



Memorandum of Understanding
Between the
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GEOETHICS
and the
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AFRICA



Preamble

The International Association for Geoethics and the Geological Society of Africa, hereafter respectively referred to as IAGETH and GSAf, are two scientific organizations affiliated to the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), aiming at developing geosciences in their respective scopes.

Considering that they share common objectives, IAGETH and GSAf decided to cooperate and collaborate for the development and strengthening of Geosciences and Geoethics, particularly 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 GSAf

According to the GSAf Statutes, the objectives of the Society are to:

- Promote the advancement of the geological sciences in Africa by encouraging and supporting geoscience research, education and training; the establishment of national societies; and through the organisation of conferences and other meetings.
- Promote the sustainable and environmentally sensitive development of the mineral, water and hydrocarbon resources of the continent and the wider applications of geoscience to improve the socio-economic conditions and quality of life of the African people.
- Facilitate communication and cooperation among members and other relevant organisations.
- Serve as a channel for the expression of views of African geoscientists and to investigate and report on matters of general interest to them.
- Encourage the highest standards of professional competence and ethical conduct in the practice of geoscience in Africa.
- Seek the preservation of important geological sites in Africa.
- Publish a regular newsletter, maintain an active website, and encourage and sponsor publications on African geoscience.

Justification for this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Professional competence and ethical conduct which is one of the main concerns of GSAf, 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.

Focal points

Both organizations will appoint a focal point, who will be responsible for the formal and informal contacts between the organizations.

The focal points shall be appointed within a month upon the signature of this MoU.

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 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, 26/04/2013

Addis Ababa, 26/04/2013

The President of IAGETH

The President of GSAf



Prof. Jesús Martínez-Frías

Prof. Aberra Mogessie