

	MINUTES OF MEETING		Page 1 of 4
	SESSA AGM DRAFT		
	Date of Meeting 26 March 2008	Location VdW & V Boardroom, Randburg.	Meeting No. AGM/2008
PRESENT	APOLOGIES		DISTRIBUTION
Mr. Jon Adams Ms. Jenny Knoetze Mr. Trevor vd Vyver Mr. John Ledger (Chair) Mr. Jason Schäffler (Minutes) Ms. Mmathabo Mrubata Mr. Barbara Sabbione Mr. Colin Bain Mr. Neriell Hurwitz Mr. Clen Cook Mr. Colin Bain. Mr. Neriell Herwitz. Mr. Asogan Moodly. Mr. James McCallum Ms. Mathabo Mrubata Mr. Willem van Niekerk Mr. Stanislav Kolenic Mr. Mike Rycroft	Ms. Carmen Armstrong Prof. Dieter Holm Ms. Nadia Moosa Ms. Amanda Luxande Ms. Jim Hickey Ms. Hester Holtzhausen		✓ Members

Item	Topic of discussion	
1.	Welcome and apologies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chaiman welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were recorded. 	
2.	Minutes of 28 Mar 2007 AGM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The minutes were approved with correction of 'Mr W Suvemannle' to 'Mr. W. Sureman'. • 	

<p>3.</p>	<p>Guest Speaker: Mr. Clen Cook, The ‘solorower’.</p> <p>Jon Adams introduced Clen Cook Clen Cook gave an inspiring account of his goal to row across the Indian Ocean. www.solorower.com</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Chairman’s report</p> <p>John Ledger (SESSA Chairman)</p> <p>The 2007 AGM was held on 26 March last year. The guest speaker was Barry Bredenkamp on the subject of “Electrobesity”. It was an extremely funny presentation, but what has transpired over the year since then is how South Africa’s electricity supply situation has become decidedly unfunny. Eskom’s sudden descent from a top international electricity supplier to the target of the Nation’s bad jokes has been a huge shock to all South Africans. Who would ever have believed that our mining industry would be shut down because of a lack of power?</p> <p>On the other hand, Eskom’s problems have served as a wake-up call to all South Africans. The era of extremely cheap electricity is over for ever, and electrobesity will cost householders and businesses dearly in the future. From SESSA’s point of view, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency have in the past year moved from the shadows onto Centre Stage.</p> <p>As the Non Profit Organization that represents the majority of renewable energy suppliers in the country, SESSA has a vitally important role to play in the coming years. Until now we have managed to operate at a fairly low key with a Society run entirely by volunteers, with the assistance of our management agency, Van de Walt & Co. This will have to change in the future if SESSA is to keep pace with the needs of a nation that increasingly requires lobbying, advice, information and reputable practitioners in the renewable energy field.</p> <p>During the year under review your Council held nine meetings. These were well attended and I would like to thank all members of Council for their support and contributions to the running of the Society. Looking at the topics discussed at our meetings, there were regular items on housekeeping activities such as membership and membership records, the SESSA website and electronic newsletter, and how to deal with enquiries from the public.</p> <p>It is actually quite difficult to get all these systems running smoothly when the Council members are all volunteers and struggle to find time to spend with our service providers at Van der Walt & Co. On behalf of SESSA, I would like to thank Jean Venter, Adrie da Silva, Claudia Liebenberg and Bruce Turner for their support and patience in managing our affairs.</p> <p>There are three subjects that dominated the work of Council during the year.</p> <p>Solar and alternative cooking</p> <p>During the period under review we formalized the incorporation of AFRECA (Association for Renewable Energy Cooking Appliances) into SESSA as a Division. AFRECA has done excellent work in promoting solar cooking and on Mothers Day 2007 Mmathabo Mrubata prepared a four course lunch for members of the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve Association using only the power of the sun. It was a</p>	

	<p>dramatic demonstration of what can be done and everybody who attended that function was extremely impressed.</p> <p>AFRECA has also been active in education across a wide sector of South African society about using renewable and alternative cooking methods. The phasing out of dangerous paraffin stoves is an activity that AFRECA is monitoring. These appliances are responsible for fires that cause millions of rands worth of damage and loss of life every year.</p> <p>AFRECA is supported by Probec, the Programme for Biomass Energy Conservation of the German Government's Technology Cooperation division. Millions of people in Africa rely on biomass for their daily cooking and heating and, provided it is properly managed, biomass is a sustainable renewable energy resource. Some very interesting work is being done on low-cost energy-efficient stoves. Probec has been in discussion with the University of Johannesburg about establishing a stove testing and research facility in the Domestic Technology Institute at UJ.</p> <p>With our abundant sunshine, solar cooking has an important role to play in the future energy mix of people on this continent.</p> <p>Solar water heating</p> <p>Next, interest in Solar Water Heating advanced significantly with the successful conclusion of the Eskom 50 project, managed by Jon Adams on behalf of SESSA. This well executed project demonstrated to Eskom's Demand Side Management division that solar water heaters could be effectively used for DSM, and this resulted in the Eskom Management Board approving an amount of R2 billion to be allocated to stimulating the rollout of solar water heaters in South Africa, concentrating on the middle and upper class domestic consumers.</p> <p>This in turn stimulated the establishment of SESSA's solar water heating division, the natural successor to the now extinct body called SolaSure. The first meeting of the SWHD was held in April 2007, and it has grown into a very active section of the society. Most of our new members have joined SESSA because of solar water heating – we welcome all these new members and hope you will participate in the activities of the Solar Water Heating Division, so that it may grow into a really useful body to promote the technology and uphold professional standards in the industry.</p> <p>Solar World Congress 2009</p> <p>While SESSA had been awarded the rights to stage SWC2009, we lost our conference organizing company at the end of 2006 when they decided to close down their South Africa operation, and we were very worried about finding a replacement. It was therefore a great relief when Jon Adams advised Council at our first meeting in April 2007 that, after negotiations with the Foundation for Professional Development, they had agreed to become our conference organizers. This relationship strengthened during the year, as did our dealings with Eskom, who are underwriting the SWC with ongoing funding.</p> <p>In September Jon Adams and Trevor van der Vyver travelled to Beijing with two representatives from FPD to attend SWC2007. The SESSA party was given valuable assistance by the South African Embassy, who arranged a function for key role-players. At the closing function of the Congress the SWC banner was handed over to SESSA and Jon Adams made an acceptance speech.</p> <p>We owe thanks to our delegation from SESSA for putting on an excellent presentation in Beijing. There appears to be great interest in SWC2009 which will be held at the</p>	
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	<p>Sandton Convention Centre in October next year. I hope that all SESSA members will make a special effort to attend and will start saving now to pay the registration fees. We want this to be a really successful occasion – it is the biggest thing that SESSA has every undertaken. The Beijing Congress has set the benchmark for us: 900+ delegates, 6000 sq metres of exhibition space and 760 scientific papers.</p> <p>In November the Scientific Programme Committee for SWC 2009 was established – it is headed jointly by Prof Dieter Holm and Jason Schaffler. Calls for papers and registration will go out in the near future. There is a link from the SESSA website to SWC2009 website.</p> <p>On behalf of SESSA I would like to express thanks to Jon Adams for the huge amount of work he is putting in as the Chairman of SWC2009 Organizing Committee. I repeat that this is the biggest thing that SESSA has ever undertaken - I am sure that Jon and his team will make it a huge success.</p>	
5.	<p>Financials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft financial statement to December 2007 was tabled. JA reported that the financials were in good order. • The Chairman thanked Jon Adams for his presentation of the financial membership reports. We are indeed grateful to Jon for serving as SESSA Treasurer for the past few years. He has now relinquished this position in order to concentrate on the Solar World Congress 2009. 	
6.	<p>Results of election of Council members 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Secretary announced the following results and congratulated Council members on their election: • SESSA Council 2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Barry Cribb barrycribb@skypower.co.za ○ Crispin Pemberton-Pigott crispin@newdawn.sz (AFRECA) ○ David Hancock david.hancock@gtz.de ○ Gavin Watson gavin@energyhouse.com ○ Jason Schöffler jason@nano.co.za ○ Jenny Knoetze jknnoetze@willard.co.za ○ Jim Hickey jim@solahart.co.za ○ John Ledger john.ledger@wol.co.za ○ Trevor van der Vyver trevor@maxlite.co.za (SWHD) ○ Willem van Niekerk Willem.VanNiekerk@nwu.ac.za • The new council will meet 30th of April 2008. • The Chairman expressed his thanks to those involved in the smooth running of the election. 	
7.	<p>Closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AGM adjourned at 18:26. The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance and participation. 	