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NARRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REPORT

TO THE NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ON THE 1993 ACTIVITIES OF THE BATLAGAE TRUST

1. INTRODUCTION:

The following narrative and financial report details the expenditure to date as well as the

planned expenditure of funding to the Batlagae Trust from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign

Affairs (MFA) for the 1993 financial year in the amount of R2 247 504.00:

R 747 504.00 (carried over from the 1992 allocation to the Batlagae Trust)

R1 500 000.00 (1993 allocation as agreed at the consultation on 15 December 1992)

With regard to the 1993 allocation of R1 500 000.00, the Batlagae Trust received the first

instalment of R794 392.04 on 1 April 1993. The actual expenditure of this amount as well as

the 1992 balance of R747 504.00 carried forward into 1993 is detailed in the body of this report.

2. PLANNED PROGRESS/EXPENDITURE:

As was indicated in the joint consultation between Inger Heldal (NPA) and Bongani Mlambo (ANC

Finance Department), the Batlagae Trust plans to utilise the 1993 allocation in the amount of

R1 500 000.00 as follows:

Bursary Programme R1 154 000.00

Support Teachers Programme R 40 000.00

Yeoville Community School R 35 000.00

Educational Polyclinic R 60 000.00

Archives Project R 61 000.00

Administration R 150 000.00

TOTAL

3. ACTUAL PROGRESS/EXPENDITURE:

3.1 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

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with the smooth implementation of the 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 over 333\$

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 the Norwegian 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 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.

To date, expenditure of Norwegian funding on the bursary programme is as follows: 845% , 4g (7ny (805) 600 .'

.32 SUPPORT TEACHERS PROGRAMME:

The Batlagae Trust is in the process of reviewing contracts at Liivah School in Venda and Phambili High School in Durban in order to continue with the teacher support programme. This has proven to be an invaluable initiative, the teachers having provided vital psychological and academic support to both returnees and those local children in need of assistance. The Trust envisages that the new contracts will extend to the end of 1994, rather than to June.

To date, expenditure of Norwegian funding on this programme is as follows: 845% , 4g (7ny (805) 600 .'

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3.3 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. 242 scholars have been enrolled at the Yeoville Community School, 25 percent of them returnee children.

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3.4 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 to overcome the psychological and educational difficulties that would inevitably accompany their re-integration into South African schools and society. 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. Norwegian funding expended on the educational polyclinic from January 1993 to date is ca; W:4g 51.9%chch v96) Mathw-

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3.5 ARCHIVES PROJECT:

As was indicated at the joint consultation on 6 May, the Norwegian archives project allocation in the amount of R61 000.00 will be utilised to fund an archivist instead of a senior researcher. The cataloguing and indexing of archival material from the countries of exile is

progressing well, but the research project at the University of Fort Hare will more than likely

not commence until later this year, by which time it is anticipated that suitable researchers

would have been identified.

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3.6 ADMINISTRATION:

Norwegian funding that has been expended on administration to date is as follows: 9 "Layla a 7L

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4. CONCLUSION:

The total amount of Norwegian funding that has thus far been utilised by the Batlagae Trust in

1993 therefore amounts to R1 541 896.00 and has been expended as follows:

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a. Bursary Programme R 500.00

b. Support Teachers Programme R 46.000

c. Yeoville Community School R 3!!) n o - m

d. Educational Polyclinic R 100 000 - 60

e. Archives Project R a

f . Administration R 22 000 - 09

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