would lead to complex and
expensive solutions instead of easy and flexible schemes more appropriate for developing countries. They
felt that the production of good raw statistical data will depend on national statistical and health
administrations. It requires, first, more qualified local staff and improved computer facilities.

On behalf of *info*Dev, I would like to thank you again for the time and effort that went into your
proposal. The evaluation criteria used by *info*Dev are described in the document *Guidelines for Activity
Proposals*. If you would like to receive a copy of this document or learn more about *info*Dev, visit our web
page at www.worldbank.org/infoDev. We wish you every success in your endeavor.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Braga
Program Manager