



# AfLIA Annual Report 2016

Connecting Africa's library and information communities

From the Executive Director **3**  
Where we Work **4**  
Who we are **5**  
Our Vision **5**  
Our Mission **5**  
Our Values **5**  
What we Do **5**  
Our Programmes **5 - 6**  
Events **6 -10**  
Partners **11**  
Staff **12**  
Governing Council members **12**  
Financial Report **13 - 16**  
Contacts **17**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA) was launched on the 3rd of July 2013. It came in to satisfy the yearnings of African professionals to have a continental Library Association which will provide a platform to discuss issues and further the cause of the library and information sector in Africa; and to serve as a voice and focal point for library and information issues for Africa at various continental fora and with development bodies and organisations working in Africa.

AfLIA was registered as an international non- governmental organisation in October 2014 in Accra, Ghana, where its headquarters currently resides. It also appointed its 1st Executive Director in October 2014. It used the next one year to set up its structures, canvass for membership and put in place activities to concretise its existence. One of these activities was the organisation of its first conference in Accra, Ghana, from May 30, 2015 – June 3, 2015. It was at this conference that members approved the Constitution.

In October 2015, a Program Officer, Administrative Assistant / Membership Officer and part time Accountant and Communications Officer were appointed. It was therefore from this time that AfLIA became very functional. This report is therefore from October 2015 to December 2016. It will enable readers to know how far AfLIA has come and worked in barely three years that it has existed.

We wish to express our gratitude for the great support we have received from the Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in making us to run this fast towards our vision, just when we had begun taking a few walking steps. The speed we are working with has amazed a lot of people and at the same time built confidence of people in AfLIA. We in addition express our gratitude to our other partners, Governing Council members, membership and our committed and hardworking staff.




## WHERE WE WORK

AfLIA is a Pan African Association so its area of work is the whole geographic area known as Africa including its islands. Currently AfLIA has members in 28 out of the 54 countries of Africa and is actively working to expand membership to the rest of the Continent.



### Key

 Countries with at least one AfLIA member

## WHO WE ARE

AfLIA is an independent international not-for-profit organization which pursues the interests of library and information associations, library and information services, librarians and information workers and the communities they serve in Africa.

## OUR VISION

The trusted voice of the African library and information community in Africa's development.

## OUR MISSION

To empower the library and information community to actively promote the African development agenda through dynamic services that transform livelihoods.

## OUR VALUES

AfLIA has the following as its core values:

- Professionalism and Inclusivity
- Integrity Transparency & Accountability
- Innovation & Creativity
- Customer focused and
- Access to Information as a Human Right

## WHAT WE DO

- We advocate for freedom and equitable access to information through improved facilities and human capacity of libraries for individual and national development in Africa

- Support human, organizational and infrastructural development of the library and information profession and services by building capacity through training.
- Pursue partnerships and collaboration by forging and maintaining links with other relevant organizations and associations and to position libraries as information centres and partners on the national and global development agenda.
- Organise fora for knowledge sharing and networking to support improved library and information service delivery.
- We do all these with the cooperation of National Governments, National Library Associations, the different types of Libraries in Africa and our partners.

## OUR PROGRAMMES

AfLIA in its strategic plan has indicated programs to build the capacity of librarians to satisfy the information needs of their communities. Its aim is to ensure that libraries support the development agendas of their countries, the African Union vision 2063, 'Towards the Africa we want' and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030.

Most of AfLIA's programs are structured along activities for the achievement of these development goals. Currently several proposals soliciting for partnerships with AfLIA to carry out such programs have been made and are awaiting responses.

### BIENNIAL AFRICAN LIBRARY SUMMITS

AfLIA organises a biennial Library Summit to enable knowledge sharing of innovations and also for networking. The 3rd African Library Summit and 1st AfLIA Conference was held from 30th May – 3rd June 2015 in Accra, Ghana. At the Summit, there were several activities including paper presentations, drill down sessions, an un-conference session, and a general meeting. These and more are planned for the forthcoming 4th African Library Summit and 2nd AfLIA Conference, a 4-day event which will be held in Yaounde , Cameroon from 16-19 May 2017.

### BIENNIAL AFRICAN PUBLIC LIBRARY SUMMITS

The 2nd African Public Libraries Summit which brings together public librarians in Africa to share knowledge and showcase their innovative services was held from 30th April – 1st May 2016 at Ezulwini, Swaziland as a post-conference of SCECSAL.

### INELI-SSAF PROGRAM

Currently with support from Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation we have embarked on building the capacity of Public Librarians to play the expected roles as the provider of relevant and timely information to the community to meet their needs and improve their livelihoods. This is the INELI-SSAf (International Network for Emerging Library Innovators-Sub-Saharan Africa) program which took off in June. The first cohort has 32 participants from 14 African countries with 8 Mentors who will be on a 2-year journey to learn new innovative services

and sharpen existing skills for information delivery using ICT. Within the two-years, they will have three (3) face-to face meetings of 4 days each and continue with online tutorship. The program will end in May 2018 and another cohort will begin their 2-year journey from May 2018 and end in April 2020.

#### **AfLIA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

The AfLIA Leadership Academy has been established in partnership with the Public Library Association (PLA) of the USA. The

Academy will provide in-service training for middle managers of African Public Libraries to enable them to effectively manage libraries of the twenty first century. The training is expected to bridge the gap between managing libraries and linking them to communities on one hand and making libraries vibrant centres of communities, connecting people, information and services, on the other hand. It intends to embed the library in the community, making it a community asset by the people that it serves.

It is planned that the Academy will under the partnership have two cohorts, the first one a pilot for 12 participants and the next with 25 participants. The Academy will feature pre-meeting webinars, a five day intensive residential training and a series of follow up webinars as well as a project implemented by each participant at his/her library, and a presentation about the learning at an AfLIA Summit. The Academy will have its five-day face-to-face training in January 2018.

## **October – December 2015**

- Approval was received for an application for a grant from the Global Libraries (GL) of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to strengthen AfLIA into a sustainable organisation that will strengthen the library field in Africa; run the INELI-SSAf Program and create avenues for information sharing and networking.
- Preparations for the commencement of the INELI-SSAf Program were put in full gear. Heads of National Library Services and Public Libraries in Sub-Saharan Africa were sensitised about the program and an advertisement was sent out on several media for applications.
- Planning for the 2nd Public Libraries Summit in Swaziland begun with the Call for Papers



## **2016**

### **JANUARY**

In preparation for the take - off of the INELI- SSAf Program, two members of the Management Committee, Buhle Mbambo -Thata and Gertrude Mulindwa travelled to Seattle, USA to meet with GL staff and also participate in meetings with other persons who had just started or about to start other regional INELIs.

### **FEBRUARY**

- The INELI-SSAf Management Committee met for 3 days in Pretoria, South Africa to review applications and select 32 public librarians for the maiden INELI-SSAf program.
- AfLIA participated in the continuing meeting on the IFLA IAP program, having been part of the maiden meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia in July 2015.
- Abstracts of papers for Public Libraries Summit were selected and presenters notified.



# EVENTS

## MARCH

- Several preparations towards starting INELI-SSAf begun including the recruitment of the Learning Coordinator and setting up of the Moodle Learning platform.
- Conclusion of discussions with Global Libraries (GL) to hold a collaborative meeting of organisations working in the library field in Africa as a pre-event to the Public Libraries Summit in Swaziland.

## APRIL

- French West Africa representative on AfLIA Governing Council, Cecile Coulibaly between 15-17 April attended the conference of the Library Association of Republic of Benin, l'Association pour le Développement des Activités Documentaires au Bénin (ADADB), and made a presentation on AfLIA and also for membership drive.
- African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfI) meeting of partners working in the Library field in Africa was held on 27th May in Ezulwini, Swaziland where 5 partners (IFLA, TASCHA, PLA, World Reader, EIFL) working in Africa were identified for follow up discussions on partnering with AfLIA.
- AfLIA held its 2nd Governing Council meeting on 28th April at Royal Swazi Sun Hotel Ezulwini, Swaziland.
- 2nd African Public Libraries Summit was

held from 30th April -1st May at Ezulwini, Swaziland.

## MAY

- French West Africa representative on AfLIA Governing Council, Cecile Coulibaly attended the annual conference of the Library Association of Burkina Faso, Association Burkinabe des Gestionnaires de l'information Documentaire (ABGID) from 26-28 May, and met with Government Officials on development of Public Libraries. ABGID is now a member of AfLIA.
- President of AfLIA, John Tsebe from 16-19 May visited the Malawi Library Association and held meetings with significant colleagues in the Malawi LIS sector and the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Hon. Dr. Emmanuel Fabiano on the development of Public Libraries. Two institutions in Malawi have since then become members of AfLIA.
- President of AfLIA, John Tsebe visited Cameroon from 23rd - 25th May to

participate in the meeting of Library Associations from French speaking Africa and also met with Government Officials on development of Public Libraries in Cameroon.

## JUNE

Management Committee of INELI-SSAf met on 30th June at Entebbe, Uganda

## JULY

- 1st Convening of the 1st cohort of INELI -SSAf was held from 1st - 4th July.
- From 4-8 July, the President of AfLIA, Mr. John Tsebe visited the Zimbabwe Library Association (ZimLA) and attended the ZIMLA 50th Conference held in Masvingo, where he delivered the Keynote Address. He also held discussions with the Minister of Primary Education in Harare in the company of the President of ZIMLA.
- Africa Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfI) partners meeting was hosted by Global Libraries in Seattle, USA from 16th -21st.
- The President of AfLIA, Mr. John Tsebe visited Zambia from 18 -25 July. He attended the conference of the Library and Information Association of Zambia (LIAZ), held a meeting with Mr. Amos Malupenga, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Local Government and Housing, the Ministry in charge of all City Council Libraries in Zambia and another

meeting with Mr. Henry Tukombe the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of General Education, on 25th July, 2016. These meetings were related to putting library matters on the front burner of government decisions in Zambia. LIAZ is a member of AfLIA.

- Between 21 -23 July Mr. Alim Garga, the Central Africa representative on the AfLIA Council visited Congo Brazaville for advocacy for libraries with the Ministry responsible for Libraries and also to be part of the inauguration of Congo's Association for Librarians, Archivists and Museum Specialists Association des Bibliothécaires, Archivistes, Documentalistes et Muséologues du Congo (ABADMUCO). ABADMUCO is now a member of AfLIA.
- The Program Officer, Doreen Appiah, attended the Nigerian Library Association Conference held in Abuja from 26 -29 to market AfLIA.



UN-CONFERENCE SESSION AT THE 2ND AFRICAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES SUMMIT EZULWINI, SWAZILAND



1ST COHORT OF INELI –SSAF WITH MENTORS & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS AT 1ST CONVENING



## AUGUST

- The Executive Director of AfLIA who is one of the Counsellors for the Associates of the IFLA International Leaders Program, some Council members and members of AfLIA attended the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Columbus, United States. AfLIA is a member of IFLA.
- The Executive Director and Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata who is the co-opted member on the AfLIA Council for Business Development met with Michael Dowling of the ALA, some Publishers, and CLIR officials to explore partnership opportunities during the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Columbus, United States.

## SEPTEMBER

Preparations towards ACAfI meeting in Uganda in October began as well as for the 2nd Convening of the INELI-SSAf program in Seychelles.

## OCTOBER

- The President of AfLIA, Mr. John Tsebe and the Program Officer, Doreen Appiah, attended the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) Conference held in Durban from 10-14 October. The President made a presentation about AfLIA and the Program Officer hosted a Trade Talk at the Expo Pavillion at the conference.
- AfLIA and EIFL held a pre-Forum Workshop at the African Internet Governance Forum, held in Durban, South Africa from 16- 20 October
- The INELI-SSAf Management Committee hosted a training session for the Mentors from 19-20 October. The session was facilitated by the INELI Consultant, June Garcia.
- The Global Libraries ACAfI meeting for the Leadership tract was held at Entebbe, Uganda from 21-23 October.



AFLIA REP MR. ALIM GARGA WITH THE MINISTER AND EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE NEW LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CONGO



AFLIA PRESIDENT, MR. JOHN TSEBE AND SPEAKERS AT THE AFLIA/EIFL PRE- AFRICAN IGF WORKSHOP HELD IN DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA



THE GLOBAL LIBRARIES ACAFI LEADERSHIP TRACT MEETING  
PARTICIPANTS AT ENTEBBE, UGANDA

## NOVEMBER

- Mr. Alim Garga, the Central Africa representative on the AfLIA Council visited Chad between 31st October and 4th November to promote AfLIA, advocate for libraries and be part of the outdooring of a new Library Association for Chad, Association des Professionnels de Bibliothèques, Archives et Documentation du Tchad (ASPROBAD-T)
- The Executive Director attended the 1st meeting of WIPO following the approval of Observer status for AfLIA. This was the 33rd Session of WIPO held in Geneva, Switzerland from 13 -18 November.
- The Executive Director and Program Officer were participants of the IFLA International Advocacy Programme Meeting held in Pretoria from 23-24 November.
- AfLIA held its 3rd Governing Council meeting at the Burgers Park Hotel in Pretoria on 24th November.

## DECEMBER

The Executive Director and Program Officer paid a visit to Yaounde, Cameroon from 21- 24 December to inspect available sites for the 4th African Library Summit and 2nd AfLIA Conference.



THE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS TEAM UNDER THE AUSPICES OF  
IFLA AT THE 33RD SESSION OF WIPO, THE FIRST ATTENDANCE FOR AfLIA



# OUR PARTNERS

AfLIA has different types of relationships with these partners as follows:

**BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation**

Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation - capacity building for public librarians and strengthening of AfLIA to strengthen the library field in Africa.



Goethe Institute Regional Office in South Africa – capacity building of librarians.



International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) – joint projects to strengthen the library field in Africa.



International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) – capacity building for academic and research librarians.



Public Library Association (PLA) of the American Library Association – capacity building of public librarians.



The Technology & Social Change Group (TASCHA), University of Washington- research into status of libraries in Africa.



World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) – intellectual property rights and access to information.



WorldReader – e-content in local languages for young children.



## STAFF

Bless K. Dzah  
Doreen Appiah  
Eunice Jones – Arthur  
Helena Asamoah-Hassan  
Michael Thompson  
Rachel Ojo  
Richard Lamptey

Accountant  
Program Officer  
Administrative Assistant  
Executive Director  
Webmaster  
Learning Coordinator-INELI-SSAF  
Communications Officer

Mr. John Tsebe  
Mr Alim Garga  
Mrs Jacinta Were  
Ms. Abdel Hadir Shawki Mohamed Hamid  
Mrs. Segamesti Molawa  
Dr. Mrs. Rose Okiy  
Richard Lamptey  
Mrs Cecile Coulibaly  
Mr. Iaguba Djalo  
Prof. Rocky Ralebipi-Simela  
Mr. Mandla Ntombela  
Mrs. Segamesti Molawa  
Ms. Ujala Satgoor  
Mr. Jasper Lee Maenzanise  
Prof. I. Kigongo Bukenya  
Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan  
Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata  
Dr. Rosemary Shafack  
Ms. Gertrude Mulindwa  
Doreen Appiah

President  
Central Africa Representative  
East African Representative  
North Africa Representative  
Southern Africa Representative  
INELI-SSAF  
West Africa Representative  
Diouf- French speaking West Africa Representative  
Portuguese speaking Africa Representative  
Chair: National Libraries Section  
Chair: Public Libraries Section  
Chair: National Library Associations Section  
Chair: Academic and Research Libraries Section  
Chair, Library Consortia Section  
Chair, Education & Training Institutions Section  
Executive Director  
Business Development - Co-opted  
Chair: IFLA Africa Section - Co-opted  
African Public Libraries Network - Co-opted  
Secretary to the Council

## GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS (June 2015 – May 2017)



**AFRICAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS  
(AFLIA)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Cash & bank balances	1,384,852.99	412,567.43
Accounts Receivables	5,539.24	753.50
Financial Assets	475,317.75	145,412.50
Properties, Plant & Equipment	6,870.10	8,300.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>1,872,580.08</u></b>	<b><u>567,033.43</u></b>
 <b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
Account Payable and Current Liabilities	1,000.00	-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
 <b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated Fund	567,033.43	97,345.35
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,304,546.65	469,688.08
	<b><u>1,871,580.08</u></b>	<b><u>567,033.43</u></b>
	<b><u>1,872,580.08</u></b>	<b><u>567,033.43</u></b>

FINANCIALS

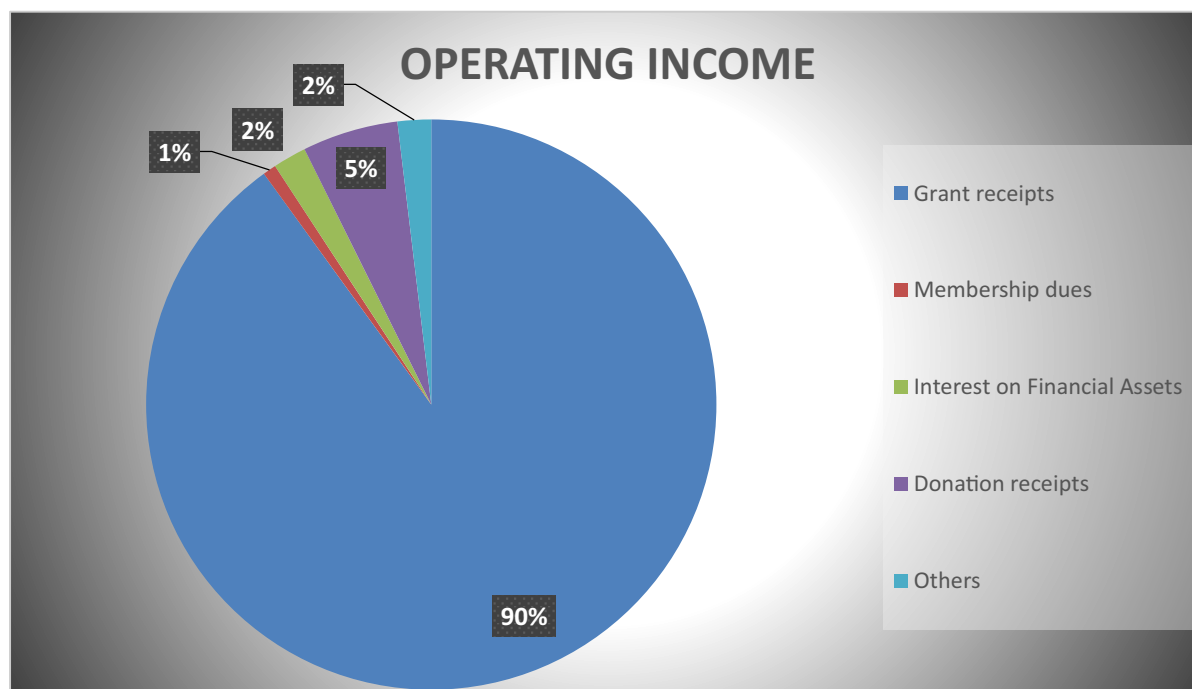
	2016 US\$	2015 US\$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>		
Grant receipts	1,570,000.00	500,000.00
Membership dues	13,165.06	2,506.00
Interest on Financial Assets	33,052.37	-
Donation receipts	94,780.64	-
Others	33,126.13	15,182.09
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>1,744,124.20</b>	<b>517,688.09</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>US\$</b>
Staff Emoluments	103,600.00	18,250.00
Office accommodation	6,172.84	-
Supervision services	4,000.00	-
Conferences, workshops & International travels	304,182.40	29,750.01
Marketing material	16,400.00	
Stationery & Printing	256.41	-
Planning meetings	536.00	-
Depreciation	3,429.90	
External Audit fees	1,000.00	-
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>439,577.55</b>	<b>48,000.01</b>
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	<b>1,304,546.65</b>	<b>469,688.08</b>



# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2016

OPERATING INCOME	US\$	%
Grant receipts	1,570,000.00	90.02
Membership dues	13,165.06	0.75
Interest on Financial Assets	33,052.37	1.90
Donation receipts	94,780.64	5.43
Others	33,126.13	1.90
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>1,744,124.20</b>	

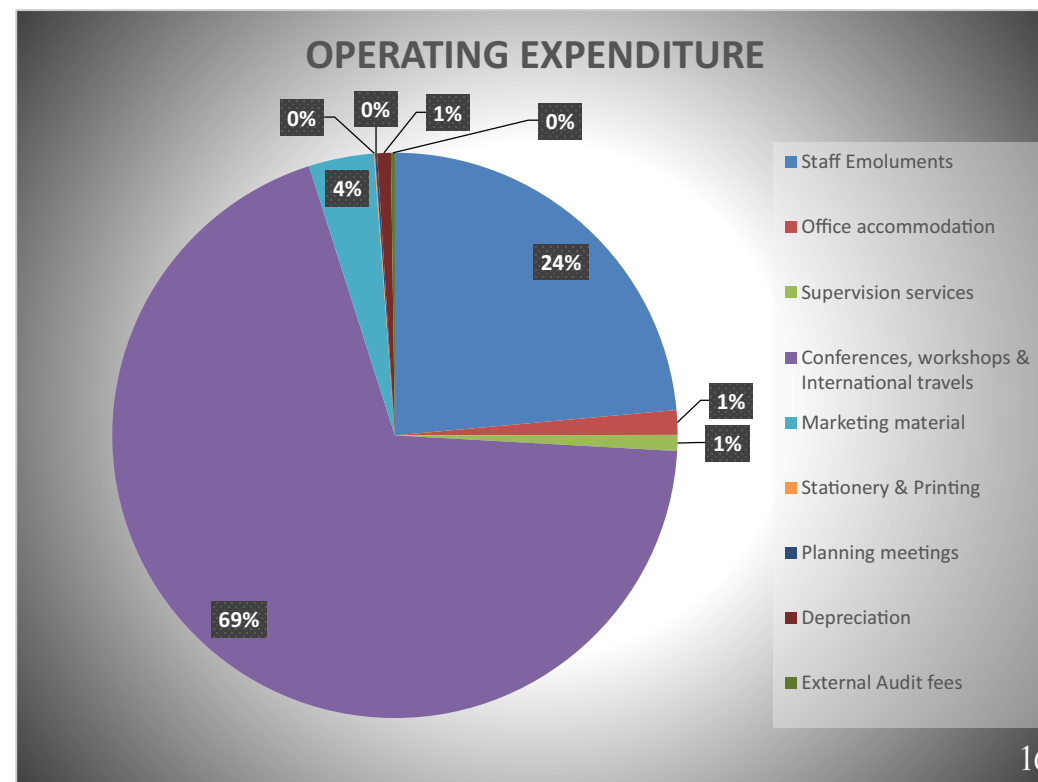


# FINANCIALS

## AFLIA INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2016

<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>US\$</b>	<b>%</b>
Staff Emoluments	103,600.00	23.57
Office accommodation	6,172.84	1.40
Supervision services	4,000.00	0.91
Conferences, workshops & International travels	304,182.40	69.20
Marketing material	16,400.00	3.73
Stationery & Printing	256.41	0.06
Planning meetings	536.00	0.12
Depreciation	3,429.90	0.78
External Audit fees	1,000.00	0.23

**Total Operating Expenditure 439,577.55**







## CONTACTS

Postal Address: P.O. Box. BC 38, Burma Camp, Accra, Ghana

Email: [secretariat@aflia.net](mailto:secretariat@aflia.net) ; [info@aflia.net](mailto:info@aflia.net)

Website: [www.aflia.net](http://www.aflia.net)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/afliacon](http://www.twitter.com/afliacon)

Facebook: [facebook.com/aflianetwork](https://facebook.com/aflianetwork)

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/organization/22326599/](https://linkedin.com/organization/22326599/)

Flicker: [flickr.com/photos/155435996@N07/](https://flickr.com/photos/155435996@N07/)

YouTube: [youtube.com/channel/UCPaQeggWf7qVPSkLhY19\\_8g](https://youtube.com/channel/UCPaQeggWf7qVPSkLhY19_8g)