



Memorandum of Understanding between the
**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR
GEOETHICS**
and the
Geoscience-InfoRmation-in-Africa



Preamble

The International Association for Geoethics and the Geoscience-InfoRmation-in-Africa, hereafter respectively referred to as IAGETH and GIRAF, are two scientific organizations aiming at developing geosciences in their respective scopes

Considering that they share common objectives, IAGETH and GIRAF decided to cooperate and collaborate for the development and strengthening of Geosciences and Geoethics, with main focus in Africa. Therefore, the present Memorandum of Understanding is signed between the Presidents of both Organizations.

Objectives of IAGETH

According to the IAGETH Statutes (and later IAGETH EC agreements), the aims of the Association as stipulated in Article III are:

- to promote and encourage the advancement of Geoethics – primarily through educational and publishing activities and research;
- to foster geoethical ways of thinking and acting – especially in Geosciences (because of their significance for any support and help in developing realistic sustainability concepts);
- to improve teaching and training in Geoethics;
- to realize the goals defined by the International Declaration of Geoethics, as approved in October 2011 by the AGID Working Group for Geoethics;
- to collect, evaluate and disseminate the results of geoethical activities on a worldwide basis by:
 - encouraging the formation of National Groups of Geoethics and their affiliation with the Association;
 - the organization of conferences, symposia, workshops and other meetings;
 - the creation and operation of specialist commissions and other organisational units for the study of matters of interest to the Association;
 - the publication of scientific and technical achievements of members of the IAGETH in their own, periodical and relevant news, other regional and local newsletters and web pages;

- interacting with other scientific, technical and social-cultural associations as may be appropriate (if needed, “liaison officers” can be nominated or “Ambassadors” exchanged).

Objectives of GIRAF

Although the GIRAF Statutes are still under discussion, the proposed version has the following main objectives

- Build a pan-African geoscience information knowledge network of geological surveys, universities, research institutes and companies;
- Stimulate and support cross-border geoscience information projects and initiatives in Africa.
- Encourage the creation of African cross-border geoscience information standards and contribute to international and global standards.
- Make Africa a more active part of the international geoscience information community.
- Instil in all members the principles of geoethics and encourage its application in all their professional activities.

Justification for this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Professional competence and ethical conduct which is one of the main concerns of GIRAF, falls in line with the issues that are defined as the major aims and objectives of IAGETH. The need for cooperation and collaboration between both organizations will therefore enhance their activities.

Objective of the Memorandum of Understanding

The objective of the MoU is to bring the two organizations together to raise the awareness in African geoscientists to the importance of giving due attention to ethical aspects and issues during their professional activities.

Areas of cooperation

- a. Both organizations will have a link to the other organization in their respective websites.
- b. When organizing scientific events, both organizations will include their respective logos.
- c. Members of each organization will have free access to the materials produced by the other organization.
- d. Both organizations will support each other in international fora for the development of their respective activities.
- e. Other similar activities as might be deemed necessary and agreed upon by both organizations in the future.

Entry into force

The Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force upon signature by the Parties.

Duration of the MOU

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed for an initial period of four years and will be automatically renewed, for the same period, except when indicated otherwise by either party.

Termination of MoU

Each Party shall have the right to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding by giving three months written notice to the other Party at any time. If the Memorandum of Understanding is terminated by either Party, steps shall be taken to ensure that the termination does not affect any prior obligation, project or activity already in progress.

Amendment of Memorandum of Understanding

The Memorandum of Understanding may be modified or amended by written agreement between the Parties.

Madrid, xx/xx/2016

Dar es Salaam, 01/02/2016



The President of IAGETH
Prof. Jesús Martínez-Frías

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Dr. Mesfin Gebremichael