



1 May 2017 – 31 March 2018

## REPORT TO SCECSAL GENERAL COUNCIL

Chairman: Prof. Constantine Nyamboga  
Kenya Library Association

21<sup>st</sup> April 2018

---

### A. INTRODUCTION

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Kenya Library Association SCECSAL 2018 country report. The Association has grown significantly strong throughout the years from 2013 to 2017 despite the economic and political challenges. This is partly because of the support from our members and partners. As you all know, May 2016 to April 2018 was remarkable for the country as many of us focused on politically process that affected the Association's many activities. Those keen and good audience of media, saw prolonged political activities resulting from political campaigns to elections and subsequent nullification of presidential election in August 2017 and repeat of the presidential election in October 2017. In spite of all these events the Association was able to deliver on all the activities that were planned on the Associations' calendar.

The country faced depressed economy that led to lose of jobs and budget cuts by the organizations that led to low turnout in our activities especially the conferences and trainings where organizations do sponsor their Library and Information Science professional staff. We have also noted from the exhibitors during our conferences that they were not getting market for their products and we challenge the Association members to partner with these organizations in promoting their products to their employers.

Our branches countrywide are growing strong as a result of the sponsorship from the Swedish Library Association from 2013 to 2017 and we thank them for the support through the project head **Leif Mårtensson**.

**Our focus and priority:** KLA will be able to sustain itself by having the Library and Information Science Professional Bill that will help in regulating the Association members both individuals and Institutions. We can report that the KLA board has approached the Ministry of Sports Culture and the Arts to help facilitate the Bill process from stakeholders' workshops and the parliament and we expect a lot of progress in the development of the Bill in the year 2018. Our strong intention is to see the bill passed by the Kenyan assembly that makes KLA a regulator and also treat as any competitive professional association.

Another area that will help the Association to generate revenue is market driven and focused trainings conducted by both the EC and the branches through identified experts. Although the branches have tried to conduct chargeable trainings, we have noted with concern that majority of our members do not attend because of the fees charged. But we challenge our members to look at the value and also compare the trainings that we offer and the trainings offered by the private consultancy firms in terms of cost. Since this is the way to go in terms of revenue generation for the Association, we are recommending to the board that in the year 2018 the Association should partner with consultancy firms within the branches in conducting trainings and sharing the revenue generated based on agreed formulae.

We take this opportunity to thank the branch officials who have made the activities within the branches to materialize. We also thank the exhibitors who have supported our conferences and of course we can't forget to appreciate our members, both individuals and Institutions who have maintained their membership with Association.

## **B. SCECSAL ACTIVITIES**

The Association has managed to deliver on the following:

- The Association managed and delivered the Association's **Journals** to libraries by donating.
- The Association managed and delivered **Reading Tent Project** that facilitated reading tents to libraries throughout the country
- The Association managed and delivered **Health Awareness Project** with libraries to promote health awareness in areas such as aids and other diseases
- The Association managed and delivered **Farming Awareness Project** with libraries to promote professional farming by farmers

## **C. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

Since the start of the project from 2013 to 2017 supported financially by the Swedish Library Association, significant developments have been realized within the Association. The focus of the project is to make a **STRONGER** Kenya Library Association and indeed we can celebrate its success and we thank our partners The Swedish Library Association. Some of the notable achievements realized included:

- The Association Identified training needs, designed, coordinated, managed and conducted eighteen trainings throughout Kenya with a turnover over seventy clients per training
- Managed two International conferences with a turnover over 120 clients per conference

## **D. NATIONAL CONFERENCES AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

Within the last two years the Association conducted two National Conferences/AGM with a turnover over hundred clients per conference. The following resolutions were made:

- Customer care should be improved in libraries in order to raise the quality and professional service to library clients
- The Association and library staff should champion for more funding for libraries to facilitate library development
- The Association and library staff to champion for library staff to be involved in key decision making within their respective employer institutions

- Institutions should employ only quality library staff to work in libraries

Colleagues, the Association would like to thank the outgoing KLA Chairman, Dr. Tirong Tanui and the entire board for the support and work they did for the Association from November 2013 to November 2017. Elections were done in November 2017 and the following officials were elected to serve the Association from November 2017 to November 2019 with Dr. Tirong Tanui continuing to serve in the board as the outgoing chair:

### **Elected Officials**

1. Chairman: Prof. Constantine Nyamboga (Mount Kenya University, Email: [constantinenyamboga@gmail.com](mailto:constantinenyamboga@gmail.com); Mobile +254717698303)
2. Vice Chairman: Dr. Festus Ngetich (University Librarian, Jaramogi Oginga Univ of Sci & Technology, Bondo)
3. Secretary: Miriam Mureithi (Kenya National Library services)
4. Registrar: Mary Kinyanjui (Kenya National library Services)
5. Editor: Cary Francis (Librarian, Rongo University)
6. Treasurer: Susan Atieno Opiyo (Kenya Institute of Human resources)

### **E. Publications**

The International and National conferences held in July 2016 and November 2017 resulted in the publication of four journals:

- July 2016 Journal Theme: **“POSTMODERN INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE IMPACT ON ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT”**
- November 2016 Journal Theme: **“INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE CENTRES AS ANCHORS OF THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”**
- July 2017 Journal Theme: **“GEARING UP FOR THE FUTURE: LIBRARY & INFORMATION INITIATIVES FOR DIGITAL WORLD”**
- November 2017 Journal Theme: **“LIBRARY OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT”**

### **F. Partnerships/Collaborations**

The key focus of the Association is partnership in trainings and sponsorship and we have retained our partnership and acquired new partners including the following among others: Inellicom Group, Swedish Library Association (Sweden), Kenya Government, Goethe Institute (Germany), Book Aid International, eKitabu, Jomo Kenyatta Foundation, Kwani Trust (Kenya), LINWIN (South Africa), Emerald (South Africa), Digital Divide (USA), Thomson Reuters (USA), Cambridge University Press, Fountain Publishers (Uganda), Elsevier (South Africa), Oxford Publishers (UK), NexisLelixis (South Africa), 3M, Text Book Centre (Kenya), SABINET (South Africa)

## G. OTHER ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

### i. Policy for School Library

The Association(KLA), The Ministry of Sports Culture and the Arts, Ministry of Education, World Bank, Goethe Institute and other private sector organizations have been meeting from the year 2016 to 2017 to draft a policy on school library. As a country, a policy for school libraries has not been developed, however, I now report that together with other stakeholders, we were able to come up with the policy and the document has been handed over to the Ministry of Sports Culture and the Arts and Ministry of Education for implementation. This policy will help set standards in schools as far as library is concerned. In the month of March 2018 the ministry of Sports Culture and the Arts and the Ministry of Education organized for a retreat in Naivasha to polish the policy. We are currently moving forward with the implementation of the policy.

### ii. Chapter Operating Legal Agreement

Many of you will agree that over the years there have been splinter groups operating outside the Association while KLA is the mother Association in the country. The splinter groups have substantial members the Association would like to bring back to KLA not only to help boost our revenue generation through registration but focus on a strong and vibrant association. In the year 2017, the KLA office in consultation with the board and some other splinter groups, saw need to consider permitting these groups operate as CHAPTERS of KLA. As a result of this, a Chapter Operating Legal Agreement was prepared by the office and in the year 2018, the KLA board and legal experts reviewed the document and later implemented it. With implementation of the Chapter Operating Legal Agreement, we expect the number of Association members going up.

### iii. MAKTABA Awards

The Kenya Library Association, Goethe-Institut Kenya and the Jomo Kenyatta Foundation organized the seventh and eight edition of the Maktaba Awards (Library of the Year Awards) Winning libraries were awarded for innovation, application of modern ICT, preservation of indigenous knowledge, promotion of local content and provision of services to the local community. The Award aims to recognize excellence in the provision of library and information services in the country. Interested libraries were requested through electronic and print media to submit their profiles, based on certain clear indicators with unique features that make them qualify for the Award

#### Seventh Edition winners September 2016

NO	WINNER	NO	WINNER
	<b>Overall Winner:</b> The overall price (Library of the Year Award) was won by the library of the Kenya <b>NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE KISUMU BRANCH</b>		
1.	<b>ACADEMIC LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Kenyatta University Postmodern Library 2. Catholic University of Eastern Africa 3. KCA University	4.	<b>SPECIAL LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Nation Media Group 2. P.C.E.A Tumutumu College 3. KICD-ECD Library
2.	<b>PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES CATEGORY.</b> 1. Starehe Girls High School	5.	<b>PUBLIC LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. KNLS Kisumu

	2. Alliance High School 3. Nairobi Primary School		2. KNLS Nakuru 3. KNLS Buruburu
3.	<b>PRIVATE SCHOOL LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Aga Khan Academy Mombasa 2. Kisaruni Girls Secondary Library 3. Kenya Fluorspar Primary School	6.	<b>COMMUNITY LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. KNLS Dr.Robert Ouko Library Koru 2. Siaya Community Library 3. KNH Paediatric Library

### **Eighth Edition winners September 2017**

<b>NO</b>	<b>WINNER</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>WINNER</b>
	<b>Overall Winner:</b> The overall price (Library of the Year Award) was won by the library of the <b>KENYA INSTITUTE OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT</b>		
1.	<b>PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Alliance High School 2. Starehe Girls Centre 3. Nduru Girls High School	4.	<b>COMMUNITY LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. KNLS Dr.Robert Ouko Library Koru 2. Elimu Development Project 3. KNH Paediatric Library
2.	<b>PRIVATE SCHOOL LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Kenya Fluorspar Company Limited 2. Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa 3. Bhayani Nursery and Primary School	5.	<b>ACADEMIC LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Catholic University of Eastern Africa 2. Aga Khan University 3. Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology
3.	<b>SPECIAL LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development 2. Kenya Revenue Authority 3. P.C.E.A Tumutumu Hospital Training College	6.	<b>PUBLIC LIBRARIES CATEGORY</b> 1. KNLS Nakuru 2. KNLS Buruburu 3. KNLS Kisumu

#### **iv. Information Science Professional Bill**

A sustainable strong KLA will be achieved when the Association will be able to vet library and Information Science Professionals in the country and vetting of the Institutions operating libraries. The Association drafted the bill after a series of stakeholders workshops organized by the Association to deliberate on the bill in 2015. In the year 2016 the Association approached the Parliamentary Committee on Libraries and deposited the bill with the committee and as we all know sometimes systems tend to be bureaucratic, we have not realized much development. The second attempt to push the bill led the Association to partner with the Ministry of Sports Culture and the Arts towards the end of the year 2017 and the discussions are still ongoing with the option of the Ministry owning the Bill on behalf of the Association. We shall update you on the progress of the bill.

#### **H. MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership database is growing, there is need for the Association to bring back the splinter groups and that will be achieved when the **Chapter Operating Legal Agreement** is implemented in the year 2018 and operational. When this happen, we shall see the number of members triple as we shall bring together splinter groups such as Association of Government

Librarians and Network for Information Professional Kenya. All in all we experience membership growth. As at now the membership is as indicated in the table below and there is huge growth in membership as majority of employers now require library and information science professionals to be members of a professional Association and KLA is the mother professional Association in Kenya:

Membership Category	Female	Male	Total
Professional members	178	156	334
Associate members	10	15	25
Student members	23	28	51
<b>Totals</b>	211	199	<b>410</b>

## I. CONCLUSION

The year 2018 will be the beginning of the new phase of the Association development projects and I believe that the Association will work on trainings, recruitment and revenue generation models for self-sustainability of the Association after the end of the three year period partnership with the Swedish Library Association. We urge library and information science professionals to support the initiatives that are put in place by the Association. The climax of our partnership is to assist the Association host the Next IFLA in Kenya.

“When we are **TOGETHER** we are **STRONG** and when we are **DIVIDED** we are weak” .....**LET’S BE TOGETHER**

Thank you colleagues for your continued support



**EDWARD OSWE** | EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**CONSTANTINE NYAMOGA** | CHAIRMAN