

Article from Business & Marketing Issue No 045 Page 6 (2004)

Title: GTZ on a mission to empower single adolescent mothers and fathers

GTZ on a mission to empower single adolescent mothers and fathers

**Supports Association of Aunties and Uncles*

On February 1 2004 at the Kumbo Council Hall, the first executive of a unique organisation, Association of Aunties and Uncles, was elected.

This organisation came into existence following a research carried out by the Reproductive Health Unit of GTZ. The research results indicating an alarming rate of adolescent pregnancies especially with primary school children in the rural areas. this association was therefore set up to help these single adolescent moth-

ers and fathers regain self-esteem and confidence; and to reduce the early and unwanted pregnancies especially in primary schools through advises and testimonies.

Present at the occasion was the representative of GTZ, Ms Evelyne, the Divisional Delegate of Social Affairs, Chelon Emmanuel, the representative of the Divisional Delegate of Education, Mme Bamezan, and the Coordinator of IDE, Mme Dameni Ossematou who actually had the responsibility of moderating the event.

At the end of the elections,

the following persons occupied these respective posts: President(Jumvem Lisette), Vice President(Ruth Maayii), Secretary General(Anyam Gilbert), Vice S.G.(Lukong Ethel), Discipline Master(Emmanuela Bunfagha), Treasurer(Shey Henry), Financial Secretary(Ngah Emmanuel), Auditor(Kemjei Novelle).

Other activities organized on February 2nd and 3rd following the elections were the Conference of Teachers and Capacity Building respectively.

The objectives of the Conference of Teachers was to lay the

foundation of fruitful collaboration between the teachers and the Association of Aunties and Uncles; and highlight the impact of the HIV/AIDS on the educational system. 12 teachers answered present. Two persons living with HIV gave their testimonies.

The Capacity Building had as main objectives to reinforce the communication abilities of aunties and uncles so as to ease interaction with pupils; and to evaluate and update their knowledge on early and unwanted pregnancies, STDs, HIV/AIDS, etc.