**Minutes of the Geological Society of Africa (GSAf) General Assembly Meeting held in Room 1 Building 23 Aveiro University, Aveiro, Portugal, on 26th July 2018 at 17:00 Hrs**

**1. Attendance:**

See Attached List

**2. Apologies**

Beneah Odhiambo (BO) - Vice President East

**3. Welcome address by the President of GSAf**

The President of GSAf, Prof. Olugbenga Okunlola opened the meeting by welcoming all present to the 17th GSAf General Assembly in Aveiro, Portugal.

**4. Reading and adoption of Minutes.**

The Secretary General read the minutes of the 16th GSAf General Assembly meeting held in Ibadan, Nigeria on 26th November 2016 and the minutes were adopted subject to the following corrections being made.

1. Bullet 2 paragraph 3 to read GSAf---- has finally been officially registered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia since June 2011 instead of June 2012,
2. Bullet 4 first paragraph to read “As we changed our constitution in Johannesburg not Addis Ababa,
3. Bullet 12. Councillor Southern Africa: Dr. Anna-Karren Nguno -------Title to change from Dr to Ms,
4. Full list of attendees to be supplied in future minutes,

Professor Aberra Mogessie moved the motion to adopt the minutes and was seconded by Dr Felix Toteu.

**5. Matters arising from the minutes**

None

**6. President Report on GSAf activities**

The President of GSAf (Prof Olugbenga Okunlola) summarized the GSAf activities (2016-2018) to the General Assembly. He informed the General Assembly of the major achievements as follows:

1. Membership

The GSAf membership list has been cleaned up and individual identification numbers will be issued. Ways of communicating with members and remitting dues to the society were being worked out

1. Networking

The society has continued to network with different organisations and institutions resulting in strengthened relationships. The president noted the relation with African Union through the AMREC project as well as the good working relationship with UNESCO. He thanked Prof Felix Toteu for the UNESCO relationship. He also mentioned that the fact that the current CAG 27 was being held in Portugal is an indicator of strengthened relationships with our European counterparts. He however noted that the society still needed to strengthen relationships with national geoscience societies.

1. Initiatives

The president also told the Assembly that the society was working on several initiatives to fund the society’s activities.

**7 Treasurer’s report**

The Treasurer (Prof. Asfawossen Asrat) presented the financial report of GSAf to the General Assembly from November 1st 2016 to July 31st 2018. The society has two accounts: a Birr account and an US$ account. Receipts and books are compiled and archived in the GSAf office. All payments and transfers are approved based on Council decisions. Bank statements for the two accounts were projected for the Assembly to see.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Birr account | US$ Account |
| Balance Nov 2016 | 287 373.67 | 38 466 17 |
| Income | 00 | 7210 |
| Expenditure | 10 000 | 6106.92 |
| Balance July 2018 | 277 373 67 | 44569.19 |

Dr Felix Toteu noted that the treasurer had not reported on other sources of funding.

Prof Olugbenga Okunlola told the Assembly that UNESCO has funded 9 early career geoscientists to the current CAG 27 and African Union had supported 18 participants. He thanked UNESCO and African Union and apologized that he had omitted it in his report

Prof. Asfawossen Asrat explained that the presented accounts were only ending in July thus it had not captured the activities of the current CAG. However, these activities will be reported in the coming financial report after the incomes and expenditures have been compiled.

Prof. Salvador Mondlane asked about a possibility of euro account to minimize cost of transactions.

Prof. Asfawossen Asrat explained that though he reported it as US$ account the account is a cheque account thus the society can transact in any currency. He also emphasized that the accounts were operating under Ethiopian government financial regulations.

Prof. Ogbe reiterated that the treasurer should mention support received.

Prof Asfawossen Asrat replied that he had reported GSAf activities up until July. He also promised that CAG 27 financial report will be reported in the next meeting and the support received will be acknowledged.

Prof. Olugbenga Okunlola noted that, though not broke, the society is not rich and asked members to give inputs on how to grow it

**8. Membership Report**

The Membership Secretary (Prof. Prosper Nude) informed the General Assembly of the following statistics for membership:

* Total membership for all categories1233 members;
* 82 countries represented;
* 162 life members;
* 18 institutional members;
* 946 members with email addresses in the database;
* 763 members have telephone numbers in the database;

During CAG 27 in Portugal:

* 94 applications were received across all membership categories, plus one Retiree/Founding Member Renewal;
* 9 New Life Member Applications;
* 14 Ordinary/Regular Members Renewal;
* 71 New Member Registration & Applications.

He advised the Assembly that all members would be assigned GSAf official numbers and proposed opening student chapters for the young geoscientists.

Prof. Aberra Mogessie commented that Prof. Nude had done a great job on membership and is the best membership Secretary ever. He however asked why Central Africa had highest number of GSAf members but the society had no councillor for the region. He advised on finding ways to communicate better with the members in the region.

On student chapter Prof. Aberra advised that there was an ongoing constitution on student chapter and he will avail it to Prof. Nude.

Prof. Asfawossen Asrat advised that the students should be given a chance to be part of the initiative. He also appealed to the young scientists present to reach up to Council and establish these chapters.

Mr. Zakhale Nkosi observed the malfunctioning of YES and was advised to forget YES and start over. He then said that student chapter was a welcome initiative for the youngsters but logistics of how they would operate need to be put in place. He himself had an idea of shadowing the current Council offices so that they can learn.

Prof. Asfawossen Asrat suggested that Mr Nkosi should lead the initiative and Council would assign a mentor from Council to work with.

Prof. Ogbe asked about corporates membership.

Prof. Olugbenga Okunlola advised that they are already catered for in the constitution but may need to be emphasized.

Prof. Ogbe noted that country representatives need to take up a bit of the yoke from Council members.

Prof. Olugbenga Okunlola noted the idea and promised Council would deliberate on it.

**Editor’s report**

Prof. Lopo Vasconcelos, the outgoing editor, summarized his contributions over the years as follows:

* Started regional bulletin in 2009 following the idea of the then Vice-President for North Africa region.
* Nominated as GSAf editor in 2011;
* Produced 118 monthly issues (approximately 2000 pages) on several fixed and occasional topics;
* He was willing to work with Dr Tamer Abu Alam who was nominated by Council to take over him.

Prof. Abilaye thanked Prof. Lopo Vasconcelos for his remarkable efforts.

The chair then presented the nomination of Dr. Tamer Abu Alam by Council to replace Prof. Lopo Vasconcelos who was retiring from editor position. The Assembly unanimously agreed to the nomination.

**Election of Councillor for North Africa**

By virtue of Dr. Tamer Abu Alam being nominated to Editor position, the position of North Africa councillor fell vacant. The Council had received 5 applications for the position (3 from Morocco, 1 from Algeria and 1 from Egypt). Only the Egyptian candidate was present and she presented to the Assembly her perceived contribution if she is elected. The General Assembly elected Dr. Kholoud Mohamed Ali as the new Councillor for North Africa.

**Fellowship award**

The President, Prof. Olugbenga Okunlola, informed the General Assembly that for their contributions to the growth and activities of the GSAf, the Council has nominated for the award of the GSAf Fellowship to Dr Felix Sadrack Toteu, Prof. Aberra Mogessie and Prof. Lopo Vasconcelos.

**Dr. Felix Toteu, Profile**

Dr Toteu has served the scientific community in various capacities and is member of various professional societies and has received various recognitions in and outside Africa.

* University of Yaoundé (Cameroon), B.Sc. in 1977.
* “Doctorat de Troisième” Cycle in 1981
* “Doctorat d’Etat ès Sciences Naturelles” in 1987 University of Nancy-I.
* Cameroonian Institute for Geological and Mining Research (IRGM) 1982
* Geological and Mining Research (CRGM) researcher 1993
* Director of Research in 1996.
* Network of collaborators in Europe, USA and Australia.
* 1992/1993, extended Fulbright stay at the University of Kansas in 1993 in the USA.
* IGCP implemented in Central Africa (IGCP-470) between 2001 and 2006.
* President of the Geological Society of Africa in 2004;
* Instrumental in promoting and implementing the UN-declared International Year of Planet Earth in the African continent.
* 2007, sabbatical professorship at the University of Botswana.
* 2009, invited to join the African Earth Observatory Network of the University of Cape Town to contribute the Africa Alive Corridors Initiative. The initiative relocated to the Nelson Mandela University in Port Elizabeth (South Africa), where Dr Toteu he was offered a full professor permanent position in 2010.
* 2010 also offered a position to coordinate the UNESCO’s Earth science programme for Africa.
* Under his leadership, the UNESCO’s Earth Science Education Initiative in Africa established the *African Network of Earth Science Institutions (ANESI)*. ANESI has had huge impacts in promoting collaboration and partnership between African institutions

**Prof. Aberra Mogessie,**

**Aberra Mogessie, Prof. Profile**

* Born in Ethiopia (present citizenship Austrian). He has served as lecturer, researcher and administrator at the Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia), University of Innsbruck, Mining University of Leoben and University of Graz (Austria) since 1976 to present.
* Received a B.Sc. from the Haile Sellassie I University,Ethiopia in 1973,
* M.SC. University of Minnesota, USA (1976),
* PhD University of Innsbruck (1984),
* Doctor Habil (Habiliation), University of Graz (1995).
* 2011 recipient of the Nigerian Mining and Geoscience Society Award in Gold and a Plaque in honor of Prof. O. Oyawoye of Nigeria as a hard rock African Geologist.
* Awarded the Luis Federico Leloir Prize to International Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation from the Argentinian Minister of Science in 2012.
* Served as elected, President of the Geological Society of Africa (2008-2016), and Vice President and later President of the Austrian Mineralogical Society (2011-2014).
* Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences (AAS), African Science Institute (ASI), e Society of Economic Geologists (SEG), Geological Society of America (GSA)
* Associate Fellow of the Ethiopian Academy of Sciences (EAS).
* received certificates of recognition from the Society of Economic Geologists and the Geological Society of America
* Published over 260 research papers in reviewed journals and conference proceedings in the different fields of Earth Sciences and taught several courses in Petrology, Mineralogy and Geochemistry.
* Other engagements include serving as Vice President of the Advisory Board of the PanAfGeo Mapping Project (EGS-OAGS) and in the UNCE Expert Group on Mineral resources classification to develop an African Mineral Resources Classification (AMREC) and reporting code (PARC).

**Prof. Lopo Vasconcelos Profile.**

Lopo Vasconcelos born in Lourenço Marques, today Maputo, Mozambique in 1953.

* All his studies were in Mozambique.
* Graduated in Geology by the Lourenço Marques University, December 1975,
* First Mozambican geologist graduated in the then People´s Republic of Mozambique. For some years he was the only Mozambican geologist!
* May 1976-1980, Dean of the Faculty of Geology Eduardo Mondlane University,
* Started a sandwich post-graduation program with the Bergakademie Freiberg in the former German Democratic Republic, on the Mucanha-Vúzi coal basin in Tete Province,
* PhD program Porto 1995.
* 1995 Head of Geology Department of Eduardo Mondlane,
* Coordinator of the cooperation program between the department and the Department of Geology of the University of Utrecht, which allowed the graduation of several Mozambican staff members as Masters and PhDs, as well as training of technical staff.
* In the 2nd half of the 90ies, he worked in the design of the strategic plans of his university, the Higher Education in Mozambique, and the Mozambican Parliament.
* For the Ministry of Science & Technology and Higher Education of Mozambique, he also worked for the design of the Higher Polytechnic Institute of Tete and to the Quality System of Higher Education in Mozambique.
* 2003 the co-founder and first President of AGMM – Geological Mining Association of Mozambique, which became later associate member of GSAf.
* Organized several national and international events in Maputo among them 2000 Workshop on Tertiary Education in Southern Africa, the 7th Geochemical Congress of the Portuguese Speaking Countries in 2003, the 21st Colloquium of African Geology in 2006, The 1st Mozambique Mining and Energy Conference in 2008, and was responsible for the Scientific Committee of the 1st and 2nd National Congress of Geology (2012, 2014), the last one together with the 11th Geochemical Congress of the Portuguese Speaking Countries.
* 2015 promoted to Full Professor by Eduardo Mondlane University.
* 1999 elected Councilor of the GSAf for Southern Africa.
* 2004, won the bid to organize CAG21 in Maputo in 2006,
* 2004 elected Vice-President of GSAf for Southern Africa.
* 2011 nominated by the GSAf Council as Editor of the Society´s Newsletter and has produced monthly publication since then.
* Responsible for launching the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology) ICCP annual training courses. He was responsible for the first 4 courses.
* 2012 appointed Vice-President of the IAGETH, International Association for Geoethics.
* Retired officially on the 1st July 2018, but promised to continue giving his support to GSAf and geosciences in Mozambique.

The three were presented with their certificates after the president read out their contributions to Geosciences.

**CAG 28 Bid**

Two Bids for CAG 28 were received by Council, one from Egypt and one from Morocco. However, the Council had received no communication from Egypt after the submission of the bid and there was no one at CAG 27 to present the Egyptian Bid. The Bid by Morocco was presented by Prof. Youssef Driouch as follows:

The CAG will be organized under the hospices of The Geological Society of Africa, The State Secretariat for Higher Education and Scientific Research, the Geological Survey of Morocco (MEMDD) and Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University (USMBA). Fez. Morocco, in partnership with Casablanca University (Université Hassan II, UH2), Marrakech University (Université Cadi Ayad, UCAM), Agadir University (Université IBN ZOHR, UIZ), and El Jadida University (Université Chouaib Doukkali, UCD). The proposed dates are 19th to 27th September, 2020 with pre and post conference field trips. English and French will be the official languages

The General Assembly unanimously accepted the bid. Prof. Okunlola then emphasized the need for Morocco to start communicating to the Assembly about CAG 28 and make sure that the dates for the colloquium were not too close to IGCP in India.

**Any other Business**

Prof. Ogbe noted the need to include Earth Sciences caption in the GSAf logo and activities.

Prof. Prof Okunlola advised that the constitution full embraces all earth sciences. However, the Council will deliberate on how to include it in the logo

Prof. Abilaye asked about the possibility of an annual meeting to which Prof. Prof Okunlola replied that the constitution provides for a Bi annual meeting and regions are encouraged to use the time in between for regional meetings

**Adjourning of the meeting**

There being no other business, Prof. Nude moved the motion to adjourn the meeting and Prof. Asrat seconded him. Meeting ended at 20:35

**Roll Call for the 2018 GSAf General Assemby**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Name | Status |
| 1 | Olugbenga Okunlola  | Member |
| 2 | Aberra Mogessie  | Member |
| 3 | Maideyi Meck  | Member |
| 4 | Asfawossen Asrat  | Member |
| 5 | Lopo Vasconcelos  | Member |
| 6 | Yao Agbossoumonde  | Member |
| 7 | Prosper Nude  | Member |
| 8 | Adama Sangare  | Member |
| 9 | Youssef Driouch | Member |
| 11 | Alieo Jawo | Member |
| 12 | Abdoulie M Cham | Member |
| 13 | Anna Nguno | Member |
| 14 | Niang Chekt Ali Bamba | Member |
| 15 | Mugerwa Theophile | Observer |
| 16 | Mashenene C Malima | Observer |
| 17 | Emmanuel Habimana | Observer |
| 18 | Ouzegane Khadidja | Member |
| 19 | Djemai Safouane | Member |
| 20 | Daniel Asiedu | Member |
| 21 | Samuel B Dampare | Member |
| 22 | Paulo Fernandes | Member |
| 23 | Shaamu Jeremia Simon | Member |
| 24 | Delvaux Damiem | Member |
| 25 | Schenk Volker | Member |
| 26 | João Manuel Marques | Member |
| 27 | Daud Liace Jamal | Member |
| 28 | Salvador Mondlane | Member |
| 29 | Sandra Raul Sitoe | Member |
| 30 | Kholoud Abdeluaksoud | Member |
| 31 | Felix Toteu | Member |
| 32 | Moctar Doucoure | Observer |
| 33 | Tamer Abu Alam | Member |
| 34 | Abigail Wambui Wamunyu | Member |
| 35 | Sylvia Motene | Member |
| 36 | Arisekola Tunde | Member |
| 37 | Yvonne Sena Akosua Loh | Member |
| 38 | Oladunjoye Micheal | Member |
| 39 | Olatunji Akinade S | Member |
| 40 | Kawther Araibia | Member |
| 41 | Chahib Harouz | Member |
| 42 | Amar Arab | Member |
| 43 | Sidali Doukkari | Member |
| 44 | Fhatuwane Ramagwedu | Observer |
| 45 | Mike de Wit | Member |
| 46 | Olubunmi Adeigbe | Member |
| 47 | Djesossem Nenadji Felix |  |
| 48 | Mosood N ijani |  |
| 49 | Aisha Abubakar Kana |  |
| 50 | Ahmad Abubakar Kana |  |
| 51 | Anthony T Bolarinwa | Member |
| 52 | Freedom G A Oabe | Member |
| 53 | Olasehinde O Dapo |  |
| 54 | Dorcas Sekemi Eyinla |  |
| 55 | Yaye Desalegn Kebie |  |
| 56 | Zakhele H Nkosi |  |
| 57 | Wladyslaw Altermann | Member |
| 58 | Kiohaela Frei | Member |