



Regional Office for Africa

Annual Report 2011/12

Strengthening international science
for the benefit of society



ICSU

International Council for Science

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Acronyms

ACCESS	Applied Centre for Climate and Earth Systems Science	ISSC	International Social Science Council
AICIMO	Scientific Research Association of Mozambique	IUBS	International Union of Biological Sciences
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome	IUGG	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics
AMMA-NET	African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis Network	IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
ASCAD	Académie des Sciences, des Arts, des Cultures d'Afrique et des Diasporas Africaines	IUPAP	International Union of Pure and Applied Physics
ASSAf	Academy of Science of South Africa	IUPHAR	International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology
AYSICC	African Young Scientists Initiative on Climate Change	IUTOX	International Union of Toxicology
CODIST	Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology	IYPE	International Year of Planet Earth
COP17	17th Conference of the Parties	NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
COVIDSET	Conference of Vice Chancellors and Deans of Science, Engineering and Technology	NRF	National Research Foundation of South Africa
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
DSD	Department of Social Development, South Africa	S&T	Science and Technology
DST	Department of Science and Technology, South Africa	SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
DWAF	Department of Water Affairs	SAEON	South African Environmental Observation Network
FANRPAN	Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network	SCOSTEP	Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics
GA	General Assembly	SETI	Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation
GIS	Geographical Information System	Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus	SSEESS	Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth Systems Science
ICSU	International Council for Science	START	SysTem for Analysis, Research and Training
ICSU EB	International Council for Science Executive Board	TB	Tuberculosis
ICSU RCA	International Council for Science Regional Committee for Africa	TOXSA	Toxicology Society of South Africa
ICSU ROA	International Council for Science Regional Office for Africa	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
IKS	Indigenous Knowledge Systems	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IR&C	International Relations and Cooperation	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
ISEG	International Society for Environmental Geo-technology	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
ISHReCA	Initiative to Strengthen Health Research Capacity in Africa	WFEO	World Federation of Engineering Organizations
ISHERL	International Institute for Humanitarian and Environmental Law	WIPA	Women in Physics in Africa
		ZAR	South African Rand

ICSU's Mission, Vision and Focal Areas

ICSU's Mission, Vision and Focal Areas
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Mission

ICSU endeavours to strengthen international science for the benefit of society. To achieve this, ICSU mobilises knowledge and resources of the international science community to: identify and address major issues of importance to science and society; facilitate interaction amongst scientists across all disciplines and from all countries; promote the participation of all scientists - regardless of race, citizenship, language, political stance, or gender - in the international scientific endeavour; and provide independent, authoritative advice to stimulate constructive dialogue between the scientific community and governments, civil society, and the private sector.

Vision and focal areas

The long-term strategic vision of ICSU is for a world where science is used for the benefit of all, excellence in science is valued and scientific knowledge is effectively linked to policy making. In order to achieve this vision, ICSU identified key priorities and associated activities that focus on three areas: International Research Collaboration; Science for Policy; and Universality of Science.

ICSU Regional Office for Africa

ICSU ROA is mandated to promote, facilitate and coordinate activities of the ICSU family in Africa, thus fulfilling ICSU's mission of strengthening international science for the benefit of society on the continent. It also aims to promote the development and strengthening of science in the context of regional priorities, and endeavours to bring the scientific activities and programmes of the ICSU family closer to the African scientists through collaborative ventures



Message from the Chair of the Regional Committee



The period 2011-2012 has been a banner year marking our collective efforts to strengthen international science for the benefit of society. The finding of the Higgs Boson was labelled a “giant leap for science,” and closer home on the African continent, we received the good news that South Africa and Australia were to jointly host the Square Kilometre Array telescope marking a new era in scientific collaboration and exploration.

Since its inauguration six years ago, the ICSU Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA) located in Pretoria, South Africa, has organized a range of events designed to showcase ICSU’s work in strengthening partnerships in international research collaboration, science for policy and advocating the universality of science. Over the past year, we welcomed Steven Wilson as the new ICSU Executive Director. During the 2010/11 financial year, the ICSU Executive Board appointed a new Regional Committee for Africa (RCA) after the elapsing of the second tenure of the RCA members that served the region since the inception of the Office in 2005. The selection of the Chairperson of the RCA was only done during the 2011/12 financial year and I consider it a professional privilege to have been elected to serve as Chairperson of the new RCA.

Two major events – Rio+20 and the 17th meeting of the Convention on Parties on Climate Change – ended the past year, and we can all be proud of the role ICSU played at these major fora. In May 2011, ICSU ROA organised the Rio+20 Science and Technology Regional Workshop for Africa, and the recommendations from the meeting were fed into ICSU’s key messages and eventually helped shaped the final declaration emerging from Rio+20.

The Rio+20 Conference once again reiterated the fact that people are and should be at the centre of sustainable development. The conference placed emphasis on the challenges and opportunities stemming from the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and for eradication of poverty. The conference underscored the fact that climate issues are cross-cutting and requiring collective action. Climate change could easily become the single-most important development threat facing the human family. It bears noting that Africa is responsible for only 4% of greenhouse gas emissions but will bear the brunt of a changing climate. Agriculture, biodiversity, health, nutrition, disease patterns, water cycles, migration are all issues impacted by climate change. It was therefore fitting that in November 2011 the 17th meeting of the Convention of Parties on Climate Change was hosted by South Africa in Durban.

The world is changing. A growing knowledge divide is affecting the world of science as never before. Traditional North-South knowledge flows are being supplemented as new major players are emerging. This multi-polar world of science requires new ways of scientific collaboration, which can be greatly assisted by the power of social media and the ICT revolution. But for the common man, the key question is how can these remarkable discoveries improve lives? We must ask the question-- what implications does the discovery of the Higgs Boson have for people? Nobel Laureates Francis Crick and Robert Watson discovered DNA in 1953. Yet, for all its promise, the benefits of biotechnology have not been fully explored. In comparison, particle physics research is

Message from the Chair of the Regional Committee (continued)

even more of a pure science endeavour, and while this is a monumental achievement, its practical applications could be decades away.

Change is dynamic. Slowly but surely, governments, civil society and the business sector at large are accepting that science and scientists have a role to play in implementing the socio-economic development agenda, and that we can and should be trusted. But perhaps the biggest catalyst for change has been the increasing awareness that many of the big social and environmental challenges of our age, once seen as obstacles to progress, can become opportunities for innovation and development.

As the world’s pre-eminent scientific body, ICSU has a unique role to play in navigating this fast-changing landscape, drawing on its track of record of success and positioning itself for the challenges of the 21st century. Our core mission of mobilizing science for society, boosting scientific and participatory collaboration, addressing the gender dimension of science, and providing independent, quality advice to all stakeholders remains as relevant as ever.

ICSU is poised strategically to take on these new and emerging challenges. Policy recommendations should integrate the best available knowledge across the natural, social and engineering sciences. Emphasis will constantly be made at strengthening science and technology, which are essential for the implementation of sustainable development policies, programs and projects. These challenges will require new research capacity, especially the involvement of young scientists and scientists from developing countries, and a balanced mix of disciplinary and interdisciplinary research that actively involves stakeholders and decision makers.

At ICSU ROA we are committed to meeting these challenges frontally and strengthening science for the benefit of society in Africa.

Ameenah Gurib-Fakim

Chair

ICSU Regional Committee for Africa

Director's Overview



The 2011/12 financial year was a steep learning curve for me, having joined ICSU ROA just in the last three months of the previous year. The new-look ICSU website was launched in March 2011 and added to the maze I had to navigate. The Regional Committee for Africa (RCA) was as new as I was, complicating the whole picture. Apart from the fact that I was a new Director working with a new RCA, the Office also experienced changes in the staffing situation. One of such significant changes was the resignation of Dr Achuo Enow, then Programme Specialist for Biological Sciences, towards the end of 2011. He was the longest serving staff member at the time and resigned a few months before the end of his second 3-year term, the Office losing part of its institutional memory in the process. The other significant change was the relocation of the Office from within the National Research Foundation building to the current premises in an office park. This has presented opportunities for the Office to be a true regional entity with a degree of autonomy. The fire that gutted the Office two months after its relocation and caused three months of displacement complicated the situation somewhat, but thanks to the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), a facility of the NRF, which showed true neighbourliness by providing interim office space which ensured continuity in the operations of the Office.

In short, ICSU ROA saw quite a number of changes in 2011/12; some positive and others negative. Nevertheless, the year has proven to be an exciting journey of discovery and creativity; the year in which a new strategy for implementing the science plans was to be initiated through the establishment of research consortia. New relationships were formed and old ones maintained as much as possible to stabilise the functioning of the Office and take up new challenges. It is therefore encouraging to see progress made in the face of challenges experienced. This confirms the power of teamwork and strategic networking.

The implementation of science plans has seen trans-disciplinary, multi-national research consortia formed and working together on project proposals emanating from priority areas of the four science plans of ICSU ROA. The proposals from these consortia are at different stages of development, with some already being submitted to funders in response to calls for funding. Our dream is to see some of these projects getting adequate funding and taking off. The funding grant received from Sida will enhance the implementation of science plans through the collaborative workshops and capacity development activities to be held over an eighteen month period, culminating in stronger proposals for project funding. The recently launched Future Earth initiative promises to provide a meaningful framework for this implementation.

The Book projects, which are a means of disseminating information on science in Africa by African scientists, continue to serve this crucial purpose. The books on Chemistry for Sustainable Development and on Climate Change Science are at their final stages of publication, and there are already two others in progress through a collaborative process.

The relationships the Office enjoys with an array of organisations and networks present good opportunities for forging forward in delivering on its mandate. In the context of these relationships,

Director's Overview (continued)

the Office has held a successful Rio+20 Regional Science and Technology Workshop for Africa, played a key role in regional issues of sustainable development, taken part in intergovernmental issues in Africa, and even received support for its own activities. We expect the year ahead to bring even more progress if the current stability continues. Obtaining project funding and raising funds to support additional activities will remain at the core of ICSU ROA's efforts; strategic relationships will be a catalyst to the process.

Edith Madela-Mntla

Director
ICSU Regional Office for Africa

Executive Summary

ICSU Regional Office for Africa Projects

In 2011/12, ICSU ROA focused its activities on the preparation of project proposals to implement its science plans through the establishment of international research consortia from the Task Teams formerly established on each of the science plans. Some of the consortia (established in 2010/11 financial year) working on developing project proposals on Health and Human Well-being and on Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation) have already finalised project proposals. These proposals have been submitted to ICSU ROA in the 2011/12 financial year. A workshop was organised in March 2012 to consolidate the formation of research consortia that will develop project proposals from the Sustainable Energy and from the Natural and Human Induced Hazards and Disasters science plans. During this workshop, three consortia were established: two for Sustainable Energy and one for Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters. The consortia members committed themselves to developing the proposals and finalising them by September 2012. Scientists developing the project proposals will target specific donors for funding and respond to calls for funding proposals where possible, and the Regional Office will also market the proposals to potential funders within and outside the continent.

30th ICSU General Assembly

ICSU ROA staff, the Director and two programme specialists, actively participated in the 30th ICSU General Assembly that was held in Rome, Italy in September 2011.

ICSU ROA Book Projects

Progress has been made towards the publication of the Office's second book, "Chemistry for Sustainable Development in Africa". The book, scheduled to be published in mid-2012, comprises twelve chapters. A third book, which focuses on the Science of Climate Change in Africa, is being prepared in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Twenty nine manuscripts,

in both French and English, are being reviewed, with UNECA coordinating the process. This book was initially envisaged to be published late 2011 or early 2012, but has experienced some delays which may see it being published at the end of 2012. In collaboration with other partners, attempts are underway to publish two other books on Sustainable Energy and Hazards and Disasters.

Scientific Collaboration and Networking

During the 2011/12 financial year, the Regional Office continued to extend its network of partners and strengthen existing ones. ICSU ROA and UNESCO Science and Technology (S&T) Regional Office, Nairobi, in partnership with, and with financial support from the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa, the Applied Centre for Climate and Earth Systems Science (ACCESS), and the Department of Social Development (DSD) of South Africa, organised the Rio+20 Regional S&T Workshop for Africa. The workshop, which was held in Pretoria, South Africa in May/June 2011, was supported with logistics from the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), South African Departments of Science and Technology (DST), and Environmental Affairs (DEA). Other partners at the global level, who brought in representatives to the workshop, included the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC). During this financial year, the Office also continued to work and share information with other networks that include FANRPAN, AMMA-NET, and ISHReCA.

Partnerships with Inter-Governmental Bodies

ICSU ROA continued to work with NEPAD on issues related to climate change and organising young scientists on the continent. The Office has also continued to be involved in events organised by other partners such as UNECA, UNESCO and UNEP, and also involved these organisations in events it organised. Key among these events were the 2nd Session of the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST II) held on May 2011 in

Executive Summary (continued)

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Rio+20 Regional S&T Workshop for Africa held in May 2011, Pretoria, South Africa, African Rio+20 preparatory meeting in Addis Ababa in October 2011, 4th African Regional Conference of Vice Chancellors, Deans of Science, Engineering and Technology (COVIDSET) held in November 2011 in Pretoria, South Africa; the Rio+20 Preparatory Conference of Civil Society and Trade Unions in Africa held in March 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya; and a Workshop on Projects for the Implementation of ICSU ROA science plans on Sustainable Energy and on Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters held in March 2012 in Pretoria, South Africa.

Fund-raising

ICSU ROA obtained extra-budgetary funding from its partners (UNESCO, ACCESS, NRF) to facilitate the organisation of the workshop on Rio+20 S&T Regional Workshop for Africa. It also organised funding from ASCAD (Académie des Sciences, des Arts, des Cultures d'Afrique et des Diasporas Africaines), the ICSU National Committee of Côte d'Ivoire to assist in holding the RCA12 meeting.

Introduction

Introduction Organisation and Governance Core Activities

Since its inception in September 2005, ICSU ROA has taken upon itself the promotion of advancement of science, engineering, technology and innovation (SETI) for the socio-economic development of Africa. Over the years, the Regional Office has engaged in several activities to achieve this goal and in pursuit of strengthening international science for the benefit of society as spelt out in the ICSU Strategic Plans 2006-2011 and 2012-17. The Office also thrives to promote, facilitate and assist in coordinating activities of the ICSU family in Africa. This two-pronged approach in ICSU ROA's activities has served to strengthen international science in the context of Africa's priorities, as well as in bringing scientific activities of the ICSU family closer to the educational and research institutions and to governments and non-governmental organisations in the region. At the same time, the Office endeavours to ensure that the voice of the scientific community on the continent influences the international science agenda, and that scientists from Africa are involved in international scientific research guided by regional priorities.

To achieve this, the Regional Office strives to bring the scientific activities of the ICSU family closer to the African scientists through collaborative ventures; while also building and/or strengthening linkages between African scientists as well as with their counterparts in other parts of the world through strategic networking and collaboration. The Office is also thriving to develop links and strengthen engagements between the scientific community on the continent and the policy/decision makers in the region. In pursuing these objectives, ICSU ROA fulfils the three fundamental principles of the ICSU as enshrined in its Strategic Plans 2006 – 2011 and 2012-17, namely: (i) International Research Collaboration; (ii) Universality of Science; and (iii) Science for Policy.

ICSU ROA has established partnerships with research networks, development agencies and intergovernmental

bodies, including UN agencies. Through its activities and those of its partners, the Regional Office works to harness the experience, knowledge and skills found within the community of the ICSU family and its partners to promote international research collaboration, networking and partnerships, including South-South and North-South partnerships.

To strengthen international science in the context of Africa's priorities and for the socio-economic development of the continent, the Office has prepared, published, and widely distributed four science plans on: (i) Sustainable Energy ; (ii) Health and Human Well-being ; (iii) Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters and (iv) Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation) . Soon after these science plans were published in the fiscal year 2007/08, task teams were established to start working towards their implementation. During the 2010/11 financial year, ICSU ROA changed its approach and focused on formation of international scientific consortia to prepare project proposals for implementation of these science plans. To this effect, international research consortia formed in the 2010/11 financial submitted four final proposals; two in the Health and Human Well-being thematic area and two on Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation). A workshop was organised in the 2011-12 financial year to form consortia that will lead the development of project proposals to implement the science plans on Sustainable Energy and Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters.

This report summarises the activities of ICSU ROA during the 2011/12 financial year and how these activities have addressed the key objectives of the Regional Office and other activities to advance science, technology and innovation in Africa.



¹ <http://www.icsu.org/africa/publications/reports-and-reviews/icsu-roa-science-plan-on-sustainable-energy/roa-science-plan-on-sustainable-energy>

² <http://www.icsu.org/africa/publications/reports-and-reviews/icsu-roa-science-plan-on-health-human-well-being/roa-science-plan-on-health>

³ <http://www.icsu.org/africa/publications/reports-and-reviews/icsu-roa-science-plan-on-hazards-disasters/roa-science-plan-on-hazards>

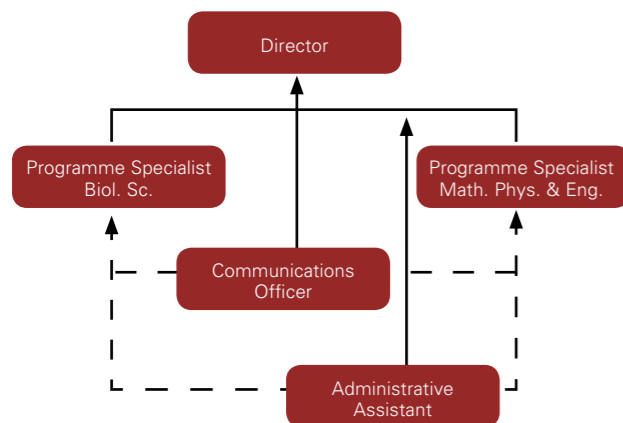
⁴ <http://www.icsu.org/africa/publications/reports-and-reviews/icsu-roa-science-plan-on-global-change/>

Organisation and Governance

ICSU ROA Secretariat

The full establishment of ICSU ROA is designed to consist of 5 staff members, namely: the Regional Director, an Administrative Assistant, two Programme Specialists (Science Officers), and a Communications Officer. The 2011/12 year started with the administrative assistant position being filled through a temporary arrangement until the permanent employment of Ms Zanele Mabena in July 2011. Towards the end of the financial year, the Office operated on 4 filled positions following the resignation of Dr Achuo Enow, the Programme Specialist responsible for the Biological Sciences just a few months before his second contract term elapsed. A process to fill this position was triggered immediately to avoid the adverse impact of this vacuum and after all due processes, Dr Richard Glover from Ghana, was appointed to join the ROA team in June 2012. The composition of the ICSU ROA Secretariat as at the end of the 2011/12 financial year is given in the annexure at the end of this report (Annex A).

ICSU-ROA Organogram



Since its inauguration, the ICSU ROA Secretariat has been housed within the National Research Foundation building, but from July 2011, the Office moved to its new premises where it enjoys its own space. This has enhanced the identity of the Regional Office to a great extent.

ICSU Regional Committee for Africa

The Office gets its guidance and oversight as well as assistance to fulfil its mission and strategic goals from the ICSU Regional Committee for Africa (ICSU RCA). This is a strategic scientific body consisting of eight appointed renowned scientists from five sub-regions of the continent (west, central, east and southern Africa, and the Small Island States) and representative of the three major languages spoken in Africa (English, French and Portuguese). The composition was also done taking into consideration representation of women and young scientists among the nominations received by the ICSU Executive Board. Added to these statutory members are 4 Ex-Officio members, namely: the ICSU ROA Director; the representative of the ICSU Secretariat in Paris; the representative of the Regional Office's host institution, (the NRF); and the representative of the ICSU Executive Board (ICSU EB). The composition of the ICSU RCA during the 2011/12 financial year is given in the annexure at the end of this report (Annex B).



Core Activities

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA engaged the RCA continuously in an endeavour to steer the work of the Office forward. As it is customary to hold two ordinary RCA meetings every year, the first meeting of the 2011/12 financial year, the 11th RCA Meeting, was held in Mauritius in August, 2011. The second one, the 12th RCA Meeting, was held in Ivory Coast in March 2012. Both meetings included a one day workshop/seminar organised by the National Members of the respective countries, for RCA members to interact with local scientists and with science, technology and innovation officials. During these side events, presentations were given by major parties involved, followed by dialogues between the Committee members and the delegates, who represented the different institutions that included government, academia and research. It was resolved during the 12th RCA meeting that the 13th and 14th meetings be held in Zambia and Mozambique, respectively.

During the 12th RCA meeting, ASCAD provided financial and logistical support that contributed to this event being a success. This included the meeting venues, accommodation, ground transport and meals for the RCA members and the ICSU ROA staff members acting as Secretariat.

Implementation of ICSU ROA Science Plans

The four ICSU ROA science plans constituted the basis for the core activities of the Regional Office in 2011/12. However, over the last two years, the implementation of these science plans has suffered a delay following the change of strategy from using task teams to international research consortia to build upon the work done by the task teams to develop further the project proposals on each of the four thematic areas. The consortia formed in 2010/11 continued to work on the project proposals initially developed by the task teams on two of the science plans, namely Health and Human Well-being, and Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation), tailor-making them to respond to specific open calls from various research-promoting bodies and agencies. The proposals, which should be multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional and trans-boundary in

nature, will include components of human capacity building at various levels (MSc/PhD training, post-doctoral fellowships, training workshops) as well as institutional development.



In March 2012, the Office organised a workshop to form international research consortia for the implementation of the remaining two science plans, those on Sustainable Energy and on Natural and Human Induced Hazards and Disasters. The detailed report of the workshop is available at the ICSU ROA's website. The major outcomes of this workshop are summarised in the sections below.

Implementation of the ICSU ROA science plan on Sustainable Energy

Two consortia were established to develop project proposals to implement the science plan on Sustainable Energy. These were built on the foundation of the work done by the task teams formed previously for the implementation. The consortia will develop these project proposals further and are expected to submit the final generic proposals to the Office by September 2012. These generic proposals will be tailor-made and submitted to funders at any time in response to open calls for funding.

Core Activities (continued)

The first consortium will be working on a project to develop energy models and scenarios in Africa, which focuses mainly on producing country reports of the existing energy development plans, energy data and investments at national and regional levels. The project will also focus on developing an expert report on the status of existing and proposed scenarios based on information obtained from countries in the region.

The second consortium will work to develop a project that seeks to increase access to high-quality, reliable and affordable energy in a sustainable manner in Africa. This project will be implemented through two sub-projects: (i) the e-Library and Knowledge Network for Energy, and (ii) the Bio-energies Technologies. The implementation is expected to make use of geographical information system (GIS) to provide energy cost savings techniques, map renewable energy operations in the region and compare them to traditional energy operations.

Members of the international research consortia on sustainable energy will also look at putting together and publishing a book that will focus on the energy issues in Africa as well as highlighting the energy success stories on the continent. The content specifics and the issues around the publisher are currently being explored.

Research Consortium for implementation of the ICSU ROA science plan on Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters

The consortium on hazards and disasters was established by merging the geo- and hydro-meteorological hazards task teams. The hazards and disasters consortium will narrow the activities of the projects previously proposed by the task teams to only two project proposals. The first one will be Geo-hazards in sub-Saharan Africa, which will focus its activities on assessing and mitigating geological hazards on the sub-continent. The spatial and temporal characterisation as well as the monitoring of these hazards will be done with the use of remote sensing techniques. The second project

on hydro-meteorological hazards and disasters will focus on studying the hydro-meteorological extreme events in the sub-continent with a case study of the Sahel region. It will also look into the development of a decision support system for flood management in the region with case studies of the major river basins in the region.



The consortium will look into publishing a book on hazards and disasters on the continent. This book is meant to generate interest from different sectors of society on the continent and abroad.



Core Activities (continued)

Implementation of the ICSU ROA science plan on Health and Human Well-being

In the implementation of the Health and Human Well-being science plan, the consortium working on the project on HIV/AIDS and Public Health submitted a project proposal on non-communicable diseases to the Office in June 2011. It has also continued to work on the second project on water and sanitation. Towards the end of 2011, the Office advised the consortium to polish and submit the revised version of the second project (circulated mid-2011) in response to the 2012 African Union Research Grants open call for proposals, where water and sanitation in Africa was one of the focal areas. The consortium working on developing project proposals on modern bio-medicine, traditional medicine and indigenous knowledge systems developed and submitted to the Office a final proposal in mid-2011. This proposal was submitted to potential funders during the third quarter of 2011.



The third consortium working on developing project proposals on food and nutrition security continued to work and develop projects in line with the four proposed sub-themes. By the end of the financial year, the communications between the Office and members of the consortium indicated that the four sub-project proposals are at different stages of completion. The Office advised the consortium to explore ways of submitting the proposal on improving post-harvest

technologies in Africa in response to the 2012 African Union Research Grants open call for proposals, where post-harvest was a priority area.



Implementation of the ICSU ROA science plan on Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation)

The consortium working to develop the project on the impact of land degradation and biodiversity loss on human well-being in Africa is still to come up with the final proposal. By end of the 2011/12 financial year, exchange of communication between the Office and consortium members, indicated that they were working towards finalising the proposal which will be implemented as pilot projects in four African countries representing different geographic regions on the continent (Central, Western, Eastern and Southern).

The research consortium working to develop a project on the 'Impact of Climate Change on Rainfall and Water Resources in sub-Saharan Africa' has submitted two proposals in mid-2011. The first proposal focuses on the sustainable adaptation of the production of food and fibre to climate change while the second one is looking at efforts to integrate the usage of trans-boundary water resources in the region. The Office has

Core Activities (continued)

advised the members of the consortium to submit their project proposals in response to the 2012 African Union Research Grants open call for proposals, where water issues in Africa was one of the focus areas. This consortium will also be encouraged to submit the proposals in response to the Belmont Forum call for 2012.



The consortia focusing on air pollution and health impact in urban areas in sub-Saharan Africa and on Africa's oceanographic uniqueness are still working on developing the project proposals from these thematic areas. Draft proposals circulated toward the end of 2011 indicated that the proposals were at different stages of development.



Capacity Building

Capacity building is a key component of ICSU's promotion of science for the benefit of society. It is for this reason that each RCA meeting, as a tradition, is extended by a day to make time for scientific interaction with scientists, academics

and policy makers in the host country. Besides this, other capacity building activities happen alongside big events organised by ICSU unions and other organisations, or as part of the utilisation of the ICSU small grants, like the ones outlined below.

Continental Summit and Training Workshop on Climate Change Education and Adaptation

The Africa Climate Change Eco-tech Summit and Training Workshop, held in December 2012 in Abuja, Nigeria, was co-organised by the International Institute for Humanitarian and Environmental Law (ISHERL), Abuja, Nigeria; the Senate Committee on Environment and Ecology, Federal Republic of Nigeria; the International Society for Environmental Geotechnology (ISEG), Charlotte, USA; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); and ICSU-ROA. The training workshop focused on the development of most practical measures of climate change adaptation and mitigation in Africa through policy development, technical systems deployment, public enlightenment and market incentives. The participants came from the public and private sectors, NGOs, international organisations and academic institutions. The delegates deliberated on ways to improve awareness and proficiency in climate change mitigation and adaptation techniques through training and exposure to modern instruments of risk management. The training workshop offered participants with the opportunity to engage in analyses of both technical and policy aspects of climate change impacts, characterisations and adaptation.



Core Activities (continued)

Health Risk Assessment Certificate of Competence Course

ICSU ROA supported a three-year initiative to build capacity in Health Risk assessment on the continent. The initiative was implemented as a collaborative effort between the International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX) and the Toxicology Society of South Africa (TOXSA), and with the support of the University of the Witwatersrand. The training course was held at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 20 February – 2 March 2012. This event was attended by participants from eight African countries. The ICSU ROA Director, Edith Madela-Mntla, addressed the delegates at the meeting and informed them about the activities of the Regional Office.

The objectives of this course included, but were not limited to, providing an understanding of basic toxicology and of the basics of human health risk assessment. The course also aimed at developing a common base of knowledge and terminology on human health risk assessment as well as providing a framework for developing risk-based management decisions. The course introduced methods used to communicate risk assessment and risk management information to decision-makers, the public and other users of risk assessment results. The participants gained an appreciation of how health risk assessments are developed and used in environmental decisions; and some case studies were discussed.

Publications and General Communication

Publications

ICSU ROA Book Project II

During the 2011/12 financial year, efforts to prepare the publication of ICSU ROA's second book, "Chemistry for sustainable development in Africa", have been sped up. Twelve manuscripts were finally accepted for publication

out of twenty that were received initially. Towards the end of the financial year, a typesetter started working on the manuscripts and was working closely with the editors of the book (Prof Ameenah Gurib-Fakim of the University of Mauritius and Prof Kobus Eloff of the University of Pretoria, South Africa) as well as with the Regional Office.

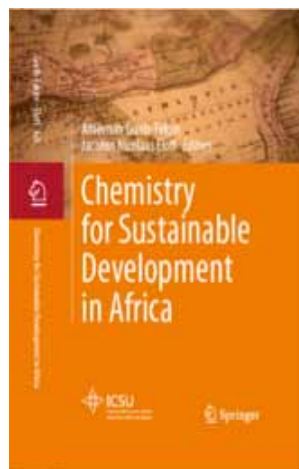


The book, which is divided into three parts, aims to provide an analytical platform to bring the application of Chemistry closer to society and to showcase some of the works done by scientists on the continent. The first part comprises six chapters, and it focuses on the application of Chemistry in health and biodiversity utilisation. The second part of the book, which comprises four chapters, presents case studies of how scientists on the continent are utilising new technologies to address the challenges of the emerging areas in Chemistry. The last section of three chapters highlights the relevance of international scientific collaboration to the sustainable development of the continent.

The book is expected to be published by the end of July 2012, but is already available at Amazon.com.

Core Activities (continued)

ICSU ROA Book Project III



In partnership with UNECA, ICSU ROA is preparing to publish a book on climate change science in Africa. The book, which will be published in two volumes - one in English and the other in French, is meant to present the climate change issues of most relevance to the continent, as well as providing a comprehensive and up-to-date review of climate change activities in Africa. The topics treated in the book feed into the on-going formulation of

collective strategies to protect the global environmental change and climate, founded on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The manuscripts received (29 in total) are currently under review and several of them have been sent back a few times to authors for improvement. The book is envisaged to be published at the end of 2012.

Reports on Workshops/Conferences

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA organised or assisted in the organisation of several workshops/conferences. The most important of these events included:



- Workshop on Projects for the Implementation of Science Plans on Sustainable Energy and on Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters held in Pretoria, South Africa in March 2012.
- TOXSA/ICSU ROA training workshop on Health Risk Assessment for Southern Africa in February 2012 held in Johannesburg, South Africa;
- The Rio+20 Science and Technology Regional Workshop for Africa held from 30 May to 2 June 2011 in Pretoria, South Africa;
- 4th International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) International Conference on Women in Physics held in Stellenbosch, South Africa in April 2011;

Reports from all these events are available on the Office's website and can also be obtained from the Regional Office on request.

General Communication

ICSU ROA thrives to reach out to the general public through publications and public lectures. It also reaches out to the international scientific community through keynote presentations as well as exhibiting the Office's materials at regional and international scientific and/or policy meetings. The Regional Office also makes effective use of its interactive website and electronic mailing.

Public Lectures

ICSU ROA presented a public lecture during the MDIF on 20 May 2011. The lecture highlighted facts about ICSU, its mission, its Regional Offices and the role and activities of the Regional Office for Africa. The lecture raised awareness among NRF stakeholders as well as other people who participated.

The Office also prepared a presentation that was delivered by the DST (on behalf of the ICSU ROA) during the Meeting of SADC Ministers Responsible for Science, Technology and Innovation held in Windhoek, Namibia in May 2011). This presentation brought the Regional Office to the attention of

Core Activities (continued)

the decision makers in the region.

A presentation of the Office's activities was also made at the scientific seminar between Mozambique and their Brazilian collaborators, which ICSU ROA attended as a partner to monitor progress on the implementation of projects emanating from resolutions of the 29th General Assembly of ICSU held in 2008.

ICSU ROA Website

The new ICSU ROA website (<http://www.icsu.org/africa>) is designed and managed by the webmaster at the ICSU Secretariat. The content management is done by the staff of the Regional Office and is updated weekly by the Communication Officer. General information about ICSU ROA's activities, the activities of its partners and those of the ICSU Family on the continent are published on the site. The site also carries information from other sources which is relevant to the African scientific community at large. This includes important announcements like events, grants and awards on the continent; and calls for participation in international projects and programmes, or for nominations to special committees of ICSU and other international scientific bodies.

Electronic mailing



The Regional Office is linked to its partners and networks through an extensive and dynamic electronic mailing list. The list serves as a vehicle to distribute information from the Office as well as its publications and other documents. Material from the ICSU Family and partners from all over the globe is also disseminated through this email system. ICSU ROA also gathers scientific information from its partners and networks within and outside the region, and avails it to the African scientific community via this electronic mailing system.

Marketing the Office

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA staff participated in different fora where information related to the Office's activities was presented. The Regional Office manned an exhibition stand during the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 7th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol. This conference, which was held in November/December 2011 in Durban, South Africa, delivered a breakthrough on the international community's response to climate change. The Office was represented at the conference by the Director and the Communications Officer.



During the 2nd Session of the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST II): Innovation for Africa's industrial development, which was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2011, ICSU ROA manned an exhibition stand where the Office's materials and publications were displayed.

Scientific Collaboration and Networking

Activities of the ICSU Family in Africa

During the 2011/12 financial year, the Regional Office continued to work with and support activities of the ICSU Family on the continent.

ICSU 30th General Assembly

The Regional Director and the two Programme Specialists

Core Activities (continued)

attended the General Assembly (GA) where they played active roles during the Assembly. The Director gave a presentation (both in the National Members' Forum and in the Union Members' Forum) on the activities of the three ICSU Regional Offices related to the area of Sustainable Energy. She also gave a presentation during the plenary of the GA wherein she outlined the activities and accomplishments of ICSU ROA since the 29th ICSU GA. The programme specialists served as rapporteurs during the National Members' Forum as well as the Union Members' Forum.



On its 106th meeting held just after the GA30, the ICSU Executive Board (EB) appointed Kennedy Reed, from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in the USA, to represent the Board on the ICSU RCA. This appointment was made following the expiry of the term of Uri Shamir as member of the ICSU EB in September 2011.

Implementation of the 29th ICSU GA Resolutions in Africa

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA worked closely with the Scientific Research Association of Mozambique (AICIMO) to find different avenues that could be explored to implement the 29th ICSU GA resolutions. In August 2011, joint projects between Mozambique and Brazil were launched in Mozambique and the Regional Office was represented at this launch by the Director and Daniel

Nyanganyura. Negotiations for project funding are reportedly at advanced stages and more Lusophone partners are reportedly likely to join in these projects. Feedback from AICIMO indicates that the projects to implement the GA29 resolutions are progressing at different degrees. A review meeting might be held as a side event of the RCA14, which is scheduled to be held in Mozambique in March 2013.



ICSU Grants Programmes

The Office supported in writing, the applications of the following Scientific Unions for funding from ICSU Grants Programme: Scientific Committee on Solar Terrestrial (SCOSTEP); IUPAP; IUPHAR; IUBS and ICSU World Data Centre (WDS). All the supported applications, except IUBS which withdrew its application, were successful and ICSU ROA will play an active role in the implementation of the funded projects.

Activities with the Scientific Unions

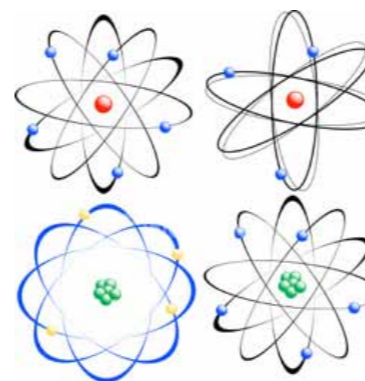
IUPAP: The Office was instrumental in the organisation of the 4th IUPAP International Conference on Women in Physics, which was held in Stellenbosch, South Africa in April 2011. The Conference was aimed at providing a forum for both scientific presentations and for discussion of issues related to attracting, retaining and improving the status of Women in Physics. Daniel Nyanganyura acted as a member of the local organising committee on behalf of ICSU ROA. The Office's contribution to the preparation of this event was recognised especially in assisting with issuing of visas to the participants as well as the work done

Core Activities (continued)

in the preparation of the scientific programme and abstract review. The ICSU ROA Director gave an opening address. The conference was attended by over 500 physicists from all over the globe; the majority of them being women. The event gave ICSU ROA an opportunity to interact with the members of the association of Women in Physics in Africa (WIPA), which is very keen to work with the Office in expanding the influence of IUPAP on the continent.



IUPAC: ICSU ROA participated in the one-day Symposium to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry that was organised by the University of Pretoria and the South African Chemical Institute in collaboration with IUPAC in April 2011. About 140 delegates from all over the region attended



the event. The Office was represented at the symposium by the Director and Programme Specialists. This event was meant to look into Chemistry Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow. Part of the time was spent on networking with Chemistry experts on possibilities of getting reviewers for the Chemistry Book that ICSU ROA was compiling.

IUGG: Due to financial constraints, the Office could not send a representative to attend the IUGG Congress held in Australia in June 2011. However, ICSU ROA was a co-convenor of the session on Earth and Space Science in Africa where it was involved in reviewing the abstracts as well as identifying session presenters.

IUTOX: ICSU ROA assisted IUTOX through TOXSA to get extra funds to finalise an initiative that has been funded through the ICSU Grants Programme that was started in 2009. The course which was held at Wits University, South Africa in February 2012 was attended by delegates from eight countries. During this event, the Regional Director gave a presentation on the work of ICSU ROA and reaffirmed the Office's support for activities of IUTOX and of other Scientific Unions on the continent. Within the framework of the same grant, similar meetings will be held for Eastern Africa and West Africa regions in 2012 through the second IUTOX application for ICSU grant programme approved in 2011.

Activities with other Partners and Networks

During the course of the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA continued to maintain a good working relationship with its traditional partners and networks, and also established new relationships.

Preparation for Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

ICSU ROA organised the Rio+20 Regional Science and Technology Workshop for Africa in Pretoria, South Africa, in May/June 2011. This event was organised in collaboration with the UNESCO Science and Technology Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya, as well as in partnership with, and with financial support from the NRF, ACCESS, and the Department of Social Development of South Africa. ASSAf and the South African Departments of Science and Technology, and Environmental Affairs were partners in this event where they rendered organisational and logistical support. Partners at the global level, who brought in representatives to the workshop,

Core Activities (continued)

included the WFEO, ISSC and UNESCO headquarters.

The workshop was attended by 69 participants from all over Africa and beyond. It was aimed at providing a platform for natural and social scientists, as well as engineers from the continent to prepare inputs towards a regional position statement to be presented during the Intergovernmental Rio+20 Regional Preparatory Meeting which was to be organised by the UNECA. To this effect, the participants produced a comprehensive compilation of recommendations.



At the invitation of the United Nations and UNECA, the ICSU ROA Director and a Regional Committee for Africa member (Hillary Inyang) attended the Africa Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20 that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October 2011. The two presented the recommendations from the science community on the continent emanating from the deliberation of the May 2011 workshop. An exhibition of ICSU ROA material was mounted during this event as well.

In March 2012, the Office, represented by Daniel Nyanganyura, participated during the Rio+20 Preparatory Conference of Civil Society and Trade Unions in Africa that took place in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop addressed the

priorities, challenges and opportunities as well as the enabling conditions to facilitate a transition to a people-centred green economy. During the deliberation, the participants formulated key messages aimed at strengthening the African Consensus Statement for Rio+20 with input from and involvement of civil society actors, trade unions and progressive parties.

ICSU ROA has become a key partner in South Africa's activities related to sustainable development, at the invitation of the Department of Environmental Affairs.

Applied Centre for Climate and Earth Systems Science (ACCESS)

Apart from collaborating with ICSU ROA in organising the Rio+20 Regional Science and Technology Workshop for Africa where it provided financial support, ACCESS has worked consultatively with the Office on issues of Earth Systems Science research on the continent. Discussions to set up a Regional Committee for Hazards and Disasters have been tabled between the two organisations and some results will be expected soon.

African Monsoon Multi-disciplinary Analysis Network (AMMA-NET)

ICSU ROA has been working closely with AMMA-NET since the establishment on the Network in February 2009. This is because the objectives and content of the AMMA-NET programme fit very well within the ICSU ROA programme on hazards and disasters, especially the hydro-meteorological hazards as well as the one on global environmental change (including climate change and adaptation). AMMA-NET Association, the African branch of AMMA International, has joined hands with ICSU ROA in developing science on the continent and would continue to play a role as one of the implementing agencies for ICSU ROA's science plans. Some researchers of the AMMA-NET have been and continue to be key players in international research consortia that are

Core Activities (continued)

working on developing and implementing projects from the Regional Office's science plans.

The RIPIECSA, a programme of AMMA-NET, held a workshop in October 2011 in Cotonou, Benin at which ICSU ROA was represented by Achuo Enow. RIPIECSA provides a platform for enhanced human capacity development and engages scientists in multidisciplinary and trans-boundary research, including multi-stakeholder engagements of which ICSU ROA has been part of.

Strategic Partnerships

ICSU ROA continued to collaborate with its traditional partners during the 2011/12 financial year but also established new partnerships. Some of the partners with which significant interactions occurred during the period under review are listed below:

The National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa

The host of ICSU ROA, the NRF, is one of the closest strategic partners of the Regional Office. In partnership with and assistance from the NRF, particularly with the International Relations and Cooperation (IR&C) Directorate, the Regional Office has managed to accomplish some of its planned activities for the 2011/12 financial year. The NRF, through the IR&C, provided financial support that assisted in successful organising the Rio+20 Regional S&T Workshop for Africa.



The Office also worked closely with the NRF to organise the second ICSU Regional Consultation of National Members in Pretoria, South Africa, in July 2011. The first consultative forum was held in the 2010/11 financial year. The meeting was organised in preparation for the 30th ICSU General Assembly. Participants included most African National Members of ICSU as well as non-members who are targeted for membership. The purpose of the consultation was to discuss and agree on a common position on issues to be raised during the GA30. ICSU ROA was instrumental in several aspects of the organisation of the workshop, including identification of resourceful outstanding African scientists who are not ICSU National Member representatives. The workshop was attended by the Director and Programme Specialists. A presentation of ICSU ROA activities was done to give an update. The Office, in partnership with the IR&C, has plans to organise a post GA ICSU Regional Consultation of African National Members during the 2012/13 financial year.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), South Africa

Apart from being the main funder of ICSU ROA, the DST has emerged as one of the main partners of the Regional Office, especially in the implementation of its science plans and profiling the Office at regional and continental fora.



Core Activities (continued)

The DST provided logistical and organisational support, before, during and after the Rio+20 Regional S&T Workshop for Africa. In May 2011, the DST, on behalf of ICSU ROA gave a presentation on the Office's activities during the SADC Ministers Responsible for Science, Technology and Innovation meeting held in Windhoek, Namibia. The presentation, which served as an introduction of ICSU to the STI Ministers in the region, highlighted the mission and the 2006-2011 strategic plan of ICSU, the aim and roles of ICSU ROA on the continent as well as the Office's scientific programmes. The presentation also highlighted the different areas where SADC could benefit from ICSU as well as how the regional community can support the activities of ICSU in the region. This was the first presentation on the Office at this kind of meeting and the Ministers noted that the SADC Secretariat will establish collaboration with ICSU ROA and will present a progress report at future meetings.



In collaboration with the DST, ICSU ROA gave input to the concept paper for the 1st Senior Officials Meeting of the EU-Africa High Level

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Dialogue that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October 2011. The document focussed on the development on the continent with special reference to science and technology policy development, institutional development, and research infrastructure development.

The Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)

Sida has been a strong partner of ICSU ROA and for a long time, it has been supporting the Office's activities. Based on the discussions and efforts that commenced in the 2010/11 financial year, ICSU ROA worked together with other ICSU Regional Offices, the ICSU Secretariat and the Swedish Secretariat for Environmental Earth

Systems Science (SSEESS), to develop a proposal that was submitted to Sida. The proposal focuses on (i) strengthening high-quality research in the regions and integrating of regional and global research activities; (ii) research capacity enhancement in developing countries; and (iii) ensuring that there is a policy impact. The proposal, which also involves SysTem for Analysis Research and Training (START) as a key partner to the process, was approved for funding and the implementation has just started in 2012.

The implementation of the project proposal will seek to support and enhance a number of activities and initiatives in the developing regions of the globe and to ensure that the scientific communities in these regions are involved in defining and developing global research initiatives to address the Grand Challenges of Sustainability. It will also endeavour to ensure that the resulting international research agenda is responsive to the needs of the regions.

ICSU ROA, in collaboration with other ICSU Regional Offices, START, SSEESS/Sida and other development aid agencies have planned to organise workshops to develop future strategies of scientific research on the continent. A workshop involving major funding and development agencies is planned for late 2012/beginning 2013; the occasion will seek to establish a common understanding of the priorities and objectives of the research funding communities, as a guide towards designing research proposals.

Interaction with Intergovernmental Bodies

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA has continued to interact with national governmental institutions and intergovernmental bodies to ensure that policies and decisions in the region are developed and implemented on a foundation of science based evidence. The Regional Office has been involved in activities organised by the African Union through NEPAD) as well as those organised by the UN agencies (UNECA and UNESCO).

Core Activities (continued)

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

During the 2011/12 financial year, ICSU ROA and the NEPAD have continued to work together in areas of common interest. NEPAD Science and Technology Division organised an International Student Conference on Climate Change and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) that was held in August 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa. During this event, an African Young Scientists Initiative on Climate Change (AYSICC) was launched. The main focus area of this initiative will be to promote the role of African Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation. The overall objective of the initiative is to empower Africa's youth to actively and effectively champion the role of IKS in climate change adaptation and mitigation for sustainable development. Daniel Nyanganyura, who represented the Office at this event, gave a presentation about ICSU ROA activities.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

ICSU ROA has continued to work closely with UNECA in a number of areas. The two organisations continue to work together on the manuscripts for a Climate Change science book in Africa which is expected to be published in late 2012.

UNECA organised the 2nd session of the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST II): Innovation for Africa's industrial development that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2011. The meeting was attended by more than 800 policy- and decision-makers, scientists, lawyers and journalists representing national, international, regional and sub-regional organisations and development partners. The overall theme of CODIST II was to explore the extent to which African industrial and scientific communities could harness innovation to develop and enhance the performance of their industrial sectors. It also aimed at exploring the linkages between and alignment

of scientific research, industrial and innovative policies in national and regional development strategies. The Director and a Programme Specialist for Physics, Mathematics and Engineering Science, attended this event and manned an exhibition stand.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Apart from collaborating with ICSU ROA in organising the Rio+20 Regional Science and Technology Workshop for Africa, UNESCO also organised a conference for Women in Science and Technology that was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2011. The Conference was aimed at improving the visibility and solidarity of Women in Science and Technology on the continent as well as finding a mechanism to bring together initiatives on Women in Science and Technology and encouraging scientific cooperation, networking and collaboration amongst them. The Office was represented by Daniel Nyanganyura during this event.

In November 2011, UNESCO organised the 4th African Regional Conference of Vice Chancellors and Deans of Science, Engineering and Technology (COVIDSET 2011). The aim of this conference was to bring together university leaders/policy makers, researchers and the private sector to deliberate on how to exploit Africa's research and innovation capacities and capabilities to generate new products, processes and markets for its socio-economic development as well as increase Africa's global competitiveness. Its theme was Harnessing Africa's Scientific, Engineering and Technology Innovations for Sustainable Development: The Role of Universities. Achuo Enow represented the Office during this conference and gave a presentation.



Financial Report

The financial resources and expenditure of ICSU ROA during 2011/12 are summarised below:

Income and expenditure statement for the year ended 31 March 2012

	Year ended 31 March 2012 (ZAR)	Year ended 31 March 2011 (ZAR)
INCOME RECEIVED		
Department of Science & Technology	3,576,360	
ICSU Secretariat, Paris	381,375	-
German Embassy	-	147,143
International Relations & Cooperation NRF	150,000	
ACCESS, Rio+20 Support	75,000	
ICSU Paris, Rio +20 Support	196,590	
UNESCO (Nairobi Office) Rio+20	179,284	
NRF CONTRIBUTION	1,597,000	3,677,839
UNCOMMITTED FUNDS FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	-283,073	-1,192,966
FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR THE YEAR	6,155,609	2,632,016
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		
RUNNING EXPENSES	1,509,967	1,081,387
Audit fees	13,726	14,273
Bank charges	1,592	1,099
Computer Consumables	6,818	853
Conferences and Workshops	295,461	93,764
Exchange control loss	2,630	485
Fees for Services	230,096	07,160

	Year ended 31 March 2012 (ZAR)	Year ended 31 March 2011 (ZAR)
Marketing costs	10,790	1,154
Medical Expenses	-	485
Purchases	1,292	-
Postage and Courier	21,147	31,668
Printing	7,708	46,908
Publications	-	796
Recruitment and training	21,363	132,776
Refreshments	8,001	5,802
Stationary	13,513	11,558
Telephone	47,210	24,529
Travel and Subsistence - international	681,336	372,156
Travel and Subsistence - local	147,284	35,921
	-	-
Total Expenditure Rio+20 Workshop	183,495	
SALARIES	2,375,696	1,843,576
	-	-
CAPITAL EXPENSES		
Computer Equipment	22,178	-9,874
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) AT END OF YEAR	2,064,273	-283,073



Despite the successes registered during the financial year 2011/12, ICSU ROA has also encountered and overcome some human, infrastructural as well as operational hurdles during this period. There have been some dynamics in the staffing situation during the course of the financial year that worked against the continuity of the operations of the Office. At the end of August 2011, the newly appointed administrative assistant, Zanele Mabena, went on an extended sick leave after serving only a few weeks. This forced the Office to hire a temporary assistant to fill in the gap. The post was occupied by two individuals (at different times) in the course of the financial year. In November 2011, Achuo Enow resigned from the Office after serving as a Programme Specialist for Biological Sciences for a period of about five and half years – a significant loss of institutional memory for the Office.

Two months after ICSU ROA relocated to its new premises, the Offices were gutted by fire that destroyed a significant number of Office materials, equipment, stationary and furniture. This incident was a drawback to the Office since it had to work for three months with limited resources in an interim office space provided by the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), a facility of the NRF - which is operating

from the same office park. ICSU ROA would not have effectively accomplished its planned activities during these three months without the support and assistance rendered by SAEON, for which the Office expresses profound appreciation.

At operational level, the Office has encountered and continues to encounter challenges to solicit extra financial resources from other countries for reaching out exercises as well as for implementation of additional activities and programmes. Communication at various levels on the continent continues to be a perpetual challenge due to poor infrastructure in the region. This leads to limited access to information to and from some of the stakeholders; an act that compromises the Office's efforts to promote collaborative research activities in the sub-region.

Annexes

Annex A: Staff of ICSU ROA Secretariat

Name	Position	Date of employment
Dr Edith Madela-Mntla (South Africa) e.mntla@icsu-africa.org	Regional Director	01 January 2011
Dr Achuo Enow (Cameroon) a.enow@icsu-africa.org	Programme Specialist	27 March 2006 until 31 November 2011
Dr Daniel Nyanganyura (Zimbabwe) d.nyanganyura@icsu-africa.org	Programme Specialist	01 August 2008
Mr Bongani Mahlalela (South Africa) b.mahlalela@icsu-africa.org	Communications Officer	01 October 2007
Ms Zanele Mabena (South Africa) zanele.mabena@nrf.ac.za	Administrative Assistant	01 July 2011

Annexes (continued)

Annex B: Composition of the ICSU Regional Committee for Africa

Statutory Members

Ameenah Gurib-Fakim (Chairperson)
Centre for Phytotherapy Research
Mauritius
aguribfakim@gmail.com

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University of Cocody
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konarea@yahoo.com
abdou.konare@univ-cocody.ci

Mohammed Elhassan
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Vincent Ngwang Tanya
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Samuel Babatunde Agbola
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Hilary Inyang
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Charlotte, USA
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Ex-Officio Members

Deliang Chen
Executive Director
International Council for Science (ICSU)
Paris, France
deliang.chen@icsu.org

Uri Shamir (Representative of ICSU EB) - until September 2011

Water Research Institute,
Technion – Israel Institute of Technology
Haifa, Israel
shamir@tx.technion.ac.il

Kennedy Reed (Representative of ICSU EB) – from October 2011

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
Livermore, USA
reed5@llnl.gov

Edith Madela-Mntla
Regional Director
ICSU Regional Office for Africa
South Africa
e.mntla@icsu-africa.org

Nithaya Chetty (representing the NRF)

Associate Professor of Physics
University of Pretoria
South Africa
Nithaya.Chetty@up.ac.za

Annex C: ICSU Members and Associates in Africa

Annex C1 - ICSU National Members in Africa

Angola:	Foundation of Science and Development (Member since 2010)
Botswana:	Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology of Botswana (Member since 2006)
Cameroon:	Cameroon Academy of Sciences (Member since 1999)
Egypt:	Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (Member since 1925)
Ethiopia:	Ethiopian Science and Technology Agency (Member since 2006)
Kenya:	Kenya National Academy of Sciences (Member since 1980)
Lesotho:	Department of Science and Technology (Member since 2007)
Malawi:	National Research Council of Malawi (Member since 2006)
Mauritius:	Mauritius Research Council (Member since 2005)
Morocco:	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique (Member since 1925)
Mozambique:	Scientific Research Association of Mozambique (Member since 1999)
Namibia:	Ministry of Education: Directorate of Research, Science and Technology (Member since 2008)
Nigeria:	Nigerian Academy of Science (Member since 1963)
Seychelles:	Seychelles Centre for Marine Research and Technology (Member since 1983)
South Africa:	National Research Foundation (Member since 1919)
Tanzania:	Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Member since 2004)
Togo:	Chancellerie des Universités du Togo (Member since 1993)
Uganda:	Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (Member since 1995)
Zimbabwe:	Research Council of Zimbabwe (Member since 1989)

Annex C2 - ICSU National Observers in Africa

Burkina Faso:	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique (Member since 1981)
Côte d'Ivoire:	Académie des Sciences, des Arts, des Cultures d'Afrique et des Diasporas Africaines (Member since 1992)
Ghana:	Ghana Academy of Arts & Sciences (Member since 1961)
Rwanda:	Kigali Institute of Science and Technology (Member since 2006)
Senegal:	Association des Chercheurs Sénégalais (Member since 1993)
Sudan:	National Centre for Research (Member since 1974)
Swaziland:	National Research Council (Member since 1993)
Zambia:	Zambia Academy of Sciences (Member since 2006)

Annex C3 - ICSU National Scientific Associates in Africa

Madagascar:	Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique (Member since 1970)
Tunisia:	Université Tunis El Manar (Member since 1931)

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