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- BATLAGAE TRUST P.O.CB:x1;;;1fo;unii:a;;rg 2000 5:): (011)29-8007
I REPORT TO NORDIC OPERATION DAYSWORK
ON THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE BATLAGAE TRUST
VIA DANCHURCHAID

1. INTRODUCTION:

The following report details the expenditure of funds from Nordic Operation Dayswork in the amount of R444,504.57 (US\$161,617.00), transferred to the Batlagae Trust. These funds were received in the second-half of the 1992 financial year and were therefore carried forward for utilisation in 1993. Attached to this document is a copy of the Trust's 1992 annual report which includes audited financial statements. A similar annual report for the financial year 1993 will be presented to Danchurchaid next year, and will include audited accounting of their funding, which was utilised primarily on the provision of bursaries for young scholars returned from exile, as well as the provision of some maintenance and transport funding to exceptionally needy students and their families in desperate need of additional support. Since its inception, the Batlagae Trust envisaged that it would remain in operation for at least three years, in order for returning scholars and students to be given sufficient time in which to integrate into a new social and educational system. It was hoped that after three years, democratic changes in the country "would have led to the re-structuring and re-financing of the education system in South Africa, whereby the educational needs of the returned exiles would be catered for. The Trustees acknowledge that this was a slightly premature prediction, as recent developments in the country have made it more than obvious that it will be quite some time before any major steps are taken to begin the dissolution of the education crisis. The work of the Batlagae Trust therefore remains extremely relevant and it will be necessary for it to continue to seek assistance from concerned donors at least until 1995.

2. BACKGROUND:

2.1 BURSARY PROGRAMME:

Despite the significantly broadened mission and expanded relevancy of the Batlagae Trust, its main focus continues to lie on the bursary programme. Since June 1992, the Trust has continued with the smooth implementation of its extensive bursary programme on a national level. The total number of beneficiaries at all levels of study in pre-schools, primary and secondary schools, universities and technicons, as well as adults involved in vocational and skills training, now stands at 2 338. Many returnees are currently facing exceptional financial difficulties as a result of the closure of the NCCR offices in April. The NCCR, through the help of the UNHCR in particular, took responsibility for the primary needs of the returnees by allocating allowances on a needs-only basis. The Batlagae Trust has always focussed on the educational and related needs (such as counselling) of the returned exiles. Many returnees are now turning to the Batlagae Trust in desperation and are requesting assistance with maintenance and transport costs. In response to this crisis, the Trustees have agreed to set aside a discretionary fund to assist those returnees who are facing serious hardships. The Batlagae Trust envisages that it will need to allocate part of its 1993 funding towards this discretionary fund, established as a

direct response to an emergency situation in order to support children and adults in extreme need.

The practical implications of the closure of the NCCR offices are also quite severe for the Batlagae Trust which can no longer rely on the regional offices of the NCCR to ensure that the

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bursary and counselling programmes are implemented on a national scale. The Batlagae Trust will therefore increasingly need to enlist the support of other bursary agencies across the country, and individual staff members will have to travel a great deal more than was necessary in the past.

2.1 ARCHIVES PROJECT:

One of the initial objectives of the Batlagae Trust was to facilitate the return of educational archival material belonging to the liberation movements from abroad, and to arrange for its safe return to South Africa and placement at Fort Hare University. In September 1992, the Batlagae Trust was instrumental in co-ordinating the return of a container of educational archives from Tanzania. The Batlagae Trust has also helped to arrange the funding of an archivist to work at the university and the cataloguing and indexing of archival material from

the countries of exile is progressing well.

Plans are still underway for a museum to be established at the university in addition to the archives centre, and the Trust will still be involved in a major research project on the educational institutions established by the liberation movements during the years of exile.

The research project will more than likely not commence until later this year, by which time it

is anticipated that suitable researchers would have been identified.

2.3 THE YEOVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL:

The Yeoville Community School has been successfully established with the aim of meeting the urgent educational and social needs of returned political exile children as well as those of

local black children. The majority of the thousands exiles returning to South Africa are children whose lives and education have been significantly disrupted and who are in need of

considerable help if they are to integrate successfully into South African society. Local

black children are equally in need of assistance and require a significant degree of intensive

compensatory teaching in order to redress their exposure to inferior schooling systems.

The Yeoville Community School is unique in two ways: firstly, the South African government has

agreed to subsidise the salaries of the teachers and support staff at both Yeoville Community

School and Barnato Park High School (which already caters to some extent for older children

from the same constituency). These are the first state-aided schools providing for black students in the inner city to receive government subsidies on this scale. All other operating

costs, however, need to be funded privately by the schools. Secondly, an integral part of the

Yeoville Community School's design has been the establishment of an educational polyclinic

which will provide vital academic and social support including assessment, psychological counselling and remedial assistance to the students. The educational polyclinic is staffed

largely by members of the community. This combination of academic and social support in a community school is unique in South Africa and will serve as a model that can be replicated in

other cities in the country.

2.4 YEOVILLE EDUCATIONAL POLYCLINIC:

The educational polyclinic has also been successfully established and all staff appointments

(Director, remedial teachers, psychologist and secretary) have been made. There is a significant need for the educational polyclinic and the services and expertise that it aims to

make accessible. This was confirmed by a task force of educational experts who visited Tanzania in 1991 in order to perform a situation analysis before the repatriation of exiles

began on a mass scale. The task force was unanimous in its prediction that it would be vital

for the returning' exile children to receive considerable counselling support if they were

e to
overcome the psychological and educational difficulties that would inevitably accompany t
heir
re-integration into South African schools and society.
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Services provided include counselling, educational remediation, psychometric testing, social and health issues, speech therapy and whatever related services are needed. The educational polyclinic is not only providing returnee and local children with vital remedial and counselling, support, but also aims to make these and related services accessible to the broader community.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

In accordance with the agreements entered into between Danchurchaid and the Batlagae Trust on the one hand, and between Interfund and the Batlagae Trust on the other, the following disbursements were made by Danchurchaid: - . .

3.1 To Interfund:

- a. Kangwane Project US\$ 163,000
- Q). Khuphuka STEP Project US\$ 185,000
- c. Interfund fee US\$ 23,000

TOTAL , 633317;;

We are informed by Interfund that these amounts were received by Interfundr-and disbursed to the project holders.

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With regard to reporting on the two projects, The Batlagae Trust has made three monitoring visits to the Kangwane Work Study Centre and one visit to Khuphuka STEP. Both projects had establishment problems initially, but these have been largely resolved and in our view, both will fulfil their objectives for this year and beyond.

Interfund's reports on both the projects will be made available to Danchurchaid on 22 June 1993.

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3.2 To the Batlagae Trust:

The following sums were sent to the Batlagae Trust by Danchurchaid:

- a. Bursaries R409, 125.00 (US\$150,000)
- b. Administration R 35,379.57 (US\$ 11,617)
- . TOTAL R444,504.57 (US\$161,617)

In the audited financial statement on page 7, only the amount of R409,125 is reflected. Although the sum of R35,379.57 was received in late December 1992, it was only banked in 1993, and will therefore be reflected in the next auditor's report which is due in the first quarter of 1994.

3.3

Forty students are in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal region Transvaal.

The scholars who are listed on the document that accompanies this report, are the beneficiaries

of the NOD grant. Altogether, one hundred students are being sponsored according to the following summary:

According to level of study:

Primary/Secondary Schools 40 R140,215 .00

Kangwane Project - V ,

(Secondary/Technical) 60 R270,000.00

TOTAL 100 R410,215.00

According to Institution and gender:

Institution Male Female Total

Bezekela College 5 6 11

Spectrum High School 16 16

Rand Preparatory School 6 7 13

Kangwane Work Centre 52 8 60

(TOTAL 63 37 100)

Regional distribution:

memorandum of agreement between the Batlagae Trust and the Youth Education Trust is attached. This agreement specifies the conditions of the sponsorship for the sixty students at

the Kangwane Work Study Centre and, as stated in the agreement, two monitoring visits will be

made to the Centre in August and November 1993. Furthermore, the Youth Education Trust will

submit an audited financial statement in early 1994.

Since the NOD grants for both the bursary programme and administration purposes were received

late in 1992, the funds are being used in 1993

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so that in addition to this interim report, the

submit a final narrative report and audited financial

NOD/Danchurchaid in March 1994 in order to account for the above mentioned funds. statement

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The grant of R444,504.57 has been disbursed as follows:

a. Bursaries R410,215.57

b. Administration R 34,289.00

TOTAL 3444,50457

If the entire sum of R34,289.00 is not required for administration purposes this Year, v_A
some of

it will be utilised for the provision of additional bursaries, or will be put towards. on
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the projects mentioned in this report, if NOD is agreeable to this suggestion.

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