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## LETTERS TO FRIENDS OF SISTER EMMANUELLE

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*"Giving without expecting anything in return, without regret, even long after : it is hard to give without alienating the beneficiary, without becoming a donator ; one must give even the means to do without one's help."*

*(François Varillon sj)*

Dear friends,

Here are some **excerpts** from an e-mail recently sent to our president by Jean Claude François, the person in charge of the programs we are funding in Haiti:

*"I arrived in Hinche on 10 August and I'll be back in Geneva on 15 November. My health is better. Thanks, Michel, for worrying [In 2016, Jean Claude spent six months in Hinche and was critically affected by a typhoid that was not well treated. He has been suffering from sequelae for several months.] Thanks also for forewarning me of the hurricane [Hurricane Irma was approaching Haiti and turning into a cyclone of rare power]."*

*In April, a fire destroyed several hectares of sugar cane and mango trees at the Ceramond farm. Many medicinal plants such as nonis, guava and eucalyptus, have been destroyed. A nursery is already installed and we hope to be able to replant the mango trees this year.*

*The Hinche dispensary is under renovation and is being enlarged because a doctor from Project Medishare<sup>1</sup> wants to manage it and hire two other doctors to expand the range of services currently offered by our auxiliary. This will be a good thing for the city of Hinche which public hospital is still not able to meet the demand of the population for health care.*

*The Chilean job market has become very attractive to young Haitians. Chile has welcomed about a hundred Haitian workers a week during the last six months, especially university graduates in good health. About thirty graduates from UJPM [the university created by Jean Claude in Hinche] already grasped this opportunity. Although this*



Jean Claude (red scarf) with the general coordinator and members of the University Jean Price Mars administration team in early 2017, at the graduation ceremony of the first class of 101 graduates.

*is a loss for the country, it is still a breath of fresh air for these young people and their families, some of which have already received transfers of money.*

*I am very pleased with this opening. Thank you very much for your input and your efforts."*

<sup>1</sup> An NGO created in 1994 in Miami to provide medical assistance to Haitians.

**In South Sudan**, the programs we are funding are meeting with efficiency the needs of the population, despite the daily difficulties caused by the context: bad communications (very slow internet, random reception of telephone calls from abroad); gasoline becoming more and more expensive (10 times more so than in early 2016) and difficult to get, with periods of scarcity, such as at the beginning of August, after the closure of the borders during the Kenyan elections; insecurity (the teams that erected the fence in Nyarjwa suffered several attacks by armed men belonging to the Mundari tribe).

But our local partner, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) Juba, continues its mission with professionalism and determination.

The agricultural land in Nyarjwa can finally be farmed throughout the year, without being regularly invaded by the herds of armed nomads: the **fence** that has been erected also protects the Saint Vincent Health Care Center that is located on the land. This Center receives about 50 patients (half of them children) three days a week.



#### **Some news about the Lologo Vocational Training and Community Development Center (VTCDC):**

- In November, the English-speaking teachers will follow one month of further training at the Nakawa Institute in Uganda.
- The second delivery of tools and small equipment for the training program has arrived in Lologo. For the first time, this biannual order was made in China (previously it was in Uganda), with a surprising benefit in both cost and quality.
- A new water purification system (solar powered) has been installed, thus meeting the needs of the hundreds of people who come to the CFPDC every day.
- The mission for the UN<sup>2</sup> has been well accomplished: the perimeters of the huge *compound* located near the capital have been cleared and, hence, secured. The work done by local people under the supervision of SVDP was all the more appreciated because another local partner on this project did not meet the expectations of the UN. This success should open opportunities for SVDP in Juba. During my meeting with UN officials of the Relief, Reintegration and Protection section in March, the Officer in Charge said: *"Much as you may not get a lot of big projects from UNMISS, but you can get very good references that can enable to enter the arena of other UN agencies, funds and programs."*
- The guest house has been built in the VTCDC. Funds are still needed for the finishing stage (painting), the purchase of small equipment and utensils (kitchen) and the in situ production of wooden furniture.

**As for the Be In Hope program for street children**, it has again benefited from the visit, during three weeks in August, of three Egyptian volunteers who took part in educational workshops and leisure activities.

Thus, in spite of the operational difficulties encountered in Haiti and South Sudan, **concrete achievements are made, thanks to your support. Your generosity is transformed into dignity, hope, and prospects for hundreds of people who are lack all the essentials.**

Many thanks in advance for your donations,

Handwritten signature of Patrick Bittar.

**Patrick Bittar, Director**

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<sup>2</sup> For UNMISS (United Nations Mission in South Sudan).