



Foundation for Emerging Nations (FEN) Annual Report for 2018

Introduction:

The FEN is established under Swiss law as a non-profit making charitable trust, which is devoted to fund raising and to supporting programmes that help to improve the quality and delivery of laboratory medicine services, particularly in emerging nations.

Board of Directors:

There are five members of the FEN Board of Directors

- Dr Graham H Beastall (UK) Chair
- Dr Michelle Rossier (CH)
- Prof Thomas Brinkmann (DE)
- Ms Lucia Monaco (IT)
- Prof Tomris Ozben (TR)

Biographies of the Board of Directors are available from www.ifccfoundation.org

Board Meetings:

During 2018 the Board met (by Skype) on four occasions (April, July, October and December). There was a high level of participation by Directors. Confirmed and signed Minutes of those meetings are available on request.

Achievements:

During 2018 the FEN achieved the following:

- Compliance with the Handelsregister des Kantons Schwyz and the Swiss Foundation Supervisory Authority
- Publication of the annual report for 2017
- Approval of audited accounts for 2017
- Operation of the FEN website www.ifccfoundation.org
- Publication of two newsletters
- Promotion of the FEN through various IFCC media outlets
- Fundraising initiatives
- Support for and monitoring of one funded project

Completed Projects:

'Africa LabMed Radio':

The FEN supported the purchase of specialist equipment to enable an internet radio station to be established for all countries in Africa. Young scientists have been recruited as reporters and the equipment has been used in several interviews, which were made

available through YouTube and Facebook. Support from the African Federation of Clinical Chemistry and other partners is required to deliver the final component of the project – regular radio broadcasts across Africa.

Ongoing Projects:

Proficiency of malaria microscopists in Ethiopia:

The Ethiopian Public Health Institute has an ambitious programme to eliminate malaria from areas of the country. The proficiency of the microscopists who make the diagnosis requires improvement if this is to be achieved. The FEN provided an award for partnership working with EPHI to develop training support for microscopists. A survey of the competence, training status and further requirements of microscopists has been completed and is being prepared for publication

Fundraising and Finances:

The greatest challenge faced by the FEN during 2018 was raising funds to support the ongoing work of the Foundation. During the year it was thought that the FEN may have to close because of a lack of funds. The FEN Board agreed that it should focus on its 'Support a Professional' programme. Funds to support this programme were obtained from SNIBE Diagnostics and the scholarship has been advertised in Pakistan in collaboration with the Pakistan Society of Chemical Pathologists.

Audited accounts for the year to 31st December 2018 are in preparation and will be available on request. In summary:

Income:

Starting balance at 1 January 2018	10488 CHF
Funds added during year	8884 CHF
Total	19372 CHF

Expenditure:

Operating costs	5122 CHF
Project support	2415 CHF
Total	7537 CHF

Closing balance at 31 December 2018 11835 CHF

Acknowledgement:

The FEN acknowledges expert administrative support from Ms Paola Bramati of IFCC.