

**Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam  
14<sup>th</sup> April 2007**

**Attendance**

Abdallah Khatib  
Elaine Baker  
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo  
Jumanne Idd  
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga  
Paulo Atibu  
Shukuru Hassan

**Guest**

Prosper, AALOCOM

**New members**

It was announced that we have four new members, including Jumanne who was present at the meeting who repairs three-wheeled cycles, so everyone introduced themselves.

**Maguta and Mikokoteni**

Elaine reported on the issue of maguta (three wheeled goods-transport cycles). Last Wednesday (4<sup>th</sup> April), Ilala Municipality announced through newspapers that they were planning to ban three wheeled goods transport cycles (maguta) and wheelbarrows (mikokoteni) from the city centre and Kariakoo areas as part of a set of measures aimed at reducing traffic jams. Mejah informed Elaine and discussed the issue over the phone, and on Thursday there was an emergency meeting of Elaine, Shukuru and Juma to establish UWABA's reaction to this. We drafted a letter together to the municipal council, the main points being:

- cycles are a highly sustainable means of urban transport and three wheeled cycles an important means of goods transport in the city
- the reason given by the municipality for this policy is unfounded, as banning maguta and mikokoteni will mean more pick-up trucks and lorries are needed to transport goods, making the traffic jams worse
- this policy is not aligned with the Government's poverty reduction policies, as it will remove the main source of livelihood from thousands of maguta and mikokoteni users in the city

On Saturday, Abdallah, Elaine, Juma, Paulo, Malitika, Shukuru and Sosthenes spent all day cycling around various areas including Kariakoo, Mabibo, Manzese and Tandale collecting the views of guta and mikokoteni users and collecting signatures against the municipality policy. Over four hundred signatures were collected that day, and Abdallah and Paulo continued on subsequent days, bringing the total number of signatures collected to 835.

On Tuesday Juma went to the Ilala Mayor's office to ask for an appointment and we were told to come on Thursday morning. On Thursday morning Elaine, Juma, Paolo and Shukuru went to the office and discovered that the municipality had also advertised the meeting in Kariakoo, so over 200 mainly mikokoteni-users were also there. 10 people from among UWABA and the others at the meeting spoke in length about the problems this policy would bring to maguta and mikokoteni users, shop and market stall owners who need to transport goods, and to congestion of lorries and pickups in the city centre. The mayor said that he was not in a position to make a final decision as he needs to consult the council members first and he said he would convey our ideas to them and call another meeting to convey their decision.

There were several journalists there and UWABA members were on Channel 10 TV news that evening and in photographs in Alhasiri and Dar Leo newspapers the following day.

Juma and Paulo also delivered copies of the petition and letter to the mayor of Dar es Salaam city, Dar es Salaam city council, the regional commissioner and SUMATRA.

It was decided that next Monday Elaine would phone the Ilala Mayor's office to find out when the final decision can be expected, and whether or not maguta and mikokoteni are allowed in those areas in the meantime. She will also try to get copies of the relevant by-laws and proposed amendments.

Prosper suggested that as well as criticizing this policy, we should come up with positive suggestions to help the municipality reduce traffic jams. Some ideas were having a special routes for non motorized transport only leading in and out of the city in several directions, putting cycle facilities such as parking and washing facilities in the city centre, increasing parking fees for private vehicles in the city centre, putting in place luxury higher-fare buses and park and ride facilities for better off people to use as alternative to private cars (while keeping low-fare dala dalas for those not willing to pay higher fares), moving the bus stations from posta to three or four satellite stations around the city centre to which people would walk and putting in place proper queuing systems for buses.

It was agreed that UWABA would write a letter to Ilala proposing a meeting where we can discuss these traffic-de-congestion proposals.

### **Cycle caravan**

Elaine updated the cycle caravan proposal according to the changes made at the last meeting. Input is still required from AALOCOM and CHABADA. Prosper said he would write the AALOCOM section as soon as possible and Elaine said she would follow up getting the CHABADA section. Some small additional changes were made to the proposal during the meeting. Elaine is traveling to Cape Town South Africa for work reasons and will try to meet with Bradley of ITDP while there. After submitting to ITDP, we will start gathering other support and sponsors.

**Upcoming road renovations**

Elaine reported that she visited TANROADS Dar es Salaam office last week and took digital photos of the road plans for Sam Nujoma, Nelson Mandela and Kilwa Roads. She then uploaded these on the internet and emailed asking for assistance from engineers to help interpret these. She got two offers of help, from Robert Bartlett in Germany and from Dan Piatkowski. She gave them some background information and they will work on providing comments to us.

**Other business**

Elaine said she had not yet drafted a letter to SUMATRA to ask for a meeting as promised but that she would do it soon.

Jumanne offered to recruit more members and it was suggested he bring them to the next meeting so they can sign the membership form. He also requested a copy of the constitution and Elaine said she would print one for him.

**Next meeting**

It was agreed to meet again after two weeks on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 10am.