



# THE AFSEC NEWSLETTER

• September 2015 •

## Message from the AFSEC President

AFSEC organized from 20 to 24 July 2015 in Accra, Ghana, the fifth meeting of the Management Committee and associated meetings and workshops. The meeting was a success both due to the warm welcome we received, the good organization of the different events and the depth of the exchanges. We thank the National Committee of Ghana and its partners for hosting such events.



Following these meetings, the following points were emphasized:

- The cooperation of our technical committees must be conducted so that the activities of AFSEC are useful for Africa in the context of standardization and conformity assessment,
- The wish to see the strengthening of the work of AFSEC technical committees by appointing national experts in each country,
- The setting up of several technical committee meetings, before the end of the year in South Africa
- The provision of funds received through the budget of the AUC through the African Energy Commission (AFREC) to support certain activities.

We are happy with the above steps and encourage all AFSEC members to ensure that their representatives take active participation in these meetings. We also wish to thank the Executive Director of AFREC, Dr. Elhag, for his continued support to the development of AFSEC activities.

The next activities organized by the National Committee of Egypt will take place from 5-10 March 2016 in Cairo, Egypt:

- Hosting the fifth General Assembly of AFSEC on 9 and 10 March 2016, and
- The second Africa Smart Grid Forum will be held in Cairo from 5 to 8 March 2016.

The **Africa Smart Grid Forum 2016** is the event that should not be missed (absentees will be sorry!). It builds on the success of the first Africa Smart Grid Forum Africa in Abidjan in May 2014. We would like to ask you to participate massively in this event.

I appeal to all AFSEC members, partners and stakeholders to support this event, as delegates, technical contributors or exhibitors. Like all such events, sponsors are needed, and interested parties should contact the organizer Mrs Amal Abdel Aziz on email: [amal\\_aziz\\_75@yahoo.com](mailto:amal_aziz_75@yahoo.com)

The call for papers has been issued, and you are asked to encourage potential speakers to submit abstracts to the AFSEC Secretariat: [secretariat@afsec-africa.org](mailto:secretariat@afsec-africa.org)

Further details are given in this edition of the newsletter

**Claude KOUTOUA (AFSEC President)**

## The third AFSEC/IECEX seminar – Accra, Ghana

AFSEC and IECEX (IEC System for Certification to Standards relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmospheres) organized another international seminar in Accra on 20 July 2015. The National Electrotechnical Committee of Ghana collaborated with IEC to the organization of the event.

It was attended by 28 delegates from nine African countries.

AFSEC appreciates the IEC's on-going collaboration and support in the organization of this event, in particular for making it possible for Mr Michel Brénon to be available as international expert lecturer and facilitator during the seminar. AFSEC greatly appreciates that he has so willingly given of his time to AFSEC.

AFSEC also expresses its appreciation to Thomas Robertson from the IEC Central Office (Affiliate Programme) who facilitated the organization of the event and presented during the seminar. The presentation material is available on the AFSEC website.

**Top right:** Michel Brenon receiving a token of appreciation from the AFSEC Executive Secretary

**Bottom right:** Thomas Robertson receiving a token of appreciation from the AFSEC President



## AFSEC Fifth management committee meeting, Accra, Ghana

AFSEC held its fifth Management Committee meeting in Accra Ghana, hosted by the National Committee of the Ghana. Several important decisions were made at that meeting,

- To establish a coordinating group of technical Committee Chairmen under the Chairmanship of the 1st VP
- To again approach the AUC to arrange for a call to AU member states for a host country for the AFSEC headquarters

Associated with the fifth Management committee meeting were workshops to consider the priority areas for AFSEC TC31, *Equipment for use in Explosive Atmospheres*, and the second meeting of AFSEC Conformity assessment committee.



**The delegates to the fifth AFSEC Management Committee meeting, at the Ghana Institution of Engineers, which hosted all the AFSEC events 20-24 July 2015.**

## Other AFSEC activities during the course of 2015 thus far

**A meeting of AFSEC TC 64** Electrical installations and protection against electric shock, was hosted at KEBS, Nairobi, Kenya, organized by the TC Chairman, Cyrus Khalusi. The meeting was timed to allow some members of the committee to attend the EAPIC Conference, in Nairobi.

AFSEC thanks ESI Africa, its media partner, for facilitating complimentary entry to that conference for the AFSEC TC 64 members, who appreciated the opportunity and found it useful and rewarding.

In this photo are some of the AFSEC TC 64 members at the EAPIC Conference,

**(Left to right)**

Cyrus Khalusi: AFSEC T 64 Chairman (Kenya)

Alewu Achema: Cote d'Ivoire

Etienne Ntagwirumugara: Nigeria



AFSEC was represented in a number of events in 2015, including:

**The annual SADCSTAN meeting**, March 2015, Kinshasa, DR Congo, represented by the first VP, Ms Evah Oduor

**The CENELEC General Assembly**, June 2015, Riga, Latvia, represented by the AFSEC President, C Koutoua

**The APUA General Assembly**, June 2015, Kigali, Rwanda, represented by the 1st VP, Rojas Manyame

**The ACP –EU TBT project progress meeting** in Brussel's, April 2015 represented by the Treasurer, Khaled Eldestawy.

**The ARSO General Assembly**, Addis Ababa, August 2015, represented by the first VP, Ms Evah Oduor.

**Meeting of IEC SEG 4**, Princeton, New Jersey, USA, May 2015, represented by Richard Kabebwe, from the Zambia National Committee. IEC SEG 4 is considering the standards needs of LVDC systems. Mr Kabebwe has been mandated to continue as AFSEC's representation in this important development in IEC, which is very relevant in the context of electrification of Africa.

**Inaugural meeting of IEC SEG 6**, The Executive Secretary, Paul Johnson, participated in the inaugural meeting of IEC Systems evaluation group (SEG) 6 in Beijing, 22-24 June 2015. SEG 6 is evaluating the standards needs for Non-traditional electricity distribution systems. Based on the report back, the chairman of AFSEC TC 82, Leon Drotsche has been appointed by AFSEC to IEC SEG6. It is planned to hold one the meetings of IEC SEG6 in Cairo during the Second Africa Smart Grid Forum.

**Joint Committee of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI),**

The AFSEC Executive Secretary, Paul Johnson and the AFSEC President participated in meetings of the Joint Committee of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI), in Nairobi, in March 2015; and also in Johannesburg in July 2015, where they also represented AFSEC at the annual meeting of AFRIMETS. The PAQI institutions (AFSEC, together with ARSO AFRIMETS and AFRAC) are collaborating with the AU Commission for Trade and Industry, to promote awareness of the need for building capacity in quality infrastructure, a prerequisite to enable the planned Continental free trade area for Africa. In that regard, AFSEC has an increasingly important role to support pan-African electrical infrastructure development and continental trade in electrical products.



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## Other main events already scheduled for 2015 and 2016

**6-12 October 2015:** 79<sup>th</sup> IEC General Meeting, Minsk, Belarus

ASFEC will be represented by the AFSEC President at the 79th IEC General meeting, Minsk, Belarus in October 2015. At that event AFSEC will formalize the signing of a MoU with the Standards Administration of China, and also have bilateral meetings with other supporting partner organizations.

**22-23 October 2015:** Meetings of the following AFSEC Technical committees

TC8, System aspects of Electrical energy supply

TC13, Electrical Energy power measurement and load control, and

TC 57, Power systems management and information exchange, in Cape Town, South Africa, hosted by the AFSEC Secretariat in collaboration with members of AFSEC Technical committees from Eskom, South Africa

**28 October 2015:** TC 31, Equipment for use in explosive atmospheres, to be hosted by the South African Flameproof Association with sponsorship from AFSEC.

**3-4 November 2015:** A meeting of AFSEC TC 82, Photovoltaic solar energy systems, collocated with a meeting of IEC TC 82, being hosted by the South African National Committee. It will provide the opportunity for AFSEC members to network with their international peers in TC 82 and experience an international technical committee meeting. It will be followed on 5-6 November by a meeting of the Project team to prepare the final draft of the Guidelines for Standards in Rural Electrification.

AFSEC gratefully acknowledges the support of Eskom and SAFA, South Africa and the South African National Committee for the hosting of these meetings.

**End November 2015:** A workshop for AFSEC members to develop capacity in the application of electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) standards and guide the programme of work for AFSEC TC 77 is also being planned, to be hosted in Johannesburg. Details to be confirmed with members and partners before end September 2015.

**26-30 October 2015:** AFSEC members are encouraged to register delegates for the Cigre-IEC International Symposium to be held in Cape Town, South Africa from 26-30 October 2015. The AFSEC President has been invited as a key note speaker at the opening of this International Symposium on 27th October. The President will then travel to Nairobi, Kenya to represent AFSEC at the official opening of the IEC Africa Regional Centre on 2 November 2015.

**5-8 March 2016:** The Second African Smart Grid Forum, Cairo Egypt

This event co-located with the fifth AFSEC General Assembly, will comprise both an exhibition and technical conference. It is being organized by the National Committee of Egypt in collaboration with AFSEC. A call for papers and presenters is included with this newsletter. All ASFEC members should ensure their full participation in this important event.

It is proposed to invite IEC SEG 6, Non-traditional distribution systems, to hold its third meeting during the forum.

**8 March 2016:** Sixth AFSEC Management Committee meeting, followed by

**9-10 March 2016:** The Fifth AFSEC General Assembly

The General Assembly will be hosted at the same venue as the Second African Smart Grid Forum, and will mark eighth years since AFSEC's inauguration.

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As the AFSEC newsletter carries the objective of keeping its readers up-to-date with the latest happenings and developments in the industry we welcome and encourage you to send us information that can be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

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