

**Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam
15 August 2009**

Attendance

Rahma Ali
Juma Ali Salehe Jongo
Abdul H Mwaibambe
Mohammed Samwely
Shamte J Kisoma
Filbert Mbecha
Jumanne Ayuba
Elaine Baker-Guni
Beda John Mkusu
Muharami Amir
Amos Sindano
Mejah Mbuya
Dominata Rwechungura
Husein Hamza Hamisi
Saidi Brashi
Ramadhani Rajabu Nyengo
Idrisa Kessi Zongo
Ally Athuman Jumbe
Edgar R Paulo
Paulo Atibu Hatibu

Cycle caravan

We got replies by email from Zantel and the Irish embassy that they will not be able to fund the caravan this year. We got letters in our post box from the Netherlands Embassy and the Japanese embassy saying they cannot fund the caravan either.

The UK embassy (British High Commission) said that they give funding for projects related to climate change, so if we re-write the proposal emphasising climate change there is a possibility we can get funding. Elaine will re-write the proposal.

Elaine will bring more copies of the letters to Chinese, Danish and Swedish embassies so that we can follow up.

Wamba project

We communicated with the head teacher of Mbondole school and we have agreed the dates Thursday and Friday 27 and 28 August for the training. He said that there will be 65 students. Mejah said there is a possibility of getting free reflective jackets – he will investigate further. We have 34 jackets, 35 helmets and 37 manuals left over from the previous training, therefore we need about 30 extra of each to have some spares also.

We chose teachers: Juma, Filbert, Hussein Hamza, Mohammed, Paulo. Filbert will look after buying the helmets and reflective jackets.

Requests for meetings

Juma delivered our letter to the local government. Filbert delivered to the Minister of Infrastructure (he left the letter with the secretary of the Minister) and the copy of the letter to the Mayor to Councillor Lupilya. Saidi delivered the letter to Commander Kombe and the office of the Mayor. We received a reply from Commander Kombe agreeing to meet us and telling us to suggest a date. We chose Tuesday 25th August at 10am. Elaine will write a letter to him requesting to meet on that date and also inviting the traffic police to send a representative to the training in Mbondole.

When we meet Commander Kombe we will bring photos of cars parked on the service road and ask him to make a public announcement saying it is not allowed. We will also discuss the cycle safety training with him.

Also Edgar will arrange for us to meet his relative in the UNDP on 25th.

Elections 2010

Paulo delivered letters to CCM, TLP, CUF, CHADEMA and NCCR-Maguezi. Up to now we have received a reply from CUF only. They said we should submit our ideas in writing and then we can meet them afterwards. Mejah will draft a letter and we will pass through it next week. Elaine will bring more copies of the letters to the other parties so we can follow up.

Minor problems with roads

At a previous meeting members agreed to the problem reporting form which Elaine had drafted. Elaine will make copies so that we have copies ready in the office for members to fill.

Invitation to climate change week

We have received communications by email from an NGO called EWAT – Environmental Watch Association of Tanzania – the chairperson is Deodatus Kiriba. They are organising a climate change week in Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro on 20-26 September 2009 and they have invited us. This week is linked to the global campaign “Seal the Deal” which is calling on Governments to agree a meaningful climate change treaty in Copenhagen, Denmark in December. Also EWAT would like to cooperate with us on our cycle caravan. We are communicating with them further on how we can cooperate.

Fasta Cycle Couriers cooperative

Mr Bukuku, the district cooperatives officer, said he would attend our meeting this week but then sent a message that he will come next week instead.

Visit from I-CE

Mejah announced that people from I-CE will be in Tanzania and will visit UWABA 31st August – 5th September. They wish to discuss the possibility of setting up a micro-credit scheme for purchase of bicycles.

Re-cycle

Elaine will print another copy of the constitution so that Mejah will follow up getting a TIN number.

Song

Mejah has not yet made a CD cover for the song.

English studies

Three weeks ago the English class could not go ahead as Juma had locked the office and left without telling anyone. Last week the teacher was sick. We will request the teacher to attend next weeks meeting so we can get the classes going again – Abdul will communicate with him.

Keys to office

Filbert will buy a new lock to the office with three keys.

Website

Elaine paid a year's website hosting fees to UCC. There was a problem registering the address www.uwaba.or.tz because a friend of Mejah's (Jones) had already registered it to help us – now we are communicating with him to transfer the registration to UCC.

Translating “Turning Point”

Mejah will watch the DVD “Turning Point” and investigate how it can be translated or Swahili subtitles put on it.

Meeting reports

Mejah read his report on the meeting in Brussels on road safety. Elaine will type the report that Dominata wrote about the meeting in Tanga.

Other issues

Some members suggested we change the constitution to cover the whole country and not just Dar es Salaam. Elaine said that this would be difficult as we need 75% of members (who are now more than 200) to agree to the change and we would also have to change our registration with the Government. However we can support cyclists in other regions who wish to set up other cycle campaign NGOs there.

Finances and guta

The guta driver (Ramadhani) paid Tsh 25,000 and now he does not owe anything.

Mejah gave Filbert Tsh 10,000 and he now owes a further Tsh 77,000 (loans for Nairobi and Brussels).

Elaine used Tsh 130,850 of UWABA money and Tsh 11,150 of her own money to pay the website annual hosting fee (Tsh 142,000). Tsh 10,000 was returned to her and the other Tsh 1,150 she is contributing.

Dominata was returned Tsh 13,000 which she used to buy a helmet and reflective jacket for the Mayor of Tanga.

Filbert now holds Tsh 12,000 of UWABA money. He will use some of this to purchase a new lock for the office.

The guta needs a new tyre. A good quality tyre costs Tsh 28,500 – Tsh 30,000. Mejah will give Filbert money to buy and it will be subtracted from his debt.

Committee elections

We agreed to hold committee elections next week. Elaine will send an SMS to inform members.