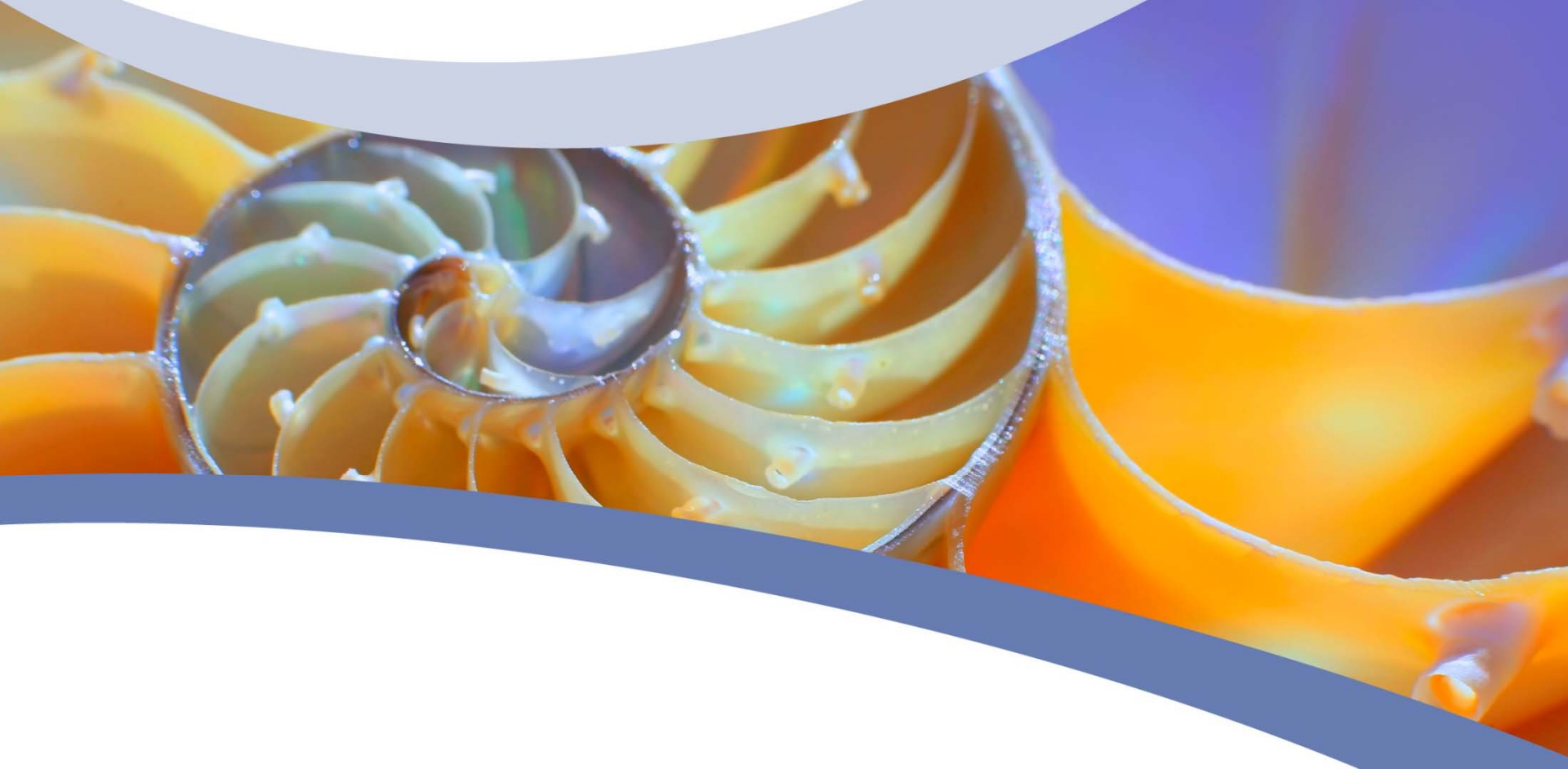




*Applying scientific thinking
in the service of society*



Annual Report 2009/2010

Presentation to Parliamentary Portfolio Committee

19 October 2010

*Applying scientific thinking
in the service of society*

Background

- ASSAf was launched in 1996
- Recognized as the official national science academy of South Africa through ASSAf Act (*Act 67 of 2001*)
- Represents SA in the international arena of science academies

Vision

- To be the apex organization for science and scholarship in SA
- To be internationally respected and connected
- Membership of ASSAf should be the aspiration of the country's most active scholars in all fields of scientific enquiry
- Membership is a collective resource for the generation of evidence-based solutions to national problems

Mandate

- To promote and inspire outstanding achievements in all fields of scientific enquiry and to grant recognition for excellence
- To proactively or upon request undertake studies on matters of public interest with a view to providing evidence-based scientific advice to government and other stakeholders

Value of the Academy

- Represents the 'brains trust' of the currently active scholars in SA
- Able to use its membership as a collective resource for evidence-based solutions to national problems
- Acts as an independent, non-biased, credible source of advice
- Serves as a resource for comment on issues of national and international concern

Programmes of the Academy



Administration and Governance:

Governance

- Council – 13 members, 12 elected & 1 appointed plus 2 advisors
- Executive, Human Resources and Audit Committees
- Met 4 times during 2009/2010
- Office bearers' attendance averaged 80% and non-office bearers 54%
- Council members do not receive any remuneration

Administration and Governance: Membership

- Current membership is 343, including 25 new Members elected in 2009/10
- Core asset of Academy – give of time & expertise voluntarily
- Published Membership Register during 2009/2010
- AGM held in October 2009

Administration and Governance: Infrastructure – Personnel and Physical

- Secretariat comprises 21 fulltime staff
- 12 part-time editorial staff for journals
- Relocated from DST building to rented accommodation in Persequor Park in July 2009 – 3 yr lease

Scholarly Publishing Programme

- Funded as a separate programme – 3 yr grant from DST valid until July 2011
- Objectives
 - to enhance national capacity to produce & publish research
 - to increase quality and quantity of SA research publications
- Implementation of recommendations of ASSAf 2006 consensus study on scholarly publications

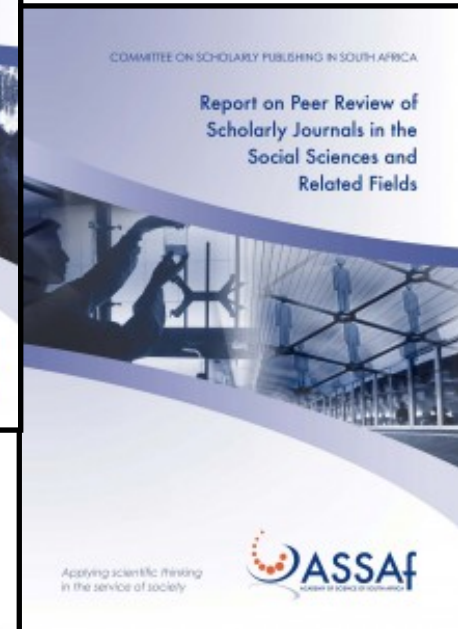
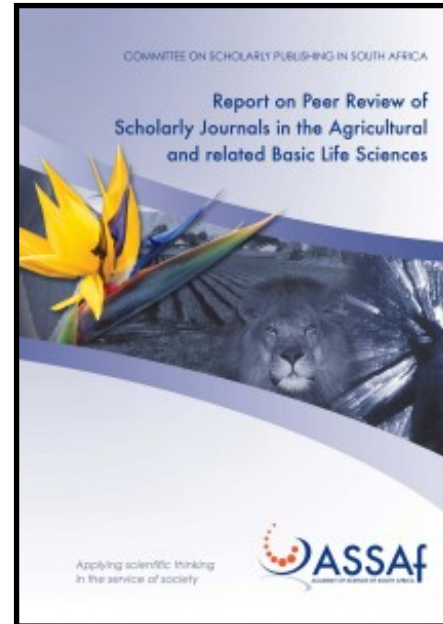
Scholarly Publishing Programme

1. National Scholarly Editors' Forum
2. Editors' Incentives
3. Institutional Repositories
4. Online Scientific Writing
5. Quality Assurance for SA Journals
6. Book Study
7. Open Access National Platform – SciELO-SA

Scholarly Publishing Programme

5. Quality Assurance for SA Journals

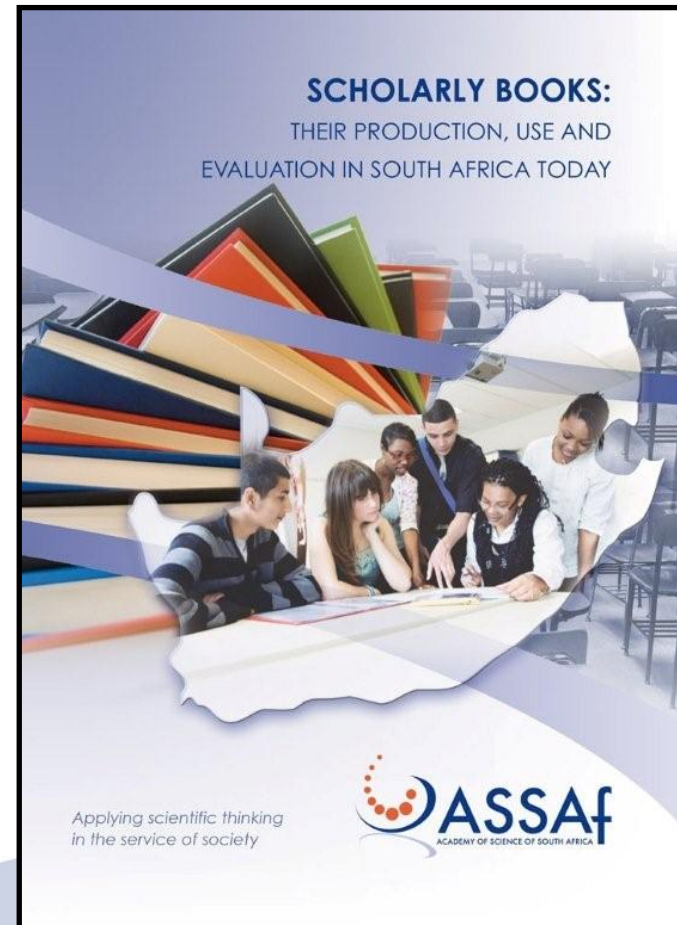
- QA system conceptualised & guidelines developed
- Peer review process for 2 disciplinary groups completed (Soc Sc & Agric)
- Peer review process for next 4 disciplinary groups commenced



Scholarly Publishing Programme

6. Book Study

- Commissioned by DoE
- Addresses issues related to production, use & evaluation of scholarly books in SA
- 11 recommendations to enhance quality & quantity of such works



Scholarly Publishing Programme

7. Open Access National Platform

- SciELO platform has been successfully installed
- Server space has been secured
- 8 pilot journals established on platform to determine workflow and technical & other requirements
- Articles are available online at no cost

Evidence-based Study Projects

- Noteworthy increase in number of projects and key area of future development
- Projects fall into 3 broad areas
 - health
 - humanities and education
 - environment, including energy
- 7 new projects introduced in 2009/10

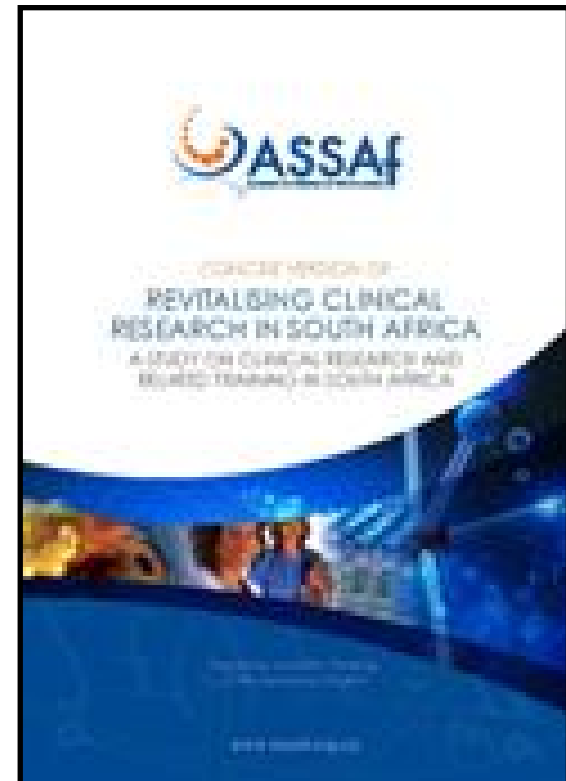
Health Projects

- Improved Nutritional Assessment in SA
- The Emerging Threat of Multi Drug-resistant Tuberculosis: Global and Local Challenges and Solutions
- Envisioning a Strategy to prepare for the Long-term Burden of HIV/AIDS
- Clinical Research and Related Training in SA
- Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

Health Projects

Revitalising Clinical Research in SA

- Declined dramatically in SA
- Underlines value of clinical research
- Calls on government to invest more
- Draws attention to failure to include clinical medicine in the key 'stimulus packages' introduced by the government for most other disciplines - research chairs, centres of excellence etc.



Health Projects

Improving Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

- Completed policymakers' booklet "Science in Action"
- Launched at ASADI conference in Ghana, Nov 2009
- In process of disseminating



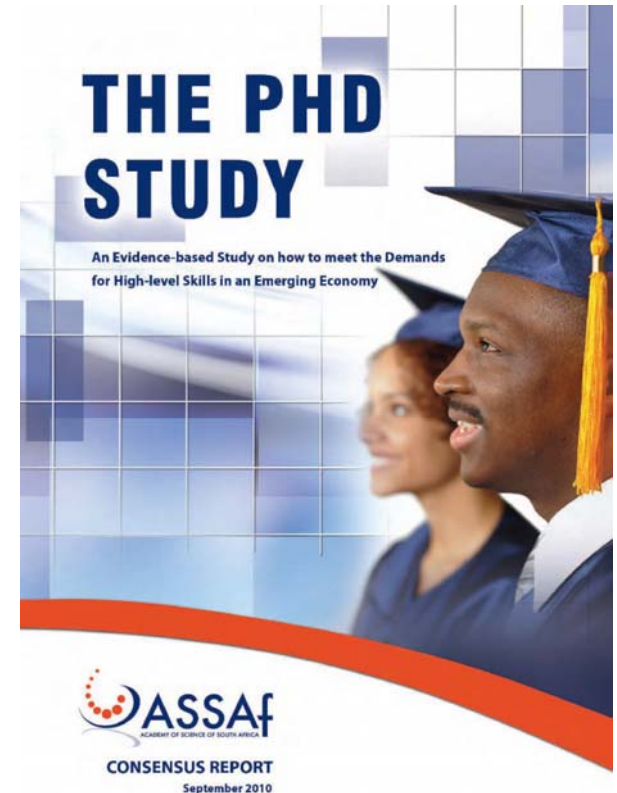
Humanities & Education Projects

- State of the Humanities in SA
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) Education
- PhD Study: Enhancing the Production of Postgraduates in SA

Humanities & Education Projects

PhD Study

- Aims to enhance the production of postgraduates in SA
- Commissioned by NRF, DST, DoE, CHE
- Draft report finalised
- Launched Oct 2010



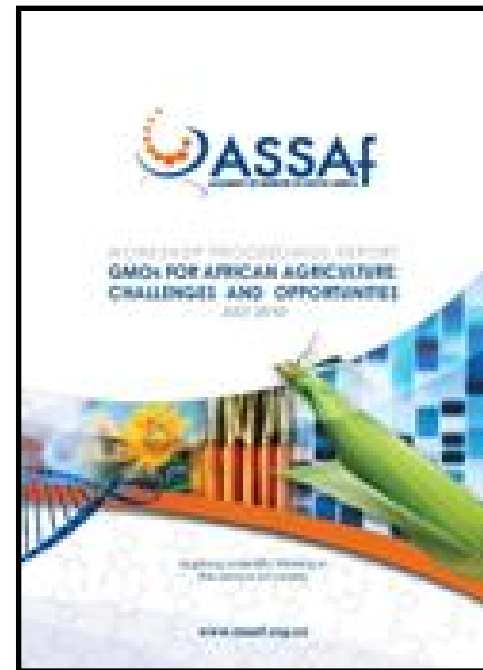
Environment Projects

- Low Carbon Cities
- State of Water in SA
- Biosafety
- Science for Poverty Alleviation
 - GMOs in Africa: Challenges and Opportunities
 - Improving Access to Energy in Sub-Saharan Africa

Environment Projects

GMOs for African Agriculture: Challenges & Opportunities

- Held 2 workshops and preparing proceedings report
- Report now published



Liaison Activities - International

- African Science Academy Development Initiative (ASADI)

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- **Network of African Science Academies (NASAC)**

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- **InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP)**



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- **Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS)**



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- **G8 + 5 Academies**

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- InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP)
- Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS)
- G8 + 5 Academies
- **Southern African- Science Academy Development Initiative (SA-SADI)**

Communication & Publications

- Revitalisation of the ASSAf brand in 2009
- Establishment of a Rapid Response Panel
- Exhibited *Quest* magazine at 8 science events/olympiads
- Redevelopment of the ASSAf website
- Published quarterly ASSAf newsletters

Communication & Publications

South African Journal of Science



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Communication & Publications

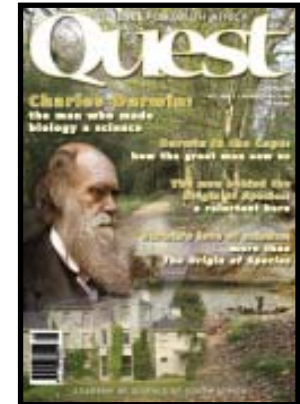
South African Journal of Science

- Leading multidisciplinary science journal on African continent
- Aiming to improve impact factor
- 6 issues published on time
- SAJS was pilot journal on open access platform launched in August 2009
- Successfully transferred to online manuscript tracking system – Open Journal System

Communication & Publications

Quest: Science for South Africa

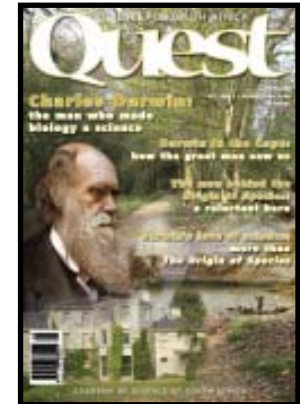
- Full-colour, popular, quarterly science magazine
- 4 issues published in 2009/2010



Communication & Publications

Quest: Science for South Africa

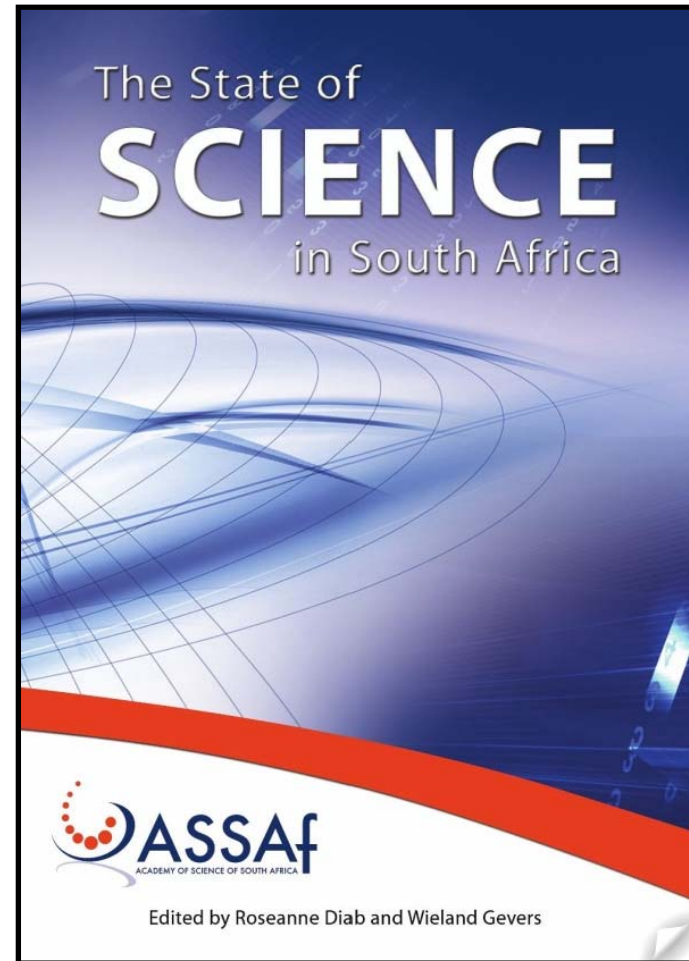
- Print run of 25 000 per issue
- Widely distributed to SA high schools & science events
- Interactive website launched at Scifest in March 2010



Communication & Publications

The State of Science in South Africa

- Launched at the TWAS conference in October 2009
- Print run of 1000 and now available as print-on-demand



Communication & Publications

Statements

- Published an ASSAf statement on Academic Freedom in March 2009
- Signatory to a G8+5 statement on Energy and Climate Change and a NASAC statement on Brain Drain

Communication & Publications

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AT 31 MARCH 2010**

	Note	2010 R	2009 R	2008 R
ASSETS		12,865,670	11,593,391	5,413,318
Non - Current assets		1,468,017	240,428	138,487
Equipment	2	1,468,017	240,428	138,487
Current assets		11,397,653	11,352,963	5,274,831
Account receivables	3	198,140	78,206	-
Cash and cash equivalents	4	11,199,513	11,274,757	5,274,831
Total assets		12,865,670	11,593,391	5,413,318
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		12,865,670	11,593,391	5,413,318
Reserves		10,152,280	8,864,975	4,969,591
Operating fund		5,981,011	5,912,151	4,969,591
Sustainability fund		4,171,269	2,952,824	-
Current liabilities		2,713,390	2,728,416	443,727
Accounts payable	5	1,438,876	1,728,416	443,727
Deferred grant income	7	793,505	1,000,000	-
Provision for leave pay	6	481,009	-	-
Total reserves and liabilities		12,865,670	11,593,391	5,413,318

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010**

	Note	2010 R	2009 R	2008 R
INCOME		26,132,910	16,588,252	9,437,284
Grants and donations	7	24,801,965	15,429,924	8,602,988
Membership fees received		42,400	29,300	20,500
Interest received		778,096	783,051	457,194
Other income		112,500	-	-
Income from publications		397,949	345,977	356,602
EXPENDITURE		24,845,605	12,692,868	8,167,700
Advertising and marketing		775	18,068	29,596
Annual report production		54,796	51,872	39,727
Assets expensed directly		37,694	3,591	-
Auditors' remuneration	8	53,000	14,064	23,185
Bank charges		17,545	9,859	2,892
Catering		34,190	34,922	12,079
Computer expenses		211,669	6,351	15,935
Conferences and seminars		21,983	9,419	54,024
Depreciation	2	268,978	37,528	30,244
Equipment rental		40,218	23,299	6,969
Insurance		26,839	5,081	1,404
NRF Service levy		19,595	57,660	86,351
Office expenses		54,077	-	-
Printing and stationery		118,803	62,090	43,082
Projects expenditure		21,314,672	10,449,883	6,518,913
Provision for leave pay		481,009	-	-
Recruitment and staff development		73,109	33,726	12,405
Rent, electricity and maintenance		747,993	-	-
Salaries and contributions		581,411	1,202,596	748,624
Subscription fees		5,591	382	370
Technical services		-	15,766	186,697
Telephone, faxes and postage		113,521	49,930	41,603
Travel and accommodation		568,137	601,952	309,138
Website maintenance		-	4,829	4,462
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		1,287,305	3,895,384	1,269,584

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2010 (Continued)

7 Grants and Donations

	2010	2009	2008
	R	R	R
Grants	23,368,059	11,956,264	8,373,225
Department of Science and Technology			
DST/CON 0005/2009	3,500,000	3,000,000	-
Received	3,500,000	3,000,000	-
Initial start up and relocation costs	1,000,000	-	-
Received	-	1,000,000	-
Deferred to 2010	1,000,000	(1,000,000)	-
Baseline and other	9,893,000	5,820,000	5,980,000
Received	9,893,000	5,820,000	5,980,000
DST/CON0005/2009	3,900,000	-	-
TWAS Conference			
Received	3,900,000	-	-
The African Academy of Sciences	468,147	-	-
Received	468,147	-	-
The Ford Foundation	230,424	-	-
Received	1,023,929	-	-
Deferred to 2011	(793,505)	-	-
The Institute of Medicine	1,224,041	-	-
Received	1,224,041	-	-
The Oppenheimer Memorial Trust	418,500	159,000	150,000
Received	418,500	159,000	150,000
Shuttleworth Foundation	(64,366)	213,510	-
Received	-	213,510	-
Refunded	(64,366)	-	-
United States National Academies	1,798,313	2,763,754	2,243,225
Received	1,798,313	2,763,754	2,243,225
Germany Federal Ministry of Education and Research	1,000,000	-	-
Received	1,000,000	-	-
Balance carried forward	23,368,059	11,956,264	8,373,225

7 Grants and Donations (continued)

	2010	2009	2008
	R	R	R
Balance brought forward	23,368,059	11,956,264	8,373,225
Donations	1,433,906	3,473,660	229,763
Academia Brasil	-	133,928	-
Academia de Senegal	-	-	64,963
InterAcademy Panel	293,323	-	-
Sydney Brenner Fellowship	142,450	204,120	151,080
The Oppenheimer Memorial Trust	-	1,000,000	-
Third World Academy of Sciences	248,925	660,440	13,720
National Research Foundation	559,208	1,385,000	-
Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University	25,000	-	-
North-West University	25,000	-	-
Ugandan National Academy	-	90,172	-
University of Pretoria	25,000	-	-
Water Research Commission	115,000	-	-
	24,801,965	15,429,924	8,602,988

THANK YOU

&

DISCUSSION

Contact Persons

Prof F Petersen

Prof R Diab

Dr X Mati

Mr M Malatji