



AFSEC

AFSEC, THE AFRICAN ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION COMMISSION, has now been established as a result of a collaborative effort among stakeholders that started in 2005, underpinned by a declaration of the Conference of African Ministers of Energy held in Algiers on 17th February 2008.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF AFSEC?

In the field of electricity, electronics and related technologies, the African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission (AFSEC) is responsible for

- Identification of existing standards and prioritization of standards needs,
- Harmonizing existing standards, through either the adoption of international standards; or where necessary their adaptation to African conditions,
- Where there is a need, identifying draft standards to be developed by the members of AFSEC for adoption, and
- Recommending harmonized standards for application by the appropriate bodies of the African Union.

WHO SHOULD BECOME MEMBERS OF AFSEC?

All users of electrotechnical standards in African countries - electricity utilities, the national standards bodies, electricity regulators, consultants, contractors and suppliers of electrical equipment and services – should participate in the activities of AFSEC, by forming a national electrotechnical committee in each country. A few countries already have fully established committees. National electrotechnical committees are the potential statutory members of AFSEC.

FUNDING OF AFSEC

AFSEC will be funded in part by membership fees, with contributions from supporting organisations. A 5-point scale of fees based on the GDP of the member's country has been agreed. The collection of fees for 2008 will commence in July 2008.

Annual fee structure for statutory members

GDP [\$b p.a.]	GDP > 60	60 ≤ GDP >20	20 ≤ GDP > 10	10 ≤ GDP > 1	GDP ≤1
Annual Fee [US \$]	\$10 000	\$7 500	\$5000	\$2 500	\$1000

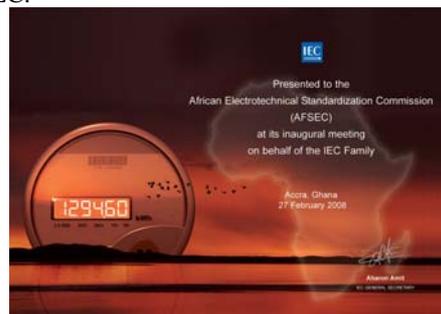
Sub-regional groupings are also invited to join as affiliate members of AFSEC, and any other African organisations involved in electrotechnical standardization.

Please contact the Executive Secretary, Paul Johnson, email: secretariat@afsec-africa.org

and visit www.afsec-africa.org for more information.

THE AFRICAN ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION COMMISSION (AFSEC) INAUGURATION AND CONSTITUTIVE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WAS HELD IN ACCRA, GHANA 26TH TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2008

The welcoming speech was given by The Executive Director of the Ghana Standards Board, followed by messages of support from the President of ARSO, and representatives of the IEC and CENELEC. To mark the occasion, a commemorative plaque was presented to AFSEC on behalf of the IEC.



An address by the UPDEA President, Mr J Ofedie, followed, in which he paid tribute to the members of the working group for the establishment of AFSEC, and the UPDEA Study Committee for standardization. In this and subsequent addresses by the Executive Director of AFSEC, Dr Elhag, and by the representative of the African Union, M. Niyongabo it was evident that the establishment of AFSEC was widely perceived as necessary, and that AFSEC was poised to play an important role in the development of the continent. The Constitutive General Assembly was then formally opened by the Minister of Trade, Industry, PSI and PSD for Ghana, Mr. Joe Baidoo-Ansah.

The Inauguration of the CGA was chaired by the Executive Director of the Energy Commission of Ghana, Dr. Alfred K. Ofosu Ahenkorah.

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The opening speeches acknowledged the stakeholder working group that had spearheaded the establishment of AFSEC.



Members of the working group for the establishment of AFSEC

Back, left to right:

A.ANANI, UPDEA secretariat; P Johnson, Eskom, South Africa; D Agbanelo, Sec Gen., ARSO; C Okoro, SON, Nigeria.

Front, left to right:

Mrs. E Oduor, KEBS, Kenya; Dr H Elhag, Executive Director, AFREC; KOUTOUA C. CIE, Côte d'Ivoire



Delegates assembled after the opening of the Inauguration and Constitutive General Assembly of AFSEC by the Ghanaian Minister of Trade, Industry, PSI and PSD

The Management Committee will comprise: The President, 3 Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and 10 members being representative of the 5 sub-regions (2 for each sub region). AFREC and UPDEA will also hold permanent seats in the Management Committee.

M. KOUTOUA Claude: CIE, Côte d'Ivoire, was elected as President of AFSEC.

Charles Okoro: SON, Nigeria was confirmed as First Vice President [Technical Committees]

Mrs Evah Oduor: KEBS, Kenya was confirmed as Second Vice President [Conformity Assessment Committee]

GUEYE Mamadou: Proquelec, Senegal was confirmed as Third Vice President, with the special task of expediting the formation of national committees in member states.

The position of Treasurer has not yet been filled.

In addition to the elected officer bearers, the following National Committees represented at the CGA were confirmed as founding members in the Management Committee of AFSEC:

- North Africa **Egypt and Libya**
- East Africa **Sudan**, one more to be elected.
- Central Africa None, two to be elected,
- West Africa **Ghana and Benin**
- Southern Africa **South Africa**, one more to be elected.

Elections for the vacant positions identified will take place during the next 3 month period in accordance with the statutes.

It is hoped that many more African States will soon form their national electrotechnical committees and become members of AFSEC. Contact the Executive Secretary for information on how to join AFSEC and about membership fees for 2008.



KOUTOUA Claude, incoming President of AFSEC, being congratulated by the Secretary General of UPDEA, Eng. MUTIMA Sakrini



Paul Johnson: Eskom, South Africa, has been appointed as Executive Secretary of AFSEC.