IN MEMORIAM

May Peace Prevail

September 11, 2001 is a day the world will forever remember with immeasurable sadness. Although terrible destruction was loosed on the United States in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania, enormous pain has been felt by nations and people around the world. We at the ICDF, and all of our fellow citizens in Taiwan, send our heartfelt sympathies and love to the mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters, children and friends who were most affected by the tragedies. Wrote John Donne (1572–1631):

...no man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main. If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friend’s or of thine own were: any man’s death diminishes me, for I am involved in mankind...

Our world today is diminished, but now all good and hopeful people must join together and do their part in building a positive future for humanity. We at the ICDF will be part of this great effort, and pledge to forever remain “involved in mankind,” cultivating the best, most constructive, most life-affirming results in our work.

In this issue of IC&D, we announce the retirement of ICDF Secretary General Loh Ping-cheung. Loh has effectively led the ICDF for the five years since its creation, handling his leadership role with skill and aplomb. He has earned the respect of everyone he works with, and the government and people of Taiwan. Loh will be missed, and we wish him well. Fortunately, the man replacing Loh as acting Secretary General, Dr. Yang Tzu-pao, is an accomplished professional who, at only 38 years of age, has proven himself in a range of high-level positions. Dr. Yang’s extensive expertise and ready smile are already fixtures at the ICDF, and we welcome him into his new position.

In addition to these important changes, in this issue we present a review of ICDF work in small and medium enterprise (SME) development. SMEs have proven to be versatile and valuable economic entities, extending the fruits of development across a wide swathe of developing economies. Also, we’ll take an extended look at two programs that are supplying the ICDF with talent and human resources of particular vibrancy: the ICDF Volunteers and the ROC’s Diplomatic Alternative Service program. Into fall 2001, the ICDF will train 19 new volunteers and 37 ROC conscripts for service in ICDF overseas Technical Missions.

In addition to these stories, read in this issue an interview with Dr. Lai Po-yung, who directs the ICDF’s joint agricultural science scholarship program at the National Pingtung University of Science and Technology; a review of this and other ICDF graduate and postgraduate scholarship programs; coverage of an ICDF bamboo housing project in El Salvador, which is helping restore communities damaged during the earthquake that struck the country in January 2001; a report on a recent ICDF seminar on the Taiwanese fisheries industry; and a brief look at the ICDF’s fifth-anniversary celebration. Thank you again for reading and we welcome your comments.