



# The Business Ethics Network of Africa newsletter

VOLUME I

Information contained in this newsletter is current as at December 2011

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great pleasure that I can announce the re-birth of BEN-Africa's newsletter. For a long time we went without a dedicated Editor for the newsletter, and it was just impossible for the President or Secretary General to also take up this role. This situation has now changed with the recent appointment of Nadia Mans as Editor of the Newsletter. She is affiliated to the Department of Business Management of Stellenbosch University in South Africa. She will be supported by three "news hunters", one each for Western, East, and Southern Africa respectively. Symphorien Ntibagirirwa from Rwanda will take up this role for Eastern Africa, Rudolph Boy from Botswana will cover Southern Africa for us, while the news hunter for West Africa from Nigeria still need to be identified.

If you have any news regarding the promotion of ethics in business in Africa, please do not hesitate to contact the Newsletter team. Here are their contact details:

Nadia Mans:	nadiamans@sun.ac.za
Rudolph Boy:	rudolph.boy@mopipi.ub.bw
Symphorien Ntibagirirwa:	nsymphorien@yahoo.fr

### Ben Africa's new look website

BEN-Africa can also boast with an overhaul of its website thanks to Dr. Suzette Viviers, our Secretary General. It has lots of new features, and is a pleasure to visit.

Go to <http://www.benafrika.org> to check out the website, and do make the effort to tell at least one new person of this website each week.

### News from the EXCO

At the EXCO meeting of BEN-Africa that was held in Zanzibar at the beginning of November this year, the following was decided:

To co-opt Rudolph Boy (BENABOTS) to the EXCO of BEN-Africa in the vacancy for the remainder of the term i.e. until the next Annual General Meeting that will be held in 2012.

The next conference of BEN-Africa will be held in Uganda. (This will in all probability be in the first week of August, but the dates and the venue will be finalised at a later stage.)

The 2013 BEN-Africa conference will be held in Nigeria.

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# Fast facts from the 12TH annual BEN-AFRICA CONFERENCE

31 October - 2 November 2011

Held at the Zanzibar Beach Resort Hotel, Zanzibar, Tanzania



- Conference theme: Africa's contribution to business ethics: Changing paradigms, shaping debate
- 24 papers presented

**Emerging themes** at the conference dealt with the protection of intellectual property rights, water management, business ethics and moral economy, and student plagiarism. Several papers also dealt with corruptions and ethics in the accounting profession.

JUTA sponsored an **essay writing competition** for young academics. The theme was water management in Africa shifting the paradigm, changing the debate. Ms Nadia Mans from Stellenbosch University (South Africa) was the winner of this competition.

Ms Elke Gevers, Prof Leon van Vuuren and Dr L Fourie presented the **best paper** at the conference. The theme was Adherence to the spirit of corporate governance: executive remuneration.

The conference entailed a combination of interesting academic discussions and exciting tourist excursions. During a visit to Stone Town with its carved wooden doors, it appeared as if history stood still.

Delegates from nine countries:

- Australia
- Botswana
- Ethiopia
- Mozambique
- Nigeria
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Uganda
- United Kingdom

- A pre-conference workshop on writing journal articles was hosted by Prof Leon van Vuuren of the University of Johannesburg (South Africa)
- Opening speech was delivered by His Excellency, Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad, first-vice president of Zanzibar
- The closing speech was delivered by the Honourable Minister Abukakr Khamis Bakar, the Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs.

The history of Zanzibar would be incomplete without the cloves, nutmeg, cinnamon, pepper and many other spices. Some delegates extended their stay to visit one of the plantations just outside Zanzibar town. Other popular tours included swimming with dolphins, feeding the large tortoises on Prison Island and spending a day of sun-filled fun and seafood on one of the islands.

Knowledge was exchanged, friendships were built and everyone agreed that it was a conference to remember.

Many thanks once again to Simon Mponji and Hamza Kaburwe of BEN-Africa (Tanzania) for all of their help with the arrangements and wonderful entertainment with Taraab music on the night of the conference dinner.

A list of delegates, papers delivered at the conference, and biographical sketches appear on BEN-Africa's website, where the abstracts of the conference papers are also posted.