

World Medical Association
De weledelzeergeleerde heer Dr. O. Kloiber
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Utrecht, 25 oktober 2016

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Bijlagen

Referentie

JBo /16-14623

Onderwerp

President of the WMA

Dear Dr Hoven and Dr Kloiber,

As president of the Royal Dutch Medical Association (RDMA) I want to share with you the great concerns that have been raised in our country about the reliability of Dr Desai whom the WMA is about to install as president of the WMA 2016-2017. On account of a press release by Reuters today about the allegations of corruption running against Dr Desai we have received many questions from journalists. We are concerned about the fact that the WMA has up to now not been open in communicating how it has dealt with this situation and our representatives are not able to give us information about what has been decided between the Executive Committee of the WMA and the Indian Medical Association.

There are rumours, but no clear explanation about what the situation is. The press release by Reuters suggests that the charges against Dr Desai have not been completely dropped and that he will still have to face a possible trial. Under those circumstances it is difficult to imagine that doctor Desai could be the president of the worldwide body that stands for the highest ethical standards in our profession. I hope that you can give me a clear explanation about this situation. I will be needing it in order to be able to inform the journalists correctly, and also reassure the people of our own organisation who are worried about a greater involvement of our medical federation RDMA in the important work of WMA with a president who is implicated with such serious suspicions.

I hope to hear from you soon,

Yours sincerely

Dr. René Héman
President of the Royal Dutch Medical Association