



**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)
HELD ONLINE ON THE GOOGLE MEETS PLATFORM,
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2023, AT 09H00**

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The 2023 NASCEE Annual General Meeting was held online and chaired by Ms. Lungile Zakwe, Acting Chairperson of the Board. She welcomed all attendees and confirmed that the necessary number of members was present for the meeting to proceed.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

The minutes from the last AGM held on 18 October 2022 were read and reviewed, and they were adopted as a true reflection of the meeting.

3. THE CEO'S REPORT

The CEO, Mr. Giles Gillett, began his address by remarking that his appointment in an executive role in 2023 has marked a shift towards a more dedicated leadership structure for NASCEE which had until then been led by a board of dedicated volunteers.

In a concise update on the NASCEE journey, Mr. Gillett discussed the association's origins, which emerged from the NGO leadership summit, and its evolution into a collaborative force that officially launched in 2019, with the Department of Basic Education (DBE) as a key partner. He highlighted NASCEE's achievements in 2023, outlined plans for 2024, and recognised both outgoing and current board members for their contributions.



NPO Registration Number: 231-678 | PBO Reference Number 930066671

- Ms Lungile Zakwe (Chairperson) • Ms Mororiseng Maapola (Deputy Chair) • Ms Komala Pillay
- Ms Susanna Oosthuizen • Mr Henre Benson • Ms Hassiena Marriott • Ms Julia Norrish • Ms Freda Walters • Mr Andrew Barrett • Ms Nangamso Mtsatse • Erica Kempken • Thabisile Zuma • Mr Giles Gillett (CEO)

3.1 A highlight on some of the achievements in 2023:

The year 2023 proved to be exceptionally dynamic for NASCEE, marked by significant growth in our membership base and an expanded range of learning opportunities and development workshops for our members. Our accomplishments this year are as follows:

- **Substantial Membership Growth:** we experienced a notable increase in membership across the provinces, particularly in Gauteng and the Western Cape.
- **Skills Development Programmes:** we successfully executed six skills development programmes in collaboration with the ETDP SETA, benefiting over 150 participants.
- **Engaging Learning Events:** our learning events, consultations with the DBE, and partnerships with NGO Law and IPASA fostered rich dialogue and collaboration.
- **Reading Working Group:** in response to the PIRLS-identified reading crisis, we established a Reading Working Group to address this critical issue.
- **Successful Conference Series:** our conference series in Durban, Cape Town, and Johannesburg garnered strong attendance and received positive feedback, underscoring our relevance in the education sector.
- **Education Advocacy:** NASCEE has solidified its position as a pivotal player in education advocacy.
- **Leadership Appointment:** we appointed an executive leader to guide our efforts and enhance our strategic direction.

These achievements reflect our commitment to fostering growth and collaboration within the education community.

3.2 Outline of plans for 2024

We are excited to build on the achievements of 2023 with a robust programme for 2024, aimed at continued growth, enhanced collaboration, and impactful advocacy. This will include:

- **Segmentation of the database:** which will enable us to identify and understand our diverse member base of NGOs, for-profits, and funders, to enhance coordination and collaboration
- **Skills Development:** Introduce innovative programmes, including peer-to-peer forums and professional learning groups, to further empower our members
- **Advocacy:** Formulate a clear NASCEE advocacy strategy, creating a platform for members to voice concerns and share experiences
- **Strengthen strategic partnerships:** work closer with IPASA, SAMEA, and governmental bodies for the benefit of our members.
- **Pursue new collaborations:** establish relationships with Media 24 and the Daily Maverick to strengthen reporting on the education sector

NASCEE is also honoured to carry forward the legacy of BRIDGE, incorporating their content, database, and two of their staff members into the organisation.

3.3 Acknowledgement of Board - outgoing and current

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to both the current and outgoing Board members for their unwavering commitment and dedication. Special recognition goes to outgoing members Ms. Honey Shangase, Mr. John Gilmore, and Dr. James Keevy, whose invaluable contributions have been instrumental to NASCEE's growth. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours and thank them for their significant impact on our organisation.

4. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL REPORT - TREASURER

The Board Treasurer, Ms. Honey Shangase, presented the Annual Financial Statement for the year ending December 31, 2022. The auditors have given an unqualified audit opinion, signifying a clean audit. She presented the Income statement, the organisation's financial position, and the outlook for 2024:

4.1 Income Statement Highlights:

- The organisation has a surplus of R861,000, a substantial improvement from the previous year's deficit of R119,000.
- Total income has increased from R1.8 to R2.8 million, mainly due to growth in grant income

and membership contributions.

- Expenses aligned with operational requirements, totaling R2.2 million. The bulk has gone to external service providers supporting NASCEE projects and training for members.

4.2 Statement of Financial Position:

- Equity transformed from a negative R217,000 to a positive R643,000, showcasing robust financial health.
- Assets increased from R589,000 to R2.4 million, with a notable rise in the bank balance.
- Trade and other receivables include outstanding membership fees and grant receivables, totaling R1.3 million.
- Deferred income of R1.2 million represents funds received for projects yet to be completed.
- Trade and other payables stand at R545,000, primarily management fees for Seriti, the agency partner.

4.3 Outlook:

- Positive growth is anticipated, with increased income from new funders and ongoing programmes.

Members are called to pay membership fees on time, as this is crucial for sustaining operational expenses.

4.4 Comments on the AFS from the floor

Ms. Kathryn Kure highlighted that NASCEE, as an NPO with members, requires voting on the draft annual financial statements according to Section 9.3.2 of the constitution. Members must vote within six months of the financial year-end which is the end of June. She made two suggestions: 1) that the AGM be moved forward to comply, or 2) to amend the constitution to allow directors to vote directly, eliminating the two-tier system. Kathryn's comment and input was acknowledged and consensus was reached by the house to address the constitutional matter for future compliance. Dr. James Keevy thanked Kathryn for drawing the Chair's attention to this important

constitutional issue and stated that the new board will be working with NGO Law to refine this and other NASCEE processes.

The members voted to accept the Audited Financial Statements (AFS).

5. ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The election process for the new board was facilitated by Dr. Keevy, the outgoing Board member. The names of the 13 people nominated in October (five continuing and eight new members), were placed in the chat for all to view. Before presenting the nominees by name, Dr. Keevy indicated that 50% of the members present would have to accept the nominations. He also noted that the board was allowed a minimum of nine and a maximum of 13 members. There were thirteen nominees and their names are as follows:

1	Andrew Barrett	Olico Maths Education
2	Erica Kempken	Youth at Work
3	Freda Walters	Save the Children
4	Hasssiena Marriott	Global Teachers Institute
5	Henre Benson	VVOB
6	Julia Norrish	Book Dash
7	Komala Pillay	Citizen Leader Lab
8	Lungile Zakwe	AFRO-Freedom Book Club
9	Mororiseng Maapola	JET Education Services
10	Nangamso Mtsatse	Teach for all Global
11	Nomcebo Dladla	Khanyisa Inanda Community Project
12	Susanna Oosthuizen	Penreach
13	Thabisile Zuma	Zenex Foundation

Dr. Keevy asked for a motion from the house to vote in all the nominees en-bloc. Following the motion, member organisations approved the 13 nominations by a show of hands. The votes were unanimous and the motions for the new Board were passed.

6. ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

Ms Lungile Zakwe and Ms Mororiseng Maapolo who have been acting in the positions as Chair and Deputy Chair were voted into these positions respectively. The votes were



unanimous and the motions for the new Chair and Deputy Chair of the Board were passed. Keevy noted that the treasurer would be elected at the first sitting of the new board.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting chair and members congratulated all the new appointees to the NASCEE Board and the election and appointment of the Chair and Deputy Chair. The new board were invited to remain in the meeting for a quick briefing.

8. CLOSURE

The meeting was closed by Ms. Lungile Zakwe at 11h00.

Signed off by:

Chairperson

Date