

Lutheran Mission Cooperation Tanzania
Minutes of the 42nd LMC Board Meeting
4th – 5th March 2015
New Safari Hotel, Arusha

1. Introduction

1.1. Morning Devotion

4th of March: Stig Lundberg

Math. 20:1-16. The last will be the first and first will be the last, a message completely unfair. The gospel of grace is not fair in the thoughts of a man, but it's a message of hope, a hope for me. There is a second chance – a gospel of grace, a gospel of hope.

5th of March: Sireli Pallangyo

Psalms 104:16-24. Environment is the theme of ELCT bible readings this week. Our surrounding, all living and non-living are effecting us. Animals and plants are given to us by God, to be in our care. Our decisions are effecting the environment negatively and positively. Should our children suffer from what we decide today? We have to consider all decisions we make, it effects our environment and it effects our future, the future we give to our children.

1.2. Opening of the 40th board meeting

The LMC chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming all board members.

1.3. Roll-Call

Bp. Dr. Israel-Peter Mwakyolile, LMC Chairperson
Rev. Manfred Scheckenbach, LMC Co-Chairperson
Bp. Isaya Mengele, ELCT
Ms. Mary Laiser, ELCT
Mr. Lasse Lampinen, FELM
Rev. Benyam Kassahun, ELCA
Ms. Anna Claesson, SEM
Mr. Loata Laizer Mungaya, ELCT DSG Finance and Administration

LMC Secretariat

Mr. Peter Karlsson, LMC Secretary
Mr. Sireli Pallangyo, Administrative Officer
Sr. Flaviana Temba, Financial Officer

Invited

Mr. Stig Lundberg, COS

The LMC board invited Mr. Stig Lundberg to be an observer in present and in June board meetings.

1.4. Acceptance of agenda and timetable
The agenda was accepted as presented.

1.5. Greetings and updates.

Stig Lundberg gave greetings from Lennart Andreasson. Church of Sweden has appointed a new team leader for Africa, Mr Peter Karlsson-Sjögren.

Anna Claesson gave greetings from General Secretary Rev Stefan Holmström and Mission Director Rev Erik Johansson.

Benyam Kassahun gave greetings from ELCA and informed that the presiding bishop will visit ELCT in the beginning of September.

Manfred Scheckenbach gave greetings from Neuendettelsau and the office of Mission Eine Welt. He informed about the new leaders, a couple taking over the leadership of MEW.

Loata Laizer Mungaya gave greeting from the ELCT Common Work and the General Secretary.

Mary Laizer gave greetings from North Central Diocese and Bishop Rev Solomon Massangwa.

Isaya Mengele gave greetings from Southern Diocese and was grateful for the sympathy and participation at the funeral of the late Bishop Lukilo

1.6. Confirmation of Minutes of 40th and 41st board meetings

1.6.1. The minutes of the 40th LMC board meeting were confirmed with the following corrections:

2.2 Core Program and Ongoing Project Report should have been separated in two paragraphs, one for core programs and one for ongoing projects.

6.2 New Safari Hotel (NSH) adding the following text: Chairperson of LUICO, Bp Bagonza, was invited to inform about the NSH. The LMC Board suggested that there should be a breakdown value of NSH and all reporting should be done by cost centres to give a fair picture of the financial status of the respective business activities.

1.6.2. The minutes of the 41st LMC board meeting were confirmed as the correct records of the proceedings of the meeting

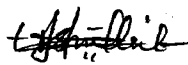

2. Matters arising from previous meetings

2.1. Pending matters

The LMC Secretary informed the board of following pending matters that will be presented at the June board meeting:

- Financial Manual – 34th 5.4 and 40th 1.7.2
- The Mobile Catechism – 40th 1.7.1
- Medical Loan Scheme – 35th 5.8, 39th 1.7.2 and 40th 1.7.3
- ELCT contribution towards the Vehicle Fund and a reallocation of administration to pay audit fees – 40th 2.4 and 11th RT 5.3-4

2.2. Program and Project Fund

2.2.1. Program Fund

The LMC Board discussed the programme subsidy and reporting. There is a problem, according to the annual report of the ELCT Audit Division, that some dioceses are not taking the audit seriously. In the Programme Fund Policy it is clearly stated about audit reports, if accounts have been submitted to an audit and submitted draft accounts, then we are able to transfer the subsidies. LMC will be strict and only pay out programme subsidy if the requirements of the policy will be fulfilled.

ELCT CW and Audit division have to take action towards the dioceses and have to emphasize and raise the awareness in the dioceses of the importance of auditing.

2.2.2. Project Fund

LMC Secretary informed about a report from the Planning and Development department on success stories from LMC funded projects for the period 2009 to 2014.

2.3. CBF – Assessment

The secretary informed about the progress of the work with the assessment of the CBF. The report will be presented in the June board meeting.

2.4. Usage of TZS 15 million for Capacity Building

Mr Mallumbo, DSG Planning and Development presented a workshop for capacity building for diocesan treasurers and project secretaries. He presented a budget for the workshop of TZS 25 million to be financed by the budgeted TZS 15 million, an addition request of TZS 5 million and ELCT contribution of TZS 5 million.

The LMC Board resolved:

- To release TZS 20 million for the workshop.

2.5. Closing old funds

The Board discussed old funds and other posts on the Balance Sheet. Matters that were discussed and resolved by the LMC Board:

- LWF/ELCT Air time of TZS 10.321.000 – To contact Radio Voice of the Gospel, Moshi and discuss the usage of the remaining amount.
- Master's Programme – MUCO of TZS 5.500.000 – To transfer it to the fund for theological education at TUMA.
- Saving and Credit Society Promotion of TZS 13.278.000 – To contact ELCT CW to discuss the usage of the remaining amount
- ODF-CBF Fund of TZS 15.484.000 – To support four dioceses (SED, RUDI, LTD and DMR) with bookkeeping software, computers and training in bookkeeping and reporting. To support Mr J Chaki of UKD with an amount up to TZS 1.000.000 for his CPA examination fees in accordance with the purpose of the fund. A contract to serve the diocese has to be filled.

2.6. Women Pastors and Theological Consultation

LMC Secretary informed about the funding of the “Women Pastors and Theological Consultation” in May. The total funding of TZS 64.5 million is support by LWF, MEW, ZMO, Leipzig and LMC.

2.7. Changes of schedule in Vehicle Fund

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The Board agreed on to change the number of vehicles to be purchased 2015 and 2016 due to the new dioceses, from five to seven vehicles. All vehicles, but one are purchased in December and they will arrive in the end of March and hopefully all paper clearances will be ready in April.

2.8. Replacement of LMC Vehicle

The LMC Secretary informed that a new vehicle is ordered and ELCT CW is interested to buy the old Toyota Prado. The LMC Board agreed on:

- To sell the Toyota Prado T972AJK to ELCT CW under the following conditions:
 - The vehicle is import duty exempted, registered under ELCT, Arusha.
 - It is a car for church service not private ownership and it will be sold to be used by the ELCT unit.
 - The price will be TZS 20.000.000/-
 - The vehicle will be sold as is and in the condition it is on the date of sale.

2.9. Round Table 2014

2.9.1. Feedback on Round Table from Lennart Andreasson

The LMC Board received a feedback on the Round Table from the former board member Lennart Andreasson. Three remarks were mentioned.

- The duration of the RT of at least three full working days – The LMC Board resolved to continue with two full working days and make a follow up after the RT 2015.
- The venue of the RT at different locations – The LMC Board wants to encourage ELCT to put efforts to search for new hosts
- The cost of the RT shouldn't prevent yearly events – The intention of the LMC Board is to continue with yearly RT:s

2.9.2. Matters raised at the orientation meeting 2nd-3rd of March.

In the orientation of new LMC Board members a few questions were raised and discussed at the board meeting.

- How to differ between voting members and other participants – The LMC Board resolved that the name tags have to be in different colors for different groups.
- In MOU 7.1.6 is mentioned that northern members will nominate two women and two youth delegates to attend the RT. – The LMC Board encouraged the northern members to nominate delegates according to the MOU
- In the Preamble of MOU it's mentioned that LMC legal standing is scheduled to the ELCT constitution, but in the ELCT constitution LMC is not mentioned. – The LMC Board resolved that the Secretary has to write to the General Secretary to draw the ELCT attention to the fact that LMC is not mentioned in the constitution.

2.9.3. "Diaconia – Faith Active in Love" – how to proceed?

How to proceed and implement the theme "Diaconia – Faith Active in Love" was discussed. This theme is a matter for both northern and southern partners and should be encouraged to be discussed. The General Secretary of ELCT has sent out the documentation to every diocese for further discussions and implementation.

2.9.4. Sunday School Challenge – how to proceed?

The Round Table was challenged about the future of the church – the children. The LMC Board discussed how to proceed and want to encourage the ELCT CW to look into Sunday school material, training for Sunday school teachers and to coordinate the existing Sunday school work in dioceses.

3. Report and ongoing activities

3.1. LMC Secretary Report

The LMC Secretary presented his report and it was received with appreciation

3.2. FELM Regional Director in Tanzania

Present FELM Regional Director in Tanzania, Mr Lasse Lampinen, will return to Finland for a period of one year. Mr Jari Berg will be the new Acting Regional Director.

4. LMC Finances

4.1. 2014 Drafts Accounts

The LMC Secretary presented the draft accounts for 2014. The accounts were received with appreciation. The income statement and the statement of the financial position with respective notes were scrutinized page by page.

- The LMC Board approved the draft accounts and they will be forwarded to the auditors for auditing.

4.2. Changes in Program Grant Contribution

LMC Secretary informed that SEM has informed that they have to reduce the grant contribution for 2015 with SEK 50.000 due to financial strain. The information was received with discomfort due to the fact that we have already passed two months of the budget year.

The LMC Secretary also informed about the discussions with UEM about the reporting of the grant contribution.

4.3. Equity/Working Capital Fund

4.3.1. The level of the Solidity/Financial soundness

The working Capital has increased under a number of years and reached a level of TZS 2,380 million on the 31st of December 2013. It is not a goal in itself to have a big working capital, but an organization needs to have a certain level of a financial soundness. The level of the working capital has to be incorporated in the new financial regulation to be presented in June.

The LMC Board resolved that:

- The level of the working capital should be 50% of budgeted turnover +/- 5%
- The amount of TZS 1.5 billion of the working capital shall be reserved in a fund for theological education in the books for 2014.

4.3.2. TUMA and CBF bridging period

The TUMA and CBF bridging period was discussed by the board and there is an ongoing work on the CBF assessment to be reported in June.

Bachelor of Divinity (BD) students on internship are doing their research during that year when they are back in the diocese. This has not been considered when stipulating the policy of the BDF.

The LMC Board resolved that:

- There are no changes with the decision, not to have any new intake 2015/2016, before the report of the CBF assessment has been presented.
- The research allowances for BD student will be TZS 500.000 as a flat rate.

4.3.3. Master of Theology Fund

A proposal to establish a Master of Theology Fund was received from Mr Lennart Andreasson, COS. The proposal of establishing a Master of Theology Fund was discussed together with a proposal of a two year In-service Course for pastors. The matters will be discussed in June.

The Board gave the Secretary an assignment to:

- Contact the TUMA and ask for information on curriculum, requirements and costs for an In-service course.

4.4. LMC Bank accounts

LMC Secretary informed about the process of changing signatories at Citibank. By the help of former LMC Secretary Lars Hofgren and ELCA we have now managed to change the signatories of our Citibank account.

The investment account with Citibank is closed after the last Treasury bond was matured on the 15th of February 2015 and all funds are secured and transferred to our bank account with Citibank.

5. Staff matters

5.1. Staff loans

The LMC Secretary presented two requests of staff loans. Sireli Pallangyo asked for [REDACTED] Mr Tumsifu Natai asked for [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The loans have been agreed on by the Chairperson and the Secretary and are paid out. The LMC Board agreed on:

- To confirm the loan to Sireli Pallangyo [REDACTED]
- To confirm the loan to Tumsifu Natai [REDACTED]
- All personnel matters have to strictly follow the staff regulation.
- The LMC Secretary together with the DSG Finance and Administration have to ensure proper legal documents for the loans.

5.2. Travel to visit northern members

The Secretary informed about the travel to the northern members in May. The purpose was that the whole team of LMC should travel, but Sr Flaviana is prevented from going due to CPA exams she has to attend. The timetable and tickets are ready and we are awaiting the invitation letter from the Church of Sweden to proceed with the visa.

6. ELCT Matters

6.1. From Dioceses and Common work

Loata Laizer Mungaya informed from the dioceses and Common Work. Matters from ELCT are divided into two parts, one being matters after the October LMC round table and second being upcoming events.

The following events transpired in the Church after the October 2014 Board Meeting in Karagwe.

New staff

In January 2015, there was a change of staff following expiry of the contract of Mr Abel Mrema, Mr Loata Mungaya Laizer was appointed to replace him.

ELCT North Central Diocese

Bishop Solomon Massangwa was consecrated and installed on 10th January 2015 in a service that was led by the ELCT Presiding Bishop Dr Alex Malasusa. In the same service, Rev. Gideon Kivuyo was installed Assistant to the Bishop.

ELCT Northern Diocese

Bishop Dr Fredrick Shoo was consecrated and installed on 11th January 2015 in a service that was led by the ELCT Presiding Bishop Dr Alex Malasusa. Rev. Elingaya Saria was installed Assistant to the Bishop.

On 15th February 2015, the Diocese had a special service in the Lole Parish for a farewell function to Bishop Emeritus Dr Martin Shao.

ELCT Southern Diocese

Bishop Emeritus Cleopa Lukilo passed away on 13th November 2014. The burial service was conducted on 17th November 2014 at the Cathedral in Njombe.

Upcoming events:

Women Pastors and Theologians Consultation

Women Pastors and Theologians Consultation will take place in Bukoba on 12th – 17th May, 2015. Alongside with this consultation there will be a silver Jubilee (25 year of women's ordination). This is a great event and blessings to the Church, especially women pastors and theologians. May I take this opportunity to thank the LMC partners for supporting this big and important event.

The 60th anniversary of Marangu Conference

The Marangu conference was the first meeting of the Lutheran churches in Africa in the spirit of solidarity and collaboration. The meeting was held in 1955 in Marangu Moshi.

The 60th anniversary of Marangu conference will take place on 20th – 24th May 2015, in Marangu, Moshi.

The anniversary will draw about 200 participants from Africa and other LWF regions. These will include church leadership, theological institutions, women and youth. Additionally, invited guests: political and government officials, NGOs, partners with churches in Africa, local participants as observers will be participating.

The Marangu anniversary is part and parcel of the commemoration of the 500 years of the reformation to be held along the 12th assembly in Windhoek, Namibia in 2017. The LWF regions and member churches are planning the commemorations and celebrations for this major event in the LWF.

For the Lutheran communion in Africa, the reformation anniversary will be done in the light of celebrating the 60th anniversary of “the Marangu conference in 1955 that was held in Marangu, Moshi, Tanzania.

The Marangu conference has led to the birth of the Lutheran communion in the region; hence the theme “Marangu to Wittenberg: Being a Reforming Church in a Changing African Context” brings the aim of the Marangu to the concept of being in a communion.

The 19th ELCT General Assembly

The General assembly of the ELCT which is the highest decision making body of the church meets once in every four years. The 19th ELCT General Assembly will be held on 12th – 14th August 2015 at Tumaini University Makumira.

6.2. ELCT Investments

New Safari Hotel (NSH)

In the board meeting in October 2014 an audited report was presented and the board had discussions with the chairperson of LUICO, Bp Bagonza. As a result of this audited report and discussions, Lennart Andreasson made a report and handed it over to LMC.

The background of the relation between LMC and NSH has its own history going back to the “Matema” LCS meeting. Money was held in custody by LMC and released for investments within ELCT. NSH was one of the investments made by ELCT and from that time on, LMC has been receiving reports from the ELCT on the progress of NSH.

The report from Lennart Andreasson can be a challenge for the new CEO, how to look at the investment and the progress and how to improve the reporting for future decisions.

7. Coming meetings

7.1. Board meetings 2015

9th – 10th of June 2015, arrival 8th
15th – 17th and 21st of October 2015, arrival 14th

7.2. Round Table 2015

Date: 19th – 20st of October
Venue: Bukoba, North Western Diocese
Theme: Women in God’s Service
Bible verse: *not ready*
Bible Studies Leader: *Rev Dr. Wyvetta Bullock, ELCA*
Keynote speaker: *Dr Agnes Abuom, WCC*
Budget: *was presented and accepted*

7.3. Round Table 2016

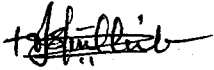
Date: 17th – 18th of October
Venue: *not ready*
Theme: Reformation and the one World
Bible verse: *not ready*
Bible Studies Leader: *not ready*

Keynote speaker: *not ready*
Budget: *not ready*

8. AOB and Closing

8.1. Closing

The LMC chairperson expressed thanks to all board members for their contributions. Board members gave a word of appreciation to the chairperson, then he closed the meeting with a word of prayer.



Bishop Dr. Israel-Peter Mwakyolile
LMC Chairperson



Peter Karlsson
LMC Secretary

