

AFRICA FORUM OF TEACHING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (AFTRA)

MINUTES OF AFTRA SPECIAL STEERING COMMITTEE (SC) MEETING HELD ON MAY 23, 2012 AT THE END OF THE 1ST AFTRA TEACHING AND LEARNING IN AFRICA CONFERENCE IN COTONOU, REPUBLIC OF BENIN

1.0 ATTENDANCE:

SN	NAME	DESIGNATION	ADDRESS
1	Rej Brijraj	Chairperson	
2	Dr. Aminu Ladan Sharehu	DG/CEO	National Teachers Institute, Kaduna, Nigeria
3	Paul M. Udofia	HOD/Chief Lecturer	College of Education, Afaha Nsit, Nigeria
4	John Jeftha	Chair of International Committee	SACE
5	Tsedipholo	Chief Operations Officer	SACE
6.	Bakari G. Issa	Assistant Director, Teacher Education	Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Tannzania
7.	Dinah Mathamani	School Inspector	Inspectorate Department, Morogoro, Tanzania
8.	Ezekiah T. Oluoch	Deputy General Secretary	Tanzania Teachers Union, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
9.	Abdallah S. Ngodu	Principal Education Officer	Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Tanzania
10.	Ruth Ansari	Acting Director, PRS	TRCN
11	Prof. A.M. Wokocha	Secretary	Nigeria
12	Dr. Steve Nwokeocha	Secretary	Nigeria

2.0 OPENING

The meeting was held at the Benin Marina Hotel, Cotonou, Republic of Benin at 9.00pm after the conclusion of the 1st AFTRA Teaching and Learning in Africa Conference. It was chaired by Mr. Rej Brijraj (AFTRA Chair). Mr Brijraj strongly commended TRCN particularly the Registrar/Chief Executive, Prof. Wokocha and Director of Operations, Dr Nwokeocha for being 'midwives' of the processes that are transforming the teaching profession in Africa. He appreciated the two officers particularly for the very successful conduct of the 1st AFTRA Conference. Mr Jeftha of SACE equally commended the leadership of TRCN and SACE for organising the AFTRA Conference which he said was of very high quality. Other members joined in appreciating the success of the Conference and commending TRCN and SACE for the success.

After the preambles, the Chair read agenda of the meeting which was adopted as follows:

- Clarification of membership criteria
- Hosting of 3rd AFTRA Roundtable

- Venue and Time of 2013 AFTRA Conference

2. MEMBERSHIP

The meeting clarified that AFTRA membership is not open – that only teaching regulatory authorities could be members. These are particularly teaching councils or ministries of education, teaching service commissions, and other employers and regulators of teaching in countries that do not have teaching councils. It was however agreed that teachers unions may be part of AFTRA only on observer status.

The meeting emphasized the need to link up AFTRA with Education International, Africa Union and other similar international bodies. Members were informed that AFTRA had in 2011 taken such decision. It was therefore agreed that SACE should step up the linking process.

3. AFTRA ROUNDTABLE

The Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU) volunteered to host the 3rd AFTRA Roundtable. This was highly applauded and appreciated. The AFTRA Headquarters was requested to work with the TTU to organise the Roundtable.

4. CONCLUSION

The meeting appreciated special guests at the meeting who were not AFTRA members but attended because of their great interest in AFTRA existence and success. Among them are Dr. Sherehu of the National Teachers Institute Kaduna Nigeria and the Tanzania delegates. The TTU spoke extensively about the interest of the Union to see that teaching council is established not only in Tanzania but also in the rest of the East African countries. For this reason, the TTU Acting General Secretary promised that the TTU would make the 3rd AFTRA Roundtable memorable and occasion to be celebrated across the whole of East Africa and the entire Africa so that it could herald the spread of the teaching councils in the East Africa sub-region.

The Chairman once again thanked members and wished everyone safe journey.

Rej Brijraj
Steering Committee Chair

Professor Addison Mark Wokocha
Steering Committee Secretary