**MINUTES OF GAMCHIX MEETING**

**VENUE: ISOC GAMBIA OFFICE (Tango Building Fajara M Section)**

**DATE: SUNDAY 28th JANUARY 2018**

**TIME: 5PM-6PM**

**ATTENDANCE**

1. ESTHER KING
2. SUNN FAYE
3. ELIZABETTH MENDY
4. BINTA JOOF
5. AGI ALIMA JAH
6. FATOU S SECKA
7. FATOUMATTA B.O KAH
8. ADAMA CEESAY
9. MARIE ELLEN CHERY
10. ANNA SAINE
11. SAFFIE JOBE
12. SALLY CHAM
13. OUMIE SAINE
14. FATOU A CEESAY
15. BINTA SAIDY
16. MARIAMA TUNKARA
17. ALAGIE CEESAY
18. EMILY MENDY INNIS

**AGENDA**

1. Opening prayers
2. Welcoming remarks by co-coordinator
3. Review of last year
4. GAMCHIX MEETINGS
5. Partnership of Gamchix with other groups / organizations  / ministries
6. 2018 work plan or plan of activities
7. A.O.B.
8. Closing prayers

**1. OPENING PRAYERS**

The meeting started with usual opening prayer.

**2. WELCOMING REMARKS**

The Facilitator of GAMCHIX, Ester king welcomed all members for another session of the GamChix Meeting and made a recap of the last meeting.

**3. REVIEW OF LAST YEAR**

* Aunty Anna emphasized that chix should work collaboratively on the inforum and put forward all queries to the GAMCHIX Mailing List. She vowed of the importance of the inforum as a way forward to the progress and capacity building among the chix.
* Mr. Ceesay also gave updates about the developments of proposed community lab to host the Gamchix and GamChix subsequent trainings. According to him, he has yet to confirm from TANGO authorities to finalize if there can be enough office space to setup the lab within TANGO or not but the procurement process of lab equipments like PCs is in progress.
* Meanwhile he also made mentioned that if we are unable to secure a good space at TANGO, we could rent a nearby location to host the lab.
* In the same vein, Mr Ceesay also reminded GamChix about the IP Addressing training which can be hosted in mid-February preferably in-house training. The IP Addressing training will commence on the 10th of February 2018 at 4pm-6pm on Saturdays. Notwithstanding to be confirm by Adama Ceesay.
* According to the Chairperson-Esther king also raised a point about the inforum, stated members to develop the habit of reading as a way forward to guide and enhance efficiency in the practical aspect of the inforum courses.
* Aunty Anna also stated that some training kits would be available when needed. She also encouraged chix to be applying for such trainings like the Afnog and others to boost up their technical skills as women in STEM. She lamented the need to develop such skills to strengthen their capacity. She also raised a concerned about developing such technical skills in order to show competency in the technical domain, especially on international conferences and trainings.

**4. GAMCHIX MEETING**

The GAMCHIX Meetings has been slated for the **last Sunday of every** month. The Chairperson also made a suggestion for the sub committees to hold prior meetings before the usual GamChix Meeting. She proposed that the prior meetings among sub committees would enhance work delivery and develop on more intuitive plans for the future. These would enhance collaboration among the members.

**5. Partnership of GamChix with other groups / organizations / ministries**

* Mr Ceesay also recommended GAMCHIX to collaborate with UTGITCA (University of the Gambia Information Technology and Communication Association) to host some outreach programs among the university students. He buttressed some weaknesses among the university students especially on technical skills. He emphasized the need for such trainings to nurture and horn their skills and career development.
* According to Sunn Faye, she made mention to collaborate with schools and institutions that would provide students the platform and liaise internships opportunities. She made concern about university graduates who are yet to be employed especially females to be given the opportunity to attain both mentorship and internship programs as way to empower them. She also deliberated the difficulty of getting on internship but suggested GamChix to partner with other organizations to facilitate internship opportunities when the need arises.

**6. 2018 work plan or plan of activities**

* According to Aunty Anna, she suggested to have mentorship programs within the members, and conduct outreach programs across secondary schools on topics like;

1. How to mentor children on safe browsing,
2. How to encourage girls in the sciences etc.
3. She also proposed to conduct having Quarterly activities in order to help GamChix develop more activities and projects as well. To build the capacity among themselves and reach-out to other non-technical people.

* According to Oumie Saine, she suggested that the sub-committees should work together to come up with an activity plan for 2018 to guide us through the upcoming activities and prioritize activities which are more engaging like sensitization programs, seminars, outreach activities across schools.
* Mr. Ceesay also proposed that mentorship programs to be conducted across senior secondary schools where some students would be attached to a mentor as a way forward to sustain such activities.
* According to Mr Loum, He also suggested to have mentorship must be accompanied by an activity alongside with practical trainings make it more intuitive and sustainable.

**7. AOB**

* According to Mr. Loum, he suggested the activities to be posted on Facebook page.
* According to the chairperson, the page has been dormant for a while and needed to be revive for social awareness. Fatou Senghore and Tairatou have been assigned to work on the Facebook page and members are awaiting to hear from them soonest.
* Sunn Faye also suggested to host a media program at the national TV and suggested to have at least one member of GamChix to be part of the discussion.
* Mr Ceesay, also used the platform to recognize ISOC-Gambia accredited as ICANN At large Structure. It is a great opportunity for ISOC-Gambia as a mild achievement having direct link with ICANN and representing ICANN at the local community through mentorship, technical training, policy, cyber security programs in the local community. He also stated that ISOC Gambia has planned to organize a presentation to enlighten its members on the new achievement. He also brought it to the attention that the vice chairperson of GamChix suggested to collaborate and seize the opportunity to do the official Launching of GamChix and invite the relevant stakeholders and media for a coverage.
* Finally, the members congratulated Fatou Secka as first awardee for ITEF 101 to be held in London and Marie Ellen to commence a program on internet governance in Malta soonest.
* GAMCHIX has been finally registered and the account setup is in-progress.

**The meeting ended with a closing prayer. The next meeting is slated for the 25th February 2018.**