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## LETTER TO FRIENDS OF SOEUR EMMANUELLE

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*"I fought all my life, especially for children who are hungry and unhappy. I know it's a drop in the ocean. But let us shed this drop, and the ocean will be less full of bitterness. "*

Dear Friends,

There are surely people who are worse off than our "protégés" in Sudan and Haiti ... But we can act in both countries with great efficiency! We need your drop of water that will do wonders...



### CHILDREN OF THE DISPLACED CAMPS GET THEIR MEAL AGAIN !

Thanks to the grant given once more this year by the Crisis Center of the **French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs**, as of **September** we can operate again the **16 centers** of our **Babies Feeding Program**, and serve these "tots" **three meals per week** until the end of **February 2010**.

As you know, since the beginning of the year, we had only 10 operating centers.

This mean that now almost twice as many children will benefit from this program, which is unfortunately still necessary for these destitute people.

However, we still have to work hard to find funding for the remaining 10 months of 2010, the Quai d'Orsay having warned us that it was their very last contribution to this program.

Dear Friends of our little protected kids, all your contributions are welcome!!

### THE COST OF LIVING KEEPS ON RISING SHARPLY IN SUDAN ! ↗↗↗↗↗

After a steep year in terms of inflation (officially 23% in 2008, but some staple foods had more than doubled), 2009 does not promise to be much better: **during the first semester, the price of meat had increased by 75%, fish by 66%, onions by 87%, beans by 50%, lentils by 33%, rice by 23% etc...**

Another challenge for us: to ensure the continuity of our programs, we need to raise as much or even more money! Yallah!

## HURRAY! A HOME FOR GIRLS SUPPORTED BY THE FRIENDS OF « OPERATION ORANGE SISTER EMMANUELLE »

A wonderful act of generosity: a married couple (friends of M. Baumeier, the former President of Operation Orange), has decided to personally take care, **for three years**, of all the running costs of the Sahafa home, which is accommodating 25 girls aged 9 to 22. That is no less than **38,000 € in 2009!**

Christine and Jean-Luc insisted on gathering as much information as possible on the former street girls, in order to involve their 10-years-old son in this support over the three years. The home should be renamed after the name of this young boy. Three cheers to these most remarkable donors!



## THE FRUITS OF LENT IN MONACO: COMPLETE SUCCESS FOR CARITAS MONACO AND LES AMIS DES ENFANTS (ADE)

The combined efforts of Deacon Robert Ferrua, the diocesan delegate from Caritas Monaco (who will be in Khartoum in early October to visit our programs), and our friends Muriel and Salvatore from ADE (which cooperates with Operation Orange) have been very successful. The 2009 Lent campaign led in the Archdiocese of Monaco for the children of Darfur in Sudan has yielded **70 000 €!!**

This unexpected sum will cover more than 10% of the 2009 budgeted costs of our Street Children program that is supporting many child victims of the Darfur conflict.

On behalf of them, bravo to the organizers and thanks to all donors! May the Lord bless them!

## HELP US MAINTAIN THE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING FOR THE DISPLACED ADULTS

**For lack of means, we had to reduced by 40% the budget of the professional training this year.** Only 700 adults can train in 2009. You must know by now how these training sessions act as a great springboard for these IDP's. Our certificates virtually rhyme with a job within two months, which means dignity and renewed hope for this forgotten population of our planet.

**With an average of 500 CHF (330 €), you fully fund the training of an adult and almost make him (and his family) self-reliant! Thanks to you, he will not be lured by the false attractiveness of illegal immigration in Europe.**

Feel free to donate on [www.asase.org](http://www.asase.org): our site is easy and secure.

**Many thanks to Brother Michel Fleury (who represents our sister association Asmae-Sister Emmanuelle as far as Sudan is concerned) for the step he is undertaking with the Secours Catholique to support this ailing program.**

## HAITI : THE END OF A CLASH WITH SOME EMPLOYEES

Let me share with you a very rewarding experience for me.

**In February 2007, we suffered a very severe fire** that burned almost all the newly planted trees on our farm Céramond, about 20 000 plants. The land was not cleaned well at that time, and the dried grass had become very flammable. Thanks to the vigilance of our security officers, the fire was extinguished after a day of struggle, during which some officers were injured and some others burned. In March 2007, we started an extensive nursery and at the end of September, all the destroyed shrubs had been replaced.

A few months later, we still had to clean up these plants to prevent them from being burned also in case of fire. Much to our surprise, the external personnel, suspected of having set fire (out of negligence, jealousy or to get more work) **required twice the usual salary to do the cleaning!**

Of course, we turned down the deal and hired other workers.

As the pupils of the Primary School Céramond, funded by us, are the children of the external staff in question, we have suspended our funding in January 2008. The teachers, who were not paid anymore, stopped teaching; the school closed, and the students have lost a school year.



At the end of my stay in Hinche last month, a delegation of 12 people came to see me on behalf of all the students' parents. They urged me to resume the financing of the school because they could not find any other school for their children. In return, they promised to resume their work at the farm in the previous salary conditions. In addition, one day per month, each student's parent would work for free under the supervision of the Director of the farm. Finally, they proposed to kick out from the school any pupil whose parent would miss a day of work without a legitimate reason.

**This program started last week with the coming of 120 parents at the farm. They have cleaned hundreds of lemon trees in one day! As for me, I am pleased with this outcome, because it shows that people begin to understand our message: exchange and sharing in brotherly love, without any violence.**

Jean-Claude François, President of Haiti-Cosmos

## OUR FUTURE FOOTBALL COACHES INVITED THIS SUMMER IN SWITZERLAND



In 2009, football coaches from several professional clubs in Europe have come to Sudan to give a few training sessions (on football coaching) to 25 young adults (including 3 women). **Among them, two members of Saint Vincent de Paul - Diing and Peter- have benefited from this program** set up by the Liechtenstein Development-Service and a Sudanese businessman in collaboration with several other Sudanese NGOs, the Sudanese Football Association and some European clubs (FC Basel, Bayer 04 Leverkusen and Liverpool FC). The aim of this project entitled "SCORT" is to

promote the creation of teams of young Sudanese (about one thousand) from disadvantaged backgrounds and various ethnic groups, to encourage values of tolerance and integration.

Under this program, our chosen few from Saint Vincent de Paul have been **invited in Bad Ragaz in Switzerland in early August to attend a week of training during the International under-16 cup.** *"During this visit," wrote Peter, "I could really get in touch with the Swiss people, who are friendly and generous. They taught me how to make football an instrument of unity and stability for my country. And Diing enthuses: "With the 4 football teams of Saint Vincent de Paul in Sudan, ASASE could be one of the few NGOs to use football to spread love and unity.*

## ASASE PITCHES ITS TENT IN THE VILLAGE OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

As part of the sustainable development festival which took place in different parts of our canton, the State of Geneva has called upon a thirty humanitarian organizations to participate on Saturday, June 6, in the forum of international solidarity.

The purpose of this forum was to highlight the projects carried out by the local associations that are subsidized by the State of Geneva, to inform people of the involvement of our canton in international solidarity, and generally speaking, to increase public awareness of the North-South divide.

A.S.A.S.E. has been invited to this event: it should be



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mentioned that **the State of Geneva has agreed to support over 3 years our new vocational training centre set up in Lologo, Southern Sudan.** We settled under a tent on the Bergues bridge to present our documents to a wandering motley population (tourists, children, adults), and to inform them of our programs in Sudan.

Unfortunately, by early afternoon, a gale shook the tent and we had to cut short this nice experience.

Marie-Claire Ricou, Vice-President of ASASE

## MEETING WITH OUR AUSTRIAN FRIENDS AT GRAZ

As Hilfswerk was celebrating the 30th anniversary of its cooperation to Sister Emmanuelle's charity work, my wife Jacqueline and myself have been invited in May by Hannelore Bayer and her team in Graz. Words fail to describe the generosity of their hospitality during these 5 days, and their commitment to raising local people awareness. Everyday, we attended mass in a different parish, and what struck me most was the full moral and logistical support the priests were giving to Hilfswerk. A large audience came to attend various events and to listen to Kamal (who was making his biennial tour) and Sister Sara. We were very happy to see the latter again, although she looked tired and very concerned about the massive pigs slaughter organized by the Egyptian authorities: tens of thousands families of Coptic rag pickers are now living without any income.

Working meetings were held with Mrs Brigitte Kroutil-Krenn and Mrs Elisabeth Hartl from Caritas Graz that, as you know, supports our programs in Sudan too. The last day, we also had the pleasure to meet the director of Caritas Austria, Mr Franz Hüberl, at a very convivial lunch.

We came back in Geneva, admiring, happy, and sure that ASASE and SVDP can keep on counting on the true, unfailing and so precious of our Austrian friends.



## MASS IN MEMORY OF SISTER EMMANUELLE WHO LEFT US ONE YEAR AGO

We are pleased to invite you to celebrate Mass in remembrance of our beloved founder, a year after her Departure,

**on Sunday the 18th of October 2009 at 6:30 p.m.  
at Saint Paul church, 6 avenue de Saint Paul, Geneva**

## IS IT STILL WORTH DOING WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING FOR 30 YEARS NOW, TO GIVE SOME HOPE AND RELIEF?

The line is fine between stubbornness and stupidity...

On the other hand, if we stopped doing something for these forgotten people, wouldn't it mean that we accept flagrant injustice and leave them in despair? Therefore, inspired by Sister Emmanuelle who was always outraged by injustice and driven by hope, we keep on doing our best...

But the path seems endless, and the task often tedious...

Dear friends of Sister Emmanuelle, give us the heart to collect and shed a few drops of water.