



African Geophysical Society

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African scientists working in the fields of relevance to Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences have come together to establish a continental wide Society known as African Geophysical Society AGS. The Society is a dynamic, innovative, and interdisciplinary scientific association committed to the pursuit of understanding of Earth and Space for the benefit of mankind. Establishment of AGS demonstrates that scientific research and administration can be effectively carried out by Africans within the region, in cooperation with other sister regional bodies, in order to achieve sustainable manpower development and effective utilization of human resources towards scientific development of the region.

The first congress of the African Geophysical Society took place during the first Chapman Conference on Space Weather in Africa organized by the American Geophysical Union AGU which held between 12th and 16th November 2012 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The venue of the maiden Chapman conference on Space weather was the Conference Center of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The first congress of AGS took place on Thursday 15th November 2012 and the following officers were elected to lead the continental Society: ***Treasurer - Professor Olivier Obrou (Cote d'Ivoire), Assistant Treasurer – Dr. Florence D'Ujanga (Uganda), Secretary General .- Dr. Solomon Belay (Ethiopia), Assistant Secretary General - Dr. Mbane Cesar (Cameroon), Vice President- Professor Ayman Mahrous (Egypt), President – Professor Babatunde Rabiou (Nigeria)***

Establishing a continental society of this nature has been an age-long dream as several generations of scientists have attempted to get this done. However, the present effort that gave birth to AGS started building up in 2008. The Steering Committee that brought the Society through the formative period consisted of Professors Olivier Obrou (Cote-D'ivoire), Baylie Dantie (Ethiopia), Victor Chukwuma (Nigeria) and Babatunde Rabiou (Nigeria). The electoral committee that saw to the successful conduct of the election during the first congress was made of two members: Prof. Jacob O. Adeniyi (Nigeria) and Dr. Yizengaw Endawoke (Ethiopia)

The fundamental objectives of AGS are to: (i) Promote the study of the Earth, other planets and Space; and their environments in Africa, (ii) Promote cooperation between scientists and among scientific organizations involved in geophysics and related

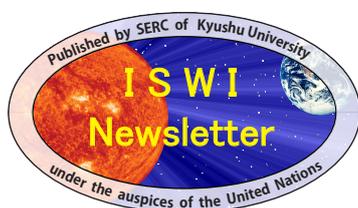
disciplines, (iii) Initiate and participate in research programs in Earth sciences, space science and related disciplines, (iv) Advance the various relevant disciplines through scientific discussion, publication, and dissemination of information and (v) Encourage programmes and research in geophysics, space science and other related disciplines that will advance economy development and sustainable growth in the African region.

AGS has many sections which reflect the fields of relevance to the Society, viz: Solid Earth Science (geology, geodesy, geophysics, geochemistry, biogeosciences; Atmospheric Science (Small scale and local wind systems, air pollution, mesoscale processes, global wind systems, cyclones, weather forecasting, atmospheric chemistry, global climate and its change, meteorology) ; Ocean Science (Estuarine and coastal oceanography, ocean circulation, marine biogeochemistry, paleoceanography, marine geology, and atmosphere-ocean coupling; Astronomy and Planetary Science (interior, surface, magnetosphere, ionosphere, and upper atmosphere of solar system bodies other than earth, cosmology); Solar and Terrestrial (sun, interplanetary medium, heliosphere, the magnetosphere, ionosphere, and upper atmosphere of planet earth, space weather) Hydrological Science (Hydrometeorology, Surface Water Hydrology, Ground Water Hydrology, Water Resources Planning and Management, Hydro-informatics).

The administration of AGS is entrusted to the Council comprising of an Executive Committee and Section Chairs. The administrative structure of AGS is democratically oriented and highlighted in a standard constitution available on the Society's website. Membership, which is not restricted to individuals of African origin, consists of persons who are professionally engaged in or associated with studies of Earth and Space sciences. AGS is at present forging strong partnership with other regional and academic societies of equivalent objectives viz: American Geophysical Union AGU, Asia-Oceania Geosciences Society AOGS, European Geosciences Union EGU, IUGG, Royal Astronomical Society, URSI, WMO, Japan Geosciences Union JpGU, etc

Interested scientists can visit www.afgps.org to complete available free online membership form. Interested persons could also contact: membership@afgps.org

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