

Partners meeting 2013

WSG-HCE head office, Addis Ababa, 2013-10-25 – 2013-10-26

Participants: see enclosed list

FIRST DAY (FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2013)

1. Welcome and opening

Welcome by Jonas Nordén and opening of the meeting.

2. Introduction and devotion

All delegates make a short introduction with name and organization/function.

Devotion is led by Eyasu Zegeye.

3. Approval of moderator and secretary for the meeting

Moderator: Jonas Nordén

Secretary: Louise Wetterlund

4. Approval of minutes checkers (min. 2 persons)

1: Benjamin Kobborg

2: Anna Lena Johannsen

3: Gashahun Edossa

5. Adoption of agenda

The suggested agenda were unanimously approved.

6. Adoption of minutes from previous Partners Meeting

Minutes from last year's PM was approved.

Anna Lena Johannsen will make some formal comments in written form to follow up on some questions. They will not change the content of the minutes.

7. Review of Procedures of Partners meeting

The meeting decided that the minutes will be result oriented, excluding the discussions. Today's secretary will add this decision to the procedures for PM.

8. Presentation and reports by WSG/HCE-RDA

REPORT PRESENTATIONS

Noah Desta (program manager of WSG) presented 18- month activity report of WSG covering January 2012 to June 2013.

Addis Melaku (finance head of WSG) presented 18 months income and expenditure report of WSG covering January 2012 to June 2013.

A total income and expenditure report for Entoto School building (3 years) was also presented.

Mekdes Tadesse (IGA manager of WSG) presented the 18 months activity and economic reports for WSG-IGA.

The day's meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

SECOND DAY (SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER 2013)

Continuation of the meeting on Saturday

Jonas Nordén had opened the second day's meeting with prayer.

8. Presentation and reports by WSG/HCE-RDA, continuation

Mammo Assefa (program manager of HCE) presents 18 months activity report.

Yonas Genene (finance head of HCE) presents the 18 months financial report for HCE.

Final versions of all the reports will be distributed within one month's time, as they need to be corrected.

a) Update on the current situation

**Introduction of new board members – by Yonas Tesfaye*

The new board members of HCE and WSG were introduced. They take active part in the work and conduct regular meetings (at least every 2 months, but usually more often). This is to ensure a more democratic and controlled organization, with board members who are not working in the organization.

**Introduction of founders – by Eyasu Zegeye*

The history of the co-operation between founders was introduced. When the founders saw that there was mishandling, quarrels and such, two of the founders of WSG/HCE, Eyasu Zegeye and Alemayhu Solomon, are now taking active part in reforming and restructuring the organizations and the leadership.

The founders will monitor especially economical transactions, to avoid temptations of corruption. The founders' group will also work hard to be more transparent and professional in a total reconstruction work. This work will be vision focused.

**WSG & HCE support groups' offices in USA and Canada*

Eyasu Joseph informed the participants about the establishing of the organization of a support group in USA, Hope for Children/WSG-USA.

Alemayhu Solomon informed the participants about the establishing of a WSG/HCE-ministry in Canada

**WSG & HCE spiritual and development work*

Gizachew Ayka indicated that all beneficiaries will be addressed in a spiritual way. Spiritually based counseling and empowering through the gospel will be more visible in the work from now on.

Yonas Tesfaye states that the future plan is that all spiritual activities will be organized under WSG and development programs will be transferred to HCE.

b) Plans and visions for the future

Gizachew Ayka informs that the plan is to see a productive ministry, all partners happy and all questions answered. A near future plan is to spend more time with the new boards to familiarize them with the work.

Eyasu Zegeye mentioned that the founders' group are planning to have meetings in the coming weeks to make a road map for the vision for the work in the future.

9. Questions raised from Partners

a) From Swedish and Norwegian partners

1. Economic reports for the whole organizations

Marcus Holmgren described the format for economic reports made by Läkarmissionen (6 month/1 year narrative reports and quarterly economic reports).

The meeting decided that Läkarmissionen will share their format with all partners and partners will inform WSG/HCE if they want to use that format for reports before the end of 2013. The file will be added to the dropbox.

2. Fact-finding audit

A fact finding audit is requested by Norwegian and Swedish partners, due to lack of trust and the fact that many rumors concerning corruption are circulated.

It is the unanimous opinion from all partners at the meeting that such an audit should take place and is necessary and good.

A new comprehensive internal audit by external auditors will be conducted for both organizations covering 2010-2013. The boards of both organizations took the responsibility to follow up the audit process. Accordingly, it was agreed that Term of Reference is to be developed by the boards and communicated to all within one month for comments. It was estimated that the audit may be finalized till end of March 2014 if things go as per expectation. Besides, it was agreed that the audit reports shall be ready for the August 2014 meeting which will be held in Addis Ababa.

The meeting decided that the old evaluation that was presented in 2010 will be shared in the dropbox by Erik Johansson (to be used as a reference material).

3. WSG/HCE as employers

Sewit Ketema informed that there are HR policy-documents and financial salary documents, which can be presented on request.

4. Entoto freedom school

A full presentation was given yesterday (on the first day).

5. Buildings

The partners requested detailed information about buildings owned or rented by WSG/HCE. Accordingly, an overview of buildings owned or rented by WSG will be shared in written form, including both buildings in Chenchu and Addis.

Anna Lena Johannsen asked for a geographic overview where in Addis and Ethiopia all project sites exactly are located. This was agreed to be presented at next Partners meeting.

6. Administration costs

The subject was under discussion during the report presentations and the meeting reminded that it should be as low as possible and distributed fairly among the projects. The participants indicated that this issue will be looked into by the audit as well.

b) From Danish partners

AiT withdrew their question.

c) From German partners

DFC requested an overview of the HCE staff with responsibilities and contact details.

Yonas Tesfaye will make sure it is sent out again.

10. Location and time for the next year's PM

Partners Meeting 2014 will take place in Addis Ababa from August 22-23, Friday and Saturday (whole days).

11. Election of moderator and secretary for the following PM

The participants agreed that Jonas Nordén will continue to be a moderator in the next meeting. However, the secretary will be selected later.

12. AOB

Erik Johansson expresses his gratitude to the moderator, participants and those preparing this meeting.

13. Closure

Jonas Nordén thanks all participants in the meeting for their interest and explains the meeting closed.

Addis Ababa 2013-10-25/26

Louise Wetterlund
secretary

Jonas Nordén
moderator

Anna Lena Johannsen
minutes checker

Benjamin Kobborg
minutes checker

Gashahun Edossa
minutes checker

To do:

- HCE/WSG will send out corrected reports (financial and narrative) and put them on Dropbox by November 26th 2013.

It was agreed that 12 months reports give a clearer overview than 18 months reports. The corrected reports should therefore refer to 12 months (calendar year 2012) and 6 months (Jan-June 2013).

Admin costs should be shared by all partners but never exceed 13% of the total budget (agreement of previous PMs).

- Boards of WSG/HCE recruit a suitable consultant to conduct the internal audit, which should be completed by March 2014, so that partners receive its results before next PM. The boards will take responsibility for recruitment and report back estimated costs and schedule for this to partners by November 26th 2013.

- The old evaluation that was presented in 2010 will be shared in the dropbox by Erik Johansson

- An overview of buildings owned or rented by WSG/HCE will be shared by the organizations in written form

- Yonas Tesfaye will send out an overview of the HCE staff with responsibilities and contact details.

- Läkarmissionen will share their format with all partners and partners will inform WSG/HCE if they want to use that format for reports. The file will be added to the dropbox.