



MICROFINANCE AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS NETWORK

General Meeting of Members of MAIN

King Fahd Palace, Dakar-Senegal, July 3, 2015

Press Release

Since 2013, a joint venture has been established by the African Networks to organize the African Microfinance Week and hold the general meeting of members of each organization during the week. In this regard, MAIN has held its 7th General Meeting of Members on the 3rd of July in King Fahd Palace in Dakar-Senegal subsequent to the 2nd edition of African Microfinance Week. It gathered member institutions from South Sudan, Madagascar, Uganda, Tanzania, Togo, Congo Brazzaville, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Morocco. It has discussed different matters and approved activity report for the year 2014, financial report for 2013 and 2014, and the state of advancement of the action plan and budget for 2014-2016.

In terms of membership, the network has welcomed 17 new members from Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, Togo, Benin, Ethiopia, Burundi, Tanzania and Democratic Republic of Congo since January 2014 to June 2015. This general meeting of members has also reinforced the commitment of member institutions towards the network in terms of fulfilling their duties and responsibilities which contributes for the growth of the network. Members also request that they should participate in designing the strategy of the network.

During this General Meeting of Members, election has also taken place. Five new members got elected after the vote where the two founding institutions remain as statutory board members. The new composition of the board of directors is as follows:

1. Mr. Remy Mitima Mpanano, Chairman (PAIDEK-Democratic Republic of Congo)
2. Prof. Ddumba John Ssentamu, Vice Chairman (CERUDEB-Uganda)
3. Mr. Schmitz Chritian, Treasurer (SIDI-France)
4. Mrs. Ghislaine Mackiza (CAPPED-Congo Brazzaville)
5. Mr. Komi Bassina (Mutuelle ASJD-Togo)
6. Mr. NZAGAHIMANA Jean Marie Vianney (UMWALIMU SACCO-Rwanda)
7. Mr. Abdelkarim FARAH (JAIDA-Morocco)

The executive direction would like to extend its gratitude to the former members of board and express its congratulation to the new team on board. The new board members are very much enthusiastic to serve the institution for the coming three years and will work in close collaboration with the executive direction towards the attainment of the goal of the network. MAIN is a dynamic and learning organization with a vision of building Pan-Africanism. Thus, by being members of this network, the visibility and image of the constituencies is scaled up, they are not acting any more in isolation but become part of a global movement. All its work on capacity building is grounded in this process of bringing change and empowering African people. The new chairman thanked the members for their confidence

on him to chair the new board of directors of the institution. He stressed that it should not be only foreign subsidy that backs international networks like MAIN for its sustainability but we can mobilize our own fund and maintain the standard of the organization to the best level through proprietorship.

About MAIN

Microfinance African Institutions Network (MAIN) is an international nonprofit making association established in 1995 under the Togolese law, through the initiative of several institutions with long experience in microfinance and/or promoting microenterprises in Africa. At present MAIN counts 77 member institutions from 24 African countries. MAIN is composed of microfinance institutions, national networks, NGOs working in microfinance, cooperatives, farmers' organizations, banks, universities, etc, which aggregately reach 3 million beneficiaries through their financial and non financial services with an outstanding portfolio of 1.2 USD billion.

The mission of **MAIN** is to help strengthen the social and economic role of the microfinance institutions in the process of African overall development.

In order to achieve its mission, the association is set on:

- ◆ **Developing a common ethical vision** and praxis for socio-economic development in Africa.
- ◆ **Fostering increased professionalism** among the microfinance practitioners in Africa, and building sustainable institutions that serve the target population.
- ◆ **Strengthening the role** of African microfinance institutions as financial mediators.

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