



The SAML Review

Newsletter of the South African Medico -Legal Association
 Non-Profit Company reg No 2005/013822/08
<https://medicolegal.org.za/index.php>

HIGHLIGHTS OF SAML 2022



Four board meetings and one special board meeting were held since the last AGM in December 2021.

Six executive and one special executive meeting were held during 2022.

Resolutions highlighted as decided upon at the Bosberaad held in May 2022

1. **Developing of a Code of Conduct.**
2. **Establishing of an education and training committee.**
3. **Appointing of Administration support.**

With some excitement we announce that we are working on a job description for a general manager for SAML which was approved at the AGM and we do hope to advertise this position before June-July 2023. If members have anything they would like to add to this job description they are welcome to contact the admin director.

Three strategic steps were taken for 2023 namely,

1. Managing the Board: induction and Board skills development and training for all Directors
2. Communication and Education strategies: To continue with workshops and fireside talks.
Refining curricula, identify faculty
3. Annual Conference arrangement to continue and Foundations Program to be redeveloped

THE BOARD OF SAML

Directors: Prof Ethelwynn Stellenberg (National Chairperson); Adv Johanni Barnardt SC (National Deputy Chairperson: Legal); Dr Sharon Munyaka (National Deputy Chairperson: Health Sciences & Transformation Director); Dr Willem Moore (Chairperson: Ethics and Legal Matters); Ms Desiree David (Chairperson: Eastern Cape Branch); Mr Johan Jordaan (National Treasurer); Mrs Anneke Greeff (Communications Director); Mr Renier Jacobs (Administration Director & Chairperson: Western Cape Branch); Ms Stacey Aires (Chairperson: Education and Training Committee & Chairperson: Gauteng Branch); Mrs Gugu Gopfert (Chairperson: KZN Branch); Dr Thabiso Rapapali (Chairperson: Free State Branch); Prof Ramodungoane Tabane (Chairperson: Credentialling Committee); Mr JP Venter; Dr Carlien Van Heerden; Mr Rowan Haarhoff (Business Development Director); Mr Danie Weideman; Mrs Gerbri Van Heerden; Mr Mark Eaton; Ms Refiloe Raganya; Mrs Naomi Williams; Dr Natalie Benjamin-Damons; Adv Charlene Labuschagne

Non-Executive President: Prof Henry Lerm

The SAMLA Review

The mediation pilot project of 100 RAF mediations came to an end and the original commitment of 25 pro bono mediations for the Gauteng Health Department has been exceeded (now about 29 cases).

SAMLA attended a court stakeholder committee meeting chaired by Honourable Justice Mlambo and attended by DJPs Sutherland and Ledwaba from both Gauteng Local and Gauteng Division. The Court appears eager to establish a mediation pilot project aimed at addressing the backlog of trials and reducing pressure on the trial roll allocation system.

SAMLA has shown a positive financial balance for 2022. Details of the financial situation are captured in the Treasurer's report.

Criteria for the various tiers are on the website and the membership is encouraged to apply for the more senior tiers should they meet the criteria. The following tiers are:

- i. Tier 1: Medico-Legal Practitioner*
- ii. Tier 2: Advanced Medico-Legal Practitioner*
- iii. Tier 3: Senior Medico-Legal Practitioner*

CONCLUSION

SAMLA is on an exciting trajectory. During the past year much has been done to create good governance and to become an organization compliant with the Company Act. We were faced with many challenges during 2022 but through the commitment, perseverance and tenacity of the Board Directors we have created a pathway which will lead us to greater heights than ever before. Through our actions and what we offer to the members, should grow our membership.

SAMLA will be hosting a national conference in October 2023. We need to network internationally to seek best practices. This will bring great excitement for the membership to benchmark internationally. However, for continuity in the governance of SAMLA, a managing director for SAMLA should be considered and appointed on a full-time basis. SAMLA should strive to strengthen their financial position for this to materialize. A new board is appointed every second year, providing very little or no continuity in the governance of SAMLA. Thus, SAMLA should strive to make this a reality.

**MAY YOUR HOLIDAYS BE FULL OF WARMTH AND CHEER,
WE WISH YOU A NEW YEAR FULL OF PEACE AND JOY.**



****DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW SAMLA ON OUR Facebook, LinkedIn and official Website****

