

## ROBERTO BAZZONI ONLUS (UK)

c/o Pioneer Investments  
1 George's Quay Plaza  
George's Quay  
Dublin 2



June 7th, 2007

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you to celebrate our charity's sixth Annual Golf Day.

This year I am extremely pleased to welcome some good friends who have offered to be our sponsors for this year's events, and I thank them whole heartedly. Together with Pioneer, we have ABN Amro, Citi, Deutsche Bank, HSBC, Lehman Brothers, Societe Generale and UBS. An impressive list of big names!

### Activities

This past year's activities have been mostly focussed on Zimbabwe, which continues to be our most urgent and complex project. One year ago, when I spoke to you about this project, we were treating in excess of 1200 patients affected by AIDS. Now this number stands at 1396, 907 of them mothers and our aim for 2007 is to reach at least 1500 patients.

### Situation of the country

The number of atrocities being committed against the Zimbabwean people by their own Government and Police force is now countless, and reports from UN agencies as well as from Human Rights Watch describe, amidst the indifference of the so called "International Community", the tragedy unfolding on a day-to-day basis with no end in sight. A vast human cull is under way in Zimbabwe and the great majority of deaths are a direct result of deliberate government policies. The aim is: Bash the opposition!

It is a genocide perhaps 10 times greater than Darfur's and more than twice as large as Rwanda's. There are some 2 to 3 million people "missing". A staggering 42,000 women died in childbirth last year, for example, compared with fewer than 1,000 in 1996.

The women suffer the most. At a certain point the men just walk away but the women are left with their children, watching them starve. They used to have universal schooling but 50% of the children are now out of school because the parents cannot afford even the smallest fees.

### Our projects

The vast majority of our patients have been affected by these ongoing attacks on human rights. But, thanks to you and your support we were able to respond to this emergency and have been doing our best to provide holistic support to our patients providing not only medicines but food, blankets, , sourcing fuel from abroad to keep our projects running and now planning a system of solar panels in the Luisa Guidotti Hospital in order to let them function even if power supply is more and more erratic.

In this bleak picture, we continued to hold "professional courses" for our mothers in the Capital Harare, diversifying them with the help of professional teachers from Italy. We have now found a way to give these mothers a kind of remuneration for the work done, while we try to sell the articles produced in Italy.

The income generated by the sales will be passed on to the mothers who produced the handcrafts, in order to help them paying for the school fees of their children.

This is a very important and tangible result. The Centre in Harare is now assisting over 300 patients, 251 of whom are mothers.

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Conclusion

We saw many harsh realities in Zimbabwe. However, we also saw the many positive results of our projects there. We saw the seeds of hope and the desperate quest for a normal life. We now have to persist with what we are doing, and help these people to wait, in good shape, for when normality will be back again in their country.

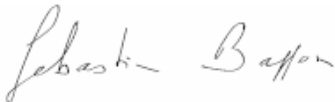
I remember an old proverb, which proves right in this case:

It is better to light a candle than to curse darkness.

So, let's our actions be the small candle in the darkness, waiting for better times which cannot fail to come.

All this was made possible by you, who have been side by side with us for so many years.

I hope that our Charity continues to enjoy your support, and express to you all my sincere thanks for being here tonight.



Sebastiano Bazzoni  
Chairman  
Roberto Bazzoni Onlus