

**AFRICAN INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE
COUNCIL
OF TRADITIONAL AND SPIRITUAL
AUTHORITIES (AIGC)**

INTERNAL REGULATIONS

ADDIS ABABA, 1st Nov 2020.

INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF THE AFRICAN INDIGENOUS GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

PREAMBULE

The present Internal Regulations complement, precise and completes the Constitution of the African Indigenous Governance Council (AIGC) and should be read alongside other texts on the institution's functional modalities.

Chapter 1: CONSTITUTION, REGISTERED OFFICE, ACTION ZONE AND COMMON LINK

Article 1: Constitution

It is created between the founding members and those who will join later, an association governed by applicable laws to be called the "AFRICAN INDEGENOUS GOVERNANCE COUNCIL" to be abbreviated as AIGC

Article 2: Registered Office.

Head Office at: Nifasiklafto sub city, Woreda 03. House 598 ADDIS-ABABA, ETHIOPIA.

P. O. Box 22985 code 1000, ADDIS-ABABA, ETHIOPIA.

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The head office can be transferred to anywhere on the African territory upon proposal of the Executive Council (Board of Directors) and approval of the General Assembly. The Organization may create branches in other Regions and Countries according to the needs and the limits of its means, for necessity of accomplishing its vision and objectives.

Article 3: Area of action of the Association

The Association's area of action is the African Continental territory and its Diaspora.

Article 4: Common link

The bond between the members is understood to be their identification with the vision, purpose and objectives of AIGC.

Chapter III: AIM, OBJECTIVES, MEANS OF ACTION AND APPLICATION.

Article 5: PURPOSE

To achieve its goal, AIGC will spare no effort in following up with its objectives. It intends to collaborate with any public or private institution or legal person(s) having similar goals and objectives.

Article 6: OBJECTIVES

The objectives as set out in the constitution of the Council may be subject to revision whenever the need arises. It will all depend on the available means and requirements.

Article 7: MEANS OF ACTION.

To achieve its objectives, the Association relies on its human resources, the support of goodwill, local and external partners and on any other legal means provided that this does not infringe on its autonomy.

Article 8: Application of regulations

These regulations apply to all active members of the association.

Article 9: Equity

All members of the association are equal in rights and obligations.

CHAPTER 1V: MEMBERSHIP, RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

Article 10: Membership is for those who are of good moral standing and accept the statutory dispositions and regulations of AIGC. Postulants must be recognised members of Royalty both in their Communities and their Governments as well as inscribed members on the recognised Collective roll list of Registered Royals at National and/or Associative level in the House of Chiefs, Kings and Queens and all other recognised forms and title of traditional/spiritual governance accepted in their given Community.

Membership is free and without constraint. It is open to both individuals and associations.

10.1: Admission of new members.

Those wishing to join will have to complete a membership form. For minors under the age of eighteen, the form is filled in by their legal representative.

10.2: The application is examined by the Bureau of the Executive Council and must be replied within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request at the General Secretariat.

10.3: This request addressed to the President of the Executive Council must go through the acceptance process of the board in a general meeting. If no response is received within thirty days of filing the membership form, the request is deemed to have been accepted.

10.3: When membership is approved, Subscription is by payment of a subscription fee in an amount equivalent to \$500 (Five hundred US dollars) or as will be determined by the General Assembly.

The statutes and the up-to-date internal regulations are given to each new member.

10.4: Membership is effective upon the deliverance of a membership card with a registration number. It automatically confers Rights and Obligations to the holder.

10.5: Membership status does not give right to remuneration of any kind.

10.6: The membership is only lost upon resignation, exclusion or death.

Article 11: Types of members.

The association accepts into its midst any natural person(s) who share the vision of the founding members or who wishes to make their contribution.

Article 12: Resignation

12.1: Any member wishing to resign must address a written letter to the President to this effect specifying the reason and the effective date who shall expressly reply, upon confirmation by the Bureau of the Executive Council.

To this end, the president:

- Gives a favorable opinion if the resigning member does not perform any function in the association and,
- replaces him and reports to the board where the resigning member is a member of the Executive board,

12.2: After a period of two months without follow-up, the resignation is deemed to be accepted.

Article 13: EXCLUSION.

Article 7: Exclusion of a member shall be decided by the General Assembly based on a report submitted by the Executive bureau in the following cases;

- Criminal condemnation and/or dishonourable conduct of the member incompatible with the objectives of the association.
 - insubordination of any type including a Deliberate Violation of the statutes or internal regulations such as,
- Non-payment of the annual subscription,
 - Derogatory behavior and remarks towards another member or the board,
 - Damage to the interests of the association,

Behaviors that disrupt the proper functioning of activities can trigger exclusion or delisting procedures. Depending on the seriousness of the facts, the Council has a number of administrative steps to follow prior to recommending for exclusion namely, verbal and written call-to-order as a cautionary approach, a warning and a final exclusion of the implicated adherence. In the event of temporary exclusion, the office will also decide on the duration of the exclusion.

In all cases, an exclusion will only be pronounced by the board after hearing the explanations of the member against whom the proceedings have been initiated. The bureau will then proceed to a vote. In the event of a tie, that of the chairman will be decisive. If the member in question is a member of the board, he is excluded from the vote. Consequently, his exclusion from the association will automatically result in his exclusion from the office. The office will replace him.

Article 14: Conflict Resolution

Any dispute between members of the association will be settled by the board.

In the event of theft, the case may be brought before the competent courts. However, legal action is only considered upon approval by the General Assembly after all possible remedies have been exhausted.

Article 15: Unfair Competition

Anyone who is a member of an association with the same objectives as AIGC or any member who has concealed his membership in another association with similar interest will be excluded for unfair competition.

Article 15: RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS and PERSONEL.

Rights and Obligations is ***defined*** here as the totality of all formal and customary rules and jurisprudence applicable to the functioning of the Council.

Personnel here refers to all persons, non-members of the Council nominated into a political, diplomatic or technical position in the Cabinet of the President or the Secretariat General.

15.1: Obligations of Membership & Personnel:

The dispositions contained in the Internal regulations are applicable to all members and personnel of AIGC notwithstanding their Sex. Religion, ethnic origins, political opinions or age. Serving with competence, efficiency and integrity will guide every action and options of AIGC members. In particular, All shall;

- Respect the Statutory Provisions as well as the Rules and Regulations in force.
- Pay obligatorily an annual contribution fee as agreed and levied by a General Assembly resolution.
- Effectively take part in all activities and manifestations
- Promote the objectives of the Institution within their jurisdiction.
- Serve with efficiency and competence, integrity and probity, impartiality and honesty;
- Avoid conflicts of a personal interest with the Organisation in the exercise of their duties;
- Avoid communicating with the government, public or private entities and press organs, without prior approval from the President of AIGC;
- Refrain from dictatorial and anti-democratic methods within AIGC;
- Not take decisions which go contrary to the statutory provisions of AIGC, upon which, shall be null and void.

15.2: RIGHTS of Membership and Personnel:

All Traditional and Customary authorities who are members of AIGC possess the following rights;

- To elect and be elected.
- To participate in all activities of the Council.
- To inform and be informed on all activities of the Council.

Article 16: Positions of responsibility within AIGC are benevolent. However, expenses linked to the execution of certain tasks are covered by the Council with prior approval.

Article 17: None has the right to take Engagements in the name of AIGC without a written mandate from the General Assembly or the President of the Executive Bureau.

CHAPTER V: THE ORGANS AND THEIR FUNCTIONING

Article 18: The African Indigenous Governance Council is structured around the following organs;

- The General Assembly
- The Executive Council or Board
- The General Secretariat
- The Commissioners & Wisemen
- Specialised Technical Committees.
- Target Elites, PATRONS & SPONSORS Bureau

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

18.1: The General Assembly shall be Ordinary and Extra-ordinary.

The Ordinary General Assembly shall hold triennially (once in 3 years) while the extraordinary general Assembly shall be convened as will be dictated by activities.

18.2: General Assemblies will be convened by the President or in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents at least 30 calendar days before the date and hour of the said assembly.

Convocations which should be addressed to individuals must include a draft agenda and should mention the venue, date and hour of the meeting.

18.3: No Ordinary General Assembly meeting shall hold when the quorum is not attained. This quorum necessitates the presence of a simple majority of members who must have fully paid their contributions.

Where the quorum is not attained, a new convocation is made within thirty (30) calendar days.

18.4: Deliberations of the Ordinary General Assembly are taken based on a simple majority of members' present or represented. In an event of equality of expressed Votes (par), that of the President of the Executive Bureau or Council shall have a casting vote.

18.5: The quorum for the holding of the Extraordinary General Assembly is by simple majority of members who are up to date with payments of their contributions.

Where the quorum is not attained, a new assembly is convened within thirty (30) days and the applicable quorum shall be 1/3 of the members present or represented, who must have fully paid their contributions.

18.6: Deliberations of the Extraordinary General Assembly are taken on a 2/3 majority of members present or represented.

18.7: During votes in the ordinary and extraordinary general assemblies, each member is entitled to a single vote. All absentee members with fully paid contributions cannot issue more than one procuration.

18.8: None shall represent an absentee member where he himself has not fully paid up his contributions.

18.9: None shall be entitled to hold more than two (2) procurations.

18.10: The procuration must be written, signed and admitted as per the established procedure.

Article 19: Each General Assembly meeting must have an attendance sheet which shall indicate the identity of the member and that of his representative in the case of his absence.

19.1: These attendance sheets shall be signed by all members present and by the representatives where duly mandated.

19.2: To this attendance sheet shall be annexed the power of attorney delivered by absentee members.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICE/BOARD:

COMPOSITION:

ARTICLE 20: The Executive Council shall comprise the following:

- A President.
- 5 Vice Presidents (voted from each region)

- A Secretary General
- 5 Assistant Secretary Generals (voted from each region)
- Commission Heads
- A Treasurer
- 5 Assistant Treasurer (voted from each region)
- 2 Regional advisers per Region.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE BUREAU

Article 21: Members of the Executive Bureau are elected for a mandate of three (3) years renewable. To enable renewal of the Executive Bureau, the Ordinary General Assembly shall sanction clearance with a “quitus” to be given to the outgoing executive bureau; acknowledge the end of its mandate; and then proceed to the election of a new Executive Bureau.

Article 22: Each member of AIGC with fully paid up contributions can take part in elections (eligible to elect or be elected).

Article 23: Renewal of members of the Executive Bureau shall take place under the auspices of a Presidium (Electoral College) chosen from within members of the General Assembly and shall comprise of;

- A President
- A Rapporteur/ Scrutineer & Secretary.

Article 24: Election of members to the Executive Bureau is by a list system. The various lists in competition are transmitted on the very day of the General Assembly before the start of the session to the General secretariat of AIGC, subject to a receipt.

- ! Members in the lists in competition must be up to date with their contributions before the date of the General assembly.
- ! The name of a member must not figure in more than one (1) of the lists in competition.
- ! No list in competition should include more than two (2) candidates of the same Country.
- ! The President and the Vice Presidents on each list must not be of the same nationality and Region.

Article 25: Election of members to the Executive Bureau or Council should take into account a gender and development approach that should include female traditional and customary authorities, where present.

This should be the same for other positions within AIGC.

Article 26: Processes of Election of members to the Executive Bureau must be documented and the results signed/authenticated by members of the Presidium (electoral college) as proof.

Article 27: All electoral litigations shall be resolved by consensus. In the absence of an agreement, it shall be referred to the Committee of wise men whose decision shall be final. is without appeal.

FUNCTIONING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BUREAU.

Article 28: Each member of the Executive Bureau shall take an active role in the activities of the bureau.

28.1: Each shall exercise a personal commitment and show proof of assiduity to the activities of the bureau.

28.2: Each has a duty of solidarity with other members of the bureau during their mandate.

Article 29: The Executive Bureau shall meet through the convocation of its President once a semester. It can also meet on the initiative of its President or other members of the bureau as **may be demanded by its activities.**

29.1: In case of absence of the President, the meeting is presided over by one of the Vice Presidents.

29.2: Convocation of Executive Bureau members is done using the best possible means including electronics (email) and this at least fifteen (15) days before the date of the meeting. Such a document of invitation shall comprise the draft agenda, venue, date and hour of the meeting.

29.3: There must be an attendance sheet in all meetings noting down the names, surnames, functions, address/contacts and signature of participants.

29.4: To this attendance sheet must be attached the various attorneys of members absent.

Article 30: The presence of half of the members of the Executive Bureau is needed to validate decisions.

30.1: Each member of the bureau is entitled to a vote. Any absentee member can be represented by another member of the bureau based on a written mandate deposited with the Secretary General before commencement of the meeting.

30.2: None can have more than one (1) representation.

30.3: The President of the Bureau can invite any other member of AIGC to the meeting where his talent, expertise and presence is judged contributory to the topic and decisions to be arrived at. Such persons would not have voting rights during deliberations.

Article 31: Decisions are taken by a simple majority of members present or represented. In case of a par, the President has a casting vote.

Article 32: The decisions are documented in a report signed jointly by the President and the Secretary General to be valid.

THE POWERS OF THE PRESIDENT

Article 33: The President of the Executive Council supervises the proper functioning of AIGC.

- ! He is conferred powers within the law and statute of AIGC to act in the name of the association vis-à-vis third parties.
- ! He represents notably AIGC in all legal and civil actions. In this light, he may engage in all judicial and administrative proceedings in the defence of the material and moral interests of AIGC and/or its members.
- ! He concludes all conventions of partnerships with third parties and in case of need, with national, sub regional and international institutions. Museums, Documentation Centres and Archives included.
- ! The Vice-Presidents charged with special responsibilities as Commissioners shall assist the President in the exercise of his functions.
- ! In ordinary acts of management, the President can delegate in writing certain of his attributes to either of the Vice Presidents or the Secretary General.
- ! In the case of vacancy of the President, the interim is assured by one of the Vice Presidents elected from amongst his peers, to complete the mandate running. The taking over of the function of interim President must be endorsed by the Executive Bureau.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Article 34: The Secretary General runs the Secretariat and meetings of AIGC. Notably, the General Assembly and the Executive Council Bureau meetings.

- ! The General Secretariat is the structure in charge of executing the programs of AIGC under the supervision of the President and assist him in the tasks of coordinating activities of the Committee of wise men and the Technical Commissions.
- ! The Secretary General is responsible for the functioning of the General Secretariat. He is assisted in his tasks by assistant SGs. He organises and coordinates the General Secretariat towards the concrete implementation of AIGC activities, according to the orientations of the Executive Bureau and the instructions of the President.
- ! In case of absence or unavailability of the Secretary General, one of the assistant Secretary Generals replaces him on the decision of the Council President.

THE TREASURER GENERAL:

Article 35: He manages the financial resources of AIGC notably, the rights to membership and annual contribution of members. He is replaced by the assistant treasurer in case of absence or unavailability.

For the certification of accounts, the General Assembly designates **External Auditors** and fixes their remunerations.

CHAPTER VI: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Article 36: The budgetary year runs from 01st of January to 31st of December. The President of the Executive Council Bureau manages the budget.

Article 37: The Treasurer General maintains the accounting system of AIGC. In this regard, he does all financial transactions foreseen and authorised by the President of the Executive Bureau.

Article 38: Membership Rights and contributions can be revised/modified by the General Assembly. The payment of contributions can be made in one or many instalments. However, all contributions may be paid in or before the 30th of June each year.

Article 39: Cash withdrawal transactions are done with the joint signatures of the President and either of the followings - the Secretary General or the Treasurer General.

Article 40: The Treasurer shall keep a “petit-cash” amount of not more than a \$1000 (a thousand) US dollars at anytime, renewable after effective justification of prior expenses.

In cases of abuse or financial misappropriation, the responsibility of the fund manager is personal and directly engaged.

REGIONAL ADVISERS

Article 41: The association is represented at regional levels by AIGC Advisers. They are designated by consensus and in default, by a vote of the Executive Bureau.

THE COMMITTEE OF WISEMAN

Article 42: It is hereby created, by proposals from the Executive Council office, a committee of wisemen composed of Senior members of AIGC. This committee is charged with:

- Supervising the good conduct of members of the Executive Council.
- Arbitrate on matters between members or between the different organs of the institution, brought to its attention.

SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMISSIONS

Article 43: Technical Commissions are created to support the Executive Council in the completion of its tasks. They are created and put in place by the Council that determines their number, objectives and mission upon the proposal of the President. They have as role to reflect on the different themes resulting from the objectives and missions defined within the statutes and the action plans. Principally, the areas of preoccupations and interventions of these Commissions shall include:

- ! Conflict and Post Conflict Reconstruction & Management (DDR).
- ! Commission on Politics, Economic and Social Governance,
- ! Commission on Education, Alphabetisation, Culture & Communication
- ! Commission on Immigration and Migration, Repatriations and Reparations.
- ! Commission on Agriculture, Natural resources/Forest Conservation, and Ecosystems Management.

- ! Commission on Community Health, Women and Youths Affairs.
- ! Defense of Minorities, indigenous and vulnerable Communities and Gendar.

TARGETED ELITES, PATRONS & SPONSORSHIP BUREAU.

Article 44:

This are persons co-opted in view of their skills, interest, position/status and commitment to Pan Africanism and their abilities to contribute in its sponsorship. Their common denominator is that they are of African origins and may not necessarily be of any royal blood. They qualify by their status in Society and displayed interest. They come in through valid members who sponsor and vouch for their good faith.

CHAPTER VII: INFRACTIONS

Article 45: All infractions to the disposition of AIGC statute and its internal regulations will be considered as an act of indiscipline.

In cases of indiscipline observed by the Executive Bureau, the victim will be exposed to the following sanctions:

- Warning
- Suspension
- Exclusion

Article 46: All members sanctioned by the Executive Council bureau can exercise their rights of defence. Appeals will be addressed to the President of the Executive Bureau who submits it to the next General Assembly for examination.

CHAPTER VIII: ENTRY INTO FORCE

Article 47: The present Internal Regulations enter into force on the same day and time as AIGC statutes this 1st day of November 2020

Done at Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA on the 1st of November, 2020.