The Gorbachev Foundation 39 Leningradsky Prospect Building 14 Moscow 125167 Russia

20<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Aberfeldy, Scotland

Dear Mr Mikhail Gorbachev,

First of all, writing letters to President Barack Obama and yourself are not the most simple things one does, concerning humanitarian aid, poverty and Human Rights in today's world.

Just a few nights ago, I was reading about your Green Cross International (GCI) you set up in 1993 which has its Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland and now has offices in 31 countries.

Since you left the Office of the President of the former USSR, how little people know about your 23 charities and foundations and all other good deeds you are doing to help our fellow citizens all over the world.

Looking closer to home, just not so long ago, Tony Blair and President Bush and other world leaders made promises on several issues. It was a great honour in 2005, for Scotland to host the G8 Summit at Gleneagles, but at a hefty price tag costing several million pounds, which I personally believe could have been spent more wisely on large social projects locally as well as overseas. Our Government was so happy to be the host, that the public were informed via the media, that the Summit would generate business for the local community and in general. All in a day's work, up to this day, I cannot find exact financial records proving that the Summit generated monies and tourism, so I am left in the dark so much about monies well spent.

It is a shame that we in Scotland do still waste our talents and resources daily, and statistics just don't tell you everything, just part of the story.

I am deeply concerned about the political and social economic situation at the present time in Europe. Quite frustrating is also the fact that freedom of press and human rights issues, seem not to bother big brother "Brussels", and the fact that some churches are finding it even harder to function, makes me wonder: is Europe slipping back into the cold war era? No more freedom of press, no more religion and a few more? The politicians in Brussels don't seem to care about these issues; just every now and then one or two words are spoken from the "Big Brother House", just like a schoolteacher telling the students not to do that again, or else............ I am wondering how long the politicians are going to keep doing this, as poverty and homelessness, corruption, bribery and prostitution seem to be growing by the minute. (In some of the Eastern European Countries more than one billion dollars per year is generated with prostitution which is becoming the key income in revenue, not even mentioning child prostitution in many cases.)

This is serious business, and it is maybe time the governments in Europe start rethinking the future of the people.

I am very honoured and moved that you are taking time to read my letters and my hope and wish is that you will carry on the good work for long time to come.

Sincerely yours

Billy

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