

12 Progress Report

(Other Sources of Income)

After having been working very hard for two weeks in Boernhjemmet in Mekele Per Geckler and Marianne Lundemark arrived in Addis Ababa on Saturday 16/03/13 and they left Addis on 18/03/13 for the northern part of Ethiopia to visit the historical places for tourists. They will be back here in Addis on 01/04/13 and fly back to Denmark on 03/04/13.

I did not go with them this time (their second trip) to Mekele due to my right eye cataract operation and subsequent healing process by applying eye drops every day for extended period soon after they left Addis for Denmark following their first trip to Mekele, and due to the fact that they were introduced by me to Fikre and his staff members including the children on that first trip to Mekele and that they were already familiar with Fikre and his staff members including Mekele itself. But now this time (after their second visit's hard work) in Mekele they deserve the trip to the historical places in the north and they need a break from it all before they return to Denmark.

From what I have heard from Per and Marianne and read all the e-mail recent exchanges between Per and the Executive Committee Members (ECM) I was very disturbed and angry by what Per and Marianne experienced and discovered in Mekele while they were working in Boernhjemmet on Fikre's behavior on his leadership style and the method of his prioritizing on maintenance works in various areas in the compound and the lack of Fikre's transparency on his other financial sources of incomes from a number of previously unknown donor institutions besides Foreningen Etiopiensboern for which the ECM have been sending every 6 months regularly and for which the ECM have been receiving feedback statements of account which I have been sending to them in accordance with the contract agreement in 2006.

But now I cannot help feeling that my work as coordinator/representative has been jeopardized and embarrassing. I have been particularly misled to believe that Fikre's source of income for the children's welfare was only coming from our Association in Denmark, (Private Danish Citizens Volunteers Donors Members Association - PDCVDMA), except that we know he gets some visible help now and then one time or periodical donation payments such as the Japanese Embassy help for building the additional dormitories and other facilities for the children, by making it possible for one child to sleep in one bed; and two separate buildings for two social workers employees one adjacent to the boys dormitories and the other adjacent to the girls dormitories, with two rooms in each building for a man to take care of the boys' and a woman to take care of the girls' social problems, which you (the ECM) and I also already know and saw, including about the recent vehicle donation to HAB (which created a controversy on how it was possessed, I had to press Fikre hard as to how he got it following ECM's request), from a rich man in the US. Both donations (the Japanese help and the donation of the vehicle) are considered now as necessary contributions which solved problems of shortage of dormitories and lack of transportation for Boernhjemmet respectively. But from now on I will insist to Fikre that he must let me know about new contributors and the help given to him by them so that I can in turn inform the ECM.

Regarding the new donor institutions which are already listed here under of which I was not aware of them all and never been told by Fikre before, have made me feel to think twice before he (Fikre) wants to let me believe what he says in the future as he used to do in the past. I am amazed by the

revelation Per got hold on the external auditors' report in which other sources of income contributors are listed besides our own which is shown as Number 12. This is the second revelation of Fikre's wrong doing after the adoption case which gave me shock.

Any way it is also my understanding that the ECM is not against Fikre getting donations from other sources as long as he is telling me and the ECM the truth by letting us know who the donors are and how much they are giving to support our own contribution directly or indirectly by giving us in the future a copy of the annual external "AUDITORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS" when it is ready every time which he has now promised to do so. In other words on the contrary I understand the ECM support the help Fikre is getting from other institutions or individuals as long as they are transparent and understandable. These kinds of contributions are considered as help to subsidize our efforts for which the ECM are trying hard to have more and more donors and members in our Foreningen Etiopiensboern DK in order to have enough funds to confidently, honestly, and appropriately run Boernhjemmet uninterrupted by fulfilling the minimum number of 300 or more donors and members requirement in our Association as demanded by the skattevassvaesnet.

In addition Fikre must also let us know how Boernhjemmet and the Community based activities are interlinked administratively and financially in order for us to understand. In other words he must know that the support he is getting from PDCVDMA can easily be in danger if the indicated problems are not justifiably clarified and the appropriate answers can be brought back to the ECM in DK with Per and Marianne or will be sent as an attachment to an e-mail entitled 12 Progress Report (Other Sources of Income) which I am intending and preparing to do so as soon as it is ready in time to reach Bestyrelsen before April 18 of the General Assembly. As I promised to let you know the following 11 previously unknown contributors plus our own (12) are listed hereunder:

Names	2011	2012
1.CCRDA	569,158 Birr	374,638 Birr
2.International Adoipction Guidannce	203,859 Birr	584,629 Birr
3.International Adoption NET	--	559,660 Birr
4.Tesfaye Association	151,807 Birr	134,124 Birr
5.Adoption Associate INC	--	99,000 Birr
6.Alliance of Civil Society Org	--	144,680 Birr
7.Individuals	--	73,656 Birr
8.International Crises Aid	54915 Birr	--
9..International Adoption NET	160,894 Birr	--
10..HAPCO	375,000 Birr	--
11.World Horizen Ethiopia	39,050 birr	--
12.PDCVDNA (HAB)	541,195 Birr	564,958 Birr
Total	2,095,878 Birr	2,535,355 Birr

As you can see No. 3,5,6,7 have not donated in 2011.It is the same with No. 8, 9, 10, 11 in 2012. In both years (2011 and 2012) they discontinued giving donations. Details on this table will be presented on page 4. The following will NOT contribute in 2013: 1, 2, 8, 10, 11.

In order to clarify all these figures of donations and other points I have now called Fikre to come to Addis within 10 days (within which he also said that he is coming any way to deliver the annual financial report to the Ministry of Justice) here in Addis before Per and Marianne depart to DK and with whom Fikre and I will have a meeting Monday afternoon (1/o4/13 and Tuesday forenoon

(02/04/13) with Per, Fikre and myself at my house. In this meetings the three of us agreed on before hand on all the points raised by Per by discussing each point in detail and listening to Fikre's answers to the points raised so that Per can return to DK with right answers based on our three common agreement on the raised points and report to the ECM who in turn will be ready to be able on how to present the external auditors' annual progress report and other relative points experienced by Per and Marianne in Boernhjemmet to the Donors and Members of our Association on the general assembly to be held on the 18 of April 2013. It has not been easy for me to believe that Fikre has committed fraud purposely or inadvertently for him to make such wrong doings until I confront him face to face when he came. I think it is the latter (inadvertently without knowing the consequences).

Fikre arrived in Addis yesterday (27/03/13). We have begun discussing today (28/03/13) and continued on (29/04/13) regarding the other sources of income donor institutions which are listed on the external auditors' annual financial report and which (P+M) will bring with them to DK to be delivered to the ECM for their information and necessary action of which I also have got a copy together with the other points mentioned by Per. In answering my questions regarding this problems on the previously unknown donor institutions Fikre has now admitted that he has received in 2011 and 2012 the amounts specified on the Auditors' Report in addition to our own contributions. After realizing the seriousness of the problem Fikre said that he is very sorry for not letting us know before (he thought it was not relevant and necessary) about the existence of the above listed other donors and he has promised in the future he will send us the subsequent external auditors' annual reports together with the 6 monthly statements of account to the ECM through me.

I told him that it is very important for the ECM to know why the two of us are having this meeting because they (the ECM) are trying their best to get more and more new donors and members in DK to raise more funds for the children in Boernhjemmet in order to cover all necessary basic expenses to maintain the welfare of the children. I asked him what his real roll is with the other donor institutions. He started by explaining to me the different donor institutions have relied on him and are giving him the money and asked him to disperse the money on their behalf to the different beneficiaries in accordance with each donor's wish of the different categories of people of their choice. Those listed different institutions have each interest in what type of needy people they want to help. Fikre said that these donors are recommended by the regional Bureau of Labour and Social Affairs (BOLSA), other government agencies and private individuals in Mekele to contact him and visit Boernhjemmet which he started many years back from scratch and run it successfully with our help to what it looks like now. He says those many tourists who visited the place including the leaders and their representatives of the new donor institutions were impressed by what they saw in Boernhjemmet. He said that is why they (donor institutions) chose him to be their representative.

In other words because of the recommendations the donors chose him as their representative for the money he received from them which he has put in another Commercial Bank of Ethiopia in Mekele by the name of Agazi Branch with a different address and A/C No. He said that he is responsible for dispersing the money on behalf of them (the donors) to the different categories of beneficiaries who need help in accordance with each donor institution's wish. To justify what he said he showed me many different official letters (documents written in Amharic and Tigrigna) with official stamps on them of thank you appreciations for his help which he likes very much. My understanding is that because of his strong religious background belief he wants to help directly and indirectly all kinds of people who need help and those who help them. In my opinion I told him that

this is too much for him to undertake and Handel besides his number 1 job Boernhjemmet's children. He understood what I meant. But for him now it is fait accompli to undo what he has been doing. I am afraid he will continue with his second job (which we have now discovered) in addition to Boernhjemmet's children which are giving him big moral satisfaction.

He described each of the listed donor institutions in detail as follows:

1. **CCRDA:**Head Office Addis Ababa is helping poor elderly grandparents living in a town called Alamata 180Km. from Mekele by giving 120 beneficiaries children) to grandparents per year 2500 Birr to take care of their grand children who lost their parents by hiv-aids. In return CCRDA has employed Yohannes to help Fikre in Mekele and a girl by the name of Messelu employed and living in Alamata to help the grandparents in Alamata. Both Yohannes and Messelu are paid from CCRDA's budget to help the grandparents.
2. **International Adoption Guidance:** is helping 90 orphan children by giving them each 150 Birr per child per month who are living with their poor relatives in Mekele and other areas. A man called Zenebe and Haily who were former in Boernhjemmet are employed by this institution in order to check and control that the children are getting the amount of money allocated for them.
3. **International Adoption NET:** is helping 40 old people living in Mekele and Endasselasie Shire by giving them 160 Birr each per month. The name of the girl who is checking and controlling that the elderly people are getting what is given to them is called Freweini G/H living in Mekele who is going periodically to Endasselasie to check. This Institution is also helping 3 elementary schools in Mekele by givin library books where our children from Boernhjemmet are going to learn on behalf of us.
4. **Tesfaye Associate living in Belgium:** is helping 50 orphan children living with their poor relatives approved by kebele (Kommune) authorities by giving them 200 Birr per child per month + one time school uniform and exercise books etc. etc
5. **Adoption Associate INC:** is helping 60 orphan children living with poor families by giving them 160 Birr per child per month. To control and check that the children are getting what is given to them two persons by the names of Astbha and Mulubrhan are employed to check and control that the children are getting what is allocated for them.
6. **Alliance of Civil society Org.:** is helping by training 57 community leaders by giving to the local administrator 144,680 Birr for capacity building and training in Alamata, Mekoni, and Korom cities in 2012.
7. **Individuals of Community members:** Is helping by giving HAB 73,656 Birr to use them for different loop holes in the HAB ORPHANAGE Centre, in 2012 approx. 30.000 Birr.
8. **International cries Aid:** iwere helping in (2011) 10 girls who were working as prostitutes in order to help them to go to vocational schools so that they will be able to come back to normal life. Rosa, one of Fikre's staff members who are working in Boernhjemmet her salary were paid from this institution's budget like Yohannes gets his pay from CCRDA (1). In 2012 Rosa is being paid from the source mentioned in point (7).

9. **HAPCO**: were helping 150 hiv-aids affected beneficiaries in 2011 by giving them each 2500 Birr. This Institution has bought blocket maker machine.
10. **Wide Horizen Ethiopia**: Is helping HAB by building one tutorial classroom in 2011..
11. **International Adoption NET**:In 2011 is helping 20 mentally affected persons who were treated by Ider Referer Hospital free of charge and continued to be helped after they were treated from this Institution's budget,.
12. **Private Danish Citizens Volunteers Donors Members Association (PDCVDMA)**: is helping orphan children who fulfill 3 criteria to be accepted to Boernhjemmet run by HAB.

As you can see all these different institutions are supporting different types of social problem beneficiaries in Tigray Region including Boernhjemmet's children in Mekele for which Fikre is receiving money from all these institutions including PDCVDMA and taking responsibility for dispersing the money to be used for these beneficiaries in accordance with the wishes of the donor institutions including Boernhjemmet's children. Even though the overall responsibility for all the beneficiaries in Tigray Region rests with BOLSA, Fikre is only helping BOLSA in executing or putting in action BOLSA's responsibilities on behalf of BOLSA and different concerned Communities.

Fikre said that he does not take money from the other donor institutions fund except the one that refers to him in no. 4,12 (HAB) to use the money for the children in Boernhjemmet. In addition to stress his point Fikre continued to say the money that is coming from DK is not enough to cover other requirements such as beds, blankets, mattresses, bed sheets, four times a year children clothes (new year, x-mass, Easter school uniforms) special food in religious holidays (New year, x-mass, Easter by killing animals (oxen, sheep, goats), universities and vocational schools fees (which is now provided by the education fund DK for the first time), medical, animals feed and others.

On 18/03/13 I went to the head office of the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia in Addis to find out the two remittances of money sent from the Educational Fund and the regular 6 monthly remittance of 85,000 Kroner plus additional 10,000 Kroner to compensate the rising inflation in all commodities plus 5,000 Kroner (total 100,000 Kroner = 322,250 Birr). I was told by the Head Office Bank here in Addis that the Educational Fund of 12,000 Kroner = 37,722.02 Birr arrived on 16/01/13 in Addis and has already been sent then to Mekele Romanat Branch Bank and the 100,000 Kroner = 322,250 Birr which arrived on 15/03/13 the statements of account of which (minus the statements of account of the 12,000 DKK = 37,722.02 Birr) will be sent after the end of August 2013 together with the official receipt from Romanat Branch. The statements of account of the 6 monthly period from 1 September 2012 to 28 February 2013 85,730.37 DKK = 257,191.13 Birr and the 12,000 DKK = 37,722.02 Birr which arrived in January 2013 will be sent with Per and Marianne.

So that means both remittances From (the Educational Fund and the 6 monthly remittances) have reached Fikre and I will send you the two statements of account reports together with their respective official receipts from the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia with Per and Marianne. Delays of transferring money to Romanat Branch Bank in Mekele from the head office here in Addis have been experienced due to lack of on line communication contact by e-mail with Mekele's a/c no. identification changes made by the Head Office Bank her in Addis from the old Romanat Branch's a/c (No. P37) to the new a/c no. which is 1000016160664 given to me by the Head Office. The official address of Romant Branch Mekele when money will be transferred in the future from Dk to Romanat Branch in Mekele will be as follows:

Soeren and Lissi will have to use this address in the future when they are sending the 6 monthly regular remittances and other related money.

To: MHD (Human Beings Ass. Brother Hood)

Commercial Bank of Ethiopia

Romanat Branch

A/CNO.1000016160664

MEKELE