



SCECSAL
STANDING CONFERENCE OF EASTERN,
CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATIONS

XXIV SCESAL Conference

Windhoek, Namibia

Safari Hotel

8 – 11 February 2021

Resolutions

Adopted by the SCECSAL General Assembly on 11 February 2021

The SCECSAL General Assembly,

Recalling the resolution of the 23rd SCECSAL General Assembly in 2018 by which it called upon SCECSAL member Associations to work with organisations working with disabled people and the visually impaired to advocate for the ratification and domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty in their respective countries.

Noting with deep concern the lack of major activities and initiatives towards implementing and reporting on the resolution made in the previous general council by many SCECSAL member Associations.

Noting further the concerns raised during the 24th SCECSAL Conference regarding provision of adequate library and information service that are inclusive, and the challenges people with disabilities face in accessing to library and information services.

Resolves again:

1. SCECSAL member Associations to work with organisations for the people with disabilities and organisations for the visually impaired people and advocate for the ratification and domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty in their respective countries.

Further resolves:

2. SCECSAL member Associations to report on the implementation of this resolution at the SCECSAL General Assembly in 2022 and in 2024.

Noting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken by governments to contain and mitigate the coronavirus on people's lives and livelihoods.

Further noting the potential impact of COVID-19 pandemic and government measures to contain the virus on providing and accessing libraries and information centres, and the absence of empirical data on the extent of the impact in the SCECSAL region.

Mindful of the advancements in digital technologies and the opportunities presented in enhancing provision and access to library and information services, including personalization and delivery of targeted services to library stakeholders.

Resolves:

3. Library and information professionals in the SCECSAL region conduct studies on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken by governments to contain the pandemic on the provision of and access to library and information services by different categories of stakeholders/clients.
4. Librarians and information centres managers to innovate and introduce library and information services using digital platforms .and share their experiences and lessons learned.
5. SCECSAL member Associations to provide platforms (i.e. webinars, digital newsletters, etc) for library institutions and information professionals in their countries for sharing experiences and lessons learned regarding addressing the impact of the COVID-19
6. SCECSAL to organize capacity development events targeting library and information professionals on innovative use of digital technologies in libraries and information centres.
