

**WORLD STUDENT CHRISTIAN FEDERATION
AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE**

AFRICA CALABASH FUND

Context and Introduction

The WSCF Africa has always lived on subsidies from western partners. But since some years, these subsidies have rarefied and that situation seriously threatens the survival of the Africa Region.

So since 2002, the Executive committee has initiated a reserve mechanism that will permit our self-financing. This mechanism is called “calabash fund”.

We know that in most traditions in Africa, the Calabash represents a tool of storage of the seeds which are to be use for the following season.

For the present situation of the finances of the WSCF Africa, we have taken a lesson from the calabash storing mechanism to put aside some reserves in the calabash in order to preserve and to perpetuate the activities of the WSCF Africa for the future generations.

Thus, since the launching of the idea in 2002, the successive executive committees have worked on that issue and today, during this ARC 2006, the question is the real launching of the project. However, during the different executive committee and ARC meetings, some casual and spontaneous collections have been organized. These collections now rise up to US \$ 280.

Structure, Administration and functioning

A committee of management of the calabash fund is constituted and composed as follows:

- The Chairperson
- The Regional Secretary
- The Treasurer
- Two members of the Executive Committee
- One Senior Friend
- One Student

At least an envelope of One (1) million \$ US is expected for 2016. This fund will be invested in properties, purchase of shares and others. The committee will decide on what possible investments to make as soon as possible. At the appropriate moment during their yearly meeting, the committee is going to deliberate on the affectations of dividends, profits, and interests.

At the national level, the SCM treasurers, along with the first person responsible of the movement, are to assure the collection and the development of local strategies in order to reach the biggest possible number of members as well as local partners. Collected funds are to be sent toward the account opened in Nairobi (Kenya), after consultation with the regional treasurer.

A yearly report is sent to all movements to inform them of the evolution of the calabash fund.

Collection of the fund

We will have two levels of collection: national and regional

National level

- At least US \$ 1 is to be contributed by every member of the national movements. As students' members, this contribution is made once for all. All new members must make this contribution. It is a minimal contribution because it only represents a bottle of soft drink that one abstains from taking for only one day. And this gesture will allow the future generations to benefit from what the WSCF allows us to live today.
- According to the last statistics collected by the Africa Region at the end of the year 2005, the total of the members of the national movements rises to 826,427 members. If we all share this dream, it is clear that the fund of calabash already has at least US \$ 826,427.
- Contribution of at least US \$ 10 by every member of the senior friend
- Fundraising from gospel concerts, dinners, grants, conferences and camps.

Regional level

- Contribution from the profits made on the yearly budget of the Region Africa. The amount will be fixed by the Executive Committee according to the availabilities
- Fundraising form the ecumenical partners

Conclusion

Our ambition can be summed up as follows: “the key to our success is our faith”. That being said, it is very important that everybody enters into this process so that together we actually transform our wish into reality, counting on the support and grace from God.

May the Lord touch the heart of those to whom we will approach.

How you can contribute

- Cash

- Gifts of property or other assets
- Gifts of stock
- Etc

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