

SUMMARY REPORT OF THE CONSTITUTIVE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (CGA) OF THE AFRICAN ELECTROTECHNICAL STANDARDIZATION COMMISSION (AFSEC), HELD IN ACCRA, GHANA 26TH TO 28TH FEBRUARY 2008

A) Briefing session - 26th February

The first day, 26th February was given over to a briefing session for heads of delegations for the prospective founding members of AFSEC, together with the members of the working group for the establishment of AFSEC, which had itself convened prior to the CGA during the period 22nd to 25th February, hosted by VRA, Ghana.

The briefing session was chaired by the Executive Director of AFREC, being the Chairman of the AFSEC working group.

The briefing session was attended by representatives of stakeholders from the following Members States (in some cases these being representatives of existing National Electrotechnical Committees):

Angola; Benin; Congo; Cote D'Ivoire; Egypt; Gabon; Ghana; Kenya; Libya; Namibia; Nigeria; Senegal; South Africa; Sudan.

This session provided an opportunity for queries and clarifications concerning the documents to be tabled at the formal Inauguration of the CGA on day 2.

The session also provided an indication that the number of prospective founding members would be 12.

Stakeholders were also given the chance to submit further nominations to the positions on the management committee of ASFEC.

B) Inauguration of AFSEC - 27th February

The second day, 27th February, comprised the formal opening session, followed by tabling of the documents necessary for the setting up of AFSEC and the formation of the incoming management committee, and appointment of an Executive Secretary.

B.1 Opening session

In the opening session, a welcoming speech was given by The Executive Director of the Ghana Standards Board

Message of support were read by the President of ARSO, and representatives of the IEC, and CENELEC. A commemorative plaque was presented to the Chairman of the AFSEC Working group from the IEC Secretary General.

Addresses followed by the UPDEA Secretary General, The Executive Director of AFREC [Chairman of AFSEC working group], and by the representative of the AU.

It was evident from these speeches 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.

A bureau for the inaugural session of the CGA was elected, to be representative of the 5 sub-regions, comprising

President - Ghana;
Vice Presidents - Egypt and Congo
Rapporteurs - South Africa, and Kenya

B.2 Inauguration of AFSEC

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

The following documents were tabled and accepted by the CGA, with minor amendments to some documents as indicated:

a) Statutes and Rules of Procedure;

Some amendments to the final draft versions of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure were proposed from the floor and accepted.

b) A procedure for deciding on the headquarters for AFSEC;

c) A draft budget and financial plan;

It was noted that an adjustment to the budget was required for 2008, requiring members to make contributions during 2008, to make up for the shortfall in the contributions expected from the budget of AFREC.

d) A membership fee structure (scale of fees); noting the need for fees to be paid during 2008.

The proposed logo for AFSEC was presented, resulting from the competition sponsored by the AU, noting the need for some adjustment to the colours to reflect AFSEC's association with the AU and AFREC. Two prizes winners, both from Ghana were acknowledged. Both are due to receive the prize money (\$1 000 each) from the AU.

B.3 Election of President of AFSEC

Two candidates for the position of AFSEC President had been proposed: From Ghana and from Cote d'Ivoire.

In a secret ballot, in which each of the 10 national committees present was allowed one vote (excluding the countries of the candidates), **KOUTOUA Claude** [Ivory Coast] was elected as **President of AFSEC**

[Voting members: Egypt, South Africa, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Gabon, Benin, Kenya, Libya, Gambia]

B. 4 Formation of the Management Committee

It was noted that the management committee was to be comprised of:

The President, up to 3 Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and 10 members being representative of the 5 subregions (2 for each sub region)

Candidates who had been nominated in their individual capacity to the positions of Vice Presidents, with the support of their national committees were recorded as:

C Okoro [Nigeria]

Mrs E Oduor [Kenya]

M Gueye [Senegal]

It was noted that no nominations had been received to hold the office of Treasurer.

B. 5 Appointment of Executive Secretary

Paul Johnson of Eskom, South Africa who had acted as interim secretariat since July 2005, was unanimously appointed as the Executive Secretary. The Eskom delegate for the South African Delegation indicated that Eskom would continue to provide the necessary support for Paul Johnson to be effective in the role of Executive Secretary of AFSEC.

C) AFSEC Management Committee meeting - 28th February AM :

C.1 Election to the positions of Vice Presidents:

C Okoro was confirmed as First Vice President [Technical Committees]

Mrs E Oduor was confirmed as Second Vice President [Conformity Assessment Committee]

M Gueye was confirmed as Third Vice President, with the special task of expediting the formation of national committees in member states.

C.2 Positions in the Management Committee:

The following National Committees represented at the CGA were confirmed as founding members in the Management Committee of AFSEC, taking account of the geographic balance, and recognising that the elected office bearers were from the national committees of **Cote D'Ivoire, Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal**, being also founding members:

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 would take place during the next 6 month period in accordance with the statutes, allowing some time for more African States to form their national committees.

C.3 Plan of Action: 2008-2010

A Plan of action was tabled and accepted after some clarifications.

It was noted that for effective execution of the plan, all members of the management committee would need to be active, and in particular there would be a need to draw on the experience of the long standing national committees of **Egypt** and **South Africa** [those that had been IEC members for many years].

It was recorded the Plan of Action of AFSEC would be forwarded to AFREC for inclusion in the work programme of AFREC.

D) Closing session 28th February PM

After informative presentations by the representatives of the IEC Secretariat, CENELEC (EU) and UTE (France), the closing session, Chaired by the President of AFSEC, included the reading of the declaration and resolutions (attached).

In closing, votes of thanks were proposed to

- a) the Peoples and President of Ghana
- b) the host organisations
- c) The AFSEC working group, and
- d) Eskom, South Africa.

These are attached.

VOTE OF THANKS

The African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission, AFSEC, having held its Constitutive General Assembly from 26th – 28th February 2008 in Accra (Ghana)

Considering the support given by the stakeholders represented in the Working Group for the Establishment of AFSEC, in working unwaveringly towards the goal of establishing AFSEC

Expresses its profound gratitude to the African Union Commission, the African Energy Commission, UPDEA, the African Organisation for Standardisation, and the representatives of African National Electrotechnical Committees for their efforts leading to the successful establishment of AFSEC.

Drafted in Accra on 28th February 2008

VOTE OF THANKS

The African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission, AFSEC, having held its Constitutive General Assembly from 26th – 28th February 2008 in Accra (Ghana)

Considering the consistent support given by Eskom, South Africa in hosting an Interim Secretariat for AFSEC during its initial phase of development

Expresses its profound gratitude to the Chief Executive and Management Board of Eskom for the contribution of its staff that has led to the successful establishment of AFSEC.

Drafted in Accra on 28th February 2008

VOTE OF THANKS

The African Electrotechnical Standardization Commission, AFSEC, having held its Constitutive General Assembly from 26th – 28th February 2008 in Accra (Ghana)

Considering the conducive atmosphere created and the facilities made available to the participants to enable the smooth conduct of their proceedings

Expresses its profound gratitude to the President of Ghana, and its peoples, the host organizations, Ghana Standards Board, Volta River Authority, Electricity Company of Ghana and the Energy Commission, Ghana as well as to the translators and interpreters for their invaluable contributions to the success of the Constitutive General Assembly of AFSEC.

Drafted in Accra on 28th February 2008

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Considering the conducive atmosphere created and the facilities made available to the participants to enable the smooth conduct of their proceedings

Expresses its profound gratitude to the host organisations, Ghana Standards Board, Volta River Authority, Electricity Company of Ghana and the Energy Commission, Ghana as well as to the translators and interpreters for their invaluable contributions to the success of the meeting.

Drafted in Accra on 28th February 2008

AFSEC/CGA/06/Decl/Accra
28th February 2008