



Minutes of the African Seismological
Commission meeting held during the
Second General Assembly in Al Hoceima,
Morocco

**Date:
24 April 2016**

The following points were discussed at the meeting which was held during the Second General Assembly in Al Hoceima, Morocco:

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Feedback on AfSC activities
3. Report from Working Groups:
 - I. Working Group I
 - II. Working Group II
 - III. Working Group III
 - IV. Working Group IV
 - V. Working Group V
4. Suggested changes to the Bylaws
5. Voting on the changes to the Bylaws
6. Nominations for Executive members
7. Election of Executive members
8. Next Nomination committee
9. Next General Assembly in 2020
10. General
 - I. Resolutions
 - II. Data centre for Africa
 - III. Working Group for young seismologists
 - IV. Encourage more countries to join both IUGG and AfSC
11. Closure

The meeting was chaired by the AfSC president, Atalay Ayele, assisted by the secretary, Michelle Grobbelaar, who was also the rapporteur.



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1. Welcome

The AfSC president welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the host.

2. Feedback on AfSC activities

The activities of the AfSC were briefly addressed and it was noted that AfSC is **gaining recognition** which is evident from the interest shown by organisations such as the North African Group for Earthquake and Tsunami studies (NAGET) to join the AfSC as an affiliated member.

3. Report from Working Groups:

- I. Working Group I** (Observational Seismology)
V. Midzi presented the activities of the working group.
- II. Working Group II** (Earth structure)
M. Grobbelaar presented, on behalf of R. Durrheim, the activities of the working group.
- III. Working Group III** (Active fault studies)
M. Meghraoui presented the activities of the working group.
- IV. Working Group IV** (Seismic Hazard and risk assessment)
No presentation was made.
- V. Working Group V** (Earthquake Scientific Response Team)
M. Elgabry presented the activities of the working group.

4. Suggested changes to the Bylaws

The suggested changes, as was circulated via email, were presented for each article within the Bylaws covering:



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Article I. Purpose of the commission,
Article II. Membership,
Article III. The General Assembly,
Article IV. The Council,
Article V. The Executive Committee,
Article VI. Administrative Period,
Article VII. Elections,
Article VIII. Amendment of Bylaws
Article IX. Interpretation of the Bylaws
Article X. Approval of the Bylaws

5. Voting on the changes to the Bylaws

Members voted to accept the changes with a few minor amendments.

6. Nominations for Executive members

The president nominated IASPEI Secretary General Johannes Schweitzer to conduct the elections.

The following candidates were nominated:

President – Prof. M. Meghraoui

For the election of president **only one vote** (secret ballot) **per member country and affiliated organization.**

1st Vice President - Paulina Amponsah

2nd Vice President – Dr. G. T. Mavonga/ Prof Yelles/ Prof Mourabit

Secretary General – Michelle Grobbelaar

Member - Dr. M. Elgabry/ El Talibi Hajar/ L. Moudnib

For election, **all members** (titular, affiliate and individuals) are eligible to vote.

Past President – Atalay Ayele

No election required.

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<p>7. <u>Election of Executive members</u></p> <p>With the exception of the election for President, the elections proceeded with a show of hands, and with secret ballot where there was more than one candidate, such as the 2nd vice president and the member.</p> <p>The elected candidates for the Executive Committee (2018 – 2020 term) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President - Mustapha Meghraoui (Algeria), - 1st vice president - Paulina Amponsah (Ghana), - 2nd vice president - Georges T. Mavonga (DRC), - Secretary - Michelle Grobbelaar (South Africa), - Member - Mohamed Elgabry (Egypt), - Past President - Atalay Ayele (Ethiopia). <p>8. <u>Next Nomination committee</u></p> <p>According to the Bylaws, most of the positions hold office for one administrative period which is 2 years, thus new office bearers should be elected at the third general assembly in 2020.</p> <p>The following nomination committee was elected: Atalay Ayele (Ethiopia), Vunganai Midzi (South Africa), Ahmed Ksentini (Tunisia) and Hajar El Talibi (Morocco).</p>	<p>Nominating committee to draft list of potential office bearers before general assembly in 2020</p>
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9. Next General Assembly in 2020

No bids have been received, even though the guidelines have been circulated and are on the website. The executive committee has extended the deadline to 31 December 2018 and encourages all countries to consider hosting either the third or fourth general assemblies.

Invitations to bid for the general assemblies in 2020 and 2022 shall be sent out to members and closed in December 2018

10. General

I. Resolutions

The following resolutions were agreed upon:

- a) AfSC thanks Morocco for the successfully organised 2nd General Assembly.
- b) AfSC acknowledges the success of IGCP 601 and supports the IGCP 659 initiative as a collaborative project.
- c) AfSC acknowledges the contribution of the first executive committee during the period 2014 – 2018.
- d) AfSC thanks the CTBTO for their continuous support to the training courses.

II. Earthquake Data centre for Africa

This topic was discussed and it was agreed that it was a good concept.

However, members noted that it will have to be well thought through. Thus, the executive committee will look into forming a group to assess the options.

III. Working Group for young seismologists

This was well received and Mohamed Maklad (Egypt) was nominated to chair the group.

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<p>IV. <u>Encourage more countries to join both IUGG, IASPEI and AfSC</u></p> <p>The members agreed that this was very important and both M. Meghraoui and A. Hosny agreed to pursue this issue.</p> <p>11. <u>Closure</u></p> <p>The meeting was closed and the president once again thanked the host for a successful meeting.</p> <p>In addition, a letter to the King of Morocco thanking him for his patronage was read out to the members.</p>	
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