



Mohamed F. Dahab, PhD, PE, BCEE

April 8, 2008

Invitation code: 7016-1-201838

Mr. Charles M. Applebee
6 Church St.
West Gardiner ME 04345-2112

Dear Mr. Applebee:

As the 2006-2007 President of the Water Environment Federation, I am honored to invite you to participate in an international professional and cultural program. People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs is developing a delegation of professionals specializing in the global water environment to meet in China in November 2008. I believe that you would contribute valued expertise to the mission, while gaining immeasurably from the experience. This invitation is being extended to a select group of members of the Water Environment Federation.

As you know, the sustainability of our water environment will be crucial, not only to our continued social and economic growth, but also to the basic existence and survival of the human race. Over the years the growth of the world's population, both in numbers and life styles, has imposed additional demands on an already constrained world water situation. The fact that more than one billion inhabitants of this planet have no access to safe water supplies and more than twice that many have no access to reasonable sanitation adds further urgency to the current situation in our global water environment. Therefore, as the world population continues to grow and the impacts of an impending global climate change are increasingly felt, creative approaches to water resources management will be required.

Recognizing the global nature of the water environment, it is clear that serious and sustainable solutions must transcend geopolitical boundaries – after all, the water environment does not respect man-made political boundaries and subdivisions. Seeking true solutions to the world water crisis requires a far reaching dialogue between people all over the planet, especially between the developed areas where water consumption is high and rapidly growing and developing areas, like China, where additional stresses are being placed on water resources. This is the reason that the People to People delegation to China will play an important role in facilitating this dialogue and gaining further understanding of our global water picture. This dialogue and understanding will lead not only to orderly and sustainable development, but also can lead to promoting world peace.

Our delegation will depart for China from Los Angeles on November 2, 2008. Following our professional and cultural program in Beijing, we will travel to Guilin and Shanghai for further professional and cultural exchange. We will arrive back in the United States on November 14.

I invite you to bring an accompanying spouse or guest as well. A cultural and educational program will be arranged for your guest while you attend the professional sessions. Activities for guests will include visits to historical and cultural sites for an opportunity to explore many aspects of Chinese life, culture and customs. An optional excursion, after the main program, will take participating delegates and guests to Xi'an and Kunming, to enjoy a variety of cultural activities.

As People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs is a private-citizen effort, delegates are responsible for their own program costs. The estimated cost per delegate or guest is \$5,295.00 USD (departing from and returning to Los Angeles). This includes round-trip airfare from the departure city, group transportation, meetings and cultural activities, accommodations, most meals, and essentially all other costs associated with participation.

In the next few days, you will receive further details and an application in a letter from Marcia Dartley, director of professional programs at People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs. You may also apply for the delegation at www.citizenambassadors.org. Click on "Apply" and enter your first and last name as they appear on this letter along with the invitation code shown to the right of your address. Please reference your invitation code in any communications with the Citizen Ambassador Programs office.

Due to the extensive planning and communication involved in coordinating a program of this nature, *I ask that you respond with your intentions regarding this invitation no later than April 29*. We hope to hear from you whether you are able to join our delegation or not.

If you have questions regarding the delegation, I encourage you to contact an associate of People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs at 877-787-2000. The email address is professionals@citizenambassadors.org, and the fax number is 877-676-5844.

I am pleased to be involved in this exciting opportunity and hope you will strongly consider participating in the delegation. In the meantime, please feel free to contact People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs or me with any questions.

Sincerely,



Mohamed F. Dahab, PhD, PE, BCEE
President (2006-2007)
Water Environment Federation