



**REPORT OF PROCEEDING OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES IN  
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (APLESA)**

**27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2013  
Esibayeni Lodge  
Matsapha, Swaziland  
Swaziland Parliament  
P.O . Box 37  
Lobamba**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The 2013 Association of Parliamentary Libraries in the Eastern and Southern Africa (APLESA) Conference was organized and hosted by the Parliament of the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The Theme of the Conference was **APLESA @20: Linking Nations for informed Legislation Representation and Accountability.**

The conference commenced on the 27<sup>th</sup> May to the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013 and was attended by 19 delegates from 8 countries namely, Angola, Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Uganda and Zambia.

**MONDAY- 27<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

### **OFFICIAL OPENING**

The Chairperson of the Association of Parliamentary Libraries in the Eastern and Southern Africa (APLESA) Mr. Simon Engitu presented the background information on the Association. In his briefing, he mentioned that the Association has been in existence since 1994. He further outlined its successes in the twenty years of its existence. He concluded by thanking the Parliament of the Kingdom of Swaziland for hosting the Conference.

The Conference was officially opened by the Guest of Honour His Royal Highness (HRH) Prince Guduza, Speaker of the House of Assembly.

In his speech he emphasised that Libraries were a very important component of Parliaments and the society in general. The work that is done by Legislators would be in vain if there were no libraries. The legislature would be much compromised in performing its functions without Libraries. He further mentioned that it is also through Libraries that Parliament is extended to people in our societies and that Libraries used optimally, are a hub of information, enlightenment and wisdom.

He finally challenged the participants to use the conference to share meaningful strategies that will ensure that Parliamentary Libraries operate effectively and efficiently through the use of Information Technology.

### ***Vote of Thanks***

Ms. Esther Kamau Vice Chairperson of APLESA moved a vote of thanks on behalf of the Participants. She thanked the Hon. Speaker for hosting the Conference and for taking time from his busy schedule to attend and officially open the Conference. She also thanked the Clerk to Parliament (Swaziland) and the Organizing Committee for all their efforts in making APLESA 2013 a success.

### **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Thuli Masondo Assistant Librarian Swaziland National Library Services delivered the keynote address on behalf of the Director National Library Services Mrs. Nomsa Mkhwanazi. The keynote address covered the following topics:

- Importance of information
- Development of Libraries in Swaziland
- Swaziland National Libraries and Bibliography
- Network SWALINET Project which will help to broaden access to information and to keep up with developments in the Library and Information profession. This project is aimed at linking all Libraries and information centres in Swaziland electronically to provide rapid access to information and to promote information sharing.

The address also covered information on services for people living with disabilities and information on digital opportunity centres (DOC's) in the country.

There were no deliberations on the keynote address since the author of the speech was not present.

### **PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

**Ms. Khosi Ndlangamandla** Librarian – Swaziland Nazarene University presented a paper on ***Library and Information Education in Swaziland; a feasibility study.***

The presentation was derived from a study that investigated the feasibility of providing Library and Information Education in Swaziland. The paper interrogated two major concerns:

- The dependency by the country on foreign schools to acquire education and training.
- The required funding to import such education and training into the country.

Also highlighted were issues on the relevance of the imported education and training and the major concerns by the Government, concerning funding for higher education and training in other countries.

The paper concluded with recommendations for hosting education, stakeholder participation, balanced relevance and tracer studies.

**Ms Joy Shabangu** – Librarian Swaziland National Archives presented a paper on the ***Parliament Libraries actual and potential role to effectively increase the standard in fulfilling its organisational goal.***

The presentation touched on means for refining the services of Parliamentary Libraries and Information Centres in the region, the ways of selecting the material, Parliamentary budgets and suggestions on training and networking services.

She further asked the participants to consider the following:

- Promoting e-learning and ICT's
- Avoiding duplication of resources
- Provision of enough space
- Convenient opening hours for Libraries and that they must be appealing places, air conditioned and the environment should be conducive.

### **SECOND DAY – TUESDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

**Mr. Innocent Rugambwa** –Director Library and Research – parliament of Uganda presented a paper titled ***Competencies for the 21<sup>st</sup> century Librarian.*** The paper highlighted several skills required to enhance service delivery as follows:

- Public relations
- Personal skills
- Professional skills
- Leadership skills
- Personal values

The paper emphasized on attitude change for the Librarians, return on investment and adoption of ICT in the job, whilst discouraging members from being “doormats”.

## ***Discussions***

Several lively comments and contributions emanated from the above presentation from all member countries present. The members echoed the presenter's sentiments and further reiterated on extending boundaries and versatility. A concern was noted on "breaking the chain of command" in accessing power and several members advised on different safe approaches. Another concern was on using interns from Library and Information schools in Parliamentary Libraries. The Members agreed that a direct link should be established with the schools for this arrangement to work effectively.

**Mr. Simon Engitu** Deputy Director Library and Research Uganda Parliament presented a paper entitled "***How can Parliamentary Libraries support committee work***" He gave a background on the Parliament Library of the Ugandan Parliament and how it supports Parliament work. The paper highlighted existing units' services and initiatives that support parliament work. Current initiatives enhancing support mentioned were building partnerships and applications of ICT.

## ***COUNTRY REPORTS***

The following countries presented their reports:

- Angola presented by Mr. Geraldo Cambiete
- Botswana presented by Mr. Peter Moatswi
- Kenya presented by Ms. Grace Mwakio
- Mozambique Presented by Ms. Laurencia Bule
- Namibia presented by Ms. R. Da Cruz
- Swaziland presented by Ms. Esther Nxumalo
- Uganda presented by Mr. Innocent Rugambwa
- Zambia presented by Ms. Chama Mfula

## **THIRD DAY- WEDNESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

The third day was marked by a workshop facilitated by the Africa Innovation Group.

The Workshop covered the following topics:

- Emerging trends in Parliamentary Practice

- Towards policy analysis modelling this topic covered different kinds of policy models such as Incrementalist model, Rational model, Public Sector Strategic Planning model, Neo-Institutionalist model, Power Clusters model and the king makers model
- Intra- Parliamentary relations and the role of legislative staff.

### **FOURTH DAY- THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

#### **EXCURSION**

The excursion was on Thursday. The delegates had an opportunity to visit Piggs Peak; this is the highest Peak of Swaziland. The delegates also visited two Swazi factories namely, the Swazi Candles and the Ngwenya Swazi Glass factory.

### **FIFTH DAY -FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2013**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> APLESA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

##### **Agenda**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Communication from the APLESA Chairperson
3. Treasurer's report
4. Presentation of the 13<sup>th</sup> APLESA minutes and Matters arising
5. Amendment of the Constitution
6. Elections
7. AOB
8. Closing

##### **Presentation of the Agenda**

The Chairperson Simon Engitu presented the agenda and moved for the adoption of the agenda. The agenda was accordingly adopted without amendments.

### **1. OPENING PRAYER**

Ms. Esther Kamau from the Parliament of Kenya gave the word of prayer

### **2. COMMUNICATION FROM THE APLESA CHAIRPERSON – MR. SIMON ENGITU**

The Chairperson thanked the entire membership of APLESA together with the management of the member Parliaments for supporting their staff to participate in APLESA activities and for providing the APLESA Executive Committee with the needed co-operation and support. He further outlined that with the support APLESA gets from the Members, APLESA has been able to realize its objectives by implementing the following activities:

- Membership certificates were circulated to all APLESA member Parliaments.
- Four training workshops have been held since 2010.
- APLESA Conference Hosting support fund for host countries was implemented and the Honorarium for paper presenters approved.

### **3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mr. Innocent Rugambwa. He reported that most Parliaments have paid their annual subscriptions of US\$200.00. He urged Accountants of member Parliaments to indicate in their telegraphic money transfer the name of the Parliament paying or sending the subscription, otherwise he encounters challenges when preparing the report as he is never sure where the money came from. He further encouraged all National Parliaments present to take it upon themselves to indicate the names of the Parliaments, save for Botswana Parliament.

The Treasurer further reported the following:

- That APLESA has already paid two million six thousand shillings to Dannsites (U) Ltd Company as payment for website and domain Name hosting and maintenance for April 2013 to March 2014.
- The APLESA bank balance as of the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2013 remained at 13 517 085.00 Ugandan Shillings (Thirteen Million Five Hundred and Seventeen Thousand and Eighty Five Ugandan shillings) which is approximately US\$ 8 987.28 (Eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Seven Dollars Twenty Eight cents).

#### **4. PRESENTATION OF THE 13<sup>TH</sup> APLESA MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

The Secretary General Mr. Fanwell Banda presented the minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> APLESA conference held in Namibia on the 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> May 2013. The minutes were adopted as a correct record of the 13<sup>th</sup> APLESA Annual Conference.

##### **4.1 *Matters arising***

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4.2 The Chairperson reported that most of the 2012 resolutions have been met and the remarkable one is the designing of the APLESA flag.

#### **5. CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS**

The constitution Committee Chairperson Innocent Rugambwa raised an issue on Constitutional amendment on Subscription, and registration fees. After a lengthy discussion, the issue of the constitutional amendment was deferred to the next Conference to be held in Zambia in 2014. Members were asked to go back to their respective Parliaments and motivate the amendment with their Secretary Generals/Clerks to Parliament.

The Chairperson further moved for the dissolution of all committees since this is unworkable, people never meet to deliberate on issues. Unfortunately, the motion was left hanging.

#### **6. ELECTIONS**

Elections were held and Ms Khosie Ndlangamandla was asked to preside on the elections. The following were elected to serve for the next two years.

Chairperson – Ms Esther Kamau (Kenya)

Vice Chairperson- Mr. Geraldo Cambiete (Angola)

Treasurer – Innocent Mr. Rugambwa (Uganda)

Secretary General- Mr. Peter Moatswi (Botswana)

##### ***Members***

Ms. Laurencia Bule (Mozambique)

Ms. R. Da Cruz (Namibia)

Ms. Chama Mfula (Zambia)



## **RESOLUTIONS**

1. It was noticed that there is a challenge on communication amongst the participants.

**It was resolved that translation/interpretation for French and Portuguese speaking nations should be provided during APLESA Conference.**

2. Increase on Parliament annual subscriptions.

**It was resolved that Member Parliaments should contact their Parliaments on the increase in subscription fees from US\$200.00 to US\$300.00.**

3. Hosting of 2014 APLESA Conference

**It was resolved that the Zambia Parliament hosts the 2014 conference.**

4. It was observed that the following tasks were not completed/implemented:
  - Finalise and implement the APLESA Strategic Work Plan.
  - Produce policy guidelines in line with the resolutions reached by the APLESA AGM and develop proposals for strengthening APLESA. Such policies could include the way funds should be expended among others.
  - Draw up work plan for each Working Committee (continuous exchange of ideas and information between members and various Working Committees throughout the process of finalizing work plan. Each committee will inform the Executive Committee of the timeframe for the activities).

**It was resolved that the incoming Executive Committee attends to the unfinished tasks.**

## ***7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS***

There were no any other business issues.

## **8. CLOSING**

Mr. Archie Motsa, Principal Assistant Secretary, officially closed the Conference

# APPENDIX

**THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES IN THE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (APLESA) 27<sup>TH</sup> 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2013-05-29**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.**

| <b>NAME</b>             | <b>COUNTRY</b>    | <b>E-MAILS ADRESS</b>              |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Maria Sebastiana     | <b>Angola</b>     | tlanabunze@hotmail.com             |
| 2. Geraldo Cambiete     | <b>Angola</b>     | cambiete@yahoo.com                 |
| 3 Maria dos Anjose Jose | <b>Angola</b>     | delosangela@yahoo.com.br           |
| 4 K.P. Moatswi          | <b>Botswana</b>   | kmoatswi@gov.bw                    |
| 5. Galeo Dineo          | <b>Botswana</b>   | gdineo@gov.bw                      |
| 6. Esther Kamawu        | <b>Kenya</b>      | ekamau@parliament.go.ke            |
| 7. Grace Mwakio         | <b>Kenya</b>      | gmwakio@hotmail.com                |
| 8. Alberto D. Ntimana   | <b>Mozambique</b> | ajnovela@yahoo.com.br              |
| 9. Laurenciana Bule     | <b>Mozambique</b> | laurenciana.bule@parliament.gov.na |
| 10. R.Da cruz           | <b>Namibia</b>    | r.dacruz@parliament.gov.na         |
| 11. Fanuel Katshenye    | <b>Namibia</b>    | f.katshenye@parliament.gov.na      |
| 12. B.K. Riruako        | <b>Namibia</b>    | brianonene@gmail.com               |
| 13. Esther Nxumalo      | <b>Swaziland</b>  | nxumalo.esther@yahoo.com           |
| 14. Wilson Nkambule     | <b>Swaziland</b>  | wilsonnkambule@gmail.com           |
| 15. Khosi Ndlangamandla | <b>Swaziland</b>  | khosie@yahoo.com                   |
| 16. Innocent Rugambwa   | <b>Uganda</b>     | irugambwa@parliament.gov.ug        |
| 17. Simon Joseph Engitu | <b>Uganda</b>     | sengitu@parliament.gov.ug          |
| 18. Chama M. Mfula      | <b>Zambia</b>     | cmmfula@parliament.gov.zm          |
| 19. Fanwell Banda       | <b>Zambia</b>     | fanwellb@parliament.gov.zm         |
|                         |                   |                                    |

**REMARKS BY HON. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, HRH  
PRINCE GUDUZA AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES IN THE  
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (APLESA)**

**IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO BE IN YOUR MIDST HERE TODAY, AT THIS THE OPENING OF THE CEREMONY OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES IN THE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (APLESA). IT IS INDEED A GREAT HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE FOR ME, ON BEHALF OF THE PARLIAMENT OF SWAZILAND TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND.**

**FROM THE OUTSET I WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE TO ALL THOSE THAT ASSISTED FINANCIALLY AND OTHERWISE TO ENSURING THAT WE HAVE THIS VERY IMPORTANT CONFERENCE. IN THAT REGARD I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE PARTICULAR MENTION OF MACMILLAN SWAZILAND AND SWAZILAND BEVERAGES.**

**WE ARE DELIGHTED AS THE PARLIAMENT OF SWAZILAND TO BE FINALLY ABLE TO HOST THIS CONFERENCE. SOME OF YOU WILL RECALL THAT WE WERE INITIALLY SUPPOSED TO HOST IT IN 2003**

**BUT WERE UNABLE BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND OUR CONTROL.**

**I HAVE NO INTENTION OF TAKING ALL YOUR PRECIOUS TIME SAVE TO COMMEND THE VISIONARIES WHO CAME UP WITH THIS VERY IMPORTANT INITIATIVE. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO LAUDE ALL YOUR EFFORTS IN ENSURING THAT THIS ASSOCIATION DID NOT DIE A NATURAL DEATH LIKE THE SO MANY ASSOCIATIONS THAT WE HAVE SEEN IN THE PAST.**

**LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT LIBRARIES ARE A VERY IMPORTANT COMPONENT OF PARLIAMENTS AND SOCIETY IN GENERAL. THE IMPORTANT WORK THAT IS DONE BY LEGISLATORS WOULD BE IN VAIN IF WE DID NOT HAVE LIBRARIES. TO EVEN BEGIN WITH, LEGISLATORS WOULD BE VERY COMPROMISED IN PERFORMING THEIR FUNCTIONS WITHOUT LIBRARIES. IT IS ALSO THROUGH LIBRARIES THAT PARLIAMENT IS EXTENDED TO PEOPLE IN OUR SOCIETIES. LIBRARIES, USED OPTIMALLY, ARE A HUB OF INFORMATION, ENLIGHTENMENT AND WISDOM.**

**THIS CONFERENCE COMES AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME WHERE EVERYTHING HAS BECOME DIGITAL. I CHALLENGE YOU TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE ALL YOUR CHALLENGES AND SUCCESS SO AS TO COME UP WITH MEANINGFUL STRATEGIES**

**THAT WILL ENSURE THAT PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES OPERATE EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY.**

**WITH THOSE FEW WORDS, I WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU FRUITFUL AND SUCCESSFUL DELIBERATIONS. DEAR PARTICIPANTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO OFFICIALLY DECLARE THIS CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY OPEN.**

**I THANK YOU ALL.**