

THE 15th AFRIMETS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ZOOM PLATFORM 20 JULY 2022 11:00AM Day 1 Closed Session

SESSION 1: WELCOME AND MINUTES

Meeting Chaired by	Dr Mohamed Amer
Minutes taken by	Mrs Duduzile Elouga
Type of Meeting	AFRIMETS GA CLOSED GA SESSION 1
List of Attendees	
Apologies received	None
Welcome and Official Opening	The Chairperson welcomed every participant and declared the meeting open.

SESSION 1:

1. Verification of Official SRMO Representatives	SRMO	SCIENTIFIC	LEGAL	OFFICIAL MEMBERS
	CEMACMET	No representative		6
	EAMET	Philibert Zimulinda	John Paul Musimami	5
	ECOMET	Gabriel AHISSOU	Striggner BEDU-Addo	15 (13)
	MAGMET	Souad BOUAZIZ	Karim Bakari	4
	NEWMET	Noah Emad Khaled	Ezdihar Ahmad	9
	SADCMET/M EL	Donald Masuku	Jaco Marneweck	16
	SOAMET	No attendance		
2. Agenda and Approval of Minutes	2.1 Agenda and approval of the previous minutes:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The agenda was adopted by the meeting. 			
3. Election of Office Bearers	2.1.1 Corrections on the previous minutes:			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NEWMET Legal Metrology representative, Mrs Ezdihar Ahmad from Sudan ➤ Mr Salifou Isoufou joined the meeting at 12pm. ➤ Not Mr Chimulinda but Zimulinda. ➤ Not Noah but Noha. ➤ Added a surname for Mr George Maswai. ➤ The correction of office bearers. ➤ Mr Julien not Mrs. ➤ Resolution 8/21 added Mr Patrick Kizito Musaaazi (UNBS) and Matthew Ranganai Surname ➤ Resolution 9/21 added TC-T Vice Chair 2, Mr Richard Odak (KEBS) EAMET. 			
2.1.2 Adoption of the Previous minutes:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mr Salim Muktar Mohammed (Nigeria) adopted the minutes with the corrections and seconded by Mr Donald Masuku (South Africa). 				
AFRIMETS Official Bearers 2022-2024:				
Official	Name		RMO	
AFRIMETS Chairperson	Dr Henry Rotich		EAMET	
AFRIMETS Vice Chair Scientific	Mr Matthew Ranganai		SADCMET	
AFRIMETS Vice Chair Legal	Eng. John Paul Musimami		EAMET	
AFRIMETS Vice Chair Scientific French	Madame Souad BOUAZIZ		MAGNET	
AFRIMETS Vice Chair Legal French	TBC			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dr Henry Rotich confirmed his availability and accepted the position as new Chairperson of the AFRIMETS. ➤ Eng. John Paul Musimami has been elected during the AFRIMETS 14TH GA and he has confirmed and accepted the nomination. ➤ TC-Legal will have a meeting with their team to nominate a Vice Chair French Legal. ➤ The request for TC-Legal to nominate a Vice Chair French will be noted in the resolution. ➤ The new AFRIMETS office bearers will serve the office for the duration of two years 2022 -2024.
<p>4. Feedback from Director meeting and discussions of an AFRIMETS Membership fee</p>	<p>4.1 Resolutions 7/2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The proposal to introduce the membership fee was endorsed during the AFRIMETS Director’s meeting 2019, It was agreed that membership fee will be implemented in 2021 however there was a delay due to COVID-19 Pandemic. ➤ It was decided and confirmed that a minimum fee be implemented per country. <p>4.2 Secretariat Tasked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Form a committee, investigate the categories, and propose a final Model: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The model may be based on the country contribution to the United Nation. ❖ The membership is per country and will be shared between Legal and Scientific. ❖ The modalities for countries with designated institutes need to be addressed. ❖ The fee may be paid by the responsible department. ➤ Investigation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The Secretariat had to investigate if it is necessary to open a non-profit company and if it is possible to open a bank account. ➤ Use of UN Coefficient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ It is complicated and deemed to be unnecessary for AFRIMETS. ❖ It will duplicate the contributions already made by countries to the international system. ➤ Proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Simplify and reduce the number of categories to 3 with a 4th category for non- members participating in meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If there are 2 or 3 categories for the countries, members of AFRIMETS and countries that do not pay the membership fee or others outside Africa who wants to participate in our physical meetings or comparisons, they can be charged a fee to attend the AFRIMETS meetings or participates in technical activities. ❖ The fee will contribute to the cost for hosting the meeting or conducting the comparison. ❖ The less categories we have the better it is in future to implement increases. ➤ Implementation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ AFRAC commissioned a study to explore the establishment of the Legal entity and to register AFRAC in a country. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The study included to register AFRAC as a Non- Profit organization in South Africa. ○ AFRAC is opening a bank account in South Africa. ❖ Registration needs Memorandum of Incorporation and AFRIMETS constitution. ➤ Basic Membership fee:

- ❖ Looked at the basic membership fee that will allow the AFRIMETS office bearers to represent the organization regionally and internationally.
- ❖ The fee will assist the website and marketing and assist the country that will be hosting the GA meetings especially with interpretation and venues for physical meetings.
- **Directors Comments:**
 - ❖ The decision was strongly supported by Dr Amer the current Chair, Eng. John Paul Musimami, Dr Noha Khaled, Dr Henry Rotich, and CEO Ndwakhulu Mukhufhi and they emphasized that there should not be any more delays.
 - ❖ ARSO has a membership fee and AFRAC will implement soon.
 - ❖ Dr Noha also mentioned that we should have an amount available for the comparison of our national measurement standards.
 - ❖ The available amount will support Scientific and Legal Metrology.
 - ❖ Directors led by CEO Ndwakhulu Mukhufhi express the sentiment that we can start with a basic fee, but that the proposal should include the envisage fee of what do we need if we want to make AFRIMETS sustainable as an organization.
- **Final membership fee:**
 - ❖ The director's report will be published on the AFRIMETS website for more details.
- **Proposal after the Directors Meeting:**
 - ❖ The 19 odd NMIs countries that are participating in the technical activities of AFRIMETS TCs is proposed to pay a proposal fee of 3000EUR.
 - ❖ A proposed fee of 2000EUR for the other countries members of AFRIMETS that are not yet participating in the AFRIMETS technical activities (ILS, PTs, etc), as well as for the Associates members.
- Any other participants will be charged per attendance of the AFRIMETS meetings, (100EUR –200EUR per meeting) and a fee to participate in technical activities (100-300 EUR, to be determined for each activity).
- **Next step:**
 - ❖ If the GA approves the proposal:
 - The Secretariat will update the memorandum of incorporation, AFRIMETS constitution and update the BYLAWS and get approval from EXCO.
 - Register AFRIMETS as a NPO in South Africa.
 - Register a bank account.
 - ❖ The Secretariat will send official letters to all members which state that AFRIMETS membership fee will be introduced in 2023.
 - ❖ The letter will make it clear that the final intention is for self-sustainability and will mention what this cost is in current terms.
- ✚ Any future increases will be motivated to the closed GA for member's approval.
- **Comments:**
 - ❖ **Value proposition:**
 - AFRIMETS will make sure that the documents they prepare to go to the member countries will have a page that will be explaining what benefit they will derive from participation in AFRIMETS.
 - The value proposition will be summarised for government.
 - There is also a plan to take the value proposition to the meeting with the Ministers of the AUC.
 - The member states need to sensitize their governments.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This process can be used to market Metrology and the role of accurate measurement in AFRICA. ○ BOBS expressed support for the proposal. ○ Approval by executive means approval by SRMOs. ○ AfCFTA, NMIs and NLMBs need to ensure that entities within its countries participate within the ministries that are participating in the AfCFTA, TBT and other committees to ensure that there is appropriate development of quality infrastructure. ○ Dr Louw to share Metrology material to the members to present to their governments.
<p>5. AFRIMETS Governance Issues continued</p>	<p>5.1 Draft Resolutions A:</p> <p>5.1.1 General conference on Weights and Measure on the evolving needs in Metrology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Members States party to the meter convention will be asked to alert their government representative that will attend the General Conference in November to support the draft A resolution. <p>5.2 Draft Resolution B:</p> <p>5.2.1 Global digital transformation and the international system units.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Need to put our documents in the digital state and put it in a readable machine format. ➤ CIPM has been asked to undertake the development and promotion of an SI digital framework that will include a globally accepted digital representation of the SI compatible with and usable within the digital data exchange. ➤ The resolution invites the NMIs, RMOs and Stakeholders to maintain and possibly, increase the existing level of commitment and collaboration with the CIPM to continue development, promotion, and implementation of the SI digital framework. ➤ This resolution invites all organizations with an interest of what we are doing that relies on Metrology, Standardization, Accreditation, Conformity Assessments, and market surveillance including Legal Metrology, to consider joining the collaborative venture of the digital transformation to ensure that the SI digital framework meets the needs of all stakeholders. ➤ CIPM strongly supports the resolution and urge everyone to support the resolution. <p>5.3 Draft Resolution C:</p> <p>5.3.1 Extension of the range of SI prefixes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Proposing to the conference to add to the list of SI prefixes to be used for multiple and sub multiple units. ➤ Technical addition to the SI brochure and strongly supported by the CIPM. <p>5.4 Draft Resolution D:</p> <p>5.4.1 Use and future development of UTC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Making the UTC a continuous timescale. ➤ The resolution request that the CIPM consult with the ITU and other organizations that may impact the decision to propose new maximum value for the difference. ➤ African NMIs are urged to lobby their state representatives to the CGPM, to support the resolution. <p>5.5 Draft Resolution E:</p> <p>5.5.1 Future redefinition of the second.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Asking for a mandate to prepare for the final proposal at the next general conference. ➤ Looking at 2030 for the final implementation.

	<p>5.6 Draft Resolution F:</p> <p>5.6.1 Universal adherence to the Meter Convention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Speaks to the future of the organization and the group of countries that will be mostly impacted. ➤ Need to endorse the proposal to go and work towards a new category of membership of the organization. ➤ Around 80 countries are not yet participating either as state party member state or association member state. ➤ The majority are in Africa, and African NMIs are urged to lobby their state representatives to the CGPM, to support the resolution. <p>5.7 Draft Resolution V:</p> <p>5.7.1 Dotation of the International Bureau of Weights and Measure for the years 2024-2027.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ During the meeting, the CIPM proposed for an increase of around one and a half percent to the current dotation. <p>✚ The draft resolutions are available on the CGPM page on the BIPM website in both French and English or anyone interested can request a copy from Dr Louw.</p>
<p>6. Program for 2nd day of GA and Closure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The program for the 2nd closed GA was projected and accepted by the meeting. ➤ The secretariat will draft the resolutions and share it with the 2ND closed GA.