



Christian Life Community

29 October, 2011

Dear friends in Christ,

Seeking financial sustainability of World CLC and our apostolic works “The Rome Accommodation Project”

Since 1968 CLC has had a Secretariat in Rome to implement decisions of World Assemblies and to support the ongoing work of World EXCO and the life of the CLC global community generally. The Executive Secretary, who is responsible for the Secretariat and is the legal representative of CLC, changes approximately every five years. CLC is responsible for providing decent accommodation for him/her and family.

For the last 40 years, this accommodation has been rented, which means the costs have come from the annual operational budget, which has meant less money for apostolic works. In February 2010 World EXCO, after considerable consultation internationally, decided to move towards the purchase of a modest apartment for a family of four or five members, not too far from the CLC office in Rome. This would free up the rental payments to be put towards CLC projects, especially those of poorer national communities.

In the current Roman property market, such an apartment would normally cost about 400,000 Euros, but the opportunity has arisen to purchase the existing rental property for a total cost of €330,000. World EXCO has considered this proposal seriously and made the necessary investigations related to purchasing a property. Over the past 12 months CLC Australia's NEXCO has been in conversation with the Executive Secretary, Franklin Ibanez (Klin) concerning this proposal. We have received answers to all our queries and been provided with all due diligence documents, including a valuation and contract note. All the evidence supports a golden opportunity to purchase this property at a significant market discount, and World EXCO has decided to proceed.

For further information on this project, you can see the most recent correspondence on our website. In particular, I recommend that you view the PowerPoint presentation “CLC Accommodation Project”. This is an excellent summary of the proposal and includes pictures of the work of the CLC office. If you have any further points of clarification about this proposal, please address them to Nick Galante (03 9853 2346 or ngalante@bigpond.net.au) who has undertaken most of the dialogue with Klin, including having a comprehensive briefing from him in Rome last year.

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Various discussions have taken place as to the best way to raise the money to pay for the apartment. The preference at this stage is to raise the funds for this purchase through donations from CLC members worldwide. So this letter is asking you to consider making a donation to what we consider a very worthwhile project of the world community – a one-off purchase which will provide security of tenure for the Executive Secretary into the future while, more importantly, freeing up money for important CLC projects. Donations might be made by individual members, by CLC groups, or by State EXCOs, though you should note that these gifts are not deductible for tax purposes. NEXCO is also submitting an application to the CLC Trust Fund for a grant to be made to assist in this appeal, though the amount is yet to be determined and we cannot presume on this.

Apart from these usual means of fund-raising, World EXCO is asking wealthier CLC nations to identify members who might be able to make a donation of €1000 (= roughly Au\$1333). NEXCO is aware of the sensitivity around making such approaches where we do not know the financial circumstances of members and where this approach to fund-raising is not the typical Australian way. At the same time, though, we believe that it is important to enter into the spirit of the request made by World EXCO. In this regard, we are encouraged by the fact that a number of Australian CLC members have already indicated a willingness to donate €1000, and we are very grateful for their generosity. We will make approaches to the State EXCOs to assist us in finding members who may be interested and able to make this more substantial donation.

I would be grateful if you would discuss this whole proposal in your CLC groups. We ask you to be as generous as possible, for the sake of our solidarity with the World Community, and especially the needs of poorer national groups. (I am mindful of your generous response to the appeal to assist CLC Nigeria.)

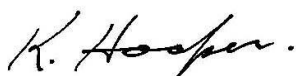
We would like our appeal to be concluded during **November** so that we can send funds in December. Donations (in Australian dollars) can be:

1. Direct deposited into the CLC bank account (BSB: 062-264, A/C No: 10084384, A/C Name: Christian Life Community Inc) with confirmation details emailed to admin@clcaustralia.org.au **OR**
2. Enclose your cheque or credit card payment with the Rome Project Appeal donation slip and forward to CLC Head Office.

If you wish your donation to be anonymous then please say so in the correspondence. If not, we will add your name to the list of donors World EXCO has requested so that they can acknowledge them on a plaque at the World CLC office.

In conclusion, may I make reference to the one of the final outcomes of the Fatima Assembly in 2008. It speaks of the need for CLC members to assume financial responsibility for the community. While this is a real challenge in Australia and worldwide, here is a particular opportunity for us to exercise financial responsibility by assisting in this appeal.

United in prayer and service,



Kay Hooper on behalf of NEXCO