



ESARBICA EDITORIAL REPORT 2023

1. Introduction

This is a report of the activities of the Editorial Board September 2021 – September 2023. The reporting is in line with the responsibilities of Editorial Committee as captured in the ESARBICA Constitution. The Editorial Committee is responsible for the publishing and distribution of the printed and electronic publications (Journal and newsletter); use of one or more suitable electronic discussion lists for contact with members. Furthermore, in terms of article 17.1 of the Constitution, ESARBICA shall provide regular communications with its constituency in an appropriate format, be it electronic or paper, including a newsletter or journal published at least once a year and other publications as required. One of the functions of ESARBICA of which the Editorial Committee assists with is to facilitate continuing education through professional attachments, study visits, seminars, workshops, etc. Therefore, the report follows the outlined activities and covers the following: journal, newsletter, website, educational workshop (Africa strategy) and other publications.

2. Publications

The publications for this reporting period cover the journal and the newsletter.

2.1 ESARBICA Journal

Issue No 40 (2021) and 41 (2023) of the Journal were successfully published and are available online through the African Journals Online (AJOL). The Editorial team is currently not printing the hard copy of the journal. Only the electronic copy of the Journal is distributed to members. In September 2021, the then Deputy Editor Prof S. Nampombe requested to step down due to work commitments, and the Board approved the submitted the name of Dr Mehluli Masuku to replace her as the Deputy Editor.

The processing of payment for the Language Editor for volume 42 articles has not yet been settled even though the ESARBICA Treasurer had submitted the request to the former treasurer in Botswana. This matter still to be followed up and settled to ensure payment is made. This calls on the urgent need to change signatories to facilitate quick and easy processing of payments.



During this period, we had 2 queries from those who had purchased online articles and they were assisted.

For the 2023 issue, the former Editor Prof Ngoepe has requested the publication of a special issue to be edited by guest editors (Prof Saurombe and Dr Mojapelo). This will be based on the conference proceedings and does not replace the normal issue. The editors have approved the request, but in future the issues will continue through the normal process.

2.2 Newsletter

Issue 28 (2022) of the newsletter was released and it mainly centred on the ESARBICA conference in Maputo. We are failing to get content from member institutions, thereby creating a backlog. Directors of national archival institutions are requested to encourage their staff to send contributions of developments in their respective countries. The editorial team will continue releasing the electronic newsletter and this year it will be events of the 2023 ESARBICA conference.

3. Website

The website has been updated and news around the region posted, unfortunately the content is still limited and member institutions are reluctant to send news. The website link is: <https://www.esarbica.info/> and has been shared with members. Directors are requested to ask their constituents to help with content to keep the website vibrant.

4. Education of archivists

Not much has happened on this area but graduates of the archival educators programme that was held at the University of Botswana facilitated by James Lowry and Margret Crockett, continue to organise training in their individual countries.

The Editor continues to serve in the editorial board of the ICA Journal and made a significant contribution in editing articles which form part of the Africa Programme in the recently published COMMA Issue (2022).

5. Future plans



We are planning to review the editorial documents, mainly the policy and author guidelines. We also plan to develop the regional training programme with assistance from the ICA.

Editors

Dr Segomotso Keakopa and Dr Mehluli Masuku