

Ordinary General Meeting of MAIN Members

International Conference Center, Ouaga 2000, October 25th, 2019

Press Release

From October 21-25, 2019, the fourth edition of the African Microfinance Week (SAM) was held in Ouagadougou under the theme "**pathway toward Impact: African inclusive finance for the Sustainable Development Goals**".

Inclusive finance is booming in Africa. Since 2017 SAM, we have not counted the significant effects of this sector, which has developed promising innovations and greatly increased both in terms of intersectoral collaboration and achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Inclusive finance is therefore seen as a promising solution to remove some obstacles to achieving the SDGs, especially as the sector is undergoing a transformation with the digital revolution.

SAM is an international conference dedicated to the development of financial inclusion in Africa. It is open to all microfinance practitioners and is co-organized by MAIN (Microfinance African Institutions Network), AFRACA (African Rural & Agricultural Credit Association) and ADA, a Luxembourg NGO specialized in inclusive finance supported by the Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Action of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

The conference took place at Ouaga 2000 International Conference Center and brought together more than 900 participants from 54 countries, including 35 from Africa. SAM brings together African microfinance professionals into a forum for debate and exchange. Above all, it facilitates meetings by opening up to other stakeholders, politicians, investors, innovators, entrepreneurs and others. It thus contributes to the evolution of financial inclusion in Africa in a changing world. Several key events marked this 4th edition of the SAM namely: the village of the innovators, the investors fair, the trainings, research meet Africa, and the general assembly of MAIN.

Thus, on October 25, 2019, MAIN held its 9 th General Assembly (GA) of members which took place at the international conference center of Ouaga 2000. The General Assembly brought together 60 members from Togo, Burkina Faso , Ethiopia, Rwanda, Guinea, Benin, Uganda, Burundi, Morocco, Mali, France, Cameroon, Madagascar, DRC, Italy, Kenya, Senegal, and Congo Brazzaville.



During this GA, all the different items on the agenda were examined. The assembly, having received answers to its various requests for clarification, approved all the reports (activity reports and management reports for the years 2017 and 2018, audit report, action plan and budget 2020-2022, etc.). Regarding the new memberships, the network admitted, during the period from January 2017 to December 2018, twenty-eight (28) new members from 16 countries. This demonstrates the growing interest of new institutions to MAIN network.



The GA was the occasion for the renewal of the members of the board of directors. Five new members were elected by vote. Two of the three founding members are statutory members of the Board of Directors on a rotating basis. The new board is composed as follows:



From left to right:

1. M. ODANOU Yombo, Chairman (CECA- Togo)
2. M. KIMANTHI Mutua, Vice-Chairman, (K-Rep, Kenya)
3. M. LESAFFRE Dominique, Treasurer, (SIDI- France)
4. Prof Ddumba John Ssentamu, member (CENTENARY-Uganda)
5. Mme. MAMPOUYA Ghislaine, member (CAPPED-Congo Brazzaville)
6. M. ASRI Mohamed, membre (HPS-Marocco)
7. Mme ADOUKONOU Valentine, membre (AFRICA Finances- Bénin)

The Executive Management wishes to express its gratitude to the former members of the Board of Directors and sends its sincere congratulations to the new team. The new members of the Board are very excited to serve the institution for the next three years and will work closely with the Executive Direction to achieve the goals of the network.

The new President, for his part, first thanked the members for the trust they placed in him to chair the new Board for the next 3 years. He addressed a warm greetings to the outgoing President with all of his team while congratulating the executive direction of MAIN for the work done. For the newly elected President, the challenges are enormous. And to do so he relies on the commitment of all members to the success of his mandate. Finally, he thanked the traditional partners of MAIN namely AFD, SIDI, ADA and others for their multiform support provided to MAIN in the accomplishment of its mission and in the organization of 2019 SAM and finally wished a safe trip back home to all members in their respective countries.

About propos de MAIN

The Microfinance African Institutions Network (MAIN) is an international non-profit association (founded in 1995 in Abidjan) based in Lomé (Togo). As at **September 30, 2019**, MAIN had **103 members** in **27** countries in Africa and Europe.

MAIN brings together MFIs, national networks, NGOs working in microfinance, cooperatives, farmers' organizations, banks, and "resource" organizations (universities, social investors, etc.). MAIN member institutions reach more than **13.9 million beneficiaries** through their financial and non-financial services.

For more information, please contact the Executive Direction at the following address:

P.O.BOX: 1646 Lomé, Togo

Tel: +228 22 214757/99 35 50 60

Email: main@mainnetwork.org