# 8.12.10 Salisbury-Sudan Link Committee Meeting Report for end-September to early-December '10

## **Activity**

# 1. Training

- The intention to train community midwives within S Sudan remained in spite of mixed signals from GoSS. Clarification would be sought see item 5 below.
- A moratorium on the training of community health and other workers had been called by GoSS while priorities were reassessed. The outcome was overdue

#### 2. Medicines

- The annual consignment was gradually being delivered but some supplies were being held up at customs posts on the S Sudanese border, despite all the papers being in order. The delay was probably caused by requests for bribes, not heretofore experienced. Clarification would be sought – see item 5 below.

# 3. Administration of ECS primary healthcare programme

- Archbishop Daniel during his October visit reiterated his desire for an operational Health Commission to be one feature of his 'legacy'. It was part of the strategic plan worked out by Dr Katie Rhoads but had yet to be progressed. He requested funding for further medical training for two of his relatives destined eventually to work in the Commission but we would politely decline.
- Ines Morgan, an experienced Arabic-speaking nurse and wife of a Briton working for the UN/NGO in Juba, might be able to carry out monitoring duties on behalf of the Medical Link. It was hoped she might keep an eye on medicine deliveries and any training funded by us; and contribute to the activation of the Health Commission. She had been contacted and her reaction was awaited.

#### 4. Infrastructure

- +Hilary Deng had confirmed his Malakal clinic had been repaired. It was where the Trinity Wall Street-supplied internet connection was based, making for significantly-improved communications. We were looking into funding more medicines and further work on the clinic – water, solar power, etc.

## 5. Miscellaneous

- Dr Luka Monoja, Minister of Health, GoSS would be visiting the Isle of Wight and Poole on 6/8 December in connection with local hospitals' links with Wau and Juba Teaching Hospital. The Medical Link would participate in general discussions over cooperation, our particular focuses being upon our partnership with the ECS and its role in the delivery of primary health care in S Sudan; facilitating the duty-free import of medicines; and the prospects for training, especially of community midwives.
- In view of Dr Robin Sadler's surgery still being awaited, his autumn visit to S Sudan had been cancelled. The intention was that we should go out together next spring, he to make a field visit while I pursued Health Commission matters in Juba.
- Karinya Lewis would for the first time join the Medical Sub-Committee at our morning meeting on 8 December on a 'job-sharing' basis with her husband Chris. Both had considerable experience of working in S Sudan.

## **Finances**

- Expenditure to end-November had been £58.4k, mostly made up of medicines and transport costs. Income, again to end-November (aside from the £86k bequest already reported upon) was a respectable £45.5k but Christmas giving usually bulked up the total.
- The unspent balance was £124.7k, much of which was targeted towards the training of community midwives.