



Introducing the Management Team:

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AfSBT e-Newsletter



January 2016

We wish all of you a very happy 2016 – may you enjoy good health and success in your endeavours.

Our Society is in for a very exciting year – the Accreditation and Education programmes will

move into full swing and see our two major arms visiting various countries in Africa to carry out training and assessments respectively.

Our biennial congress will take place in Kigali, Rwanda from 31 May to 3 June.

Our website will take on a new look and enable us to reload all the Africa Society journals plus other information related to education, that we have been working on for some time now.

As I said last time, the e-Newsletter plays a role in our strategic objective

Communication. You are invited to share this document with your friends and colleagues, and encourage those working in the field of blood transfusion to renew or join AfSBT. The Society is committed to enhancing blood safety and sufficiency in Africa, and encouraging learning and quality systems in blood facilities.

Be a member and be part of this drive!

Beryl!

IPFA meeting in Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa

The International Plasma Fractionation Association (IPFA) held a meeting from 30 November to 2 December 2015, at the Spier Conference Centre in Stellenbosch. The theme was **Improving Access to Plasma and Plasma Products in the Southern African Region**. IPFA co-hosted the meeting with the National Bioproducts institute, AfSBT and the blood services in South Africa (SANBS and WPBTS). This meeting gave AfSBT the opportunity to promote the Step-Wise Accreditation Programme, to network with colleagues in the field, and to get a much clearer idea of the criteria for the use of plasma and plasma products, particularly in respect of the standard required to make plasma acceptable for fractionation.



Prof. Anthon Heyns addressing the IPFA meeting in Stellenbosch, Cape Town

IPFA meeting in Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa *(continued)*



Lesley Bust making a presentation at the IPFA meeting in Cape Town

Improving Access to Plasma and Plasma Products in the Southern African Region.

For AfSBT, this important meeting had several major outcomes:

- ◆ Participation in the Education Day on 30 November, in order to describe the AfSBT Accreditation Programme
- ◆ Opportunity to chair a session in which African speakers described the importance of attracting and maintaining voluntary blood donors as the safest donors, and to relate their experiences in using our Accreditation process
- ◆ Clarification of role to be played by AfSBT in the access and use of excess plasma in Africa – to ensure that the AfSBT Standards cover the requirements for safe plasma for fractionation
- ◆ Increased support and recognition for the AfSBT Step-Wise Accreditation Programme

Spiers was a very good venue; the accommodation was comfortable, the quality of food excellent, and the meetings well organized and well attended. Some photos are attached to give you an idea of proceedings. Note that the link provided <http://www.ipfa.nl/proceedings/proceedings-ipfa-workshop-plasma-cape-town-2015> takes you to the presentation slides. They are really worth studying! We thank IPFA for allowing us access to this educational information



Update on Regions in AfSBT and membership spread

The tables show the current status of our membership and the new Regional grouping being considered by the Society. We feel that these groupings may better serve to cover / communication within the African continent.

"Each of us must work for his own improvement, and at the same time share a general responsibility for all humanity" ~ Marie Curie

REGIONAL GROUPINGS OF THE AFRICA SOCIETY FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSION - JAN 2016						
(Based on Geo-political Information)						
MEMBERSHIP BY REGION						
ACTIVE MEMBERS	219	Africa - Total Population		1,108,578,173	100%	
NON ACTIVE MEMBERS	208					
TOTAL	427					
Central Africa						
				122,813,352	11%	VP elected/ Appointed
ECCAS Countries						
Active: 10 Members						
Non Active: 9 Members						
Total: 19 Members						
		Name	Capital	Official languages	Population	
		Burundi	Bujumbura	Kirundi, French	10,395,931	
		Cameroon	Yaoundé	French, English	20,129,878	
		Central African Republic	Bangui	Sango, French	4,576,000	
		Chad	N'Djamena	French, Arabic	11,274,106	No
		D R Congo	Kinshasa	French	69,575,000	
		Equatorial Guinea	Malabo	Spanish, French	740,000	
		Gabon	Libreville	French	1,576,665	
		Republic of the Congo	Brazzaville	French	4,366,266	
		São Tomé and Príncipe	São Tomé	Portuguese	179,506	
East Africa						
				288,801,770	26%	
EAC Countries						
Active: 56 Members						
Non Active: 32 Members						
Total: 88 Members						
		Name	Capital	Official languages	Population	
		Comoros	Moroni	Comorian, Arabic, French	798,000	
		Djibouti	Djibouti	French, Arabic	810,178	
		Eritrea	Asmara	Tigrinya, Arabic, English	6,380,803	
		Ethiopia	Addis Ababa	Amharic	90,076,012	
		Kenya	Nairobi	English, Swahili	45,010,056	
		Madagascar	Antananarivo	Malagasy, French	22,005,222	
		Mayotte	Mamoudzou	French	212,645	
		Réunion	Saint-Denis	French	844,994	
		Rwanda	Kigali	Kinyarwanda, French, English	11,262,564	
		Somalia	Mogadishu	Somali, Arabic	10,428,043	
		Tanzania	Dar es Salaam	Swahili, English	50,760,000	Yes
		South Sudan	Juba	English	12,340,000	
		Uganda	Kampala	English, Swahili	37,873,253	
North Africa						
				201,845,319	18%	
Maghreb Countries						
Active : 6 Members						
Non Active: 1 Member						
Total: 7 members						
		Name	Capital	Official languages	Population	
		Algeria	Algiers	Arabic, Berber	37100000	
		Egypt	Cairo	Arabic	80471869	
		Libya	Tripoli	Arabic	6461455	
		Mauritania	Nouakchott	Arabic	3359185	
		Morocco	Rabat	Arabic, Berber	32226056	
		Sudan	Khartoum	Arabic	30894000	
		Tunisia	Tunis	Arabic	10982754	Yes
		Western Sahara	El-Aaiún	Arabic, Berber	350000	
Southern Africa						
				158,433,222	14%	
SADC Countries						
Active: 86 Members						
Non Active: 116 Members						
Total: 202 members						
		Name	Capital	Official languages	Population	
		Angola	Luanda	Portuguese	24,383,301	
		Botswana	Gaborone	English, Setswana	2,155,784	
		Lesotho	Maseru	Sotho, English	2,067,000	
		Malawi	Lilongwe	English	16,407,000	
		Mauritius	Port Louis	English, French	1,261,208	
		Mozambique	Maputo	Portuguese	24,692,144	
		Namibia	Windhoek	English	2,113,077	
		Seychelles	Victoria	French, English	92,000	
		South Africa	Pretoria	English, Afrikaans	54,956,900	
		Swaziland	Mbabane	Swazi, English	1,119,000	
		Zambia	Lusaka	English	16,212,000	Yes
		Zimbabwe	Harare	English	12,973,808	
West Africa						
				336,684,510	30%	
ECOWAS Countries						
Active: 61 Members						
Non Active: 50 Members						
Total: 71 Members						
		Name	Capital	Official languages	Population	
		Benin	Porto-Novo	French	10,323,000	
		Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou	French	17,322,796	
		Cape Verde	Praia	Portuguese	525,000	
		Gambia	Banjul	English	1,882,450	
		Ghana	Accra	English	27,000,000	Yes.
		Guinea	Conakry	French	8,746,128	
		Guinea-Bissau	Bissau	Portuguese	1,693,398	
		Ivory Coast	Yamoussoukro	French	23,919,000	
		Liberia	Monrovia	English	4,503,000	
		Mali	Bamako	French	14,517,176	
		Niger	Niamey	French	17,138,707	
		Nigeria	Abuja	English	182,202,000	
		Senegal	Dakar	French	13,567,338	
		Sierra Leone	Freetown	English	6,190,280	
		Togo	Lome	French	7,154,237	

AfSBT is making a Positive Difference to National Blood Programmes in Africa

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Upcoming events



Biennial congress of Africa Society for Blood Transfusion

8th International Congress of AfSBT: **Kigali, Rwanda: 31 May – 3 June 2016**

Theme: **Safe and Sustainable Blood Services in Africa – where do we stand?**

The congress website will soon become active: www.afsbtcongress.org

International Plasma Fractionation Association

IPFA Asia Pacific Workshop on Plasma Quality and Supply, "Technological, regulatory and - organizational tools to produce plasma for fractionation" | 8 – 9 March 2016 | Taipei, Taiwan

<http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-asia-pacific-workshop-on-plasma-quality-and-supply-taipei-taiwan-march-2016>

IPFA/PEI 23rd International Workshop on "Surveillance and Screening of Blood Borne Pathogens" | 25 - 26 May 2016 | Lisbon, Portugal

<http://www.ipfa.nl/events/ipfa-pei-23-international-workshop-lisbon>

International Bursary Opportunity: -BBTS Princess of Wales International Bursary is open to individuals working outside the UK – for more information, go to www.bbts.org.uk/whatwedo - **deadline 31 May 2016**

Contact us

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<https://www.facebook.com/afsbt/>

**"Learn from yesterday, live for
today, hope for tomorrow"**

~Albert Einstein