

TO BE APPROVED BY THE EXCO AT THE GA IN 2021
MINUTES OF PASMAE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE 11th PASMAE CONFERENCE
July 1– 5, 2019 in Seychelles

Call to Order
Adoption of the Agenda
Opening Remarks
Adoption of the minutes of 2017 General Conference
Matters arising from minutes of 2017 General Conference
Financial Reports
Message from ISME Representative
Constitutional Amendments
Reports from Regional Vice Presidents
Elections
Presentation of the In-Coming EXCO
Bids for next PASMAE Conference
Closing Remarks

1. Call to order

The Immediate Past President Dr Benon Kigozi called the meeting to order at 1204HRS and invited the President as Chair to preside over.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The Agenda was proposed by Dr. Benon Kigozi and seconded by Prof. Beverly Vaughn. The agenda was adopted.

3. Opening Remarks

President Eze Tochwuku thanked members for coming to the conference and attending the GA. The President expressed his gratitude to members and delegates for their participation and acknowledged the hard work of the outgoing EXCO and of the conference organizing committee to ensure the Conference took place. In his speech he thanked God Almighty for guiding him. He thanked Lee Higgins for coming accepting to come and to give a Keynote speech. He specifically thanked John Chitambo, Dr. Benon Kigozi, Judy Thönnell, Prof. Caroline Van Niekerk and the Local Organising committee for a well organised and successful PASMAE 2019 Conference. The Chair gave a brief history of his involvement with PASMAE and acknowledged the support he has been given to learn and to lead as President just after two years of joining the Society.

4. Adoption of the minutes of 2017 General Conference

The adoption of minutes was proposed by Dr. Dorette Verneulen and seconded by Prof. Beverly Vaughn. The minutes were adopted.

5. Matters arising from minutes of 2017 General Conference

The Chair asked if there were comments or matters arising from 2017 General Assembly minutes but there were no comments.

6. Financial Reports

Since Dr. Zenda Nel resigned abruptly and there hadn't been an official handover, Judy Thönell gave a brief explanation of the financial situation from the time she started volunteering to stand in the gap. She explained the use of an interactive web site called Conference Online (COL) which she had used since 2009. Judy mentioned that she had introduced it to PASMAE because it is automated, efficient and cost effective (free to set up, percentage paid on each registration) Conference participants are able to log on and register as well pay their conference fees as one can access it at any time you want, from anywhere with an internet connection.

7. Message from ISME Representative

ISME representative Prof. Lee Higgins gave his remarks expressing ISME's aim to reach out to a wider membership in Africa. He encouraged members to register for forthcoming ISME Conference in Helsinki. He encouraged members to join ISME and get involved with the various activities of ISME commissions of ISME and referred members to ISME website <http://www.isme.org> for more information.

8. Constitutional Amendments

a) Article VII – Executive Committee (Exco)

CURRENT:

To be eligible for nomination to the Exco, a person must have been a paid up member for a minimum of two years, attended at least two PASMAE conferences within the past four years and ideally, but not necessarily, served as a PASMAE sub-committee member and in such capacity have contributed harmoniously, collaboratively and effectively to that sub-committee.

CHANGE TO - CARRIED:

To be eligible for nomination to the Exco, a person must have been a paid up member for a minimum of two years, attended at least two PASMAE or ISME conferences within the past four years and ideally, but not necessarily, served as a PASMAE sub-committee member and in such capacity have contributed harmoniously, collaboratively and effectively to that sub-committee.

b) Bylaw III – Officers

Rational:

At the time the current item in the PASMAE Constitution was devised with one person in mind, to continue in that position, but the item needs to be relevant for whomever serves PASMAE, so it was found that an amendment is necessary.

CURRENT:

1. The officers of the Society, who comprise the Executive Committee, shall be the:
Honorary President (where relevant), ex officio, President, Past President, President Elect, Vice Presidents (minimum three, maximum five), Secretary General/Treasurer.

CHANGE TO - CARRIED:

1. The officers of the Society, who comprise the Executive Committee, shall be the
Honorary President (where relevant), ex officio, President, Past President, President Elect, Vice Presidents (minimum three, maximum five), Secretary General, Treasurer, Secretary General and Treasurer may be individual or joint appointments, at the discretion of Executive and dependent on the expertise of the Secretary General.

Note: that in Article VII, last paragraph, this is stated:

The Secretary General/Treasurer can be assisted by appointed functionaries of the Society such as a Bookkeeper and/or Webmaster and/or Operations Manager, or one or more of these roles can be fulfilled as part of the role of Secretary General, as determined by Exco, and according to the availability and capabilities of the Secretary General.

9. Reports from Regional Vice Presidents

a) Southern Africa region

Dr. Dorette Vermeulen reported that the PASMAE Southern Africa Regional conference was held in 2018. The conference was a success and covered practical workshops and presentations.

b) East African region

John Chitambo reported that he was able to bid for the main PASMAE Conference and also enrol many students' teachers into PASMAE from Seychelles, and that they are here at the conference

c) Central Africa Region

Dr. Bibian Kalinde Nzili informed members that because of her busy schedule which included more studying, she was not able to do much as VP Central Africa Region.

10. Elections

Elections were conducted to fill the positions of President Elect and three Vice Presidents.

The following were elected and presented as the In-Coming EXCO:

President-Elect: *Dr. Dorette Vermeulen (South Africa);*

Vice Presidents: *Nalumino Akashambatwa Mundia (Central Africa Region),
Prof Marc Duby (Southern Africa Region), and
Milton Wabyona (East African Region)*

Appointment: *Dr Benon Kigozi was appointed Secretary General*

11. Bids for next PASMAE Conference

Three countries submitted Bids for hosting 2021 PASMAE Conference as follows:

- a) Uganda,
- b) Kenya, and
- c) Zambia

The bid for hosting the 2021 PASMAE Conference was approved by Zambia.

12. Closing Remarks

The meeting closed at 13:10

Signatures

Secretary General

Date



President/Chair

Date