



**MINUTES OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF NEPHROLOGY (AFRAN)  
HELD AT THE BOUMA HALL, HILTON HOTEL,  
YAOUNDE, CAMEROON, ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH  
2017.**

**1. ATTENDANCE:**

| S/No. | Name                       | Country             | E-mail   |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 1     | Prof Charles Swanepoel     | South Africa        | <a href="mailto:Charles.swanepoel@uct.ac.za">Charles.swanepoel@uct.ac.za</a>   |
| 2     | Prof Arogundade Fatiu      | Nigeria             | <a href="mailto:fatiu3@yahoo.com">fatiu3@yahoo.com</a>   |
| 3     | Prof. Gloria Ashuntantang  | Cameroon            | <a href="mailto:Maglo02@yahoo.com">Maglo02@yahoo.com</a> ,<br><a href="mailto:Gloria.ash@gmail.com">Gloria.ash@gmail.com</a> |
| 4     | Dr. Dwomoa Adu             | Ghana               | <a href="mailto:dwoms@gmail.com">dwoms@gmail.com</a>   |
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| 6.    | Prof Diouf Boucar          | Senegal             | <a href="mailto:diboucar@gmail.com">diboucar@gmail.com</a>   |
| 7     | Prof. Abdou Niang          | Senegal             | <a href="mailto:niangabdou@yahoo.com">niangabdou@yahoo.com</a>   |
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| 13.   | Prof. El-Fadil M. Osman    | Sudan               |  |
| 14.   | Prof. Sarala Naicker       | South Africa        | <a href="mailto:Saraladevinaicker@wits.ac.za">Saraladevinaicker@wits.ac.za</a>   |
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| 18.   | Prof. Ifeoma Anochie       | Nigeria             |  |
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| 51 | Ahmadou Musa Jingi (Internist) | Cameroon     |  |
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**2. Opening:** The meeting commenced at 6.30pm with an address by AFRAN President, Prof Charles Swanepoel.

He thereafter presented the Agenda as follows:

- Attendance
- Apologies
- Minutes of last meeting
- Presidents report
- Secretary / Treasurer's report

- AFRAN Hosting Schedule
- Elections and New Appointments
- AFRAN Membership and Dues
- AFRAN Account
- AFRAN Membership Directory
- AFRAN Website
- AFRAN Journal
- AFRAN Fundraising
- AFRAN – ISN Relationship
- Renal Pathology Training
- Constitutional Review
- Any Other Business
- Date and Time of Next Meeting
- Adjournment

The agenda was unanimously adopted for discussion by the General Assembly.

**2. Apologies:**

- Prof A Akinsola
- Prof S. Kadiri
- Dr A Aderibigbe

**3. Minutes of last meeting:**

This had been circulated by e-mail. Print copies were recirculated and read and thereafter adopted. Matters arising was discussed as part of the substantive agenda.

**4. Presidents report:**

AFRAN President, Prof Charles Swanepoel thanked the organizing committee for the excellent congress. He enjoined all members to continue to support AFRAN. He presented a few items for consideration by the Assembly

- a. Need for constitutional review: Our constitution is old and some areas seem unclear or confusing. The GA agreed that it should be reviewed.
  
- b. Need to adopt some honorary members. AFRAN has position of Honorary members which we have not been using. He presented a proposal from the Executive Committee to award our Honorary Membership to some deserving personalities. They are
  - i. Prof O.O Akinkugbe
  - ii. Prof. YK Seedat
  - iii. Prof. Addera Levin
  - iv. Prof John Feehaly
  - v. Prof Anthony Meyers.

All the 5 members were ratified by the assembly.

- c. Support for Dubai bid to host WCN: The President informed the GA that he supported UAE's bid to host WCN in Dubai. It was ratified by the GA.

- d. Support for National Associations: AFRAN have continued to support national associations by participation in their congresses when AFRAN is invited eg Kenya Renal Association Meeting.

#### **5. Secretary / Treasurer's report:**

AFRAN Secretary, Prof Fatiu Arogundade presented his report which highlighted the fact that this set of Executive members and Board of Trustees were elected on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March, 2015 at the AFRAN General Assembly in Cape Town Convention Centre, South Africa. He noted that some members and all BOT members were elected on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2013 in Accra, Ghana. The full list of the Executives and Board of Trustees are

|                                 |   |                          |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| President                       | - | Prof Charles Swanepoel   |
| President Elect                 | - | Prof Gloria Ashuntantang |
| Immediate Past President        | - | Dr Dwomoa Adu            |
| Secretary / Treasurer           | - | Prof Fatiu Arogundade    |
| Assistant Secretary / Treasurer | - | Prof Abdou Niang         |
| Editor, AJN.                    | - | Prof Allaine Assounga    |

#### **Members of the Board of Trustees**

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Dr. Aggrey Mweemba ([aggmw@yahoo.com](mailto:aggmw@yahoo.com))

#### **AFRAN Website:**

The website of AFRAN is now active but still needs further development.

#### **AFRAN Journal:**

The Editor will present a report on the performance of the journal. He complained about dearth of manuscripts for publication. This was discussed and members were encouraged to submit their manuscripts to the journal. The achieving of all past editions have commenced.

#### **Renal Registry:**

The Chairman, Prof Razeen Davies organised an excellent workshop attended by enthusiastic participants from all across Africa on during WCN 2015. South African Registry has taken off and other Countries have joined. See detailed report below.

#### **AFRAN Membership and Dues:**

Members have not been paying membership dues since 2013 though it was agreed at the Accra GA and further reinforced in Cape Town that the dues be increased to \$100:00. He urged all members to settle their indebtedness. He also suggested that we should have differential rate for trainees or encourage group membership for trainees but this should be discussed by the assembly.

**AFRAN Account:**

This was extensively discussed and it was resolved that the AFRAN Account be domiciled in Ghana with Ecco Bank.

**AFRAN Membership Directory:**

This will be published on the website when collated. It is expected that National Associations will forward names of members who will in turn fulfil all financial obligations.

**AFRAN – ISN Relationship**

The relationship between AFRAN and ISN have been further strengthened by the hosting of the WCN 2015 which was very well organised. AFRAN was given her share of the proceeds which has been given to Yaounde LOC as seed fund for the organization of this conference. We need to determine an amount that would be given to subsequent hosts of AFRAN Congresses and it should be clear that such must be returned to the account of AFRAN after the congress.

**National Meetings**

AFRAN should play more supportive roles at National meetings. Representatives of AFRAN should attend National Meetings and mount 10 minutes presentation on AFRAN and her activities and encourage further membership drive.

**AFRAN Committees:** Several committees were set up after Accra GA. They include Renal Pathology Committee, Registry committee, Transplant committee, Training committee, Peritoneal Dialysis committee and Clinical Standards committee. Some of these committees will be presenting reports at this meeting.

**AFRAN Hosting Schedule:**

We are in Cameroon for 14th AFRAN Congress. It is being suggested that the Assembly should select 2-3 future hosts to ease planning and transition.

**AFPNA Collaboration:** This is the second jointly organized congress with the African Paediatric Nephrology Association. It has been an excellent collaboration and should be sustained and strengthened.

**Young Nephrologist Committee (YNC):**

The General Assembly set up a YNC for AFRAN at the Cape Town meeting. Four young members were thereafter appointed. They however have not been able to function. It is hoped that this would improve. The members are

1. Dr Sidy M Seck                      Senegal
2. Dr Olalekan Ojo                      Nigeria
3. Dr Sqalli Housseini Tarik              Morocco
4. Dr Mathew K. Koech                      Kenya

The secretary concluded that, we have maintained and improve on the modest achievements of AFRAN over the past 30 years and encourage all nephrologists in all African countries to join and become members so as to fully harness the potentials that abound across Africa. We thank the LOC and all members that have been serving in different capacities and urge all of us to continue to contribute our quota to the growth and sustainability of AFRAN. He thanked the General Assembly for giving him the opportunity to serve.

**6. AFRAN Hosting Schedule:**

After deliberations, it was agreed that Kenya will host AFRAN in 2019 with Prof Anthony Were as Congress President and President Elect of AFRAN. It was also agreed that a Francophone country will host in 2021 and then Egypt can host in 2023. If however there is no francophone country that is ready to host, then Egypt can host in 2021 but this would be decided in Nairobi, Kenya in 2019.

**7. Elections and New Appointments:**

Prof Gloria Ashuntantang was announced as the Next President of AFRAN.

Prof Anthony were was announced as President Elect and Congress President for AFRAN 2019.

**8. AFRAN Membership and Dues:**

Membership dues was discussed again and it was agreed that the sum of \$100:00 only be charged as annual dues for AFRAN and that Associate Members and Trainees pay \$50:00 only. It was also agreed that members start paying from this conference. The Congress President was mandated to provide a secretariat staff that would assist with the collection of annual dues.

**9. AFRAN Account:**

It was resolved that the AFRAN Account be opened in Ecco bank in Ghana.

**10. AFRAN Membership Directory:**

It was agreed that a membership directory be created using the list of Nephrologists from National Associations.

**11. AFRAN Website:**

The Congress website will be upgraded to and updated to function as AFRAN website.

**12. AFRAN Journal:**

The Editor / Associate Editor presented a brief report on the performance of the journal. It will go fully on line from 2017 though AFRAN is still owing 90,000 Rands for print copies over the years. The General Assembly also felt the journal needed more visibility and that indexing AJN may give it more acceptability and visibility.

**13. AFRAN – ISN Relationship**

The General Assembly reviewed the relationship between AFRAN and ISN and resolved to further explore ways of strengthening the relationship such that African Nephrologists could benefit more from training and research opportunities. Our relationship with AFPNA was also commended and the assembly felt it should also be further strengthened. The next conference in Kenya will also be a joint one with AFPNA.

**14. Constitutional Review:**

The General Assembly felt the constitution needed to be reviewed. It was agreed that the Executive Committee should initiate the process.

## 15. Committee Reports:

a. **Renal Registry:** The Chairman, Prof Razeen Davids, organised an excellent workshop attended by enthusiastic participants from all across Africa on during WCN 2015. Since then, a paper on the African Renal Registry has been published in Clinical Kidney Journal, the South African Registry platform has been adapted to receive data from other African countries, and Ghana, Zambia and Burundi have formally joined the African renal Registry. It is expected that many other countries will join soon.

b. **Renal Pathology Training:**

The Chairman, Prof Ifeoma Ulasi stated that the committee is exploring ways of seeking further training for nephrologists in Africa. She has discussed with Prof Agnes Fogo and she's hopeful that things would improve.

c. **Peritoneal Dialysis Committee:** Prof Naicker presented a brief report on the committee. She noted that its being reorganized now and that the committee will henceforth meet regularly.

d. **Transplant Committee:** Dr Bamgboye said the committee have been able to collate lists of transplant centres across Africa and they are exploring ways of assisting Countries and Centres develop transplant programs.

## 16. Any Other Business:

**WCN 2017:** Members were encouraged to attend the WCN 2017 in Mexico. It was also agreed that members in attendance could hold a business meeting during the congress.

**World Kidney Day (WKD):** National Associations were encouraged to participate actively in WKD commemoration.

**Transplant Association:** Prof Ulasi suggested the need for a transplant Association in Africa, This was extensively discussed and rejected because it was viewed that it would further fragment our nascent AFRAN. Rather members feel AFRAN should be further strengthened. We could however have committees or charters within AFRAN as we currently do have.

## 17. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next General Assembly was scheduled to hold in Nairobi during the AFRAN Congress in Nairobi, Kenya in 2019. The exact date and venue to be announced later.

## 18. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Prof. Fatiu A. Arogundade  
*Secretary / Treasurer*

Prof. Charles Swanepoel  
*President.*