



48th Annual General Meeting & Elections
Monday 27 March 2017
REPORT

Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting and Elections held on Monday 27th March 2017, from 13.00 to 18.00 hours at Auditorium Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka.

Were Present

1. His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K, Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius
2. Hon. Marie Joseph Noël-Etienne Ghislain Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development
3. Mrs. Chandranee Buckhory, P.D.S.M, O.S.K, Honorary President of MACOSS
4. Mr Geerish Bucktowonsing, Chairperson of MACOSS
5. Mrs Allia Syed Hossen- Gooljar, Deputy Chairperson of MACOSS
6. Mr Lutchmecant Soopal, Vice Chairperson of MACOSS
7. Mr Paramasiva Chengan, Treasurer of MACOSS
8. Mr Loganaden Muneesamy , Secretary of MACOSS
9. Mr Kristavarajen (Karoonen) Valaydon, Programme Coordinator (DCP-EU)
10. Mr Ajay Sowdagur - Acting Officer in Charge - NGO Trust Fund

1. AGENDA:

1.1 Registration

1.2 Welcome:

Mr Loganaden Muneesamy, Secretary of MACOSS

1.3 Addresses:

- Mr Geerish Bucktowonsing, Chairperson of MACOSS
- Mrs. Chandranee Buckhory, P.D.S.M, O.S.K, Honorary President of MACOSS
- Hon. Etienne Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development
- His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K, Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius

1.4 Business of the AGM:

1. Approval of Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting held on 15 December, 2015 at Octave Wiehe Auditorium , University of Mauritius
2. Consideration of Annual Report/Chairman's Report 2015-2017
3. Consideration of Audited Accounts/ Treasurer's Report (Accounts for 2015 & 2016)
4. Appointment of Honorary Officers for 2017-2018
 - a. Patron
 - b. Honorary President

- c. Honorary Vice Presidents
- 5. Appointment of Auditors for period 2017-2019

1.5 Elections of :

- The Chairperson of MACOSS for 2017-2018
- Seven (7) members of the Executive Committee for 2017-2020

1.6 Counting and Proclamation of Election Results

2. Welcome Address by Mr Loganaden Muneesamy, Secretary of MACOSS

Mr L. Muneesamy, Secretary of MACOSS welcomed the VIPs and representatives of Member Affiliates present. The main business of the day was presented to the Assembly and he informed that the 48th Annual General Meeting would be followed by the election of a Chairperson for the period 2017-2018 and the elections of seven (7) Executive Committee Members for the period 2017-2020.

In keeping with tradition, Mr L. Muneesamy invited members to observe one minute of silence for all Civil Society Activists who had passed away during the course of 2015-17. He then invited Mr Geerish Bucktowonsing, the Chairperson of MACOSS to address the Assembly.

3. Address by Geerish Bucktowonsing, Chairperson of MACOSS

Mr G. Bucktowonsing, Chairperson of MACOSS, welcomed the Assembly. He said that together as a team, forty (40) activities had been implemented in the last session. He added that MACOSS had a good coverage from the MEDIA and hence consolidating its image as the NGO Focal Point in Mauritius. He highlighted the followings:

- (i) The 'Reactivation and the Inauguration of the Regional Leadership Centre for the Civil Society' has been a major accomplishment. Not only the debt of 6 million had been settled but also additional resources required had been found to complete the ground floor and inauguration. The government having recognised the seriousness of the team provided a one-off capital grant to complete the construction. Rs 5 million had already been disbursed in year 2016 and another Rs 5 million would be disbursed in the grant in aid of 2017/2018. This Centre would contribute in the promotion of a strong Civic Sector. In fact, the Centre was already operational where an ExCo meeting and two workshops had been scheduled. He recommended that the two name plates, one with name of the founding fathers and another one with the past Chairpersons of MACOSS should be affixed at the RLC after the final completion.
- (ii) MACOSS had adhered to procedures as recommended and it included accounting, procurement and filing that had been put in place. For the first time, MACOSS would be presenting two accounts, to adjust to a previous backlog, at the AGM (the MACOSS

- Audited Accounts for 2015 and 2016) as well as the Audited Account of the Isobel Foster Trust Fund which had not been audited since 2007. The auditors had also recognised the improvement in the management of MACOSS Account.
- (iii) In partnership with NGOs working in the field of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, together with the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund, the Police and the Local Governments, MACOSS had organised four (4) "Sensitisation Campaign on Alcohol and Drugs", in 4 regions of Mauritius namely; Goodlands, Vallee des Pretres, Providence and Coromandel. The objective was to create awareness, educate and build the capacity of community leaders and community workers, so that they are better equipped to deal effectively in this sector. It also aimed at protecting the youth and the population at large.
 - (iv) A 'Campaign on Road Safety' was organised with the support of LOGOS, Watiwala and Bluefish advertising agencies to sensitise the public on the importance of behaving responsibly in the view of reducing the number of casualties on our roads. The theme "Dan 1 second tou capav fini" was very meaningful and hope that the campaign could be enhanced at National Level by the Government and relevant authorities.
 - (v) The struggle to fight against poverty was a concern for all. MACOSS had organized a series of training sessions with the support of UNDP / NSA to empower the NGOs in this sector. With the collaboration of 'Constellation', an International NGO, MACOSS had organised several workshops to assist communities in applying the 'SALT concept - Stimulate, Appreciate, Learn and Transfer', to share their experience in a community conversation and reinforce the bonds among them.
 - (vi) Youth and Persons with Disabilities were involved during the sensitization campaign on "Save Mother Earth". Persons with Disabilities had created three green spaces at Flacq, Mont Choisy and Surinam. The focus had been on 'Semer une plante, C'est semer une Vie'. The importance of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which included the protection of the environment was also highlighted during the sensitization campaign.
 - (vii) Another innovative project which aimed at engaging University Student in community /social work, the 'Community Learning Engagement Programme (CLen)' was being implemented in partnership with the University of Technology since the past 3 years. The CLEn programme endeavors to integrate community learning and social responsibility in undergraduate education as well as direct off-campus experience contribution to their intellectual, personal and professional development. This had enabled more than 100 undergraduates to familiarize with the NGO sector.
 - (viii) MACOSS wanted the engagement of the youth in addressing sensitive issues. The Youth Ambassador project was launched at New Devton College where students were encouraged to express their views structured around the theme 'Zero Violans Domestik' and on human values.
 - (ix) The Country is facing a severe challenge of ageing population and stagnation in numbers. The Council in collaboration with the Mauritius Family Planning and Welfare Association organised a series of workshops for community leaders on the theme 'Population, Development and Sexual & Reproductive Health: Challenges and Issues'
 - (x) Children are our pride and they should be protected by the family. The promotion of the well-being of the family and children has always been on the high agenda of the Council.

- A workshop entitled ‘Notre Enfant, Notre Amour, Droits et Devoirs’ was organised which aimed at sensitising the children on their rights and responsibility.
- (xi) It was the first time that MACOSS had a joint project with the Senior Citizens Council. A recreational activity was organised for the elderly persons on the theme ‘Respekte Nou Gran Dimoun’. The objectives were to pay tribute to Senior Citizens and to remind youngsters and the public at large of the important role played by the elders in transmitting and maintaining family values.
 - (xii) Several activities to promote an inclusive society had been organized. Emphasis were laid on the importance of ensuring that buildings and public places provide easy access to persons with disabilities which would allow them to move autonomously and without any difficulty. A recreational activity for persons with disabilities entitled ‘Rekonet nu Valer was also organised to promote the talent and abilities of the persons with disabilities.
 - (xiii) In line with the introduction of the New CSR Framework, several working sessions and a validation workshop were conducted to gather inputs. A consolidated proposal for an effective CSR framework had been forwarded to the Ministry of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment. It was also highlighted that most of the proposals were included in their Charter. NGOs must be able to access to CSR fund in all transparency and equity. This was an important step to ease access to fund.

Mr G. Bucktowonsing also informed the Assembly that request had already been sent to the relevant Ministries for the consideration of the review of MACOSS Act. He added that he had discussed with the Secretary of MACOSS to set up a Committee, consisting amongst other, representatives from the Electoral Commissioner’s Office, Transparency International, ICAC and Bar Council to review the procedures of MACOSS elections.

Mr G. Bucktowonsing said that when he took office as Chairperson of MACOSS there was only Rs 35,000 in the MACOSS project accounts and that at 15 March 2017 when he left office, there were Rs 2 million for administration and Rs 5 million for construction of the RLC.

Mr G. Bucktowonsing thanked all Honorary Members of MACOSS, Executive Committee Members of MACOSS, the staff of MACOSS, the stakeholders, and members of the Civil Society Organisations for their continuous support during his mandate. He also said that he would continue to serve and support the new team at MACOSS, in the interest of the civil society. He also made an appeal to all actors of civil society to work towards developing a Civic Sector and to adhere to the philosophy of Edwin de Robillard, ‘Aimons nous les uns les Autres’. He added that “We are too small as a sector to fight against ourselves”.

3.1 Address by Mrs. Chandranee Buckhory, P.D.S.M, O.S.K, Honorary President of MACOSS

In her address, Mrs Chandranee Buckhory thanked MACOSS for giving her the opportunity to deliver a speech at the 48th Annual General Assembly. She said that she had been associated with MACOSS since the 1990s and as Honorary President of MACOSS for 2016, she would like to

congratulate the President and the Members of the Executive Committee of MACOSS for their excellent work implemented during their mandate, in the quest of developing the NGO Sector.

Mrs C. Buckhory stressed on the following points;

- She was very grateful to MACOSS, in particular, the Chairperson of MACOSS, for nominating her as Honorary President and for giving her the opportunity to serve together with the team at MACOSS, who were deeply committed and dedicated to the cause of social service.
- As Honorary President, she had the opportunity to represent MACOSS in several activities organised by Ministries and other Institutions and that she had renewed her relationship not only with key stakeholders but also with the NGO Community.
- MACOSS, as a National Focal Point and NGO platform has always been at the forefront in striving to promote capacity building for NGOs for sustainable development. MACOSS also supports its members through communication, collaboration and networking between NGOs, government and the private sector, mainly through workshops and training courses in order to professionalize the roles of NGOs, and thus making them more efficient and trustworthy.

She concluded by thanking the Chairperson of MACOSS and his team. She wished MACOSS success in all its future efforts.

3.2 Address by Hon. Marie Joseph Noël-Etienne Ghislain Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development

Hon. Marie Joseph Noël-Etienne Ghislain Sinatambou, Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development thanked MACOSS for the invitation. He said that the MACOSS Annual General Assembly is a key indicator of adherence of MACOSS, to principles of integrity, transparency and accountability towards its stakeholder's members and the public in general.

Hon. E. Sinatambou showed his appreciation for the laudable works that were being implemented, by not only MACOSS but also by NGOs in addressing the current and emerging challenges. The services ranged from poverty alleviation, educational services, support to persons with disabilities, caring for elderly, women and children in distress as well as environmental protection which are aligned with the strategic vision of the Government. The tasks of the NGOs were to complement with the government agencies in the delivery of various services at grassroot level.

Hon. E. Sinatambou added that the Government needs the collaboration of NGOs to bring change in the most vulnerable group of the society and to create a better society for all. The Government wanted to strengthen the NGO Sector in Mauritius in a view to enable NGOs to pursue their social task effectively and efficiently. In this respect the Government had increased the Grant-in Aid of the Special Education Need Sector (SENS). Furthermore, he said that the Government through the Ministry of Social Security, and National Solidarity had provided a subsidy for the completion of the Regional Leadership Centre which would be an important platform for NGOs.

Hon. E. Sinatambou stated that the social landscape was in continuous evolution and thus the exigence of quality service was high. He added that his Ministry was working on the following strategies to enable the NGO Sector to be more innovation and professional.

- (i) The 'Social Entrepreneurship' programme that would help the NGOs to shift from dependency to sustainability. Social Entrepreneurship would foster an inclusive economy and NGOs would become active contributors of fund rather than passive service providers.
- (ii) The "Recognition of Prior Learning" project which was being implemented in collaboration with the UNDP to professionalize the sector through investment on human capital.
- (iii) The "Setting up of a National Council of Social Workers" to recognize the Social workers in Mauritius.

3.3 His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K, Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius

His Excellency, Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K, Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius, stated that since he was nominated as the Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius, he had made a pledge that his services would not be limited to the constitutional responsibility but also to engage and support the good work that were being carried out by NGOs. He said that he has been solicited very many times by NGOs to participate in their activities.

His Excellency also expressed his appreciation to the good work that had been carried out by the outgoing Chairperson of MACOSS and his team. He said that all the activities were in line with the Government policies and that it were complimentary to the Government actions in building a better Mauritius. He said that the efforts of the NGOs had contributed in the progress of Mauritius and this had enabled Mauritius to be ranked high among countries in the world and to be in the top of the list in the African Countries.

His Excellency added that the Government had provided the capital grant to restart the construction of the RLC because it believed in the endeavours of MACOSS. He congratulated the outgoing Chairperson and his team for all the achievements at MACOSS and wished all the best to the new team.

4. Business of the Day

4.1 Approval of Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting and Elections held on 15 December 2015 at Octave Wiehe, University of Mauritius

4.1.2. Mr L. Muneesamy went through the Minutes of the 47th AGM and Elections and called for its approval, by the General Assembly. The motion of approval was made by Mr Sooriah D. Madhow of 'Association de Familles et des Personnes Agées du Canal Dayot' and was seconded by Mr. Sateedanand Jeewooth of 'Association of Community Development and Social work Professionals'.

4.2 Consideration of Annual Report/Chairman's Report 2015-2017

- 4.2.1. A request was made by Mr G. Bucktowonsing to approve the Annual Report/Chairman's Report 2015-2017. The motion of approval of the Annual Report was made by Mr Premchand Gungadin of "Mauritius Heart Foundation" and Ms Jovahnie Gontran of "Association Vivre Debout"

No	Question/Statement	Answer
1	<p>Mr Tapessur Purrusing of 'Comité Amélioration la Santé', stated that there was no mention, in the Minutes of the 47th AGM and Elections, of the proposition, he made at the last AGM, on the Regional Leadership Centre (RLC).</p> <p>He also requested a clarification on whether the RLC was operational, as stated in the Annual Report 2015/17, because to his knowledge the RLC was still under construction.</p>	<p>Mr G. Bucktowonsing responded that many members present at the Assembly were present at the inauguration of the RLC and that two workshops had already been scheduled in April 2017.</p>
2	<p>Mr. Ameene Kodabux of Mouvement Social Plaine Lauzun, stated that at the last AGM, BIT Consultant, being in the 3rd year of its contract at that time, was approved as MACOSS auditors, for the year 2015 only.</p> <p>He then asked as to how BIT Consultant had audited the MACOSS Account and the Isobel Foster Trust Fund Account for the year 2016, when the services of BIT Consultant for the year 2016 had not been ratified by any MACOSS Assembly.</p>	<p>The Chairperson stated that the Executive Committee of MACOSS was concerned to present an updated account of MACOSS at the 48th AGM.</p> <p>The services of BIT Consultant, as auditors for the year 2016 were unanimously approved by the members of the Executive Committee.</p>
3	<p>Mr Ramesh Maudhoo of Association of Retired Workers of the Sugar Industry stated that representatives of Civil Society organisation present should adhere to the philosophy of Edwin de Robillard entitled "Aimons nous les uns et les autres".</p> <p>He requested a clarification on the Isobel Foster Trust Fund Accounts.</p>	<p>The Chairperson stated that MACOSS in collaboration with other stakeholders had rehabilitated the steles of Edwin de Robillard found on the premises of Queen Elizabeth College and at Champ de Mars. A panel with the sayings had also been affixed at the Regional Leadership Centre.</p> <p>He added that MACOSS was called upon to take over the Trusteeship of the Estate of Isobel Foster since 1970s. There was only one recipient who passed away in 2015. He added that the Isobel Foster Account had not been audited since 2007</p>

		and in order to have an update on same the Accounts had been audited in year 2016.
4	Mr Ameene Khodabux of Mouvement Social Plaine Lauzun requested clarification regarding the signature of the Vice Chairperson of MACOSS in the MACOSS Account for year 2015. He added that according to MACOSS Act the MACOSS Account should be signed by the Treasurer of MACOSS.	The Chairperson stated that at MACOSS there were four signatories, the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, the Vice Chairperson and the Treasurer. As the Treasurer was on sick leave, the Executive Committee assigned the Vice Chairperson to sign the Accounts in the absence of the Treasurer.
5	Mrs Anooradah Poorun of APEDED showed her concern with regards to voting forms. She said that some candidates have been collecting voting forms which was unethical. He requested the Secretary of MACOSS that for the future elections of MACOSS, he should ensure that the voters be office bearers.	<p>The Secretary informed that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) With regards to elections, the Secretariat had abided with the MACOSS Act 1970. (ii) For the first time, all letters pertaining elections had been forwarded to member affiliates through registered post. (iii) All queries with regards to MACOSS elections had been forwarded to the Electoral Commissioner's Office for consideration. <p>He added that the Secretary did not have the power to come forward with election policies and that a committee 'Comité de Sage' would be set up to come forward with effective election policies. The Government had already been contacted to review the MACOSS Act. Proposal would be made for the Act to stipulate "the Elections Regulations may be made by the Ministry".</p>
6	Mr Suraj Ray of AHEAD complained that 13 people were voting on behalf of other organisations. He mentioned that it was not ethical. Representatives of civil society organisation should adhere to principle of good governance. He said that he had written to various authorities to inform them of the various discrepancies and irregularities prevailing during MACOSS elections.	The Chairperson informed that the Electoral Commissioner's Office had been given the responsibility to conduct MACOSS elections and that neither the President nor the Secretariat intervened in the process of Election.

7	Mr Anil Nookadee of Child Hope stated that he had to intervene with the Electoral Commissioner's Office for copies of list of candidates and voters. He added that MACOSS informed him that the lists were posted on MACOSS website and that not all NGOs have access to internet. Thus, in future MACOSS should provide hard copies of these lists to member organisations.	The Chairperson informed that the Secretary had to follow the instructions of the Electoral Commissioner's Office on issue pertaining to MACOSS elections and that all action had been followed accordingly.
8	Mrs Aisha Bibi Nazurally of " Force Vive de Montagne Longue" stated that all NGOs worked for the benefits of vulnerable groups and that they should join together for this cause. NGOs should work in collaboration and networking. With regards to election, she said that the voting forms were signed by the Chairpersons of the organisations and her concern was about the absence of these Chairpersons at the MACOSS elections. The Chairpersons should have attended the MACOSS elections to clarify on the name of voters delegated by their organisations.	The comments were noted.
9	Mr Denis Grandport of "Fellowship First Aiders" and past Chairperson of MACOSS showed his concern with regard to the removal of the plate of the 'Foundation Stone" at the RLC by the outgoing Chairperson and his team. He stated that the plate had the name of Mrs Sheila Bappoo, the former Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions who had given a piece of state land for the construction and that of Mr Gabriel Neville, the Director of the Southern Africa Trust and his name. He added that SAT had provided the seed capital to the amount of Rs 2.6 million and the Director came accompanied by a delegation at the laying of the Foundation stone ceremony.	<p>The Chairperson stated that the plate of the 'foundation Stone" was laid in year 2013 and that it was abandoned. He said that it was not a deliberate act to remove the name of those who have laid the foundation stone of the construction.</p> <p>He recommended that even the names of the founding fathers of MACOSS and that of all past Chairpersons of MACOSS should be affixed at the RLC. He added that at the inauguration ceremony held in February 2017 a clip was projected which included photos all those who had contributed, since the initiation of the construction project. Also, the Southern Africa Trust had been invited to attend the inauguration of the first workshop to be held at the RLC in April 2017. He also said that a debt of Rs 6,497,000 was left on the shoulder of MACOSS and the construction was abandoned.</p> <p>A Quantity Surveyor made an assessment and discovered that the work in progress was overvalued and the</p>

		figures were revised to Rs 2,351,314 and the contractor had agreed on same. He reassured that action would be taken to recognize all those who had contributed.
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4.3 Consideration of Audited Accounts/Treasurer's Report 2015 and 2016

4.3.1. Mr Paramasiva Chengan, Treasurer of MACOSS stated that Audited Accounts for the year 2015 and 2016 as well as Audited Accounts for Isobel Foster Trust Fund would be presented to the Assembly. He added that the Audited Accounts had been circulated to all Member Organisations and they were also given a cut off time to request for clarification on same.

4.3.2 A motion of approval for MACOSS Audited Accounts/Treasurer's Report 2015 and 2016 was made by Mr Indurdeo Balgobin of 'Mare la Chaux Senior Citizen Association' and seconded by Mr Devpal Cowreea 'Shelter for Women and Children in Distress Trust Fund' for year 2015 and by Mr Darmen Ellayah of 'APPEL' and seconded by Mr Dhiraz Dosiah of 'Royal Life Saving Society'.

4.4 Auditors for 2017

4.4.1 Auditors

The Chairperson informed the Assembly that quotations were sought for Auditing the

- (i) MACOSS Accounts for the years 2017,2018 & 2019
- (ii) Isobel Foster Trust Fund administered by MACOSS for the years 2017, 2018 & 2019

Request for Quotations were sought from the following 10 companies

- (i) Dhanjee Associates
- (ii) Bit Associate
- (iii) HLB Appavoo & Associates
- (iv) JAR & Associates
- (v) Shareef Ramjan & Associates
- (vi) Kingston Marks
- (vii) Yousouf Peerbaye
- (viii) Roy Servansings & Associates
- (ix) UHY Heeralall
- (x) CAYS Associates

Out of 10 only Four (4) companies responded positively and they were;

S/N	Company	MACOSS Account	Isobel Foster Trust Fund	Total	Remarks
1	SRA Partners	46,000	17,250	63,250	Complied to specification
2	HLB Appavoo & Associates	57,500	57,500	115,000	Complied to specification
3	Yousouf Peerbaye	28,750	17,250	46,000	Complied to specification
4	Roy Servansings & Associates	36,800	11,500	48,300	Complied to specification

The Assembly unanimously approved for the lowest quote and Yousouf Peerbaye was approved as auditors for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

4.5 Appointment of Honorary Officers for 2017

The following persons were proposed by Mr G. Bucktowonsing

- 4.5.1 Patron** His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K
Vice President of the Republic of Mauritius
- 4.5.2 Honorary President** Mr Lindsay Morvan, O.S.K
- 4.5.3 Honorary Vice Presidents** Mr Raouf Bundhun, G.O.S.K
Mr François de Grivel
Mrs Savitree Oogarah

The above proposals were approved unanimously by the Assembly.

5. Elections

The representatives of the Electoral Commissioner's Office were called upon to proceed with the organisation of the elections of;

- (i) A chairperson for the period 2017-2018
- (ii) Seven (7) members of the Executive Committee 2017-2020

As designated by the Electoral Commissioner's Office, Mr S. Beegoo acted as the Returning Officer for these elections.

As usual, the Returning Officer started by informing the Assembly of the election procedures. He called upon the support of both candidates and voters to ensure smooth organisation of the elections.

5.1. Presentation of Candidates

The proceedings of the elections started with the presentation of the candidates for Chairpersonship and the candidates for Executive Committee Member.

5.2. Election of Chairperson for 2017-2018

Three candidates stood for the position of Chairman of MACOSS and the results of the Election were as follows:

No	Surnames and other names	Name of Organisations	No of Votes
1	CHENGAN, Paramasiva	EDYCS Epilepsy Group	122
2	NOOKADEE, Ram Sumbang	Association pour le Développement Durable (ADD)	85
4	MADHEWOO, Maharajah	Mauritius Education Development Association (MEDA) Ayur Yoga Peetha	13

Mr Paramasiva Chengan obtained 122 votes, the highest score and was thus, declared elected as the Chairperson of MACOSS, for year 2017-2018 by Mr S. Beegoo, the Returning Officer.

5.3. Elections of Seven (7) Members for the Executive Committee 2017-2020

Thirty three (33) representatives of Member Organizations were candidates for the 7 vacant seats on the Executive Committee of MACOSS. The following seven (7) candidates topped the list and were considered elected as Members of the Executive Committee of MACOSS for the period 2017/2020:

No	Surnames and other names	Name of Organisations	No of Votes
1	SOOPAL Lutchmecant	Clavet Samelan Sabha	110
2	RAY Suraj	AHEAD	93
3	KURRIMBACCUS Munsoo	Youth Network of Mauritius	79
4	POORAN Anooradah	Association pour l'Education des Enfants Défavorisés	77
5	RAM Kritilata	Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Disability Services Centre	73
6	CAUNHYE Asraf Ali	Haemophilia Association of Mauritius	71
7	COWREEA Oograssen Devpal	Shelter for Women and Children in Distress	71

6. Closing

6.1. After the proclamation of the results by the Returning Officer, Mr S. Beegoo, the three candidates who stood for the position of Chairperson addressed the Assembly.

- Mr Maharajah Madhewoo, congratulated, Mr Paramasiva Chengan, the newly elected Chairperson and said that he would continue to participate in all activities organised by MACOSS.

- Mr Ram Nookadee thanked all representatives of the NGOs who had voted for him and said that this election was not a fair one and that he would take the matter with the Electoral Commissioner's Office.
- Mr Paramasiva Chengan thanked all NGOs present and said that he would do his level best to serve the sector in partnership with all the stakeholders including the Civil Society Organisations. He made an appeal to all representatives of NGOs present, for their collaboration in all the endeavours of MACOSS and that he would continue with the good work of the predecessor.

The Annual General Meeting was closed around 18.00 hours.

Approved on:

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

.....
Mr Paramasiva Chengan, Chairperson

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Mr Loganaden Muneesamy, Secretary