

## **Child Aid Lanka (Sri Lanka) – Minutes to June 2010**

***These are excerpts from minutes of committee meetings between March 25th to June 2010 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.***

***Child Aid Lanka UK passed a motion at its AGM in 31st October 2009 to set up Child Aid Lanka in Sri Lanka. This task was carried out by Naomi Aruliah Trustee in the UK while she was present from the 16th of February 2010 till May 2010. A committee was formed with eminent members of Sri Lanka with long standing experience in Finance, Service to the community, and organisational and management experience to further the cause vision and mission of Child Aid Lanka in the UK.***

***At the AGM in Colombo invited members from well known and established senior heads of Banks, Accountants, Religious organisations, and experienced charitable organisations became trustees of the consortium for Child Aid Lanka Sri Lanka.***

***Sukumar William Rockwood was unanimously elected as Hon. Secretary. Rajan Asirwatham retired Bank of Ceylon Chairman and Senior Partner of KPMG Sri Lanka, Rev. Dr. Albert Jebenesan President of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka, Harry Kandiah Director of Cannan International Church, Savithri de Silva Director of the Boys Industrial Home in Colombo, Vasantha de Silva Director, Senaka Amarasinghe Director and proprietor of Car Mart and President of the Rotary Club of Colombo, Indrani Fernando retired UN Geneva, Ahalia Kanagasundari Charity organiser.***

***Appointment of Treasurer:*** It was observed that Child Aid Lanka is not a Non Governmental Organisation (NGO) and a charitable organization registered with the Department of Social Services in Sri Lanka. However, Child Aid Lanka in the UK is a registered charitable organization in the United Kingdom; Charity No: 1115204. In Sri Lanka, Child Aid Lanka is a consortium which implements projects with funds sent from the UK under permission of Child Aid Lanka in UK.

The name of Mr. Rajan Asirwathan was proposed as Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting held on March 25, 2010 and since he was absent the matter was differed to this meeting.

A discussion arose with Mrs. Naomi Aruliah stating that the Child Aid Lanka in the UK had a Treasurer for which Mr. Rajan Asirwathan replied that it was not necessary to have two Treasures. Child Aid Lanka in Sri Lanka is a consortium and a branch of Child Aid Lanka, UK. The Committee then decided that the position of Treasurer in these circumstances would be redundant.

Therefore, the Treasurer of Child Aid Lanka UK will oversee Child Aid Lanka Sri Lanka Consortium. Payments will be forwarded to the Bank and the two cheque signatories will draw the funds.

***Appointment of Cheque signatories:*** The Committee unanimously appointed Mr. Rajan Asirwathan and Rev. Dr. A. W. Jebanesan as signatories for cheques operated from an account to be opened with Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC), Union Place Branch, Colombo 2. It was also decided to open a savings account as well.

All monies that have to be paid out for projects irrespective of the amount has to be approved at a meeting of Child Aid Lanka Consortium in Sri Lanka and then permission will be granted to the signatories to draw the funds for the project.

Accounts of disbursements of funds and project details will be the responsibility of the Secretary who will have to from time-to-time keep the Child Aid Lanka in the UK informed of monies received, monies spent and projects covered by the funds.

***Appointment of Auditors:*** At the Annual General Meeting held on March 25, 2010, it was suggested that two Trustees should be appointed as Auditors. Since Child Aid Lanka UK had British Auditors recognized by the British Charitable Act, it was decided that all accounts would be sent to them to Audit and there was no necessity to have two Auditors in Sri Lanka duplicating the work.

***Discuss program of activity for 2010:*** The Tirukovil Project came up for discussion and it was revealed that there is a building fully furnished with beds, tables and chairs and solar powered lights, funded by Child Aid Lanka. Most of the children are school going and do not have the basic facilities to help them go to school. The children now live with, in most instances one parent or relatives if they are orphaned. CAL UK said that their objectives were to provide alternate sources of energy such as

solar and wind power to homes housing orphaned and children affected by the war. In the light of which it was decided to request Rev. Dr. Jebanesan who will be taking up the Presidency of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka in August 2010 to carry out a survey of such war affected and orphaned children so that a program could be drawn up to seek assistance to feed, clothe and provide facilities to school going children so that they could live in this facility. The facility has cost CAL UK Sterling Pounds four thousand for providing Solar Power. The project was implemented two years ago. Mrs. Naomi Aruliah of CAL UK said she will take up the matter with CAL UK on her return.

***Discuss program of activity for 2010:*** The Tirukovil Project came up for discussion and it was revealed that there is a building fully furnished with beds, tables and chairs and solar powered lights. However, the sad fact is that there are no children living there since there is no program in place to feed and clothe the children. Most of them are school going and do not have the basic facilities to help them go to school. The children now live with, in most instances one parent or relatives if they are orphaned. CAL UK said that their objectives were to provide alternate sources of energy such as solar and wind power to homes housing orphaned and children affected by the war. In the light of which it was decided to request Rev. Dr. Jebanesan who will be taking up the Presidency of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka in August 2010 to carry out a survey of such war affected and orphaned children so that a program could be drawn up to seek assistance to feed, clothe and provide facilities to school going children so that they could live in this facility. The facility has cost CAL UK Sterling Pounds four thousand. The project was implemented two years ago. Mrs. Naomi Aruliah of CAL UK said she will take up the matter with CAL UK on her return.

***Visit to the Seenigama Home:*** Mrs. Naomi Aruliah visited the Seenigama Home in Hikkaduwa run by Mr. Kushil Gunasekera. This home houses children affected by the tsunami and feeds and clothes them. The Honorary Secretary was asked to get in touch with Mr. Gunasekera to get an idea of how the home is run. A brief report is expected at the next meeting. The funding of similar institutions for disadvantaged deprived children has been the vision and mission of Child Aid Lanka over the past twelve years. Presently the target is to raise funds for Alternative energy projects to these deprived and disadvantaged institutions, orphanages, schools and child care centers. Since the cost of electricity is unavailable or too expensive for these institutions, funding and supply of free and available electricity is a great saving. The facility provides the use of computer training, television and radio to children disadvantaged over the years to benefit, by Alternative energy sources readily available to the private sector.

The support of many governments round the world to eliminate and stop climate change is our goal as a charitable organisation to support the vision and mission of all mankind. The pledges by rich corporations and individuals to address this dire situation presently devastating the planet Earth need support from the bottom upwards. Child Aid Lanka proposes to canvas campaign and raise awareness through available means and measures by raising funds to support the least able to progress from poverty and destitution to a better and secure life, by giving them the tools and knowledge to help themselves and the rest of us, and to leave a cleaner safer world for our children's children and a brighter life.