

## **63<sup>RD</sup> SORK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **HONORARY SECRETARY REPORT**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

I express my gratitude to all attendees of today's meeting. Your presence has made this gathering possible, and I trust that our discussions will delve into the critical issues affecting radiography in Kenya and our broader society. Moving forward, we aim to take meaningful and fruitful actions to enhance the radiography profession.

#### **RADIOGRAPHER'S ACT 28, 2022**

Given the pivotal role radiographers play in medicine and related fields, there exists an urgent need for the Ministry of Health to ensure patient safety and public welfare. This can be achieved through the establishment of a legal framework that sets standards for radiography practice. Specifically, the gazettment of the Radiographers Board of Kenya and its subsequent operationalization are crucial steps.

The SORK council has actively engaged in lobbying efforts, and several correspondences to the Ministry of Health. The Cabinet Secretary (CS), who holds the final authority in constituting the board, has received communications from the Attorney General (AG) regarding the implementation of this framework. Additionally, the council has leveraged other channels of influence, including engagement with the director general's office at the Ministry of Health KHPOA amongst others.

A significant milestone occurred during a one-on-one meeting between the CS and the SORK Honorary Secretary on January 22, 2024, at Afya House Annex. During this meeting, the CS expressed commitment to expediting the process, emphasizing the importance of maintaining order in radiography practice and training.

As part of the board's establishment requirement, the SORK council proactively conducted a fair and competitive interview process through an eminent members' committee. The resulting report was submitted to the council for onward transmission to the Ministry of Health.

To the incoming council, I emphasize that prioritizing the implementation of this act is paramount. Doing so will address many of the challenges faced by our society in the field of radiography.

#### **SORK STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION**

Last year, the SORK strategic plan of action was launched, transforming it into a living document. Now, the most critical tasks lie in its implementation and the prudent utilization and harnessing of resources to ensure sustainability. The incoming council bears the responsibility of laying the groundwork for progressive execution.

## SORK VISIBILITY AND RELATIONS

Aligned with the SORK Strategic Plan, the SORK council has undertaken rigorous initiatives to elevate SORK's global presence. Key activities include:

1. **Strategic Invitations:** The council strategically invited radiographers from both within and outside Africa to participate in RASCO 2023. This diverse team, comprising representatives from Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria, Uganda, and Tanzania, facilitated valuable exchanges on international best practices. Additionally, the team visited various institutions, providing advisory support. Notably, the team, composed of academicians, engaged with institutions such as Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC). During these discussions, the focus was on establishing a master's program in Kenya. Subsequent engagements have furthered this goal. Other institutions visited included Kenyatta National Hospital, Mater Hospital, the Cancer Centre, and Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral, and Research Hospital. Through these interactions, Kenya has also established connections with Ghana's education system, facilitating educational mobility for Kenyan professionals to Ghana.
2. **ISSRT World Congress 2028:** Following SORK representation in ISSRT meetings, SORK is actively working towards hosting the ISSRT World Congress in 2027. Through strategic interactions, SORK has garnered support from various African countries, including former and current ISSRT directors. Key areas of focus include document development and meeting congress hosting requirements. On this we have positioned SORK to be the leading in Africa taking ARF leadership. If successful, Kenya will become the second African country to host the ISSRT congress after South Africa. The council wish to announce to our membership that the ISSRT conference will be held in HongKong from 6<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Members are also encouraged to apply WRETEF travel whose deadline is on 20th march 2024.
3. **PACORI Congress 2025:** With the current visibility of SORK, Kenya has been voted as the best to host PACORI congress in 2025. SORK's mandate includes reaching out and engaging with organizations like the Kenya Association of Radiographers (KAR), physicists' associations, and other radiation workers. The primary objective is to organize a successful conference, drawing from past experiences to ensure its effectiveness and success.

4. **Influencing Mainstream Media:** During World Radiography events, SORK effectively utilized its platform to engage with mainstream media. Advocating for the government's action, SORK emphasized the need to operationalize the Radiographers Act 28, 2022. These efforts specifically addressed critical aspects of radiography training and practice within Kenya.
5. **SORK Anthem Proposal:** The proposal for an official SORK anthem garnered well-deserved support. A dedicated team of three students collaborated on its composition. With them, the council has been in the verge of actively coordinating and having the team meet with music producers, Heartfelt congratulations go to Faith Wamalwa, Leah Kabuba, and Doreen Chepkirui for their contributions. Looking ahead, the next council is encouraged to expand the team, embracing diverse talents and experiences.
6. **Public participation:** Through vigorous publicity efforts, our council has successfully secured a place in the national dialogue. A notable instance of our active involvement was preventing KENRA from raising licensing fees. Our overarching vision is to establish ourselves as global center of excellence in radiography. I strongly urge the incoming council to extend our impact beyond Kenya's borders

## FOSTERING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The SORK council, in pursuit of its mission, has established a strategic partnership with the **Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust (MFT)**. This collaboration aims to enhance the capabilities and build capacity of our members, particularly those directly involved in breast cancer management. The partnership entails the following key components:

- i. **Skills and Knowledge Exchange:** SORK and MFT will share expertise in breast cancer management, with the goal of improving healthcare outcomes.
- ii. **Coordination of Courses:** SORK will facilitate the delivery of courses and activities offered by MFT to radiographers in Kenya.
- iii. **Participant Identification:** SORK will identify radiographers who will participate in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) events and in-person training sessions conducted by MFT, both in Kenya and at MFT.
- iv. **Trainer of Trainers (TOT):** SORK will engage in TOT activities to ensure the sustainability of the program.

Additionally, the council has initiated discussions with a team supported by the **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** and the **Japan Embassy**. This collaboration aims to implement a Japanese-led training program in radiography, starting with mammography, to address the burden of breast cancer in the country.

Furthermore, SORK is actively working with the **Kenya Accreditation Services (KENAS)** to incorporate imaging facility accreditation guidelines. This ongoing process focuses on enhancing departmental standards.

Lastly, in alignment with the government's labor agenda, the SORK council has engaged with the **German Embassy** and the **US Embassy**. These discussions have yielded a well-defined roadmap toward implementation of mutually beneficial initiatives:

- i. **Bilateral Labor Relations:** The focus is on creating employment opportunities for Kenyan radiographers in overseas markets.
- ii. **Training, Scholarships, and Research:** Collaborations between Kenya and these two countries will facilitate training, scholarships, research, and exchange programs related to radiography.
- iii. **Capacity Building and Advocacy:** SORK aims to strengthen capacity and advocate for advancements in the field.

Additionally, SORK has met with **RAD AID**, a US-based organization, to explore ways of supporting radiography programs through training and equipment provision. Furthermore, SORK actively contributes to the development of radiotherapy protocols guided by the **National Cancer Institute in Kenya**.

Through the affiliation with **KHPS**, the council has been engaged in the process of acquiring land jointly managed by KHPS. This potential allocation from the government holds promise, despite ongoing legal challenges.

SORK's robust partnerships with industrial sponsors have facilitated various Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities, including the recent musculoskeletal meeting in Meru. These sponsors have also helped alleviate budget constraints for events such as the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and RASCO.

Lastly, SORK collaborates with other associations and unions to advocate for improved terms for **Universal Health Coverage (UHC)** employees. This advocacy involves lobbying relevant authorities, including the Ministry of Health and the Senate and other government agencies

## **OFFICE OPERATIONS, PROCEDURES, AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

The process of automation is a continuous process, the ultimate aim is to have all office procedures automated. The council has endeavored to continuously improve the SORK prioritizing

convenience for its members. As the new council takes charge, I encourage them to explore the possibility of upgrading our office facilities to enhance the image of SORK.

## **CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS**

Last year the Council embarked on journey to review and amend SORK constitution 2018, which yielded the following outcomes.

1. Expanded the council mandates in line with the Radiographers Board of Kenya on various radiography specializations in the Act,
2. Developed modality chapters and modalities of regional representation,
3. Recommended measures to incorporate or affiliate student radiographers into SORK leadership,
4. Aligned the mandates of SORK with the Radiographers Act and the Constitution of Kenya 2010,
5. Reviewed current statutes to enhance good governance and membership participation and representation,
6. Developed criteria for awards and honors for radiographers of exemplary or outstanding achievement;

Substantive amendments to include articles and sections were amended and the document ratified during last year's AGM. The new constitution did not come without its fair share actions to be implemented; SORK council has embarked on implementation of some of these procedures.

As I conclude I take cognizant of the great work done by the PEILAC committee whose composition include;

1. Caesar Barare ..... Chairman
2. Antony Mamati.....Secretary
3. David Muli.....Council Representative
4. Isaack Ndege .....Member
5. Enock Bogonko..... Member
6. Leonard Juma.....Member
7. Faith Wanjiku.....Member
8. Catherine Adema.....Member

## RASCO 2023

Last year we hosted a phenomenal Radiographers scientific conference guided by a theme **“RESILIENCE IN RADIOGRAPHY: Diversity, Inclusion and Equity in Practice”**. with 296 guests from Kenya and 11 international guest which included representation from South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria Uganda and Tanzania. The conference offered interactive platform reinforcing our regional presence and fostering learning among peers.

, during the conference there was paradigm shift on how the business was conducted, instead of the traditional plenary-heavy approach, we introduced pre-conference sessions focusing on management topics, breakaway sessions, and engaging panel discussions. This change allowed for a more dynamic and informative experience

A robust campaign was done by sending letter to various institution requesting them to support our members. consequently, the mammoth attendance.

The pinnacle of the conference was the gala dinner, where we celebrated excellence in radiography practice and rewarding various areas of excellency in radiography practice as well as presenters during the conference, was at the epitome.

The council also took a bold step in discounting student registration fees hence this was the best RASCO in student attendance. To encourage the elders club (retired members of our society the council also discounted their registration fees.

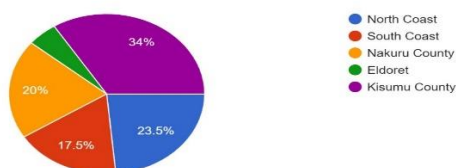
Sork council also utilized this opportunity to advocate for Gazettement of the radiographer’s board through the CS representative Dr Rebecca Kiptui, aside meeting with her resolved that all she would table our request to the CS sighting that this was an important law that need to be fast tracked on it implementation.

In future we anticipate increased RASCO participation and the council has put measures and will progressively be involved in ensuring the event will always lead in the region and globally

A visit to Kabene children home to lend a helping hand was as exciting to the participant as to those receiving this help.

Next year RASCO will be held in Kisumu as voted by members during an online survey conducted as per the graph below.

Possible RASCO 2025 Venue  
200 responses



I take this golden opportunity to thank all the Sponsors, Phillips Healthcare, Mindray/Omaera Healthcare, Fujifilm Kenya, Crown Healthcare, Rology, Infinity Advanced technology limited, Nairobi Xray supplies, Kings Medical Supplies, Harleys Limited, Nairobi Radiotherapy insurance. Words cannot express our gratitude.

I take this opportunity to give thanks to all the committees members for asuccefull event.

#### **RASCO Scientific Committee**

Antony Mamati..... Convener  
Caesar Barare.....Member  
Nimrod Onyancha .....Council Representative  
Solomon Kilaha..... Member  
Jervas Kenyanya..... Member  
Japheth Oganda..... Member  
Bernard Ondari..... Member  
Dennis Odhiambo..... Member  
Mark Okeji..... Member  
Flavius Nkubli..... Member

#### **RASCO Central Committee**

Elizabeth Maswili..... Convener  
Erick Sunera ..... Secretary  
James Powon..... Victoria Koi  
George Owiti..... Council Representative

#### **RASCO Local Organizing Committee**

Japheth Oganda..... Convener  
Gilbert GalGalo..... Member  
Caleb Achapa.....Member

## CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION (CME) AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

The council is committed to consistently improving professional development opportunities for SORK members. In the past year, we successfully conducted various CME sessions and workshops, both online and regionally. The following events have been lined up to take place this year and we encourage all members to actively participate and support these initiatives.

DATES	ACTIVITY	TARGET GROUP	BUDGET (USD)	VENUE	SPONSOR
<b>JANUARY</b> 12/01/2024	RADIOGRAPHERS NEW YEAR (2024) PRAYERS	RADIOGRAPHERS AND RADIOGRAPHY STUDENTS	1,500 USD	HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK
<b>FEBRUARY</b>  11/02/2024  25/02/2024	ULTRASON D CME/WORK SHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS  INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD  2,5 00 USD	HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)  ELDORET- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC  SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>MARCH</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	AGM 2024	SORK MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING & INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	6,000 USD	NAIROBI CITY- (ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>APRIL</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	MRI CME/WORKSHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	MOMBASA CITY- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>MAY</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	ULTRASOUND CME/WORKSHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,000 USD	NYERI TOWN- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>JUNE</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	CT SCAN CME/WORKSHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	KERICHO TOWN- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC



<b>JULY</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	THERAPY & NUCLEAR MEDICINE WORKSHOP	THERAPY RADIOGRAPHERS & INTERESTED DIAGNOSTIC RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	NAIROBI CITY- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	ULTRASOUND/CT	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	NAKURU TOWN- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>AUGUST</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	RADIATION PROTECTION AND SAFETY	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	MACHAKOS TOWN- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>SEPTEMBER</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	CT/MRI CME/WORKSHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	NAIROBI CITY (KENYATTA NATIONAL HOSP)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>OCTOBER</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	ULTRASOUND CME/WORKSHOP	INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	2,500 USD	BUSIA CITY- HYBRID (ONLINE & ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>NOVEMBER</b>  08/11/2024 09/11/2024	WORLD RADIOGRAPHY DAY 2024 CELEBRATIONS  WORLD RADIOGRAPHY DAY 2024 CSR/FREE MEDICAL CAMP	RADIOGRAPHERS AND RADIOGRAPHY STUDENTS  RADIOGRAPHERS & RADIOGRAPHY STUDENTS & PATIENTS	6,000 USD  8,000 USD	KMTC NYERI- (ONSITE)  TO BE CONFIRMED- (ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC  SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC
<b>DECEMBER</b> DATE TO BE CONFIRMED	SORK END YEAR DINNER SYMPOSIUM	ALL INTERESTED RADIOGRAPHERS	5,000 USD	NAIROBI CITY- (ONSITE)	SORK/WILLING SPONSOR IN SORK SPC

## **WORLD RADIOGRAPHY DAY**

Last year we had a successful world radiography day in partnership with Kenyatta University Teaching Referral and Research Hospital (KUTRRH). Some activities aimed achieving SORK co-operate activities were carried in partnership with KUTRRH

1. Free breast and prostate screening.
2. Awareness walks with an escort of a police band and brochures that explained Radiography Profession.
3. Speeches and informative talks regarding World Radiography Day.

I take this chance to thank the team that was involved in making this day a success.

Sork focus on student mentorship was also enhanced by supporting the events in various school and involving them in other activities for the day. I take this chance to appreciate individual department who celebrated on their own way

With the proposal to host World Radiography Day in Kenyatta National Hospital, I wish to recommend to the incoming council to consider using a model that would involve that a larger region and more colleagues from other hospital such that for KNH we could involve all the hospitals in upper hill.

## **SPECIAL GROUPS**

In line with SORK strategic plan the society the council has developed ways to cater for the special groups within the memberships owing to their various need and interest, Last year the society launched the “Elders’ Club” as a gesture in honor of senior retired members, in the same spirit the society has singled Student radiographers and that there was need to take care of them especially in mentorship.

The council has noted amass movement of radiographers in overseas market and it in this regards the council has embarked in mapping out data for these colleagues and have platforms where we could exchange information.

## **ETHICS AND CONDUCT**

The council has noted increased cases of unethical practice especially on ultrasound last year we received 3cases from the director of investigations, rigorous meeting and correspondences, these cases are coming all over the country with the last one coming from Nakuru County.

We wish to pass a message of warning to our membership that professional negligence is a serious issue that might be defenseless if proven so, however I also wish to recommend to the next council to explore on the issue professional indemnity for those cases where professional might be right but there is an aspect of malice or targeted attacks.

Owing unprecedented occurrences at the SORK social media platforms, I wish to recommend to the incoming council to put mechanism or a system that will verify on memberships to our social media platforms.

## **CONCLUSION**

Ladies and gentlemen as I conclude. **The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team.** I wish to thank you for the immense support you have given to my office and the council. May God bless SORK.