

Announcement: AUHF Board of Directors 2024-2026 and AUHF 2024 Zanzibar Declaration

At the 40th AUHF Annual General Meeting, convened on October 18, 2024, at the Melia Hotel in Zanzibar, Tanzania, AUHF members elected a new Board of Directors for the 2024-2026 term. Following this, the Board met virtually on November 1, 2024, and confirmed its leadership as follows:



We extend profound gratitude to our outgoing Directors, whose steadfast dedication and leadership have left a lasting impact on AUHF and the broader affordable housing sector. Their commitment continues to inspire us all:

- ❖ **Mrs. May Abdel Hamid, CEO of [Social Housing and Mortgage Finance Funds](#)** and past Vice Chair of the AUHF.
- ❖ **Mr. Samuel Akinin, CEO of [Atenu Developments](#)** and former Chair of the AUHF Membership Services Committee.

We are excited about the successful 40th Annual Conference, AUHF members not only participated in the annual conference, but also contributed to the agenda, through sponsorship of this event and showcasing the event proceedings and outcomes on various platforms. We extend special appreciation to our host, Mr Oscar Mgaya and the [Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company \(TMRC\)](#) team, our esteemed conference co-partner, the [International Secondary Mortgage Markets Association \(ISMMA\)](#), the Ministry of Lands and Human Settlements, our event organizing partners API events and the dedicated AUHF Secretariat team. View presentations from the conference here: <https://www.auhf.co.za/auhf-annual-conference-2024/>

Our appreciation also goes to the Ministry of Lands and Human Settlements and the [Zanzibar Housing Corporation](#), whose invaluable collaboration made this event possible. We were especially honored by the presence of President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, His Excellency Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, who officially opened the conference, lending his support and vision to our shared cause.

On 15 October 2024, a day before the conference, the AUHF, its Secretariat the [Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa](#), AUHF members [Shelter Afrique Development Bank](#) and [Habitat for Humanity International](#), and the Tanzanian government hosted a Central Bankers & Ministerial Roundtable. This high-level dialogue

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centered on the pivotal role of central banks in catalysing housing's economic impact through strategic investment and risk management. We were honored to be addressed by Mr. Emmanuel Tutuba, Governor of the Bank of Tanzania; Ms. Anaclaudia Rossbach, Executive Director of UN-Habitat; Mr. Thierno-Habib Hann, CEO of Shelter Afrique Development Bank; Mr. David Gardner; and Prof. Marja Hoek-Smit. Esteemed participants included the Honorable Minister of Lands and Human Settlements Mrs Rahma Kassim Ali, the Honorable Minister of National Housing and Social Amenities from Zimbabwe Mr Zhehu Soda, various central bank representatives, government delegates from across Africa and the globe, [Alliance for Financial Inclusion \(AFI\)](#) delegates, AUHF members, DFIs, and investors.

During the 40th AUHF Annual General Meeting, AUHF members collectively endorsed the 2024 Zanzibar Statement, setting out their intentions for the coming year. The Zanzibar Statement is a formal commitment by the AUHF members to work towards the delivery of sustainable affordable housing across the African continent and the countries in which they operate. This declaration also sets out the various problems and key responses required from other players to address various concerns. Key areas of action include data infrastructure, sustainable finance ecosystem, gender equality, innovation and technology, sustainable building practices, collaboration and partnership, and capacity building and training. As an association, we acknowledge that a multi-stakeholder response is critical to ensuring a green urban future for affordable housing in Africa, and call upon all stakeholders – governments, DFIs and other development agencies and international NGOs, AUHF members and wider sector players involved in the financing and delivery of housing across Africa – to work together in realising this goal.

Access the Zanzibar Statement here:

English: <https://www.auhf.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/AUHF-Statement-from-the-40th-Annual-Conference-in-Zanzibar.pdf>

We are excited to note many points of alignment with the Cairo Call to Action issued on November 8, 2024, at the Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) held in Cairo, Egypt where some of our AUHF members were present, including three board members. See the detailed Cairo Call to Action on this link: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2024/11/cairo_call_to_action_wuf12.pdf

The AUHF looks forward to welcoming members and partners to our next annual conference in Kenya, in late 2025. More details on the 2025 conference will be shared soon.

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