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Professor Padma Desai
Gladys and Roland Harriman Professor of Comparative Economic Systems
Director, Center for Transition Economies
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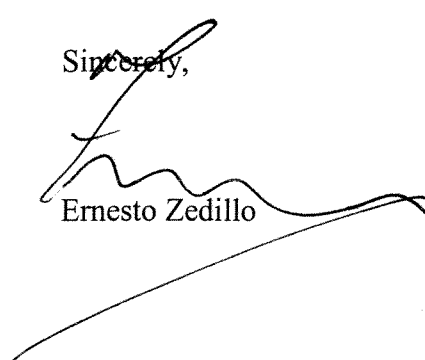
Dear Padma:

It has long been clear to me that your impressive intellectual contributions cover much more than your indispensable work on Russia. But these days, as I sense a mounting and dangerous paranoia about the re-emerging economic and military power of Russia, my admiration for your insightful observations on that country steadily increases. At every international meeting I attend where that paranoia is present, I find myself wishing that pertinent policy makers could be made acquainted with your work, and that they would be persuaded by your fine arguments.

I regret that I cannot be there in person to celebrate your numerous and fruitful scholarly achievements; but I send you from China my gratitude, affection and admiration.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,



Ernesto Zedillo