

Ninth progress Report

In accordance with the following priority sequence, the list of future required integral parts of the major infra structures which are now completed and other items indicated and proposed here under by Fikre and his staff when I was in Mekelle (17-24 October 2010) for Boernhjemmet in the years to come are the following obviously depending on the availability of funds. Bestyrelsen is welcomed to reshuffle the priorities.

Item Number 1 Transportation

Boernhjemmet is situated at the periphery of North West of Mekele. This distance makes it inconvenient for the children and the staff members for the following reasons. To start with there is no bus public transportation in the city to and from the various schools for the children. The only means of public transportation in the city are Minibus, Lada Taxi, and 3 wheeled Bajaj. Even these are not regularly available and costly to use them during emergency to hospitals for the children, during working hours for the staff members (who are still complaining about their low salaries) to and from Boernhjemmet, to and from government, private, other offices to perform relevant duties regarding Boernhjemmet, and to and from shopping places to buy provisions and materials for Boernhjemmet, to and from sports activity areas for the children etc.

Regarding this Item a draft application from Fikre to the Danish Embassy here in Addis Ababa which was edited, rewritten in Copenhagen and which I gave upon my return from DK to Fikre who signed it, put HAB's official seal (stamp) on it and sent it to the Embassy in 2008. But until now no affirmative or negative reply has been received by Fikre.

Because of this Fikre has been asking me repeatedly and I have no answer for him as to why. Now Fikre and I are thinking, to find out why, when Fikre comes to Addis to go to the Embassy and try to meet Mr. Frank Wissing Madsen with whom the members of the Steering Committee and me met at the Embassy and briefed Mr.Madsen in July 23, 2008 about the establishment and the then situation of the Orphanage Center in Mekele, after our fact finding mission return from Mekele.

Item Number 2
Mini First Aid Clinic

As it has been talked about before, about the need of First Aid/Mini clinic in Boernhjemmet and the employment of a nurse to manage it are still considered necessary by Fikre and his staff who have based their experience on the past. In other words Fikre said that he had to be specially called now and then during the day and awaken in the middle of the night to take sick child/ren to the hospital for minor and major treatments. An employed trained nurse who could make contact with doctors in the nearest hospital to Boernhjemmet will make big difference for health matters.

Item Number 3
Library Equipments

The library is finished but it is not furnished yet with shelves for books, periodicals, reference books etc., tables, and chairs for reading, writing, and studying, and posters of maps of Ethiopian, Africa, Denmark and the world for learning geography. Fikre tolled me that he has received some children's books, periodicals posters etc. from donors in USA. But they are still unpacked now placed in the old store room soon to be the appropriate kitchen attached to the Dinning Hall. Also several computers if/and when procured to train the children under strict control by a teacher/supervisor would be valuable by putting them in the Library for the children's IT knowledge. But Fikre has no fund for these things.

Item Number 4.
Kitchen Use System Change

The Kitchen which is attached to the Dining and Assembly Hall about which we were not informed before inadvertently by Fikre of its existence and that it was used as a store instead, will now be using electric source of energy for electric ovens to make Injera (national bread) and the dishes that go with it. In other words no fire woods will be used in this clean kitchen to do the services which the kitchen women cooks were and are still doing at present with fire woods which generate a lot of smock and extreme heat in the temporary partially open air shack made of metal sheets-very uncomfortable

for the kooks. It is also anticipated to provide the kitchen with bio gas supply from the manure of the cows in the future.

Item Number 5 Tutorial Class Room

In order to excel and improve bright and mediocre children's knowledge relatively by giving them additional and extra tutorial lessons in a class room where the half finished structure is already in place adjoining the newly built Big Store Room, a teacher is expected to be employed. Before he/she is employed it is necessary to first complete the Tutorial Class Room. At the moment there is no budget for it as Fikre says. Up to now volunteer students from Mekele University are coming to teach separately the bright and mediocre children periodically in week ends in the Assembly/Dining Hall.

Item Number 6 Expanding Self Generating Activities

If it is relatively possible to increase the number of cows in the New Big Cows' House to produce more milk and milk products; if incubators and hens can be bought to produce eggs and more hens; if sheep and goats can be bought to multiply and to be sold; and if the Farm can continue to be used by Fikre and can produce different types of corn; if the area next/adjacent to the Big Cows' House can grow various vegetables and different fruit trees; and at last but not least if workshop and handicraft facilities are established to produce things for sale on the market; all these sources of self generating systems can sell their products on the public market, then Boernhjemmet will be able to reduce its total dependence on sustainable help from us and periodical aids from other sources within the country and abroad by being able to subsidize itself and to start new orphan children branches in Tigray and other regions in Ethiopia.

Item Number 7 Expansion of Boernhjemmet's Capacity

The increment of more children in Boernhjemmet, particularly by having more girls than what we have at the moment is considered preferable and the other mentioned Items above lacking fund are totally dependent on the availability of sustainable funds to have them materialized. As suggested these include the establishment of new Boernhjem in HAB Region and/or

neighboring Regions. As already mentioned before we have to make sure that we are going to be able to secure at least 200,000 Kr. every year in the coming 4 years. By the way one of the reasons why there are no more girls in Boern Hjemmet Fikre says that it is because girls are used as domestic house workers by their distant relatives and unrelated employers both from the cities and country side.

Item Number 8
Establishment of Kollegium

When all the requirements of major and minor infra structures are completed the establishment of a Kollegium (college style) with extra rooms and facilities in Boernhjemmet to be used for volunteer students to come now and then from Denmark to share their knowledge and help the children with what they can, establishment of Kollegium can be visualized. But at this stage it does not look practical without the minimum facility requirements are in place for the proposed would be coming students. If we are able to rent a guest house (which costs money) for the students they are welcomed to come much earlier to share their knowledge with the children.

During my visit in Mekele 17-24 October 2010, almost all of these Items listed in this progress Report have been discussed between Fikre, his staff and me and we all agreed on what is said on each Item. I have told Fikre and his staff that these points were almost all raised, discussed and proposed at 2 separate meetings by members of the Steering Committee and myself in Denmark; first held in Nivaa on June 7, 2010 only by members of the steering Committee and myself and second later on August 14, 2010 by the Steering Committee, plus a number of other invited guests and myself, in Valby Copenhagen.

Item Number 9
Special Note

The names of the current management board members I are those whose list I sent you before. When for some reason or another one or more discontinue being a member(s) he/she is or they are replaced by others with the approval of the Minister of Justice of Ethiopia. Fikre is still the Director General of HAB. His deputy for administration from the start of the establishment of Boernhjemmet has been and still is Genet Kinfu (with Diploma). Before she used to work with SOS branch in Mekele. She quitted her job and joined Fikre and has been with him since then as co-originator of Boernhjemmet.

But now in accordance with my advice Fikre is thinking and searching to find a competent person with a graduate degree as his Deputy who can easily correspond directly with Bestyrelsen in English with letters and e-mails in the future like I am doing for him at present while Gent continues the day to day administration work for him.

Item Number 10
Formation of Alumnae Association

The following are former orphans who were in Boernhjemmet and now they are as described in the remarks column not any more in the Institution. Fikre has already agreed that he will let them know to form Alumnae Association officially and he will let me know after he has done that. And in return I will let you know. For now the following are asked by Fikre to be the first Group of Alumnae Association.

Nr.	names	age	gen	arrival year	depart. year	remarks
<u>1</u>	Buzayehu Kabte	19	m	2004	2010	S.Korea scholarship
<u>2</u>	Selam Haile	16	f	2003	2009	Reunited with family adopted USA
<u>3</u>	Tewolde Tesfay	16	m	2004	2009	Reunited with his family
<u>4</u>	Selembe G/her	10	f	2004	2009	Reunited with her family
<u>5</u>	Brhanu Assefa	19	m	2002	2009	Reunited with his family
<u>6</u>	H/mariam Alemu	22	m	2005	2009	Graduated-diploma self sufficient
<u>7</u>	Hadgu Desta	18	m	2005	2009	Graduated-diploma self sufficient
<u>8</u>	Zebina Tewolde	16	f	2007	2008	Joined the deaf school in Mekele
<u>9</u>	Aregawi Araya	18	m	2002	2008	Employed and self sufficient
<u>10</u>	Haben Kalayu	7	m	2006	2009	Reunited with his family
<u>11</u>	Asqual K/mariam	11	f	2006	2009	Reunited with her family