



## **GLOBAL COMMITMENT** for child-centered Education for All.

**Peter-Hesse-Foundation**  
joins the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)  
in the spirit of AMI's "Educateurs sans Frontières (EsF)" –  
Teachers without Borders.

On 8 February 2013 the German State-authorities for Foundations have formally approved alterations of the "Peter-Hesse-Stiftung", making this independent legal structure, created by German industrialist Peter Hesse on 7 December 1983 fit for providing a chance for future children in our ONE world in diversity – mainly through the promotion of teacher-development for child-centered learning.

The Peter-Hesse-Foundation, created originally to serve *"needy people in developing countries – preferably through help for self-help"*, had already gradually altered its formal statutes to adjust it to secure its future existence beyond the founder's lifetime. The key words in such organizations are their purposes. The extended, yet more focused new *"purpose of the Peter-Hesse-Foundation is to contribute to a just and peaceful learning ONE world in diversity – with special emphasis on providing children a chance through child-centered early education to enable life-long learning"*.

This finally fits the working-reality which had proven successful in 30 years of activity in difficult political and social environments like in Haiti and made it very reasonable to formalize the integration of the two leading functionaries of the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI) into the formal structure, the statutes of the Peter-Hesse-Foundation in Germany. A friendly and fruitful cooperation had already grown between Peter Hesse and AMI's leadership, its President André Roberfroid and its Executive Director Lynne Lawrence – in the spirit of AMI's "Educateurs sans Frontières (EsF)" – which brings Maria Montessori's philosophy and didactics to more needy populations in our global village.

The Haitian branch of the German foundation, the "Fondation-Peter-Hesse", formally accepted as a Haitian Non Governmental Organization (NGO) since 17 Nov. 1988 ("Moniteur" of 12 October 1989), had already been successfully training over 800 Haitians to be Montessori preschool teachers (for children age 3 to 6) and helping to open over 50 Montessori schools all over Haiti since 1986. From the beginning this successful engagement in Haiti – and since now several years also in Africa – has been led by Montessori Directress Carol Guy-James Barratt from Trinidad, W.I.

Since April 2013, AMI's President and Executive Director are now part of the board of the Peter-Hesse-Stiftung (Peter-Hesse-Foundation) in Germany. They bring the board membership to its limit of 5 persons – the others being Dr. Hans-Joachim Preuss as Vice Chairman, Dr. med. Sabine Uhlen as a member and the founder as the board's Chairman. As long as Peter Hesse is capable and alive, he retains the Foundation's leadership. The German structure has now joined various other foundations in the joint office of the "Schmitz-Stiftungen" in Düsseldorf, Germany.

**Peter Hesse – Peter-Hesse-Foundation SOLIDARITY IN PARTNERSHIP for ONE world in diversity.**  
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