

CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY AFRICA

Minutes of the CSSR4Africa Team Meeting

Date and Time: 15th September 2025, at 10:30 pm

Venue: Digital Experience Center (DEC).

Status: Final.

Participants

Assane Gueye

Deogratius Kigude

Birhanu Shimelis Girma

Clifford Onyonka

Muhammed Danso, Chairman

Ibrahim Jimoh

Muhirwa Richard

Tsegazeab Tefferi

Yohannes Haile

Apologies

Julius Kanneh

1. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting

The participants reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 08th September 2025 and approved them as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

Action item 1: Update the installation Manual.

Action: Not finished yet. See Action item 1.

Action item 2: Implement parallel processing and execution with both Kinyarwanda and English.

Action: Done

Action item 3: Produce the audio voices beforehand and play them during the demo.

Action: Done

Action item 4: Putting stickers on every lab item.

Action: Not finished yet. See Action item 2.

Action item 5: Discuss with Ibrahim on the amount of time he will be able to devote to the lab.

Action: Done

Action item 6: Update the milestone to update the date for the Github submissions

Action: Done

Action item 7: Send an invitation to Professor Assane for the demo

Action: Done

Action item 8: Hold a demo with several of the proposed enhancements

Action: Not finished yet. See Action item 3.

Action item 9: Suggest the ideal microphone to attach to Pepper

Action: Not finished yet. See Action item 4.

Action item 10: Request for 5 adapters for use by the lab.

Action: Not finished yet. See Action item 5.

3. Matters arising Progress reports

The chairman asked about Richard Muhirwa's improved XTTS progress mentioned in his report. Richard explained the progress and agreed to demo it for the team and Professor Assane on Tuesday, after Tsegazeab's demo.

4. Status of tasks, deliverables, and software

The chairman asked how long it will take to add the robot localization software to GitHub. Ibrahim Jimoh and Clifford Onyonka told the team it will be ready by Friday.

Professor Assane asked each team member when they will finish their improvements. The team gave these dates:

Richard: 2 weeks for both Kinyarwanda and English text to speech.

Clifford: End of the month for both kinyarwanda and English speech to text.

Danso: End of the month to finish RAG and ROS2 setup for DEC tasks.

Tsegazeab: End of this week for the current lab tour demo with partial parallel execution; mid-October for the stable version with full parallel execution

Birhanu: End of the month to combine SLAM with current robot navigation

Yohannes: 2 months for SLAM and moving nodes to ROS2 to have a working demo for DEC

Ibrahim: This Friday for version 1 of the software; end of the month for the improved robot localization version

5. Status of milestones

Muhammad Danso will update the milestone document, and the action item has been assigned to him. See action item 9.

6. Automating demo setup

Julius Kanneh will work on automating the demo. He said he can spend 10 hours a week on this task. Tsegazeab will help and guide him. Other team members should also help him when he needs to understand how each part of the system works.

9. Any Other Business

Clifford brought up an issue about adding a service completion response in the TTS node. Muhammad Danso explained how this should be handled as an action or service call. Tsegazeab suggested he will discuss the details with Muhirwa.

10. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Online, September 22, 2025, on Zoom at 2 PM.

End of the Meeting

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the meeting at 11:00 am.

Action items following the meeting of the CSSR4Africa project

Action	Action description	Responsible	Completion date
1	Update the installation Manual	R. Muhirwa	19 September, 2025
2	Putting stickers on every lab item.	Y. Haile	15 September, 2025

3	Hold a demo with several of the proposed enhancements	T.Tefferi	16 September, 2025
4	Suggest the ideal microphone to attach to Pepper	C.Onyonka	19 September, 2025
5	Request for 5 adapters for use by the lab	A. Gueye	Unspecified
6	Check laptop chargers on the market	Y. Haile	19 September, 2025
7	Demo the improved XTTS to the team and Prof. Assane after the lab tour demo by Tsegazeab.	R. Muhiwa	16 September, 2025
8	Update the milestone to update the date for the Github submissions	M. Danso	19 September, 2025
9	Create a zoom meeting and add everyone for the upcoming online team meeting on Monday.	M. Danso	19 September, 2025

Table 1: Action Items