

World Glaucoma Association

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Global Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes - June 29, 2023

Thursday, June 29, 2023 Date :

Executive Office Room, La Nuvola Convention Center Location Vijaya Lingam, Luis Pinto, Philip Phatudi, Winifred Nolan, Present

Ronnie George, Poeman Chan

Executive Office Shan Lin, Liezl Botha

Absent David Friedman, Farouk Garba, , Albert Khouri, Suman

Thapa

1. Welcome - Vijaya Lingam

2. New member societies entry in to WGA are Ghana, Sudan and Burundi.

3. Where are we now? How can we move forward?

- The Africa fellowship program is going well, and the committee would want to expand this to other parts of the world. Like to look at Asia, east Europe and South America. Was suggested to follow the existing ICO-WGA application process that is being used for Arica. (Executive board to opine)
- Members felt that there is a lack of representation from many societies from around the world. It was suggested to identify individual members from these countries and invite some of them into the global outreach committee. (Liezl Botha)
- Winnie Nolan and others felt it is better to do a need assessment by sending out a questionnaire to WGA societies to get the information. (Liezl Botha and Winnie)
- Many countries from Africa are still not part of WGA. Was suggested to send Phillip a list of all current African societies in WGA, Philip to work on improving African societies in WGA (Liezl Botha and Philip)
- For eastern Europe to contact Aiste Kadziauskeine to discuss improving their representation in WGA from Eastern Europe. (Liezl Botha and Vijaya) - Mail was sent and awaiting her reply.
- Members also felt one way of increasing societies representation from Africa east Europe and Asia is to hold WGC closer to these countries. It was suggested to consider the Middle East a possible venue, Keeping in mind the visa process and the time to travel and safety. (Liezl Botha and executive board)

Next meeting 3-4 months' time