# GRACE Charity (Förderverein Chipunga e.V.)

Postal address: Förderverein Chipunga e.V., Vordere Gasse 10, D-71254 Ditzingen, Germany / e-mail: info@foerderverein.chipunga.com
Managing committee: Dr. Jens Diedrich (president), Barbara Schwarz (vice president), Margarete Baeza (treasurer), Christoph Schwarz (secretary)



### Chipunga Development Committee

c/o the Chairman Mr. Daniel Mthuti CC: weltwaerts team P.O. Box 611 / Mzuzu

August 18, 2015

Topics: Tertiary Education / Laptop Loan Teachers / Milk Bulking Group

Dear All

On August 9, 2015 the German Management Team did think over the situation about grants for Tertiary Education. Further the proposal of Chipunga Milk Bulking Group was reviewed and the restart of the Teacher Laptop Scheme was discussed. You'll find our decisions underneath:

# **Tertiary Education**

a) Learnings on educational institutions:

Two institutions (Dayang College of Nursing, Ludon Teacher College) are perceived to be reliable partners. Both bodies do follow their fee pattern. With Mzuzu University the collaboration has just begun, so no statement is possible. However, **Malawi College of Accountancy is currently not seen as a trustworthy partner**. The alteration of fees doesn't match their quotations.

b) Learnings on agreements (MOU) between GRACE and the applying student:

Out of 5 agreements 2 did not work out. Mphatso Banda changed from the contracted PACE technician to ICAM certificate. Unfortunately neither the student nor CDC informed us about this change. Stuart Thindwa failed to pay his 25% self-contribution to the college. It is doubtful whether students did subscribe their individual MOU, as we never got a reply on the execution.

c) Conclusions and consequence for new applications:

Tertiary education grants written down in a MOU are not subject to change! Given consent from our site is a long-term commitment over 3-4 years! We have to budget it and therefore every application must be based on a reliable and predictable costs plan. Modifying courses without our OK or not paying self-contribution is not considered as a sport and the sponsorship is not a free ticket to do anything. The increase of fees at College of Accoountancy drives concerns that someone might take advantage out of it.

Founded on this learnings we are incapable to commit ourselves for any new application at the moment. Things at the College of Accountancy have to be clarified and sorted out first and we have to find out whether Mzuzu Technical College is a reliable institution. For that reason I am going to get in contact with the accountant of MTC.

Future contracts will be done directly with the institution granting the tertiary education of the applicant. A grant will be given if the institution agrees proposes a proper quotation and agrees to sign the MOU. Paying-in the self-contribution and extras (even if unpredicted) are solely the responsibility of the student.

The fresh applications forwarded to us do not reflect what we expect. Submissions contain non-saying phrasing, are unspecific, and are "copy - paste" to each other. Equal the CDC letter coming with the applications doesn't contain any help to us. From that background we have to find a way to give coaching and supervision to the applicants (e.g. via weltwaerts).

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While we are waiting for your statement and until the Accountancy College issue is understood and solved we are ongoingly searching our environment for future godparenthood support. We've developed an advertisement flyer and try to get godparents till January 2016 (see attached).

# Laptop Loan Teachers

According to your information the teachers want to start this scheme now. Please bear in mind that the old MOU are not valid any more as conditions have changed. Assuming MKW 150'000 per laptop (which might be too high, but no one knows what will be next year) teachers must agree to pay-in MKW 10'000 (or more if desired) per month. This deposit money has to be paid to Bernhard directly at every payday and will allow a proper growth of budget. Laptops will not be bought until 70% of the estimated total cost have been paid in. If the teachers are OK with our proposal, we'll send a new MOUs, which have to be signed by all parties.

### Milk Bulking Group

The business proposal was intensively discussed and rejected because of a) a not clear specifyed demand (it isn't described, what we shall contribute to the whole project), b) because of unclear estimates in the cash-flow prjoction given for 12 month (seems to be a very much too optimistic calculation), and c) the unexpected situation with our tertiary education project, where we don't know where we'll financially end up. Please inform the members of the milk group on our decision.

## Questions to Mr. Mkandawile

As far as we have understood there seems to be quite a change at Chipunga LEA School. Therefore we beg CDC to ask and discuss with the headmaster Mr. Mkandawile about:

- How many teachers do currently work at the school?
- By which measures a replacement for Patricia is intended to be organized?
- Has it been clarifyed who gets to live in the house when Patricia has gone?

### CDC Minutes - Budget Overview

It was agreed by CDC, that allowances are only paid out when short reports on the topics and outcomes of every CDC meeting is forwarded to us. Even it was promised, that this procedure will start soon, nothing happened and not a single coverage of your meetings has come to our attention. Have you earned your allowances? Why is there no communication as agreed? We are wondering why such easy things do not work!

We are looking very much forward to receiving your answers and remain with best wishes,

Dr. Jens Diedrich
President GRACE charity