



Chipunga Development Committee  
P.O. Box 611  
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January 31, 2008

## REPLY TO THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT CHIPUNGA JANUAR 6, 2008

Dear CDC members,

Let me wish you first a good progress to all activities deliberated for 2008. Meanwhile it is obvious that our corporation is a learning approach to both parties (in Malawi and in Germany too). But if the processes are well understood we will be able to realize numerous of your projects and our support can continue into the right way. However, regular communication, understanding and accepting the different traditions and views of the other sites is key in such a joint venture. We are very pleased to receive the summary of your annual general meeting of GRACE held at January 6. Let me comment on some of the topics.

### **Topic 2: Report of CDC leadership of 2007:**

Point 2.: Why did 25% of the members not use the fertilizer on their fields? Have they sold the fertilizer?

Point 3.: I send a letter to the hospital administrator via e-mail at December 16. In the letter I was explaining and asking for the scheme we discussed during my visit last November (personalized vouchers which can be used at St. Johns for all listed Chipunga employees). I never got an answer from St. Johns. Can somebody from CDC discuss the idea with the hospital administrator Mr. Nyrenda? Probably the MD or Dr. Ehret can escort this get-together.

Point 5.: Question: How can we go on with other projects whilst the water hole thing hasn't been finalized (despite my desire to do so as quick as possible)? This I hardly can put in plain words to the donors. Please act instantly! If not, donors might judge to stop further activities until the water job is finalized. Sorry, but this is how German brains are working and thinking. So in the end you need some folks who do the job voluntary for the goodwill of the community. Please think about.

Point 6.: Who has paid the construction of the ablution block for the workers? Was it us or the farm or us? If us how did it come to a self-contribute of 25%? Please comment.

Point 7: Same question: Who paid for the wooden beds made by the local carpenters? For free? Cool!

Point 9: I was wondering World Vision had chosen the Konga river as a natural boundary for the scheme. To me it is like the picture I often use to describe the situation: There are many fire places in your area and cooperation is never becoming an easy thing. No further remark from your site necessary. Just a personal thought. The neighbours at other fireplaces seem to be envious to the power of CDC and GRACE activities.

Point 10: I am still waiting for proposals of the women. Even the ANAMED people haven't sent a listing on necessary things. Remember it was agreed that the list should be seen by CDC and then forwarded to us.

### **Topic 3: Proposed activities for 2008**

Point 2: You mentioned that all families got a 5 kg package of improved seed variety. I am not a farmer and can't understand what type of seed this is. Would you please shed light on it to us poor Germans? Thanks!

Point 4: What do you mean by increase of health budget? How much? Fits to the St. Johns issue. Please clarify with Mr. Nyrenda from St. Johns and address the project with a 2008 cost approximation to us.

Point 5: We are fine with buying more blankets and mosquito nets. Please inform us on the projected costs and go ahead. Do you want me to create flyers for the workers and families on how to use the nets properly (could be distributed with the nets?). According to my sightseeing tour in November people do know



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less how to use the nets properly. If wished I can send some uncomplicated instructions you can translate into local Chitumbuka? OK?

Point 6: Maintenance of houses. Should be ruled out by CDC. If this is just a thing people are waiting for to be done by a "ghost person" (like the water hole) it will never happen. Think about the way you can start and support this achievement.

Point 7: I didn't received a proposal of the CDC on that idea (just a written outline by Dr. Ehret). May I ask the new CDC to do better than the old members? Would be great to send an application retrospectively?

Point 9: Presuming we have about 50 workers at Chipunga. How did you calculate a number of rain coats and gum-boots of 110 each? According to the report just 32 members were attending the AGM. Did I mix up numbers or did I calculate wrong? Please clarify the project, numbers and budget in brief. Thanks.

Point 10: Is there any outlay for the nursery project? Consider our school project will be extremely exhaustive for our finances this year. Anyway I would be happy if such a project might begin within the society.

### **Topic 4: Election of CDC**

Congratulation to all of the new members. Seems that younger folks are in the team now. We wish the entire CDC all the best, good fortune, good communication amongst the community, amongst the different neighbouring "fire places", and finally a close and successful partnership with us "the Germans folks".

Expecting the promised budget outline 2008 and a summing up of the 2007 budget (till December 31) urgently needed for our annual general assembly at March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

With best regards,



Dr. Jens Diedrich  
President