23rd ARSO GENERAL ASSEMBLY EVENTS SPEAKERS

OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO
28TH TO 30TH JUNE 2017
Paul Kaba Thieba

Paul Kaba Thieba is a Burkinabe economist who has served as Prime Minister of Burkina Faso since 2016. Thieba was appointed by President Roch Marc Christian Kaboré on 6 January 2016, shortly after Kaboré took office.
Prof. Mrs. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim, President of the Republic of Mauritius and ARSO Goodwill Ambassador

- Was also an ARSO Expert in African Traditional Medicine, is a Mauritian biodiversity scientist who has served as the President of Mauritius since 2015. Gurib-Fakim is the first woman elected President of the country and is the third woman to serve as Head of State following Elizabeth II and Monique Ohsan Bellepeau, who acted as President in 2012 following the resignation of President Anerood Jugnauth, and again in 2015 following the resignation of President Kailash Purryag. She worked as Managing Director of CIDP Research & Innovation (formerly Cephyr, Centre for Phytotherapy Research), where she devoted her time to researching the medical and nutritive implications of indigenous plants of Mauritius. Previously, she was a Professor with a personal chair in Organic Chemistry at the University of Mauritius (2001) and where she served successively as Dean of the Faculty of Science and Pro–Vice Chancellor (2004–2010). She also worked at the Mauritius Research Council as Manager for Research (1995–1997). She served as the Chairperson the International Council for Scientific Union – Regional Office for Africa (2011–2014). Gurib-Fakim has also been the recipient of various international awards including the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award for Women in Science (2007), Laureate for the National Economic and Social Council (2007), the CTA / NEPAD / AGRA / RUFORUM for ‘African Women in Science’ and the African Union Award for Women in Science. She was also made Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (CSK) by President Anerood Jugnauth in 2008 for her contribution in the education and the scientific sector. She was awarded the Order of the ‘Chevalier de l’Ordre des Palmes Académiques’ by the Government of France in 2009. Upon becoming President, she was automatically elevated to the highest civilian award of Grand Commander of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GSCK).
Dr Eve Christine Gadzikwa
ARSO President

- She has enjoyed an illustrious professional career which spans over 25 years in the public and private sector. Eve was appointed to her current executive position as Director General of the Standards Association of Zimbabwe in September 2008. She is the organisation’s Company Secretary and Governance champion. During her tenure at the helm of SAZ, Eve has successfully lead a diverse team of professionals, represented her organisation on national, regional and international (ISO, SADC, COMESA) SQAM Committees & platforms. An experienced medical laboratory scientist (Microbiologist), Eve is a Fellow of the Institute of Zimbabwe Medical Laboratory and Clinical Scientist Council, Proficiency Testing & SQAM expert and business administrator. Eve has been recognised through several business excellence accolades, chief among them, 2014 Board Chairperson of the Year (Zimbabwe Business Awards Council). In 2015, Eve was instrumental in the crafting and successful launching of the National Code of Corporate Governance for Zimbabwe (ZIMCODE) as Project Steering Committee Vice Chair, now accepted as a minimum guide for corporates in Zimbabwe. In 2015, Dr Gadzikwa published her first Leadership Book, “I Dare You to Lead.”
Dr Hermogène NSENGIMANAN
ARSO Secretary General

Dr Hermogène NSENGIMANA, the ARSO Secretary General, holds a PhD in Analytical and environmental chemistry from the School of Chemistry, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He also has Post-doctoral Studies from the Witwatersrand University and University of Botswana. Prior to his appointment as the ARSO Secretary General in 2012, he was a senior lecturer at National University of Rwanda (NUR) where beside active research work alongside teaching, he held leadership position as Vice dean in the Faculty of Science and Deputy Director in Charge of Consultancy and Research at NUR. In his capacity as a researcher in environmental pollution, he was the President of the International Hydrological Program (IHP) in Rwanda and a member of the scientific advisory committee (VicSac) of the Victoria Lake research (VicRes).

Dr. Nsengimana is an accomplished Standardisation expert with wide knowledge on standards development, adoption and implementation principles based on the WTO TBT/SPS Agreements. In his capacity as ARSO's Secretary General and Chairperson of the Pan African Quality Infrastructure (PAQI) since its inauguration in 2013, he has addressed high level meetings and conferences with a main focus on the role of standardization in economic development for ACP countries.
Rania Sayed

- Graduated from faculty of science, chemistry section in 2004. Has been working for Intertek for 11 years so far. Started in 2006 as a specialist in the wet lab & Dimensional stability lab. In 2009, promoted to be a lab senior for both labs. In 2010, assigned as customer coordinator for lab. In 2012, promoted to be a senior customers coordinator. In 2013, I assigned as Marketing Executive and Technical support. In 2017, promoted to be a Marketing and Sales manager /Technical Support. Since 2015 till now I am handling DETOX and ZDHC programs.

- Textile Standards consider as a firewall that protect the consumer of the low quality imported products, making them contribute to the creation of confidence because they are placed in an environment of transparency where all concerned parties can share their opinions.
Batanai Chikwene

- He is Trade Policy Expert with over 13 years’ experience in project and programme management, regional integration, trade facilitation, international trade negotiations, trade policy, trade capacity development and analytical and policy research. He was previously worked for the Commonwealth Secretariat and African Union Commission as a Trade Policy Analyst, focusing on Economic Partnership Agreements negotiations, trade in services, WTO issues, investment and trade facilitation among other issues. During his tenure at the AUC, Batanai led the technical work that culminated in the launch of the negotiations for the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area. Batanai is currently working at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in the African Trade Policy Centre as a Programme Management Officer.
Barama Sarr

- Diplôme d’ingénieur en Génie civil à l’Ecole Polytechnique de Thiès
Rene Kaam

He is a holder of Dipl. Engineering in Wood Science Engineering from Beijing Forestry University in China, and a graduate in MSc. in Natural Resource Management (International Forestry) from Albert Ludwig University of Freiburg (UniFrei). Rene has experience in international standards development, quality assessment and certification. He leads INBAR’s work on bamboo and rattan (B&R) standardization at ISO where he convenes working group and oversees B&R international standards development. Prior to joining INBAR, he assumed many international positions including to serve as a research assistant at the Forest Research Institute of Baden-Württemberg (FVA Freiburg) in Germany, as a lecturer and research assistant at the Faculty of Environment and Natural resources of UniFrei. He also served as a consultant for the China Africa Forest Governance Project lead by International Institute for Environment and Development. Rene also worked as a Foreign Diplomat for his country serving at the Embassy of the Republic of Cameroon to China.
Dr. Oswald Chinyamakobvu

- He is a Metallurgical Engineer by training and his career spans 9 years as a University lecturer, 9 years as Operations Director at the Zimbabwe Standards Association and 9 years as a QI expert at the SADC Secretariat. He joined the African Union Commission in April 2016 as Senior Technical Advisor on the CFTA responsible for coordinating TBT and SPS issues. Continental Free Trade Area negotiations have gathered pace with six negotiation sessions already held resulting in the adoption of negotiation modalities for tariff liberalization and trade in services. In parallel, technical working groups have been developing text on various sub-topics including rules of origin, customs cooperation, trade remedies, trade in services, legal & institutional affairs, sanitary & phytosanitary measures and non-tariff & technical barriers to trade. The success of strategies to address non-tariff barriers will depend to a large extent on the strength of African quality infrastructure institutions both from a harmonization of measures angle as well as for conformity assessment.
Bernard Bau

- He holds a degree in Agronomical engineering from the University of Gembloux (Belgium). After an early experience in the private sector, he specialised himself in the field of quality and food safety through various certified courses and trainings (TQM, ISO 9001 lead auditor, HACCP/ISO 22000, etc.). He worked with some NGOs and consultancy firms before joining UNIDO in 1999. He has gained an extensive experience in the field of trade capacity building, international standards and quality promotion at both national and regional level in a large number of developing countries. He contributed to several UNIDO publications on standards and quality, inter alia on food safety for small and medium enterprises in West Africa. Bernard Bau spent 12 years of his professional life in the field and currently works in the Trade, Investment & Innovation Department at UNIDO in Vienna. He is responsible for designing and managing regional as well as national technical assistance programmes mainly in the field of quality infrastructure. He is also a gender focal point in his Department at UNIDO.
Dr. Diop

Dr. Diop works as Regional Nutrition Specialist with Helen Keller International – he’s been coordinating the Assessment and Research on Child Feeding (ARCH) program agenda in Senegal and Tanzania, with focus on policy implication in Senegal. He has been engaged in a variety of advocacy and dissemination of ARCH findings at global, regional and national levels. Dr. Diop holds a PhD in Human Nutrition from the University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar. The ARCH project aims to conduct and communicate research related to promotion and consumption of foods for infants and young children with the goal of helping policymakers craft and enforce policies to safeguard infant and child health. Using findings from Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal, and Tanzania, ARCH informed the World Health Organization Guidance on ending the inappropriate promotion of foods for infants and young children. Similarly, ARCH data are being used to inform ongoing Codex Alimentarius revision of the follow-up formula standard.
Ms. Chie Wasserfall

She is the Chief Executive Officer of the Namibian Standards Institution (NSI) since 1 August 2015. She is an electronics engineer by profession and holds a bachelor’s degree in business management and an MBA from the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Before joining the NSI, Chie was part of the top management of the Namibia’s national telecommunications operator, Telecom Namibia and had been in the company for 21 years. She has been in strategic management position for 17 years and therefore has extensive experience in strategic planning, policy formulation and project management amongst others.
Dr. Raj

Dr. Raj is currently employed with the Quality Council of India (QCI) since 2015. He is currently a Senior Director involved in the Zero Defect Zero Effect Certification Scheme of Ministry of Micro Small & Medium Enterprises. QCI is an autonomous body of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) is its nodal point. He is a PhD in Tourism and having worked in leading international hotels and Universities in India, he comes with more than 24 years of experience in the field of Hospitality Management and Training & Development. He has worked with Organisations like ITC Maurya Sheraton, Hotel Hyatt Regency, The Oberoi Hotels, Punjab Technical University etc.
Alex Inklaar

- Dutch national (born in Arnhem in 1957), based in Hamburg, Germany since 1981.

- Consultant and trainer on quality infrastructure (QI) building, specialising in standards and technical regulations. Extensive experience as short-term expert, team leader and coordinator of technical assistance projects on QI in Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa, for Germany’s National Metrology Institute (PTB) and various other national and international donor organisations. Lead consultant in several strategic ISO and CEN and CENELEC exercises, including the elaboration of ISO’s Action Plan for Developing Countries and the evaluation of CEN-CENELEC Affiliates’ readiness for full membership of the European Standardization Organizations.