

Minutes of first meeting of Umma wa Wapanda Baisikeli Dar es Salaam
Saturday 28th January 2006 9am – 12 pm
Bustani opposite Palm Beach Hotel

Those who attended the meeting were:

Jina	Makazi	Jina	Makazi
Abdallah Khatib	Magomeni	Mejah Mbuya	Mwenge
Ally Saidi		Moshi Matola	Matola
Ally Salum	Magomeni Mwembe Chai	Othman Makange	Kigamboni
Paulo Atibu	Keko Mwanga	Ramadhani	Tandale
Baunsa Aushaweji	Tandale	Ramadhani F	Magomeni Mwembe Chai
Chrisworny C. Msonga	Kinondoni	Ranji Ayoub	Magomeni Kagera
Elaine Baker	Magomeni Makuti	Said	Kikiaran
Faridi Biashala		Saidi	Manzese
Francis Michael	Kinondoni	Salum Abdalla	Tandale
Israel Kiyame	Tabata	Salum Chimburumburu	
John Emil Maximilian	Ilala	Salum Kambi	Kisiwani
Joseph Ngalowoka	Mwananyamala Kisiwani	Shukuru Hassan	Magomeni
Juma Ali Salehe Jonga	Manzese	Siyenu Mohammad Ramadhani	Tandale
Kibwana Mohammad Msiga	Vingunguti	Tendekayi Guni	Magomeni Makuti
Mandela Mashi	Tandale	Uwesu Rajabu	Mwananyamala
Maurus Malikita	Msasani		

The meeting was conducted entirely in Kiswahili although these minutes are written in English.

Reasons for setting up UWABA

Mejah Mbuya gave an introduction to why we should set up UWABA. There was then a general discussion on the reasons for setting up UWABA. Points raised were as follows:

- Cyclists face common problems and it is only through an organisation that we can have a voice and work to solve these problems
- The main problem is safety on the roads. Factors influencing this include few cycle lanes, little respect of drivers for cyclists and lack of knowledge of cyclists of their rights and of the rules of the road.
- Other problems include lack of washing facilities when arriving to a destination and feeling hot, lack of bicycle parking facilities and dala dalas do not have facilities for transporting bicycles

Other reasons for setting up UWABA include:

- sharing safety information
- supporting cyclists who are involved in accidents to stand up for their rights
- encouraging others including women to take up cycling
- networking with other cyclists around the world and taking part in international discussions / events on cycling as a form of transport

Definition of a bicycle

Some of the attendees attending the meeting were people with disabilities who use arm-bicycles. It was agreed that these were included in the definition of bicycles for UWABA. In addition, bicycles with two back wheels used for transporting mizigo na bidhaa are also included.

Benefits of cycling

The benefits of cycling were discussed. Personal benefits included getting exercise, arriving quickly during a traffic jam, being independent and saving money. Environmental and social benefits include reducing pollution and reducing congestion on the roads. Being a cyclist is something to be proud of and not looked down as a poor-person's transport.

The Constitution

The draft constitution was distributed and read out loud. There were various comments and clarifications and some minor amendments were agreed. The constitution was then passed unanimously by all those present.

Elections

Mejah Mbuya was proposed as Chairperson and no other person stood for election. It was agreed unanimously that he would be chairperson.

Elaine Baker was proposed as Secretary and no other person stood for election. It was agreed unanimously that she would be secretary.

John Emil Maximilian was proposed as Treasurer and no other person stood for election. It was agreed unanimously that he would be treasurer.

There was a discussion about the number of people who should be on the committee with some participants suggesting a larger number than five. However, it was pointed out that there would be other ad-hoc committees so that the central committee could remain with only five members. It was agreed to elect the remaining two members of the committee at the next meeting.

Registration form and Survey

The members' registration forms were passed around and filled in by all those present.

An optional survey was passed around to enable members to record their ideas and to gather information on members. It was filled by the majority of those present.

Ideas for the way forward

It was suggested that we ask an expert in traffic law or a lawyer to give us full information on the rules of the road and our rights as cyclists.

As close to three hours had passed, it was agreed that we meet again at 9am on the following Saturday at the same place.