

FAMPO Annual Report (June 2022)

Introduction:

The Federation of African Medical Physics Organizations (FAMPO) is the regional federation of the International Organization for Medical Physicists (IOMP) in Africa. The Federation was established in December 2009 to promote the application of physics in medicine in the Africa region.

Activities of FAMPO are extended throughout Africa and the local Islands in the region. Currently, the Federation has membership from 30 countries within the region. National Member Organizations (NMO's) are Algeria, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, South-Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The remaining countries at present do not have the critical mass to establish NMOs. These include Angola, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Zambia.

At present, only a handful of countries in Africa (e.g., Ghana, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe) have legislative recognition of Medical Physics as a health profession.

Activities Over the Past 1 Year:

In the past 1 year, below listed major activities are being/have been undertaken:

1. Establishment of the FAMPO Secretariat

FAMPO secretariat, located in Accra, Ghana, has now been furnished and fully functional.

2. FAMPO Council Meeting

FAMPO Council meeting has been scheduled for 09 June 2022, prior to the IUPESM WC2022.

3. FAMPO Journal

African Journal of Medical Physics (AJMP), the Federation's official journal, has released two issues in the last one year. We encourage submission of good articles by MPs from Africa and beyond to the journal. (<https://globalmedicalphysics.org/>)

4. Publication of Triannual Newsletter

The Federation has continued its triannual release of the FAMPO newsletter. The newsletters highlight most of the important developments and programmes on medical physics in Africa.

5. Certification/Registration of FAMPO Physicists¹

The Professional Development Committee is finalizing implementation of the FAMPO

certification/registration processes. First set of certified/registered MPs are set to receive their certificates by end of May 2022.

6. Regional Conference of Medical Physics

The First Regional conference on Medical Physics will be staged in Marrakech, Morocco in from 10 – 12 November 2022. The event will bring together medical physicists from all over Africa and beyond for knowledge sharing, networking, and set the scene for discussions on regional-based solutions to peculiar challenges faced by medical physicists in Africa.

First announcement has been made (<https://fampo-africa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/First-Announcement-1st-REGIONAL-CONFERENCE-OF-FAMPO-Marrakech2022.pdf>)

Achievements:

- Fully functional FAMPO Secretariat established in Accra, Ghana.
- FAMPO Journal and triannual newsletter.
- Implementation of FAMPO certification/registration scheme.
- Advancing the hosting of first FAMPO regional conference in 2022.

Challenges:

- Recognition and placement of Medical Physicists still a challenge in most countries.
- Payment of membership subscription by member/individuals

Future Plans:

- Fund raising initiative to support the execution of the organization's activities.
- Liaise with IAEA to identify more universities/centres for academic and clinical training of medical physicists in Africa.

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