



Association suisse des Amis
de Sœur Emmanuelle
19, rue du Rhône
1204 Genève
T: +41 (0)22 311 20 22
F: + 41 (0)22 310 21 93
info@asase.org
www.asase.org



LETTER TO FRIENDS OF SISTER EMMANUELLE

N°109

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"Each one of us has a special vocation for love. Love is not uniform; each one lives it in his own way, according to the circumstances of his personal life"

Dear Friends,

IN SOUTHERN SUDAN, HUNDREDS OF NEEDY CHILDREN CAME TO US...

What should we do?...

As you know, we have established a vocational training centre in the South. It was inaugurated late September 2009, and we can already say today that it is a real success.

As always, when our local partner -the Saint Vincent de Paul Society- creates a centre, it involves the surrounding community who will be benefitting from the projects. The purpose of this centre, like the ones around Khartoum, is clearly expressed in its denomination: "Lologo Vocational Training and Community Development Center".

In early 2010, hundreds of ragged and undernourished children came everyday into the centre; project managers then decided to meet their most urgent needs. Therefore since May:



- **200 children under 5** have been offered vegetables from the garden and bread from the trainees' daily rations (they wanted to share).

- **370 other children between 5 and 7**, who were roaming in the neighbourhood, have received every morning some water and an access to a playground. These 370 are part of about 600 children who live in the neighbourhood, are old enough to go to school but cannot do so, because there are not enough classes. Three volunteers from the community teach them songs, notions of hygiene and discipline, and the basics of agriculture...

In order to motivate them for future schooling, it was suggested to their parents to buy uniforms provided by the centre at low cost (2 or 3 €).

For the elder ones, it was also proposed plastic chairs (2€) to protect them from the mud (in this very rainy time). So now everyone comes and goes every day with his colourful chair!

To organize this aid properly, we have decided to support SVDP by raising funds, and a real **Babies Feeding Centre** has been set up in July. As a first stage, this centre is providing 3 meals per week only to the 200 youngest ones. Do not hesitate to help us on this matter!

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

We invite all the members of the Swiss Association of Friends of Sister Emmanuelle to attend its Extraordinary General Meeting, which will take place **on Friday 1 October at 18:30 at the Cenacle, 17 Promenade Charles-Martin, 1208 Geneva (Malagnou)**

The following items will be voted in this order:

1) **Admission to the Committee of two young ladies, both energetic** and full of good will, who want to join on a voluntary basis our association, in its work to support the Saint Vincent de Paul programs in Sudan and the Haiti-Cosmos ones in Haiti.

Both are certified chartered accountants.

- Mrs Nidale Solomon-Patin, my son Patrick's childhood friend, wants us to benefit from her professional and social network (private and institutional donors, voluntary professionals).
- Mrs Florence Rivollet, a certified chartered accountant duly approved by the ASR (the federal supervisory authority for accounts auditing), is willing to replace Jean-Claude Francois in his position of Treasurer of the association, and this, of course, if you entrust her with this mission in the vote which will take place. Jean-Claude is relieved, for his commitment to the organization he created gave him little time for the rest.

He had the opportunity to meet Florence and make sure of her proficiency. Besides, Florence has already started to acquaint herself with our accounting system, and has accepted the assignment to adapt the accounts presentation to the Swiss RPC standards, which are now essential if we want to keep on benefitting from the State support. These standards are aimed to make the accounts presentation clearer and more transparent.

2) **Appointment of an auditor for year 2010**

At the last General Statutory Meeting in May 29, **the auditor mandate** of Mr Gendre and Mr Godel has not been renewed, because the duration of their service had far exceeded the six years limit that has now become the maximum acceptable to get any support from the State. We must thus appoint a new auditor for the 2010 accounts, to be approved by the ASR.

We deeply thank Mr Gendre and Mr Godel for their good and loyal service, and we propose to your vote, as new auditors, the CRF (Conseil, Révision et Fiscalité SA) company in Delémont, represented by Mr Joël Etique.

Mr Joël Etique, a certified chartered accountant, has agreed to take responsibility for auditing our accounts, and complying them with the RPC standards; this graciously, and starting the current year.

3) **Statutory Changes**

- I would like also to **formalize the creation of an "Executive Committee"** that would handle routine decisions and their implementation throughout the year.

This committee would be composed of at least 5 people: the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Director and the Treasurer. If need be, it could work alongside with other people from the Committee, whether on an ad hoc basis (for a specific task), or permanently.

Decisions will be adopted by simple majority of present or represented members, like for the Committee.

It is true that this Committee has yet been functioning since long, with satisfaction of all members, but I want this fact to be formalized by a decision of the General Assembly.

- **The election of an auditor** to replace the two previous auditors requires the amending of various sections of the statutes. These amendments are responding to the new legal requirements in terms of accounts auditing.

These changes are proposed in the attached sheet that you may peruse before the GA. If you have any question, please be kind enough to submit them in writing before the meeting.

So the GA will vote the acceptance of the new version of the statutes.

I thank you for your trust, and I hope I can keep on working with you for the destitute, in the spirit of Sister Emmanuelle, thus contributing with our modest participations, to relieve many deprived people.


Michel Bittar
President