

Update on the planned Hamburg - Dar es Salaam 2013 Town Twinning Week (including a Conference)

For several months, a preparatory group from *Arbeit und Leben Hamburg*¹, *Eine Welt Netzwerk Hamburg*², *Freundeskreis Dar es Salaam – Hamburg*³ and *Kawaida*⁴ has been engaged in the organization of the Hamburg – Dar es Salaam Town Twinning Week and Conference. This had originally been scheduled for the Town Twinning Week from 18th to 27th October 2013 and for the Conference from the 21st to 23rd October 2013.

The preparatory group has now come to the conclusion that **this schedule cannot be sustained** due to the following reasons:

- The participation of different stakeholders in Dar es Salaam has so far not been ascertained, while this is in our opinion an essential prerequisite for a successful conference. This was confirmed during a meeting between Eng. Mussa B. Natty (acting Director of DSM City Council) and the Network of Hamburg partnership stakeholders in October 2012.
- The time for the preparation has proved to be far too short - both to establish a dialogue with the partners from Dar es Salaam, as well as to mobilise a viable financing arrangement.
- The Hamburg preparatory group with four participating organizations is relatively small. In the meantime one of these organizations even had to leave the group due to personal reasons of its representative.
- The Conference was intended to be part of the Town Twinning Week, which aims to create a greater awareness about the DSM - Hamburg Twinning among the general public in Hamburg. An important element of the Town Twinning Week was to be a theater project by youths from Dar es Salaam and Hamburg. This project appears presently highly questionable due to lack of funding.

Despite all this, the preparatory group sees it as an urgent necessity to initiate a joint process in which stakeholders from Hamburg and Dar es Salaam can shape the content and structure of their Town Twinning through mutual consultations. Hence a different approach has now been developed, which is to be discussed with representatives from Dar Salaam:

- Both an expansion of the Hamburg preparatory group and a networking of relevant partners in Dar es Salaam will be actively pursued. Hamburg groups, their partners and other stakeholders such as the German-Tanzanian Society will be directly contacted.
- Representatives of the Hamburg preparatory group will travel to Dar es Salaam at the beginning of 2013 to meet there with interested stakeholders. In a workshop the objectives and the content of a possible conference shall be discussed; the Hamburg preparatory group will present its preliminary concepts.

¹ Work and Life Hamburg <http://www.hamburg.arbeitundleben.de/index.php?id=1&lang=en>

² One World Network Hamburg <http://www.ewnw-hamburg.de/ewnw-english>

³ Friends of Dar es Salaam – Hamburg <http://freundeskreis-dar-es-salaam-hamburg.de/>

⁴ KAWAIDA - Social Service in Africa <http://www.kawaida.de/?id=43>

- Based on the results of the workshop, both sides will begin the acquisition of funds in summer 2013.
- In autumn 2013 representatives from the Dar es Salaam preparatory group will be invited to a Conference of the *Servicestelle Kommunen in der Einen Welt*⁵ to be held in Hamburg. On this occasion, the joint planning exercise is to be continued.
- A joint conference is to take place in early summer 2014.

The preparatory group thanks all participants for the support that has so far been forthcoming. We hope that all of you hold on to it and that we shall thus jointly succeed to make something very special out of Hamburg's twinning arrangement with Dar es Salaam

Hamburg, 12th November 2012

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⁵ Service Agency Communities in One World <http://www.service-eine-welt.de/en/home/index.html>