

**THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL
EDUCATION (IASE) AND SEBASTIAN KOLOWA
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY (SEKOMU)**



Sebastian Kolowa
Memorial University
SEKOMU



INVITE YOU TO

***THE 16TH BIENNIAL IASE CONFERENCE
TO BE HELD FROM
13TH TO 18TH JULY 2019***



**“EMPOWERING PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:
DEVELOPING RESILIENCE AND INCLUSIVE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”**

www.irl-sekomu.org

www.sekomu.ac.tz

www.iase.org

The International Association of Special Education in collaboration with Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) in Tanzania will conduct the 16th Biennial Conference from 13th to 18th July, 2019.

The Benjamin William Mkapa complex at SEKOMU includes an auditorium for 1000 people, 2 conference halls and 6 seminar rooms. The building has ramps everywhere, thus participants using wheelchairs can access it fully. A venue that is user-friendly to every conference participant will make us all feel at home!

SEKOMU was founded by the North Eastern Diocese (NED) of the Evangelical Lutheran. For over 128 years, the NED has served people degraded and marginalised within their communities. Those served included people with leprosy, mental health illnesses and disabilities. The ground-breaking approach of the NED has underpinned the philosophy of SEKOMU during its 11 years of existence. From its onset, the university's main objective was to produce graduates who would work for and with people trapped in the lowest stratum of the social pyramid. Programmes aimed at giving downtrodden people their rightful place in society have therefore become SEKOMU's foremost priority.



A happy SEKOMU graduate!

About Tanzania

Tanzania is an East African country that got its independence in 1961. It is composed of the mainland, Tanganyika, and the two islands of Pemba and Unguja; collectively known as Zanzibar. Tanzania borders to Kenya and Uganda (north), Rwanda, Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo (west), Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique (south) and the Indian Ocean (east). Official languages are Swahili and English. The country has a population of 50,000,000 people (Census 2012) who belong to more than 120 different tribes.

The village of Magamba is located in the north eastern part of Tanzania in Lushoto district, Tanga region. Lushoto, a district with a population of approx. 500,000 people, is one of nine administrative districts that belong to Tanga region. Magamba is situated

in the Usambara ranges which belong to the Eastern Arc Mountains. SEKOMU is thus located in the midst of a globally recognised biodiversity hotspot.



A historic conference

IASE is a non-profit organisation founded in 1985 with the objective of promoting special education worldwide. IASE members live and work in over 50 countries. Having been a member of IASE since 2008, SEKOMU has received seven professors and lecturers who have been training Special Education teachers. It is therefore fair to say that IASE has a significant contribution in the services offered by the university's alumni in Tanzania and abroad. International conferences of IASE are held every second year. The 16th biennial IASE conference follows the 15th conference that was held in Perth, Australia, in 2017. It will be the first time that a biennial IASE conference takes place in Tanzania.

On 14th July 2019, a reception will be held at SEKOMU. We expect to bring together approximately 300 participants from all over the world. Between 15th and 17th July 2019, eight (8) keynote addresses will be delivered and 200 papers will be presented. Most presenters are specialists in education, habilitation and rehabilitation of people with disabilities including professors, researchers, lecturers, psychologists and sociologists. Persons living with disabilities and their assistants will also participate in the conference. On 18th July 2019, participants will have the opportunity to visit the first mental rehabilitation centre in East Africa that was founded in 1904. A tour will also be made to Irete where we have a home for orphans and schools for children with visual challenges, intellectual disabilities and autism.

As SEKOMU prepares this historic event, 10 years have passed since the United Republic of Tanzania ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This was in 2009. In the year that followed, The Disability Act 9 was enacted by the Parliament. These milestones prove that there is a strong political will on the side of the government. Yet, when it comes to providing education to persons with special needs, efforts need to be made so that they aren't left behind. Statistics show that more than 2/3 of persons with disabilities in Tanzania never attend school (National Bureau of Statistics, 2012). The opportunity of hosting the 16th Biennial Conference of IASE is a strong motivation for SEKOMU as it continues with the efforts of promoting special education in Tanzania. May the vision of a brighter future for all unite conference participants in the search for empowerment, inclusion and sustainability for persons with disabilities around the world.

Travelling to SEKOMU

SEKOMU is located along the Mombo-Mlalo tarmac road. Travelling from anywhere in Tanzania to SEKOMU is therefore uncomplicated. There are direct buses going to Lushoto or Mlalo from Dar es Salaam (Shambalai, Burdan, Manning Nice), Arusha/Moshi (Mwambao, Fasaha, Chakito, HQ). The buses will either take you to Lushoto which is 10 km south of Magamba or directly to the main gate of SEKOMU! If you travel with buses commuting between Dar es Salaam and Arusha/Moshi, get off in Mombo where you'll find plenty of minibuses going to Lushoto/Magamba.

Those travelling from overseas can choose between two international airports. In the north, there is the **Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA)**. This airport is very close to Africa's highest mountain, Kilimanjaro. KIA is often used by tourists who wish to visit National Parks like Ngorongoro, Serengeti, Manyara and Ngurdoto. In the east there is Dar es Salaam airport, also known as **Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA)**. The name comes from the founder of the nation, Julius Kambarage Nyerere, who lived from 1922 until 1999. Besides being the largest business city with a population of approx. 5,000,000 people, Dar es Salaam is also the former capital of Tanzania. From Dar es Salaam, you can travel by boat or by plane to Zanzibar; a trip that takes less than 30 minutes.



Mount Kilimanjaro

You may decide to come to Tanzania ahead of the conference and travel to different places for different activities after which you make your own travel arrangements to Lushoto. If, however, you want to use special transportation arranged for conference participants, we advise you to disembark at Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) in the north. In the city of Tanga, there is a small airport. Participants from other places in Tanzania might choose to fly to Tanga. For those who plan to use special transport arranged for conference participants, the following information will be useful:

Day ONE - Saturday July 13, 2019

ARRIVAL IN ARUSHA, MOSHI OR TANGA:

Wherever you arrive in Tanzania, you will be responsible for living and transportation costs. Arriving a few days before the conference will give you time to rest and explore the beauty of this country. **You should then relocate to either Arusha, Moshi or Tanga not later than July 13th, 2019.**

Day TWO – Sunday July 14th, 2019

TRAVELLING TO MAGAMBA (LUSHOTO)

The following pick-up hotels are listed for your convenience:

1. In Arusha, please be at NEW SAFARI HOTEL at 7.00 a.m.
2. In Moshi, please be at LUTHERAN UHURU HOTEL at 7.00 a.m.
3. In Tanga, please be at MKONGE HOTEL at 7.00 a.m.

The trip from Moshi/Arusha to Magamba takes from 5 to 7 hours. The coasters, mini-buses and vans will be driven by good drivers who will ensure your safety. Each car will have a guide who will make the travel a fun and exciting learning trip. From Tanga to Lushoto, the trip takes 3.30 hours.

Registration

Upon arrival, participants will be received in front of the Administration Building. Here you will register and get the conference bag with ID, conference booklet, USB, notepad, and keys to your room. Registration fees cover lunch, tea/coffee served before noon and afternoon.

For visitors accompanying conference participants, lunchboxes will cost US\$ 5 and tea/coffee will cost US\$ 2.



Registration forms are obtained from the following websites:

www.irl-sekomu.org

www.sekomu.ac.tz

www.iase.org

Accommodation

The IASE Conference Committee has arranged accommodation at the university campus hostels and eight hotels. Kindly visit www.irl-sekomu.org, www.sekomu.ac.tz and www.iase.org where you will find accommodation options and costs. The hotels in Lushoto and Mkuzi have been selected due to their rates, cleanliness and close location to the University. Room rates are listed in Tanzanian shillings TZS and USD. All rates listed are per night and they include breakfast. **In the case of SEKOMU campus hostels, the rates include breakfast and dinner.**

SEKOMU Hostel rooms



Self-contained single room (left): US\$ 20 per day
 Self-contained double room (right): US\$ 20 per person and per day
 Self-contained room for 4-6 persons: US\$ 15 per person and per day

When making your reservation, indicate that you are attending the conference of the **International Association of Special Education (IASE)**. Please note that most hotels only accept Tanzanian currency. You should therefore check with the hotel prior to booking to see if credit cards are also accepted.

A: Registration costs for Non-Tanzanians:

1. Registration for Members a. Member \$485USD b. Member Developing \$185USD c. Student Member \$285USD (taking 15 credit hours) d. Student Member Developing Country \$160USD e. Member Retired \$285USD (65+ years old)	2. Registration for Non-Members a. Non-member \$535USD b. Non-member Developing Country \$235USD c. Non-member Student \$335USD (taking 15 credit hours) d. Non-member Student Developing Country \$210USD e. Non-member Retired \$335USD (65+ years)
3. Extra Gala Ticket (All Non-Tanzanians) a. one ticket at \$22 USD b. two tickets at \$44 USD c. None	4. Optional Field Events (All Non-Tanzanians) EITHER Irete Day/Farm (\$20 USD) OR Lutindi Mental Rehabilitation & tea factory day tour (\$25USD) OR No tour.
PAYMENTS SHOULD BE MADE TO: NAME OF THE ACCOUNT: IASE CONFERENCE 2019 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 41610018966 NAME OF THE BANK: NATIONAL MICROFINANCE BANK LUSHOTO BRANCH/SWIFT CODE: NMIBTZTZ	

B: Registration costs for Tanzanians – PAYMENTS should be made through M-PESA 0762-367616

Registration Fees: (a) Professor TZS. 100,000/=, (b) Teacher/other professionals TZS. 100,000/=, (c) Student TZS. 50,000/=,
 Gala Dinner tickets (optional): (a) One ticket TZS. 51,000/=. (b) Two tickets TZS.101,000/=,
 Thursday 18th July 2019 tour (optional): (a) Irete special schools and homes TZS. 46,000/= OR (b) Lutindi rehabilitation centre/tea factory day tour TZS. 58,000/= OR No tour.

Possible activities for visitors accompanying conference participants

- Visiting villages and markets surrounding the university
- Visiting Irete homes and schools for vulnerable children
- Learning how to make and eat “ugali wa bada”
- Exploring species of indigenous and endemic trees while enjoying bird singing at IreteFarm
- Hiking to Irete View Point

Contact information:

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