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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I am writing to support the application of Mr. Douglas J. Johnson for admission to your graduate program. I have known Mr. Johnson in his current capacity as Communications Specialist for the Champions for an HIV-Free Generation since the program's inception in September 2008. I know him to be a hardworking, diligent and capable employee who cares a great deal about this initiative.

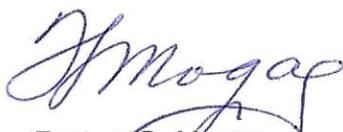
Champions is a high-profile advocacy project built on the reputation of its founders, including great statesmen like His Grace Desmond Tutu and former African heads of state like Kenneth Kaunda, Joaquim Chissano and Benjamin Mkapa. I serve as the Chairman of the Champions and Mr. Johnson reports to my office through the Champions Secretariat.

The role of the Communications Specialist has been important in advancing the Champions' agenda. Mr. Johnson has taken on this role with great zeal and seriousness. I have been constantly impressed with his attitude and commitment to this initiative. His background in journalism has served him well in his ability to communicate in an understated, yet firm, manner appropriate for our particular audience.

The materials produced by Mr. Johnson are excellent. He has been the lead writer of speeches, talking points and communiqués to the countries we have visited. The content of these materials are always fairly balanced and diplomatic. He has a handle on issues around HIV, specifically behavior change communication and prevention measures. His arguments (which, in turn, are arguments made by the Champions) are always well-reasoned, well-researched and convincing.

Aside from his work ethic, I find Mr. Johnson to be an affable and courteous gentleman. He has assimilated well to our country, first as a US Peace Corps volunteer and now as a professional working on one of the most important issues of our day.

In all, Mr. Johnson has been an outstanding contributor to the Champions initiative and to Botswana. I do not hesitate to recommend him for your graduate program.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Mogae', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Festus G. Mogae

FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA