

# MINUTES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF GAMBLING REGULATORS AFRICA FORUM (GRAF)

HELD AT SUN 'N' SAND HOLIDAY RESORT, MANGOCHI, MALAWI,  
23 – 24 OCTOBER 2003

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## 1. OPENING AND WELCOME

Mrs Bernadette Mtila, Director of the Malawi Gaming Board welcomed all present to the 1<sup>st</sup> GRAF Conference. She then requested the Chairperson of the Malawi Gaming Board Mr Khuze Kapeta, to officially welcome all delegates and conduct the official opening of the Conference on behalf of the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Parks and Wildlife, Hon Wallace Chiume.

Mr Kapeta emphasised the need for mutual recognition and co-operation amongst Gaming Regulators. He further requested that delegates need to make this meeting a practical one which shall ensure real benefits to participants.

## 2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

### 2.1 Attendees

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Mr Khuze Kapeta   | Malawi Gaming Board (Chairman – GRAF)              |
| Mr Chris Fismer   | National Gambling Board of RSA                     |
| Mr M. Ratsomo     | Free State Gambling Board                          |
| Mr Tebogo Makamo  | South African Bureau of Standards (Per invitation) |
| Mr V.K. Sithole   | Limpopo Gambling Board                             |
| Mr Master Maliro  | Malawi Gaming Board                                |
| Mr T Motsoane     | South African Bureau of Standards (Per invitation) |
| Mr Themba Marasha | National Gambling Board of RSA                     |

|                        |                                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mr Denis Muchunguzi    | Gambling Board of Tanzania           |
| Mr Rossouw Lubbe       | Western Cape Gambling & Racing Board |
| Ms Alicia Gibson       | Western Cape Gambling & Racing Board |
| Mr Tshepo Ntaopane     | Lesotho Casino Board                 |
| Prof. Linda De Vries   | Western Cape Gambling & Racing Board |
| Mr Jacques Booysen     | Gauteng Gambling Board               |
| Mr Edward Lalumbe      | Gauteng Gambling Board               |
| Mr Dave Strauss        | Free State Gaming Board              |
| Mrs Bernadette Mtila   | Malawi Gaming Board                  |
| Mr Tarimba E. Abbas    | Gambling Board of Tanzania           |
| Hon. V.M. Mwamoto      | Gambling Board of Tanzania           |
| Ms Gcwali Makhathini   | National Gambling Board of RSA       |
| Mr Serobi Maja         | Limpopo Gambling Board               |
| Mr Arnold B. Dlamini   | Swaziland Gaming Board of Control    |
| Mr John Magagula       | Swaziland Gaming Board of Control    |
| Mr J.S. Sibeko         | Kwazulu Natal Gambling Board         |
| Mrs Emiliana Tembo     | Malawi Gaming Board                  |
| Mrs M. Magomola        | Limpopo Gambling Board               |
| Adv. Thibedi Majake    | National Gambling Board of RSA       |
| Adv. T. Moletsane      | Limpopo Gambling Board               |
| Ms Zandile Matse       | Swaziland Gaming Board of Control    |
| Mr Felix Makaxe        | Gambling Board of Mozambique         |
| Dr Graham Hechter      | Eastern Cape Gambling Board          |
| Dr Khakhane T. Leballo | North West Gambling Board            |
| Mr Ronald Kahumbe      | Ministry of Tourism (Malawi)         |
| Mr W. Changwara        | Lotteries and Gaming Board of        |

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
|                       | Zimbabwe                                     |
| Mr I.T. Mukaro        | Lotteries and Gaming Board of Zimbabwe       |
| Mr Peter Wambungu     | Betting Control and Licencing Board of Kenya |
| Mr Peter K. Nzia      | Betting Control and Licencing Board of Kenya |
| Mr Matimati           | Lotteries and Gaming Board of Zimbabwe       |
| Mr George Mpombwe     | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Mr Ted Chiyembekeza   | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Mr Austin Khulumula   | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Mr Paul Nyirenda      | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Mr Mike Goma          | Zambia Gambling Board                        |
| Mr Sosten Lingwalanya | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Mr Isaac Katopola     | Ministry of Tourism (Malawi)                 |
| Mr Mathanki           | Malawi Police                                |
| Mr Paul Chiumia       | Malawi Gaming Board                          |
| Ms Florence Chapola   | Malawi Gaming Board                          |

## **2.2 Apologies**

- 2.1.1 J J Tsodzai - Zimbabwe
- 2.1.2 Namibian Gambling Board
- 2.1.3 Mauritius Gambling Board
- 2.1.4 Seychelles Gambling Board
- 2.1.5 Ghana Gambling Board

## **3. KEYNOTE ADDRESS – MR CHRIS FISMER**

Mr Chris Fismer, the Chairperson of GRAF mentioned that from humble beginnings in 2002, the Forum has now attracted a wider participation within Southern and East Africa. He further stated that the aim of GRAF includes, among, other things;

- (a) the sharing of experiences so that members/regulators learn from each other,
- (b) the sharing of intelligence information on illegal operators,
- (c) establishment of platform for cooperation and creation of friendships,
- (d) redefinion of best practice.

Mr Fismer reminded delegates that there are expectations that arise from introduction of gambling. These expectations are better understood when regulators undertake detailed analysis of the impacts of gambling. As such, it is vital that regulators should share information on their experiences.

#### **4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF 20 & 21 FEBRUARY 2003**

The meeting reviewed the minutes of the meeting that was held at Meropa Casino in Limpopo Province, South Africa, in February 2003 and sought adoption thereof.

After minor corrections the minutes were approved as true reflection of the proceedings of the meeting and it was understood that the minutes constituted a critical common ground for the success and growth of GRAF.

#### **5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

The Forum, having looked at the agenda, resolved that the discussions on the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) be referred to a special task force to look at the definitions and other issues as noted by participants. The special task force was comprised of Mr Khuze Kapeta, Adv. Thibedi Majake, CEO, National Gambling Board of South Africa, Ms Gcwali Makhathini, Legal Manager, National Gambling Board, Ms Zandile Matse, Legal Advisor of Swaziland Gaming Board, Mr Master Maliro, CEO, Malawi Gaming Board and Prof. Linda De Vries, Chairperson of the Western Cape Gambling Board.

The committee was mandated to report back the next day.

## **6. PRESENTATIONS**

### **6.1 Community attitudes and gambling behaviour in South Africa – case study**

This case study was presented by Ms Gcwali Makhathini and highlighted the South African community perceptions on gambling. It was noted that the overall rating of acceptance of gambling was slightly higher. At the same time the South African case study revealed a slightly lower propensity to gamble.

Delegates **agreed** that it is important for jurisdiction to undertake studies as done by South Africa. Such studies would help in determining extent of problem gambling and at the same time help in ensuring that the real economic benefits of gambling are attained.

## **6.2 The impact of illegal gambling on the economy and strategies for eradication thereof**

This paper was presented by Sosten Lingwalanya of the Malawi Gaming Board. The paper, while touching on illegal gambling, highlighted the link between Illegal Gambling and Problem Gambling. Strategies that were noted in the paper include strong legal penalties that would deter illegal gambling, as well as undertaking gambling impact assessments.

Delegates observed and agreed that illegal gambling has disastrous consequences for a destination. As such and within the spirit of GRAF, there is a need to share experience and solutions to counter illegal gambling.

## **6.3 Sharing of intelligence information on criminal activity and probity investigation on the Continent**

The panel discussion was led by Mr Themba Marasha, Chief Inspector of the National Gambling Board in RSA, Mr Arnold Dlamini, Inspector and Board Secretary of Swaziland Gaming Board and Mr Tarimba Abbas, Director of National Lotteries Board in Tanzania.

The panel concluded that intelligence sharing is vital to ensuring that Gaming is crime free. As such, it becomes not only cost effective but efficient when regulators share information and skills on probity. Information sharing further supports a basis for harmonisation of rules and regulations.

#### **6.4 Anti-money laundering strategies within the gambling industry**

This presentation was made by Adv. Thibedi Majake, CEO of National Gambling Board, RSA. The paper highlighted the need for regulators to ensure that countries have a system that checks against money laundering. It is imperative that casinos have anti-money laundering officers on site. At the same time, countries have to criminalise money laundering.

#### **6.5 Consumer protection through testing and certification of gaming machines**

This presentation was made by Tebogo Makamo of the South African Bureau of Standards and placed emphasis on the need to ensure that machines that are subjected to play are fully compliant with regulatory standards. This will ensure that consumers in the industry are adequately protected.

### **7. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

#### **Discussion**

The Special Task Force on the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) presented its draft recommendations to the Forum. The preamble was expanded to reflect the major guiding principles of GRAF and to capture the sentiments of mutual recognition of each other's standards and creating potential for harmonisation of rules.

#### **Resolutions**

- a) The revised MOU as presented by the task team was approved.

- b) Members who had the mandate from their jurisdictions would sign the MOU signifying their acceptance and others were urged to sign as soon as they have obtained the mandate.
- c) Efforts will be made progressively to attract more and more participating countries to sign the MOU.
- d) It was emphasised that the MOU should not impose financial obligations on institutions but it is incumbent on the members to realise that the cost of the conference should be a group venture for its sustainability, success and growth among members.

## **8. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS**

- 8.1 Elections as outlined in the just adopted MOU were conducted.
- 8.2 Mr Khuze Kapeta, Chairperson of the Malawi Gaming Board was elected as Chairperson of GRAF for the next year.  
In his acceptance speech, Mr Khuze Kapeta mentioned that the success of GRAF is dependent on continued cooperation of all member states. He further stated that it is his belief that support will be obtained from member countries as assurances had been made by participants that GRAF should grow.
- 8.3 Mr Peter Wambugu, Chief Inspector of the Kenya Betting and Casino Board was elected as Deputy Chairperson.
- 8.4 Tanzania was elected to be secretariat of GRAF.
- 8.5 In terms of the MOU, the secretariat will host the next GRAF conference. It was therefore agreed that Tanzania will host the 2004 Conference.

8.6 Mr Chris Fismer, the outgoing Chairperson of GRAF in his address indicated that the success of the Forum shall depend on the following:

- (a) Commitment and trust;
- (b) Co-operation beyond line of duty;
- (c) Flexibility in structures;
- (d) Sensitivity to ensure participation of all;
- (e) Expansion to include all countries in Africa; and
- (f) Continued pursuit for excellence.

**9. CLOSURE**

The Chairperson thanked all delegates for their active participation and declared the meeting closed on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2003 at 15:00 hours.

Signed on this ..... day of ..... 2004

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**CHAIRPERSON**