

# Newsletter 2 - 2023/2024

## **Editorial:**

#### Dear Lions friends,

This release is concentrated to three topics

- 1. Preparations for Lions Europa Forum and Africa Forum
- 2. Campaign Lions Re-Greening Africa 2<sup>nd</sup> step
- 3. Elections for new board

## Europa Forum and Africa Forum 2024

Lions Europa Form is scheduled in Bordeaux/France, Oct 24.-26. As usual we have requested slots for an open and a closed meeting and for an intervention in the speakers corner.

For Africa Forum, scheduled in Marrakech/Morocco, Nov 20.-23., we have asked for the usual slots for open and closed meeting and offered a seminar and a speech in Plenary

## Campaign Lions Re-Greening Africa

Africa is known to be the continent most affected by the consequences of climate change. On the initiative of the Euro-Africa Committee, the African Leadership Committee decided in March 2023 to launch this campaign with five pilot projects:

- Southern Africa Zambia: Nashulai Rain Harvest and Greening
- West Africa Ouagadougou green belt rehabilitation
- Central Africa Sakumono-Ramsar: Renaturation of the lagoon
- East Africa Nashulai Conservancy Kenya.
- Northern Africa greening of Port Said

This initial success takes us back to the original idea. EU and many single European countries provide substantial funding to replant deforested areas affected by desertification and devastation. Why don't they work together? Cooperation between governments and suitable NGOs opens up the possibility of successfully designing greening, reforestation and sustainable agriculture projects and thus counteracting climate change particularly effectively.

It is up to the Lions of the different African and European countries concerned to take this path. Hence our appeal:

- Find a suitable contact person in your multi-district or district! Get in touch with the responsible of authorities and ministries!
- Find out where appropriate projects are to take place and introduce Lions involvement in an appropriate manner.

If you look for suitable text proposals please ask our secretary or chairperson



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## **Board Elections 2024**

Our rules of Procedure, adopted by 1st Africa Forum in Lomé and Europa Forum say (shortened):

#### 2. OBJECTIVES:

- 2.1.To foster mutual contact, exchange of information and understanding between Europeans and Africans ..,
- 2.2.To foster a big common effort of European and African Lions to improve the situation of the poor population in Africa ... Education ... Health care ... Help for poor families
- 2.3. The role committee for these objectives:
  - to exchange and evaluation of information ...
  - advising Lions who initiate projects in Africa ...
  - discussion of results of projects ... look for possible improvement



### 3. MEMBERS:

**3.1.** a) Every MD or single D can send two members to the committee;

b) In addition two volunteer members per MD or D can be admitted.

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#### 5. BOARD:

- **5.1.**The board consists of a chairperson, a co-chairperson, a vice-chairperson and a secretary;
- **5.2.**The board is to be elected by the committee;
- **5.3.**The term of the board members is three years. One re-election is possible;
- **5.4.**If the chairperson is a European Lion, the co-chairperson has to be an African Lion and vice versa.

(Of course you can have the full text oft he rules. Please contact our secretary imbadinga@hotmail.com)

A new Board of Directors is to be elected this year. As I was elected as Chairman for the second time in 2021, I am leaving the Board for good. The other Board members can run again. We have discussed a fair and correct procedure for these elections and also considered that the delegates entitled to vote should know the candidates standing for election as well as possible. Therefore we want to prepare and carry out the elections in four steps

- 1. Circular mail in spring 2024 to all MDs and Ds as well as all delegates, members and interested persons done.
- 2. All candidates introduce themselves with a short article and a portrait photo in this newsletter which you read now done.
- 3. Europa Forum (Oct 24-27 in Bordeaux) shall give the candidates the opportunity to introduce themselves and answer questions from delegates, members and interested Lions. A hybrid meeting shall make participation for candidates and interested Lions possible in presence and online.
- 4. The secret ballot by the delegates will take place also in a hybrid session during the 5th Africa Forum in Morocco. This allows delegates who are absent to participate.

This is my last newsletter. It is time to say Good Bye as chairperson. I must say many thanks to

- the friends who sent me to the committee, especially PDG Xavier de Franssu, PDG Cesar Mahina Kalukuta and PDG Beno Israel who set me on the track for this position,
- my board members 2018-2021 and 2021-2024: PDG Cesar Mahina Kalukuta, PDG Beno Israel, L Rita Bella Ada, PCC Dr Lami Ahmed, PDG Dr Franco Marchesani, PDG Dr. Mbadinga Itsouhou for excellent cooperation,

- the African Leadership Committee: PID Dr. Manoj Shah, PID Eng. H.O.B. Lawal, PID Dr Hastings Chiti, ID Dr Ahmed Salem and PID Alexis Vincent Gomes for Friendship and permanent support,
- PDG Hanze Bakker, PDG Udo Mahler and L Maximilian Schneider for important help especially for our webinars,
- you all whom I met in Africa and in Europe for support, help and overwhelming friendship.

Don't ever stop to work for a better future!

I hope to meet you all again!

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Hermann Heinemann

Board election 2024, Your Candidates:

## **Candidate for the position of Chairperson**

## PCC Dr Lami Ahmed MD 404 Nigeria

My name is Lami Ahmed from MD 404 Nigeria, Past council chairperson. I am theCo- Chairperson on the board of Euro Africa Committee (EAC). I am applying for the chairperson position in the next election. In aspiring to contest for the position of Chairman, I bring forth a wealth of experience gained from my tenure on the board. With a deep-rooted commitment to fostering collaboration and progress across continents, I am to contribute significantly to the committee's objectives. Having served on the board, I possess a varied understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in the Europe Africa clubs' dynamic. My experience has



equipped me with insights into the intricacies of cross-cultural communication, diplomacy, and strategic planning necessary for effective leadership within the committee.

I am passionate about leveraging this experience to drive meaningful initiatives that promote dialogue, cooperation, and mutual understanding between Europe and Africa clubs for effective collaboration, cultural exchange and sustainable partnerships, I am dedicated to advancing agendas that benefit both regions.

I firmly believe that collaboration among stakeholders from different backgrounds is paramount to achieving holistic and impactful outcomes. Hence my candidacy for Chairman of the EAC is rooted in a proven track record of leadership, commitment to cooperation, and a vision for driving positive change. I am eager to harness my experience and expertise to steer the committee towards greater heights of success and impact.

## **Candidates for the position of Co-Chairperson**

#### PDG Dr Franco Marchesani MD 108 Italy

1990 Joined the L.C. Pavese dei Longobardi (Council member 1992-1997)

2002-2003 DO Special Assignments, Euro-African Relations

2004-2005 DG with responsibility for "service activities"

2005-2008 District Coordinator CSFII

2009-2015 LCIF District Coordinator

2002-2012 Humanitarian missions in Burkina Faso.

2010-2015 Invited Professor at the Catholic University of Burkina Faso

2010-2013 Member of the Multiple District Committee D 108 "International Relations"

2015-2017 Member of the Board of the Mediterranean Solidarity Observatory

2017 Accredited representative of MD 108 at the Europa Forum in Montreux

2017 Accredited representative of MD 108 at the Euro Africa Committee of the European Forum

2018 FDI Diploma

21 EUROPEAN FORUMS with 21 reports (4 recommendations approved by the European Council)

20 MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCES with 20 relations

2009 Beirut - 1st International Conference of French-speaking Lions (invited chairman)

2009 Ouagadougou - All Africa (with report)

2010 Marrakech - All Africa (with report)

2011 ISAAME Forum (invited Chairman) and more by invitation.

I'm in friendly relationships with Lions from 30 countries.

**AWARDS:** 

MJF 2004

MJF progr. 5 diamonds 2012

Leadership Medal 2005

IP Medal 2009-2010

"Lions of Europe" Medal, D Romania 2010

Helping Hands Award 2011

3 Certificates of appreciation (IP)

Certificat de Service - D 403A for: ophthalmology mission, vaccinations against meningitis, diabetes prevention 2010

**COT 2024** 

2004-2014 Humanitarian missions in BF

MD Ph D



#### L Annette Pemmer MD 104 Norway

I am 61, Norwegian, and have been a member of Lions since 2006. My heart for Lions started with our projects in Uganda, Malawi and Zambia where we have built eye clinics, drilled wells and sponsored children. My first visit to this beautiful continent was in 2011, and since then there have been many trips to several African countries.

My commitment has guided my roles in Lions Norway, and I have had the role of IRC in the district and MD level, in addition also roles at club, zone and district level. In Norway, our joint activities abroad are managed through Lions Aid Norway (LAN), where I have been part of the board, and for the past three years I have been Manager in LAN, where I manage our ongoing projects in Africa.



In my professional career, I have worked within banking, fund management and insurance, in various roles within sales and management. I also have extensive experience with digital marketing.

In LAN, we have several exciting projects underway, grouped under "community development",

currently with activities in Uganda. Our goal is to help people on ground level to a better everyday life through training farmers and school students for simple and modern farming methods using local resources. This will also give the school children access to nutritious food.

I have been connected to the committee since 2018. I am running as Co-Chair respective Vice-Chair and will be happy to work together with all board members for the best solutions.

## **Candidate for the position of Vice Chairperson**

#### CC Dr. Martin Loeve MD 110 The Netherlands

Throughout my life, I have been intrigued by what motivates people on both personal and business levels. It has been over a decade since I crossed paths with Temi Mutia at the University of Humanistic Studies in the Netherlands. He is now not only my good friend but also a brother to me (Kaka in Swahili). Temi's doctoral research focused on 'Grassroots Change-Making, Culture, Politics, Power, and Community Development in Mwingi, Kenya'.



After one of our lectures, Temi approached me for assistance to provide a solar system for a school in the rural area of Mwingi to offer underprivileged children the opportunity to do their homework after regular school hours. In collaboration with the Regional Institute for Social Enterprise (RISE) Kenya and with support from the Lions Club Schouwen-Duiveland and Cordaid, we have equipped over 30 schools with solar systems in Kenya and repaired 10 water tanks. Our initiative was grounded in community-based development principles: self-reliance and self-efficacy.

During this period, drawing from insights in my book 'The Change Maker', I provided training to more than 50 community members, predominantly women, in Mwingi, focusing on community-based development and social entrepreneurship.

Meanwhile, my wife Laura and I transformed the initial project into the Lighten Their Future Foundation. Our aim is to sponsor the education of several underprivileged children in secondary school. After all, education lays the foundation for future opportunities in life. Illuminating and helping to sustain their path forward—that is what the foundation, and I personally, stand for.

## Candidate for the position of Secretary

## PDG Dr Mbadinga ITSOUHOU MD 403

60 years old, married with 04 children.

Member of Lions club Pointe-Noire Concorde (Congo Brazzaville) since 1999.

District Governor 2019/2020 for D403B1

In parallel to current role in Euro Africa Committee, Dr Mbadinga Itsouhou holds the office of Secretary for the AC 08 Africa Adhoc Committee and

GAT Area Leader CA 8 A.

Certified Instructor of Lions International (LCIP, FDI,

FDES), chosen as facilitator for various training institutes organized by Leadership Department of LCI (FDI, ALLI, LCI...).

PhD in Economics (University Paris 2 Pantheon-Assas France).

Former Africa CEO for Altrad Group,

I am working in Oil and Gas Industry in Africa as International Consultant, specialized in assets integrity management services.

I offer my services for a second term to continue the work started with other committee members under the guidance of PDG Hermann.

