

## Press Release No 014- 2020/2021/01

## SOBA America assists SJC Sasse students affected by fire incident

January 10, 2021

Fellow SOBANS,

On January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, a fire broke out in St. Martin's dormitory. Thankfully, no student or staff was hurt by the fire. Unfortunately, seventy (70) students lost all of their belongings in the fire. We feel their pain.

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Board of Directors/National Executive Committee of SOBA America unanimously approved an **aid package of three million five hundred thousand FCFA (3,500,000 FCFA) to assist the students affected by the fire**. These funds will be used to assist the parents to buy essential items needed by the 70 students who lost property. Each student will receive assistance worth 50,000 FCFA. For the safety of the students, SOBA America will take steps to ensure that they get the much needed items without directly receiving cash. We will work with the authorities on the modality of the assistance to ensure safety and secutive while ensuring that the needs are met.

SOBA America President, Dr. Bertrand Fote, in an earlier call to proprietor Bishop Michael Bibi and Principal Father Armstrong Ndi, pledged the support of SOBA America with rebuilding efforts once those are underway. He stressed that the immediate concern now is to assist the students and parents who were affected and need basic items at this difficult time.

SOBA America thanks President Fote and SOBA General President Sammy Pride Iyok for their personal sacrifice by gifting 70 mattresses to the students, along with other SOBANS who assisted in this effort. SOBA America also acknowledges and thanks the 1981 class and other SOBANS who have responded to this tragedy by providing assistance. That is the SOBAN way.

## **SOBANLY**

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