

Chairmans report for Meketa AGM 21.3.2021

It has been a difficult year for all of us. For the Jewish community in Gondar, the initial response to the virus resulted in the shutting down of all public transport and as a result many businesses were forced to close. There have been few cases of COVID, but the conflict in Tigray which erupted at the same time, added to a sense of unease and instability. Most of our beneficiaries were unable to work – and while a rent holiday helped somewhat, there were no social benefits available to members of the community and with no savings there was a real question as to how to survive. Meketa decided that despite our reservations about ‘handouts’ as a means of helping the community develop, this was an emergency that needed an immediate response. Initially we provided masks for the children and soap for families, but soon agreed to provide tef, oil and chickpeas for a limited period. As COVID continued, we extended this project, pausing only on the months when other international charities provided food for the whole community. From December on, we reduced the amount and asked that it be given only to the most needy cases. There is still a little food available to help in the next month or two.

Our major fundraiser, planned for April had to be cancelled as did the Jewish Renaissance tour of Ethiopia that was to take place in November. This meant a major loss of income for us, while the outgoings remained fairly static. Salaries still needed to be paid whether or not there was work to be done. We launched an appeal in April which brought in enough money to provide the first three months of food, and there was a steady flow of donations through the year. We held fund raising zoom quizzes in North London, Maidenhead, Newcastle, and two in the South West of England which proved very successful, reaching the target we had put for these events and bringing in some new donors. We have had a number of donations through the year which has been encouraging, since there has been a fear as to how long our current funds will last.

The Chair attended a Charity Commission series of webinars for international NGOs on running your charity through COVID and was encouraged to discover that many of their recommendations are things we already have in place. A new connection was built this year with the organisation ‘Small but significant.’ The connection will be of great benefit as we can mutually help each other when we return to regular visits to Ethiopia. The Wingate football clubs donated a large amount of spare football kit, which, because of COVID we had great difficulty getting out to them. More kit has been promised for next year.

We spent some of the year looking for someone to establish an American branch of Meketa to enable US citizens to donate easily and receive tax relief. This has been progressing slowly, with no full outcome as yet. More successful was the launch of our new website. One positive outcome this year was the establishment of a monthly zoom meeting between our senior workers and the trustees. It is good to get

direct, first-hand information for us, and it is hoped that it was a bit of a morale booster for them.

COVID has not had the devastating effect in Ethiopia it has had here in terms of lives lost, but the cost to livelihood has been enormous and will continue to have its effect. We will have many challenges still, in the year ahead.

Sybil A. Romain 21.3.21

Charity Registration No.
1169130

MEKETA
(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

MEKETA
Report and financial statements
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MEKETA
Charity Information

Trustees

Sybil Romain
John David Reeve
Paul Kennet
Hila Bram
Avi Bram
Michael Romain

Independent Examiner

Heinemann & Co
4 Littleworth Road
Benson
Wallingford
OX10 6LY

Principal address

10 Camley Park Drive
Maidenhead
SL6 6QF

Charity number

1169130

MEKETA

Registered number: 1169130 Trustees' report

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Principal activities

The trust's principal activity during the year was the support of Zera Yisrael, (Ethiopians of Jewish descent) living in Gondar, Ethiopia.

Trustees

The following persons served as trustees during the year:

Sybil Romain John David Reeve Paul Kennet
Hila Bram
Avi Bram
Michael Romain

Trustees' responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of the resources of the charity for that period. Under that law the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the net income of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- • select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- • observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- • make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- • state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- • prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 21.3.21 and signed on its behalf by

Trustee



MEKETA
Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of MEKETA

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements which give a true and fair view.

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity financial statements as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

the financial statements do not accord with the accounting records

the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and the charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulation 2015.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Volker Heinemann
Heinemann & Co
Chartered Accountants - Registered Auditors

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MEKETA
Statement of Financial Activities
including Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2020

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from charitable activities	44,491	6,862	51,353	30,616
Resources expended				
Direct charitable expenditure	-	-	-	(1,549)
Gross income	44,491	6,862	51,353	29,067
Activities to deliver charitable objectives	(50,415)	(6,132)	(56,547)	(41,518)
Net income for the period	(5,924)	730	(5,194)	(12,451)
Total net funds received	(5,924)	730	(5,194)	(12,451)
Fund balance at 1 January 2020	14,294	12,467	26,761	39,212
Fund balance at 31 December 2020	8,370	13,197	21,567	26,761

MEKETA

Registered number: 1169130

Balance Sheet

as at 31 December 2020

		2020 £	2019 £
Current assets			
Debtors	2	60	60
Cash at bank and in hand		21,777	26,971
		<u>21,837</u>	<u>27,031</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
	3	(270)	(270)
Net current assets		<u>21,567</u>	<u>26,761</u>
Net assets		<u>21,567</u>	<u>26,761</u>
Reserves			
Unrestricted funds			
Transfer from unincorporated non-charity activities	4	10,462	10,462
General unrestricted funds		(2,092)	3,832
Restricted funds	5	13,197	12,467
Total funds		<u>21,567</u>	<u>26,761</u>

Approved by the board of trustees on 21.3.21

Trustee



MEKETA
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with FRS 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (as applied to small entities by section 1A of the standard) and in accordance with the Statement of recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" 2015 and the Charities Act 2011.

Incoming resources

Incoming resources are recognised in the period in which the charity is entitled to the receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor or funder has specified that the income is to be used in a future accounting period. Grant income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Resources expended

This relates to the costs of carrying out the activities of the charity. Where there are costs common to both direct charitable and management expenditure judgement is applied on a time allocation basis.

Accumulated funds

Unrestricted funds represent funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees for the furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held for the purpose of meeting the administration and operational costs of the charity.

Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is not liable to income tax on income derived from its charitable activities, as it falls within the various exemptions to registered charities.

Provisions

Provisions (ie liabilities of uncertain timing or amount) are recognised when there is an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event, it is probable that economic benefit will be transferred to settle the obligation and the amount of the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recognised at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. At the end of each reporting period foreign currency monetary items are translated at the closing rate of exchange. Non-monetary items that are measured at historical cost are translated at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. All differences are charged to financial activities.

MEKETA
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020

2 Debtors	2020	2019
	£	£
Other debtors - local expenses float	60	60
	<hr/>	<hr/>
3 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2020	2019
	£	£
Accrued expenditure	270	270
	<hr/>	<hr/>
4 Transferred funds from unincorporated non-charity activities	2020	2019
	£	£
General unrestricted fund	9,921	9,921
Destitute fund	151	151
Book fund	90	90
Roof fund	300	300
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,462	10,462
	<hr/>	<hr/>
5 Restricted funds	2020	2019
	£	£
Adult training fund	6,114	6,114
Child sponsor	6,307	5,753
Restricted donations	600	600
Covid food fund	176	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,197	12,467
	<hr/>	<hr/>

5 Other information

MEKETA is an organisation governed by a trust deed dated 24 June 2014.

MEKETA has been set up and registered as a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) on 9 September 2016 with the registration number 1169130 with the Charities Commission. On 9 September 2016 all assets of the formerly unincorporated organisation were transferred to reserves to the CIO.

Shutafut

Shutafut is a local Ethiopian charity that was set up to take into account the local charity rules.

MEKETA**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities****for the year ended 31 December 2020***This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts*

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources	44,491	6,862	51,353	30,616
Direct charitable expenditure	-	-	-	(1,549)
			-	
Gross income	44,491	6,862	51,353	29,067
Activities to deliver charitable objectives	(50,415)	(6,132)	(56,547)	(41,518)
			-	
Net income for the period	(5,924)	730	(5,194)	(12,451)
Total net funds received	(5,924)	730	(5,194)	(12,451)

MEKETA**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2020***This schedule does not form part of the statutory financial statements*

	2020 £	2019 £
Incoming resources		
Merchandise	2,977	8,834
Donations	41,514	17,264
Donations (restricted)	-	600
Child sponsor (restricted)	4,947	3,918
	<u>51,353</u>	<u>30,616</u>
Direct charitable expenditure		
Purchases	-	1,549
Charitable expenditure		
Administrative expenditure:		
Ambanesh salary	-	2,124
Getch salary	-	1,455
Salaries	17,453	9,307
School club/Training	-	9,106
Covid food parcels	21,614	-
Covid soap handout	488	-
Sewing course	-	454
Sewing machines	-	1,302
Medicines	-	2
Shutafut	848	15
Merchandise	957	2,070
Compound mediator	-	134
Sponsor (restricted)	4,393	3,665
Malting project	-	369
Football team	-	455
Club trips	2,319	1,182
School club	1,476	-
Club bread/bananas	1,642	-
Ambanesh expenses	-	118
Teachers expenses	96	404
Stalls	-	49
Milk	345	-
Face masks	139	-
Travel and subsistence	500	684
	<u>52,270</u>	<u>32,895</u>

MEKETA**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities****for the year ended 31 December 2020***This schedule does not form part of the statutory financial statements*

	2020	2019
	£	£
Premises costs:		
Rent	3,048	6,134
Building expenses	222	-
Buildings capital	-	125
	<u>3,270</u>	<u>6,259</u>
The water bills were included in the rent charges, buildings capital charges relate to improvements to the classroom facilities.		
General administrative expenses:		
Postage	51	-
Stationery and printing	621	-
Medicines	65	-
Loans	-	1,619
	<u>737</u>	<u>1,619</u>
Legal and professional costs:		
Accountancy fees	270	270
	<u>270</u>	<u>270</u>
Legal and professional costs:		
Legal expenditure	-	475
	<u>-</u>	<u>475</u>
Total activities to deliver charitable objectives	<u>56,547</u>	<u>41,518</u>

MEKETA

Registered number: 1169130 Trustees' report

The trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Principal activities

The trust's principal activity during the year was the support of Zera Yisrael, (Ethiopians of Jewish descent) living in Gondar, Ethiopia.

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MEKETA
Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of MEKETA

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Volker Heinemann
Heinemann & Co
Chartered Accountants - Registered Auditors

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