

**FEDERATION
OF
AFRICAN
ENGINEERING
ORGANISATIONS
(FAEO)**

CONSTITUTION

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PREAMBLE

In order to achieve engineering excellence and create a better quality of life for all in Africa; leaders and representatives of engineering institutions in Africa held a General Assembly on 8th May, 2012 at Kenyatta International Conference Centre, Nairobi, Kenya and unanimously agreed to establish a central united home for African Engineering Organisations in solidarity under the name Federation of African Engineering Organisations, **FAEO**.

The constitution of the Federation of African Organisations of Engineers, FAOE founded in 1972 and representing Africa as International Member of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) since 1989 was amended under a new name known as Federation of African Engineering Organisations (FAEO). The FAEO constitution was unanimously accepted and adopted to take effect from 8th May, 2012.

ARTICLE 1: DEFINITION

The Federation of African Engineering Organisations (hereafter called the “FAEO” is an international non-governmental organisation which represents the interests of all engineering practitioners in Africa.

ARTICLE 2: LOCATION OF SECRETARIAT

Its Secretariat shall be at such place as is recommended by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 3: VISION

The FAEO is recognized by International Organisations as the overall leader of the Engineering Profession in Africa and sets out to apply Engineering for the benefit of mankind.

ARTICLE 4: MISSION

To serve humanity through the use of best practiced technology. To represent the engineering profession in Africa, internationally.

ARTICLE 5: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Objective of the Federation shall be to develop, in the spirit of African unity, direct relationship between its several member organizations on a basis of mutual understanding, so that their activities may be fostered and directed to the greater public good and, in particular:

- A. To establish appropriate standards of engineering education.
- B. To support the advancement of knowledge in critical areas required for development.
- C. To build engineering resource capacity in every country.
- D. To promote the development of standards of professional engineering practice appropriate for the continent and share knowledge on best practice.
- E. To promote the adoption of appropriate regulatory framework in each country to ensure that only qualified practitioners operate.
- F. To promote the adoption of high standards of ethical behaviour.
- G. To promote the advancement of engineering science and practice and their applications for the benefit of mankind.
- H. To advance the common aims and objectives of its member organizations.
- I. To support the work of each member organization in its own territory.
- J. To provide a focal point for the expression of the professional engineering opinion of its member organizations.
- K. To collaborate with other national and international organizations, as it may think fit, to support and supplement their work.

ARTICLE 6: ORGANISATIONAL MODEL

The Organizational Model of FAEO shall be made of:

- A. Central African Federation of Engineering Organisations (CAFEO)
- B. Eastern African Federation of Engineering Organisations (EAFEO)
- C. North African Federation of Engineering Organisations (NAFEO)
- D. Southern African Federation of Engineering Organisations (SAFEO)
- E. West African Federation of Engineering Organisations (WAFEO)

These various regional groups will work under the FAEO. The FAEO will then represent Africa on WFEO, AU and any international organization.

ARTICLE 7: STANDING COMMITTEES

The FAEO shall operate through Standing Committees. Some of the standing committees include:

Standing committee on

- i. Water
- ii. Energy
- iii. Capacity Building
- iv. Anti-Corruption
- v. Infrastructure
- vi. Information and Communication Technology
- vii. Women in Engineering
- viii. Young Engineers Forum
- ix. Engineering Education

ARTICLE 8: MEMBERSHIP

The membership of FAEO shall consist of the following groups;

- a. **National members** with voting rights.
- b. **Regional members** with voting rights.
- c. **International members** with voting rights.

- d. **Affiliated Members** with voting rights, that are professional engineering organization or organizations existing in a specified geographical area, considered the most representative of technically competent engineers according to the standards of that special geographical area.
- e. **Associates** that have no voting rights and may be for profit or not for profit organisations comprising corporate entities, university, technical organisations societies or associations in countries where there is already a national member, research organisations and similar organisations involved in engineering.
- f. **Distinguished Fellows:** who are individuals, who have made a significant contribution to engineering. This category has no voting rights.

The National Member must be an established Engineering Institution representing the Country. There shall be only one Engineering Institution representing a country. A National Member shall comprise the national professional engineering organization or the engineering council, or the union/association of organizations within a country, that is considered most representative of technically competent engineers according to the national standards or laws within that country.

The Regional Member is a representative of the five geographical Regions i.e. North, Southern, West, Eastern and Central Africa. The National Members will form the core Membership of the Regional Bodies.

The Federation shall consist of: National, Regional, International, and Affiliated Voting Members; Associates and Distinguished Fellows that are non-voting.

ARTICLE 9: ADMISSION TO FAEO

Application to any category of membership shall be made to the Executive Director. The application shall be assessed by the Executive Board through its Membership Committee. Election shall be by vote of the Executive Council and effective upon receipt by the Executive Director of a full year subscription. The Executive Committee shall examine each application for membership of FAEO and shall inform all Members of its receipt, and shall communicate their recommendation in respect thereof to all Members not less than two months before the next meeting of the General Assembly, which may accept the application by a

two-third of participating Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by a representative present or by proxy.

ARTICLE 10: RESIGNATION

A Member wishing to resign from FAEO shall give six months' notice in writing, addressed to the Secretariat.

ARTICLE 11: EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

The General Assembly may, by a two-third majority of such Members, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy terminate the membership of any Member which has failed to fulfill its obligations to FAEO, or has engaged in activities of which run counter to the objects of FAEO.

ARTICLE 12: ADMINISTRATION OF FAEO

- (i) The supreme governing body of FAEO shall be the General Assembly.
- (ii) The affairs of FAEO shall be directed between meetings by the Executive Committee.
- (iii) The ordinary business of FAEO shall be conducted by the Executive Director, under the responsibility of the President, in accordance with the directions of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 13

The composition and functions of the General Assembly and Executive Committee shall be governed by these Articles of Association.

ARTICLE 14

Excepting as provided otherwise in these Articles of Association, decisions at meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Committee shall be by a majority of votes cast by representatives of the Members present who are entitled to vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

ARTICLE 15

The General Assembly shall consist of the representatives of such Members as shall be in good standing pursuant to Article 41 hereof, and the Officers of FAEO. Representatives of one-third (proxies allowed) of all Members in good standing having the right to vote shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 16

Subject to the provisions of Article 41, Members are entitled to vote at any meeting of the General Assembly. Voting may be by a proxy assigned to a person present or by letter delivered to the Secretariat prior to the meeting. Observers can participate but will not vote in General Assemblies.

ARTICLE 17

An ordinary meeting of the General Assembly shall be held every two years, at a place and date determined by the General Assembly at the previous ordinary meeting or, failing that, by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 18

The President shall summon an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly if requested to do so in writing by one-third of the Members of FAEO. He may, in addition, summon such meeting with the consent of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 19

The Secretariat shall communicate the place and date of each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly to all Members of FAEO and to all Members of the Executive Committee at least three months in advance, and the place and date of each extraordinary meeting at least two months in advance.

ARTICLE 20

Items proposed for inclusion in the agenda, and applications for admission to FAEO, shall be received by the Secretariat at least four months before the date fixed for an ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 21

No later than four months prior to the next General Assembly a draft agenda will be circulated to members for their comments and inputs. The agenda of the General Assembly, prepared by the Secretariat following requests for, and submissions of, proposed items from Members of FAEO, and accompanied by the relevant supporting papers shall be communicated by the Secretariat to all Members and Officers of FAEO at least three months before the first day of the meeting. Only items that have been placed on the agenda shall be discussed, unless a proposal to the contrary is approved by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 22

Each Member may be represented at meetings of the General Assembly by a delegation composed in such manner as the Member shall decide.

ARTICLE 23

Members shall inform the Secretariat, in writing, of the names of their representatives before the commencement of any meeting of FAEO which they will attend.

ARTICLE 24

The General Assembly shall determine the general policy of FAEO; without prejudice to the generality of its responsibilities, it shall have, in particular, the following powers and obligations:

- (i) To review and ratify the decisions of the Executive Committee and the Administration of FAEO by the Secretariat since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly;
- (ii) To appoint any Committee or Committees it may deem necessary for the conduct and administration of the work of FAEO;
- (iii). To receive and review the work carried out by any Committee or Committees of FAEO since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly;
- (iv). On the proposal of the Executive Committee, to examine each application for membership of FAEO, and to accept or reject it in accordance with Article 9 hereof;

- (v). To terminate if it so decides, in accordance with Article 11 hereof, the membership of any Member of FAEO which has failed to fulfill its obligations to FAEO, or the activities of which may be against the objectives of FAEO;
- (vi). On the proposal of the Executive Committee to examine and approve FAEO's accounts for the period since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, and to discharge the Executive Committee of liability;
- (vii). To approve the annual budget;
- (viii). On the proposal of the Executive Committee to decide, in accordance with Article 39 hereof, the annual dues to be paid by Members of FAEO;
- (ix) To elect President, President-elect and the Treasurer;
- (x) Each group of Members as defined in Article 8, to elect the respective members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 25

A: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee, which shall be responsible to the General Assembly, shall consist of:

- (i) The President, the President-Elect, the immediate Past President, Five Vice Presidents who are the regional chairs (or presidents) of NAFEO, SAFEO, WAFEO, CAFEO and EAFEO (where the regional organisations are not yet formed, the members from that region will elect an FAEO VP from among themselves), Vice Presidents who hold office by virtue of their election as chairmen of Standing Committees, the Treasurer and the Executive Director the latter without voting right and performing the duties of Secretary, who shall be the Officer of FAEO;
- (ii) Three elected representatives of the Ordinary National Members.
- (iii) 50% Members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

B: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

- (i) The Executive Board shall consist of the following voting members: President, President-elect, Past President, Treasurer; and the Executive Director (a non-voting member).
- (ii) The Executive Board shall appoint the Internal Auditor, and the Executive

Director.

(iii) The Executive Director shall inform all Federation Members of the actions of the General Assembly, the Executive Council, and the Executive Board.

ARTICLE 26

At meetings of the Executive Committee, each Ordinary member of the Committee shall have one vote, and if there be an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

ARTICLE 27

The members of the Executive Committee shall hold office until the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly following their election. Except for the President, the members of the Executive Committee are eligible for a second term. Election should, if possible, be so arranged that, after each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, the membership of the Executive Committee shall be such that at least half the elected members shall be in their first term while the remainder shall be in their second term. President and President Elect not to be from the same region.

ARTICLE 28

The Executive Committee shall direct the affairs of FAEO between meetings of the General Assembly and will largely communicate via electronic means. It shall meet twice a year, one just before the ordinary General Assembly, and may be further convened by a decision of the President in case of particular urgency. Not less than 3 conference calls will be held as a means of communication, preferably in October prior to the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 29

The Treasurer of FAEO shall prepare an estimate of the income and expenditure of FAEO for consideration by the Executive Committee and approval by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 30

The Executive Committee shall submit to all members four months in advance of

an ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, names proposed for the offices of President-Elect and Treasurer.

ARTICLE 31

The President shall be elected by the General Assembly, and shall hold office for one term. The President-Elect will be elected by the General Assembly at the same ordinary meeting that elects the President and at the completion of the President's term of office he/she shall assume the office of the President. The Immediate Past President will remain a member of the Executive Committee for two years. Thereafter, elections of the President elect will be done at each ordinary meeting of the subsequent General Meetings.

ARTICLE 32

The Treasurer shall be appointed by the General Assembly on a proposal by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 33

The President or, failing him, the President-elect shall be the chairman of the meetings of both the General Assembly and the Executive Committee. If, at any meeting the chairman is not present within 5 minutes after the time appointed for holding the same, the Executive Committee members present will choose one of them to chair the meeting.

ARTICLE 34

An Executive Committee member shall not vote in respect to any matter in which he is directly or indirectly interested or any matter arising out of it.

ARTICLE 35

The appointment of the Executive Director shall be according to the budget and on such conditions as the Executive Committee may think fit; and any person so appointed may be removed by it. The Executive Director shall perform the duties of the Secretary of both the General Assembly and the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 36

Minutes will be made of all resolutions and proceedings at all meetings of the General Assembly and of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 37

The Executive Director who should be in charge of the Secretariat shall keep Members informed of the important proposals, decisions and actions of the Executive Committee, and of any action taken by the President as a matter of urgency.

ARTICLE 38

A record of the proceedings of the Executive Committee including an audited statement of accounts and of the financial statements submitted and signed by the Treasurer, shall be communicated to each Member of FAEO at least three months before the first day of each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 39

Each Member shall agree to pay annual dues (in USD) as determined by the General Assembly. The financial year shall be from 1 January in each year to 31 December. Subscriptions are due by 1st January, at the beginning of each financial year.

ARTICLE 40

In the event of any resignation or termination of membership the Member concerned shall be liable to pay its dues for the current financial year, and shall have no claim on the monies of FAEO, or any part thereof.

ARTICLE 41

Any Member of FAEO which has not paid its annual dues by the end of the financial year shall not be entitled to exercise or benefit from any right or privilege of membership until the sum due has been paid, and its membership of FAEO may be terminated by a decision of the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of all Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy. For those Members whose circumstances merit special consideration, and who have made application for delay, a period of grace may be allowed to 30th June in that year.

ARTICLE 42

Special projects, so designated by the Executive Committee, shall be financed wholly or in part by voluntary contributions from any Members, Societies or other Agencies.

ARTICLE 43

FAEO shall have power to accept donations to its funds from any source or sources which the Executive Committee approves.

ARTICLE 44

No amendment shall be made in this Constitution except by the General Assembly with the approval of a majority of two-thirds of the votes of General Assembly.

ARTICLE 45

The General Assembly, if convened for the purpose, may dissolve FAEO by a vote pursuant to Article 44. In the event of the dissolution of FAEO for any reason, the General Assembly shall appoint a liquidator and shall determine his powers and if required his remuneration, and shall designate the recipient or recipients of the residue of the moneys of FAEO.