

Dear Colleagues,

Our last *INFORMATION BULLETIN* to you was sent out in March 2010. This is our third *INFORMATION BULLETIN* to bring you up to date with what has been happening since then.

The Zimbabwe Network for Health (ZimHealth) in Europe is a non-governmental association registered in Geneva, founded by Zimbabweans as a non-profit organisation. It seeks to mobilise the support of Zimbabweans living in Europe, as well as other interested individuals, agencies and development agencies to strengthen health-care services in Zimbabwe.

ZimHealth seeks to make a difference in Zimbabwe primarily through the following:

- Raise funds directly from Zimbabweans in the Diaspora, in Zimbabwe and from friends of Zimbabwe all over the world.
- Through a transparent and highly targeted system, procure and distribute drugs, diagnostics, vaccines and other medical and non- medical commodities and essential equipment to rehabilitate the health facilities in Zimbabwe.
- Inform and engage interested stakeholders about the needs, successes and impact of the support to the health-care system in Zimbabwe.

1. The Annual General Meeting

ZimHealth-Europe held its second Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 29 May 2010. The agenda, minutes and the documentation for the meeting, namely, the Operational Plan, the Progress Report and the Financial Report, as well as the minutes of the AGM can be found on the ZimHealth website, <http://zimhealth.org/about-zimhealth/agm/>.

The AGM saw the confirmation in their roles of the existing members of the Executive Committee and the Election of four new members. The following were re-elected by the AGM:

Mike Mbizvo	Chairperson
Shiva Murugasampillay	Treasurer
Ian Menzies	Deputy Treasurer
Lorraine Mangwiro	Publicity Officer
Alisdair Menzies	Resource Mobilisation Officer
Francis Ndowa	Secretary-General

The following new Executive Committee members were also appointed and welcomed:

Marlon Zakeyo	Legal Advisor
Bianca Mathe	
Venge Imbayago	
Rutendo Kuwana	

2. Opportunistic follow-up visits of projects

We have been fortunate that some members of ZimHealth either have had holidays in Zimbabwe or passed through while on other business travel. As a result there has been close monitoring and report back on what was happening on the ground with the ZimHealth projects.

In December and January 2009, Shiva Murugasampillay and Liz Mason visited both the Mbare and Pelandaba projects. Details of these visits can be found on this link on the website, <http://zimhealth.org/news/january-2010/>.

In January 2010, Lorraine Mangwiro (Snr) visited the Mbare complex as well as represent ZimHealth at the handover ceremony of the first consignment to Pelandaba Clinic on 13th January 2010. A report of the handover ceremony and the link to photos of the event can be found on this link on the website, <http://zimhealth.org/news/march-2010/>.

In April 2010, Ian Menzies visited the Mbare polyclinic during which time he found the Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital temporarily closed for renovations! Women in labour were being attended to in the adjoining polyclinic. Ian was able to deliver the stencils ordered in Switzerland to brand the items donated through ZimHealth. Photo images of Ian's visit can be seen on this link, <http://zimhealth.org/gallery/mbare-polyclinic-visit-april-2010/>, on the ZimHealth photo gallery.

In July 2010, Francis Ndowa visited the Mbare Project. The Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital had reopened and much of the renovation was completed. Photo images of the visit showing the difference in appearance of the clinic between a year ago and now will be uploaded on the website soon, but knowing that you are as keen to see it as we are anxious to share it with you, here is a snapshot of it below.

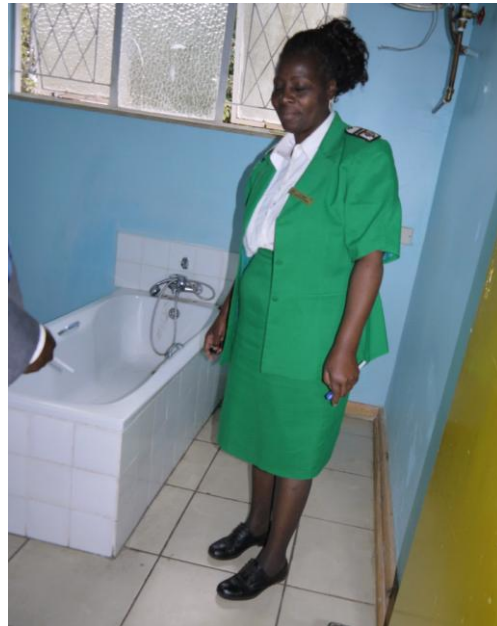
Here we start with what the corridors of the Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital now look like! The



man on the left in the picture (right) is Dr Chonzi, the Director of Health Services in the City of Harare.



Although not taken from the same spot, the floor tiling renovation on the right has been effected throughout the clinic.



The patient bathrooms have been renovated and repainted. The picture on the left above was taken in April 2010 and the one on the right in July 2010.



The patient and staff toilets have been renovated. The toilet on the left has been transformed to look more modern (centre). Other toilets have been modernised. Note the tiling on the floor, before (extreme left) and after!



The maternity wards look more..., well, different! Compare January 2009 on the left with July 2010 on the right and below (left) – the beds, the floor, bed linen and blankets. Below (right) is a photo of the Administrator proudly showing how well the clinic is now well stocked up for linen, thanks to ZimHealth!



We have now branded our large donations with the stenciled ZimHealth logo. Below left is one of the nurses showing one of the refrigerators provided by ZimHealth, and on the right is the patient privacy screen.



Below (left) is the steriliser, much in use. In fact, the clinic now needs a bigger one! On the right is the resuscitator, after branding. We were able to shield off the pregnant woman in labour behind the white screen – provided by ZimHealth – thus preserving patient privacy and dignity!



On the right (below) you can see a smiling nurse taking blood pressure from one of the patients in the polyclinic while, at the same time, a lady in the labour ward (left below) is undergoing the same procedure! This is a clinic that had only one sphygmomanometer (blood pressure machine) to share between the Maternity Hospital and the polyclinic! ZimHealth provided 16 sphygmomanometers to the Mbare complex.



3. Progress on current projects - Mbare and Pelandaba

Even though ZimHealth-Europe was established in 2007, the year 2009 was the year of intense activity and it was a successful year. The regular subscriptions from our members, as well as a CHF 15'000 grant from the city of Geneva enabled us to make significant progress towards the achievement of our goals in 2009.

ZimHealth has now made four shipments to the Pelandaba clinic in Bulawayo. The first was done immediately following the fundraising event in October 2009. This was followed by a second shipment totalling about US\$ 11,700. The third shipment is of a dental unit, including a 21st century dental chair, partially funded by a generous grant of US\$ 5,000.00 from the John XXIII Church. The fourth shipment has been fully funded by a discretionary grant from the Oak foundation amounting to US\$ 25,000! This brings the total amount of goods to Pelandaba polyclinic to about US\$ 60,810! This will complete what ZimHealth had pledged to fund at this clinic. Full details of the items supplied and the amounts can be viewed in an Excel Sheet for Pelandaba on the following link on the ZimHealth website <http://zimhealth.org/projects/pelandaba-procurement-list/>. By the way, you can also view the photo images of the handover ceremony, at which Lorraine Mangwiro (Snr) represented us, on the Photo gallery on the website <http://zimhealth.org/gallery/handover-at-pelandaba/>.

The images featured in this *INFORMATION BULLETIN* are for the Mbare Project. Two shipments have been made to date to this clinic, totalling just over US\$ 27,000. A third shipment was delayed while the Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital was being renovated. Procurement will be made this month after reviewing the list with the authorities to make sure that it is still relevant. This final list will be fully funded by a discretionary grant from the Oak Foundation amounting to about US\$ 23,000. This

will bring the total spent on the Edith Opperman Maternity Hospital Project to about US\$ 50,000! US\$ 15,000 of this amount, you will remember, came from the City of Geneva.

As both the Mbare and Pelandaba projects will soon be completed, new projects, such as support to Thorngrove and Harare Hospitals are currently being discussed for launching.

Please visit the Photo gallery on the website to view some of the items and have an overview of what ZimHealth has achieved so far, <http://zimhealth.org/>.

4. New projects for ZimHealth

ZimHealth has in the past year received more requests for materials. They are from Bulawayo for support to Thorngrove Hospital (an isolation hospital for the treatment of people suffering from infectious diseases), Harare Hospital which is a teaching and referral hospital in Harare, Masvingo for support of primary care clinics in rural areas and Mutare. We have received quotations for items from Harare Hospital and Thorngrove Hospital. A full list has been received from Sakubva Polyclinic in Mutare and we are awaiting further details from the Masvingo request. When all the quotations for these requests have been done we shall have a good idea of our goal for the rest of 2010 and 2011. In the meantime we are working on proposals to submit to various potential supporters based largely on the ZimHealth Operational Plan which you can study for further information. You can download the Plan from the website on this link, <http://zimhealth.org/about-zimhealth/operational-plan-2008-2013/>.

5. Fundraising Efforts

Please visit the website and study the ZimHealth financial report for 2009. You will notice that as ZimHealth we have done well to contribute funds on a regular basis to respond to the requests so far. However, our own contributions alone would not have enabled us to achieve as much as we have done so far. We were able to do this through additional resource mobilisation.

Last year we received US\$15,000 from the City of Geneva.

In May 2010 we submitted a proposal and received a grant of US\$ 50,000.00 from the Oak Foundation. ZimHealth expresses its gratitude to Ms Sofia Dambri for bringing this source of funding to our attention.

Towards the end of May we also received a grant of US\$ 5,000.00 from John XXIII Church towards the purchase of a dental chair for Pelandaba clinic in Bulawayo. ZimHealth thanks Mrs Mary McGee for bringing this source of funding to our attention.

ZimHealth will report back to these donors as soon as the consignments have been delivered.

We are currently writing proposals to submit to these established funding channels as well as to new ones, including Swiss communes and cantonal authorities.

A young Zimbabwean, Arjuna Sivakumaran, raised 2,095 Swiss francs in March 2010 in support of ZimHealth-Europe by successfully running a half marathon in Edinburgh in 1hr 22mins and 39seconds! The money went towards the purchase of a newborn resuscitaire unit for Pelandaba Clinic in Bulawayo. ZimHealth would like to congratulate and send out a special thank you to Arjuna and to all those who supported him throughout his fundraising campaign.

As indicated above, regular contributions from the ZimHealth members have been very important towards the fundraising efforts. We reported last year that we received a contribution from ZimHealth-Uganda as well as from ZimHealth-USA. We are delighted to report that in July this year we received another contribution to the amount of US\$ 520 from ZimHealth-Uganda.

Please note that ZimHealth now has both a Swiss franc and a US Dollar Account. Subscriptions can be made directly into one or the other, thus, avoiding some significant losses of money through varying exchange rates from one currency to the other. The account details can be seen on the ZimHealth website, <http://zimhealth.org/about-zimhealth/making-a-donation/>.

6. Fundraising event 2010

The date for this year's fundraising event is **25th September** in Geneva. Please note down the date in your calendar and we will be in touch about it soon. We are looking forward to seeing you there and to giving you a more detailed update of achievements so far and what to expect in 2010 and 2011.

7. Update on the ZimHealth website <http://zimhealth.org/>

We are sure you have seen the new look of the ZimHealth website, and the regular updates on it. This has been done at no cost to ZimHealth, thanks to the generosity of Tomi Malomo, with support from Yemurai Ndowa, both based in London. They have just finished updating the ZimHealth brochure, the Executive Committee members page, the ZimHealth bank account numbers, the AGM page (minutes and annual report uploaded) and the "news" page! Have a look, please!

We hope that these achievements give you more incentive to continue supporting the goals we set out to achieve together. On behalf of the ZimHealth Executive Committee, I would like to thank you all for your continued support.

With best wishes

Francis Ndowa
ZimHealth Secretary-General

This report was compiled by Lorraine Mangwiro (Jnr) and Francis Ndowa