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**European Union currency shift:
TIME OF FAST SUPER FUND-RAISER**

Y's money-boxes collected spare foreign coins in Denmark to benefit Time of Fast projects worldwide

January 1, 2002 was the day when 11 European countries were to change their national currency units into the new European currency unit EURO. Consequently, if the various national coins and notes were not spent or exchanged within a limited span of time, they would become worthless.

With this background Danish RSD-TOF Jørgen Lindeløv initiated a joint coin collection action in Denmark where all Danish Y's Men were asked to collect foreign coins for the benefit of the Time of Fast programme. However, beside foreign coins also ancient Danish coins were to be collected by the Y's Men, also to benefit TOF.

In private homes and in firms there was supposed to be a huge amount of spare travel currency in coins and notes. This had the potential to turn into a huge waste of money if these amounts were not collected and in an organized way exchanged. This even in today's world, which houses warfare, starvation and serious diseases.

17 districts and two airports

At the Club Presidents meeting in Fredericia in August 2001 collection-boxes formed as elephants were handed over to all the 17 Danish DGs (District Governors), who were to distribute the boxes to their clubs and to take the "elephants" to their District gatherings to provide information on the coin collection activity and on our TOF programme with the aim of raising considerable funds for underprivileged persons all over the world through TOF.

Two clubs were picked out to collect coins in the airports of Sønderborg and Billund where a large number of passengers are passing by every day on their way home from holiday trips and business trips.

Treasurer Ketty List, Sundeved Y's Men's Club showing the Y's saving-box which at Sønderborg Airport collected a large sum of spare travel currency for Time of Fast projects worldwide



Public relations

This collection had an obvious potential to raise money, and in addition to this to create a considerable amount of promotion of our movement. Thousands and thousands of travellers passing by saw the Y's money-boxes decorated with the Y's Men International logo.

At the same place free pamphlets were available telling the public about the ongoing Y's coin collection action and our 30-year old TOF programme with specific information on which purpose the collected money was to benefit.

To enhance the PR on this activity, the DGs and the club PR Directors were asked to spread the news on the joint coin collection and on the TOF programme to the Local Radios, newspapers etc. Here it was emphasized that the collected money was to benefit underprivileged countries in Asia, Africa and South America.

450 kilograms of coins the first year

The result was very satisfactory. A large amount of coins was collected and the collection was well covered by the press at various locations throughout Denmark. This added up to an extremely large amount of money for TOF and excellent PR for our movement and its purpose and worldwide activities.

RSD-TOF Jørgen Lindeløv received throughout 2001-02 some 450 kilograms of foreign coins plus a considerable number of notes from a huge number of Y's Men's Clubs and DGs from all over Denmark. A fair part of these coins are now sorted and sold.

However, some 225 kilograms of coins are still waiting to be sold. As many of these coins and notes are not going to be worthless, the selling may be done throughout 2002-03. Further quite an amount of old Danish and foreign coins are to be sold through numismatic dealers throughout the present year. Besides this the coin collection activities for TOF are planned to continue.

DKR 390,000 for Time of Fast

A part of the coins and notes were sold to Great Britain through a Danish bank bringing a profit of DKR 34,000. Another part of the coins and notes were sold through a number of Danish banks plus a German and a Norwegian bank. Here the profit added up to some DKR 40,000.

The money boxes in the two Danish airports collected some DKR 7,000. Another quite profitable activity was the "elephant" money-boxes, which were given to the DGs. The profit from these added up to some DKR 27,000 for TOF.

The Y's Men's Clubs have as usual been very generous in contributing to the TOF account and collected in ordinary ways more than DKR 283,000. The total amount paid into our TOF account for 2001-02 thus ended up at some DKR 390,000.

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