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DE GEODESIE

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION
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KOPIE

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Call for Participation in Project AFREF – Unification of African Reference Frames

Dear Dr. Chukwudozie Ezigbalike, Dr. Wilbur Ottichilo, Mr. Richard Wonnacott,
AFREF Steering Committee Members, and interested contributors to *Project AFREF*

On behalf of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), we welcome the Call for Participation (CFP) in the '*Unification of African Reference Frames – Project AFREF*'.

This is truly an essential and critically important undertaking that has the full support of the IAG, its Services, Commissions and our extensive global community. AFREF will become a major participant in the International GNSS Service (IGS – formerly the International GPS Service), the International Earth Rotation and Reference System Service (IERS) with its key component the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF), and the International Gravity Field Service (IGFS). The four IAG Scientific Commissions equally welcome this CFP and offer the engaged support of Commission 1 on Reference Frames (where AFREF is particularly linked), Commission 2 on Gravity, Commission 3 on Earth Rotation and Geodynamics, and Commission 4 on Positioning and Applications. Mutually beneficial relationships will build that are so important for realizing the AFREF goals and objectives, and crucially, their sustainability.

Through strengthening partnerships over the coming years, we envision that the goals and objectives of AFREF, supporting UNECA-CODI-GEO and NEPAD, will be realized. The IAG is committed to ensuring the long-term success of this project.

All components of the IAG and sister societies are encouraged to positively join this call. It is through collective vision, dedication and endurance that AFREF will succeed. The desire to benefit African society, however we may accomplish this through our geodetic and scientific professions, is our key endeavor.

I remain with kind regards and confidence in the success of AFREF,


Gerhard Beutler

Copy to:

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Prof. Hermann Drewes, President IAG Commission 1
Prof. Chris Rizos, President IAG Commission 4