

# **African Seismological Commission (AfSC)**

**Michelle Grobbelaar**



# BACKGROUND

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- The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI) resolved to establish the African Seismological Commission (AfSC) in Melbourne, Australia (July 2011).
- IASPEI encouraged the formation of an African Seismological Commission to foster more cooperation within the region and the organization of regular IASPEI regional meetings.
- An interim executive committee was appointed (out of African participants at IUGG in Melbourne) to lead the process of setting up the AfSC:

**Interim President: A. Ayele**

**Interim VPresident: V. Midzi**

**Interim Secretary General: M. Grobbelaar**



# BACKGROUND 2014/15

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- The AfSC was launched on the 22 January 2014 during an Africa-Array workshop held at WITS university in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Attended by representatives from 21 African countries at the meeting, such as Algeria, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Ghana, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Angola, Egypt, Senegal, Morocco, Libya, Nigeria, Cameroon, DR Congo, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Cape Verde Republic, Botswana and Rwanda.
- The meeting was opened by the IASPEI president, Domenico Giardani, and secretary general/treasurer, Peter Suhadolc.



# Approved Statutes (Bylaws of AfSC)

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- Article 1: Purpose of AfSC
- Article 2: Membership
- Article 3: General Assembly
- Article 4: The Council
- Article 5: The Executive Committee
- Article 6: Administrative Period
- Article 7: Elections
- Article 8: Amendment of Bylaws
- Article 9: Interpretation of Bylaws
- Article 10: Approval of Bylaws

***Bylaws based on statutes of other IASPEI regional commissions.***



# Article 1: Purpose of AfSC

The AfSC mission is to **promote the science of Seismology** within the scientific community of the African countries, by promoting research studies, to extend and enhance scientific co-operation and to train young scientists.

The following objectives are of particular interest:

- a) **Facilitate exchange** of ideas and personal meetings between scientists by means of the General Assembly of the AfSC, workshops and seminars on special topics, and discussion forums on emerging issues.
- b) **Encourage co-operation** between individuals and organisations by establishing Working Groups (WGs) on seismological problems of common international interest, with emphasis on new research topics.
- c) **Promote inter-disciplinary studies** involving Seismology.
- d) **Encourage co-operation** with other African and non-African scientific and engineering communities.
- e) Organise, and encourage others to **organise training courses** in Earthquake and Engineering Seismology, especially for young scientists.
- f) Operate within the bylaws, regulations and recommendations of the **International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI)**.



# 8 countries are members of IUGG

MEMBERS	ADMISSION/TERMINATION
CONGO D.R. (**)	2004
EGYPT	1924
GHANA	1957-1987, 2006
MAURITIUS	2003
MOROCCO	1924
MOZAMBIQUE	1983
NIGERIA	1971
SOUTH AFRICA	1924



# Article 2: Membership of AfSC

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Membership in AfSC is by **country and organization**. Each country that adheres to IUGG and is situated within the region defined in Article I is a Titular Member. Countries which are involved in seismology or geosciences within the region defined in Article I, but not yet IUGG members, may apply to be **Affiliate Members of AfSC**. African geoscientific organizations can also apply for Affiliate membership. Titular Members and Affiliate Members form part of the AfSC Council (see Article IV). A Titular Member should be nominated by the country's national committee of IUGG. An Affiliate country Member should be nominated by an Institution or Research organisation of his/her country.

Thus, letters were sent to various countries asking the organisations to nominate representatives for Affiliate membership.



# Election of executive committee

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## **President**

Atalay Ayele (Ethiopia)

## **1st vice president**

Bekoa Ateba (Cameroon)

## **2nd vice president**

Ahmed Hosny Ali (Egypt)

## **Secretary**

Michelle Grobbelaar (South Africa)

## **Member**

Paulina Amponsah (Ghana)





# First General Assembly (2016)

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The call has gone out for bids to host the first AfSC General Assembly.

A document was prepared which explains what a country should consider when bidding for the General Assembly, accommodation, meeting rooms, number of people to cater for, etc.

Bids to be received before the IUGG meeting in Prague in June 2015.





## Aims of the AfSC

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### AFSC

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## Executive Committee

The following members were elected as interim committee members and have the support of the IASPEI executive , please click [Here](#) for more details.

### Details of the interim executive committee



**President**

**Atalay Ayele (Ethiopia)**

Institute of Geophysics Space Science and Astronomy

Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

Tel: +251 911401332

Email: [atawon@yahoo.com](mailto:atawon@yahoo.com)



**1st vice president**

**Bekoa Ateba (Cameroon)**

Institute of Geological and Mining Research

Buea

Cameroon

Tel: 0023733322172

Email: [b.ateba@yahoo.com](mailto:b.ateba@yahoo.com)

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## Bylaws

### Proposed Bylaws for the African Seismological Commission (AfSC)

#### Article I. Purpose of the commission

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- d) **Encourage co-operation** with other African and non-African scientific and engineering communities.
- e) Organise, and encourage others to **organise training courses in Earthquake and Engineering**

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## AfSC Council

The ruling body of the AfSC is the Council, consisting of the Titular (Countries that adheres to IUGG and is situated within the African continent) and Affiliate (Countries which are involved in seismology or geosciences within Africa, but are not yet IUGG members and have applied to be Affiliate Members of AfSC) Members, and the Executive Committee.

Thus far the Titular members are:

- D.R. CONGO – R.D. CONGO - Centre de Recherche en Géophysique (CRG),
- EGYPT - Academy of Scientific Research and Technology,
- GHANA - Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, (AfSC contact: national Nuclear Research Institute – P. Amponsah)
- MAURITIUS - Ministry of Environment,
- MOROCCO - Université Mohammed V Agdal, (AfSC contact: Institut Scientifique – Y. Timoulali)
- MOZAMBIQUE - Direcção Nacional de Geologia, (AfSC contact: Geological and Mining Institute – J. P. Chamussa)
- NIGERIA - Nigerian Union of Planetary and Radio Sciences, (AfSC contact: Centre for Geodesy and Geodynamics – O. U. Akpan)
- SOUTH AFRICA – National Research Foundation, (AfSC contact: Council for Geoscience – M. Grobbelaar)
- EGYPT - Academy of Scientific Research and Technology, (AfSC contact: National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics – A. Hosny)

Thus far the Affiliate members are:

- Organisation of African Geological Surveys – G. Schneider (President)
- Botswana Geological Survey – M. Kwadiba
- Geological Survey Department (Malawi) – P.R.N. Chindandali
- Division of Mines and Geology (Senegal) – O. Wane
- Institute for Geophysics Space Science and Astronomy (Ethiopia) – A. Ayele
- Cabo Verde National Institute of Meteorology and Geophysics (Cabo Verde) – B. Faria
- National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe) – J.D. Hlatywayo
- Cameroon Academy of Science (Cameroon) – N. Severin

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# Thank you for your continued support

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