



SOUTIEN POUR L'ENFANCE EN SOUFFRANCE
5 rue Jules Breton – 75013 PARIS

“ Qui sauve un enfant sauve l'Humanité ” “ Who saves a child, saves humanity ”
“ Quien salva a un niño, salva a la humanidad ”

Guide to the sponsorship of our children

Preamble

Many of those who sponsor our children or who are willing to do so, have asked SPES International for further information about the creation, the day to day management of « La Maison de l'enfance » in Togo and the conditions of the sponsorship of our children.

First of all, we should remember SPES INTERNATIONAL is a formidable challenge.

In a very short time, this fortunate initiative has proved a complete success. All the visitors who have had the opportunity of visiting SPES TOGO have been deeply satisfied and proud of their action.

Around the world, there are lots of well-known charitable organisations but very few can pride themselves in achieving the ideals we advocate: love of humanity, help to the deprived, generosity and fraternity.

The present guide aims at providing clarifications about the meaning of our action and giving some indications to our generous donors, present and to come.

According to the statutes, SPES INTERNATIONAL is a non political, philanthropic organisation, created in conformity with the 1901 Act by a group of men and women willing to express, through a generous and concrete action, their solidarity towards humanity and especially deprived children.

It must be remembered that one of our basic principles is that all of its members are volunteers who work to the success of this wonderful human venture.

Only the Togolese people, who are in charge of the children's daily life locally, receive a monthly salary.

The donors are aware of taking part in a common task and accept to give some of their time and resources to the success of SPES.

That justifies the trust and the help provided by other associations similar to our own and other benefactors.

Second principle:

From the beginning, it has been established that as a rule, the children who are taken care of by S. are not available to adoption. They can only be sponsored. Indeed, SPES objective is to save those deprived children, to feed them, educate them and bring them progressively to adulthood and make them self-sufficient good citizens able to return all the generosity they have received to other children.

As to the selection of the children who can benefit from SPES it must be pointed out they all come from underprivileged and deprived backgrounds and would have died without the help of SPES, which implies a very strict and rigorous selection.

On account of all that, we have thought it was essential to provide SPES benefactors with a guide, so as to guarantee the rights and duties of the children and also to facilitate the expansion of our organisation.

Indeed, most of us are now about to experience something new:

- **Sponsoring a child**

Our commitment

We wish to defend the following values:

- respect for the rights of the child in reference to the international convention of the child adopted by the United Nations General Assembly (20th November 1989).
- respect for our principles of liberty, equality, fraternity.
- respect for the objectives of SPES INTERNATIONAL so as to allow its members to give support to children around the world, in all appropriate ways.

We wish to support the children until they are adult and responsible citizens in their native countries, and respectful of human rights.

Some advice to the sponsors

You sponsor a child individually but you can also sponsor all the children. In that case, the money donated will be distributed by SPES INTERNATIONAL according to the needs.

The relationship child-sponsor is based on exchange and dialogue. It is essential to be committed and understanding you must always bear in mind that the child you are sponsoring belongs to a culture which is different from yours. He has his own customs and his own beliefs.

The fact you sponsor a child requires that you respect certain rules regarding

1. THE CHILD YOU SPONSOR
2. SPES INTERNATIONAL and SPES TOGO
3. THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF YOUR SPONSORSHIP

1 - Relationships with the child you sponsor

1.1 Correspondence

The exchange of letters, cards, drawings and photos is the best way to establish a dialogue with the child.

It is also a gesture of great importance, both from a human and educational point of view. For the child, your letters show your interest in him and will motivate him greatly. They are also a way of having him discover another world and broadening his knowledge. Indeed, the children love receiving news from their sponsors; it makes them feel proud and important. Then, don't forget! The children really look forward to receiving mail, and they will be very disappointed if they don't.

In any case, stay simple, send short letters or postcards.

For you too-as well as for your children-the exchange of letters will be of great interest. You will discover and make them discover a different way of living, of working, another culture.

1.2 Parcels, gifts

The cost of postage, the difficulties of transport, international customs regulations as well as theft account for our restrictions.

Do not send any money, perishable food items, drugs, dangerous objects. The ideal gift is appropriate, light, economical and occasional. They can be healthcare and personal hygiene items, school and educational supplies, clothes, toys, books.

1.3 Visiting the child

If you can afford the trip, we encourage you to pay him a visit.

On that occasion, you will discover the projects in progress as well as our achievements. Such a contact will be very rewarding and will encourage the staff working in our home and the volunteers of SPES TOGO.

1.4 The end of your sponsorship

As a rule, it is over when the child comes of age (18). Yet some events can bring about its end:

- - The child you sponsor is from then on, self-sufficient and does not need your support any more. If you wish to keep supporting a child, we will then introduce you to another child.
- On the other hand, particular circumstances can make it impossible for you to carry on your sponsorship.
- In that case, we ask you to let us know as soon as possible so that we can find another sponsor for « your » child.

2 - RELATIONS WITH SPES

We prefer direct information and dialogue with the sponsors. You can contact us at any time, by regular mail, phone or e mail.

Michelle et Claude VOILEAU
17rue de Toulouse
69300 MEYZIEU
Tel: + 33(0)4.78. 04. 25. 53
Fax: + 33(0)4.72.45.95.55
e-mail: claude.voileau@wanadoo.fr

2. 1 SPES TOGO

The work achieved by the volunteers of SPES TOGO is essential. They are the ones who are directly in contact with the children, the salaried employees of the children's Home, the local authorities, the artisans...

They act in relation to SPES INTERNATIONAL as provided for in the statutes of our organisation and the protocol signed by SPES INTERNATIONAL and SPES TOGO and ratified in annual general assembly.

Your duty as a sponsor is to encourage them in their task by all appropriate means.

This requires further thought on how to achieve this goal i.e. sharing ideas with the team in Togo and engaging in a dialogue on the different educational methods.

So, being a sponsor doesn't only mean supporting a child financially but also exchanging with the children and the adults. It will give the sponsors the opportunity of learning a lot particularly about Togolese culture and more generally about how an African country works. It will also bring the sponsors to reconsider their mode of functioning and learn with our Togolese friends to do the best with what we have.

2.2 SPES INTERNATIONAL

The organisation is called SPES in order to differentiate it from the branch SPES Togo. The latter has regular statutes too but is registered in Lomé /Togo.

The relations between the SPES International team and the sponsors are essential.

The exchanges must be regular both ways; they guarantee the good health of our enterprise.

3 - THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF YOUR SPONSORSHIP

Its efficiency depends on how regular your help is given to the child and the community. The following information will alleviate the formalities and will make our task easier.

When should you give your donations?

At your convenience, but regularly: every month, every 3 months, and every year.

How?

By cheque or by direct transfer, using SPES RIB:

Address of the Bank:

BNP PARIS ST MARCEL, 50 BD SAINT MARCEL, 75005 PARIS, FRANCE

Code of the Bank: 30004

Code of desk: 01533

Account Number: 00010062767 Key 87

International Bank Number (IBAN):

FR76 3000 4015 3300 0100 6276 787

Title: SPES, SOUTIEN POUR L'ENFANCE EN SOUFFRANCE

Practical information and written accounts of our travels.

Every trip SPES members make is followed by a written account and photos are grouped together by them. Then all the sponsors receive information and updated photos of the child they sponsor.

The sponsors charter you are required to sign

I (or we) the undersigned

Commit myself to sponsor the following child:

Until he comes of age and has a job

And to regularly pay the sum of (15 € to 77 € per month):

I also commit myself to having a special relationship with him and sending him regular news and presents.

This commitment may cease at any time when I wish.

Date:

Signature:

Charter

I the undersigned

Commit myself to being the representative and the spokesperson of SPES INTERNATIONAL in my region.

I am willing to help the office to implement their decisions at their request and within the limits of my capabilities.

In order to do so, I will regularly receive information on SPES, as complete as possible. I will be entitled to sell objects from SPES if I wish to do so. I can also organise events to benefit SPES or take part in public meetings in he name of SPES.

I will regularly report to SPES INTERNATIONAL.

Any personal idea or initiative can be implemented after agreement of SPES INTERNATIONAL office.

HOW CAN YOU CONTACT US?

By surfing on the Web site of SPES:

<http://spesworld.free.fr>

By contacting the President: Njördur P. Njardvik

[npjn@vortex.is](mailto:njn@vortex.is)

Flydrugranda 12, A 4

IS – 107 Reykjavik

ICELAND

Tel : + 354 561 23 66

Fax : + 354 561 23 38

Or by contacting the Vice President: Michelle Voileau

claude.voileau@wanadoo.fr

17 rue de Toulouse

69330 MEYZIEU

FRANCE

Tel : + 33 04 78 04 25 53

Mobile : + 33 06 20 59 6

Or by contacting the Treasurer: Claude Voileau

Same address as the Vice President

