



AFFS
AFRICAN FEDERATION
OF FERTILITY SOCIETIES

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AFFS

NEWSLETTER

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MAIDEN EDITION

JUNE, 2025

African Federation of Fertility Societies



The AFFS is the abbreviation for the African Federation of Fertility Societies. The AFFS is a democratic non-profit NGO (non-governmental organization) representing the African continent, and members of the AFFS are the national fertility societies of each country in Africa. Membership of the AFFS is voluntary, and membership fees are paid annually by each national fertility society. There are elections every 3 years, as per the Constitution, to elect the executive and non-executive board members of AFFS.

Our Vision

The vision of the AFFS is to be a powerful and productive fertility organization specifically for the African continent. AFFS is aiming to harness the collective input of all Reproductive Medicine professionals on the continent and provide a unified voice to promote the mission and goals of the organization.

Our Mission

The aim of the AFFS is to improve the quality of Reproductive Medicine care for infertile couples in Africa and improve access to high quality ART services. We link medical professionals in the field of Reproductive Medicine on the African continent and use their expertise to improve the care of the patients needing fertility treatment. We are professionals in the field of Reproductive Medicine who are elected leaders from national fertility societies. This includes Reproductive Medicine physicians, urologist, Embryologists, Fertility Nurses / IVF coordinators and Mental Health Fertility Counsellors.

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MAIDEN EDITION 2025



Dr. Ibrahim Wada
The Editor-in-Chief

Editorial Committee
members:

Dr Rudolph Kantum
Adageba

Dr Mohamed Khrouf

Dr Samira Barbara
(social media)

As the Editor-in-Chief of the African Federation of Fertility Societies AFFS, I'm very pleased to welcome you to read this maiden edition of our newsletter. It's been long coming, but I'm glad we finally have one. I appreciate all those whose contributions have made this edition possible.

This new edition focuses on our history, the formation and composition of our current Board, the maiden AFFS conference in Tunisia 2024 and the involvement of AFFS in other national and international fertility conferences happening on the continent.

The transformation of the original African Fertility Society (AFS), led by Professor Oladapo Ashiru OON as President to the present AFFS is a good thing for Africa. We appreciate the leadership of Professor Gamal Serour who led the first Executive Board of Egypt as President, successfully completing the foundation of a larger, democratic association able to pull in many country associations across Africa. AFFS takes pride in being the fertility and ART voice of Africa and, over time will include all the national fertility associations in Africa.

Please enjoy this maiden Newsletter of ours.
Thank you.

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AFFS President's Address

The African Continent now has a strong voice advocating for improvement and change in the field of Reproductive Medicine via the AFFS (African Federation of Fertility Societies).

It is a great honour for me to serve as the current President of the AFFS Board following elections held at the General Assembly in Tunisia in 2024. There are 18 countries that are current signed up members of the AFFS and we hope that this number will increase in the future as smaller countries develop their own national fertility societies. The AFFS Board comprises strong leaders from Africa including doctors and embryologists. There are executive and regional representative roles on the board ensuring that all regions of the continent are duly represented. The AFFS Board also includes representatives from ANARA (the ART data Registry for the continent) and GIERAF representing the Francophone African countries.

The AFFS has been very busy in the last few years. Prof Gamal Serour served as President from 2020-2024 and his experience and wisdom entrenched the organization as a key player internationally. The AFFS is currently in discussions with ASRM, ESHRE, IFFS and other international organizations to ensure that we rapidly develop unique educational training initiatives on our continent for short-term conferences or workshops and longer-term training programs for doctors, embryologists and fertility nurses. Prof Hossam Fahem is the Chair of our Education Committee and is developing a platform to list all training institutions offering reproductive medicine training as well as online educational platforms that may be useful for African trainees. We have a major shortage of trained embryologists on our continent, so this is an urgent project.

Prof Mohamed Khrouf is the Chair of our Conference Committee and the AFFS President-Elect for the 2027-2030 term of office. He has worked hard in chairing the 1st AFFS Conference which was held in Tunisia during April 2024 as well as setting up many excellent AFFS Conference Sessions and Workshops. Our event Calendar is full demonstrating a “hunger to learn” on our continent. The next large AFFS conference is



planned to take place in September 2026 in the beautiful location of Abuja, Nigeria. This conference will be done in collaboration with the local host Nigerian fertility society - AFRH (Association for Fertility and Reproductive Health) and will be chaired by Dr. Ibrahim Wada.

Prof. Oladapo Ashiru is currently the Secretary-General of the IFFS and was the previous President of the AFS. We thank him for his advocacy role in promoting the AFFS. The AFFS is honored to serve as the African continental Ambassador for the “More Joy” IFFS program.

I congratulate our Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Ibrahim Wada, for producing this AFFS newsletter to highlight our society's ongoing activities and hope you enjoy the publication.

To all our friends and colleagues in the field, I send you best wishes on behalf of the AFFS board.

Dr. Paul le Roux
President - AFFS



Executive Committee Members

Position	Name	Country
President	Dr Paul le Roux (PLR)	South Africa
Vice-President	Dr Faye Iketubosin (FI)	Nigeria
President Elect (for 2027)	Prof Mohamed Khrouf (MK)	Tunisia
Secretary- General	Prof. Amr El Shalakany (AES)	Egypt
Assistant Secretary General	Dr Nicholas Mazuguni (NM)	Tanzania
Treasurer- General	Dr Noureddine Louanjli (NL)	Morocco
Asssitant Treasurer-General	Dr. Samira Barbara (SB)	Algeria
Editor-in-Chief	Dr Ibrahim Wada (IW)	Nigeria

Ex-Officio Members

Position	Name	Country
Immediate Past-President	Prof Gamal Serour (GS)	Egypt
ANARA Chair – Observer	Prof Silke Dyer (SD)	South Africa

Regional Representatives – Non-Executive Members

Position	Name	Country
North Africa	Prof Hossam Fahem (HF)	Egypt
North Africa	Dr. Amina Oumeziane (AO)	Algeria
Southern Africa	Dr. Jack Biko (JB)	South Africa
Southern Africa	Dr Yusuf Dasoo (YD)	South Africa
West Africa	Dr. Adewunmi Adeyemi-Bero (AAB)	Nigeria
West Africa	Dr Rudolph Kantum Adageba (RKA)	Ghana
East Africa	Dr Wanjiru Ndegwa (WN)	Kenya
East Africa	Dr Daniel Zaake (DZ)	Uganda
Central Africa	Dr Ernestine Gwet-Bell (EGB)	Cameroon
Central Africa	Prof Jean Marie Kasia (JMK)	Cameroon

Secretariat

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Executive Committee Members



Dr Paul le Roux
President AFFS
Region - South Africa



Dr Faye Iketubosin
Vice - President AFFS
Region - Nigeria



Prof Mohamed Khrouf
President Elect (2007)
Region - Tunisia



Dr. Amr El-Shalakany
Secretary - General
Region - Egypt



Dr Nicholaus Mazuguni
Asst. Secretary - General
Region - Tanzania



Dr Noureddine Louanjli
Treasurer - General
Region - Morocco



Dr Samira Barbara
Asst. Treasurer - General
Region - Algeria



Dr Ibrahim Wada
Editor-in-Chief
Region - Nigeria

Ex-Officio Members



Prof Gamal Serour
EX-OFFIO
Immediate Past President
Region - Egypt



Prof Silke Dyer
EX-OFFIO
ANARA Chair - Observer
Region - South Africa



Prof Founzégué Amadou Coulibaly
EX-OFFIO
GIERAF Chair
Region - Cote D'Ivoire

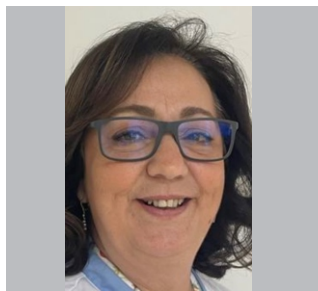


Regional Representatives

Non-Executive Members



Prof. Hossam Fahem
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
North Africa
Region - Egypt



Dr. Amina Oumeziane
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
North Africa
Region - Algeria



Dr. Jack Biko
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
South Africa
Region - South Africa



Dr. Yusuf Dasoo
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
South Africa
Region - South Africa



Dr. Adewunmi Adeyemi Bero
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
West Africa
Region - Nigeria



Prof. Jean Marie Kasia
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
Central Africa
Region - Cameroon



Dr. Rudolph Kantum Adageba
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
West Africa
Region - Ghana



Dr. Ernestine Gwet - Bell
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
Central Africa
Region - Cameroon



Dr Wanjiru Ndegwa
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
East Africa
Region - Kenya



Dr. Daniel Zaake
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
East Africa
Region - Uganda



AFFS Subcommittees & Special Interest Groups (SIG)

Education, training & accreditation: • Hossam Fahem (Chair) • Amina Oumeziane (Co-Chair) • Samira Barabara • Yusuf Dasso • Amadou Coulibaly • Paul Le Roux • Wanjiru Ndegwa • Yusuf Dasso • Mohamed Khrouf • Gamal Serour • Ibrahim Wada • Jack Biko • Daniel Zaake	Conference Scientific Events: • Mohamed Khrouf (Chair) • Amr El-Shalakany • Yusuf Dasso • Paul Le Roux • Wanjiru Ndegwa • Yusuf Dasso • Nicholas Mazuguni
Ethics & Legislation/Arbiteration: • Gamal Serour (Chair) • Amr El-Shalakany • Paul Le Roux • Fayeofori Iketubosin	Research: • Nouredine Louanjli (Chair) • Nicholas Mazuguni (Co-Chair) • Samira Barbara • Amadou Coulibaly • Rudolph Kantum Adageba • Daniel Zaake
Editorial: • Ibrahim Wada (Editor-in-Chief) • Rudolph Kantum Adageba • Mohamed Khrouf • Samira Barbara (social media)	Data: • Fayeofori Iketubosin (Chair) • Ernestine MC Gwet Bell • Silke Dyer • Ibrahim Wada • Amina Oumeziane



Goals and Objectives of AFFS

The African Federation of Fertility Societies (AFFS) has a core objective to improve the quality of reproductive medicine care for infertile couples in Africa. Our main goal is to enhance access to high-quality Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) services across the continent. As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, AFFS represents national fertility societies from various African countries, working together to achieve this objective. Our goals include the following:

- Providing a strong voice in improving care of fertility patients, and advocate for the rights of infertile patients
- To prevent tubal infertility by reducing the incidence of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) in Africa by educational awareness and promotion of early antibiotic treatment guidelines
- To ensure and offer training opportunities for Physicians and Embryologists
- To provide a platform for the networking of professionals in the field of Reproductive Medicine and ART on the African Continent, by setting up task teams to deal with specific tasks
- To address specific problems relevant to the African continent in the field of Reproductive Medicine such as: poor or discriminatory fertility legislation on the continent, lack of government funding and infrastructure for fertility care and lack of society guidelines for professionals
- To fight against gender-based violence against women on the African continent including practices such as: targeted violence against infertile women by the community, negative stigma against infertile women, domestic partner violence against infertile women, and female genital mutilation in young girls
- To advertise educational events / conferences on the continent to encourage participation of all countries in fertility meetings.
- To advise government representatives on best clinical practice, and to work together with legal teams to update existing national fertility legislation and draft new ethical legislation.
- To draft clinical and laboratory guidelines for professionals in the field of Reproductive Medicine.
- To link with other international fertility organizations such as IFFS, ASRM, ESHRE, FIGO, WHO and provide input from Africa to these organizations.
- To channel funding for the improvement of Reproductive Medicine services on the continent with good governance and in an ethical manner.



Maiden AFFS Conference In Tunis



The 1st African Federation of Fertility Societies (AFFS) Conference, held in collaboration with the International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS) and the Société Tunisienne de Gynécologie Obstétrique (STGO), was a significant event in the field of fertility management in Africa. It took place from April 25 to April 27, 2024 at the Laico Hotel in Tunis, Tunisia. The conference featured a diverse lineup of speakers, workshops, and sessions, addressing various aspects of fertility, reproductive health, and assisted reproductive technologies. Attendees had the opportunity to exchange knowledge, network, and discuss advancements in the field. Overall, it was a valuable

platform for professionals and researchers in reproductive medicine. Highlights at the conference included diverse speakers-lineup such as renowned experts from various fields of Reproductive Medicine who shared their insights; workshops and sessions where attendees participated in workshops on cutting-edge fertility treatments and research; networking opportunities were also available to professionals, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange and advancements in Assisted Reproductive Technologies discussions centered around the latest ART techniques.

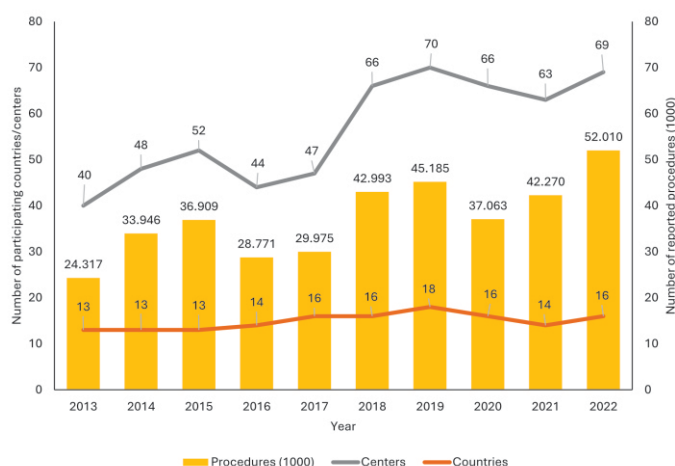
Overall, it was a valuable platform for advancing fertility care in Africa!



AFFS-ANARA Partnership



From their first beginnings, the AFFS (first called the African Fertility Society) and ANARA (African Network and Registry for Assisted Reproductive Technology) emerged and developed alongside of each other: The AFFS as a network of fertility societies and ANARA as a network of ART centers and the data voice of our region. Our goals are related, whilst our missions are distinct; and both networks work in mutual support of each other. From the perspective of ANARA, which is constituted as a research network and working group, it is important that the African Registry is located outside of a professional society with its elected and changing office bearers, but nonetheless closely connected to the AFFS as well as other regional and national fertility societies. Whilst strictly protecting the data confidentiality of each individual center, ANARA has also agreed not to compare countries with and against each other; instead, the pooled regional data are freely shared through scientific avenues to support, monitor, and strengthen quality ART in our region.



Ten years of ANARA: Number of participating centers, countries and reported procedures 2013-2022

The pooled African data are also shared with the AFFS leadership for use in the AFFS mandate, and the AFFS president is a standing co-author of the annual published reports. Other ties between ANARA and AFFS include the AFFS data committee led by Dr Faye Iketubosin, the presence of the ANARA Director on the AFFS Board (with no voting rights), and participation from some of the national registry directors in the AFFS and its leadership.

The 2022 data collection marked ANARA's 10th anniversary. Between 2013 and 2022, ANARA handled 567 data submissions from individual centers in 18 countries. ANARA is deeply appreciative of all centers voluntarily sharing their data for our common purpose. This has resulted in the reporting of approximately 375,000 ART procedures. It was a proud and happy moment for ANARA when in the opening lecture of the inaugural AFFS congress, held in Tunis April 2024, the AFFS president Prof Gamal Serour referred extensively to the real-world data from the African Registry. ANARA congratulates the AFFS on its many achievements, its newly set goals, and this maiden newsletter. We look forward to continuing our strong collaboration.



Past Conferences and Events

By Mohamed Khrouf
AFFS 1st Congress
25-27 April 2025



AFFS organized her first “in person” Congress in Tunis from April 25-27, 2025. 120 International delegates from 18 African countries and 350 Tunisians delegates attended, 37 International speakers and 30 Tunisians speakers took part to the scientific program.

On the First day : 5 PCC were attended by 160 delegates (Ovarian stimulation, Male Infertility, Simulation on OPU and ET , Nurses and Midwives and Biology). The main program included 4 plenary and 8 parallel sessions for clinicians and embryologists. AFFS elected its Board during this meeting for 2024-2027.

This was an important milestone for the construction of medical education in Africa and a great opportunity for infertility specialist to meet. The Social program allowed participants to connect in friendly atmosphere, discovering Tunis, Tunisia and African culture

ISIVF, Marrakech, 7-9 / 11/24

Clinical actions and research to improve IVF success

Nice Attendance from different part of the world , rich discussion

- Is it possible to improve oocyte quality and/or quantity ? - F. Iketubosin
- How to manage patients with low oocyte retrieval and low maturity rate - P. LRoux
- How to manage low blastulation rate and poor embryo quality ? - I. Wada
- In Vitro derived human gametes - G. Serour

EFFS, Cairo, Egypt 28-29/11/24

Common Gynecological and Obstetrical procedures impact on future fertility

Successful session , full room ,

- Impact of previous C-section on future fertility - A. Shalakany
- What is best Management of abortion for future fertility ? - P. LeRoux
- Risks of different Fibroids treatments procedures on future fertility - G. Serour
- Adnexal surgery risks on future fertility - M. Khrouf

SAMERE Algiers, Algeria 28-29 / 11/24

How to manage challenging cases in IVF?

- Management of the difficult embryo transfer - I Wada
- Treatment and prevention of OHSS - Yusuf Dasoo
- Severe sperm alteration in the lab - (N Louenji)
- Abnormal Endometrium in IVF - (S. Barbara)



Photo Book 1

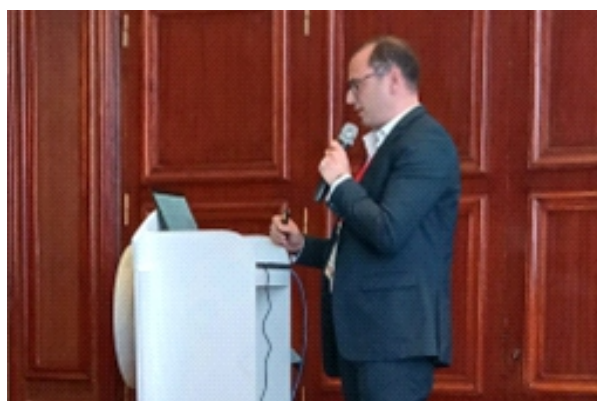
The 1st African Federation of Fertility Societies (AFFS) Conference in collaboration with IFFS & STGO on April 25, 2024 at the Laico Tunis Hotel, Tunis, Tunisia





Photo Book 2

Annual International Conference of the Egyptian Fertility Sterility Society (EFSS) 2024



AFFS Session at the Annual International Conference of the Egyptian Fertility Sterility Society, 28-29th November, 2024, Cairo - Egypt.



Photo Book 3

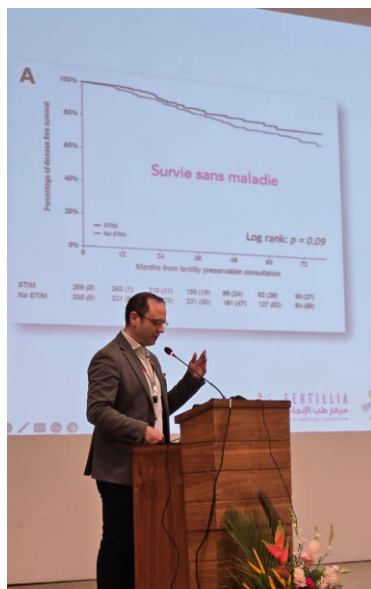
22nd ISIVF World Congress, 2024



The 22nd World Congress on In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF) held in Marrakech from November 7-9th, 2024. It was an extraordinary event that redefined the boundaries of knowledge in Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART).

Photo Book 4

The 2nd GIERAF Congress, 2025



A highly successful GIERAF congress was held at the Hotel 2 Février with the theme: “Prevention of Infertility and Preservation of Fertility” from 20th - 22nd February, 2025.



Photo Book 5

11th Congress of the Algerian Society of Reproductive Medicine (SAMERE) 2024



AFFS Session at the 11th Congress of the Algerian Society of Reproductive Medicine (SAMERE)
November 28th - 29th, 2024 at El-Aurassi Hotel, Algiers.



2025 Upcoming Events

In 2025, several major fertility conferences are scheduled worldwide. Notably, the IFFS World Congress will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from April 26-29. Additionally, the IVIRMA Congress is planned for Barcelona, Spain, from April 24-26. Other significant events include the International Conference on Reproductive Health and Infertility in Paris, France, on April 24-25, the ASPIRE 2025 in Singapore from May 1-4, the ESHRE Annual Meeting in Paris, France, from June 29 to July 2, and the ASRM Scientific Congress & Expo in San Antonio, Texas, from October 25-29.

SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE DETAILS:

IFFS World Congress 2025: Tokyo, Japan (April 26-29)

IVIRMA Congress 2025: Barcelona, Spain (April 24-26)

International Conference on Reproductive Health and Infertility: Paris, France (April 24-25)

ASPIRE 2025: Singapore (May 1-4)

ESHRE Annual Meeting: Paris, France (June 29 - July 2)

ASRM Scientific Congress & Expo: San Antonio, Texas (October 25-29)

Gynecology Summit 2025: Dubai, UAE (May 5-6)

ICFP 2025: Bogotá, Colombia (November 3-6)

SPECIFIC AFRICA CONFERENCE DETAILS:

AFRH: Lagos, Nigeria (September 23 - 25, 2025)

FIGO: Cape Town, South Africa (October 5 – 9, 2025)

AFFS Regional Conference: Abuja, Nigeria (September 23 - 25, 2026)



15th AFRH Annual International Conference — LAGOS — 2025

Theme:

NEW FRONTIERS IN ART: THE ROAD MAP TO THE FUTURE

Sub-Themes:

*Cutting Edge Approaches to ART Practice for Nigeria:
Innovations Shaping The Future of Fertility Care*

*Optimizing Success in ART: Advances in Embryology,
Endometrial Receptivity and Implantation*

THE 2ND **AFFS** 2026
REGIONAL
CONFERENCE
ABUJA

IN COLLABORATION WITH AFRH AND IFFS

THE DATE

#AFFS2026



THEME:
**FERTILITY FRONTIERS:
GLOBAL INNOVATIONS
AND ADVANCES IN ART**

VENUE:
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
CENTRE (ICC), ABUJA



AFFS
AFRICAN FEDERATION
OF FERTILITY SOCIETIES



Association for
Fertility and
Reproductive Health



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF FERTILITY SOCIETIES