



THE CHARTER LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS

**ADOPTED
ON THE 17TH OF OCTOBER 2023**

Uniting African Diplomacy

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS we the League of African Ambassadors (hereinafter referred to as the “The League”) is a body of African Ambassadors and High Commissioners of African states accredited to various countries of the world and to multilateral organizations of global, continental, and regional status are desirous of protecting and promoting the common interests and well-being of our continent.

WHEREAS, it is desirable, that there be a body of Ambassadors and High Commissioners at post or out of post, serving or retired from all the countries of Africa to coordinate for effective and more robust engagement with global communities with a view to strong commitment to promote Africa’s interest and make our voice and action louder and stronger at the world stage.

WHEREAS, it is desirable, to provide a platform for the contribution towards conflict resolution through the study and practice of diplomacy as well as provide advisory measures on peaceful conflict resolution across Africa, and to provide a platform for interacting with relevant stakeholders.

WHEREAS it is necessary to have a platform to harness and utilize all the experience, contacts, reach and knowledge of members of the League for the purpose of providing a knowledge bank for the development of African diplomacy and for the promotion of peace and unity of Africa and to assist in harmonizing the views of members of the League in matters affecting the common interests of members.

WHEREAS it is hereby resolved that these internal regulations shall be the supreme and authentic documentation of the members of the League regarding how they wish its affairs to be run.

WE, the members of the League of African Ambassadors hereby make, enact, and give to ourselves the following internal regulations, for the governing of its activities.

ARTICLE 1: ESTABLISHMENT

- a.** League of African Ambassadors (hereinafter referred to as “the League” or the organization) is hereby established in accordance with the provisions of this Charter.
- b.** The Seat of the League shall be Lusaka, Zambia, or any other African country to be determined by the General Session of the LEAUGE.
- c.** There shall be Regional and national Missions to be established in any African Region and countries as may be determined by the General Session of the League.

ARTICLE 2: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The League is established as a non-profit self-regulatory, non-governmental, voluntary body, aiming at accreditation at the continental level, with the following aims and objectives:

- a.** Enhance cooperation among ourselves, and build capacity for African diplomats with the rank of Ambassador and High Commissioner, with a view to:
 - i.** Support robust continental African foreign policies.
 - ii.** Develop institutional memory for African diplomacy.
 - iii.** Promote effective and more robust engagement of global communities with a strong commitment to promote Africa’s interest and make our voice louder and actions stronger at the world stage.

- iv. Enhance continental investment campaigns towards transforming African countries from raw materials exporters to industrialized economies for sustainable development.
- v. Foster economic, diplomatic, social, educational, agricultural etc, engagement with global communities, with emphasis on mutual respect and benefits for all concerned.
- vi. Consult, as appropriate, with multilateral organisations on matters concerning Africa's sustainable development, and the overall well-being of all concerned on an equality basis.
- vii. Endorse African home models for effective developmental drive, with a view to strengthen our core African values.
- viii. Highlight African leadership at the world stage and to African regional organisations.
- ix. Support and promote programmes and activities of the African Union and other regional organisations of African countries.
- x. Promote economic integration, industrialization through a value-added chain, and self-sufficiency in Africa by prompting the strengthening of African institutions which revolve but not limited to Industries, transports, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, Maritime and Blue Economy, natural resources, education, commerce, monetary, cum financial issues, cultural matters, Sports, Science and technology.
- xi. Build the institutional capacity of young diplomats by providing training and mentorship to them.
- xii. Serve as a forum for discussions by members, on matters of common interest, protect, promote, and advance the common interests of its members, and facilitate liaison, as appropriate, with the relevant stakeholders.

- b.** In doing so, the League shall not pronounce political positions or media statements on any issue relating to politics without the approval of the Executive Committee. It may, however, publicly support common positions already announced by the African Union as decided within its relevant intergovernmental mechanisms and shared publicly by its spokespersons.
- c.** It shall also seek affiliation with the African Union, its Organs Regional Economic Communities and UN agencies or any other international, continental, or regional organisations as will be approved by the executive committee.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

- a.** Membership of the League shall be open by individual subscription of Ambassadors and High Commissioners at post or out of post, serving or retired.
- b.** Participation by members is in a personal capacity and shall not be considered to reflect any of their official or academic affiliations.

3.1. Data Base/Directory of Members:

The Secretary of the League shall open and maintain both hard and electronic copies of the Membership Directory, which shall be kept with utmost care to avoid unauthorized usage.

3.2. Cessation of Membership

A member shall automatically lose his/her membership of the League upon voluntary withdrawal of his membership or if he fails to renew his/her membership subscription for a period of two years.

ARTICLE 4: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (THE “COMMITTEE”)

The League shall be managed by an Executive Committee comprising of:

- i. President
- ii. Deputy President
- iii. Vice President Government matters
- iv. Vice President Membership and Finance
- v. Vice President Special programmes
- vi. Vice President Trade and Investment
- vii. Vice President Peace and Security
- viii. Secretary-General
- ix. Deputy Secretary General
- x. Any other office as will be created as the need arises by the executive committee with the exemption of directorates and departmental heads, standing or ad hoc committee chairmen.

4. A. Office of the President, Deputy President, and Secretary General shall rotate among the five regions of West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa, Central Africa, and North Africa respectively and the President and Deputy President shall not be elected from the same region while each region shall have a vice President each of which at least one shall be a woman.

4.1. Powers and Functions of the Executive Committee

Subject to the provisions of this Internal Regulations, the Executive Committee shall exercise the powers and carry out the functions listed below:

- a.** Exercise control and management over the finances of the Organisation according to due process.
- b.** Express the agreed views of the Organisation on all matters.
- c.** Make all necessary arrangements for Annual and Quarterly General Meetings.

- d. Promulgate, when necessary, further regulations consistent, for the furtherance of the aims and objectives of the Organisation.
- e. Generally, exercise all the powers vested in the League (except those powers reserved for an Annual General Session) to promote and carry out its aims and objectives as contained in this Charter.

4.2. Meetings of the Executive Committee

- a. The Executive Committee shall meet Quarterly or as often as may be necessary for the business of the League and on such day and time as may be decided by the Executive Committee provided that where circumstances so warrant, such meetings may be held, as agreed, virtually by any other electronic medium, means or platform. The President shall preside at Executive Committee Meetings.
- b. On the requisition of at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee, the President shall direct the Secretary-General to summon an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee within five (5) days of the receipt of the requisition.
- c. The quorum for the meetings of the Executive Committee shall be 4 (four) members, one of whom shall be the President.
- d. Consensus shall be the aim of the Executive Committee but if it becomes necessary to put any question to vote, then it shall be decided by a simple majority of votes based on a show of hands. In the event of a tie, the President or presiding Officer shall have a casting vote.
- e. The Executive Committee shall have the power to make decisions on behalf of the Organisation in all cases of emergency and report to the next Annual General Meeting of THE LEAGUE for ratification.
- f. Any member who is absent from 3 (THREE) consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee shall cease to be a member of the Committee unless he/she shows reasonable cause for such absence to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee.

4.3. Election of Executive Committee Members

- a.** Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Session of the league and shall remain in office for a period of 3 (Three) years and shall hold the office not more than two terms.
- b.** There shall be established, Electoral Committee which shall consist of seven Electoral Officers, one of whom shall preside. Members of the Electoral Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
- c.** All members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by a simple majority of votes at an Annual General Session.
- d.** A person shall not be qualified to vote and be voted for as a member of the Executive Committee unless he/she is a registered member of the Organisation and is up to date in his financial obligations as prescribed.
- e.** All elections shall be held by secret ballot, e-voting or both.
- f.** The electoral committee shall formulate and present to the Executive Committee for approval the guidelines for the conduct of elections.
- g.** No member shall propose or second more than one candidate for the same post.
- h.** A candidate for election to an office shall be deemed to have been duly elected where he/she has the highest number of votes cast at the election.
- i.** In the event that the Organisation is unable to conduct elections in any year, the life of the Executive Committee shall be automatically extended until elections can be held or until the next Annual General Session.
- j.** Upon conclusion of the elections, the Electoral Committee shall stand dissolved, and the tenure of the Executive Committee shall be deemed to have commenced as from the date of the conclusion of the elections.
- k.** Where a vacancy occurs in the membership of the Executive Committee, the committee shall at their next occurring meeting by a simple majority of votes elect a qualified member from the same region where the formal occupant hails from to serve the remaining term of the office.

4.4. Qualification of Executive Committee Members

a. The President or Deputy President:

A person shall not be qualified to hold office as the President or Deputy President unless he/she:

- i. Is duly registered as a member of the Organisation.
- ii. has been or is a member of the league for at least 1 year.
- iii. Is up to date on payment of both membership dues and other financial obligations at least one year preceding the date of an election.
- iv. Is from the region where the position has been zoned.
- v. Attends meetings of the Organisation regularly; and
- vi. Is a person of good character and sound mind.

Without prejudice to a.(iii) b.(i-ii) the interim executive shall hold office and perform the functions of the Executive Committee until elections are conducted.

b. Other Offices

A person shall not be qualified to hold any other office in the Executive Committee unless he/she:

- i. Is a member of the Organisation.
- ii. is up to date on the payment of membership dues and other financial obligations for at least one year preceding the date of an election.
- iii. is from the geographical region where the position is zoned.
- iv. is or has been a member of the league for at least 1 year.
- v. attends meetings of the Organisation regularly; and
- vi. is a person of good character and sound mind.

4.5. Duties of Executive Committee Members

a. The President

The duties of the President shall include:

- i. Being the Chief Executive Officer of the organisation and presiding over all meetings of the Executive Committee, such as: Annual or Extra-ordinary General Sessions of the organisation.
- ii. Directing the summoning of Meetings of the Executive Committee either on his/her own initiative or in accordance with the decision of the Executive Committee.
- iii. Directing all other officers of the League in the performance of their duties and coordinating the activities of members of the organisation.
- iv. Presenting at the Annual General session, a President's Address in writing to highlight the accomplishments, problems, prospects, and future direction of the organisation.
- v. Ensuring, with the assistance of the Secretary and the Vice President Finance, the efficient and economic use of the organisation's assets and resources as may be necessary from time to time subject however, to the overall approval of the Executive Committee.
- vi. Acting as the principal spokesman of the League

b. The Deputy President

The Deputy President shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- i. Assist the President in the discharge of his/her duties and responsibilities.
- ii. Preside over meetings in the absence of the President.
- iii. Act as President where the President is incapacitated in carrying out his/her duties and responsibilities.
- iv. Carry out any other relevant functions as may be delegated by the Executive Committee.

c. Vice President Government Matters

The Vice President Government and Political Matters shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- i. Be responsible for coordinating government-related activities across the continent.
- ii. Facilitate and Interface with ambassadors of other nations.
- iii. Any other relevant responsibilities assigned by the Executive Committee.

d. Vice President Membership and Finance

The Vice President Membership and Finance shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- i. Receive applications from applicants, screen and recommend to the Executive Committee.
- ii. Recommend membership subscription dues to the Executive Committee for approval.
- iii. Receive, collect, and pay into the League's bank accounts within 48 (forty-eight) hours, all monies collected on behalf of the League or paid to the Organisation from any source whatsoever.
- iv. Record all monies collected on behalf of the League or paid into the League's accounts from any source whatsoever.
- v. Record all financial transactions in relation to the League's finances.
- vi. Provide general financial oversight, lead fundraising activities, keep in view the League's assets and provide periodic updates to the Executive Committee.
- vii. Prepare and Submit an Annual Financial Report to the Annual General Session to which shall be attached the accounts for the preceding Financial Year.

- viii. Circulate to every member of the Executive Committee the Financial Statements and Reports specified in subparagraph (v) above prior to the Annual General Session.
- ix. Carry out any decision or directive of the Annual General Session in matters relating to the budget or finances of the League.
- x. Prepares and present to the executive committee for approval of annual budgets.
- xi. Formulate and present to the Executive committee for approval financial regulations to guide the expenses of the League.
- xii. Perform all other relevant duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Executive Committee.

e. Vice President Special Programmes.

The Vice President Special Program shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- i. Planning and organising seminars, workshops, retreats, symposiums and/or Meetings of the League.
- ii. Disseminate information to members relating to the League, publicise and coordinate social events of the League including interaction/communication with external media organisations through relevant communication channels, after due consultations with the President and or the Executive Committee.
- iii. Carry out such other relevant assignments as may be directed by the Executive Committee.

f. Vice President Trade and Investments

The Vice President Trade and Investments shall carry out the following duties or responsibilities.

- i. To keep track, monitor and report, foreign trade and investment in Africa.

- ii. To monitor trade and investments within Africa.
- iii. To track, monitor and report impediments to ease of trade and investment across Africa.
- iv. To encourage and foster ease of doing business across nations of Africa.
- v. To organise investment outreaches globally.
- vi. Carry out such other relevant assignments as may be directed by the President or the Executive Committee

g. Vice President Peace and Security Advocacy

The roles, duties and functions of the Vice President shall carry out the following duties or responsibilities:

- i. To be responsible for the security at all the meetings of the organisation.
- ii. To interface with security agents in the localities and nations where the meetings of the association will be held, in other to ensure appropriate security for any programmes of the organisation.
- iii. Any other relevant duties or assignments as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.
- iv. Initiate Peace and Security advocacy for countries that are in its need from time to time.

h. The Secretary-General

The Secretary-General under the overall direction of the President shall oversee the Secretariat and his/her duties shall include the following:

- i. On the instruction of the President or in accordance with a previous decision of the Executive Committee or pursuant to the provisions of the Charter of the Organisation, issue notices for the various meetings of the Organisation.

- ii. Record and keep the minutes including attendance and summary of all decisions taken at all meetings of the Organisation.
- iii. Write and dispatch circulars, letters, and other correspondence of the Organisation including those of the Executive Committee.
- iv. Keep an up-to-date Data Capture of members of the Organisation.
- v. Perform all other relevant duties as may be assigned to him/her by the President or the Executive Committee or the Annual General Meeting.

i. Deputy Secretary General

- a. Assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of his/her duties and responsibilities.
- b. Act In the absence of the Secretary-General.
- c. Act as Secretary General where the Secretary is incapacitated in carrying out his/her duties and responsibilities.
- d. Carry out any other functions as may be delegated by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 5: VACATION OF OFFICE

A member of the Executive Committee shall vacate office in any of the following circumstances:

- a. If by notice in writing to the Organisation, he/she resigns his/her office.
- b. At the expiration of his/her term of office.
- c. If the person is convicted by a competent court of law of any financial offence or other fraudulent practices.
- d. If the person ceases to be a citizen of the region where the office is zoned to.

- e. If the person becomes of unsound mind or permanently incapacitated to manage the affairs of the organisation.

ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS OF THE LEAGUE

6.1. Annual General Session

The Annual General Session of the League shall be held in January/February of each year, or such other date as may be convenient, to transact the following business:

- a. To elect members of the Executive Committee (in an election year).
- b. To consider and approve the Organisation's Statement of Accounts for the last financial year as presented by the Executive Committee.
- c. To approve current subscriptions/levies to be paid by members.e
- d. To receive, discuss and approve subject to such amendments as members may deem necessary the Annual Budget of the Organisation as presented by the Executive Committee.
- e. Any other business relevant to the Organisation's aims and objectives.
- f. The notice convening the Annual General Session shall be sent to members not less than ten (10) days before the date of the meeting.

6.2. Extra-Ordinary General Session

The Executive Committee shall whenever the occasion demands, convene an Extra-ordinary General Session of the Organization to deliberate and take decisions on urgent issues that cannot be deferred until the Organization's usual Annual General Meeting.

6.3. Voting at Meetings and sessions

- a.** Every member of the Organisation shall have one vote and in the event of a tie, the President shall have a second and casting vote.
- b.** To vote at an Annual or Extra-ordinary General Session, a member must be up to date on his/her financial obligations.

6.4. Quorum at Sessions

- a.** The quorum for Executive Committee Meetings shall be 4 (four) members.
- b.** The quorum for Annual, Extra-ordinary General Sessions or Emergency Meetings shall be 2/3 members.

ARTICLE 7: COMMITTEES

The organization shall either at their Annual General Sessions or Executive Committee Meetings, set up both standing and ad-hoc committees or other sessions as they may deem fit, for any specified purposes.

ARTICLE 8: SOURCES OF FUNDING OF THE LEAGUE

The sources of funding of the League shall be:

- a.** Membership Subscription Fees.
- b.** Gifts and donations.
- c.** Endowments.
- d.** Royalties and proceeds from special programs.
- e.** Special Levies and subscriptions as may be approved by the Executive Committee.
- f.** Grants.

- g.** Advocacy for free funds, sponsorship and grants outside Africa is prohibited, the prohibition does not include African and African businesses and organisations in the diaspora and must be in conformity with International anti-money laundering laws.

ARTICLE 9: FINANCE

- a.** The funds of the organisation shall be kept in its name with an established Pan-African bank(s) approved by the Executive Committee.
- b.** All cheques drawn against the Organisation's Account must be signed by any of the following two members of the Executive Committee signing jointly as provided hereunder.

Group "A" Signatories

- i. The President
- ii. Vice-President Finance

Group "B" Signatories

- i. The Deputy President
- ii. Vice-President Finance
- c.** No expenditure shall be incurred for any purpose unless such expenditure has been approved by the Executive Committee in the annual budget or any supplementary budget of the Organisation.

Provided that in any case of emergency, the President in consultation with the Secretary General and the Vice President of Finance may authorise such expenditure at their discretion and afterwards seek retrospective approval from the Executive Committee.

- d.** Such approvals may be obtained by virtual conference or by any other form of e-communication.

ARTICLE 10: BY-LAW

By-laws may be made at Annual or Extra-Ordinary General Meetings by a simple majority of the members present and voting at such meetings.

ARTICLE 11: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11.1. The Organisation shall have a Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the Trustees) Board of Trustees shall be made up of a number as will be approved by the executive committee. The Trustees shall be collectively known as the “INCORPORATED TRUSTEES OF LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS”.

11.2. The Trustees must be members of the organisation with impeccable character, integrity, genuine legal means of livelihood or retired and who are up to date on their financial obligations.

11.3. The Trustees shall be appointed by a majority vote of members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting.

11.4. The Trustees will choose amongst themselves the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

11.5. The President and General secretary both serving and past shall be automatic members of the board of trustees but shall not hold office in the board as long as they are occupying the office of the President and Secretary General

11.6. A Trustee may hold office for life but shall cease to hold office if he/she:

- a.** Resigns his office in writing.
- b.** Ceases to be a member of the Organisation.
- c.** Becomes insane
- d.** Is officially declared bankrupt.

- e. Is convicted of a criminal offence by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- f. Is infirm and or senile on account of age or any other reason.
- g. Is recommended for removal from office by a written consent of majority members of the Board of Trustees subject to confirmation by a majority vote of members present at an Annual General Meeting.
- h. Fails to keep up with regular payment of his/her financial obligations.

11.7. Vacancy in the Board of Trustees

If at any time there is any vacancy arising from death, resignation, retirement, removal or any other cause, the Board of Trustees may appoint a member to fill any casual vacancy subject to the appointment being ratified at the next Annual General Session following the appointment.

11.8. Powers and Duties of Trustees

- a. The Board of Trustees shall be an adversary body of the league.
- b. Shall be signatories to the documents relating to the acquisition of landed property of the Organisation and shall hold in trust all landed properties belonging to the Organisation.
- c. The Trustees shall have the power to acquire, sell, lease or mortgage any landed property on behalf of the Organisation with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- d. The Board of Trustees shall hold the property of the Organisation in perpetual succession.
- e. Except as provided by this Charter, every decision of the Board shall be by a simple majority votes of Trustees present; provided that in the event of a deadlock, the Chairman of the Meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

- f.** The Board of Trustees may invite any Officer of the Organisation to attend their meetings for the purpose of providing such information as the Board of Trustees may require.
- g.** The meetings of the Board of Trustees may be conducted through any online platform, as they may choose.
- h.** The members of the Board of Trustees shall be chosen from different regions of Africa.

ARTICLE 12: AMENDMENTS TO THE CHARTER

This Charter shall only be amended at a special meeting of the League summoned for that purpose, or at an Annual General Meeting.

12.1. Any provision of this Charter may be amended in the following manner:

- a.** Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given by a member of the Organisation before the end of the financial year preceding the next Annual General Meeting and such notice to members shall be given twenty-one (21) days before the Meeting.
- b.** Proposed amendment must be submitted to the General Secretary in writing not less than twenty-eight (28) days before the Annual General Meeting and the Secretary must notify members of any proposed changes twenty-one (21) days before the meeting.
- c.** The proposed amendment shall be debated at the Annual General Session and passed by a two-third (2/3) majority of members present and voting on the said proposal.

ARTICLE 13: SPECIAL CLAUSE

13.1. The income and property of the Incorporated Trustees of the League howsoever and wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the League as set forth in this Charter and no

portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, profit or otherwise to any member of the Organisation.

13.2. Provided that nothing in this Charter shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to an officer or servant of the Organisation in return for any service actually rendered to the Organisation but no member of the Executive Committee shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Organisation and no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be given by the Organisation to any member of the Executive Committee, except repayment of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses or allowances as prescribed in the financial regulation.

13.3. The Organisation may be dissolved by resolutions of two-third (2/3) votes of the total voting rights of all the members of the Organisation having the right to vote at the Session.

13.4. The dissolution shall take effect on the day when the resolution was passed, and the Executive Committee shall be responsible for winding up the Organisation. In particular, the Executive Committee shall realize the Assets of the Organisation, discharge its debts and other obligations, and distribute the surplus [if any] equally to charity organisations. Notwithstanding the dissolution of the Organisation, Members shall, until the winding up is completed, remain responsible for the debts and other obligations of the Organisation, and shall contribute equally to any deficit if the debts and other obligations of the Organisation exceed its assets.

ARTICLE 14: CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT

This Charter may be cited as the LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS Charter, 2023.

OATH OF OFFICE

I, _____ do solemnly swear/affirm that I as an officer in the Executive Committee, I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Charter of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS and always in the interest of the integrity, dignity, solidarity, well-being and prosperity of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS; that I will strive to satisfy the Aims and Objectives of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my official conduct or my official decisions; that I will to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Charter of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS; that I will abide by the Standing Orders contained in the Charter of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS; that in all circumstances, I will do right to all manners of people according to law, without fear or favor, affection or ill-will; that I will not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be made known to me as an officer in the Executive Committee of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS; except as may be required for the due discharge of my duties; and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of all members of LEAGUE OF AFRICAN AMBASSADORS. So, help me, God.

**ADOPTED AT THE VIRTUAL GENERAL SESSION HELD ON THE 17th
DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.**

A red handwritten signature, appearing to be "M. A. D. /!", written in a cursive style.

PRESIDENT

A red handwritten signature, appearing to be "A. D. /", written in a cursive style.

SECRETARY-GENERAL