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AUSTCARE - LUTHULI MEMORIAL TRUST (LMT)

PROJECT AGREEMENT

REGARDING THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF

SOUTH AFRICAN EXILES WHO ARE

STUDENTS IN NIGERIA

PROGRESS REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD OF

JULY TO DECEMBER 1992

'I'RIJHI'EES: The Rt. Rev. Dr. Tom Butler; Dr. Sihusisu M E, Bungu; Mr. 11, M. Birnhcrg:

Mr. John Matthew 0151?; Mr. Thuhu thki; Mr, '111()nlzls'li Nkuhi;

Mr Alfred N20; Prof, Terence Ranger; Dr. Richard Ralhlxme; Prof. G. M. Scililonnc.

(Lumpany rcgislcrcd in England No. 1621684 Registered office: 103 Borough High Street. Lo  
ndon SE1 INN, Registered Charity Number: 326516

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In accordance with the Project Agreement between Austcare and Luthuli Memorial Trust, paragraph (b) and (c) refers. This report is now being submitted and it is about the education and training programme of the South African exiles who are students in Nigeria.

1.2 The period covered by this report is between July to December 1992.

1.3 The submission date of this report is February, 26, 1993.

## 2. PROGRESS REPORT FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAMME IN NIGERIA AS PER PRO FDRMA ANNEX 'A'

2.1 Monitoring Period: July to December 1992

2.2 Project Start/End: January 1991 to December 1994

2.3 Report Prepared by: Patricia Mtshali

Senior Programme Officer

Luthuli Memorial Trust

London Office

2.4 Date: 22 February 1993

## 2.5 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY & PERFORMANCE

The programme continue to be managed, administered and coordinated by the LMT Staff in London and in Lagos offices. LMT has since November 1992 employed a full time Officer with a specific responsibility for the programme in Nigeria.

There are 365 students who are at present enrolled in Nigerian education institutions i.e. secondary schools, technical colleges, polytechnics and universities. The students in the programme seem to have settled well in Nigeria and they have also adapted reasonably well into the education system there. The evidence of their adaptability and settlement has been borne by two factors. Firstly their academic performance according to their schools and college results show that the majority obtained a range of passes From average to above average. Secondly there are some students in the programme who have already expressed a desire to Further their studies in Nigeria. According to LMT assesment the programme ' continue to meet the education and training needs

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of students and its objectives. However, we have recently received a report stating that there are severe problems relating to education in Nigeria (see the Enclosed Report).

LMT will continue to monitor this situation.

#### 2.6.1 OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

##### (a) Lagos Office

The LMT Office in Nigeria is situated at 211 Herbert Macaulay Street, Yaba, Lagos. New developments have been the partitioning of the office to provide adequate space for interviewing and counselling. Following partitioning, unfortunately, Funds proposed For Furnishing the new rooms had to be used For the emergency return travel of some students in the programme. This office has well established; it has all the basic office equipments. The photocopier which broke down is in the process of being replaced.

##### (b) Kano Office

An office has been acquired in Kano, Kano State, in Northern Nigeria. Ms Gloria Madenge, a counsellor, is responsible For this office. There has been delay in the full functioning of this Office. The items needed such as telephone, fax and banking Facilities are in the process of being procured. It has come to LMT notice that a clearance to operate an office in Kano needs to be sought from the Nigerian Government and this is being obtained. LMT is appraising the need For any more offices in Nigeria particularly taking into consideration the overall programme needs.

#### 2.6.2 Staffing

The office has staff which consists of the Following categories.

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(a) Senior Staff (there are eight staff)

Dr XM Skomolo (Co ordinator)

Mr Sam Mohamed (Accountant)

Mrs B Pariola (Senior Counsellor)

Mr Blessing Obioru (Counsellor)

Mr Samuel Akinlabi (Counsellor)

Mr Yaro Bulurobe (Counsellor)

Mrs Mary Usagie (Counsellor)

Ms Gloria Madenge (Counsellor) (based in Kano)

Mr Willie Ibeabuchi (Counsellor) (he has recently left LMT)

Mrs Nora Iweibo (Counsellor) (she died in October 1992)

It is considered that the present level of staffing is adequate For the programme and there are no intentions at present to employ counsellors in place of the last two mentioned above.

(b) Administrative Staff:

Miss Ifeoma Madu (Confidential Secretary)

Mr Amevor Daniel (Driver)

Mr Lucas Ajayi (Driver)

Mr Adegbite Kayode (Typist)

Madam Mary Ekaledo (Typist)

Mr Wisdom E Nmerengwa (Office Clerk)

Miss Yetunde da Sanjos (Cleaner/Tea Girl)

Mr Marty Igoh (Receptionist/Security)

Alhaji Sahin Tahir (Security Guard)

Mr Na Na Oti (Security Guard attached to the Co ordinator's House)

(c) Staff developEments

LMT recognise the need for staff development and training. With a View to strengthen their professional skills. Training in Education Guidance and Counselling, Refugee/Exile Counselling, guidance in assesment, evaluation methods, report writing, case load management have been identified as staff development and training needs. LMT is obtaining relevant materials with a view to in-house training

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#### 2.6.3 Office Vehicles \_

The insurers For the Peugeot 504 Station Wagon car which was written off Following a serious accident agreed to make a payment of more than one third of the original cost i.e. an amount of N130,000.

The second vehicle is a mini bus, it is used For general office transport services and its also used for transportation to the students in different parts of Nigeria. This vehicle is in good condition.

#### 2.6.4 Bank Account

The LMT has a bank account at the Meridian Bank Lagos. The Meridian bank currently have no branches outside of Lagos. LMT has therefore agreed For an account to be opened with Union Bank of Nigeria. The Union Bank has close links with Barclays bank and it has branches throughout Nigeria. The banking needs of the Kano office and students elsewhere in Nigeria will therefore be met.

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#### 2.6.5 STUDENTS IN THE PROGRAMME

The number of students in the programme is at present 365. Some students have had to be returned to South Africa and to countries of their initial domicile. The reasons For the discontinuation of studies by these students has been the Following: health; pregnancy; a few with learning difficulties; and a few for indifferent behaviour to the extreme. The remaining students continue to make progress in their various courses. (A detailed Report is enclosed.)

#### 2.6.6 Student Finance

All students continue to receive their financial entitlements at the beginning of each term. Payments to students include stipends, book allowance, basic kits, tuition Fees, accomodation fees, medical fees & reimbursements, instrument allowances, project allowances & clothing etc. Due to the devaluation of the Nigerian currency and the subsequent high rate of inflation students continue to request that their allowances be reviewed to relate to the cost of living. LMT is prepared to make a case for consideration by Austcare on behalf of the students. This would be done Following an assesment and taking into consideration the local practice in this regard by similar scholarship programmes in Nigeria.

#### 2.6.7 Holidax CamEs

Two camps were organised for the students during the months of August to September 1992. These camps were situated in Jos, Plateau State, and in Uwerri, Imo State. There were varied programmes of activities which were of interest to the students. Both camps were a success; the degree of success depended on the professional skills of the counsellors involved (For details please refer to the Attached Holiday Camps 1992 Reports).

It has been proposed to LMT Lagos that the arrangement For the Future holiday camp should include a career guidance workshop in the agenda. This will incorporate the skills for employment eSpecially For the students who will be completing their cobrses and returning to South Africa i.e. application For employment and effective letter writing; curriculum vitae preparation; self marketing for employment tuition; job interviewing skills; networking with work experience organisations relating to South Africa; alternative employability skills e.g. self-employment etc.

The Director of LMT and the Senior Programme Officer intend to participate for some of the time at the future Holiday Camps.

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### 3. PROGRAMME ISSUES:

#### 3.1 UNESCO Funding

The January to June 1992 LMT Director's report has given the details of the funding arrangements already agreed by UNESCO/UNDP.

UNESCO has been authorised to renew the Fellowships For 117 students to cover the period of July to December 1992. UNESCO remittance to LMT Lagos is conditional upon receipt of progress reports from various institutions where the students are studying. The procurement of these reports From Nigerian institutions is administratively cumbersome as counsellors have to make repeated visits to institutions to obtain them. LMT is at present finding out what would be the more responsive and simpler ways to obtain these reports For UNESCO. At the same time UNESCO is being requested to contribute to the administrative cost of carrying out the task of procuring progress reports, more so that it relates specifically to UNESCO requirements. The situation in Nigerian institutions, which has already been mentioned in the summary of this report, make it impossible to obtain reports. UNESCO will be asked to consider the difficulty LMT Face regarding progress reports and to release Funds.

#### 3.2 Deaths

One student died at University of Ibadan Teaching Hospital following an illness. His remains were sent to South Africa. LMT Director and Mrs Pariola (Counsellor) attended his funeral in the Cape Province.

#### 3.3 Student health

The cost of student health care has been unusually high and the evidence of this is shown in the financial summary regarding medical expenditure.

We have received reports that students in the programme tend to suffer From illnesses relating to lack of or shortage of water in some parts of Nigeria. The scarcity of water therefore has an effect on students' health. LMT is critically looking at the water situation with a view to make a case regarding water allowance which may be worthwhile for Austcare to consider.

### 3.4 Truancy

There has been a report of the problem of truancy by a few students. The extent and details in regard is being investigated by the LMT office. There will be a report on this in due course.

### 3.5 Student Return Travel

There are 16 students who left the programme during December 1991 to October 1992. They were returned to South Africa for reasons of health; extremely indifferent behaviour; and pregnancy.

There are 13 students who have completed the first stage of their Diploma course. The education problems in Nigeria which have been mentioned in the summary of this report has made it impossible for them to return to their respective institution For the second stage of their course which would lead to a Higher National Diploma qualification. These students are currently accommodated in a Guest House in Lagos and they are accumulating bills. Some of these students have stated that they would like to be allowed the choice to return to South Africa to complete their studies there.

There are 95 students who are expected to complete their courses in June 1993. These students expect that return travel arrangements would have been made For them to leave Nigeria.

The issue of student return travel seem to militate against the programme. Therefore, the whole question of students' return travel to the country of their original domicile following the completion of studies need to be fully addressed. LMT supplementary report on this issue with a definite proposal to Austcare will Follow within two weeks.

### 3.6 Information & Communication

Students have expressed concern about poor postal communication between Nigeria and South Africa. They also want to be kept informed about the political developments in South Africa.

LMT is in the process of arranging For the students' letters to their parents, Friends and relatives to be Facilitated by the London Office. With regards to information LMT will be subscribing to some South African newspapers and will arrange For students to have access to them through Nigerian staff.



#### 4. Comment on PERFORMANCE AND ACTION REQUIRED:

4.1 The programme seem to be now stable. However there is a request by students for the increase of their allowances. Action taken by LMT has been the extensive consultation with local scholarship organisations in Nigeria. This is with a view to Find out about the practice and local guidelines and to make a recommendation to Austcare in due course.

4.2 As mentioned earlier in the report the question of student return travel to a country of original domicile needs urgent consideration.

4.3 Many students have settled well and are performing fairly well. Some of the students have initiated a request to be allowed to Further their studies in Nigeria. LMT will submit a report to Austcare having determined the extent of this need.

#### 5. FUTURE OF THE PROJECT

5.1 The Funding for this programme by both UNDP/UNESCO and AIDAB has been agreed to continue until 1994. LMT is thankful to the donors for this.

5.2 This report has highlighted some of the issues in the programme which needs consideration. We continue to believe that Funding of the programme will be reviewed to address some of the issues raised. We also hope that there would be consideration of any new programme issues that might develop in Future.

5.3 We at LMT are committed to the progress of this programme and we continue to assess and evaluate the needs of the programme.

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6. FINANCIAL SUMMARY: (Attached)

Conclusion:

6.1 We would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Australian Government and to Austcare for the assistance, support and continued commitment to the education and skills training of our people in this programme.

6.2 We hereby make a request For the release of Funds for the period of January to June 1993. The transfer of Funds should be made in US Dollars to the Following bank.

Barclays Bank PLC

Golders Green & Hendon Branch

Golders Eagle House

Brent Cross Gardens

London NW4 3R3

Sort Code: 20-34-06

20-30-91 (for automated payments)

Account No: 7789 6511

6.3 Additional information regarding the programme is contained in the attached report by the LMT Co ordinator.

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Si ned Patricia Mtshali

Senior Programme Officer

24 Februarx 1993

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