



Report about the Zone4 meeting 2007

2nd – 9th April Luebeck, Germany

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- Wednesday: Country presentations, start of discussion of Zone4 matters
- Thursday: Brainstorming: What do we expect of Zone4 meetings ?
 3 parallel workshops (before lunch):
 - Working together within Zone4
 - Cooperation between national organisation, Zone4, ISC/WSC
 - Subud's presence in the world
 3 parallel workshops (afternoon):
 - Susila Dharma (presentation of SD Germany)
 - Enterprises, working together
 - SICA
- Friday: 3 parallel workshops (before lunch):
 - Helpers and committee, roles and cooperation
 - Zone4 finances and budget
 - The next Zone4 meeting
 Afternoon: Celebration of Good Friday
 - talk reading
 - Latihan
 - St. John Passion of Bach in Marien Cathedral
- Saturday: AGM of Subud Germany all day
 Afternoon plenary of Zone4 delegates: next Zone4 meeting, budget
- Sunday: Celebration of Easter Sunday, family Easter brunch with music and stories etc.
 Plenary (before lunch): Subud International, Osanna and Garrett talk, World Congress 2010 in New Zealand, Thank You celebration in UK coming August
 Plenary (afternoon): Closing meeting
 Loose ends, Zone4 meeting in 2008
 Thank You Medals, made by the children, are awarded to all organisers of the meeting.

3. Kejiwaan

The kejiwaan day is facilitated by the German Kejiwaan Councillors Imke and Markus. The issues of interest for sharing, talking, testing are collected from all participants in small-groups-brainstormings. This leads to workshops with the following themes:

- **Latihan in our daily life^(*)** (help through latihan, Bapak's advice, trust in the guidance, self experience)
- **Helpers work^(*)** (role, working together with the committee, new members, etc.)
- **Testing^(*)** (How do we find the right questions? What can we test? material, spiritual)
- **Group life** (communication, use of latihan hall, activities)
- **Outer and inner aspects of the latihan** (preparation, alone or in a group, dedication, courage, forgiveness)
- **Awareness testing** (inner body testing)

- **The role of the woman^(*)** (mother, job, marriage, partnership, life task, man as spiritual leader, male and female force in us)
- **New in Subud^(*)**
- **Old people in Subud** (respect, old peoples home, their needs and necessities)
- **Peace testing**
- **Living in a community with Subud members**
- **Subud and religions^(*)**

The mark ^(*) indicates that notes have been taken by participants which are attached (Appendix 1).

These workshops, testing, and other kejiwaan programmes (e.g. helpers on duty) still carry on after the kejiwaan day. "Experiencing Bapak" is a continuous programme with talks, films, and seasoned members sharing their experience.

Of particular interest for many is the issue: helpers and committee, roles and cooperation (no notes available).

4. Results of the delegates meetings (draft minutes)

4.1 The delegates meeting starts off with short **country presentations**, focus on relevant issues to be shared / discussed at this meeting. Notes of these presentations are attached (Appendix 2).

4.2 Minutes of 2006

The minutes of the Council meeting 2006 in Hungary are approved.

It is noted that the idea to create a web-based discussion forum has not yet been implemented (Thomas, Robiyan, Anwar). It is again confirmed that discussions should not be conducted on the Zone4 listserver; the listserver's function is to disseminate information.

4.3 Meetings and gatherings

4.3.1 Zone4 meetings

4.3.1a Content and structure of Zone4 meetings

An extensive discussion process results in consensus what we expect of Zone4 meetings, i.e. a combination of gathering and Council business meeting.

Most delegates and non-delegates alike value the gathering with sufficient time for

- Latihan and Testing
- Getting to know people, sharing experiences
- Learning about the realities in the countries
- Exchange and help between countries
- "Old" Subud countries help "young" countries
- Helpers training
- Sharing our cultures

The delegates expect a clearly structured Council meeting with

- Clear distinction between delegates and observers
- Working through the agenda
- Reports
- Discussion of international issues and recommendations

➤ Results, e.g. agreement on the budget

4.3.1b Duration and timing of the Zone4 meeting 2008

It is resolved that the Zone4 meeting in 2008 will last for 6 days (plus arrival and departure days), starting with two kejiwaan days.

The time of the meeting will be moved to late summer / early autumn, i.e. between late August and early October. The Zone Council will be polled as to which exact dates are convenient / not convenient.

It is envisaged to hold the meeting 2009 as well at this time of the year in view of the World Congress taking place in January 2010.

4.3.1c Place of the Zone4 meeting 2008

No country has offered to host the next Zone4 meeting.

Therefore the possibility is discussed to organise the Zone meeting at a seaside resort at the Baltic or Mediterranean sea off season. Local Subud people might help to find a suitable place but would not be expected to host/organise the meeting.

Three potential countries come to mind and are tested: Lithuania, Croatia, Cyprus. Of these three only Cyprus feels positive, however it felt more like a holiday gathering than a council meeting.

Stephan Solat asks Subud Ukraine by SMS whether they would invite the Zone4 meeting next year to Ukraine. Chairlady Vera answers: "We are delighted."

We take this for an invitation, with no further information, assuming that satisfactory practical arrangements will be possible.

Ukraine is tested as host country for the Zone4 meeting 2008. The receiving is positive, however it indicates that Ukraine will need support.

Result: It is resolved to ask Subud Ukraine to host the Zone4 meeting 2008 for a duration of 6 days.

4.3.1d Budget of Zone4 meetings

Zone4 usually succeeds to find reasonable facilities at low cost. The Luebeck meeting has been exemplary in this respect, the registration fee has been lower than usual (EUR 70 instead of 100).

Still, there was some criticism (too expensive). The suggestion was made not to include the support of delegates who need such support in the budget, rather to do special fundraisings for this purpose. This motion did not find wide support.

Therefore Zone4 policy remains:

Support for delegates (if necessary): Travel expenses are covered by the Zone4 budget, board and lodging are part of the meeting's budget.

Support for non-delegates depends on fundraising and is not part of the general budget.

There is one change to the Zone4 policy:

It is resolved that international helpers and other international Subud "officials" will be free of the registration fee (but pay for board and lodging). These expenses will become part of the Zone4 budget in future. For 2007 a refund will be offered provided the Luebeck accounts close with a surplus.

4.3.2 Other meetings

4.3.2a Kejiwaan gatherings

Hustein reminds us of a recommendation to hold annual kejiwaan meetings (national or international). For the time being there is no intention to organise a Zone4 kejiwaan

meeting, separate from the annual Zone4 meeting. However there are already regular kejiwaan meetings (e.g. Oslo, Munich) where participants come from neighbouring countries. The experience shows that members appreciate such gatherings, and other groups / countries are encouraged to organise such events as well. It is suggested to share dates of kejiwaan gatherings and of national congresses within the Zone.

4.3.2b Meetings of national helpers

Subud Ukraine's proposal to organise meetings of national helpers in Zone4 on a regular basis in a location with no visa problems is discussed, resulting in two suggestions: Both, helpers and committee, should be invited, including IHs and officers of the international organisation.

Ukraine is welcome to take the initiative and to start by inviting for such a meeting. (This was discussed before the last-minute invitation for the Zone4 meeting.)

4.4 Zone4 Council and Zone4 team

4.4.1 Zone4 Council

The meeting did not tackle the questions concerning the Zone4 Council, e.g. who is a delegate, role/function of delegates, distinction between helper and committee delegates. We will try to discuss and clarify this via the internet.

4.4.2 Zone4 team

Marini was introduced to the Council as secretary on the Zone4 team. With Anwar as Valentin's deputy and at the same time treasurer, and Valentin as Zone4 Rep., we are three on the Zone4 team at present. All work is honorary / unpaid (as usual in Subud). After extended discussions the Council confirms that a team is necessary and that we try to find one more team member (if possible a woman). Her function / focus will be: Networking / providing support with regard to members' activities, Wings etc.

4.5 Information processing, internet, Zonal web sites

Several issues are raised which need follow up:

4.5.1 Protection of personal data, of talks etc.:

It is noted that talks and other Subud information can be found on the internet and the question is asked whether this is okay or whether we should pay more attention what we need to protect and what really is intended to be available for the general public. The same applies to personal data of "national contacts" which are published in Subud World News; this should not be done without specifically asking the "contacts" for approval because it may be unwanted, in some countries it may even be dangerous.

4.5.2 Coordinated approach for data collection and storage

Contact data, country and group information and reports etc. are presently collected, stored, and updated on several levels (e.g. Zone, ISC). It is suggested to concentrate most of this in a data base in one place only, with password protected access for national, zonal, and international teams.

4.5.3 Zonal web sites linked to SWN

There is a proposal from Zone3 to create zonal pages on Subud World News for specific zonal news and reports. This would partly replace the use of the Zone4 listserver and thus would reduce the email flood. And more readers would have access.

It is resolved that Zone4 will pursue this project and implement it if possible. This depends on several details which still need clarification (e.g. costs, what can be published and what not, password protection for Subud internal reports/data ?)

4.6 Cross border support

4.6.1 Helpers:

The "helpers without borders" programme has started and is coordinated by the international helpers. Information about this programme was distributed via the Zone4 listserver. Main purpose of this programme: Experienced helpers to stay in a country or group that needs support for an extended period of time.

Within Zone4 helpers pay also short visits to support neighbouring countries or groups, and Zone4 encourages such cross border support.

Issues of coordination, communication, and finance are discussed with the following results:

The coordination requires a close cooperation between the international helpers (kejiwaan aspects) and the Zone4 team (e.g. finance).

The communication must include relevant helpers (local / national helpers, kejiwaan councillors) of both countries involved, plus the IHs and Zone4 team. Email communication should be copied accordingly.

The Zone Council resolves that financing cross border helper support will be coordinated by the Zone4 team and funding will be made available via the Zone4 budget.

(Notes of caution: 1. How much Zone4 can make available depends on how much the countries contribute. 2. There is no budget yet for the new programme "helpers without borders", it will mostly depend on special fundraising.)

4.6.2 Committee:

Several countries point out that help is needed as well on the committee side (e.g. how to build up a national organisation, advice on bylaws, cooperation between national organisation and groups). The meeting does not produce an answer for these requests. However it is obvious that we need to find a better balance between the kejiwaan and the organisation.

4.7 Finance, budget

4.7.1 The Zone4 accounts of 2006 are approved, including the payment to WSA of EUR 19,000 in 2006 (EUR 5,000 above budget).

4.7.2 The draft budget of 2007 (circulated via Zone4 listserver) is approved with the following amendments:

4.7.2a Contribution to WSA: Increase by 1,000 to 14,000 EUR

4.7.2b Cross Country Support: Increase from 1,000 to 3,000 EUR

This budget item is available for any country of Zone4. If it is not fully used in 2007 the balance will be carried forward to 2008 earmarked.

It is resolved that Zone4 can use this budget item as well for IHs travel in Zone4 in case the IHs run out of money.

4.7.2c These two increases of total EUR 3,000 can be financed in 2007 within the existing budget since nothing was spent on subsidies for delegates' travel to the Zone4 meeting in Luebeck (3,000 EUR not used).

4.7.2d Support of youth activities: This small budget item (EUR 600) hasn't been used since 2004. Still, Zone4 considers support for youth / young people in Subud very important and wants this reflected in the budget. However this budget item may also be

used for activities of other wings or in general for Subud members' activities. With this understanding the title of this item will be changed to "Support of Wings activities".

4.7.3 The practice / tradition in Zone4 is confirmed: Zone4 countries pay their international contributions to Zone4. The payment to WSA is (the major) part of the Zone4 budget.

5. Miscellaneous

5.1 Various workshops

Notes of the workshop "Subud's **presence in the world**" are enclosed (Appendix 3).

The wing workshops were mostly about basics and sharing of information and experiences:

- **SD** Germany gave a presentation of their long tradition of SD work and project partnerships. An English language Power Point presentation is available on CD and can be obtained by writing to buero@susiladharmade
- **SICA** is still struggling with basic questions of the organisational setup. The workshop talked in particular about the great potential in the area of films.
- The **enterprise** workshop shared information about existing enterprises and discussed the Why and How of enterprises and working together in Subud. An interest exists to network and to get contacts and information via something like an enterprise service and/or publication. SES (Subud Enterprise Services), chaired by Sachlan Fraval, doesn't provide such service at present.

A Scottish–Norwegian Subud enterprise meeting will take place in Oslo mid April 2007; Hustin is asked to communicate the results of this meeting.

The workshop **Living community in Subud** was foremost a presentation and sharing of 10 years experience of several members of the community Niederhof near Lilienfeld, Austria. A school is part of the project, practising a concept close to Rebeca and Mauricio Wild. For more information (German language): www.niederhof.org

5.2 The list of participants was distributed at the meeting. We are glad to send it upon request (to zone4@subud.org).

Appendix 1:

KEJIWAAN WORKSHOPS

Notes taken by participants

Workshop: Latihan in our daily life

All participants express their request at the introduction:

Problems with the transfer of the latihan in our daily life

- The **trust** in the inner guidance is weak and must be developed
- It takes **courage** to develop trust
- Through the latihan has developed trust into stomach feeling

- Development of the fine aeriels and courage to trust them

Problems with testing

- Testing for other people (children) is problematic
- Testing is not always necessary
- I try to give my best, then I trust the guidance of God

Support to transfer the latihan in the daily life

- Advice from talks
- Silent breaks in our daily life
- To be silent before you make a decision
- Try to remember the feeling, that the Big is in me, that I am connected with the big reality
- The spiritual way is allowed to be easy
- Discipline (in the morning be quiet before the day begins)

Workshop: Helpers work

The following issues have been discussed:

- How can the helpers work be improved?
- How do we handle a conversation with candidates?
- Often young helpers are not prepared for the work as a helper.
- The proposal to organise a big helpers meeting comes up again and again. At this meeting helpers could exchange their experiences. A kind of “helper training”.
- Talks with candidates: What is important? Is the three months waiting period necessary, or not?

Subject – Committee and Helper:

- On which force is the work of the committee and the helpers based?
- Is there, in general, a separation between helpers and committee?

Workshop: Testing

The group was relatively small, 4 ladies with mixed “Subud age”. First we wanted to take part in the “larger” workshops, but we found ourselves in an interesting and enriching conversation.

We discussed the following matters:

- Testing – which kind of questions is it possible to ask, and what questions should not be asked?
- What is “Testing”? It is not a test. The term can irritate young Subud members.
- All talked about their testing experiences.
- How to formulate a question?
Talking before testing to formulate a question as exactly as possible. Sometimes little words can make a big difference. Like: Could or should or must? The clearness of the receiving depends on these words.
- What should be avoided?

Plain or clear YES/NO questions or “oracle questions” (predicting the future). It is better to formulate open questions, to find out the inner attitude – how it is or how it could be.

- Better not to test if we are not open (prepared to accept), if someone is not ready or able to follow the result.
- Do I have to speak about the result or about the experience? NO.
If you do not have the feeling to communicate your experience in a larger group, you don't have to.
- It is no problem if you don't want to test with “any” helper. You can choose a helper with whom you feel empathy and trust.
- Is it “testing” if I ask in my everyday life for myself, if something is right or not? If I am going to do / not to do something / to say something....?
May be that is simply to bring the “Latihan into everyday life”?!

Workshop: Role of the woman

Discussion of 8 participants (some married, some single, but all living in a relationship)

After our questions and difficulties with being a woman we came to the following questions:

- What is the quality of being female (universe)?
- What is the quality of being masculine?
- How does the feminine power affect me presently?
- How could it be felt, if the power would work in me under God's guidance?
- How does the masculine power affect me at present?
- How could it affect me under God's guidance?
- How do I feel if my masculine and my feminine side are in harmony?
- What can help me in a situation, when I feel that both sides are not in harmony?
- How do I communicate with men, if my forces are not in harmony?

Workshop: New in Subud

From amongst the “new” Subud members 3 women and 2 men participated, joined by 3 “older” members.

Everyone introduced him/herself personally. New members were asked how they are or feel in Subud and especially at this meeting.

The replies were all positive, without exception.

- General state of being
- Everyone feels accepted in a very open way
- It seems especially important for all of us, that no pressure is made in any way, and no advice is given unasked.
- The self responsibility and to find your own personal way was emphasized
- Helpers offered their help if questions arise
- Lienhard asked if there was a wish that he should give a personal experience report, which was well presented.

Workshop: Subud and Religions

This workshop was a discussion circle of about 15 brothers and sisters who related their experiences of how Subud has changed their involvement with religion. Most participants practice their religion to some extent, finding that after rebelling against ritual and belief, many years of latihan deepened their need for some sort of formal prayer.

An adherent of the Jewish faith said that her family had been very secular and through the latihan they stopped eating pork and found "prayers of awareness" with songs and movements in the early stories of the Hasidu movement in the 18th century.

A Muslim spoke of Ali, son in law of Prophet Mohammed, teaching that God is like a city with roads approaching from all directions. While prayer may be compared to a river and the words of the prayers to the riverbanks, it is also true that verses of the sacred texts may have great spiritual power.

Through the latihan we may come to realize that within us is the basis and meaning of all the religions, so that sometimes we experience religions other than our own. Since the latihan has no form it may be compared to water held in different containers of various shapes and sizes. Following a religion may fulfil a need for ceremony, structure and the regularity of observance may open up God's presence.

Some churches may sympathise with Subud and others may be critical. However church people may genuinely treat each other as brothers and sisters and being in their company may be a positive experience of believers doing good in the world. What counts in religion is sharing rather than discussion.

The discussion closed with comments on the value of reading Bapak's talks, which most, but not all those present, felt to be valuable in making us more attentive, aware and normal.

Appendix 2:

Country Presentations

Quite a number of countries have sent country reports which have been distributed via the Zone4 listserver. Those countries are marked by *). Reference to these reports has been made repeatedly, but is not recorded here.

Austria*): Amalia Konrad – new Chairlady of Subud Austria, and Stefan and Levana (Councillors Kejiwaan) and Robert Winter (Vice Chair) take part in this Zone meeting.

- We are working on the Membership Directory. From 186 Subud practitioners, now around 100 have become members of the Association. 34% pay regular contributions.
- Finance situation is difficult.
- Subud Austria has submitted a list with inputs for the Zone meeting which was distributed via the listserver. Most points of these proposals are discussed extensively during the meeting.

Norway*): Hustein Lorentzen - Chairman

- Change in the bylaws: when it comes to decisions concerning selling, purchasing or mortgaging on real estate belonging to Subud Norway, only members who have paid the recommended contribution to Subud Norway during the last three years are authorised to vote.

Suggested issues to be discussed:

- Organisation of and financing cross border (helpers) travel

- Coordinated approach for collecting, safe keeping, and use of data within Subud International

Switzerland: Héléana Syfrieg – Chairlady
and Karin Rhomberg, Kejiwaan Councillor, are attending.

- There are about 60 members.
- St. Gallen is the most active group
- Small committee – Elisa (CC), Sebastian (Treasurer), Héléana. Just able to do basic administration work. No energy for international affairs.
- Request for a workshop at this meeting: Cooperation of helpers and committee.

Israel*): Udi Lyon – Chairman

- 180 active members
- 4 groups
- 1 Subud house in Tel Aviv, offices are rented by members = most active group
- Many young members,
- Helpers: 30 lady helpers, 10 men helpers – lot of testing going on
- Wings don't function so well,
- Thank you to the IHS Farah and Andrew who visited Subud Israel

Lithuania*): Sergej Jashin - Vice Chairman

- Small country, small group
- 50 opened members – only 15 active, only a few young Subud members.
- Organisation not too difficult, 3 members in the committee, enough helpers
- Problem: number of opened members and non-active members
- No Wing activities

Letland: Tatjana Liachenko

- Group is like migratory birds, members come and go. At present 1 man, 16 women.
- Members invite each other to their homes for Latihan.

Russia: Zarema Saidova

- There are 4 cities with Subud – Moscow group is the largest
- Two committees in Russia: the national committee and the Moscow committee
- Helpers:
 - Lady helpers: 5 + 1 candidate
 - Men helpers: 3 + 1 candidate + 1 national helper
- 108 have been opened in Russia
- More than 60 members are active
- Committee and helpers do regular Latihan together
- Every 1st Saturday in the month there is a Latihan for all Russian speaking countries
- The quality of the Latihan:
 - Men: general level is good – receive well
 - Ladies: receive well – some are noisy, helpers do Latihan with member.
- Moscow group would like to find new premises and is
- Looking for a new committee
- The number of young members is growing
- No finance problems
- Everything looks really good.

Poland: Maksymilian Wroblewski – Chairman

- In autumn the national meeting took place. The IHs Lora and Saroni as well as Valentin were present.
- 3 Committee members: Chair – Treasurer – Committee Councillor
- Subud in 4 cities
- Only a few members do regular Latihan, ladies in Olsztyn do Latihan once a week, in other places there are occasional Latihans
- 1 National Helper – Hermes – tries to keep the members active, tries to strengthen their motivation
- 4 men helpers and 2 lady helpers
- 3 members moved to UK – family Novosz

Hungary*): Elina Ungvary – Chairlady

- It has been a busy year, after organising the last Zone meeting. But it was fun.
- Good news: the number of men doing Latihan is growing. The new Secretary of Subud Hungary is a man: Balacz
- (Note: Since the Luebeck meeting Balacz has taken over as chairman.)
- Elina tries to make the members more aware of the international side of Subud.

Greece: Robiyan Easty – Kejiwaan Councillor

- The country report will be available on the listserver after the meeting.
- There is a feeling like a “private club”, burning on low flame, little interest for international organisation.
- Proposal to test: How open are we for new members?
- Even though there are not many people interested in Subud they started to enlarge the Subud house. There is hope that people will come when there is more space.
- Finances: Greece is not contributing to the Zone4 budget because Greece needed a credit to enlarge the house

Ukraine*): Stephan Solat

- There are more than 70 members in 4 groups and some isolated members. Stephan reports in some details which are not recorded here since official reports have been sent via the listserver after the Luebeck meeting.
- Stephan and his wife Rashida (USA / Indonesia) are Kiev residents at present, the only members from Ukraine able to attend the meeting.
- Visa have been refused for all delegates who intended to come.

Germany*): Franziska Ziemann – Chairlady, and Bärbel Grimm – Committee Councillor

- Germany has organised this meeting. It was a lot of work, but a wonderful experience.
- It is good to see, how many German members are attending the meeting. The interest in international meetings has grown.
- Not much Subud Youth, but many children are here.
- SICA is growing, there is a wonderful art gallery here at the meeting.

Sweden*): Lena Bengtsson is the only Swedish participant but doesn't feel like representing Sweden. After the meeting reports of both Subud Associations in Sweden are distributed via the listserver.

Zone Rep. Valentin adds some information.

Almost half the countries of Zone4 are not present:

Finland and Czech Republic: No recent contact nor information.

Denmark – There is some communication. New members got opened in Copenhagen.

Moldova*): Nobody could come. See the country report.

Kyrgyzstan: New development, one man was opened, more are interested. The new member and two interested (man and woman) actually wanted to come to Luebeck, but it did not work out. Subud people in Nuremberg, Germany, keep close contact.

Bosnia, Croatia, Serbia*) (see the country report):

Some members intended to come to the meeting but nobody was available who speaks English. The international helpers are visiting regularly. There are also 2 isolated members (man and woman) in **Kosovo**.

Lebanon*): The membership is growing. The international helpers visited Lebanon and **Cyprus*).** The report of the IHs was spread through the Listserver.

Turkey: No recent contact nor information.

Appendix 3

Workshop: **BEING PRESENT IN THE WORLD**

Notes taken by participants

We ARE present in the world. For instance: Subud is present on the internet. More and more it will happen that unexpectedly Subud members may be asked about Subud. So we have to be prepared. It is important to become aware what Subud is for each of us.

We may be confident to speak about the Latihan. But what about Subud, is it growing, and my group?

Who, why and when someone comes to Subud is in God's hands.

BUT – what is happening / or not happening in the groups, is in our hands and is our responsibility. When somebody comes and is interested and wants to join, how can we ensure that they stay? Is the group ready to take that challenge?

It is a question of attitudes (respect) among members and helpers and our behaviour.

Many attendants at the meeting are not sure, that their groups are ready for this challenge.

The process starts in the groups. To support a process like this the groups have to clean up their back-yards. Both, helpers and committees need to learn how to support the groups. It was suggested that national helpers and committees may support the groups in their process (in small countries they may get help from outside). It was stated that it is often difficult to get these functions (helpers, committee) within groups and countries filled. It was suggested to start a kejiwaan process and test about the importance for the development.

In “loving your fellow men” Bapak said: Don't try to make people like Subud or to join Subud. But if you love them then they will love you and they will love Subud.