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The Fund – Solidarity Fund for the Swiss Abroad

New protection products for Swiss Abroad

An opinion survey amongst members of the Fund has made one thing clear. Swiss Abroad are interested in additional protection opportunities with respect to the optional old age insurance scheme, pension funds, savings and disability, as well as education and training for their children. The Fund is reacting to this by creating new products.

Since it was set up in 1959, the Fund's main purpose has been to guarantee lump-sum indemnities to Swiss Abroad who lose their livelihood as a result of political unrest. The Fund has never deviated from this central function, although over the years it has diversified and extended its range of products.

In order to continue covering insurance risks from its own resources without having recourse to the guarantee provided by the federal government, the Fund wishes

to gain additional members. To do this it must develop new, top-quality products with which Swiss Abroad will not wish to be without.

Needs identified

Last year's opinion survey of about 550 Fund members showed that there is a real need for new services as well as for more information. The poll also showed clearly which existing services Swiss Abroad value most highly.



Elisabeth Nassar, the new director of the Fund (Photo: zvg)

Elisabeth Nassar, who has been head of the Fund since the beginning of the year, is taking account of the needs expressed by producing a new product package. She has this to say about priorities: "The first worry of Swiss Abroad is the future of the optional old-age pension

scheme, which is at present under fire. This is closely followed by pension funds, pension savings (the third pillar), disability insurance and education and training for Swiss Abroad children in Switzerland".

Accordingly, before the end of this year the Fund will be launching specially tailored offers in these fields.

More information

In future, Fund news will appear regularly in Swiss Review. This will not only be targeted at existing members, but also aims to provide ongoing information to all those who may be interested in joining. This is the best way of meeting the demand for better information about the Fund which was expressed so clearly in the opinion survey amongst Swiss Abroad. ■

Announcement for Solidarity Fund members

This year's general meeting will be held in Lugano on the occasion of the Congress of the Swiss Abroad. It will be on August 22, 1997, at 1800 hours. Statutory business, such as consideration of the latest annual report, the 1996 annual accounts and elections, will be on the agenda, as well as the amendments to the articles of association which are necessary for the introduction of the new products.

AJAS

Education and training in Switzerland

Are you planning to complete your education in Switzerland? AJAS, the Association for the Training of Young Swiss Abroad, can give you information on the following subjects:

- vocational training
- university studies
- language stays
- integration courses
- practical courses
- accommodation possibilities
- financing education and training

AJAS, Alpenstrasse 26
CH-3000 Berne 16 ■

Youth exchange

Discover Switzerland

- Open Switzerland's door through youth exchange
- Discover Switzerland as it really is

Anything is possible. Join the youth exchange scheme for Swiss Abroad aged 15 to 25. Further information from:

SSA Youth Service
Alpenstrasse 26
CH-3000 Berne 16

Sun and Fun in Kandersteg: there are still a few places left in the summer camps (July/August). So register quickly. ■

The Organisation for the Swiss Abroad on the Internet

WWW.ASO.CH

The Fifth Switzerland is on line. Following Swiss Review, the Organisation for the Swiss Abroad now has a homepage. Click www.aso.ch

Legal and training advice, youth camps and youth exchange, holiday homes and family stays, etc. – a comprehensive range of information from the Secretariat for the Swiss Abroad can now be called onto your screen at any time.

Keep up to date with events in Switzerland through Swiss Review, and call up information relevant to Swiss Abroad from the SSA. Both are now possible online. And, as you would imagine for something Swiss, in several languages. So call in on us. And not just once, because we are continually updating and extending our range. Hoping to see you soon on the Internet.

RL ■

