

**MINUTES OF THE SEGH BOARD MEETING HELD ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2022 AT
13:00 (WAT) ON ZOOM**

Agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the last meeting
3. Matters arising from the last Minutes
4. Feedback on Eldoret 2022 Conference
5. Report on preparations for Greece 2023 Conference
6. (a) Updates on Membership and Finance
(b) Transfer of Treasurer role to Keith Torrance
7. Website update
8. Fellows' Matters
9. Update on ECR Group
10. Other Business: (a) Update on Catch-up with the Americas
(b) ISCMGEH-Africa 2022 Conference
11. Next Meeting

Attendance

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. A Olatunji | 11. S Potgieter |
| 2. B Kaninga | 12. C Prater |
| 3. O Odipo | 13. P Marinho Reis |
| 4. O Morton-Bermea | 14. J Olajide-Kayode |
| 5. A Brown | |
| 6. O Humphrey | |
| 7. X Huo | |
| 8. A Argyraki | |
| 9. P Pizzorno | |
| 10. K Torrance | |

1. Apologies were received from:

1. Michael Watts
2. Moataz Tarek
3. Maurizio Barbieri
4. Gillian Gibson

2. The minutes of the last meeting was read. As there were no amendments made, it was adopted as the correct record of proceedings at the last meeting with motions moved by OO and KT.

3. (i) Inclusion of Location on membership form: OH reported that an option on location had been put on the form on the website.

(ii) The President wrote to members in China to ask for feedback on SEGH initiatives for the region. No response was received from any of them.

4. OO gave a report on the Eldoret 2022 Conference. He stated that 38 participants attended physically, while 42 attended online. 35 oral presentations were given, while 11 posters were presented. Awards were presented to the best presenters in both categories. He reported further that a key resolution of the AGM was that the 2023 Conference would be held in Greece. A financial report was presented as well, and the outstanding bills were made known.

On behalf of the Board, AO commended the effort and dedication of the Eldoret Team in ensuring the success of the Conference. KT hoped that there will be more on-site presentations at the 2023 Conference. OH requested that the report of the Eldoret Conference should be presented in Blog form, so it could be uploaded on the website.

5. AA inquired if invoices were issued for Conference Registrants, to which AB responded in the affirmative. AA informed the meeting that an event company will be tasked with organizing the Greece 2023 Conference. The proposed dates and deadlines were given as:

(i) Conference website ready: End of November 2022

(ii) Abstract submission deadline: March 20, 2023

(iii) Registration deadline: May 15, 2023

150 prospective participants are expected at the Conference, and it is hoped that SEGH Fellows will give Keynote Talks. AO added that it would be nice to have immediate responses to the Abstracts submitted by prospective presenters so as to enable them fast-track their visa application processes. A one-day workshop on Geochemical Baseline would also be executed alongside the conference and AA stated that the fee for the workshop had been worked into the Conference Registration fee. On Sponsorship, it was agreed that Michael Watts should send the contact for Argillent to AA, so she can follow up with them.

Action: MW to link AA up with Agillent for sponsorship of Greece 2023.

6. (a) AB reported that the balance in the Society's account was a little over GBP 8,000; adding that some money was still to be sent to OO to cover outstanding bills. She also said that the Springer Journal Access Fee and website hosting payments were still outstanding.

AA was expecting the participant list from the Eldoret Conference to update the membership database. As at the time of the meeting however, she stated that the membership list had 86 names, with some memberships lapsing in a few days and weeks. She said reminders would be sent to those affected. AA suggested that the reminder to members on their membership status should include some information about the Greece 2023 Conference.

(b) AB is leaving the roles of Membership Secretary and Treasurer at the end of the current financial year. AO appreciated the hard work and dedication from AB so far in handling those roles. He stated that due to the domiciliation of the SEGH account in the UK, it was imperative to get a UK domiciled person to take on the role and that KT had agreed to step into the Treasurer role.

7. OH reported that the only major change to the website since the last meeting was the upload of the promotional video for the Greece 2023 Conference. He added that the items on the website generating the most traffic were the Eldoret 2022 Conference, the ISCMGEH-Africa 2022 Conference, SEGH Fellows webinars, and the Blog by KT on the field trip at Eldoret.

He added that there had been an increase in visitors from the Americas due to the Americas Live Sessions, and from Nigeria and Kenya due to the ISCMGEH-Africa. He advised that there needs to be improved publicity of the SEGH using other social media platforms.

8. AO reported that the Fellows' activities are gaining momentum, especially with the series of webinars that had been scheduled. He added that the Fellows had talks scheduled up till 2024, and as reported by OH, their activities were bringing more traffic to the website. He enjoined members to give the Fellows' talks and the Society in general increased publicity.

9. KT reported that an ECR event held during the Eldoret Conference, and interesting topics were discussed. He canvassed for a 90-minute ECR session at the Greece 2023 Conference.

10. (a) CP stated that two well-attended talks were held on a General Introduction to the SEGH and on Health Equity. According to him, most attendees were from Central and South America. He added that the next talk was planned for December 2022 and another one in Spring of 2023.

(b) AO reported that the ISCMGEH-Africa was a huge success, stating that cash prizes were awarded to the best 5 presenters. In addition to that, they got one-year membership of the SEGH.

AO inquired if any SEGH event was being planned in China. XH responded that the COVID issues still raging in China has made planning any event difficult. He assured the Board however, that work was ongoing.

11. AO stated that the date for the next meeting of the Board will be announced later.