

## Treasurer's report 2007-2008



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We herewith formally report on the finances of the Association for **2007** and the audited financial statements for 2007 will be presented in this Newsletter.

The balance sheet for the 2007 financial year shows a Nett short fall of R189.72. This is mainly due to the following:

- the number of delegates at the 2007 conference was much lower than the previous year and therefore the surplus made from the event was less than the previous year.
- income from interest earned by investments was less than the previous year.
- new accounting software was purchased and we had to pay for the transfer of data and some training to use the programme.

### **Income and expenses during 2007:**

#### **Income:**

- **FNB and Stanlib Investments:** A total interest of R7756.07 was earned from the FNB Investment and the Stanlib investment. This is much lower than the interest of R10344.14 earned during 2006. The FNB Investment is a flexi fixed deposit with an interest of prime minus 4.75%. The investment increased with R3235.57 (8.65%) from R37394.99 to R40630.56. Only R4519.50 was earned from the Stanlib investment in comparison with the R7 844.14 earned during 2006. The Stanlib investment started with a balance of R27081.99 in January 2007 and the balance at end of December 2007 was R31601.49.
- **Membership income:** A membership income of R 64030.38 is very much in line with the previous year (R60523.00) and payment rates are still not satisfactory. By the end of 2007 about 25% membership fees were still unpaid.

- **Subscription income:** Foreign Subscriptions amounted to R34236.15 and Local Subscriptions (including income earned from the e-journal hosted by SABINET) to R19921.20. The numbers of subscribers were more or less the same than the previous year. An amount of R10592 was paid out to SAWMA for e-journal subscriptions via SABINET during 2007. For the first time we have made a slight surplus from the e-journal. A total of R10871.98 was paid to SABINET Online for hosting the e-journal and web-services.
- **Page Fees:** R30206.48 was generated from page fees charged to authors for publication in the South African Journal of Wildlife Research. Page fees were charged at R200 per page for non-members and R100 per page for members.
- **Symposium income:** Despite the fact that there were only about 100 delegates at the 2007 symposium at Didima, the association still made a Nett surplus of R31957.55. The previous year's conference at Loskop Dam provided R10000 more surplus, due to higher numbers of delegates attending the conference.

### **Expenses**

- In general expenses did not increase substantially in 2007, but a new accounting programme was bought and the installation, transferring of data and training resulted in bigger expenses under computer and accounting.
- Bank costs were lower, due to the fact that more foreign subscribers are paying by electronic transfer.
- A new scanner was bought and this resulted in depreciation costs being higher than 2006.
- The secretariat and Journal Editor received an annual CPIX increase in their honorariums in June 2007 and a once off bonus of R1118.44 was paid to the Secretariat in December, following a decision made at AGM.
- Postage costs decreased from R5132.51 to R3667.55 due to the fact that most invoices are sent by e-mail and because the annual News Bulletin was published electronically and no hard copies were posted to members
- The publication costs (R121860.83, including honorarium for the editor) for the SA Journal of Wildlife Research remains the biggest expense for SAWMA, but over the past number of years the publication costs did not change much.

### **Preliminary report on income and expenses for 2008:**

The Audited Financial Statement for 2008 is not available yet, but we can already make the following comments/conclusions about the 2008 finances.

- **The finances for 2008 shows great improvement** and the indication is that a surplus of more than R40000 can be expected, mainly due to the surplus made at the conference due to sponsorship from Eastern Cape Parks. The production costs of the journal were also lower due to a thinner November publication.

- **The value of the Stanlib Unit Trusts** has dropped substantially due to the money market, and although the FNB investment delivered an interest of R4427.13, we will make a loss on the investments during the 2008 financial year
- **Income from SAWMA Membership Fees:** Payment of membership fees was much better in 2008 and by the end of 2008 there were only about R15000 outstanding.
- **Income from Subscriptions:** The number of subscribers to the South African Journal of wildlife Research did not change much from 2007, but a higher income from foreign subscribers were received due to the Rand/Dollars exchange rates. The income from foreign subscribers was R40882.51 and local subscribers R21380.60.
- **SA Journal of Wildlife Research:** The income from page fees for publication in the Journal only amounted to about R20000, but an amount of R9000 were still outstanding at the end of 2008. The total production cost for the journal was R109531.83 in 2008.
- **SAWMA conference:** The high number of delegates and financial support from Eastern Cape Parks provided a healthy surplus of approximately R46000 to SAWMA.
- No computer expenses were made in 2008 and postage fees and accounting fees were also less than 2007.
- **Honorariums:** A CPIX increase of 10.9% was approved for the secretary and Journal editor from June 2008.

At the AGM it was proposed that the treasurer and president of SAWMA should investigate a salary which is more market related for the secretariat. Some adjustments have already been made in 2009 and we will report on this in detail in the next News Bulletin.

**The following increased membership fees for 2009 were accepted at the AGM:**

Local: R260 increased to R300  
 Student: R125 increased to R150  
 Foreign ordinary members: USD78 increased to USD81

**Institutional Subscription fees for 2008:**

Foreign: USD150 increased to USD170  
 Local: R500 increased to R575

It is still clear that the annual symposium is the factor contributing most to the financial stability of the Association. Payment of membership fees is increasing, but members are requested to pay membership fees on time. No beneficial partnerships have yet been established with potential funders, but are still high on Council's agenda for 2009.