



AHILA STRATEGIC PLAN 2010 – 2015

Achieving our goals

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FOREWORD

Ibrahima Bob
AHILA President, 2004 -2006

The document is the result of months of work by the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee and consultation with the AHILA 11 & 12 General Assemblies at Maputo (2008) and Burkina Faso (2010)

Following a meeting in March 2008 the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee was set up and chaired by AHILA President, Nancy Kamau. Throughout the process the Committee has given particular consideration to making the strategic plan the blue print for AHILA activities.

Nancy and I jointly presented elements of the strategic plan to the General Assembly of AHILA 11 in Maputo. The General Assembly voted on priorities and this guidance informed the next stage of the work. Vimbai Hungwe, was elected President in 2008 and shortly before his untimely death held a meeting in May 2010 with the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee warmly endorsing their work. In October 2010 AHILA members moved forward to its adoption We have now moved into an implementation mode working with current President Nasra Gathoni.

There was a lot of work, a lot of email exchanges and a lot of congeniality that went into this document. It will certainly also provide some guidance to AHILA country chapters to ensure that we are all heading towards the right direction and subsequently achieve AHILA's vision. We hope the AHILA Strategic Plan (ASP) is echoing members' concerns under the leadership of National Chapters.

We thank our Presidents Nancy Kamau, Vimbai Hungwe (until June 2010) and Nasra Gathoni for their leadership. We express gratitude to the group that took it upon themselves to write it. It is really for AHILA the turning point.

Ibrahima Bob

Nancy Kamau
AHILA President: 2006 -2008

Over the years since its inception in 1984, AHILA operated with no strategic guidelines. However after the 10th AHILA Congress in Mombasa, Kenya, an AHILA Strategic Planning Committee was formed. With technical support from Partnerships in Health Information (Phi) the Committee started the process of developing the AHILA strategic plan at the 11th AHILA Congress in Maputo. All the AHILA members were involved in this process.

A resolution was made at the 11th AHILA to continue with the development of the strategic plan through the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee. A concerted effort from the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee, including the late Vimbai Hungwe, AHILA President (2008-2010) and with financial support from INASP, the draft AHILA strategic plan was developed. The draft was presented at the 12th AHILA Congress in Burkina Vaso in 2010. It was discussed and adopted unanimously.

This Strategic plan is a road map for the development of health information and librarianship in Africa in the next five years and beyond. It will guide the operations of the AHILA Executive and the Country chapters, those existing and those yet to be formed. It will also enable the proper management of AHILA projects through the various committees as provided for in the Constitution. The By-laws will assist the Executive in managing the affairs of the Association. Thanks to the tireless efforts of the AHILA Strategic Planning Committee and other key players that the strategic plan is finally a reality.

The AHILA Strategic Planning Committee believed in AHILA as the flagship to better health information services in Africa and thereby better health outcomes for all the people. Through the implementation of the strategic plan, AHILA members can make this believe a reality.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Kamau', on a white rectangular background.

Nancy Kamau

Nasra Gathoni

AHILA President: 2010 -2012

The development of an AHILA strategic plan has been as a result of intense consultative meetings, time and dedication of a team of AHILA members who are committed to the association. It is therefore a great blue print for the association to operationalise in order to realise its goals.

As members of AHILA we need to ensure that the strategic plan is more than just a document on paper but an effective tool to guide the association. We therefore need to bring the strategic plan to life and this is possible if each one of us owns it and makes every effort to implement it at country level. By implementing the strategic plan at country level through the country chapters, AHILA will without doubt achieve its goals and subsequently continue to be the voice of health information in Africa.

I feel extremely honored and privileged to be writing this foreword and also to be a part of the executive during this defining period of AHILA. As I say a big kudos to the Strategic Planning Committee for a job well done I would like to conclude with a great quote by **Toni Cade Bambara (1939 – 1995)**: *The dream is real, my friends. The failure to realize it is the only unreality.*

Long Live AHILA!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Gathoni', on a white rectangular background.

Nasra Gathoni



1. INTRODUCTION

The Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) is a professional association founded in 1984 with now 46 country members and many partners and collaborators worldwide. Key milestones marking AHILA's history and development should give us pride in our past achievements and hopefully a determination and commitment to build on these for the future.

AHILA member countries fall into three main language groups English, French and Portuguese. AHILA Vice Presidents represent the language interests and the biennial AHILA Congresses meet alternately in Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries.

Membership covers countries of varying stages of development in providing access to reliable and current health information. Some countries have strong chapters of AHILA, others have less active groups and some have still to form a chapter. AHILA membership reflects diversity of background, culture, language and development. AHILA is a unifying influence allowing sharing of professional knowledge and experiences. The Congresses facilitate the richness and diversity of AHILA members being shared and creates an environment where professionals can explore new ideas and new models for increasing access to health information.

Why a strategy?

If a group of people form an association and do not know where they are going, how will they get there? How will they have an authentic voice and be able to advocate and influence in the world of the 21st century without a common strategy setting out what their association stands for and wants to achieve; and how it plans to do this? How will its strategic alliances function effectively if they are not made explicit?

A strategic plan therefore provides a roadmap for the association to achieve its goals and objectives

2. STRATEGIC PLAN 2010 – 2015

2.1 Vision Statement

To be a leading Association in the enhancement of access to and use of health information and library services for better healthcare, research and training.

2.2 Mission Statement

AHILA aims to:



- Increase the provision of up-to-date and relevant information to health and medical workers in Africa / or Improve and provision of relevant, up-to-date and information
- Support the professional development of librarians.
- Support the development of resource-sharing and exchange of experiences and information among African health information professionals.
- Support the development, standardisation, and exchange of national databases of medical and health literature produced in the African countries in the form of an African Index Medicus.

2.3 Goals, Objectives and Tasks

STRATEGIC GOAL	PRIORITY TASKS
A. Ensure continuing development of AHILA as an organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Achieve & implement strategy for AHILA ii. Review and monitor strategic plan iii. Define roles & responsibilities of the Executive iv. Review Constitution v. Put in place necessary systems and processes to implement strategic plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Create sub committees

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Set up & chair a Fundraising & Development Committee c. Set up & chair a Finance & administration Committee vi. Strengthen Association with a more visible focus such as an HQ
B. Focus on Country Chapters <i>Work with and for existing Country Chapters (CC) & promote establishment of new Chapters</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Where a Country Chapter (CC) exists formalise an agreement between AHILA & the CC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop services for CC b. Provide guidelines on establishment of CC c. Where there is no CC country chapter identify a nominated country representative, if possible
C. Actively communicate for greater effectiveness <i>Increase communication at all levels within AHILA and externally</i>	Improve flow of information across institutions who are members of AHILA and among individual AHILA members

<p>D. Increase collaboration & partnership <i>Improve possibilities for greater impact & enhance AHILA's capacity to participate in partnerships and collaborative initiatives for mutual benefit</i></p>	<p>Build on strong existing relationships & work & find new ways of improving coordination & cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Contribute to African Index Medicus b. Contribute to AJOL & similar initiatives c. Engage actively with HIFA2015 in Africa d. Seek opportunities to work with other organisations at regional & international levels including ITOCA, HINARI, WHO AFRO, WHO, Phi, IFLA & IFLA/FAIFE, eIFL, NLM, MLA & INASP and others as appropriate
<p>E. Advocate & influence <i>Raise awareness of the importance of health information & the role of librarians in contributing to the development of health</i></p>	<p>Raise profile with policy makers Health information literacy training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Teamwork with other professions and agencies b. Marketing AHILA aims & objectives c. Networking at regional meetings

3. THE AHILA CONSTITUTION

3.1 Articles of the Constitution

- I. NAME
- II. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
- III. GOVERNING BODY
- IV. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
- V. OFFICERS
- VI. MEMBERS
- VII. VOTING RIGHTS
- VIII. MEETINGS
- IX. DUES & FINANCES
- X. COMMITTEES
- XI. COUNTRY CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES
- XII. AMENDMENTS
- XIII. BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

The organization shall be called "The Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa."

ARTICLE II: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) is a non-profit organisation that aims

- 1. To promote closer association among health information professionals in Africa.

2. To promote a high standard of library practice for health information services, education and research in Africa.
3. To work in close collaboration with the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa and cooperate with national and international health organizations and learned societies in full mutual respect of their objectives.
4. To participate in international activities in the field of health information.
5. To carry out other activities which the General Assembly agrees.

ARTICLE III: The GOVERNING BODY

1. The Governing body of the Association shall be the General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly shall be formed by two representatives from each institutional member plus all other members.
3. The General Assembly shall review the progress of the Association since the past two years.
4. The General Assembly shall elect the Executive Council and other officers.
5. The General Assembly shall meet if possible not less than once in two years.
6. The General Assembly shall discuss the reports of the, Secretary and Treasurer presented by the Executive Council.
7. The General Assembly shall receive Country progress reports as presented by Country Chapters or in the absence of a Country Chapter a Country representative
8. The General Assembly shall deal with any other matter and may delegate authority to the Executive Council.

ARTICLE IV: The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. The Executive Council shall be formed by the officers, four ordinary members elected by the General Assembly.
2. The Executive Council shall represent French-speaking, English-speaking and Portuguese-speaking countries.
3. The four ordinary members shall retire after two terms of office.
4. The Executive Council shall be responsible to the General Assembly for carrying out its decisions.
5. The Executive Council shall be responsible for sending copies of the General
6. Assembly report to each member six months after each session.
7. The current Executive Council shall present a budget estimate for AHILA activities and report to the General Assembly, with its recommendation.
8. The Executive Council shall meet wherever possible between meetings of the General Assembly if a quorum (50%) of Council is present.
9. The Executive Council may co-opt members as deemed necessary.
10. The Executive Council shall have the right to appoint standing committees and other Committees when necessary.
11. The Executive Council may hire staff to carry out the programs of the Association when necessary.



ARTICLE V: OFFICERS (Note Question at Congress about position of web editor, AHILA net moderator etc. raised by WHO, who would need this position to be in existence in order to support it)

1. The Officers of the Association shall be the President, two Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary and the Treasurer.
2. Unless otherwise stated the term of the officers shall be from the end of one General Assembly to the next.
3. The Officers may be re-elected for another term.
4. The President shall NOT eligible for re-election for more than two successive terms.
5. Depending on the national language of the first Vice-President, the second Vice-President shall be from, either, a French-speaking, an English-speaking or a Portuguese-speaking country.
6. The Vice-Presidents shall hold office for two successive terms and shall be eligible for re-election.
7. The Secretary and the Treasurer may be elected for a period of two successive terms and may be re-elected.
8. Any vacancy occurring in the Offices shall be filled at the recommendation of the President or the Vice- President by an existing member of the Executive Council.
9. Duties and responsibilities for each Officer shall be tabulated within the By-laws

ARTICLE VI: MEMBERS

The membership shall consist of Individual, Institutional, Affiliate members, Honorary and Student

- A. Individual Member:** An individual member shall be any person who is engaged in health and medical sciences library and information work or retired or formerly engaged in health and medical sciences library and information and who shall pay the prescribed individual subscription fee.
- B. Institutional Member:** An Institutional member shall be any institution or library or resource center that is active in health and medical sciences library and information work and who shall pay the prescribed institutional subscription fee.
- C. Affiliate Member:** An Affiliate Member shall be any person or institution that is active in health and medical sciences library and information work and may not be covered in A or B above and who shall pay the prescribed subscription affiliate fee. An Affiliate Member shall have all the benefits of membership except the right to vote and to hold office.
- D. Honorary Member:** An Honorary Member shall be an individual nominated by the Executive Council for an outstanding contribution to the field of health and medical sciences library and information work. An Honorary Member shall be exempt from payment of subscription dues, but shall have all the benefits of membership except the right to vote and to hold office.
- E. Student Member:** A student member shall be any person registered in a recognized school of library and information science and who is interested in the activities of the Association and who shall pay the



prescribed student subscription fee. A student member shall have no voting rights.

ARTICLE VII: VOTING RIGHTS

1. Paid up members of the Association shall have the right to vote
2. Institutional members shall have two votes each.
3. Individual members shall have one vote each.
4. Affiliate, Honorary and Student members shall have no voting rights

ARTICLE VIII: BIENNIAL CONGRESS AND MEETINGS

A. CONGRESS

- i. The Association shall hold a biennial Congress after every two years
- ii. The venue of the Congress shall be determined by a Committee and should be held alternatively in Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone countries.
- iii. The Venue of the Congress shall be presented to and approved by the General Assembly
- iv. The Congress organizers shall in consultation with the Executive Council formulate the Congress theme and Congress logistics

B. MEETINGS

- i. The Association shall hold a business meeting after every two years.
- ii. The meetings shall be presided by the President or the First Vice-President in the absence of the President
- iii. To transact business at an Association meeting thirty (30) percent of the members eligible to vote shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX: DUES AND FINANCES – Query final decision of payment members/cc

1. The finances of the Association shall be derived from subscription as well as donations and grants;
2. There shall be two modes of Subscription: Institutional subscription and Individual subscription
3. Honorary members are NOT liable to pay any subscriptions to the Association;
4. Subscriptions are due and payable on admission to membership and thereafter yearly, or updated for the intervening years at the General Assembly;
5. The funds of the Association shall be deposited in the name of the Association.
6. The Treasurer and the Secretary shall be the only signatories, except as otherwise determined by the Executive Council;
7. The accounts of the Association shall be subjected to a biennial audit;

8. The funds of the Association shall be used to meet administrative expenses and for promoting the activities of the Association as approved by the General Assembly

ARTICLE X: COMMITTEES

1. The Executive Council shall appoint standing and ad hoc committees to assist in the performance of its duties.
2. The Executive Council under the guidance of the President shall appoint the Chair and provide the terms of reference to the committees

ARTICLE XI: COUNTRY CHAPTERS AND BRANCHES

A. COUNTRY CHAPTERS

- i. Each member country shall be required to form a Country Chapter
- ii. Each Country Chapter shall be required to implement the resolutions of the General Assembly
- iii. Each Country chapter shall operate under the provisions of the Association Constitution
- iv. Each Country Chapter shall strive to meet the objectives of the Association at the local level

B. BRANCHES

- i. Each Country Chapter may form branches in any geographical location where this is applicable and requested by members stationed in those locations

- ii. Branches shall be established and operated with the guidance of the Executive Committee of the Country Chapters
- iii. Branches shall strive to meet the objectives of the Country Chapters at the local level

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

1. The Constitution shall be emended by the biennial business meeting at the General Assembly
2. Proposed changes to the Constitution shall be communicated to members at least one month prior to the biennial business meeting
3. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote shall be required in order to pass an amendment in the Constitution.

ARTICLE XIII: BY-LAWS

The By-laws shall provide guidelines on the operations of the Association

5. ARTICLES OF THE BYLAWS

BYLAWS - ARTICLE 1. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council shall transact the business for the Association for duration of two years



BYLAWS - ARTICLE 2. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

I. The President

The duties of the President shall be as follows:

- i. To act as the Chief Executive Officer and spokesperson of the Association
- ii. To carry out all the policies and direct the affairs of the Association in association with the Executive Council
- iii. To develop a strategic operational plan for the Association for the period in office
- iv. To preside at the Congress at and at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Council.
- v. To guide the Executive Council in the appointment of Chairpersons for the Standing and ad hoc committees and the provision of terms of reference for these Committees
- vi. To serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.

II. First Vice-President/President

The duties of the First Vice-President shall be as follows

- i. To perform the duties of the President in his/her absence and in the event of any incapacitation or resignation from office
- ii. To serve as the chair of the Congress Committee
- iii. To serve as a member of the Continuing Professional Development committee

III. Second Vice-President.

The duties of the Second Vice-President shall be as follows:

- i. To act for the First Vice-President when absent from office

- ii. To act for the President in the absence of the President and First Vice-President
- iii. To serve as the chair of the Membership Committee
- iv. To serve as a member of the African Index Medicus project Committee

IV. Secretary General

The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

- i. To prepare a report of the biennial Congress and business meeting for presentation to the General Assembly
- ii. To distribute copies of the report of the biennial congress and business meeting to all the members within one month at the close of the event.
- iii. To call for all Executive Council meetings and to circulate the meeting agenda
- iv. To take minutes of the Executive Council meetings
- v. To keep all the official records of the Associations
- vi. To serve as the chair of Publication and Publicity Committee.
- vii. To be a signatory to the Association account

V. Assistant Secretary General

The duties of the Secretary shall be as follows:

- i. To deputise for the Secretary General in his/her absence
- ii. To carry any other duty as assigned by the President or the Secretary General
- iii. To be a member of the African Index Medicus project Committee



- iv. To serve as Vice-chair of the Publications and Publicity Committee

VI. Treasurer

The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

- i. To collect all membership dues and all other monies and to deposit the same in the Association account as directed by the Executive Council
- ii. To maintain a proper book of accounts of all payments and money received including all financial transactions from the Association account
- iii. To present an audited financial report and accounts to the General Assembly since the last report
- iv. To be a signatory to the Association account
- v. To be the Chair of the Finance, Fundraising and Membership Committee

BYLAWS - ARTICLE 4. Council Members

The duties of the four (4) Council Members shall be as follows:

1. To serve as members of the Executive Council and to participate in all Council deliberations
2. To serve as members of the Executive Council Standing committees
3. To assist the officers of the Association in any activity that is delegated to them by the President
4. Each of the four members to be member of the standing Committees of; Finance, Fundraising and Membership; Congress; Continuing Professional Development; and Publications and publicity

BYLAWS - ARTICLE 5: Dues

1. Dues are payable annually or biennially. Congress.
2. The Membership Committee shall set up the dues for each member category of Individual, Institutional, Affiliate and Student and recommend to the Executive Council for any changes in the amount and mode of payment of dues.
3. The Executive Council shall recommend to the General Assembly the amount of the dues for each member category and the mode of payment of dues.
4. Honorary members shall not pay any dues.
5. Members whose dues are unpaid shall not be entitled to vote.
6. Members who fail to pay up for more than two years shall be removed from the membership list.

BYLAWS - ARTICLE 6. Country Chapters and Branches

Section A: Country Chapters

1. The Country Chapters shall be governed by the AHILA Constitution, but the Constitution shall be adopted and registered within the Laws of each Country.
2. Each Country Chapter shall have an Executive Council to handle all the affairs of the Chapter.
3. Each Country Chapter shall levy subscription fees for its operations as shall be recommended by the Executive Council.

4. Each Country Chapter shall remit, 20% of its total subscription fees to the Association.
5. All paid up members of the Country Chapter shall be exempted from further payment to the Association.
6. Any Association member who is not a member of a Country Chapter shall be required to pay the prescribed membership dues to the Association.
7. The Executive Council shall assist upon request the Country Chapters to achieve their objectives.

Section B: Country Chapter Branches

1. All Branch chairpersons shall be members of the Executive Council of the Country Chapter.
2. Branches shall operate in accordance with the provisions of the instruments establishing Country Chapters.
3. All Branch finances shall be coordinated by the Executive Council of the Country Chapter.
4. All Branches shall present in writing annual progress reports to the Chair of the Country Chapter.

BYLAWS: ARTICLE 7. Committees

1. The following shall constitute the four standing committees of the Association: Finance Fundraising and Membership, Congress, Continuing Professional Development, Publications and Publicity. Where does AIM fit, is it a separate project committee.
2. Each standing Committee shall have a membership of NOT more than six (6) members unless additional membership is approved by the Executive Council. The Composition of the standing

committees shall reflect representation of the Association membership.

3. Each standing Committee shall come up with a list of activities and shall communicate the same to the Executive Council.
4. The Chair for each standing Committee shall provide a written annual progress report to the Executive Council.
5. The Standing committee members shall serve for two (2) years, but shall be eligible to serve for another two (2) years only.
6. Standing Committee chairs may participate in meetings of the Executive Council as the Executive Council deems fit but shall not have the right to vote.
7. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all the standing committees.
8. The President may delegate ex-officio membership to any standing committee to the two Vice-Presidents.
9. Standing committee chairs shall call and conduct the meetings.
10. The Executive Council shall appoint an *ad hoc* committee if so required and provide the terms of reference to each Committee.

APPENDIX A: List of Participants for Strategy Development Workshop, Maputo 2008

	Name	Position	Country
Workshop Co-facilitators	Nancy Kamau	AHILA President	Kenya
	Ibrahima Bob	AHILA Past President	Senegal
Workshop Participant	Aminata Dao	AHILA, Member	Burkina Faso
	Anne Alda	AHILA, Member	Mali
	Antonio Nhamageuana	AHILA, 1 st Vice President	Mozambique
	Benedicte Dundaguza	AHILA, 2 nd Vice President	Burundi
	Christine Kanyengo	AHILA, Member	Zambia
	Flatiel Vilanculos	AHILA, Secretary General	Mozambique
	Getachew Bajissa	AHILA, Member	Ethiopia
	Grace Ajuwon	AHILA, Treasurer	Nigeria
	Maria Musoke	AHILA, Member	Uganda
	Marie Paule Kabore	AHILA, Ex Officio	Congo Brazaville
	Pascal Soubeiga	AHILA, Member	Burkina Faso
	Rosemary Kiathe	AHILA, Member	Kenya
	Vimbai Hungwe	AHILA, Member (2008-10 AHILA President)	South Africa
Workshop Support	Shane Godbolt	Phi, Director	UK
	Emma Stanley	Phi, Programmes Officer	UK
	Neil Pakenham-Walsh	Phi, Trustee	UK

APPENDIX B: Key Milestones Marking AHILA's History & Development

- 1980 A consortium of African Medical Librarians was established as the first step towards a formal library network for the region at a meeting in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. The meeting was attended by seventeen librarians representing seven English-speaking and five French-speaking African countries.
- The Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa was founded in Nairobi on Thursday 23 August at 1.00pm by a group of twenty-seven medical librarians. It began life under the name - Association of African Medical Librarians Association (AMLA).
- 1984 The official headquarters and treasury of ALMA was established at the WHO/AFRO Regional Office, Brazzaville. The first *ALMA Update with the Secretary* was produced and circulated to members.
- 1985 1st Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AMLA, Dakar, Senegal
 Theme: African Health Science Libraries: myth or reality?
 The Association had by now forty-one registered members.
- 1986 Inaugural issue of the AMLA Newsletter published
- 1987 2nd Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AMLA, Brazzaville, Congo
 Theme: **WHO-partner in health documentation and information activities in Africa**
 Name changed to the 'Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa' so as to cater for those who are interested in health information issues and may not be librarians
- 1991 3rd Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Harare, Zimbabwe
 Theme: Micro computer applications in health information
- 1993 Publication of the first African Index Medicus: the international index to African health literature and information sources
- 1994 4th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Kampala, Uganda
 Theme: Information for Health for All by the year 2000
- 1996 5th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Brazzaville, Congo
 Theme: **Interconnection: How to break barriers to information provision**
- 1998 6th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Lusaka, Zambia
 Theme: **Information for the promotion of Health**



- 2000 7th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Kwaluseni, Swaziland
Theme: **Challenges of the New Millennium and the role of health information disseminators in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Africa**
- 2002 8th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Bamako, Mali
Theme: **The Environment and Health: the Librarian's role in information diffusion**
- 2004 9th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Blantyre, Malawi
Theme: **Health information and rural based communities**
- 2006 10th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Mombasa, Kenya
Theme: **Millennium Development Goals and health information provision in Africa**
- 2008 11th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Maputo, Mozambique
Theme: **Provision of Health Information for Poverty Alleviation in Africa**
Executive & General Assembly begin development of 5 year Strategic Plan
- 2010 12th Biennial Congress and General Assembly of AHILA, Ougadougou, Burkina Faso
Theme: **Health Information in Africa: Meeting our goals**