



CONSTITUTION
of the Africa Scout Region

August 2022



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CHAPTER 1

TITLE, MEMBERSHIP, ORGANS AND PURPOSE OF THE AFRICA SCOUT REGION

**ARTICLE I:
Title, Membership,
Organs and Purpose**

1. Pursuant to the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the Africa Scout Region is hereby established.
2. Membership in the Africa Scout Region is open to each National Scout Organization, which is a recognized member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and duly registered with the World Scout Bureau, in Africa south of the Sahara and the adjacent islands (hereinafter called the Africa Scout Region).
3. The Africa Scout Region shall be composed of the following organs:
 - a) The Africa Scout Conference comprising all the members of the Africa Scout Region.
 - b) The Africa Scout Committee, duly elected by the Africa Scout Conference.
 - c) The Africa Regional Office of the World Scout Bureau directed by a Regional Director.
 - d) The Africa Scout Foundation as an independent body accumulating funds for the development of Scouting in Africa.
4. The purpose of the Africa Scout Region is to assist the World Organization of the Scout Movement in fostering the Movement in the Africa Region in accordance with the purpose, principles and method of the Scout Movement as defined by the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

CHAPTER 2

THE AFRICA SCOUT CONFERENCE

ARTICLE II: Composition

1. Each Member Organization of the Africa Scout Region is entitled to be represented at a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference by not more than six delegates, of which at least one third shall be young people under the age of 30, and a number of observers to be determined in agreement with the organizing committee.
2. Each National Scout Organization in the Africa Region which has been granted the status of an Accredited National Scout Organization by the World Scout Committee may be represented at a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference by a number of observers to be determined by the Africa Scout Committee in agreement with the organizing committee and specified in the invitation to the meeting.
3. Each delegate or observer shall be a recognized member in good standing with the National Scout Organization to which they belong, and be duly certified in such capacity, by the responsible Scout Committee or Scout official of their organization.
4. Other organizations may be invited by the Africa Scout Committee to send guests to the meetings of the Africa Scout Conference where their participation is judged to be of benefit to the objectives of the Conference.

ARTICLE III: Functions

The functions of the Africa Scout Conference shall be:

1. To further the Scout Movement within the Africa Region by promoting the spirit of Ubuntu (Kinship), cooperation and mutual assistance amongst National Scout Organizations in the Africa Region.
2. To ensure the proper implementation of the decisions and policies of the World Organization of the Scout Movement which affect the Africa Region.
3. To exercise such other functions as are provided for in this Constitution.

**ARTICLE IV:
Meetings and
Procedure**

1. A meeting of the Africa Scout Conference shall be held every three years at such time and place and according to such format as may be decided by the Africa Scout Conference itself or by the Africa Scout Committee
2. In case of force majeure, the Africa Scout Conference may resolve to postpone or shift the meeting of the Africa Scout Conference for a time period to be decided by a referendum of the Africa Scout Conference.
3. An extraordinary meeting of the Africa Scout Conference may be called on the decision of the Africa Scout Committee or at the request of not less than one third of the Member Organizations.
4. The presence of half of the total number of Member Organizations of the Africa Scout Region who are in good standing with the World Organization of the Scout Movement in accordance with article VII, paragraph 3, of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Africa Scout Conference.
5. Voting at a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference shall be by Member Organizations of the Africa Scout Region each having six votes. Except as provided for under Article XI, paragraph 2 of this Constitution, resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the motion is defeated.
6. A Member Organization which is unable to be present at a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference may vote by proxy given to another Member Organization, but no Member Organization may accept more than one proxy.
7. In appropriate circumstances determined by the Africa Scout Committee, there may be a referendum by post or electronic communication to Member Organizations of the Africa Scout Region between meetings of the Africa Scout Conference when the same rules as set out in Article IV.4 above shall apply.

8. A Member Organization of the Africa Scout Region which shall not be in good standing with the World Organization of the Scout Movement in accordance with Article VII, paragraph 3, of the Constitution of the World Organization shall forfeit its right to vote at the Africa Scout Conference.
9. The Africa Scout Conference shall record and adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

**ARTICLE V:
Programme,
Organization and
Conference Fee**

1. The programme of a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference shall be prepared by the Africa Scout Committee giving consideration to suggestions from Member Organizations of the Africa Scout Region and the World Scout Committee.
2. An organizing committee and a secretariat for a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference shall be formed jointly by the host and the Africa Regional Office and shall assist the Africa Scout Committee in promoting and carrying out a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference.
3. The secretariat shall perform the administrative work for a meeting the Africa Scout Conference such as the general correspondence, physical arrangements, programme management, recording and documentation of proceedings and promotion.
4. The host shall, through the organizing committee, charge a conference fee to each delegate or observer to cover expenses for a meeting of the Africa Scout Conference.

CHAPTER 3
THE AFRICA SCOUT COMMITTEE

**ARTICLE VI:
Africa Scout
Committee
Composition,
Term of Office and
Election of Members**

1. a) The Africa Scout Committee shall consist of:
 - i. Voting Members:
 - a. Eight persons from recognized Member Organizations in the Africa Region who shall be elected by the Africa Scout Conference by secret ballot and shall hold office for a term of six years or up to the respective conference.
 - b. The Chairperson of the Youth Advisors to the Africa Scout Committee while this position exists within the Africa Scout Region.
 - ii. Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members:
 - a. Regional Director of the Africa Regional Office of the World Scout Bureau
 - b. Africa Regional Treasurer
 - c. A member of the Board of the Africa Scout Foundation.
- b) Under no circumstances shall more than one member from the same National Scout Organization serve on the committee at any period of time. This provision will not apply to the individual serving as Chairperson of the Youth Advisors to the Africa Scout Committee.
- c) A retiring voting member of the Africa Scout Committee may only be eligible for re-election after a lapse of three years. This provision will not apply to an outgoing Chairperson of the Youth Advisors to the Africa Scout Committee.
- d) To become a member of the Africa Scout Committee:
 - The candidate must have been nominated by their National Scout Organization.
 - The National Scout Organization nominating a candidate for election to the Committee must be in good standing with the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

2. a) Four elected members of the Africa Scout Committee shall retire at each Africa Scout Conference and they shall be replaced by four other members.
 - b) In the interval between the meetings of the Africa Scout Conference, in case of death or resignation of one or many members, the Africa Scout Committee may (accept resignations and) fill vacancies in its membership.
 - c) Any vacancy occurring amongst the voting members of the Africa Scout Committee may be filled for the remainder of the term still to be served by the vacant seat by the runner-up in order of the last election. However, this co-option does not prevent the co-opted member standing for election at the end of their co-opted term unless the co-opted member has served for more than three years.
 - d) The Africa Scout Committee may suspend a member who is absent for two consecutive meetings without valid reasons acceptable to the Committee or when they are no longer a member of a recognized Member Organization. The next meeting of the Africa Scout Conference shall decide on the suspension.
3. a) The Africa Regional Office shall notify all Member Organizations of the Africa Scout Region of the expiration of the term of office of members concerned and shall invite each Member Organization to submit its nominations for membership in the Africa Scout Committee six months before each meeting of the Africa Scout Conference.
 - b) The nomination of a candidate for election to the Africa Scout Committee shall be made or endorsed by their own Member Organization. Nominations for candidates to the Africa Scout Committee shall reach the Africa Regional Office in writing not later than eight weeks before the opening date of the Africa Scout Conference, by which date the list of nominations shall be closed.
 - c) The list of candidates shall be sent by the Africa Regional Office to every Member Organization before the Africa Scout Conference.

**ARTICLE VII:
Functions**

The Africa Scout Committee shall have the following functions:

1. To promote Scouting in the Africa Region.
2. To implement the resolutions of the World Scout Conference, the World Scout Committee and the Africa Scout Conference, and to act on behalf of the Africa Scout Conference in between its meetings.
3. To act as an advisory body to the World Scout Committee.
4. To act as an advisory body to Member Organizations requiring advice and assistance.
5. To serve as a steering committee for the Africa Scout Conference or other regional gatherings approved by the World Committee.
6. To promote cooperation and mutual assistance among Member Organizations in the region.
7. To promote good relations in the Africa Region with other youth-focused organizations.
8. Develop strategies to increase the financial resources of the Africa Scout Region.
9. Adopt plans and programmes that may help the development and the promotion of Scouting in Africa.
10. To help resolve conflicts in National Scout Organizations.
11. To exercise such other functions as are provided for in this Constitution.

**ARTICLE VIII:
Meetings and
Procedure**

1. a) The Africa Scout Committee shall meet at least twice a year at such time and place and according to such format as the Committee may decide. A review of the achievements for the period and the report of the Regional Director shall be presented to the meeting.

b) All notices of the meetings of the Africa Scout Committee shall be mailed or sent through other appropriate means of communication so as to be received by members of the committee, under ordinary conditions, at least three months before the set time. The notice shall include the tentative agenda for the meeting.
2. The presence of five voting members of the Africa Scout Committee together with the Regional Director or the latter's authorized representative shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the committee.
3. a) Each voting member of the Africa Scout Committee shall have one vote and resolutions shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present or represented and voting.

b) Members of the Africa Scout Committee may vote at a committee meeting by a proxy given to another member of the Committee, but no member may accept more than one proxy.
4. The Africa Scout Committee may establish such subsidiary committees or other organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

**ARTICLE IX:
Officers**

1. a) After each triennial election of members, the Africa Scout Committee shall elect from among its members a chairperson and a vice-chairperson, who shall serve for a term of three years.

b) Meetings of the Committee shall be presided over by the chairperson. In case the Chairperson is not available, they will be presided over by the vice-chairperson.

c) If the chairperson and vice-chairperson are unable to attend any meeting, the Africa Scout Committee may also elect from its members a presiding officer who shall act pro tempore for these absentee officers.

d) After each triennial election of members, the Africa Scout Committee shall elect a Treasurer from outside its members who shall serve for a term of three years and may be re-elected, without term limits. The nomination of the Regional Treasurer shall be approved by the World Treasurer. Once elected the Treasurer becomes a member of the Africa Scout Committee without vote with the responsibility of advising both the Committee and the Regional Office on finance matters.

e) The Regional Director shall serve as Executive Secretary to the Africa Scout Committee without vote.

CHAPTER 4

THE AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE WORLD SCOUT BUREAU

ARTICLE X: The Africa Regional Office of the World Scout Bureau

1. a) The Africa Regional Office is a branch of the World Scout Bureau in accordance with Articles XVII, paragraph 2 and XX, paragraph 2.c, of the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement. The Africa Regional Office shall be directed by the Regional Director and shall comprise such other staff as may be required.

b) The Regional Director is appointed by the World Scout Bureau in agreement with the Africa Scout Committee, shall be paid by the World Scout Bureau and shall report to the Secretary-General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement to whom they shall be responsible and to the Africa Scout Committee.

2. The functions of the Africa Regional Office are:

a) To serve as a secretariat of the Africa Scout Region.

b) To serve as a secretariat of the World Organization of the Scout Movement in matters relating to the Africa Region.

c) To provide the services necessary for the promotion of the Scout Movement in the Africa Region.

- d) To maintain relations with Member Organizations and assist them in the development of Scouting.
 - e) To assist the Africa Scout Conference, the Africa Scout Committee and its subsidiary organs in the fulfilment of their functions; to make preparations for all their meetings; and to provide the necessary services for the implementation of decisions.
 - f) To promote the development of Scouting in countries where it does not exist, and to assist non-member National Scout Organizations to attain the standards necessary for membership in the World Organization of the Scout Movement.
 - g) To enquire into applications for membership, requests for aid and other similar matters.
 - h) To support the organization of world and regional Scout events.
 - i) To maintain relations with international organizations whose activities are concerned, inter alia, with youth.
3. The financing of the Africa Regional Office shall be determined by the World Scout Committee in consultation with the Africa Scout Committee. The Africa Scout Committee shall endeavour to initiate schemes and plans as needed for financing projects and activities to supplement the budgetary allocation from the World Scout Bureau to the Africa Regional Office.

CHAPTER 5
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**ARTICLE XI:
Languages,
Amendments and
Interpretation**

1. The official languages of the Africa Scout Region are English and French. In the event of a conflict arising out of the interpretation of this Constitution or other official documents of the Africa Scout Region, the English text shall prevail.
2. This Constitution may be amended by the Africa Scout Conference at any of its meetings by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. Texts of proposed amendments shall be communicated by the Africa Regional Office to all Member Organizations in the Africa Region, and members of the Africa Scout Committee, at least three months before the time of the meeting of the Africa Scout Conference. Amendments so carried by the Africa Scout Conference shall become effective upon approval by the World Scout Committee.
3. In the event of a conflict between obligations resulting from the Constitution of the World Organization of the Scout Movement and obligations resulting from this Constitution, the obligations resulting from the Constitution of the World Organization shall prevail.



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GOVERNANCE
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