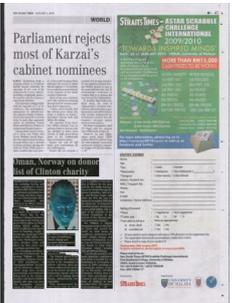


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Oman, Norway on donor list of Clinton charity

WASHINGTON: Foreign countries, including Norway and Oman, contributed to former president Bill Clinton's charity, and donors including Donald Trump, soft drink company Coca-Cola and singer Elton John's foundation also pitched in as Hillary Clinton served her first year as secretary of state.

A donor list released on New Year's Day by the William J. Clinton Foundation shows that in all, Norway has given US\$10 million to US\$25 million. (RM34 million to RM85.6 million) to the charity since its founding roughly a decade ago. Oman gave US\$1 million to US\$5 million over the years. The list gave cumulative donation totals and didn't say how much each contributor gave last year.

The foundation provided a donor list on Friday under the heading "William J. Clinton Foundation Publishes Names of 2009 Contributors on Foundation Website" but later said the disclosure, which included many more foreign governments, covered donors dating back to the charity's inception and that it wouldn't identify who gave last year. The foundation changed course on Friday afternoon



Bill Clinton's charity works on issues of healthcare, climate change and economic development in the US and abroad

and updated the list to specify last year's donors.

The Clintons agreed to annually disclose the names of donors to the foundation to address concerns about potential conflicts of interest between the former president's fundraising abroad and his wife's role in helping direct Obama administration foreign policy.

Then president-elect Barack Obama made the disclo-

sure a condition of his selection of Hillary for the post, and the two senior lawmakers on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, John Kerry, and Richard Lugar, said when the first list was released in December 2008 that the disclosure "is designed to establish greater transparency and predictability with regard to the activities of the Clinton Foundation in the context of Sen Clinton's service as secretary of state".

The William J. Clinton Foundation works in the United States and around the world on such issues as healthcare, particularly HIV/AIDS; climate change, and economic development. It also runs the Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock, Arkansas, which includes Bill's presidential library.

"I am deeply grateful to the many generous contributors who made it possible for my foundation to accomplish so much in 2009, including increasing the number of people on life-saving HIV/AIDS treatment, helping cities reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and inspiring millions of children to lead healthier lives," Bill said in a written statement. — AP