Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 25, 2008

Dr. Tony Tether Director Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency 3701 North Fairfax Drive Arlington, VA 22203-1714

Dear Dr. Tether:

We are writing in strong support of the NATO Advanced Study Institute which has submitted an application for support by DARPA to help fund the Institute's participation in a conference taking place in place in Barga, Italy on July 20 through August 2, 2008. The conference will bring together scientists in diverse areas of detection and mitigation of unexploded ordnance (UXO) to discuss the newest technologies in this field and to analyze how to further develop and apply these technologies to combat terrorism.

We feel it would be beneficial for the many international scientists to participate in the conference, because their work is of immediate and vital interest to the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security. The topics that ASI scientists will discuss include, geophysical methods of UXO detection, signal processing for UXO detection, anomalous volatile compound detection and multi-sensor detection and estimation systems.

In accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, we urge you to give the NATO Advanced Study Institute's application your strong consideration.

Sincerely,

Jack Reed

United States Senator

Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senator

Patrick J. Kennedy Member of Congress James R. Langevin Member of Congress