



Statement on AFIC's General Assembly Held on March 3 & 4, 2016, in Kampala, Uganda

The Africa Freedom of Information Centre (AFIC) convened a two day General Assembly in Kampala, Uganda, from the 3-4 March 2016, during which its members elected a new Governing Council.

Those elected to the Governing Council are: Mr. Emmanuel Saffa Abdulai (Executive Director of Society for Democratic Initiatives in Sierra Leone) as Chair; Ms Ann Nderi (of the International Commission of Jurists in Kenya) as Vice Chair; Ms Zoe Titus (Regional Director of the Media Institute of Southern Africa in Namibia) as Treasurer; Mr. Levi Kabwato (of the Open Democracy Advice Centre in South Africa) as Secretary; Mr. Edetaen Ojo (Executive Director of Media Rights Agenda in Nigeria) as Member; Henri Christin Longendja, Executive Secretary of Collectif 24 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo) as Member; and Mr. Henry Maina (Regional Director, Article 19, Eastern Africa in Kenya).

AFIC's General Assembly brought together 39 representatives from all over Africa to learn from each other and brainstorm about actions that civil society may take to promote the right to information and freedom of expression. While it included an opening and closing plenary, the bulk of its deliberations were organized around learning and action workshops on strategic litigation, advocacy and the open contracting.

The aim of the assembly was to receive and discuss the report of the Governing Council, review implementation of AFIC programmes, and discuss capacity and technical needs of AFIC members. Participating organizations also held a consultation meeting on the project, *"enhancing good governance through citizens' access to information in Kenya, Malawi and Uganda."*

The General Assembly was organized by AFIC with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).