



ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
Ministry of Health and Medical Education

3rd Annual IDB Prize for Women's Contribution in Development 1429H - 2008G
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**To: Attention of Committee for 3rd Annual IDB Prize for Women's
Contribution in Development,**

I would like to recommend **Mrs. Saideh Ghods** for 3rd IDB prize for Women's Contribution in Development. She is founder of "**MAHAK, The Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer**", in Iran. MAHAK is a Non Profit, Non Governmental institution, fully supported by public donations.

I have no hesitation in commenting that Mrs. Ghods is an outstanding Humanitarian. Since Jan. 2004, following my appointment as head of research program, for Cancer Research Center of "Cancer Institute of Iran", I have come to know her and the hardships and difficulties that she has faced in establishing such an organization.

Because of her efforts in the past 15 years, it is now possible for impoverished children of this country to have access to medical and supportive care. Thousands of Iranian, Iraqi, and Afghans children have enjoyed care and support of MAHAK, which otherwise would have not been available for them.

I take liberty in advising you that this charity is not only a source of National pride but I also believe that it is one of the most successful and effective NGOs in Iran and certainly in the region and among Muslim countries.

Ministry of Health approved her application to establish a Specialized hospital for childhood cancer which is built in North of Tehran, with 18000 Sqm of first class Medical facilities, fully funded by public donations. This approval was granted because of Mrs. Ghods continuous endeavors and brilliant results of the collective efforts of all people involved in MAHAK.