

1. Opening Ceremony

1.1. Attendance

The General Assembly meeting was proceeded by an opening ceremony attended by stakeholders from the Nigerian Mining fraternity, including the media. The event took place at the Kapital Klub Hotel, Asokoro Abuja Nigeria on Wednesday 5th July, 2017.

The Special Guest of Honour was the Nigeria Minister responsible for Mines and Steel Development, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, who was represented by his Permanent Secretary.

Members of the Executive Council of EFEDCOM together with the President of the Ghana Chamber of Mines, as well as Mr. William Baidoe of the ECOWAS Commission were present.

1.2. Presentations

1.2.1. In his speech, the Permanent Secretary lauded the idea for the establishment of the Federation and challenged the members to harness the resources to develop the sub-region. He pointed out that the geography of the region puts the Federation in good stead to achieve this objective and the Federal Government of Nigeria is ready to support the Federation. He pointed out that data sharing and a strong knowledge based is crucial in achieving this. He was sure that Nigeria and other members can continue to rely on the strength of Ghana in mining to succeed.

1.2.2. Mr. Kwame Addo-Kufuor, President of the Ghana Chamber of Mines indicated that the holding of this event is long overdue and should have happened over 30 years ago. In his view, West Africa region is endowed with rich minerals, and the industry should leverage and hastily exploit this for the benefit of all stakeholders, and ultimately for the economic growth of the countries.

1.2.3. The Executive Director, Mr. Sulemanu Koney challenged the mining players and was confident that the EFEDCOM platform will provide the thought leadership to transform the fortunes of the respective countries within the sub-region on the back of the Mineral Resources available. The Executive Director advocate for greater efforts at developing linkages, enhancing local participation as well as development of a regional markets to sustain growth.

- 1.2.4. The Host of the event, Alhaji Shehu of the Miners Association of Nigeria (MAN) indicated his Association's unflinching support for the development of the Federation.
- 1.2.5. A Director of the Abuja Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI) also indicated the readiness of his Chamber to ensure development through mining and its related services. Both MAN and ACCI pledged to support the Federation with an initial contribution of US\$5,000 each.
- 1.2.6. Other speakers (including Mr. Baidoe of the ECOWAS Commission) at the event pointed out the need for collaboration among the countries in the sub-region. They emphasized the point that no one country has the know-how to ensure rapid development and therefore working together will ensure sustainable development.

The ceremony ended with a photo-session of all dignitaries.

2. General Assembly Meeting

Introduction

The General Assembly meeting of the ECOWAS Federation of Chambers of Mines took place at the Kapital Klub Hotel, Asokoro Abuja Nigeria on Wednesday 5th July, 2017.

The meeting was attended by the following:

- i. Mr. Chaikou Yaya Diallo - Guinea Chamber of Mines
- ii. Mr. Toussaint Bamouni - Burkina Faso Chamber of Mines
- iii. Alhaji Mohammed Sani Shehu- Miners Association of Nigeria
- iv. Arc. Chidi Okoli - Abuja Chamber of Commerce & Industry
- v. Mr. William Baidoe - ECOWAS Commission
- vi. Mr. Kwame Addo-Kufuor - Ghana Chamber of Mines
- vii. Mr. Sulemanu Koney - Ghana Chamber of Mines
- viii. Mrs. Sheila Minkah-Premo - Ghana Chamber of Mines
- ix. Mr. Isaac Glover - Ghana Chamber of Mines

Opening Remarks & Election of President

The Chairman of the Executive Council, Mr. Chaikou Yaya Diallo welcome members and declared the meeting duly opened.

He indicated that consultation has taken place and that Mr. Kwame Addo-Kufuor has unanimously been elected as the President of the General Assembly of the ECOWAS Federation of Chambers of Mines.

Alhaji Shehu, Vice Chairman applauded the collaboration among members in the decision-making process.

Arc. Chidi Okoli, in his remarks, indicated that Ghana has a rich history in mining and therefore and believes that these experience would be brought to bear on the activities of the Federation by the President-elect.

Mr. Toussaint Bamouni congratulated Mr. Addo-Kufuor and offered his support for his success as the first President of the Federation.

In his acceptance remarks, Mr. Kwame Addo-Kufuor expressed his gratitude to the members for the confidence repose in him, but called for the support of his colleagues. He pointed out that there should be concerted effort at increasing membership to enable the Federation make the needed impact on Policy formulation across the region.

2.2. Ratification of Executive Council decisions

The Executive Director led the meeting in the review and ratification of the decisions of the Executive Council as stipulated in the Constitution of the Federation. The decisions were categorized as follows:

- Executive Council
- Membership
- Finance & Authorisation
- Finance & Budget
- Presidency of General Assembly

After thorough discussions and inputs from members, the meeting agreed and ratified the following decisions for implementation by the Secretariat:

1 Executive Council

- In accordance with Article 10.2 regarding Membership of Executive Council, the following representatives constitute the Executive Council:
 - i. Toussaint Bamouni, Executive Director Chambre des Mines du Burkina Faso
 - ii. Chaikou Yaya Diallo, Executive Director Chambre des Mines de Guinee
 - iii. Alh. Mohammed Sani Shehu, National President Miners Association of Nigeria
 - iv. Arc. Clinton Chidi Okoli, Vice Pres., Mines Abuja Chamber of Commerce & Industry

2 Membership Application

- i. The Secretariat should write to the Chambers of Senegal, Mali and Cote D'Ivoire acknowledging their contributions towards the preparatory stages of the establishment of the Federation and invite them to subscribe to the Constitution of the Federation as Ordinary members.
- ii. The Membership Application Form must have a note stating that the submission of the duly completed form is not a guarantee for membership, and that the process will be subjected to endorsement by an existing member or due diligence search as well as further review by the Executive Council before ratification by the General Assembly if found acceptable.
- iii. No determination has been made regarding subscriptions for membership, but members have agreed that individual Chambers/Associations should consider making voluntary contributions towards the smooth running of the Federation.

3 Finance & Authorisation

- i. Regarding the management of finances of the EFEDCOM, the following officials will be the signatories to the Account:

○ Chairman, Executive Council	Chaikou Yaya Diallo
○ Vice Chairman, Executive Council	Mohammed Sani Shehu
○ Treasurer, Executive Council	Toussaint Bamouni
○ Secretary, Executive Council	Sulemanu Koney
- ii. That considering the geographical location of the signatories, the members have set a ceiling of US\$5,000 or its equivalent in Ghanaian cedi, for which the Executive Director, who is resident in Ghana is permitted to sign cheques alone, after clearance with the Treasurer.
- iii. That any cheque, with the value above that ceiling must be signed by two signatories.

4 Finance and Budget

- i. Members approved the budget estimates totaling US\$29,900 (Twenty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred US Dollars) as presented by the Executive Director;
- ii. Members agreed for their National Associations to finance the cost of their participation at Executive Council & General Assembly meetings. These cost will cover Airfare, Accommodation and other incidentals;
- iii. Members agreed that the host Chambers/Associations for Executive Council/General Assembly meetings must provide the following:
 - Logistical Services, i.e. Venue & Protocol Services

- Secretarial Services
- Language Services i.e. Provision of Equipment & Translation Services
- Media Coverage

5 Presidency of General Assembly

The members have duly elected Mr. Kwame Addo Kufuor as the President of the General Assembly of EFEDCOM effective Wednesday 5th July, 2017.

2.3. Any Other Business

- a. Concluding Remarks
 - ✓ The Executive Director said he was humbled by the professional manner discussions has taken place and promise to ensure that the mutual interest of members is maintained.
 - ✓ Arc. Okoli gave his organisation's assurance to ensure the growth of the Federation.
 - ✓ Mr. William Baidoe encouraged members to ensure effective and focus on the attaining the objectives of the Federation.
 - ✓ Mr. Diallo thanked the Executive Director for all his efforts and was encouraged by the deliberations so far. He indicated that he was certain "we" can do it.
 - ✓ Alhaji Shehu applauded members and indicated his Association's support.
 - ✓ Mr. Kwame Addo-Kufuor said it was a great opportunity to serve as the first President of the Federation. He emphasized the need to share information and regular updates in-between meetings.

2.4. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was expected to be hosted by Burkina Faso. Mr. Bamouni tentatively stated 29th September but indicated that this would be confirm later.

2.5. Close

The President and the Chairman of Council thank members and wish everyone safe journey back home.

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Presidency

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Executive Director