



National Association of Social Workers of Uganda (NASWU)
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**MINUTES OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / NASWU BOARD
HELD
ON January 12, 2024**

Time: 10-20pm

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AND THEIR SIGNITURES

| | NAME | POSITION |
|----|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Michael Byamukama Ntanda | President |
| 2 | Josephine Watera | Vice President |
| 3 | Aloysius Okiror | General Secretary |
| 4 | Gerald Okiria | Treasurer |
| 5 | Esther Nsubuga | Ass. General Secretary. |
| 6 | Namakula Edith | Board Member |
| 7 | Dr. Senkosi Moses Balyejusa | Board Member |
| 8 | Maureen Kyobutungu | Youth Representative |
| 9 | David Adoke | Board Member |
| 10 | Mr. Ssekate John Mary | National Coordinator./ |

Board MEMBER ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

Lydia Kemgsha
Otim Charles
Nyolonga Colbet.

AGENDA

1. Opening prayer and adoption of the agenda
2. Communication from the President and **Nomination of Ssekate John Mary for IFSW President.**
4. Communication from the General Secretary
5. Review of the previous minutes and Reactions
6. Report from the National Coordinator / Secretariat
7. Reactions to the National Coordinators report.
8. Action points and Way Forward

| MINUTES | ACTION BY |
|--|---------------------|
| <p>NEC/MIN 01/01/2024: Opening Prayer, presentation and adoption of the agenda.</p> <p>The opening prayer was led by John Mary Ssekate. He put the meeting in the hands of God and the association. He also asked God to guide the discussion.</p> <p>Agenda was presented by the president and its adoption was proposed by Dr Senkosi and seconded by Alysious Okirror.</p> | <p>All to note</p> |
| <p>NEC/MIN02/01/2024: Communication from NASWU President.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Michael Byamukama Ntanda welcomed and thanked all members for pushing on in all efforts to promote Social work profession in Uganda. • He noted that Covid-19 is still with us reeling to recent technical meetings at MoH where he is part and encouraged members continue be careful and to continue promoting resilience of individuals, families and communities and thanked God for keeping all members. • He reported that NASWU has been working on validation, backwards for the last twelve years to ensure NASWU complies with all statutory requirements and that this will be a requirement for key partnership with government ministries, and accessing money from UNICEF, and other international agencies. • He noted that NASWU has remained relevant through offering continuous professional development trainings on practical knowledge and skills in social work teaching institution, for example, training early career social work professionals in child protection based on INSPIRE global tool, and organizing webinars all members to allow exchange of ideas. • He emphasized that NASWU needs to urgently view her strategic plan, and include mental health and green social work to answer community concerns on climate change and increased mental health needs. • He called all members to work hard especially on resource mobilization within their individual organization to help NASWU go through the current financial gaps. | <p>All to note.</p> |

- He informed members that NASWU is part of the Ministry of Health Psychosocial Support pillar and continue to engage members through advocacy campaigns and webinars
- He informed members of strategic engagements and NASWU representation in both national and international conferences giving examples like the National Mental Health Conferences, NASWU continue participating in inter-ministerial committees at MGLSD, and MoH.
- Michael called on the secretariat to speed up drafting the MOUs to be submitted to MGLSD, MoH, and OPM.
- NASWU president proposed that NASWU Urgently need to review her work permit and a special resolution on this matter to be presented to the NGO Bureau by the National Coordinator.
- He communicated that NASWU Vice president Mrs. Jesephine Watera opted to continue serving despite her earlier plans for early retirement due to health challenges.
- **Michael communicated that he had received an application and request for approval from Mr. Ssekate John Mary showing interest to run as IFSW Africa Region President-(2024-2028) and requested members to make a final decision through a motion on this leadership matter.**

The adoption of the president's Communication was proposed by Dr Moses Senkosi Balyejusa and seconded by Mr. Gerald Okiria.

Reactions from members to the president's communication and Motion supporting John Mary Ssekate to run as IFSW –Africa Region president.

- Mr. Gerald Okiria thanked the president for his transformative leadership, sacrifice and advocacy. NASWU visibility and prominence is increasing every day in the market place Gerald added.
- Edith Namakula, Aloysius Okiror, and Josephine thanked the president for the sacrifice and stewardship that has seen increased trust, visibility and increased membership.
- **Dr. Moses Senkosi Baalyejusa moved a motion nominating Mr. Ssekate John Mary to run for IFSW-Africa Region president 2024-2028. Dr. Sekonsi presented to members that John Mary has great leadership experience and has been at the center of promoting social work in Uganda and Africa Region at large which makes John Mary a Unique candidate for IFSW-Africa Regional president office.**
- **The motion was seconded by Mr. Gerald Okiria All the 9 board members present in the meeting seconded the motion and approved John Mary to go ahead run for the IFSW-Africa Region president executive position for 2024-2028.**

NEC/MIN 03/01/2024: presentation/Updates from the General secretary.

- Thanked the secretariat team for the great work amid the current financial challenges.
- He requested the board members to allow NASWU to join Internal Risk Management Group (IRMG), which has a network over 70 social work agencies mainly focusing on risk management, fraud control, child safe guarding, and sexual reproductive health and rights among others.
- He noted that this will give NASWU both membership opportunities, visibility and position it better for resource mobilization.
- He encouraged all members to prioritize resource mobilization to support the secretariat.
- He pledged to support in drafting the NASWU safeguarding policy to first-truck the process to join Internal Risk Management Group (IRMG), but also to internally strengthen the association.

All to note

Reactions.

Mr. Michael Byamukama thanked the General Secretary for sharing and all members agreed with the proposal to register NASWU in the IRMG, and other important networks that can increase her visibility and relevance.

All to note

Michael also pledged to support the general secretary on drafting the NASWU safeguarding

All members agreed with the general secretary's move to register NASWU with Internal Risk Management Group (IRMG).

Dr. Senkosi suggested that NASWU puts more emphasis on membership mobilisation as this is the most sustainable approach to keep NASWU going given the inconsistencies of donor money.

Edith requested to take lead on organizing the capacity building workshop of all board members which was agreed by all members.

Michael suggested that NASWU focus more on practical trainings in both universities and social work agencies, like case management and mental health in addition to child protection trainings currently being spearheaded by NASWU.

Gerald suggested NASWU to hold a social work dinner in early December as a key strategy to raise funds but also to bring all key social work stakeholders together to discuss pertinent issues

NEC/MIN 04/01/2024: Presentation of Coordinator's report

John Mary gave a status reported on the following

Validation Status

He reported that the validation process is at a final level, with the following outcomes achieved.

New box number 5070

Clearance from URSB –(12years)

Certificate of financial intelligence

URA certificate

Clearance by KCCA Board- MoU and Recommendation.

One step remaining of submitting the file to NGO Bureau

By end of September, NASWU is expected to have all the statutory requirements

NASWU will submit her MoU file to MGLSD, MoH, and MoEs immediately the new certificate is out

All to note

Membership status.

400 new member's majority students have been recruited.

Three new social work teaching institutions (MIU, Kumi-U, and IUIU) have joined NASWU.

We target to recruit 500 new social workers this year and 10 social work agencies and teaching institutions, meaning we have 100 to the target.

NASWU is attaching membership to our major activities, e.g participating in World Social Work Day conferences, continuous professional development workshops, and social work get together dinner planned for early December.

More efforts needed especially in organizations where our board members are.

Partnerships.

NASWU has drafted and sent MoUs to REPSSI, Compassion International.

NASWU is engaging Watoto Child Care, ARMS, CRO, CiF, and all social work teaching institutions to have MoUs with clear terms of engagement and as a resource mobilization strategy.

NASWU now has a MoU with KCCA to jointly do interventions in Kampala in line with NASWU strategic objectives.

NASWU is drafting MoUs for presentation to MGLSD, MoH, and MoEs soon after NASWU new number is out from the NGO bureau by August.

More efforts needed from NEC members

NASWU Representation on National and International fora

NASWU continue to be active in inter-ministerial committees like the NCPWG, NMHPSS- WG, and Forum on education to shape policies, guidelines and share best practices.

NASWU reviewed the education white paper and NASWUs views submitted to MoEs for consideration thanks to Edith, Prof. Janestic and John Mary who took lead.

Current Work/ Interventions by NASWU

NASWU together with NMHPSS running a national mental health campaign for 4 months with two learning events per month. This national campaign is good for our strategic position with MoH and partners.

NASWU has participated in the workshops drafting a framework to strengthen social workforce in Uganda spearheaded by MGLSD, with support from USAID and Makerere as a consultant.

NASWU is carrying out training workshops in some teaching Universities on Child Protection, done with MIU, Ndejje, and we plan to engage Bugema, Nkumba, KIU, UCU, Kumi and Kabale Universities.
Presented 3 concepts to the World Bank team

Financial status &Source (March-July)

3,000,000 from REPSSI to support WSD.
8,000,000 Membership from students and staff who participated in WSD 2022
1,000,000 memberships from Child i Foundation
900,000. Individual membership sent to National Coordinators Mobile number and directly to the bank.
1,200,000 collected from Ndejje University during our recent engagement.

Total **14,100,000**

Expenditure in the same period.

NASWU inherited debt -6,000,000
Rent –paid up to February 4,800,000
Validation in URSB (12 yrs) 600,000
Payment of renewal fees (5yrs) 250,000
Expenditure on organizing WSWD 1,500,000
Maintenance (cleaning, Water, Electricity,) 400,000

Total expenditure 13,000,000

Money in the bank 1,300,000

Current financial demands.

6,000,000 rent
2,500,000 Money for audits during the validation process.
1,500,000 Money printing of cards and all certificates for WSD.
3000,000 for IFSW renewal that will cover from 2023/2024.

Total. 13,000,000

Financial Strategy

- Making calls and reminders to all our members and organizations whose membership has expired by end of August.
- Continuous professional development in child protection for social work teaching institutions and agencies.
- Proposals for partnership with key social work agencies like REPSSI and compassion International
- Speeding up MoUs with MGLSD, MoH, and Education
- Organizing a social work come together with a participation fee.
- Reaching out to board members for support.

Secretariat staff team

Mr. Ssekate reported that the volunteer team continue to serve amid financial challenges, he appealed to the NEC members to support the team as we continue to pray for funding especially during this difficult time.

Receiving of the Coordinator’s report.

Mr. Michael Byamukama proposed receiving of the coordinator’s report, and this was seconded by Mr. Aloysius Okiror

Reactions.

All members unanimously appreciated the great work done by the secretariat team

All to note

All to note

Josephine Watera requested the secretariat team to revive the quarterly newsletter as a key strategy to increase NASWU visibility and resource mobilization. Michael thanked all the NEC and management team who organized a successful world social work day, and promised to share the report widely.



All to note

Action Points

| Action by | Responsibility | Time line |
|---|--|-------------------|
| National Coordinator | Make application for IFSW- Africa Region president, and pay IFSW membership fees 2023/24 | By January 2024 |
| National Coordinator | Complete the validation process | January 30, 2024 |
| National Coordinator | Continue coordinating advocacy campaigns and continuous professional development on mental health. | On going |
| President and all NEC Members | Resource mobilization to pay the outstanding debt but also for money to run the organization. | On going |
| General secretary. | Register NASWU with Internal Risk Management Group (IRMG), | February 20, 2024 |
| National Coordinator /NEC | Mobilize members to pay and renew membership | On going |
| Dr. Senkosi, Gerald Okiria, Michael | Draft two practical CPD one on case management and another on mental health | June 2024 |
| National Coordinator and secretariat team | Revive the NASWU news letter | By March 2024 |
| National Coordinator and secretariat team | Submit MOUs to the Ministry of Gender and Ministry of Health | March 2024 |

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.



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NASWU Board Secretary



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NASWU President

