Minutes of 20th Annual General Meeting of the East Africa Law Society Held on Saturday 28th November 2015 at The Sea Cliff Hotel and Resort in Zanzibar.

AGM 1/2015  OPENING OF THE MEETING AND READING OF THE NOTICE CONVENING THE AGM.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 10.15 a.m after the requisite quorum was attained. He welcomed members of East Africa Law Society to the meeting. The meeting was opened with prayers from Mr. James Mwam. The Secretary General thereafter read the notice convening the meeting. The Agenda of the meeting was as follows:-

1. The Secretary General to read the notice convening the meeting.
2. Recognition of Dignitaries and observers present.
4. Consideration and confirmation of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held at Serena Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda on 15th November, 2014.
5. Matters arising from the minutes.
9. Any other business which may be admitted in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the East Africa Law Society.

The Agenda was proposed by Mr. Awadh Ali Said, seconded by Mr. Eric Mutua and adopted as it is.

AGM 2/2015  RECOGNITION OF DIGNITARIES AND OBSERVERS PRESENT.

The President recognized the presence of dignitaries and observers present from the region and thanked them for attending the meeting. Those present included:-

1. Dr. Otiende Amollo - Ombudsman of Kenya.
2. Mr. Steven Tasho - Chairman of the parliamentary legal affairs committee of the parliament of Uganda.
4. Mr. Mohamed Nyaoga - Chairman Central bank of Kenya.
5. Dr. Herman Knott - Chairman of the IBA Bar issues committee.
6. Dr. Elly Karuhanga - Chairman Chamber of mines and petroleum of Uganda.
7. Prof. Fredrick Ssempabwa - past president EALS.
8. Dr. Allan Shonubi – past president EALS.
9. Commissioner Bahame Tom Nyandunga – past president EALS.
10. James Aggrey Mwamu – past president EALS.

AGM 3/2015 SILENCE IN TRIBUTE TO DECEASED MEMBERS.

The meeting observed a moment of silence in tribute of deceased members across the region since the last AGM held on 15th November 2014.


The minutes of the 19th Annual General meeting held on 15th November 2014 were read page by page. Names of various members missing from the list of attendance were to be added.

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual General meeting be sent at least one month before the meeting to members. Instead of using the word departed members, the word deceased members should be used.

It was resolved that names of members should not be used in the minutes of the Annual General Meeting instead the minutes should remain silent. The minutes were proposed by Lilian Omondi and seconded by Dr. Allan Shonubi.

AGM 5/2015 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 15TH NOVEMBER, 2014 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Members were taken through the matters arising from the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting and the following were noted:

- The Secretariat of the EALS met the speaker of EALA and presented the views of the EALS on cross border legal practice. The Committee on legal affairs of the EALA is considering the views of EALS.
- The Secretariat wrote a letter to the secretary of EAC on the issue of operation Kimbuga. Since there was no response, the matter was referred to EACJ.
**AGM 6/2015  REPORT OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL.**

The report of the Governing council was read to members. Highlights were made on the following:-

- Institutional Development.
- Professional Development.
- Regional Integration.
- Public interest advocacy.
- Other collaborative efforts.

*The report of the Governing council was proposed by Mr. Eric Mutua and seconded by Mr. Salim Toufique for adoption.*

**AGM 7/2015  REPORT OF THE HONOURABLE TREASURER.**

The report was tabled by the Treasurer. The report was proposed by Mr. Tom Nyanduga and seconded by Mr. Stephen Mwenesi for adoption.

**AGM 8/2015 PRESENTATION OF THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 2014.**

The Audited Financial Report for the year ended 2014 was presented by the Treasurer. The Treasurer gave highlights of the report as follows:-

- Accounts for the year 2014.
- Sources of Income.
- Expenditure.

*Members discussed the accounts which were then adopted after being proposed by Mr. Tom Nyanduga and seconded by Mr. Stephen Mwenesi.*

**AGM 9/2015 APPPOINTMENT/RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS.**

The Treasurer recommended that the auditors were doing a good work and should be re-appointed. Members proposed that there is need for auditors statement of qualifications. It was proposed by Dr. Elly Karuhanga and seconded by Mr. James Mwamu that the auditors be re-appointed for another term of one year.

**AGM 10/2015 MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT.**

1. Members deliberated at length over the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA). A background of how the MRA came up was given. Some members proposed that the MRA should be concluded at the meeting. Some members felt that although they were committed to the MRA, they could not sign the documents because this is something that has to be done by their regulators. They therefore needed more time to engage the Regulators.
The President requested each Bar association to give their position on the MRA. Various Bar leaders stated their position on the MRA. After a lot of deliberations, it was resolved that the MRA be amended and a clause be added to the effect that “to the extent that the Bar associations are able by reasons of statutory legislations at home to implement the agreement and work with the authorities at home.” The MRA was therefore approved with the insertion of the aforesaid clause.

**AGM 11/2015 ANY OTHER BUSINESS.**

A member was concerned by the big number of council members. He noted that there was need to reduce the number of council members from each Law Society. It was resolved that the matter be discussed by the council and thereafter be brought to the Annual General Meeting.

Having concluded the agenda, the 20th Annual General Meeting adjourned at 13.30 hours. It was resolved that the next Annual General Meeting be held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

*These minutes are confirmed as the record of the proceedings of the 20th Annual General Meeting.*

NASOOR KHAMIS MOHAMMED  PRESIDENT  DATE

GODFREY NATHAN KITIWA  SECRETARY GENERAL  DATE