



**Chipunga Development Committee**

c/o the Chairman Mr. Daniel Mthuti  
P.O. Box 611  
Mzuzu  
Malawi

April 11, 2012

**Reply to the two letters dated 23<sup>rd</sup> of February, and 5<sup>th</sup> of March, 2012**

Dear Mr. Chairman (Dear Daniel)  
Dear CDC Members

We got multiple communications from Chipunga (CDC and School). In the following I summarize our decisions and address the needs for clarification. **Note:** another letter will go to the school (with copy to CDC).

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**Budget 2013:** To fix the total budget we need to learn more about the amounts, and the estimated costs of all items proposed by CDC:

- 1) Fertilizer
- 2) Seed maize
- 3) Dining sets
- 4) First aid box and drugs
- 5) Mattresses

With regards to the fertilizer: your answer to my question whether it is cheaper to buy it now is still missing. Concerning the first aid box and drugs we do not understand what you mean. Is it a refill of the existing box or a new idea? What kind of drugs you are talking about? As no trained physician is around at Chipunga we would like to get some more details on the drugs you want to have available for the people in the region.

We are missing the continuation of the income-generating-activity called bakery. Is this project still alive?

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**Pre-School:** In general we agree to pay 4 teachers with a monthly salary of MK 4'000 each. This salary can be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2012. However, ahead of any payout CDC should meet decision makers from the community to give answers and explanations about the following burning topics to us:

- a) How long is the working-time (4 hrs every day, # of vacation days; no pay-out in between the terms)?
- b) Who will control the work (attendance list) and who will do the pay-out (payroll similar to the farm)?
- c) What happens if a teacher is missing w/o reason (deduction of the salary)?
- d) How much money do you charge parents per kid per term?
- e) How do you grant the back flow of the parents fee to the salary paid by GRACE? And who will check?
- f) Is the community still willing to contribute by providing tea and sugar (or food, or cash, or anything else)?
- g) **Can you draw a simple scheme on the cash flow and the different parties involved (like CDC, community, parents, teachers) that could help us to understand?**
- h) Please provide names, surnames, age and place of residence of the 4 teachers announced.

Sorry for asking so many questions, but we are talking about MK 4'000 x 4 teachers = MK 16'000 / month; to be multiplied by 10 or 12 months (depending on holidays, please advise) = MK 160'000 – 192'000 / year.

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**Primary School Requests:** To clarify once more: All extra doings (e.g. the teacher fertilizer-scheme, and the scholarship as well) won't reduce the total CDC budget for the workforce and their families at all!

Teacher fertilizer scheme: the idea was raised at my stay in December. As it is another option (besides the houses) to motivate "good" teachers to stay and to come to Chipunga Primary School we agree to the idea.

***Our questions to and beg for advice from the CDC:***

- a) We calculate 2 different sacks of fertilizer (= 2 x MK 8'000 / teacher); which is to be multiplied by 6 teachers = MK 96'000 per year? Right?
- b) In which period of time the loan shall be paid back by the teachers (consider teacher salaries are higher compared to the farm workers). Please come up with a helping proposal.
- c) Who will control the repayment?
- d) What are the consequences if a teacher fails to repay?
- e) As CDC got a 100% back-flow it shall be included to the total annual budget of the CDC. Agree?

Scholarship: The school came-up with a proposal to extend the scholarship to 20 pupils. This we call in question: last term 6 learners got their examinations only. So a number of 20 seems all too high.

***Our questions to and beg for advice from the CDC:***

- a) Probably we should start with a maximum of 10 scholarships for the next year? Would CDC agree?
- b) Would you agree if the pay-out process goes like this:
  - Chipunga Primary School provides a list with the names of the annual winners to CDC.
  - Parents pay 100% of the fee at the school and come with a proof of having paid to CDC.
  - CDC refunds 75% of the expenses back (for names on the list provided by the school only).
- c) The headteacher wrote school management committee, PTA and community members agreed to contribute the 25% self-contribution to GRACE. Does CDC looks at it the same way? Realistic?
- e) As CDC got a 25% back-flow it shall be included to the total annual budget of the CDC. Agree?

According to Mr. Ngwira, the current fee for a day community secondary school (like Chikwina) is MK 2'500 per term. Which would sum-up to MK 7'500 per kid per year. Total for 10 winners = MK 75'000 / year.

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This letter is written on behalf of the German GRACE Managing Committee. I am looking very much forward to get your answers.

With warm regards to the people at and around Chipunga,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "J. Diedrich".

Dr. Jens Diedrich  
President GRACE charity

CC: weltwärts Team (Rasmus and Lynn-Marthe); and Maya (copy via e-mail)