

MINUTES OF THE PST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 26TH NOVEMBER 2015 AT BOT TRAINING INSTITUTION IN MWANZA.

1. Attendance;

S/No	NAME	POSITION
1	Mildred Kinyawa	Chairperson
2	Zainabu Nyamungumi	Member
3	Michael Kishiwa	Member
4	Geofrey Yambayamba	Member
5	Nelson Faustine Njau	Member
6	Job Batakyanga	Member
7	Eliphace Mkumbo	Member
8	Richard Valimba	Member
9	Benedict Sese Marwa	Member
10	Emmanuel Charles Mwera	Member
11	Patrick A. Ogo	Member
12	Eulambius Mathias	Member
13	Suma Jairo	Member
14	Joseph Mwasambili	Member
15	Wema Mohamed	Member
16	Rahimu Senkondo	Member
17	Mwinyimvua Mohamed	Member
18	Mtani Njegere	Member
19	George Maro Maginga	Member
20	Hussein Ayoub	Member

21	Shadya .M. Abbas	Member
22	Mwajuma Abdul	Member
23	Ndaiga Peter	Member
24	Jonathen G. Mpanduji	Member
25	Zephrenne Nyarufunjo	Member
26	Msele Bumbuli	Member
27	Edith Malina	Member
28	Emmanuel J. Komanya	Member
29	Gration Tibaijuka	Member
30	Masoud Lugandya	Member
31	John Pemba	member
32	Amani Saimoni	Member
33	Alodia Leomidas	Member
34	Sylvester V. Magorwa	Member
35	Edward Magelewanya	Member
36	Joseph Mtebe	Member
37	Hawa Sabura	Member
38	Godfrey J. Mwera	Member
39	Emilian Ng'wandu	Member
40	Charles Ntahorubura	Member
41	John Maganga	

2. APOLOGIES

S/No	Name	Position
1	Marsha Macatha Yambi	Member
2	Wina Shango	Member
3	Wilson Francis Kitinga	Member
4	Janeth Senkondo	Member
5	Elias Masumbuko	Member
6	Jacob Mhagama	Member

3. AGENDA

- i. Opening of the meeting
- ii. Appointment of a chairperson
- iii. Acknowledgement of observers and invited guests
- iv. Adoption of the agenda for the PST-AGM held on 12th September, 2014 at land mark hotel in Dar es Salaam.
- v. Annual reports
 - a. President
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Executive secretary
- vi. Future plans for 2015/2016.
- vii. Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere in the agenda
- viii. AoB
- ix. Closing of the meeting

I. Opening of the Meeting

The President opened the meeting at 9.30 a.m.

II. Appointment of the Chairperson

Members nominated Madam. Mildred Kinyawa to chair the meeting.

III. Acknowledgement of observers and invited guests

The Chairperson acknowledged the presence of a representative from other invited organizations.

IV. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda was adopted as presented, hence ready to be signed

V. Annual Reports;

a. President

The president annual report for 2014/2015 was presented and discussed by the members.

Based on the report it was noted that there is there is inadequate participation of professionals in this society and it's a shame for us since we around 1300 personnel but only 177 are active members.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES

Members agreed that, there should be a special task force to work and negotiate with Pharmacy council on harmonizing the best way to include PST membership into PC regulations, will entail to be retained into register, then any pharmacy professional has to be a member of Pharmaceutical Society of Tanzania (PST). This will facilitate more professional involvement in PST.

Members agreed that Means of organizing meetings should be revised and reviewed, we can use social media but official means should be more emphasized in order to reach as much professionals as possible.

Members agreed that there should be PST membership cards and certificate should be issued to all members who participate in PST activities such as AGM and annual scientific conference organized by PST.

Members suggested amendment in the constitution to include all personnel by level of professional and not only the word "pharmacists", and all areas to improve guidance of the profession.

In order to strengthen the society, members suggested that much effort needed to establish/strengthen zone offices in all recognized zones for easier mobilization of members and resources.

Members agreed the official PST website is the best way for communication and dissemination of information, hence all pharmaceutical professionals must utilize it for betterment of the profession.

The fact that PST has members in training institutions, community pharmacies, industries, hospitals, it was agreed and advised that PST should promote itself in all these institutions. Paper presentations in training institutions should be emphasized and promoted by the society.

We as professionals have to market ourselves through PST for development of our profession and the carrier at large. This can be done by professional promotion and paper writing including proposals

Members agreed to change and that, should devise a long term strategy to see how can PST has active membership.

b. Secretary Report

The secretary annual report was presented and discussed by members.

Based on the report, it was noted that PST has accomplished few activities since election conducted last year on 2014 in Dar es Salaam. The number of members has increased tremendously from 138 in 2014 to more than 250 members in 2015.

PST has conducted several meetings with pharmacy students in universities, intern pharmacist and pharmacist through its sensitization meetings in different regions, namely Mbeya, Arusha and Moshi.

It was noted that efforts to promote PST both in local and international organization has been in progress, and this has been through collaborative partnerships with international organizations like AfriMedico, FIP, Commonwealth, PharmaAfrica. However PST has attended and participated in different local initiatives organized by local professional associations and NGOs such as BMAF on HRH alliance formation. TFDA on management and control of medicines, Pharmacy council on standards development for training institutions

PST has notably enhanced involvement of pharmacy students into PST activities through establishment of new program on academic support benefiting pharmacy students, programs such as scientific essay competition, public health awareness initiatives, pharmacy week and facilitating their attendance/participation in PST annual scientific conferences. However PST is now open to establishing partnership with public and private

institutions/companies in development and conducting operational research in area of medicines managements.

PST has launched its official facebook page and website, which is now available, the two are;

- www.pst.or.tz
- Face book page name; **Pharmaceutical Society of Tanzania (PST)**

Despite of the achievement, there are few challenges that need to be addressed for further improvement of the society;

- Bridging the gap between PST alumni and current PST members.
- Limited means of communication to reach all the profession.
- Poor turn up of professionals into PST activity.
- Lack of office premise delays a lot of daily activity
- Lack of sustainable source of income.

c. Treasurer report

The treasurer annual report for 2014/2015 was presented and discussed by the members.

1.1. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION FEES

Statement of outstanding payments of members was provided and it was agreed if necessary a list of outstanding dues of members will be c

1.2. PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR THE YEAR 2015

PST Membership and annual subscription fees for 2015/2016 are proposed to stand as follows: -

- a) Full Membership - accepted
 - i. Membership/registration fee to remain TZS. 20,000/=
 - ii. Full Member Annual subscription fee is TZS 100,000/=
- b) Associate Membership – Accepted
 - i. Membership/registration fees \$ 20/=
 - ii. Annual subscription fee \$ 100/=
- c) Affiliated members – Accepted
 - i. Membership/Registration fees of TZS. 10,000/=
 - ii. Annual Subscription fees of TZS. 50,000/=

- d) Student Members –
 - i. Membership/Registration fee to TAPSA of TZS.5,000/=
 - ii. Annual subscription fees to PST of TZS. 10,000/=

1.3. PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015

The Draft Budget for 2015 was presented (as Annex 1) members adopted and the following were discussion based on the reported presented:

The budget is good but it is too dependent of which may account into failure to implement some of the potential activities. It was suggested that PST should develop other source of income to earn reasonable amount to cover its own budget.

Members urged PST to continue selling PST merchandise as source of income. PST is expecting to expand its project to more merchandise like T-shirts, scarfs, ties, Lab-coats, stickers etc.

VI. Future plans for 2016/2017.

a. WORLD PHARMACISTS DAY

Members were informed about the World Pharmacists Day for 2016. Requested members to collaborate and plan to raise awareness of the Pharmacy profession. All pharmacists at their work place – distribution of fliers at working place.

The theme and program for the world pharmacist day next year will be uploaded and communicated to all members through PST website.

b. NATIONAL PHARMACY WEEK AND COMMONWEALTH PHARMACY DAY 10 – 16 JUNE 2016

Proposals for the theme will be invited for discussion and acceptance before shared to stakeholders, this shall be communicated to all members and stakeholders before the dates. All programs and activities will be posted to PST website www.pst.or.tz

c. ASSIGN ACTIVITIES TO PST ZONE BRANCHES

To assign working groups in zones (as meeting organizing groups) in order to make sure all necessary preparatory activities including sensitization and fund raising/collection are done in time.

VII. Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere in the agenda

There was none.

VIII. AOB

a. Retention fee should be paid in Tanzanian currency.

Members urged Pharmacy council to change its laws and regulations regarding retention fees paid annually to be paid in Tshs instead of USD since it is against the National rules and regulations. A team of four people was appointed to follow up on all issues that need to be rectified by pharmacy council, members are as follows:

- I. Mtani Njengere
- II. Eliphace Mkumbo
- III. John Pemba
- IV. John Batakanga.

b. Pharmacist should respect regulations and professional ethics as they implement their obligations.

It has been noticed that rules and regulations set by Pharmacy council are not well observed by most of the professionals, however it was suggested that they should be available to PST website and through seminars to raise awareness to most of professionals.

Pharmacist were advised to be ahead on making sure that they stand on professional ethics and promote professionalism in their working areas to avoid double standards and confusion.

c. Closure of Pharmacies nearby government health facilities

Responding to this issue, the president of PST asked members to remain calm and wait for the official statement from ministry of Health, since he was pretty sure that was not the case anymore. It was believed and assured that government would definitely change its plan and the pharmacies would be expected to continue operating at their respective sites.

ISSUES RAISED AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

S/N	ISSUE	HOW TO SOLVE	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	TIME FRAME
1	Inadequate number of PST members	Incorporate the idea that every pharmacist should be a member of PST into the pharmacy practice regulations and guidelines. This Can be incorporated in registration requirements. (Registers of Pharmacist - The pharmacy Act 2011, 11.-(2) (d)) this part can be used.	PST officials	
		A team of four appointed to work with PST officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliphace Mkumbo • Mttani Njegere • John Pemba • Job Batyakanga 	
	Inadequate PST members	Collaboration with other associations including TAPSA to raise awareness among young professionals Sensitization meetings in all available institutions.	PST	
2	No proceedings given for the resolutions done about almost 5 years ago about membership issues.	Official PST letter to be prepared and follow up for the previous resolutions will be done and the outcome will be presented to the members. (PST officials)	PST excom	
3	Lack of PST offices in all zones	To strengthen the PST working zones throughout the country. And provide them with all the support they need	PST	
4	PST membership ID	To establish PST membership ID	PST Treasurer	

5	Viewers and visitors at PST website and Facebook page.	The website is in place, professionals are asked to make use of it for communications.	Pharmacists, Pharmaceutical Technician and assistants	
6	A need of recognizing PST members who participate in PST activities.	Initially to start with certificate of recognition for participation of AGM and other PST events and communal activities.	PST excom	
7	Involvement of professionals in National pharmacy week, organized every year.	Raise awareness to all Pharmaceutical personnel all over the country to make early preparations at their respective districts and regions.	All pharmacist (Coordinated by PST executive Team)	
8	Inadequate participation in AGM	To assign working groups in zones (as meeting organizing groups) in order to make sure all necessary preparatory activities including sensitization and fund raising/collection are done in time.		

We have always to avoid conflict of interest in any aspect while we are accomplishing our duties in our working environment.

IX. CLOSURE:

RMO: MWANZA REGION

The RMO reminded professionals how important Pharmacist is in community. Failure to attend our obligations, the consequences are much greater in health service provision.

RMO urged PST active members to conduct meetings, conferences through which they can review/discuss Health related issues, including inadequate availability of medicines and its contributing factors, then come up with way forward to solve the problem.

He also mentioned issues regarding irrational prescriptions and irrational use of medicines to be discussed in forums like AGM.

Finally:

All pharmacists were advised to work hard in developing their carrier for better health service delivery.

A word of thanks was given by senior pharmacist Mildred Kinyawa (a Former PC Registrar). On behalf of all professionals, a word of thanks was directed to the RMO for participating in the closure of the meeting. However appreciation to all those who participated in the meeting for their views and ideas in promoting the development of the profession.

NB: 50 cartons of infusions (Ringer lactate) for Cholera management were given to the Regional Secretariat represented by RMO. A word of thanks on behalf of RS was given to the PST office and all its members.