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Africa Fund Minutes
Nov. 29, 1979

Trustees Present; Frank Montero, presiding; Lionel Rogosin, Robert Boehm, Robert Potter, Robert Stover, Sophia Yarnall Jacobs, William Landis, Marvin Rich, Peter Weiss, Andrew Norman

Staff Present; George M. Houser, Paul Irish, Truman Dunn, Richard Knight

1. The meeting was called to order shortly after 4:00 PM on the 38th Floor, 666 Fifth Avenue. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as received on motion of Mrs. Jacobs.
2. Reports: George Houser reported that an Internal Revenue Service auditor recently reviewed the Fund for the year 1977 and orally suggested that he would recommend continuation of the Fund's 501(c) 3 status.

This led to a discussion of the merits of the Fund applying for status as a public foundation, the tax and expenditure control benefits and the difficulties in meeting the requirements. Discussion concluded on this point with adoption of a motion expressing the intent of the Trustees for the Fund to declare as a public foundation, subject to the legal requirements. A committee of William Landis, Marvin Rich, and George Houser was appointed to study the matter and take next steps.

3. A written research/literature report was received and reviewed by Truman Dunn and Richard Knight. Income and expense were roughly comparable to 1978, and probably not reaching our ambitious \$20,000 goal for this year. New pieces produced and in progress were reviewed. The report is attached.
4. Shipments: Paul Irish reported on shipments of medical donations received to date for 1979: Medicines, equipment and medical texts were shipped by sea and air early in the year for Zimbabwe refugees in Mozambique with an additional shipment of antibiotics set to go by air. A contribution of \$45,000 in antibiotics from Pfizer Pharmaceutical Co. was sent by air half for Namibian refugees in Angola and half for Saharan refugees in Algeria. All shipments were made with the cooperation of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Their dollar value to date this year is approximately \$60,000.
5. George Houser reported on a request received from Oxfam-Canada for Africa Fund participation in a number of projects benefiting Namibian refugees in Angola. A transportation project which would cost about \$80,000 and a handicraft project at a cost of about \$10,000, need sponsorship. The trustees noted the proposal, which is in line with Africa Fund work and could be supported if funds are available.

6. Grant approvals:

George Houser noted that a grant had been received from the Atlas Foundation which might be applied to assist a request which we have received from the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, headquartered in London. They request between \$9,000 and \$10,000 for educational program aiding South African refugees and promoting non-racial sport. After thorough discussion, the board approved a grant of up to \$9,500 in response to the SAN-ROC request "for physical and sports education in South Africa and among refugees." on motion of Mr. Landis.

7. Peter Weiss suggested that the board consider an amendment to the bylaws which would specifically speak to the human rights work of the Fund in opposition to the denial of human rights by systems of white minority rule in southern Africa. The board agreed that a committee reviewing the question of the public foundation status should study and report for its consideration to the board concerning such a revision of the Fund's trust agreement.

8. Marvin Rich reported on the finances. Before the trustees was a financial report including 10 month 1979 figures and a proposed budget for 1980. Comparative figures for 1978 were also presented. Note was taken of modifications in the office expense section of the budget as the Fund will now pay all shared expenses with ACOA prorated. This will affect the amount in line items such as rent or telephone but not the total amount of office expenses equally shared by the Fund and ACOA. Note was also taken of the fact that staff salary increases were not included in the personnel figures. Possible increases are to be discussed in mid-year. The financial report was approved and the 1980 budget adopted by the Trustees.

9. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.