

## Ubumi Prisons Initiative

Minutes of the General Assembly 22 May 2019 held at Blokken 15, 1. Sal

15 participants

### **1. Election of chair of the meeting**

Jens Skov-Spilling was elected

### **2. Election of keeper of minutes**

Jette Egelund was elected

### **3. Adoption of agenda**

The proposed agenda was adopted

### **4. Presentation of annual report 2018 by director Anne Egelund**

- a. Anne initially explained the importance of supporting prisoners, which might not always be straight forward for all. Assisting prisoners is reaching out to the most vulnerable in society, whose human rights are frequently violated. Developing the potential of inmates and former convicts is of great importance to for society. Not only does it aid the individual prisoner while incarcerated as well as after release, it also reduces crime and poverty in society. If not assisted more prisoners will be traumatized and leave the correctional facilities psychologically damaged. Many do not even manage to leave the prison as they die due to illnesses and lack of food. Ubumi assist prisoners to avoid such a destiny.
- b. As described in the Annual Report all projects are running smoothly. Ubumi is making a difference and is well respected for its work. During 2016-19 (3 years) activities have been scaled up due to generous funding by the Obel Family Foundation and others. However, the Obel Family Foundation has decided to no longer support activities in Africa. Thus, their support has been reduced significantly for 2019-21 (2 years). While Ubumi is seeking other funding, we must envisage a reduction of the present level of activities at least for the time being.

### **5. Presentation of accounts 2018 and budget 2019**

Accounts 2018 were approved. The presented budget for 2019 reflects the above-mentioned reductions of activities. Salaries of staff and project activities have been reduced. All activities in one prison has been closed.

At the suggestion of one member next year's budget will contain a column of last years budget to allow easy reference.

## **6. Election of members and deputy members of the board**

Jette Egelund, Jens Skov-Spilling and Mette Lund Sørensen were reelected as members of the board.

The board also includes Mette Raffo and Ida Thyregod. Deputy member is Lisa Lund Holst and Birgitte Poulsen

## **7. Any other business**

15 members participated in the meeting.

## **8. Presentation by special guest Buster Kirchner**

Buster Kirchner has been a volunteer in Ubumi for 6 months in Zambia working with the juvenile inmates in Lusaka Central Prison and Kamwala Remand Prison, as well as short term in other prisons a. He is a trained football coach.

He worked with the juveniles within the following areas:

- Ball and movement
- Life skills games
- Dance
- Entrepreneurship
- Create your own CV/ job application

Humor was a very effective tool to deal with hopelessness and sad emotions. Buster had been deeply affected by his work among the young prisoners. The boys appeared tough but behind the façade they were fragile. More often than not they came from socially disadvantaged groups of the population. They were carrying a heavy baggage, but they were also like you and me. What impressed him the most was to meet refugees in prison – they were not criminals just refugees.

Buster appreciated the chance to get the opportunity to work with Ubumi, to be part of the Ubumi family, which both works as a small family enterprise as well as being top professional. This work brought him great insight and a sense of responsibility.

## **9. Comments and conclusion of general assembly**

Nothing to report