

Salisbury-Sudan Medical Link

22.9.10 Salisbury-Sudan Link Committee Meeting Report for end-May to end-September '10

Activity

1. Training

- Community Midwife: Approaches had been made to a number of training schools and, once availability of places was known, Bishops would be invited to submit to us suitably qualified candidates. This is what the bequest referred to below would principally be applied to.
- Wau MA: A student from Wau Diocese had completed training as a Medical Assistant ('MA') at Juba Teaching Hospital. His fees, however, remained outstanding from his original sponsors, MoH, Northern Bhar el Ghazal State, because they were broke. No qualification certificate would be issued until these fees were paid. Following a request from +Moses Deng, the Medical Link had agreed to step in and make payment, with the MA undertaking in return and in writing to serve the Diocese.
- Daniel Badagbu: He was now in term 2 of his third year as a medical student at Kampala International University. The Medical Link continued to fund him.
- Confucius Aligo: A request had been received from Poppy Spens for further support for this Clinical Officer ('CO') working at the Martha Clinic in Yei. The Medical Link had paid for his original CO studies some five years ago and the funding request was now for a proposed 3 month diploma in reproductive health in developing countries at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. His written commitment to ongoing service in Yei Diocese would be required as a precondition.

2. Medicines

- Current consignment: This had been finalised and was either already, or shortly to be, in transit from Kampala to Southern Sudan. One additional recipient this year was Wau Diocese.

3. Administration of ECS primary healthcare programme

- Health Commission: the ECS had made no further discernable progress in recruiting an administrator, still less activating the Commission generally. It was hoped to jog ++Daniel's memory when he visited the UK in October.
- A means of monitoring the Medical Link's initiatives in S Sudan was as desirable as ever, all the more so in light of this year's annual visit to S Sudan having to be postponed (see below). A possible overseer was in view – a German lady married to an NGO officer working in Juba, with a background working for Medair in Sudan. She would probably cost, though.

4. Infrastructure

- Construction: progress on the building of Kozi clinic, Maridi and on the re-roofing of the Malakal clinic was very slow.

5. Miscellaneous

- Robin Sadler, medical adviser to the Medical Link, was facing spinal surgery in the near future in consequence of which he would need to postpone his visit to S Sudan this autumn
- Dr Chris Lewis or his wife Karinya, erstwhile residents of Juba, he of Tearfund and she of Medair/Christian Blind Mission, had agreed to become an additional member of the Medical Link sub-Committee.

Finances

- Routine income for the year to mid-September was some £36k. With routine expenditure for 2010 to date (medicines, training etc) amounting to some £57k there was an excess of expenditure over income of £21,000 for the year so far.
- On top of this, though, was the £86k bequest received in late spring, as well as the £52k surplus carried forward from 2009.
- So, as of mid-September the balance stood at some £116k. Inroads on this balance were expected with the funding of community midwife training.

Mike Maclachlan
21.9.10