



Reaction of M. Jacques CHIRAC, President of the Republic, following the death of Dr Lee JONG-WOOK communiqué issued by the Presidency of the Republic

Paris, 22 mai 2006

President Chirac was greatly saddened to learn of the death of Dr Lee Jong-Wook.

He expresses to his family and loved-ones and all those working at the World Health Organization his most sincere condolences.

President Chirac salutes the commitment of Dr Lee who, throughout an exemplary career, devoted himself to advancing public-health ideals. He pays tribute to his work since 2003 as head of the World Health Organization, particularly in the fight against AIDS and the major pandemics. He also pays tribute to his mobilization in the face of the emerging infectious threats, such as avian flu, which necessitate more than ever, in the globalization era, developing a global health network and strengthening international cooperation.

Dr Lee will be remembered as an example to all international leaders; a model of dedication to United Nations ideals and multilateral action, of solidarity and shared responsibility, and as a friend of France and Francophony.

In these painful circumstances, President Chirac assures the World Health Organization of France's constant support in carrying out its missions./.

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