

PRESS RELEASE

ARSCP Holds its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Election of Executive Board for the Period 2016/18

The 7th ARSCP General Assembly for members was held back to back with the ninth regional meeting on SCP in Kampala on the 1st June 2016. The proposed meeting agenda was endorsed by members without any changes. The agenda included organizational matters, approval of constitutional changes and elections of new EB members.

The meeting which was held at the Conference hall of Africana Hotel, Kampala, Uganda, was attended by 66 people. According to the ARSCP constitution anyone attending the roundtable meeting becomes a member of the AGM. This meeting was also attended by representatives from UNIDO and UNEP as invited guests.

Firstly, the ARSCP President opened the meeting at 14:00 HRS. He welcomed members to the meeting and thanked the Uganda Government for hosting the regional meeting. He expressed his appreciation to the ARSCP patrons, UNIDO and UNEP for their continued support to the organization. He expressed his gratitude to the EU for supporting a SWITCH Africa Green Project which is already under implementation in the region. Lastly, he underscored the efforts made by the outgoing board and the Secretariat for working hard during the last two years to sustain the organization.

Secondly, the progress of the organization was summarized by Mr Collins Tawanda, an executive board member. Due to time constraints, he made remarks on a few outstanding activities and achievements of the organization. Specifically, he mentioned about holding the eighth meeting in Windhoek and ninth meeting in Kampala successfully, which would not have been possible without members cooperation. He further mentioned about the acquisition of a regional project under the SAG which is being implemented by four institutional members under the Secretariat." Working as a multi country regional project has been a long time wish of the organization and this is a potential way of contributing to the organizational coffers, jointly" he said.

The members endorsed the organizational work plan for the period 2016 to 2018 with a budget of USD 300,000.00. The plan builds on the previous period's plan and targets It is action oriented, relies on members networking and collaborations and targets at increasing the capital base and taking the organization to the next level. The key activities would include strengthening the ARSCP Secretariat, its management and establishing technical teams, strengthening the organizational resource base, preparations of ARSCP 10 and implementation of the Revised African 10YFP on SCP. Also, implementation of the UNIDO/UNEP programme on RECP, implementation of the SWITCH Africa Green project and Increasing membership, collaboration, partnerships and alliances.

Thirdly, a proposal was floated to raise the bi annual individual membership fee from USD 50.00 to USD 100.00. The proposal was approved.

Fourthly, a motion was moved to introduce an executive board seat for youths. Members agreed with the motion in principle, but noted that since there is an executive board seat for gender and children, it was best for youths to be in this group, at least for the time being.

Fifthly, a motion was moved to hold the next regional roundtable on SCP (ARSCP 10) in Burkina Faso in 2018. The motion was seconded and endorsed.

Lastly, in line with the ARSCP constitution which states that an executive board would be chosen every two years and that last elections were held in May 2014, and also that a member cannot hold the same position for more than two terms, members approved holding elections for new board members for the 2016/18 period.

Hence the members constituted themselves as an election committee. In line with the constitution, the outgoing board bade farewell to members thanking them for the cooperation they portrayed during the last two years. Prof Cleophas Migiro (CPCT) and Mr Smail Al Hilal (UNIDO) were proposed and approved to oversee the elections. A democratic and fair election was held in accordance to the constitution. Results are as follows:

Dr. Jane Nyakang'o	Kenya	ARSCP President
Executive Board Members:		
Mr. Gilbert Kilola Lutswamba	Congo (DRC)	Central Africa
Mr. Silver Ssebagala	Uganda	Eastern Africa
Mr. Leonardo Guiruta	Mozambique	Southern Africa
Mr. Quedraogo Rasmane	Burkina Faso	Western Africa
Dr. Lankoande Damien	Burkina Faso	Academia
Mr. Stephen Djaba	Ghana	Business
Mrs. Caroline Omoyime	Nigeria	Women and Children
Prof Ife Adewumi	Nigeria	Ex Officio

Thereafter, the new executive board elected Dr Lankoande Damien, the Board Secretary and Mr. Leonardo Guiruta, the Treasurer.

The new President made a brief appreciating remark assuring members of their best services and hard work to move the organization to the next level

The AGM was declared closed at 17:00 HRS