



Newsletter 1 – 2021/2022

Editorial:

Dear Lions friends!

Covid 19 has restricted, slowed down or even interrupted our international work, but in some cases also changed it permanently. The Europe Forum 2020 could not take place, 2021 it did - but without our African friends who did not get visas for Greece. The 2nd Africa Forum 2020 was postponed and could not physically take place in 2021 either.

But we discovered new possibilities in this situation and - especially at my age - learned a lot.

European Lions Virtual Symposium 2020 Oct 03rd was the first big online event. The Euro Africa Committee was there with a virtual booth.

1st Euro Africa Webinar 2021 Jan 23rd, bilingual and with 100 participants was the Euro Africa Committee's first major online event of its own. Despite simple means, it was a great success.

Africa Lions Summit 08-10 April 2021 was the African Lions' response to the Corona Challenge. The committee was there with an English-French presentation.

Convention Nationale Virtuelle MD 103 France 29.05.2021 was the French Lions' solution. The committee was invited to give a welcome speech.

2nd Africa Forum Dar es Salaam 2021 Sep 23rd-25th. The committee participated in the virtual Africa Forum with a contribution in the 2nd plenary session and a presentation in the seminar for incoming governors.

2nd Lions Euro Africa Webinar 2022 Jan. 29th – Our second webinar focused on one general topic: Sight First. Because of that we had an interesting discussion.

Especially older people like me learned a lot. And there is a lot we will continue to use. Online meetings of the board have become the norm and digital conferences of the whole committee are now part of our everyday life.

Russia's attack on Ukraine on February 24, 2022, has ushered in major global changes. However, our values and ideals remain unchanged. We must continue our work for the benefit of people.

New Board:

Elections for the new board, due after a three-year term, also took place in a digital meeting of the committee on October 26, 2021. This is because the African Friends did not receive visas for the European Forum in Thessaloniki. Under the proven chairmanship of PID Dr. Manoj Shah secret elections were held with the following result:

Chair: PDG Hermann Heinemann MD 111 (2nd term).

Co-Chair: PCC Lami Ahmed MD 404 (new)

Vice-Chair: PDG Dr. Franco Marchesani MD 408 (new)

Secretary: PDG Dr. Mbadinga Itsouhou MD 403 (new)

The previous co-chair PDG César Mahina Kalukuta (D 409), vice-chair PDG Beno Israel and secretary L Rita Bella Ada have withdrawn from the board at their own request. I thank all of them very much for three years of harmonious and successful cooperation.

The new board members 2021-2024 are introduced below:

Chair PDG Hermann Heinemann MD 111



Studies at University of Cologne of History and Germanistic, exam for High School. At Music Academy in Cologne, exam as teacher for violin and diploma as violinist.

Work as free lance musician with different orchestras and teacher of different music schools. Music School Director of the County of Oldenburg 1978-1984 and of the city of Moers 1984-2007.

Member of Moers Lions Club, MD 111, since 1991, President, Zone Chair, Region Chair, District Governor 2012-13, GMT Coordinator, Delegate to Euro Africa Committee since 2013, Vice Chair 2017, Chair since 2018.

Co-Chair PCC Lami Ahmed MD 404

Lami Ahmed is of Wuse Abuja Lions Club, Multiple District 404 Nigeria. She is a seasoned administrator and an entrepreneur with vast experience in the Oil and Gas Industry, Real Estate and Agriculture. She joined the Association since 1998 and has held several high level leadership positions as Club President, Zone



and Regions Chairperson, Convention Chairperson, club Membership Director, District Governor, District GMT Coordinator, Multiple Council Chairperson. She has attended several ISAAME FORUM, All Africa Conference, Africa Forum and International conferences. She is also an ALLI and FDI graduate.

Vice Chairperson PDG Dr. Franco Marchesani MD 108

MD with four specialties, previously head physician at three hospitals, professor at four university postgraduate schools, at Ouagadougou's Medical School and organizer of stages for burkinabé doctors in Italy. Currently he operates as private practice physician. Married to



Anna, Lions MJF as well, with two sons and five grandchildren.

Member of LCI since 1990. Charter member and first president of LC Certosa di Pavia, ZC, RC, Governor for D 108lb3 2004-2005. DO Sight Fist II, DO LCIF for 6 years. Active participant as a speaker delegate in ISAAME FORUM, All Africa Conference, Europa Forum, MSO (member of the board 2011-2017). District Delegate to EAC since 2017.

He carried out a number of humanitarian missions in Burkina Faso, assisted by Anna, engaged in ophthalmology missions, vaccinations against meningitis, diabetes prevention.

Among several awards he is MJFP and Certified Instructor FDI.

Secretary PDG Dr. Mbadinga Itsouhou MD 403

58 years old, married with four children.

He is member of Lions club Pointe-Noire Concorde (Congo Brazzaville) since 1999. District Governor 2019/2020 for D403B1, in parallel to current role in Euro Africa Committee, Dr Mbadinga Itsouhou hold as well the office of Secretary for the AC 08 Africa Adhoc Committee.

Certified Instructor of LCI (LCIP, FDI, FDES), he was chosen as facilitator for various training institutes organized by Leadership Department of LCI (FDI, ALLI,...).



PhD in Economics (University Paris 2 Pantheon-Assas France).

Working in Oil and Gas Industry in Africa, he is currently Africa CEO for Altrad Group, specialized in assets integrity management services.

PDG Hermann Heinemann in Kenya



New Classrooms of Secondary School in Kaani

I visited Kenya from February 9 to 23, 2022. The plan was to participate in the Lions Day with the United Nations in Nairobi. But this event was unfortunately cancelled.

However, I was not deterred from the longer planned trip and experienced an exciting

and interesting program with the help of the Kenyan Lions. This included the Lions Eye Clinic in Nairobi, which was expanded again, several schools up to Kibwesi, the boarding school for deaf children in Machakos, the boarding center in Kaani and the school for mentally handicapped children in Thika. What is often not noticed is that African Lions carry out many humanitarian projects on their own, without outside involvement. They accomplish much more than is known in Europe. A special experience was the visit of Tamugh in Sook County at the border to Uganda, where with support from Germany but also from LCIF a long-term project has been helping 15,000 people to a better life for 12 years. I thank the Kenyan Lions, especially PID Dr. Manoj Shah and 1VG Shehzan Luhar for many new experiences and impressions about life in Kenya. But I am especially happy that together with Dr. Manoj and 2nd International Vice

President Dr. Patti Hill I was able to significantly advance the idea of greening Africa.



Pupils in Elementary School

Re-Greening Africa

Fighting climate change as a great common task

On April 3, Dr. Hastings Chiti, speaker of the African Leadership Committee, wrote: "The Greening Project was endorsed by the African Lions Leadership ... Zambia will proceed with the Nalusanga Project, while Nigeria and Congo Brazzaville will also join in." This message after a meeting of the four African PIDs marks the beginning of a major joint action against climate change.



Roots!

The story before: in January 2021, French President Edouard Macron announced he would invest €12 billion in the Great Green Wall project, the sub-Saharan green belt project launched by the African Union in 2006 that has since slowed significantly. For the current acceleration, the increase in disasters, the

urgent warnings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the protests of the youth, especially "Fridays for Future", give sufficient reason.

It must be assumed that the situation is globally dramatic, that Africa will suffer the most from global warming of all continents and that great efforts are necessary to slow down, perhaps even stop and reverse the development. This means that very large areas must be greened with trees and shrubs. Experience has shown that this can only succeed if the local and regional population is actively involved in the process. They need jobs in sustainable agriculture and forestry.

We can no longer ignore climate change and or seriously deny that it is largely man-made.

Never before we had

So much carbon dioxide in the atmosphere

- Deforestation at this rate
- So many people and population growth
- Extinction of so many species
- So serious changes in the earth's surface

But there is hope, because forest

- Stops erosion
- Is a Carbon sink
- Is a Water store and collector
- Attracts rain
- Works as Refrigerator
- Is at the end a self-maintainig system!

Studies have shown that even in a small forest, on hot days the soil was 15 degrees cooler than in the surrounding area. In a 30ha plantation, Jacob Sawadogo in Burkina Faso succeeded in raising the water table by 5m. The work of Australian Tony Rinaudo in Niger gives particular hope. He discovered intact root systems in terrain that had long been deforested and was able to stimulate them to grow again with little effort. In this way, he was able to green large areas and make successful agriculture possible there again.

What role should we Lions have in this?

- Use the network of 30,000 African Lions to convince and motivate the local population
- Build up networks between experts and local people
- Help to create new jobs for local villagers
- Win over various ecological initiatives to participate.
- Support the process through our own projects.



Dear friends, I am happy that already on February 22nd the 2. International Vice President Dr. Patti Hill declared to make this great idea a central concern of her presidency. With the decision of the African Leadership Committee, there is now the basis for a simultaneous start in the important regions of Africa. In October 2023, Dr. Patti Hill will formally launch the overall project in Kenya.

With 2nd Vice President Dr. Patti Hill

There is now much for all of us to do:

- The four pilot projects are to be planned, possibly adapted to the role as an example for others.
- Experts in agriculture and forestry from the respective countries - from ministries and universities are to be involved.
- The local population is to be involved, and community-building measures may be necessary.
- Likewise, the authorities are to be involved and convinced to carry out further projects with funds from Europe and energetic support from the Lions.

- The progress of the projects is to be evaluated in order to use the experience for further projects.

It will be a great joint effort for a long time. But we are sure that it will make an important contribution to the future of Africa - maybe other continents as well. Let's be the first big international NGO to unite in this great task!

Contacts

In this place you will find requests for contact from African Lions to Europeans or vice versa. Please write your request to our secretary PDG Dr. Mbadiga Itsouhou (Mail: imbadinga@hotmail.com) and you will find it here in our next edition.