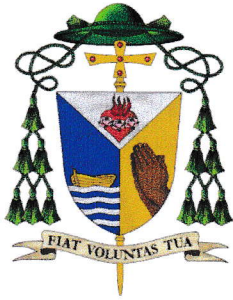


CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BO

BISHOP'S OFFICE



P. O. Box 30
Bo City
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West Africa

Email: bodiocese2011@gmail.com

5th July 2021

Steering Committee Members
German Doctors e.V.
Löbestraße 1a
53173 Bonn

Dear Dr. Elisabeth Kauder,
Dear Dr. Harald Kischlat,
Dear Dr. Christine Winkelmann,

Fraternal greetings from the Advisory Board of Serabu Community Hospital.

As an outcome of an emergency Advisory Board meeting of the hospital warranted by your letter, the Board wishes to confirm that it has accepted your decision to end German Doctors cooperation with Serabu Hospital in the Diocese of Bo.

However, the Diocese hereby wishes to set the records straight by reacting to some of the issues raised in your letter notifying us about your Management Board's decision.

While we are still expecting the consensus of Kindermissionswerk to corroborate your decision as prescribed in the MoA Article 3 "Rights and Responsibilities of Kindermissionswerk," we wish to draw your attention to some of the assertions which were either overstated or grossly misrepresented, and probably on purpose.

You stated that "You continue to have serious concerns with recurrent structural problems and corruption in the Serabu Community Hospital." This assertion is not only blanket but has potential to mislead a reader who does not have the local content background. What are these structural problems that are in the post systems review context that we are not aware of? Do we have proof of recurring corruption following the systems review and change in management? A consensus was reached following the system review with systems functionality improvement plans set in place. We have continuously made deliberate efforts to enforce these action plans, yet you still harp on the previous context. We are pleased that you also contradict the previous status reaffirming that "There have been some efforts on our side to address the concerns." The clearly needed reform process is making steady inroads although this is never being recognized.

Additionally, from a systems perspective, we approached the investigations of the drug theft since 2019 as the Sierra Leone Police led the investigations and all the intercepted drugs were returned to the hospital with efforts from the Diocese. This one-off incident still continues as a recurring incident that is being re-echoed each time German Doctors have governance challenges with the hospital.

We note with surprise that you are indicating that German Doctors' Procurement guidelines were violated when efforts to get the three quotes from clearing agencies was challenging and this was discussed with you through emails explaining the mitigating circumstances on ground. It was German Doctors decision to accept the single quote, with a resolution that German Doctors will deduct whatever additional funds from the following months transfer. How did this constitute corruption when German Doctors were part of the decision?

Furthermore, it is disappointing that GD are advancing their non-participation in a recruitment process to fill three (3) vacancies as one reason for ending the cooperation with the diocese. This does not only violate the provisions in the MOA Article 5(h) "Obligations of the hospital management" which states that the hospital management is responsible for immediate replacement of vacant positions of: Medical Superintendent, Hospital Manager, Matron, Logistics Manager and Accountants. The candidates are to be submitted to the Bishop and GD after assessment. This was done and all profiles shared with GD. How can this be a structural or corrupt practice when the diocese was only being compliant with the provisions in the MOA?

Regarding shortage of gloves in the hospital, how could this have happened when thirty-four (34) cartons of gloves were supplied ten (10) days before the reported incident? Please note that lack of medicines is never in the complete hands of the diocese as some specialized drugs are not readily available in the local market. The hospital relies on the local market for the limited supplies. This gap started to exist when DG stopped importing essential drugs.

Please note that reconciling accounts which have had recurring variances in the accounting journals for months cannot be corrected automatically in a single reporting period. When the open questions keep recurring, it begs for comparison of details in terms of figures in Bonn and figures in Serabu. In this way you are convincingly positioned to describe an error to be a corrupt practice.

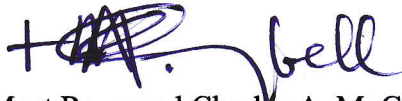
The Advisory Board does appreciate GD and back donors like KZE and Kindermissionswerk in support of our work in Serabu. However, we strongly demand that a blanket accusation of mismanagement of funds is unacceptable and therefore should be retracted. As at the end of this project cycle, we were able to save 18% of the funds earmarked for project 007 and an additional SL 361,008.626 on project 008 as indicated in the no-cost extension application. How can we save funds if the hospital has been mismanaging funds?

The Hospital Board also regrets that GD have not respected the article on dispute resolution which dictates mutually satisfying resolutions subject to the laws of Sierra Leone. We take great exception to the allegations of corruption in the article published on your online newsletter. We consider it a case of justice that you withdraw the said article and publish a retraction of same using the same medium. We further ask that you publish our position on your medium so that our

response to your assertions can also be heard. Suffice it to say that such a publication in your projects news bulletin on the web does not only aim at blackmailing a long-term partner but the Diocese as a whole. Should such a situation persist, we shall not hesitate to consult our legal practitioners for redress.

All things being equal, and in a spirit of civility and in appreciation of our long-standing cooperation, the Advisory Board still looks forward to an official exit meeting or meetings for a very tidy exit / termination.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C.A.M. Campbell".

Most Reverend Charles A. M. Campbell
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Bo



Most Rev. Charles A. M. Campbell
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Bo
P. O. Box 30, Bo
Sierra Leone