AFRAN Board Meeting

Date: 5 November 2025
Time: 5PM GMT
Via Zoom

Attendees:

Abdou Niang - AN

Faical Jarraya - FJ

Rasha Darwish -RD

Esther Getambu -EG

Hany Hafez - HH

Gordana Cavrix - GC

Sampson Antwi – SA

Fatiu Arogundade – FA

Mohamed Mongi Bacha - MMB

Lethisha Harilall - LH

1. Opening and Welcome

The meeting was formally opened AN who welcomed all Board members and attendees. He expressed appreciation for the active engagement of both the Executive Committee and the Board and noted that AFRAN is currently supported by a strong and dynamic leadership team. The President encouraged open discussion and collaboration to ensure continued progress of AFRAN's projects and partnerships.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was presented by FJ.

The agenda was adopted without amendments. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the June 2025 AFRAN Board Meeting were discussed. Members indicated difficulty accessing the minutes previously. The Secretariat demonstrated access to the minutes via the AFRAN website Council login page. Login details were clarified, and members were shown where Board and Council documents are stored. Members were advised to review the minutes and submit any comments or corrections to the Secretariat.

3. AFRAN 2027 Congress – Tanzania

FJ provided an update on the planning and status of AFRAN 2027, scheduled to be hosted in Tanzania.

Key points discussed:

Recent political challenges in Tanzania following elections had raised concerns.

Updates from local colleagues confirmed that the situation has stabilised and normalcy has returned.

The country was confirmed to be safe, and no current obstacles to hosting the Congress were identified.

A joint meeting between the AFRAN Executive Committee and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) is planned within the next two weeks.

The Secretariat will confirm whether the meeting date has already been scheduled.

Strong interest from sponsors, industry partners, and participants was noted, reflecting positively on the Congress.

Action Item:

Secretariat to confirm and coordinate the upcoming meeting with the LOC. Updates on progress to be shared with the Board after the meeting.

4. AFRAN Congress 2029

The Board discussed future planning for AFRAN 2029.

Key decisions:

It was agreed that it is timely to launch a call for bids for hosting AFRAN 2029.

The Congress will be hosted in a French-speaking country.

The WISE Committee will be tasked with launching and managing the call process.

Action Item:

WISE Committee to prepare and issue the call for hosting AFRAN 2029.

5. Affiliation of Women in Nephrology Africa (WiNA / VIN)

The Board discussed the formal relationship between Women in Nephrology Africa (WiNA / VIN) and AFRAN.

Key points:

WiNA is now formally affiliated to AFRAN and operates under the AFRAN umbrella.

WiNA does not have independent paid membership; all WiNA members must be paying members of AFRAN.

AFRAN will provide institutional support, including access to platforms, branding, and collaboration opportunities.

RD presented WiNA's objectives, focusing on kidney disease in women, particularly in pregnancy, an area historically underrepresented in research and care.

WiNA activities include multicentre research, webinars, and international representation.

The affiliation was confirmed as collaborative and non-competitive, ensuring alignment with AFRAN's mission.

Resolution:

The Board formally acknowledged and supported the WiNA–AFRAN affiliation.

6. Collaboration with AFPNA (African Pediatric Nephrology Association)

AN provided an update on engagement with AFPNA leadership.

Discussion highlights:

A constructive meeting was held with AFPNA's new leadership.

Both organisations expressed a strong willingness to rebuild and strengthen collaboration.

Plans include a future joint meeting between AFRAN and AFPNA Executive Committees to clarify collaboration frameworks.

SA highlighted past successful joint congresses and stressed the importance of integrating pediatric and adult nephrology activities.

Resource limitations within pediatric nephrology were acknowledged, reinforcing the value of joint initiatives.

Consensus:

The Board agreed that the collaboration is essential and mutually beneficial.

Members committed to supporting renewed joint scientific and organisational activities.

7. Collaboration with ORA Paris

The President briefed the Board on discussions with ORA Paris, an organisation involved in dialysis and renal replacement therapy development.

Key points:

ORA Paris expressed interest in formal collaboration with AFRAN.

AFRAN has issued an official response and is awaiting finalisation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

ORA Paris indicated interest in participating actively in AFRAN events.

Action Item:

Draft MoU to be finalised and presented to the Board for review and approval.

8. Impact Africa Summit

An update was provided on the Impact Africa Summit, organised by XIM.

Key points:

AFRAN has been invited to participate as a collaborating organisation.

The Summit is planned to take place in Nigeria. AFRAN will be represented by two to three members.

Potential collaboration areas include conferences, webinars, and multicentre research, particularly in kidney disease genomics.

Dr. Fatiu Arogundade will represent AFRAN and engage in discussions regarding future collaboration.

Action Item:

AFRAN representatives to provide a post-Summit report to the Board outlining outcomes and proposed next steps.

9. Any Other Business

No additional matters were raised.

10. Closing

AN thanked all members for their active participation and constructive input. He reiterated the importance of collaboration, transparency, and strategic planning in advancing AFRAN's objectives. The meeting was formally adjourned.