

Narrative Report Arab-West Foundation 2017

Board members in 2017:

Koen Vliegthart (chair)

Dick van der Steen (secretary)

Celeste Voogel (treasury)

Advisors to the board in 2017

Cornelis Hulsman

Eildert Mulder (appointed in board meeting March 26, 2015)

The Stichting AWF supports the work of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue and Translation (CIDT), and Center for Arab-West Understanding (CAWU) in Egypt. Board members and advisors provided advice concerning work and management of CIDT in Egypt. The work of CIDT and CAWU has been described in separate narrative reports. The Stichting is concerned about the meagre pension savings for Sawsan Gabra Ayoub Khalil and Cornelis Hulsman as well as their debts to Egyptian tax authorities and makes efforts to address these and build up some reservations.

1. Board advisors

1.1. Work board advisor Eildert Mulder

Feedback on text Janneke Stegeman on Muslim-Christian relations. Visit with Cornelis (Kees) Hulsman to Texel Salt Farm on August 30, 2017. This was related to the Siwa project that in turn is related to the Hulsmans trying to find a solution for their very small pension savings. Eildert Mulder also met with Kees during several visits in 2017 to the Netherlands.

1.2. Renewal of residence permit of Cornelis Hulsman in Egypt

The annual report for 2016 mention that the Egyptian Press Center had not renewed the annual residence permit of Cornelis Hulsman. Sawsan traveled between February 5 and March 4 to Egypt to apply for a residence permit based on Cornelis being married to an Egyptian woman. It turned out that the Egyptian marriage in 1988 was never properly registered. This first had to be completed before the request for a new residence permit could be made. A three year residence permit was finally obtained in August 2017.

2. Al-Sawt al-Hur (ASAH)

ASAH was founded by Jan Keulen and Petrus Schothorst as media monitor organization in Egypt. It was agreed that ASAH and CIDT in Egypt would cooperate together since there were lots of similarities between both organizations. As part of this agreement it was agreed in February 2015 that ASAH would be able to store 80.537 Euros on the AWF account for ASAH

activities in Egypt. During 2016 € 34.592 was used for this goal. In 2017 € 30.839 was used so € 15.105 was the balance at the end of 2017.

3. Calendar PKN

The PKN published a 'zendingsverfgoed' calendar for 2018 and made extensive use of the publication of the Stichting Eirene about Coptic and Ethiopian icons. This was work of Cornelis Hulsman before leaving in 1994 for Egypt. This calendar is a recognition for the work of Cornelis Hulsman.

4. Misereor

Misereor decided not to renew funding for CIDT after 1.7.2019. This results in a deficit of 50.000 Euros for the period 1.1.2018 – 31.12.2020. For this reason CIDT was forced to split this three year period into two 1,5 year periods. Until 1.7.2019 including the funding of Misereor and after 1.7.2019 without the funding of Misereor. Making the budget match for the second half is only possible with a 35-40% reduction of the salaries of Adel Rizkallah and Cornelis Hulsman. For this reason all efforts need to be made to reduce the gap for the second half of this period.

5. Fundraising in Christian Reformed Church of Den Haag

AWF received on 24/1/2017 the sum of 978,80 Euro for the work of CIDT in Egypt. On June 23 AWF received 1.117,61 Euros for support to the families of the victims of a terrorist attack on a bus of Coptic pilgrims to the Monastery of St. Samuel in Upper Egypt. Student interns Dina Bouchkouch and Shen Shangyun brought these funds to Bishop Aghathon of Maghagha and visited some of the families.

6. Fundraising Anna Lindh Foundation

The Anna Lindh Foundation approved in 2016 a project of the Center for Arab-West Understanding 18.724 € NGOs always need to receive permission from the Ministry of Social Solidarity in Egypt to receive funds for project. After months of waiting the Ministry rejected the request on September 27, 2017. Egyptian security authorities asked Cornelis Hulsman on the same date to leave the board of the NGO. No explanations were given. The decision is not related to Hulsman's membership of the NGO, neither his residence permit in Egypt.

7. Project with the Data Archiving and Networked Services (DANS)

Prof. Dr. Willem Kuiper, a friend of Arab-West Report, introduced Cornelis Hulsman to DANS to safeguard data for the future. This resulted in the CIDT-DANS database project in 2016. Completion took place on February 1, 2017.

The work with DANS formed the basis for a follow-up project with the Archdiocese of Koeln for the period February 1, 2017 – October 30, 2018, which includes correcting meta data and making our database meet the criteria of University library standards so that they can subscribe to us.

The next stage is fundraising to make the needed IT changes for this purpose in our database and making a start in selling subscription access to our database.

8. Books published at Tectum Academic Publishers

The books 'From Ruling to Opposition' and '2014 Egyptian Constitution' have been published, a major production of student interns in Egypt. These books were presented on March 26, 2018, at Heliopolis University. Speakers included H.E. Amr Moussa, chairman of the Constituent Assembly in 2013 and former head of the Arab League, Helmy Abouleish, head of HU and Cornelis Hulsman, director CIDT. Around 300 students and others attended.

9. Holy Family website

The Holy Family website was made in 2004 and was fully outdated. Chinese intern Shangyun Shen, interning with CAWU between July 5, 2016 and July 10, 2017, made a totally new Holy Family website with WordPress, see www.holyfamilyegypt.com. Many photos of the old website no longer could be used because their resolution was too small for a new website. This helped Shen later to receive a scholarship for cultural preservation of the University of Padova, Italy, KU Leuven, Belgium and Panthéon-Sorbonne University, France.

10. Open Doors

Cornelis Hulsman was asked in December 2015 to audit the work of Open Doors about their Egypt reporting. That resulted in critique on the Open Doors method of work. Cornelis Hulsman corresponded in 2016 and 2017 with Open Doors asking for a response but no responses except that they were busy and have had no time have come.

11. Pension Sawsan Gabra Ayoub Khalil and Cornelis Hulsman

Sawsan and Cornelis moved in 1995 permanently to Egypt and unsubscribed from the Dutch population register. This reduced their costs of living in Egypt but also had as consequence that they created an AOW gap. They had at the time no idea how long they would stay in Egypt. For a short period the consequences would have been acceptable but they stayed longer until 2009 which annually increased their AOW gap. The Sociale Verzekeringsbank (SVB) calculated in March 2016 that if Sawsan stays until her 67th year in The Netherlands she has a gap of 42%.

The gap for Cornelis Hulsman was 30% but was reduced to 28% since the SVB accepted that the one year for Cornelis Hulsman in Israel was in fact a study year. Efforts to reduce the gap for Sawsan through petitions to SVB and asking a court in Den Haag to rule about the differences with the SVB have not resulted in a reduction of the gap for Sawsan.

This is for both below the Dutch subsistence minimum. The AWF board is deeply concerned about the status of their pension and is dedicated to help them to find solutions.

11.1. Siwa Farms

In order to address the AOW-pension gap Sawsan and Cornelis Hulsman bought in 2006/2007 with financial support of Sawsan's brother Raga'i Gabra Ayoub Khalil 220 feddans of desert land in Siwa, Egypt. Efforts to develop the land were cumbersome (see annual report AWF for 2016). In order to explore changes the Desert Research Center was commissioned to research the water and soil conditions on the land. In brief there is a lot of water under the land but this is, depending on depth, brackish or even salt. A substantial part of the soil is shallow. This limits opportunities to a few crops only, including olives and dates. Cornelis Hulsman was responsible for several articles about farming and investing in Siwa, including Boerderij and Maadi Messenger. Dutch intern Jantine Stulp wrote a 100 + page report on best opportunities based on the reports of the DRC. On June 1, Cornelis Hulsman participated in an Egypt meeting of the Netherlands Water Partnership which helped Hulsman in contacting several Dutch companies with expertise that could be of relevance for the project in Siwa. In the same period the SGP party was looking for a policy related project in Egypt and Hulsman suggested 'sustainable water management,' which the SGP accepted. Raga'i and his wife Iman visited Egypt and Siwa in September 2017. In October 2017 Cornelis Hulsman went with farm development experts coming from the side of Raga'i to Siwa. In November 2017 another farm development expert visited the land. Both presented proposals with figures for costs and expected income. On November 15 and 16 Cornelis Hulsman organized an SGP funded conference on sustainable water management in Siwa oasis which brought together a large number of Egyptian, Dutch and other experts. With these various visits and activities Raga'i obtained a lot of data that helped him to make further decisions to develop the land with the ultimate purpose to sell this.

Site visits to Siwa in 2017

Date departure	Date return	Participating	Purpose
January 26	January 28	Moustafa Awad, Kees Hulsman	Water research DRC
February 6	February 9	Moustafa Awad, Kees Hulsman	Soil research DRC
February 23	February 26	Sawsan and Kees	Sawsan
July 2	July 8	Jantine, Fady, Kees	Internship Jantine
July 18	July 20	Jantine, Mokhtar, Kees	Internship and orientation Mokhtar as potential farm manager
August 12	August 14	Jantine, Mokhtar, Kees	Harvest olives

September 20	September 23	Ragaie, Iman, Moustafa Kalaty, Freddy Malak, Sarah, Kees	Ragaie
October 13	October 15	Ramy Jacob, Mr.Mohammed Amin (businessman), Mr. Ahmed Abou Ralsid (businessman), Mr. Sha'aban Nam'amed (agricultural manager) and Cornelis Hulsman	Team Ramy Jacob for farm proposal
November 17	November 20	Jantine Stulp, Evert du Marchie van Voorthuysen, Kees	Orientation research farm, Eng. Khaled Hassanein visits the land with the purpose to write a proposal for development. Dr. Evert du Marchie focussed on solar energy.
December 6	December 9	Jacky Li, Chinese Enterprise Foundation	Exploring Chinese investments

11.2. Pension savings through AWF

AWF is making savings for the pensions of Sawsan and Cornelis Hulsman.

12. Taxes old CIDT (by Adel Rizkallah)

Amounts received till date as follow:

- Fund received on September 2015 from donor businessman and transferred to CIDT for tax purpose 5.000 €
- Funds received between May and July 2016 (kept as buffer at AWF): 12.235 €
 - Everdina Foundation 2200,-
 - Stichting Steun ZWO 1000,-
 - Jurrewitz Fund 7200,-
 - Friends Fam. Hulsman 1835,-
- KIA agreement (paid to AWF bank's account, and kept as buffer) 15.000 €

I. Total funds received for Tax Old CIDT 32.235 €

- A. Amount paid to tax authorities and tax accountant:
- till end of 2017:

- Salary Tax (60.000 EgP) converted to 6.305,70 €
- A. Wanis (accountant) (47.600 EgP) converted to 4.696,34 €
- Corp.Tax fees (2005-2008) (30.475 EgP) converted to 3.420,31 €
- Preparation of documentation by tax accountant (2009-2012) (10.000 EgP) converted to 1.122,33 €
- Corporate Tax 2005-2008 (29.541,60 EgP) converted to 2.095,02 €

Total amount paid till end of 2017 (A) **17.639,70 €**

- B. Amount remaining for payment : (known and confirmed till date: April 10, 2018)
- Additional tax for unpaid salary tax (29.099,35 EgP) converted to 1.385,68 €
 - Main Contract (accountant) (7,500,00 EgP) converted to 357,14 €
 - Cost court case for years (2009-2012) (5.000,00 EgP) converted to 238,10 €
 - Agreement for Corporate tax 2009-2012(149.200,00 EgP) converted to 7.104,76 €

Total amount unpaid and will be fully paid before the end of May 2017 (B) **9.085,70€**

- C. Amount remaining for payment: (known but uncertain date for payment)
- Additional tax for unpaid tax 2005-2008 (27.103,00 EgP) converted to 1.290,72 €

Total amount remaining (known but uncertain date for payment) (C) **1.290,72€**

- D. Unsettled amount remaining for payment: (unknown and uncertain for payment, the figures given here are the maximum that might need to be paid)
- Additional tax for unpaid tax 2009-2012 (91.255,89 EgP) converted to 4.345,52 €

Total amount remain (unknown and uncertain for payment) (C) **4.345,52 €**

Total amount of liabilities [paid & unpaid (A) & (B)] **26.725,40 €**

Total amount of liabilities [uncertain for payment (C) & (D)] **5.636,60 €**

II. Total cost evaluated up to date of April 10, 2018 for Tax Old CIDT file 32.362 €

Balance I - II 32.235 - 32.362 = (-) 127

June 30, 2018