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Ms. Ljubica Bakić-Tomić, Ph.D.
Faculty of Teacher Education
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Savska 77, 10000 Zagreb
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Dear dr. Utsumi,

I came to know about your extraordinary work on the Global University System project while conducting research for the purpose of the 19th International Conference on System Research, Informatics & Cybernetics (Baden-Baden, Germany, July 30th - August 4th, 2007). I am the university professor and Head of the Pre-school Dpt. at the Faculty of Teacher Education, University of Zagreb, Croatia. I teach information and communication science to future educational experts and practitioners.

Starting from 2007 I am also running a five-year research project 'Information-Communication Competency of Educators', with support of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sport of the Republic of Croatia. Possession of information-communication competencies provides a developed ability to become competent in managing changes. The aim of the research is to create clear conceptions and findings on information-communication competencies regarding receiving and providing information in personal and apersonal (ICT) communications homogenous region, realising in this interaction and feedback, with the objective of interpersonal understanding, appreciation and motivation, helping the children to develop and advance in the environment of humanity and democracy, for detailed account please see http://www.ufzg.hr/fileadmin/projekti/english/project_bakic_en.pdf. My project is based on socio-technical perspective and includes a strong ethical foundation in terms of promoting universal values such as peace, righteousness and nonviolence through the approach of education for human values.

The applied dimension of the project, due to underfunding, has hitherto been in the background and the project plan is to continue in the direction of advancing networking of primary schools at regional (Southeast Europe) and global levels through a competency-based curriculum with strong emphasis on digital competences (e-competencies), project teaching and exchange, that we are currently developing.

I would like to ask you whether it would be possible to link the activities of our project to those of the OLPC and other related GUS projects, and if this is the case, could you please advise us as to possible modes and paths of establishing the connections.

Thank you very much in advance,

With kind regards,

Ljubica Bakić-Tomić, Ph.D.