The eleventh face-to-face Council meeting and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Global Forum on Maintenance and Asset Management was held in Bahrain from 6 – 11 December 2014 in conjunction with the 3rd Middle East Maintenance Conference and Exhibition, Maintcon 2014, hosted by the Gulf Society of Maintenance Professionals (GSMP). Global Forum members were active in participating in the conference, contributing several presentations and to workshop sessions.

At the AGM the members decided to move the future AGM’s to the first face-to-face meeting of the year to coincide with the financial year. This will expedite the approval of the financial statements. The next AGM will take place in May 2015 in South Africa. Accordingly, the term of the current Executive Committee was extended for six months and the new Executive Committee will be elected in May. Tim Goshert, North America representative, indicated that he will no longer be available to serve on the Executive, so Richard Edwards was elected as Treasurer. The Committee now is:


- John Hardwick representing the Oceania region (Chairman)
- Nezar Al-Shammasi representing the Middle East (Vice Chairman)
- Richard Edwards representing Europe (Treasurer)
- JR Lafaia representing South America (Member)
- Anton Booyzen representing Africa (Secretary)

The team thanked Tim for his contribution in developing the Global Forum and its activities and wish him the best of luck with his future endeavours.

The AGM also decided to appoint PEMAC to manage the Global Forum finances for the next 10 years. This will make it a lot easier to manage the bank accounts as the signatories to transact would not have to be changed that often.

It was a busy week trying to cope with bustling activities around the 900 people strong conference while still focussing on GFMAM projects. Most of the effort was spent in consolidating the existing projects. However, new Byelaws were also adopted and the discussion around measuring maturity continued. Various Marketing subprojects are being developed in an effort to increase global awareness of the Forum. There were also a lot of discussions around the Maintenance framework, although the differing views on the approach to be followed are yet to be agreed upon.
Project Updates:

The Accord
The Accord will offer a standardised, reliable and transparent process for making comparisons between different types and levels of asset management qualifications, which employers and others can understand and trust. Progress on the Accord is still slow, as many of the members are busy consolidating their own service offerings based on the Landscape.

Recommendations for Assessor and Auditor Domain Knowledge
The domain knowledge requirements for Assessors and Auditors of Asset Management practice and systems document has been published. A commercial Joint Venture has been formed to take the process further outside of the formal GFMAM structures.

Increasing Membership
The marketing team presented their proposals to the larger group, eliciting much comment. The team will update their proposal for discussion in the January GoTo meeting.

Maintenance Framework
The aim of the project is to identify the essence requirements of Maintenance professionals. It is led by EFNMS. The initiating team consisting of PEMAC, ABRAMAN, IFRAMI, SMRP, GSMP, AMC and EFNMS will put more efforts to complete the project by next face-to-face meeting in May, 2015.

Byelaws
The Byelaws were discussed and accepted at the AGM. The policies and procedures relating to the implementation of the Articles of Association and the Byelaws now need to be developed.

Maturity
Measuring the Asset Management Maturity of organisations was extensively discussed. The IAM and the AMC will now develop the formal project documentation to get the project approved as a GFMAM project.

Website
EFNMS explained the organisation of the website and showed representatives how to update the website with new documentation. All project leaders will update the website to ensure that the necessary documentation is readily available to all.

Conclusion
The meeting focussed on consolidating the work that has been done to date. In addition, the excellent organisation of the conference by GSMP ensured ample opportunity for networking during the social events. Work on the projects will continue and will be discussed at the next face to face meeting at the SAAMA conference in Cape Town, South Africa May 12-14, 2015. In the meantime, regular conference call monthly meetings will continue.

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