The fourteenth face-to-face Council meeting and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Global Forum on Maintenance and Asset Management was held in Edinburgh from 18 – 23 June 2016 in conjunction with the IAM Annual Conference at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre in the UK. Global Forum members were active in participating in the conference, contributing several presentations and participating in workshop sessions.

At the Annual General Meeting the Financial Statements were approved and a new Executive Committee was elected. The new Executive Committee is:

- Nezar Al-Shammai – Middle East (Chairman)
- Johannes Coetzee – Africa (Vice-Chairman)
- Edmea Adell – Western Europe (Secretary)
- Robert Lash – North America and the Caribbean. (Treasurer)
- John Hardwick – South Pacific Area
- Tsutomu Nakamura – Southeast Asia
- JR Lafraia – South and Central America

The election of the Executive Committee was hotly debated, as the Council had to contravene the GFMAM Articles of Association and elect ineligible members in terms of the time they had already served on the Executive Committee in order to ensure continuity.

It was a busy week trying to cope with bustling activities around the 400 people strong conference while still focussing on GFMAM projects. Various Marketing subprojects are being developed in an effort to increase global awareness of the Forum. One of the envisaged projects is the upgrade of the GFMAM website to make information easier to access and be visually more pleasing.
News from member organisations is that GSMP has now rebranded itself as GSMR, the Gulf Society for Maintenance and Reliability. SAAMA has applied to the South African Qualifications Authority to be recognised as the Professional Body for Asset Management in South Africa and will hopefully soon have a recognised professional designation on offer.

**Project Updates:**

**Value of Asset Management**
The GFMAM project Value of Asset Management has reached an important milestone as the sub-project The Value of Asset Management to the Organization has been successfully completed and presented at the IAM Conference 2016 in Edinburgh. The project has produced the following material:

- The Value of Asset Management to the Organization (project document)
- The Value of Asset Management to the Organization (Power Point presentation)
- Template for Assessment of Opportunities
- Template for Assessment of Opportunities Template for Case Studies

The material was approved for publication and should soon be available on the GFMAM website.

**Assessor and Auditor Domain Knowledge**
The domain knowledge requirements for Assessors and Auditors of Asset Management practice and systems document has been published. There have however been requests from industry for a review and update of the document. The project scope was updated and discussion held on the use of a tool to assist in mapping ISO 55001 to the GFMAM Landscape and the GFMAM Assessor scheme. Use of the tool will allow the project to continue a faster rate and achieve a quality auditable outcome. Members thank Martin Kerr (AMC member) for his valuable contribution to GFMAM in developing this mapping tool.

**Increasing Membership**
The marketing team presented their proposals to the larger group. The approved proposals include the development of a new website, updating of all marketing and administrative material with the new GFMAM logo and the use of Box to disseminate information.

**Maturity**
Measuring the Asset Management Maturity of organisations was extensively discussed. The Asset Management Maturity Position Statement was published in October 2015. This position statement defines the key principles of Asset Management maturity. It is not limited to compliance with the ISO 55001 requirements – it looks beyond compliance with ISO 55001 and considers the characteristics that organisations would exhibit at higher levels of maturity in pursuit of sustained value from Asset Management.

The following actions are now required to continue to develop the understanding and guidance on Asset Management maturity within the GFMAM:

- Develop a hypothesis on the link between AM maturity and AM benefits or value
- Develop a hypothesis on the different stages of the AM maturity journey
- Develop a simple visualisation of the stages of the journey to maturity
- Identify potential sources of case studies to help to test these hypotheses

**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. The development of the Accord depends on a number of other projects, as well as on the qualification and accreditation schemes under development in the various member countries. The project is on hold pending further developments in this regard and will be further discussed and progressed in Bahrain.

**Asset Management Accreditation scheme**
A project has been initiated to investigate if the GFMAM can document and manage the overarching technical requirements for use by Accreditation Bodies in developing and managing their Accreditation Schemes for ISO55001 Certification. This will assist in developing ISO55001 Accreditation Scheme(s) to be
published by Accreditation Bodies that will meet the expectations of the international Asset Management community in terms of quality, credibility and consistency.

**Conclusion**

The meeting focussed on a number of new projects, but also on consolidating the work that has been done to date on some existing projects. In addition, the excellent organisation of the conference by IAM 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 GSMR conference Bahrain, December 10-15, 2016. In the meantime, regular conference call monthly meetings will continue.

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