Minutes of meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam 16th September 2006

Attendance

Elaine Baker Israel Kiyame Juma Ali Salehe Jongo Kibwana Mohammad Msiga Maurus Malikita Shukuru Hassan

Guests

Godfrey Jax
Leon Mlambo
Prosper Nyaki
Saim Kengelle
Selemani Majembele
CHABADA
CHABADA
CHABADA
AALOCOM
CHABADA
AALOCOM

Prior to this meeting, Elaine and Meja had met with Leon Mlamba of AALOCOM and Bradley Schroeder of Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) California Bike Cooperative. This meeting resulted in the decision to organize a bicycle caravan together.

Leon Mlamba from AALOCOM explained the objectives and activities of AALOCOM – the Association for Advancement of Low Cost Mobility. They have been working to distribute California bikes, and have distributed over 300 so far. They plan to do research on how the bikes improve the recipients lives. They sell the bikes for Tsh 120,000 to distributers who sell them to the public for Tsh 140,000. They have also been working with NGOs in other countries to distribute bikes.

Plans for the bicycle caravan were discussed. The alternatives of using Mnazi Mmoja or Karamjee as the start and end point were discussed and the decision was Karamjee. AALOCOM have already got the backing of the deputy mayor of Dar es Salaam who will attend as a special guest and also provide Karamjee as a congregation point.

The route was discussed. An initial route was proposed from Karamjee to Kivukoni, Sokoine, Msimbazi, United Nations Road and Ocean Road. Godfrey from CHABADA made the point that an anti-clockwise circuit is better because of left hand drive. The route was reversed and instead of Sokoine it will be Nyerere and Samora. It was discussed that the route should be through busy areas to increase the visibility and publicity of the event.

Publicity was discussed. AALOCOM had prepared a document about the caravan. It was agreed to use the last page of this as a basis for publicity and press releases. Elaine said she would prepare posters and flyers and circulate for comments. It was agreed to put the logos of all three organizations on the publicity materials. The materials should also mention that men, women, youth and children are welcome and that all types of bikes (gutas, bikes for disabled) are welcome. It should also mention that participation is free.

It was mentioned that it would be good if the event was colourful and musical and that participants should be encouraged to decorate their bikes. It was decided against issuing T-shirts as this is expensive, promotes uniformity rather than creativity and if the T-Shirt contains a corporate sponsor logo, can make the event look like a corporate promotion.

The issue of date was discussed. The 7th October was proposed. However, this clashes with a major bicycle race in Shinyanga so people from CHABADA would not be available. The date 14th October was proposed and Leon said he would check with the deputy mayor if he would be available then and confirm within a few days.

AALOCOM said that ITDP are willing to provide 10 California bikes as raffle prizes.

Israel and Malikita said they would be willing to organize art work for the event.

It was agreed that the same group of organizations should meet again the next Saturday at the same time and place.