

MINUTES OF 1st GAMBLING REGULATORS AFRICA FORUM CONFERENCE 20 & 21 FEBRUARY 2003

DATE: 21st FEBRUARY 2003

VENUE: MEROPA CASINO, POLOKWANE, LIMPOPO PROVINCE,
SOUTH AFRICA

1 ATTENDEES

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|------|-----------------------|---|---|
| 1.1 | Mrs G. Ngoma | : | Zambia Lotteries Board |
| 1.2 | Mr A. O. Kwasi | : | Kenya Betting Control and Licensing Board |
| 1.3 | Mr M. Matshiya | : | Zimbabwe Lotteries and Gaming Board |
| 1.4 | Mrs. D. Damiso | : | Zimbabwe Lotteries and Gaming Board |
| 1.5 | Mr. C. D. Mohadi | : | Zimbabwe Lotteries and Gaming Board |
| 1.6 | Mr. T.G. Abbas | : | Tanzania National Lotteries |
| 1.7 | Mr. F. Muxaxe | : | Mozambique Gambling Board |
| 1.8 | Mr. A. B. Sumburane | : | Mozambique Gambling Board |
| 1.9 | Mrs. J. Madzorera | : | Zimbabwe Lotteries and Gaming Board |
| 1.10 | Mr. J. J. Tsodzai | : | Zimbabwe Lotteries and Gaming Board |
| 1.11 | Mr. A. N. S. Dzinza | : | Malawi Gambling Board |
| 1.12 | Mr T. E. Chiyembekeza | : | Malawi Gambling Board |
| 1.13 | Mr. D. M. Muindi | : | Kenya Betting Control and Licensing Board |
| 1.14 | Mr. T. S. Ntaopane | : | Lesotho Casino Board |
| 1.15 | Mr. S. Buthelezi | : | R S A National Gambling Board |
| 1.16 | Adv. T. Majake | : | R S A National Gambling Board |
| 1.17 | Mr. C. Fismer | : | R S A National Gambling Board |
| 1.18 | Ms. G. Makhatini | : | R S A National Gambling Board |
| 1.19 | Mr. E. Sihlongonyane | : | Swaziland Gaming Board of Control |
| 1.20 | Mr. A. Dlamini | : | Swaziland Gaming Board of Control |

- 1.21 Mr. M. Mdluli : Swaziland Gaming Board of Control
1.22 Mr. E. Tembo : Malawi Gambling Board
1.23 Mr. Serobi Maja : Northern Province Gambling Board (RSA)
1.24 Ms T. Moletsane : Northern Province Gambling Board (RSA)
1.25 Mr. M. Lengalenga : Zambia Lotteries Board

2. OPENING AND WELCOME

Mr T. Chiyembekezo declared the meeting open and welcomed everybody present.

3. OPENING ADDRESS – Adv. Seth Nthai

Adv. Seth Nthai delivered an opening address and outlined the objectives for this meeting.

4. KEY NOTE ADDRESS – Mr Chris Fismer

Mr Fismer addressed the meeting and highlighted that the need for a Forum of this nature is to ensure that there is efficient regulation of the gambling industry throughout the continent as well as to ensure that there is co-operation amongst the regulators. He dealt with these two issues in the following manner:

4.1 Why do we need to regulate gambling?

- (a) To keep gambling free from crime and maintain the integrity of the industry. This is the most critical hurdle for every regulator.
- (b) To ensure that measures are in place for consumer protection.
- (c) To promote responsible gambling and protect minors from participating in gambling.

- (d) To ensure that what is due to the fiscus in the form of special taxes and levies is paid.
- (e) Economic modelling of the industry i.e. to ensure that economic policies that the industry is modelled on meet specific needs of the particular country.
- (f) To ensure that the socio-economic needs are met i.e. shareholding of operators, employment, community involvement and to ensure that there is added infrastructure over and above the gambling facilities.

4.2 *Why do we have to co-operate with each other?*

- (a) There is value in sharing experiences and expertise amongst us as regulators.
- (b) The African Continent is perceived to be one and what happens in one jurisdiction, affects the other jurisdiction.
- (c) Criminals do not recognise boundaries. In order to eliminate illegal gambling completely in our continent, we need to co-operate completely.
- (d) The rest of the world has been co-operating as regulators on an international basis.
- (e) We need to harmonise and standardise regulation.

5. FEEDBACK ON THE MALAWI FOUNDING MEETING

Mr Chris Fismer gave an overview of the Malawi meeting and referred members to the minutes of that meeting that were included in the pack. Various issues were discussed pertaining to the minutes such as:

(a) Should the Forum comprise of the whole of Africa or only SADC members only?

(b) The name of the Forum- Should it be "Gambling" or "Gaming" Forum?

(c) The role of various governments in the Forum i.e. should governments be represented or it should only be the regulators that are represented.

It was resolved that these issues would be dealt with when the Constitution is discussed.

6. INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Mr. Buthelezi introduced the Constitution. The following issues were debated:

6.1 Membership

Some members felt that membership to the Forum should be limited to SADC regions and others felt that limiting the Forum to S A D C would prevent the members from learning from each other as the level of development amongst S A D C regions are more or less at the same level. It was felt that there would be more value if the Forum membership extends beyond S A D C.

Resolution:

Membership should be open to all gambling jurisdictions in the African Continent.

6.2 Name of the Forum

It was proposed that the name should be "Gaming", instead of "Gambling".

Resolution

It was resolved that the name should be "Gaming Regulators Africa Forum".

6.3 The Constitution

A question was debated whether the document governing the relationship amongst member jurisdiction should be the Constitution or the Memorandum of Understanding (M O U).

Resolution

The document shall be referred to as the MOU instead of the Constitution.

6.4 Secretariat

The meeting resolved that the duties and functions of the secretariat should include the handling of the correspondence and the address of the secretariat shall be the address of the Forum during that secretary's term of office.

6.5 Representation of members

It was resolved that membership is for the regulators and that each country should be represented by one individual even if there are more than one persons attending a meeting from a particular country.

6.6 Officers

The following changes were agreed upon regarding the clause dealing with officers:

- a) The duties and functions of the office bearers should be more clearly spelt out.

- b) Terms of Reference for Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary need to be clearly defined and they should be linked to the objectives.
- c) "Secretary" should be replaced with "Secretariat" throughout the document.

7. ELECTIONS

Elections for office bearers were held and the following were elected:

(a) Secretariat

Malawi was elected as the secretariat and it was resolved that they would take over this function from South Africa from the date of the next meeting.

(b) Chairman

Mr Chris Fismer, of South Africa was elected as the Chairperson and will commence with his duties with immediate effect.

(c) Vice Chairman

Mr Tsodzai from Zimbabwe was elected as the Vice-Chairperson.

8. NEXT MEETING

It was resolved that the next meeting will be held in October 2003 and will be hosted by the secretariat, Malawi. The secretariat will also decide on the exact date and circulate it to members before hand.

9. GENERAL

It was agreed that the secretary of the minutes of this meeting should prepare the final draft of the MOU and incorporate the changes that were recommended at the meeting. The final draft of the MOU and minutes of this meeting shall be circulated to all attendees.