

**Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam
4th August 2007**

Attendance

Ally Saidi Mohamedi
Elaine Baker
Filbert Mbecha
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo
Jumanne Idd Selemeni
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga
Mohamed S. Mwenguo
Mussa Omari
Paulo Atibu Hatibu
Rahma Ali
Rashidi Saidi Karanji
Shabani Ramadhani
Sosthenes C Amlima
Sudi Saidi Ramadhan

Guests

Severin C Mhina – Executive Secretary, HUWATA
Luka E Makona – Chairman, HUWATA
Engelbert Nyoni – ITDP Tanzania

Cooperation with HUWATA

Two guests from HUWATA – Chama cha Huduma ya wasafiri Tanzania (Tanzania traveler's service organisation). They introduced HUWATA. It is an NGO, was set up in 1975 and aims to address safety issues for travelers (including people traveling by walking, cycling, road or rail). They address issues of safety from accidents as well as safety from crime. They work closely with the Government including TANROADS. They described a number of road safety projects they are working on at the moment. They have 16 employees in Dar es Salaam and more in regional offices. One of their employees, Sebastian Kolele, has experience in cycling issues. The idea and initiative for some licensing projects and organisations including SUMATRA came from HUWATA.

Elaine and other members described UWABA and our activities. Both HUWATA and UWABA were very enthusiastic about working together and cooperating.

Elaine described the funding possibility for road safety projects from Wamba Memorial Fund. The deadline for submitting a proposal for this project is 31st August 2007. It was decided that we should design a project with three components:

- Training in cycle safety for general cyclists including UWABA members
- Training in cycling and cycle safety for secondary school students
- Sensitization of driving school teachers on teaching driving students about cyclists rights

The funding could be used for paying trainers to prepare for and conduct the trainings, producing training materials and handouts, hiring of venues, payment of expenses/allowance to participants and providing refreshments to participants on the training days.

It was agreed that Elaine would meet with Severin and Luka on Monday afternoon to write a draft proposal for review by members next Saturday.

Cycle Caravan

Mr Nyoni from ITDP attended our meeting to give us feedback on ITDP support for this year's cycle caravan. Elaine asked for clarification on the roles and relationship between ITDP and AALOCOM. Mr Nyoni said that he is an employee of ITDP Tanzania. ITDP Tanzania cooperate with AALOCOM and share office space. Mr Mlamba is the executive secretary of AALOCOM and Prosper used to be an employee of AALOCOM but has now left and will shortly go for studies abroad. California Bike Project is a project of ITDP.

Mr Nyoni said that ITDP are facing financial constraints and would not be able to fund or provide bicycles as prizes for the cycle caravan this year. He said this decision was made by the finance director of ITDP in New York.

Elaine and other members said that this was very disappointing. We had met Bradley from ITDP South Africa) in March who had encouraged us to organize the cycle caravan and assured us of ITDP support similar to last year. We submitted a project proposal in April and had not got any formal feedback from ITDP on what budget we could expect, but on follow-up had got informal assurances of ITDP's support via text messages. Mr Nyoni had not been available to come to any UWABA meetings or cycle caravan meetings despite repeated invitations and follow-up until today, and even today he was almost an hour later than the meeting time agreed with him. (Mr Nyoni said he was very busy with the California Bike Project). Neither Bradley nor Mr Nyoni have been replying to emails from UWABA. It was pointed out that this was unprofessional behavior, indicated a total lack of respect of ITDP to UWABA and cast ITDP in a very bad light to UWABA members. A number of UWABA members including Juma and Mr Mwenguo expressed their disappointment and frustration with this situation.

UWABA said they have already approached several companies and organizations including the Guta manufacturing company, Mohammed Enterprises, Knight Support, Zantel, the embassy of the Netherlands, Bakhresa and Celtel for sponsorship and so far have got a commitment of a guta as a raffle prize but no financial contributions. We have also approached Azan Zungu MP to be a guest of honour. Without the core support of ITDP it will be difficult to gather additional support due to doubts of potential supporters on whether the event will actually take place.

Mr Nyoni was asked about the size of ITDP and said it has 20 employees in several African and Asian countries as well as in the US. Elaine said that that a donation of a few hundred dollars to a project they themselves initiated is a very small portion of the money they probably spend on flights, conferences etc. UWABA members said even if ITDP could donate about Tsh 300,000 plus three bicycles this would enable us to continue with a smaller version of our plan.

After Mr Nyoni left, it was discussed whether we continue with the cycle caravan or not. It was decided that we should continue to seek funding from elsewhere and if successful it could go on according to our plan, and if not we could do a small cycle caravan of just our members without the venue, advertising etc.

Elaine said she tried to contact Knight Support this week but the manager was in a meeting. She will continue following up this week. Juma reminded the meeting that we should meet with Azan Zungu between 18th and 20th of this month when he returns from Dodoma.

Donation from IBike

Juma reported that Yassin of IBike had deposited the IBike donation of Tsh 400,000 in the UWABA account and he had checked the balance at the bank and the donation has arrived in the account. UWABA members were very happy to hear this as it will enable us to go ahead with making furniture for the office and purchasing the guta to generate ongoing income.

Office

Since last week, Ally Saidi Mohamad and Rahma Ali had purchased paint for Tsh 10,000 and painted the walls of the office, which is now looking much nicer.

Ally Saidi Mohamad had also done an estimation of the costs of making two magazine racks and two notice boards. The notice boards can be made from chipboard in a frame. The costs of materials would be Tsh 30,000 for the two notice boards and Tsh 38,000 for the two magazine racks (each one 6 foot by 4 foot). It was agreed that Juma and Elaine would withdraw Tsh 60,000 for this from the bank on Monday and give this together with the Tsh 11,000 left over from last week's donations to Ally Saidi Mohammed to buy these materials and start the work. Ally Saidi Mohammed said he would donate his time and work for free.

Mr Mwenguo said that it would be good to invite other local Government officials to an opening ceremony of the office when it is completed. He said that as the ten-cell leader he could assist us to cooperate with other local Government in the area.

It was decided to purchase the UWABA guta this week. Elaine and Juma will withdraw Tsh 280,000 for this purpose from the bank on Monday. We phoned Mhe Ngaja during the meeting and arranged to meet him on Tuesday morning at 10am in Keko to buy the guta. It was agreed that Juma and Jumanne will go to meet him and purchase the guta.

It was also agreed that Jumanne would look for a reliable driver for the guta who would bring UWABA a regular income.

Post office box

Juma sought further clarification on opening a post office box at the post office in Magomeni this week. For an organisation it is Tsh 37,000 to open the box for the first year, and Tsh 30,000 annual fee thereafter. Two photos of each of two people were required and no other documentation is required.

The meeting discussed whether to go ahead with getting our own PO Box or not given the high cost. Some members said we should just use the private box of Elaine or Mejah but most members said we should have an UWABA box. Mr Mwenguo contributed Tsh 2,000 towards the cost of opening the box. It was decided to withdraw Tsh 35,000 from the account towards this and Juma to follow up opening the PO Box.

This brings the total amount to be withdrawn from the bank on Monday to Tsh 375,000.

Dar es Salaam transport plan

Filbert reported that he had gone to the Dar es Salaam Institute of Transportation and met with Mr Wemba who is the person responsible for the transport master plan and is the head of the Road Safety Department. He said that bicycles, gutas and even motor bikes were not counted in the recent road survey exercise (this contradicts information given to Elaine by survey supervisors during the exercise) and he gave us a piece of paper showing the different types vehicles which were counted, which did not include any types of cycles. He said that cycles would be counted later. It was decided that UWABA should ask for a full meeting with him to discuss this issue and also how we can cooperate with his department, or if possible he could come to an UWABA meeting.

Roads planned for construction

Elaine managed to get through to Mr Nitti of TANROADS headquarters who said we should come to meet him at 10am on Monday morning. He said we should have an initial meeting rather than give our full powerpoint presentation on Monday, but could discuss doing this at a later stage. Elaine, Juma, Paulo, Shukuru (who sent a text message) and Sosthenes agreed to go to the meeting.