

Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance (UAPA)



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 21st June 2024 at Kolping Hotel

Agenda

1. Arrival and registration (membership updates by the coordinator)
2. Roll call of members
3. Prayer
4. Review minutes of previous AGM by Ms. Mpairwe Prudence
5. Chairperson's report by Ms. Juliet Namukasa
6. Financial report -Auditor and Treasurer
7. Matters arising
8. Empowerment session
9. Discussions to review subscriptions and membership fees
10. Elections of new office bearers
11. New members- Introduce them, they go out, and we agree
12. AOB and closing remarks
13. Closing prayer

Members present

	Name	Organization	E-mail	Telephone No.
1	Paul Esheya Onwe	Care first Recovery homes	Paulonwe5@gmail.com	0785-467718
2	Isabirye Jackson	Ring of Hope	Isabiryejackson@yahoo.com	0775-952174
3	Juliet Namukasa	Individual	Juliet.namukasa@lminternational.org	0702-302385
4	Nassanga Margaret	Individual	thinkbigdreambig@yahoo.com	0772-583678
5	Andinda Treasure	HOVITA/STASSU	Treasureandina76@gmail.com	0775-666154
6	Talemwa Raymond	innerspark	talemwaray@gmail.com	0780-570987
7	Simon Peter Wabwire	Dreams of the Tropical Youth(U)	dreamsoftheyouth@gmail.com	0772-625292
8	Afaayo Josephine	ADAI	afaayoantidrugabuseinitiative@gmail.com	0701-704716
9	Ivan Nabisingura	Metanoia Rehabilitation and Treatment Centre	Ivanraphael4@gmail.com	0789-866974
10	Makumbi Gerald M	UNACOH	makumbigerald@yahoo.com	0772-446836
11	Jonah Egwayu		somerougandacp@gmail.com	0782-466177
12	Dr. Kikome Ruth	Recovery Solutions	ruthksa@yahoo.com	0782-474411
13	Dr. David Kalema	Hope and Beyond	Kalemdav@gmail.com	0772- 481003
14	Milton Saturday	UNACOH	milton.doctor.com	0753-268438
15	Nsubuga Shafic	FORE	Shakimnsnsubuga24@gmail.com	0703-351395
16	Daphine Namwero	UAPA	daphinenamwero@yahoo.com	0705-109104
17	Asaba Linda	UHCA	linda@unauganda.org	0782-193643
18	Aturinde M Prudence	Uganda Girl Guide Association	prudenceatwine@gmail.com	0782-169986
19	Akatukwasa Brendah	Africa Retreat Centre	brendah@aficaretrereat.org	0788-799399
20	Damulira Henry	LM International	henry.damulira@lminternational.org	0750-286467
21	Muteekanga Jabel	Recovery Ministries International	jmuteekanga@gmail.com	0704-832814

	Name	Organization	E-mail	Telephone No.
22	Asa Lugada	UNAU	as@unauganda.org	0702-008981
23	Ayen Ronald	UAPA	ronaldayen4@gmail.com	0742-067504
24	Andrew Lubega	ALIGHT Uganda	lbgandrew@gmail.com	0772-210009
25	Joanita Nakiwala	Voice Life Health	jnakiwala965@gmail.com	0779-698373
26	Ssenabulya Charles	Individual Member	ssenakcharles@gmail.com	0703-659102
27	Masaba Mirabel	Kalinda & Associates	mirabel@kalindaassociates.com	0700-940168
28	Drileba Dratibi Daniel	VRIL	ddrilebadratibidaniel@gmail.com	0779-805028
29	George Muwanguzi	UNAU	muwa@hotmail.com	0782-502422
30	Bashir Kitaka	DEI Embrace	C/O shakimnsbuga24@gmail.com	0701-411305
31	Ntensibe Edgar	UAPA	edgarn@uapa.or.ug	0703-913078
32	Otal McBernald	KYDA	katusaba2@gmail.com	0752-368332
33	Sempiira Edward	Life Back Foundation	essempirra@gmail.com	0703-550100
34	Manzi Bridget	Hope and Beyond	c/o_kalemdav@yahoo.com	0783-575054

Apologies:

1. Prof. Naz will join us later.
2. The Auditor will join us later
3. Mr Muwanguzi, the Legal person, will also be late.

Min. 1/21.06.2024: Arrival and registration & membership updates by the coordinator)

Members started by sharing their views about the alcohol control bill.

In Kumi district, people are excited about the proposed Alcohol Drinks Control bill, and they feel we are late. This bill will complement the work UGGA is doing on the ground there.

The 'Health and Trade' committee of Parliament membership (to which we gave our submission on increased taxes) has been changed, and we might be required to make a new submission.

For Ring of Hope, in Busoga, every week, we lose people to alcohol related harms.

The people say the bill is late and should have come long ago.

The alcohol industry is passing on wrong information regarding the bill for a total ban on alcohol.

People are worried about the enforcement of the bill. We shall need to have enforcers on the ground.

Communities are encouraged to work on local regulations. The church is to create more awareness and sensitisation of alcohol related harm to its members, as we wait for the laws.

Schools are not doing well; they need a lot of sensitisation, as things there are getting out of hand. More awareness needs to be concentrated in schools, as we also work with communities.

We are glad that there is a mental health component in the church.

LMI works in the refugee settlement, and they have already kicked off a local regulation.

Min. 2/21.06.2024: Roll call of members -The AGM roll call was done by the General Secretary.

Min. 3/21.06.2024 Opening prayer was led by Joarita Kiwanuka Kiwala of Voice Life Health.

Min. 4/21.06.2024 Review minutes of previous AGM by Ms Mpairwe Prudence

Mr Jabel Mutekanga (Recovery Ministries International) moved the motion that the minutes were a true record of what was discussed.

Ms Afaayo Josephine (Afaayo Anti-Drug Abuse Initiative) seconded the motion.

Min. 5/21.06.2024. Chairperson's report by Ms Juliet Namukasa (reference to the magazine)

UAPA's Strategic areas are -Advocacy. Networking, Capacity building & Sustainability.

We closed the year with 2023 donors, i.e., IOGT NTO Movement, RESET/ Vital Strategies, AstraZeneca/CAF.

She ended by appreciating the Secretariat for the work they do.

She thanked Dr. Kalema for being present today and for always being available. He is also the Chair Board of Trustees.

She thanked the Board of members for the work they do. Thanked our funders, the IOGT NTO movement since UAPA inception, RESET, which has supported our advocacy work on the bill, and AstraZeneca for supporting community work.

She thanked MoH, the Parliamentary Forum of Health, etc.

Challenges

- i. Some members are struggling financially and are unable to subscribe.
- ii. We need to repackage our agenda and look for more funds.
- iii. Sweden changed its funding priorities, and this is affecting our donor, IOGT.

Min. 6/21.06.2024 Financial report -Auditor and Treasurer

Treasurer's Report by Mr Jackson Isabirye

He appreciated members for coming to the AGM.

He reported that UAPA has 3 funders, something that has never happened in the past.

- i. IOGT-NTO-MOVEMENT 800,000 SEK
- ii. RESET 50,000 USD
- iii. AstraZeneca 10,000 USD.

He appreciated the Secretariat and Board members,

He encouraged members to pay their subscription. All our projects are closing at the end of the year, implying that we need to raise funds, especially during this period when we are advocating for the bill. Strategies for more resources include writing proposals.

Presentation from Kalinda and Advocates by Ms Mirabel Masaba

She commended the great work UAPA and its members are doing.

The Auditor reported that UAPA's audit report is unqualified. Implied, the financial statements are accurate, complete, and fairly presented by the applicable accounting standards. There were no significant errors, misstatements, or irregularities found in the financial records. They determine that there are no key audit queries to report. Proper books of accounts were kept.

Mr Jonah Egwayu (Somero Uganda) passed a motion that we adopt the report, Ms Asaba Linda (UHCA) seconded the motion.

Reactions

- Members wanted to know what the money saved was used for.
- They were informed that it was utilised.
- A member inquired about the subscription stand and how they are utilised.
- 26 paid-up members as of 2023.
- Some people have arrears from 2019.

Min. 7/21.06.2024, Matters Arising

For increased membership, one member proposed that each one interest at least two new people.

An announcement about the conference was made, i.e it will be from 27th -29th November 2024 at Hotel Africana.

Min. 8/21.06.2024 Empowerment session, Presentation from Counsel George Muwanguzi.

Why is the Alcohol Control Bill important?

- i. The bill is for Uganda.
- ii. It's based on law and policy.
- iii. Uganda has a policy on alcohol since 2019.
- iv. Uganda has been operating on an absolute alcohol law

Updates

- i. Alcohol is causing a lot of damage, including diseases such as cancer.
- ii. 30% of Ugandans between 18-69 use/ drink alcohol.
- iii. We have a push bank and it's entirely on profits.
- iv. In many countries, alcohol is regulated.
- v. The USA has set a minimum legal age of 21 and set it at the federal level so that all states comply.
- vi. Hours of sale of alcohol in public bars and clubs are restricted, mainly to afternoon and not beyond 11 pm or midnight.
- vii. Issues of advertisement are also addressed. False and misleading adverts are prohibited.
- viii. Responsible authorities- Ministries and licensing authorities have residual powers to make regulations.

Lessons for Uganda

- i. Uganda needs an alcohol control law
- ii. Current law needs strengthening.
- iii. The element for alcohol abuse-related conditions, treatment and rehabilitation is missing.
- iv. Element of monitoring, research and information sharing
- v. Stakeholders may need to reassess the issue on enforcement.
- vi. Members appreciated this initiative of building members' capacity.
- vii. Members asked who we go to for this bill to be approved.
- viii. Alcohol is not a beverage.
- ix. If alcohol is a drug, why is it that UNBS is certifying it, not NDA?
- x. How often are the fines reviewed?

Min. 9/21.06.2024, Discussions to review subscriptions and membership fees

A report was given to the AGM that some members have not updated their membership, thus the local funds realised are not enough to run the secretariat. Below are the proposals for increasing local income;

- i. Increasing membership from 100,000 to 150,000.
- ii. Increasing annual subscription from 60k -100k for organisations.
- iii. Increasing members' benefits
- iv. Interesting more members.
- v. Waive subscription for organisations that lost funding and have not yet paid the subscription.
- vi. Following up defaulters individually and not as a group.
- vii. Doing a needs assessment to know why people are not paying.

Members made a motion to vote on the issues raised. Members voted for these;

ACTION POINTS:

- i. Needs assessment- to get the feedback and to know what is driving our members away. Form to be shared.
- ii. Increment for the organisation's membership from 100,000 to 150,000 and annual subscription from 60,000 to 100,000
- iii. Frequent reminders to members to pay subscriptions.
- iv. Putting a deadline for payment of subscription fees and putting a surcharge for late payments.
- v. Need
- vi. Organisational visit, send an email, online engagement, phone call, by the Secretariat by the end of August.

Min. 10/21.06.2024 Elections of new office bearers, in the even year, three positions fall vacant:

1. Chairperson
2. General Secretary
3. Treasurer

Report of the Nominations

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Position of Chairperson | No application. |
| 2. Position of the Treasurer, | Mr Isabirye Jackson, Ring of Hope. |
| 3. Position of General Secretary | i. Ms Aturinde M. Prudence, Uganda Girl Guides Association.
ii. Ms Joanitta Nakiwala, Voice Life Health. |

Proposals for the positions of Chairperson and General Secretary

- i. Giving the outgoing committee another term to finalise the work they started. A lot has been done, and most of it is halfway done.
- ii. We vote for the position with 2 applicants.

ACTION POINTS:

One member made a motion to maintain the three members (Chairperson, Treasurer and General Secretary because:

- i. We are in a very shaky financial situation, and these positions are very key for the organisation's stability.
- ii. UAPA can still rely on the expertise of these 3 persons for stability.

- iii. In a good spirit, Ms. Joanita Kiwanuka Nakiwala proposed to step down for the position of General Secretary, leaving one candidate for this position. Ms. Aturinde M. Prudence went through.

Min. 11/21.06.2024 Introduction of New members to the AGM

A roll call was made of the new members, and they introduced themselves by name, organisation and what they do.

Organization Members	Individual Members
i. Voice of Restoration - West Nile.	i. Ssenabulya Charles
ii. Inner Spark.	ii. Ayen Ronald
iii. DEI Embrace Foundation	
iv. United Nations Association of Uganda (UNAU)	
v. Serenity Centre	
vi. Care First Recovery Homes Uganda,	
vii. Home for Victims of Road Accidents.	
viii. Metanoia Rehabilitation and Treatment Centre.	
ix. Sokolo Foundation	

Min. 12//21.06.2024 Any other Business and closing remarks

There was no other business, and the Chairperson called on Dr. Kalema David (UAPA Trustee, Chairperson Emeritus and Founder Member) to give the closing remarks.

Thanked the previous Board for the good work done, which has led to their 2nd term of office. Serving UAPA provides great opportunities for growth and networking. Through UAPA, he is now a consultant with WHO and is influencing decision-making processes at that level.

He reiterated that the funding landscape is becoming increasingly constrained due to current economic dynamics. In light of this, he encouraged members to remain steadfast and committed to the cause, continuing the fight with resilience and solidarity.

He drew inspiration from two powerful quotes:

1. **Martin Luther King Jr.**, who said, *"In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends."*
2. **President John F. Kennedy**, who famously challenged citizens to, *"Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."*

He wished the new Board successful endeavors in all that they are set to do.

Min. 13//21.06.2024 Closing prayer, a closing prayer led by Mr. Edward Sempira. Life Back.

Compiled by: Ms Aturinde M. Prudence (General Secretary) Signature



Approved by: Ms Juliet Namukasa (Chairperson)

Signature

