

News from the DLN

DLN is having its 10th anniversary this year. The first part in Danish is about the celebration of that. Danes have to pay. That's why it is only in Danish.

DLN FEST/PITSO 2012

Det bliver sjovt!!!

Husk tilmelding til den store jubilæumsfest senest den 15. juni af hensyn til planlægning og indkøb.

TID: Lørdag 7. juli fra klokken 14.00

STED: Hvidballegård, Virringvej 69, 8660 Skanderborg hos Anders og Signe.

Pris for at deltage er: 100 kroner for voksne/børn 50 kroner

Tilmelding sker ved at indbetale beløbet til Reg.nr.: 8401 konto: 0001061912 mærket Pitso. Send samtidigt en e-mail til Anne på aan@nrdn.dk, som vil sende yderligere informationer

Er din invitation forsvundet, så se den på www.lumela.dk



Lesotho general election, 2012

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

General elections were held in [Lesotho](#) on 26 May 2012. The incumbent Prime Minister [Pakalitha Mosisili](#)'s newly formed [Democratic Congress](#) won a majority of single-member seats.

Read more here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lesotho_general_election,_2012

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A Happy Ambassador

By Christina Lumby Rasmussen

With great expectations DLN attended the reception at the Radisson Blu Royal of the honourable ambassador Paramente Phamotse from Lesotho, who had been received in audience by Queen Margrethe on the same day, Friday 9th March.

If you had missed singing and dancing "Basotho-style" you were certainly not disappointed. The ambassador himself had



taken care of the Baobab-choir, a girl choir led by choirmaster Rikke from Krogerup Højskole (University), who has traveled with their songs in both Lesotho and South Africa. The ambassador was very impressed by the choir and both Mr. and Mrs. ambassador sang and danced to the wellknown songs in Sesotho - and with

En glad ambassadør

Af Christina Lumby Rasmussen

Forventningsfulde var DLN mødt op til reception på Radisson Blu Royal for ærværdige ambassadør Paramente Phamotse fra Lesotho, der havde været i audiens hos Dronning Margrethe samme dag, fredag den 9. marts.



Hvis man havde savnet sang og dans "Basotho-style", blev man i hvert fald ikke skuffet. Ambassadøren havde selv sørget for Baobab-koret, et pigekor under ledelse af Rikke fra Krogerup Højskole, som har rejst med deres sange i både Lesotho og Sydafrika. Ambassadøren var meget betaget af koret og både Hr. og Fru ambassadør sang og dansede med til kendte toner på sesotho – og med bevægelser, som er ret nemme at lære og huske selv for dem, som ikke har været i Lesotho i et årti.



The ambassador, his wife and DLN representatives

movements fairly easy to learn and remember even for those who had not been to Lesotho for a decade. There were 20 young people in a small room on the hotel's first floor, but it was still a party and of course we were treated with a buffet. Denmark's consul to Lesotho Ariane Bigler also turned up to the delight of the other guests.



After a couple of happy songs, there was free play, and you could speak to the choir, who planned to record a CD with Hugh Masakela in South Africa in April. It's gonna be good - DLN should obtain a copy at the earliest opportunity. After all, it is not every day you hear a Danish girls choir singing in Sesotho with a jazz legend as playmate.

Annual General Assembly of DLN

On 24 March 2012 a meeting was held in Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN). This is an excerpt of the minutes, which in its entirety can be found at: www.lumela.dk

18 participants showed up at Klosterport, Aarhus. Bodil Høiland was chosen as conductor, Karina Ruby as referent.

Report:

The assembly began when Chair Helga Halck Højsager presented her review.

Der var små 20 gæster i et mindre lokale på hotellets første sal, men det blev alligevel en fest, og buffet blev vi naturligvis ikke snydt for. Danmarks konsul til Lesotho Ariane Bigler var også mødt og kastede glans over selskabet.

Efter et par glade sange var der fri leg, og man kunne tale med koret, der har planlagt at indspille en CD med Hugh Masakela i Sydafrika i april måned. Det skal nok blive godt – DLN bør skaffe sig et eksemplar ved førstkommende lejlighed. Det er trods alt ikke hver dag, man hører et dansk pigekor synge på sesotho og med en jazz-legend som legeonkel.



GF i DLN

Den 24. marts 2012 var der generalforsamling i Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN). Her bringes et uddrag af referatet, som i sin fulde længde kan læses på: www.lumela.dk

18 deltagere var mødt op på Klosterport, Århus. Som dirigent blev Bodil Høiland valgt og som referent valgtes Karina Ruby.

Beretning:

GF indledtes med, at formand Helga Halck Højsager fremlagde formandsberetningen.

From this it appears that there has been a high level of activity in the DLN during the past year. Two projects have been running, one with Development Peace Education (DPE) and one with Rural Self Help Development Association (RSDA). It appears that it has not been without problems working with the DPE.

Deadlines have not been complied with, submitted material has not lived up to agreements, and the communication has been difficult. The project was extended for 3 months and is now completed. The RSDA project runs fine; reports and accounts are on time. Two persons from RSDA come to Denmark in July on a one-week visit. Perhaps the former Mellemløkeligt Samvirke employees Palesa and Makokoli too. They will participate in the celebration of DLN's 10 year anniversary.

Berea Agricultural Group (BAG) has received 12,000 kroner for 3 water tanks from DLN's own resources. Now, BAG also received 48,000 kroner from the Lauridsen Fund for an additional 8 water tanks.



AGM participants

At last year's general assembly the board was expanded to 6 people. It has been working good. At the physical meetings, the board underwent parts of the Mango test. The Mango test indicates how healthy an NGO is in relation to economics, governance, membership, etc.

Lisbet Kristensen organized a tourist trip

Af denne fremgår det, at der har været et højt aktivitetsniveau i DLN i det forløbne år. Der har kørt to projekter, et med Development Peace Education (DPE) og et med Rural Selfhelp Development Association (RSDA). Det fremgår, at det ikke har været uproblematisk at arbejde med DPE. Tidsfrister har ikke været overholdt, og fremsendt materiale har ikke levet op til aftalerne, og kommunikationen har været besværlig. Projektet blev forlænget med 3 mdr., og er nu afsluttet. RSDA-projektet kører fint, rapporter og regnskaber kommer til tiden. To personer fra RSDA kommer til Danmark i juli på en uges besøg. Måske kommer de tidligere Mellemløkeligt Samvirke (MS)-ansatte Palesa og Makokoli også. De kommer og deltager i fejringen af DLN's 10 års jubilæum.

Berea Agricultural Group (BAG) har fået 12.000 kr. til 3 vandtanke fra DLN's egne midler. Nu har BAG desuden fået 48.000 kr. fra Lauridsen Fonden til yderligere 8 vandtanke.

Bestyrelsen blev på sidste års generalforsamling udvidet til 6 personer. Det har været godt. På de fysiske møder har bestyrelsen kørt dele af Mango-testen på os selv i DLN. Mango-testen indikerer hvor sund en NGO er i forhold til økonomi, ledelse, medlemskab m.m.

Der blev arrangeret en turistrejse til Lesotho i oktober 2011 ved Lisbet Kristensen. Det gik fint. Turist-ministeriet i Lesotho vil gerne stille folk til rådighed ved næste rejse. DLN har fået en DVD af ministeren om turisme i Lesotho. Lisbet vil gerne arrangere en ny tur, evt. en økorejse.

Hjemmesiden styres af Lisbet Kristensen og hendes søn, Andreas. Nyhedsbrevet "Lumela.dk" styres af Anne A. og Peter Rathmann. Det kører stabilt.

Flygtningeskibet Anton i Svendborg i juli gav en mulighed for at gøre DLN synlig. DLN havde en stand i et telt på havnen, som på skift var bemannet af forsk. DLN-

to Lesotho in October 2011. It went well. The Tourism Ministry in Lesotho would like to make some employees available for the next trip. DLN has been given a dvd by the minister of tourism in Lesotho. Lisbet would like to arrange a new trip, possibly an eco-tour.

The website is managed by Lisbet Kristensen and her son, Andreas. The newsletter "Lumela.dk" is managed by Anne A. and Peter Rathmann. It runs stable.

In July, the refugee ship Anton in Svendborg gave us an opportunity to make DLN visible. DLN had a booth in a tent at the harbor, which in turn was staffed by DLN members.

DLN has currently. approx. 100 members. Following the report was discussion and comments. Then the report was approved of.

Reports from working groups

Anne Andersen reports that she is the one gathering material for "Lumela.dk". Peter Rathmann translates it into English, it works fine. DLN now has a link on the website to a similar Norwegian friendship society, "Lesothofriends".

The Fundraising Group has sought funds from the Lauridsen Fund; the group is consisting of Claus Løschenkohl, Anders Foghsgaard and Jens Saxtorff.

The RSDA group receives a visit from Lesotho in July, week 27, by the Director m'e Thulo and the chairman. Karen Steffensen said that preliminary proposals are that they plan to visit eco-agriculture, Thise Dairy, the Agriculture and Food Ministry at Axelborg, Skejby Food Park, local farmers, etc. The RSDA project will finance part of the visit, but it may have to be supplied by DLN.

medlemmer.

DLN har pt. ca. 100 medlemmer.

Efter beretningen var der debat og kommentarer. Derefter blev beretningen godkendt.



Karen Steffensen

Beretning fra arbejdsgrupper

Anne Andersen beretter, at det fortsat er hende, der samler materialet til "Lumela.dk". Peter Rathmann oversætter det til engelsk; det fungerer fint. DLN har nu fået link på hjemmesiden til en tilsvarende norsk venskabsforening "Lesothofriends". Fundraising-gruppen har søgt midler hjem fra Lauridsen Fonden; gruppen består af Claus Løschenkohl, Anders Foghsgaard og Jens Saxtorff.

RSDA-gruppen får besøg fra Lesotho i juli, uge 27, af direktøren m'e Thulo og bestyrelsesformanden. Karen Steffensen oplyser, at foreløbige forslag går på, at de skal besøge øko-landbrug, Thise Mejeri,

Submission of financial statements

Karen Steffensen distributed and briefed on the financial statements for 2011. Some items were explained. Net profits were 49,854 kroner, equity is 85,973 kroner. Claus Løschenkohl (internal auditor) commented that it is a good financial year, there has been good activity, a high activity level, which is creating a good flow in the accounting and auditing. The accounts were approved.



Bodil Høiland

Proposals received

The board would like a discussion of whether we should continue to work with DPE.

There are problems with the internal structure of the DPE. Shale's (Director, DPE) capacity is in the field, in outreach work, but he lacks skills of organizing. It is a very fragile organization. In case Shale leaves, DLN fears a collapse or a sustained low profile of the DPE.

Marie from the DPE group would take

Landbrugs- og fødevarerministeriet på Axelborg, Skejby Food Park, en lokal landboforening m.m. RSDA-projektet vil finansiere noget af besøget, men måske må DLN's kasse spæde til.

Aflæggelse af regnskab

Karen Steffensen uddelte og orienterede om regnskabet for 2011. Enkelte poster blev forklaret. Årets overskud er 49.854 kr., egenkapitalen er 85.973 kr.

Claus Løschenkohl (intern revisor) kommenterede, at det er et godt regnskab i år, der er foregået gode aktiviteter, højt aktivitetsniveau, der er ved at være et godt flow i regnskab og revision. Regnskabet blev godkendt.

Indkomne forslag

Bestyrelsen vil gerne have en diskussion af, hvorvidt vi skal fortsætte samarbejdet med DPE.

Der er problemer med intern struktur i DPE. Shales (direktør i DPE) kapacitet er ude i marken, i det opsøgende arbejde, men han formår ikke det organisatoriske. Det er en meget skrøbelig organisation. I fald Shale forsvinder, frygter DLN kollaps eller langvarig underdrejning af DPE.

Marie fra DPE-gruppen vil gerne overtage ansvaret for projekt-ansøgning og kontakten til Shale. Helga Halck vil gerne trække sig fra gruppen, men kan evt. stå til rådighed som bagstopper. Bodil Mathiasen, Lisbet Kristensen og Anne Andersen vil gerne være i projekt-gruppen med Marie. Bodil Højland står lidt til rådighed.

Vedtagelse af budget

Karen Steffensen redegjorde for det uddelte forslag til budget for 2012.

Det blev justeret af forsamlingen. Budgettet blev vedtaget.

Kontingentet forbliver uændret 100 kr./år pr. medlem.

responsibility for project application and contact to Shale. Helga Halek would like to withdraw from the group, but can be available as a back stopper. Bodil Mathiasen, Lisbet Kristensen and Anne Andersen would like to be in a project group with Marie. Bodil Høiland is also available.

Adoption of budget

Karen Steffensen presented the circulated draft budget for 2012.

It was adjusted by the assembly. The budget was adopted.

Quota remains unchanged 100 kroner per year per member.

Election of board members and auditors

Karen Steffensen and Anne Andersen were on election. Both were willing to re-election. Bodil Mathiasen was also willing to re-enter the board. There was a vacant space, so all three were elected. There are now 7 members.

Alternates: Peter Rathmann and Bodil Høiland.

External auditors: we continue with the Kulturrevision.

Internal Auditor: Claus Løschenkohl continues.

Internal Auditor alternate: Claus Bo Jensen continues.

Possibly.

Anne A.: DLN's 10th anniversary celebration in July. Peter Rathmann suggests that he's doing articles about DLN for Kristeligt Dagblad. Also elections in Lesotho in May are obvious to write about. Possibly, he could submit articles for magazines like UlandsNyt, MS, Delfinen, etc. Ulla Abildtrup will do something about DLN to P1 Morgen. Peter would like to travel to Lesotho to cover

Valg af bestyrelse og revisorer

På valg fra bestyrelsen var Karen Steffensen og Anne Andersen. Begge var villige til genvalg. Bodil Mathiasen var også villig til igen at gå ind i bestyrelsen. Der var en ledig plads, så alle 3 blev valgt ind. Der er nu 7 bestyrelsesmedlemmer.



Peter Rathmann

Suppleanter: 1. sup Peter Rathmann og 2. sup Bodil Høiland

Ekstern revisor: vi fortsætter med Kulturrevision.

Intern revisor: Claus Løschenkohl fortsætter.

Intern revisorsuppleant: Claus Bo Jensen fortsætter.

Evt.

Anne A.: DLN's 10-års jubilæum fejres i juli. Peter Rathmann foreslår at han laver artikler til Kristeligt Dagblad om DLN. Der er også valg i Lesotho i maj, også oplagt at skrive noget om. Evt. også artikler til bladene UlandsNyt, Samvirke, Delfinen m.fl. Ulla Abildtrup vil lave noget om DLN

the topic better. He may seek funds from Danida, Tips & Lotto, or Projektrådgivningen's (PR) information resources. If this fails, the board must consider whether they will contribute to a journey. If Peter is going to Lesotho, he will deliver a number of articles to Danish media. Terms will be settled in a contract. Helga Højsager: PR is developing a position paper, PR wishes a political opinion/comment on a new civil society strategy. Documentation and information must be an essential part.

We should recruit young members to the DLN for us to survive and develop in the future. Do we still have a facebook group? The answer was yes.

Karina Ruby: We have both paying and non-paying members in DLN, does it matter? Some of the non-paying members do some work for DLN and therefore are free of quota. We send reminders to people who have not paid, and when not for several years, they will be deleted from the membership list. It seems to work fine with approx. 100 paying members and 30 free riders.



AGM participants

Evaluation of the day:

Many had difficulty finding parking, and it is expensive to park in the middle of Aarhus. Samsø Skole in Ny Munkegade can be recommended as a free parking space. Perhaps DLN should switch between east and west of the country or

til P1-morgen. Peter vil gerne rejse til Lesotho for at dække emnet bedre. Han kan evt. søge midler v. Danidas oplysningsmidler, Tips & Lotto, Projektrådgivningens (PR) informationsmidler, og hvis det ikke lykkes, må bestyrelsen tage stilling til, om DLN vil bidrage til en rejse. Hvis Peter sendes til Lesotho, skal han levere et antal artikler til danske medier, og der skal laves en kontrakt.

Helga Højsager: PR er ved at udvikle et holdningspapir, PR vil have politisk holdning/kommentar til ny civilsamfundsstrategi. Dokumentation og information skal være en væsentlig del. Vi bør rekruttere unge medlemmer til DLN, hvis foreningen skal leve og udvikle sig fremover. Har vi stadig en facebook-gruppe? Svaret var ja.

Karina Ruby: Der er både betalende og ikke-betalende medlemmer i DLN, gør det noget? Nogle af de ikke-betalende medlemmer yder noget arbejde for DLN og er derfor kontingentfrie. Der sendes rykker ud til folk, som ikke har betalt, og når de i flere år ikke har betalt kontingent, bliver de slettet fra medlemslisten. Det fungerer tilsyneladende fint med ca. 100 betalende og 30 gratister.

Evaluering af dagen:

Mange havde svært ved at finde parkering, og det er dyrt at parkere midt i Århus. Samsøgades Skole i Ny Munkegade kan anbefales som gratis p-plads. Måske bør DLN skifte mellem øst og vest i landet eller give tilskud til deltagere med lang rejse til generalforsamling. Det kan overvejes.

Dirigenten kunne herefter takke for en vellykket generalforsamling, og takke for god ro og orden.

Helga Højsager takkede alle for deres bidrag til dagens forløb. Derefter serverede John og Bodil en herlig suppe.

provide financial support for participants with long travel distance to the assembly. This may be considered.

The conductor then gave her thanks for a successful meeting in good order. Helga Højsager thanked everyone for their contributions to the day's events. Then John and Bodil served a wonderful soup.

Immediately after the general meeting, the board was elected as follows:

Chair: Helga Højsager
Vicechair: Anne Andersen
Treasurer: Karen Steffensen
Secretary: Karina Ruby
Member: Lisbet Kristensen
Member: John Dahl Knudsen
Member: Bodil Mathiasen

Umiddelbart efter generalforsamlingen konstituerede bestyrelsen sig som følger:

Formand: Helga Højsager
Næstform.: Anne Andersen
Kasserer: Karen Steffensen
Sekretær: Karina Ruby
Medlem: Lisbet Kristensen
Medlem: John Dahl Knudsen
Medlem: Bodil Mathiasen





The new board from the left: Bodil Mathiasen, Karina Ruby, Helga Halck Højsager, Karen Steffensen, Lisbet Kristensen, John Knudsen, Anne Andersen

News from Lesotho:

TOP STORIES / WORLD / AFRICA



DW/Poppendieck

Elections in the 'heavenly kingdom' of Lesotho

Voters in Lesotho go to the polls on Saturday. They are hoping a new government will improve life for the two million inhabitants of the country known as 'the heavenly kingdom'.

Against a background of high unemployment and rampant HIV/AIDS, voters in Lesotho are hoping that whoever wins the elections will move to make the reforms needed to steer the country to economic growth.

Lesotho is a landlocked mountainous country and is often called the 'heavenly kingdom'.

Anyone wanting to get to Ribaneng, 100 kilometers (62 miles) from the capital city Maseru, has to be either a good walker or able to ride a horse. There's no road leading to the mountain village, only a trail of hoof prints snaking along the steep slopes.

The journey takes six hours on horseback, with two rivers to cross. Ribaneng is just a collection of small round huts with thatched roofs. It's the home of shepherd Sotho Madikwe.

A hard life



Ribaneng is a village with no electricity or running water

Madikwe's livelihood depends on selling the wool from his 14 mohair sheep.

"Life here is very hard, I not only take care of my wife and children, but also my brothers and sisters," says Madikwe, as he drives his animals back to the village. They've spent the day grazing on steep mountain slopes.

The 36-year-old would like to find a better life away from

Ribaneng, but there are no jobs anywhere else.

Unemployment stands at 40% in Lesotho which is a parliamentary monarchy. Many residents, the Basotho, previously worked in South African mines. When the mines were closed, the migrant workers came back to a country where the vast majority lives from agriculture.

Complicated situation



Lesotho suffers from poverty and high unemployment

Sotho Madikwe hopes there'll be a change of government. "It is good that there are elections now. We get no help from the government. I will vote for the opposition and then maybe things will get better," he said.

The political situation in country of two million inhabitants, which is completely surrounded by South Africa, is

complicated.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon recently described the situation as "worrying" and called on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to assess developments there ahead of the election.

In March, Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili left the ruling party, the Lesotho Congress for Democracy, after a dispute. He founded his own party, the Democratic Congress. 44 of the 62 parliamentarians followed him which means that a new party is now ruling Lesotho. Right up to polling day the outcome of the election is wide open.

Riots feared

Back in Ribaneng, Manete Maschasha prepares the evening meal outside her hut. She cooks 'pap porridge' over an open fire in a black cast-iron pot, just as she does every day.



Manete Maschasha prepares porridge for her family. The 60-year-old cannot afford anything else. Her husband died seven years ago. He worked in a mine in South Africa. Now she brews beer and sells it in the village. With the little money she makes Manete is able to support her daughter and her two grandchildren.

Unlike the shepherd Sotho Madikwe, Manete is full of praise for the current government. "There's still a lot to be done," she

says, while constantly stirring the contents of the black pot, "but the government has already achieved much."

For example, it introduced a pension system. Manete is hoping that with her pension she'll be able to help her grandchildren live a better life. But she has to wait another 10 years for that - and average life expectancy in Lesotho is 50 years.

The construction of roads and job creation are the two big issues in the election campaign. It's been largely peaceful but observers don't rule out riots as there is a high level of frustration due to the widespread poverty and unemployment.



Manete Maschasha describes life in Ribaneng. The former Archbishop of Cape Town in South Africa, Desmond Tutu, calls Lesotho his second home. He's called for restraint on all sides. In the 1970s he worked as a bishop in Lesotho and travelled through the country, using horses and donkeys, just as Sotho Madikwe and Manete Maschasha do today.

Little has changed for the mountain-dwellers in the years since Desmond Tutu was there. And despite their hopes, it is unlikely that the elections will bring about much improvement.

Author: Jörg Poppendieck /i m

Editor: Susan Houlton

The next articles is written by Informative

FIDA broadens nest for General Assembly Election

Tuesday, 08 May 2012

MAFETENG – The Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) in collaboration with Justice and Peace and the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) held a soccer tournament in the Mafeteng district to mobilise and empower the youth in the selected villages to stand up and vote on the 26 May 2012.

The Programmes Coordinator of FIDA Thusoana Ntlama said her organisation highly values the importance of elections in a democratic state.

Ntlama pointed out that her organisation has long undertaken to partner and contribute in any possible manner to a successful election.

“It is against this commitment that for the General Assembly Elections, we have deployed 183 Electoral Educators to mobilise all eligible citizens in the districts of Mafeteng, Butha- Buthe, Thaba –Tseka and Qacha’snek to participate in the upcoming elections,” she said. She added: “This work started on the 5th April this year and is expected to be complete on the 16th May this year.”

Ntlama said amongst other strategies used to maximise awareness and enthusiasm to the electorate, they conducted house to house visits intended to offer electoral education in an environment where each member of the households are comfortable to interact with electoral educators.

“This is intended to reach people who are not able to attend public gatherings and or are not able to express themselves well in public gatherings.

“We visit institutions like churches, schools and social events such as sports tournaments because they are mostly suitable for the youth,” she said.

Ntlama maintained that youth are usually misused in election conflicts by politicians and enter into such conflicts resolutions with abysmal ignorance about what the election entails.

There were four teams recruited to participate in the tournament, but only two teams played.

The youths were drawn from the villages of Ha Sekoati, Lifelekoaneng, Khubetsoana and Matholeng making up four teams.

Real fighters thrashed DF City 5-2 and went away with a brand new jersey worth M6000.00 and soccer balls sponsored by FIDA. The second team was also awarded soccer balls as a second prize. When receiving the prize from FIDA, Teboho Maraisane said the jersey would help them a great deal as they were playing with a worn out jersey. He said most youth are not interested in election but FIDA has rejuvenated them.

“We are definitely going to vote come election day,” shouted Maraisane.

Speaking at the same event, Mpoi Rabolinyane, a voter educator from Justice and Peace said youth in the Qalabane Constituency are enthusiastic to learn the election process and that she is optimistic that more youth will participate in the coming election.

At the same event ‘Manepo Letsapo from IEC in the district said elections are very sensitive and delicate exercises which need a collaborative approach. She paid a tribute to FIDA to have helped them in this endeavour.

Letsapo also conducted a brief session about the allocation of seats in the National Assembly after the election.

Ternsport factory workers call for government’s intervention

Tuesday, 08 May 2012

MAPUTSOE-Life is a bitter pill to swallow for Ternsport Factory workers, in Maputsoe, following the management’s failure to pay last month’s wages.

The owner of the factory is reported to have disappeared with workers’ salaries and wages after he sent them home on short-time period. The factory has operated in Lesotho for almost 10 years producing garments. Speaking with *Informative*, Matankiso Mahloane said she has worked at Ternsport for eight years. She complained that they (workers) are in trouble since they have nothing to put on the table for their families.

According to Mahloane they sought assistance from both their unions and the government however noted that nothing has materialised from their attempts. She also highlighted that the labour department at Hlotse promised to intervene on this matter but indicated that they have never seen them at the factory.

“We are very disgusted and worried about this incident and wonder what will happen to our lives since no one is willing to handle our case. We really need our monies but we are not sure of whom to approach at the moment,” she said indicating that they need a Good Samaritan to intervene on their matter.

She urged the government to help them trace the management of the factory and ensure they pay their salaries. According to Mahloane supervisors get M1200 monthly while ordinary workers get M920.

On behalf of the factory, the line manager Rishi Ceeroo confirmed that workers have not received their salaries. He said they are still waiting for the owner who was supposed to come on Friday last week but has disappeared and with his mobile phone unavailable.

Informative has heard wind of news that the owner is planning to open a new factory at Ficksburg in South Africa, a town opposite to Maputsoe. The Factory Workers Union spokesperson Pako Theko said they are planning to lay charges against the factory management.

At the time of going to press we had not been able to get the response from LNDC.s.

MOET awards Maseru district top ten students

Tuesday, 08 May 2012

MASERU-Friday the 4th became a day of victory for Maseru district students who appeared on the top ten lists of the best students when they were presented with awards at the Examination Council of Lesotho center (ECOL).

These were students from, primary (98), secondary (36) and high school (57) levels and 20 more students from corresponding COSC graduates.

According the organizers, this event was meant to be a celebration for all the students who proved to be hard-working in the last exams including corresponding students were sponsored by big companies such as Metropolitan Lesotho, ECOL, Nedbank, Postbank, Standard bank, Epic printers, Victoria hotel, Lake side hotel, Khotsong lodge. This was also a chance to celebrate the people who are responsible in terms of feeding students at government school. According to one of the parents’ representative she saw this occasion as one for the parents’ pride.

Speaking on behalf of the sponsors, Rethabile Shale from Nedbank said it was quite an honor to celebrate with the people who had worked very hard to earn the trophies and added on that they are very thankful for them and their families as Nedbank. “Without hard work we wouldn’t be having this celebration.

An awarded COSC student from Leqeletse high school said that it is very encouraging to see other people being rewarded for the good work they have done even if it is through small gifts because it motivates the other students to have a hard working spirit. “The reason why I pulled out at all stops is because I know the victory that goes with being a hard worker .Today I am living my victory.”

The celebration was concluded with choral music by Sefika High school and Phomolong high school.

TRC library restructured

Tuesday, 08 May 2012

MASERU- Transformation Resource Centre (TRC) library is undergoing a restructuring process after the management realised that the studying institution has lost its intended purpose.

The Librarian of TRC Mosa Muso said the library will no more be a public library as it is now but will now be a “specialised library responsive to TRC issues.”

She maintained that the library was primarily concerned with Politics, Human Rights and Democracy.

Muso said the library from its inception in 1979 was intended to help the refugees in Lesotho acquire information about what was happening outside Lesotho. “But now the library is accommodating more users than its capacity,” she exclaimed. She said the library has a capacity of just 60 people. “The library users are now coming in multitudes and we are unable to stretch beyond this point due to limited resources,” said Muso.

Muso in an interview with *Informative*, highlighted that the undergraduate students will no longer be allowed to use the library but only “postgraduate students conducting their researches will be allowed to use the library’s resources.”

“We will also allow users who are our members an access to our resources,” she added.

Apart from the lack of space at the institution, Muso revealed that the users either vandalise materials – books, articles and journals or write them with pens or markers.

“At some stage, a single book is read by a lot of people and such a book quickly deteriorates,” she said. Muso reported that some valuable and scarce books have been stolen from the institution leaving the library almost empty. “We do not have security mechanisms like other libraries, so our materials are easily stolen,” she exclaimed. “Some library users photocopy books and in that exercise, books get destroyed,” she added. TRC library is the most frequented resourceful centre in Maseru due to its wealth of information.

ABC chairman Machakela shot dead

Test by [lloyd](#) on 3/20/12



By Mapamela Khanyela

MASERU- The All Basotho Convention (ABC) chairman Sello Machakela was shot dead last night at his Khubetsoana home.

According to police spokesperson, Senior Inspector Masupha Masupha, the politician, who had been rumoured to have defected to the newly formed Democratic Congress of Prime Minister Pakalitha Mosisili last week, was allegedly killed at around 8pm by unknown assailants.

Masupha said: “It is true he was shot at his home on Monday night and died at the Queen

‘Mamohato Memorial Hospital the same night. No one has been arrested in connection with the incident, but police investigations are continuing.”

Machakela's death comes at a time he had fallen out with the ABC—a party he joined at its formation in 2006, after defecting from the Lesotho Congress for Democracy, alongside Thomas Thabane, who has been the leader of the party until today.

At the time he left the LCD, Machakela was the minister of labour.

But Machakela's relationship with the ABC had so much soured he had taken the party to court after being barred from contesting the May 26 parliamentary elections, representing the Malimong constituency, which he represented in the just-closed 7th parliament.

Judgment in the case was expected to be delivered tomorrow—Wednesday March 21.

ABC leader Thabane was not immediately available for comment.

What is Denmark Lesotho Network?

The NGO Denmark Lesotho Network (DLN) was founded in 2002 by former Danish development workers in Lesotho and other good friends of the tiny mountain kingdom in Southern Africa. DLN aims at supporting NGO's in Lesotho in their work to develop civil society. DLN uses its network of people and organisations in Lesotho to pinpoint beneficiaries of DLN's support – and to keep an eye on that funding is used according to agreements made. DLN wishes to enhance knowledge of the living conditions in Lesotho and to seek funding from foundations, business enterprises and organisations for actual projects in Lesotho.

Membership of DLN

Anyone, who can support the aims of DLN, can achieve a membership. Members contribute to support initiatives in Lesotho that develop and better living conditions in the country. Members will receive an electronic newsletter four times a year and be invited to DLN's annual general assembly. The cost of a membership is 100 Danish kroner yearly. For membership contact cashier Karen Steffensen, tel.: +45 98677185, cell: +45 23880099, e-mail: karen.steffensen@mail.dk

DLN's address is: Denmark Lesotho Network, C/O Helga Højsager, Asylgade 16, DK-5000 Odense C, Denmark

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