

**THE CONSTITUTION OF
THE AFRICAN ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC
ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES (AFROPAC)**



This Constitution was adopted by a Resolution of Members passed at the 4th General Meeting held on 2nd November 2022 in Monrovia, Liberia.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES
(AFROPAC)

PREAMBLE

We, the national Parliamentary Committees responsible for examining the audited accounts of governments and government bodies in Africa:

RECOGNISING that:

In a parliamentary democracy, Parliament (Legislature) has ultimate authority over public funds, and has a mandate to exercise oversight through its committees of the spending of public funds and the control and protection of the public purse;

NOTING that:

Since these Parliamentary Committees across our continent perform a common function of examining the audited accounts of government and government bodies and endeavour to do so without political party influence, there is a need for these Committees to associate to pursue common goals and objectives including the promotion of accountability, transparency and improved service delivery; and

THEREFORE

Desiring to create an association where these Parliamentary Committees from the entire African continent can share knowledge and experience and in so doing strengthen their individual capacities, and can work together to serve as a continental voice to advocate the cause of public sector accountability, transparency and improved service delivery by governments and government bodies; we

THUS

Agree to adopt this Constitution of AFROPAC.

1. **ARTICLE ONE: NAME**

The association hereby constituted is the **AFRICAN ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES**.

2. **ARTICLE TWO: DEFINITIONS**

In this Constitution, unless the context indicates otherwise:

- 2.1. **"African State"** means a member state of the African Union (AU).
- 2.2. **"AFROPAC"** means the African Organization of Public Accounts Committees, which is composed of Parliamentary committees by whatever name called where at least one of the primary functions of that committee is to examine the audited accounts of government and government bodies.
- 2.3. **"AU"** means the African Union, a continental body consisting of the member states that make up the countries of the African continent, which was officially launched in 2002 as a successor to the Organisation of African Unity.
- 2.4. **"Chairperson"** means the member of AFROPAC (Member) elected as such to the executive committee of AFROPAC (ExCom) in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.
- 2.5. **"Constitution"** means this constitution of AFROPAC, as amended from time to time.
- 2.6. **"Deputy Chairperson"** means the Member elected as such to ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.
- 2.7. **"Deputy Secretary-General"** means the Member elected as such to ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.
- 2.8. **"Deputy Treasurer-General"** means the Member elected as such to ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.
- 2.9. **"ExCom"** means the executive committee of AFROPAC, comprising the Office Bearers and Sub-regional Representatives elected or appointed in accordance with Articles 11.5 and 11.7 respectively.
- 2.10. **"Member"** means a committee of a Parliament, by whatever name called, where at least one of its primary functions is to examine the audited accounts of government and

government bodies and which has been formally accepted by ExCom as a member of AFROPAC upon application by the relevant Parliament, and “**Membership**” shall have a corresponding meaning.

- 2.11. “**Member State**” means the African State in which the Parliament from which a Member comes, is constituted.
- 2.12. “**Office Bearer**” means each of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Treasurer General and the Deputy Treasurer General, and “**Office Bearers**” shall have a corresponding meaning.
- 2.13. “**PAC**” means a committee of a Parliament, by whatever name called, where at least one of its primary functions is to examine the audited accounts of government and government bodies.
- 2.14. “**Pan African Parliament**” means the legislative body of the AU.
- 2.15. “**Parliament**” means the national legislature of an African State recognized by the AU.
- 2.16. “**SAI**” means a supreme audit institution, which is the public body of a country which, however designated, constituted or organized, exercises by virtue of law the highest public auditing function of that country.
- 2.17. “**Seat of the Secretariat**” means the Member State hosting the Secretariat, as determined by the General Meeting.
- 2.18. “**Secretary General**” means the Member elected as such to ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.
- 2.19. “**Sub-region**” means each of:
- 2.19.1. Central Africa;
 - 2.19.2. Eastern Africa;
 - 2.19.3. Northern Africa;
 - 2.19.4. Southern Africa; and
 - 2.19.5. Western Africa.
- 2.20. “**Sub-regional Network**” means an association appropriately inclusive of the PACs of a Sub-region.

2.21. **"Sub-regional Representative"** means a Member nominated by a Sub-regional Network for participation as such in the ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.4 and 11.7, and with the functions described in Article 12.

2.22. **"Treasurer General"** means the Member elected as such to ExCom in accordance with Articles 10.4.3 and 11.5 and with the functions described in Article 12.

3. **ARTICLE THREE: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1. The aims of AFROPAC are to:

3.1.1. promote and enhance good governance, accountability and transparency in the management of public resources, as well as the effective operations of governments in the African continent;

3.1.2. encourage Members to work together to serve as a continental voice to advocate the cause of public sector accountability, transparency and improved service delivery by governments and government bodies;

3.1.3. encourage and strengthen relations amongst PACs of Africa; and

3.1.4. promote the free flow of information amongst PACs in the continent.

3.2. In order to achieve its aims, AFROPAC will strive towards the following objectives, to:

3.2.1. enhance parliamentary oversight over public financial accountability in Africa;

3.2.2. share experiences amongst Members;

3.2.3. promote professional and technical development and co-operation amongst its Members and other national, regional and international bodies;

3.2.4. promote and maintain relations with national, regional and international institutions promoting transparency, accountability and good governance of public resources;

3.2.5. make contributions to the Pan African Parliament for legislative changes or model laws to be enacted in Member States to enhance transparency, accountability and good governance of public resources;

3.2.6. provide training to Members and to its staff;

3.2.7. support the independence of SAIs in Africa; and

3.2.8. build the legitimacy and institutional capacity of its Members.

3.3. AFROPAC shall recognise as a matter of principle:

3.3.1. the equality of all Members;

3.3.2. the laws by which each Member is governed; and

3.3.3. the laws of the Pan African Parliament.

4. **ARTICLE FOUR: LEGAL STATUS OF AFROPAC**

4.1. AFROPAC is a voluntary and non-profit association of its Members in the form of a separate legal entity, having perpetual succession and the power to own and hold property (immovable, movable and incorporeal) in its own name independently of its Members, as well as the power to sue and to be sued in its own name.

4.2. AFROPAC shall be governed by and in accordance with this Constitution and subject to the jurisdiction of the Seat of the Secretariat.

5. **ARTICLE FIVE: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF AFROPAC**

5.1. AFROPAC may enter into contracts, purchase, sell, hire, lease, mortgage, pledge or in any way alienate or deal with both movable and immovable property and furthermore perform all such legal activities authorized by this Constitution.

5.2. AFROPAC may affiliate to appropriate bodies in Africa or beyond Africa and may accept affiliation from similar bodies.

5.3. AFROPAC shall organize regularly (and at least annually) an event or platform providing an opportunity for chairpersons of PACs in Africa to meet and discuss matters of common interest.

5.4. AFROPAC may partner with bodies and institutions regionally and internationally in order to pursue its objectives.

5.5. AFROPAC's functions, activities, roles and responsibilities shall complement those of the Sub-regional Networks.

6. **ARTICLE SIX: MEMBERSHIP**

6.1. Parliamentary committees in Africa whose primary functions include the examination of the audited accounts of government and government bodies are eligible for Membership of AFROPAC.

- 6.2. Application for Membership by a PAC must be made by the relevant Parliament, which must complete and submit any required Membership application documentation and also indicate its acceptance of this Constitution and commitment to AFROPAC.
- 6.3. Applications for Membership for more than one PAC from one Parliament may be made.
- 6.4. The Members from one Parliament are limited to one representative for purposes of participation in ExCom as an Office Bearer or a Sub-regional Representative.
- 6.5. Termination or withdrawal of Membership at the instance of a Member shall be effected by 90 (ninety) days' notice in writing, addressed to the ExCom through the Secretariat.

7. **ARTICLE SEVEN: MEMBERSHIP FEES**

- 7.1. An annual Membership fee, the amount of which is to be determined by Members at the General Meeting, shall be paid by each Member by the 31st of December of each year, for the succeeding year.
- 7.2. Payment of Membership fees may be made by a Member itself, or on its behalf by its Parliament, by a Sub-regional Network which a Member is affiliated to or forms part of, or by a third party approved by ExCom.

8. **ARTICLE EIGHT: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS**

- 8.1. Members shall have the following rights:
 - 8.1.1. to attend and participate in and vote at the General Meeting, subject to Article 10;
 - 8.1.2. to elect Members to ExCom and be elected to ExCom;
 - 8.1.3. to participate in AFROPAC events and activities; and
 - 8.1.4. to request assistance and support from AFROPAC and its Members.
- 8.2. Members shall have the following responsibilities, to:
 - 8.2.1. pay their annual Membership fees;
 - 8.2.2. actively participate in the events and in the activities of AFROPAC;
 - 8.2.3. provide information as required by the Secretariat timeously;

- 8.2.4. pool resources with other Members including by making available subject matter experts and trainers as far as possible for the advancement of AFROPAC objectives;
- 8.2.5. serve periodically in ExCom;
- 8.2.6. co-operate with other governance, monitoring, review and implementation structures established by AFROPAC; and
- 8.2.7. pursue the highest possible level of PAC practice.

9. **ARTICLE NINE: GOVERNANCE OF AFROPAC**

AFROPAC shall be governed through the following structures:

- 9.1. the General Meeting;
- 9.2. the ExCom; and
- 9.3. the Secretariat.

10. **ARTICLE TEN: THE GENERAL MEETING**

- 10.1. Members shall meet every 2 (two) years, on at least 30 (thirty) days' written notice to all Members and Sub-regional Networks, in a General Meeting.
- 10.2. ExCom may call an extraordinary General Meeting, on at least 30 (thirty) days' written notice to all Members and Sub-regional Networks, if it considers it to be necessary for Members to meet before the next scheduled General Meeting.
- 10.3. Each Member may be represented at the General Meeting by a representative or a delegation, provided that:
 - 10.3.1. each Member has 1 (one) vote at the General Meeting; and
 - 10.3.2. where a Parliament has multiple Members those Members are limited to 1 (one) vote at the General Meeting.
- 10.4. The following powers and responsibilities shall be exercised by Members at the General Meeting, to:
 - 10.4.1. amend the Constitution of AFROPAC in accordance with Article 20;

- 10.4.2. approve the appointment of the external auditors of AFROPAC for a period until the next regularly scheduled General Meeting;
 - 10.4.3. elect the Office Bearers to ExCom;
 - 10.4.4. through the Sub-regional Networks, appoint the Sub-regional Representatives to ExCom;
 - 10.4.5. review progress made towards AFROPAC aims and objectives and in terms of adopted strategic plans;
 - 10.4.6. take policy decisions in relation to AFROPAC;
 - 10.4.7. approve a Member State as the Seat of the Secretariat, from time to time;
 - 10.4.8. nominate the Member State envisioned to hold the next regularly scheduled General Meeting; and
 - 10.4.9. deal with matters not specifically provided for in this Constitution, but which are necessary to advance the aims, objectives and functions of AFROPAC.
- 10.5. The Chairperson, or in the Chairperson's absence, the Deputy Chairperson, shall be the chairperson of the General Meeting.
 - 10.6. In the absence of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, the Members present at the General Meeting shall elect 1 (one) of the Members whose chairperson shall act as the chairperson of the General Meeting.
 - 10.7. A Member is permitted to vote by formal written proxy in accordance with the documentary and procedural requirements determined and communicated by the Secretariat.
 - 10.8. Votes taken at General Meetings may, as determined by the chairperson of the General Meeting as required from time to time, be exercised by a show of hands or secret ballot, in either case accommodating proxies.
 - 10.9. A majority vote of Members present or by proxy is required for a decision taken at the General Meeting, except in the case of amendments to the Constitution which shall be made in accordance with the requirements of Article 20.

11. **ARTICLE ELEVEN: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXCOM)**

- 11.1. ExCom shall consist of 6 (six) Office Bearers and up to 5 (five) Sub-regional Representatives, and in each case the office shall be held by a representative of the relevant Member, which representative must be the chairperson or deputy chairperson of the relevant PAC.
- 11.2. Each Member elected or appointed to ExCom shall be responsible for notifying the Secretariat of the name, position and contact details of its nominated representative:
- 11.2.1. 30 (thirty) days before each General Meeting; and
- 11.2.2. whenever there is a change in the nominated representative.
- 11.3. Office Bearers and Sub-regional Representatives elected or appointed to ExCom shall hold office for a 4 (four) year term.
- 11.4. No Member may serve as Chairperson for more than 1 (one) consecutive term.
- 11.5. Office Bearers shall be elected by Members at a General Meeting, on the basis that a maximum of 2 (two) Office Bearers may be elected from one Sub-Region.
- 11.6. The Office Bearers shall be elected in the following sequence:
- 11.6.1. Chairperson;
- 11.6.2. Deputy Chairperson;
- 11.6.3. Secretary General;
- 11.6.4. Deputy Secretary General;
- 11.6.5. Treasurer General; and
- 11.6.6. Deputy Treasurer General.
- 11.7. After election of the Office Bearers, each Sub-regional Network shall be entitled to nominate a Member from that Sub-region, for participation in ExCom as a Sub-regional Representative.
- 11.8. A Member State may only be represented by 1 (one) Office Bearer or Sub-regional Representative on ExCom at one time.
- 11.9. In the event that a vacancy arises on ExCom:

- 11.9.1. the validity of decisions taken by ExCom is not affected by such vacancy;
 - 11.9.2. if the vacancy arises in respect of a Sub-regional Representative, the relevant Sub-regional Network may nominate a new representative; and
 - 11.9.3. if the vacancy arises in respect of an Office Bearer, ExCom may co-opt a Member for the vacated position for the period up to the next General Meeting, provided that the co-opted Member may not be from a Member State which is already represented on ExCom and no more than 2 (two) Office Bearers may be from one Sub-region.
- 11.10. If the nominated representative of any Office Bearer or Sub-regional Representative is not available to perform their functions or attend any ExCom meeting, he or she shall be entitled to nominate a substitute for purposes of participation in ExCom for the time-period notified to the Secretariat in writing prior to the date of commencement of service of the substitute; provided that the substitute shall not exercise the formal functions of an Office Bearer or Sub-regional Representative.
- 11.11. In the interpretation and application of this Article, Members shall note that continuity of representation is important for the optimal functioning of ExCom and therefore substitution of the nominated representative should not be done without good cause.
- 11.12. ExCom is responsible for promoting and progressing towards the aims and objectives of AFROPAC, advising and preparing for the General Meeting, providing strategic leadership for the organisation, and overseeing and guiding the work of the Secretariat.
- 11.13. ExCom shall have authority, and the responsibility, to perform the following specific functions:
- 11.13.1. approve or reject applications for Membership of AFROPAC, and determine the Membership application requirements;
 - 11.13.2. determine the accounting policy and financial year of AFROPAC;
 - 11.13.3. present policy proposals to the General Meeting;
 - 11.13.4. adopt the strategic plan, annual operational plan and other associated documents of AFROPAC;
 - 11.13.5. ensure that the Secretariat implements AFROPAC's mandate in accordance with the Constitution, decisions of the General Meeting and of ExCom, and other AFROPAC decisions and policies;

- 11.13.6. approve the annual budget for AFROPAC;
 - 11.13.7. approve reports on the activities of AFROPAC including the report of the external auditor, the audited financial statements and the annual report;
 - 11.13.8. invite individuals or organisations to be in attendance at the General Meeting, and permit Members to attend ExCom meetings, as observers;
 - 11.13.9. consider the consequences of non-compliance, by any Member, with the Constitution and recommend appropriate sanctions for approval by the Members at the General Meeting; and
 - 11.13.10. fulfil any other duties and responsibilities assigned by the General Meeting or necessary for the functioning and operation of AFROPAC.
- 11.14. Each Office Bearer and Sub-regional Representative shall have 1 (one) vote, and a simple majority of votes by ExCom members present at an ExCom meeting, subject to any quorum requirements being met, is required for a decision. In the event of a deadlock, the proposed decision fails.
- 11.15. ExCom shall determine and control its internal arrangements, proceedings and procedures (including the quorum for ExCom meetings which must be at least 3 (three)), subject to this Constitution and having regard to any budgetary constraints.
- 11.16. ExCom shall meet (in person or by electronic means) at least twice per calendar year.
- 11.17. ExCom may establish sub-committees or other support structures to assist in the performance of its functions, and may determine their composition, mandate and governance arrangements.
- 11.18. Support structures referred to in Article 11.17 may include a technical working group comprising clerks of the Members in ExCom, which technical working group may also be deployed to support the Secretariat in relation to activities of AFROPAC that further its aims and objectives.

12. **ARTICLE TWELVE: OFFICE BEARERS AND SUB-REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES**

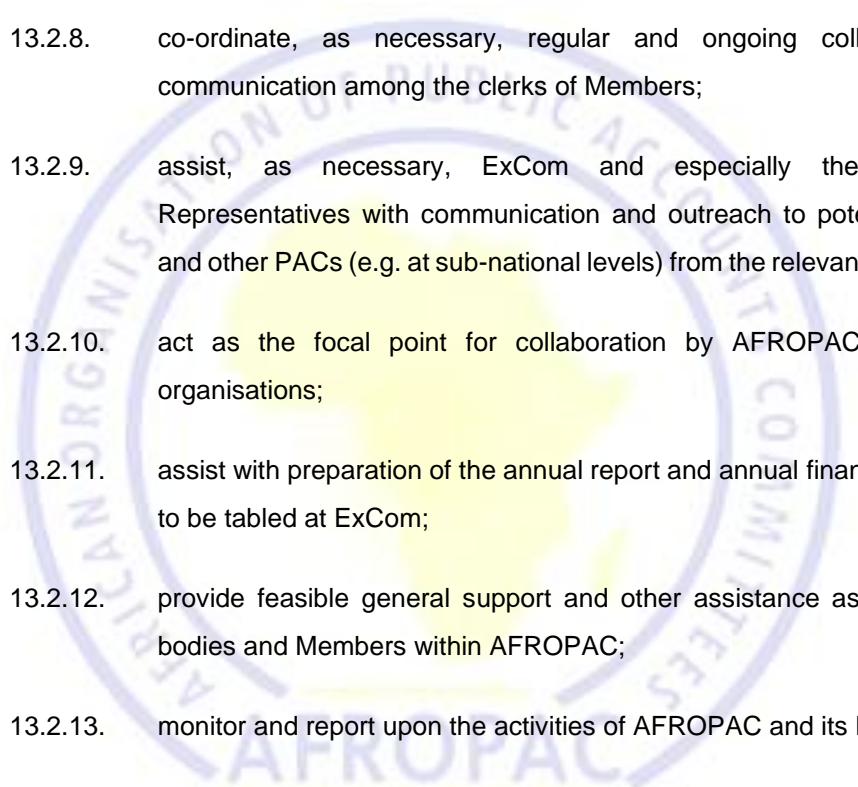
- 12.1. The Chairperson shall:
- 12.1.1. preside over the General Meeting and meetings of the ExCom;
 - 12.1.2. submit the annual report to the General Meeting;

- 12.1.3. make pronouncements for and on behalf of AFROPAC; and
 - 12.1.4. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.2. The Deputy Chairperson shall:
- 12.2.1. function as Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson, or if the Chairperson is unable to perform his or her duties;
 - 12.2.2. perform any other specific functions to support the ExCom, as decided by ExCom; and
 - 12.2.3. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.3. The Secretary General shall:
- 12.3.1. coordinate activities of AFROPAC, subject to the direction of ExCom;
 - 12.3.2. ensure governance meetings, including the preparation of documentation and follow-up meetings, are arranged and carried forward;
 - 12.3.3. coordinate AFROPAC events such as conferences, workshops and trainings;
 - 12.3.4. prepare an annual report for submission by the Chairperson to the General Meeting;
 - 12.3.5. in collaboration with the Treasurer General, oversee and approve AFROPAC expenditure;
 - 12.3.6. oversee Secretariat activities; and
 - 12.3.7. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.4. The Deputy Secretary General shall:
- 12.4.1. assist the Secretary General and function as Secretary General in his or her absence;
 - 12.4.2. perform any other specific functions to support ExCom, as decided by ExCom; and
 - 12.4.3. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.5. The Treasurer General shall:

- 12.5.1. promote and coordinate the fundraising activities of AFROPAC;
 - 12.5.2. compile an annual fundraising report;
 - 12.5.3. prepare and table the annual budget and financial statements;
 - 12.5.4. ensure that the annual financial statements are audited;
 - 12.5.5. ensure that any findings made by the auditors are resolved and appropriate action taken;
 - 12.5.6. oversee the implementation of the approved budget; and
 - 12.5.7. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.6. The Deputy Treasurer General shall:
- 12.6.1. assist the Treasurer General and function as Treasurer General in his or her absence;
 - 12.6.2. perform any other specific functions to support the ExCom, as decided by the ExCom; and
 - 12.6.3. perform any other functions incidental to the role.
- 12.7. Sub-regional Representatives shall:
- 12.7.1. be responsible for and engage in Sub-regional outreach, in furtherance of the mandate of AFROPAC as provided for in Article 5.5; and
 - 12.7.2. perform such other functions as are required to advance the aims and objectives of AFROPAC, as determined by the ExCom.

13. **ARTICLE THIRTEEN: THE SECRETARIAT**

- 13.1. The Secretariat shall be responsible for the day-to-day management and operations of AFROPAC.
- 13.2. The Secretariat shall:
- 13.2.1. assist ExCom in developing AFROPAC's strategic plan;
 - 13.2.2. implement AFROPAC decisions, policies, budgets, and plans in accordance with the directions provided by the General Meeting and ExCom and with the Secretary-General;

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- 13.2.3. ensure the safe custody of all assets and property of AFROPAC;
 - 13.2.4. prepare work plans and budgets to implement AFROPAC's strategic plan;
 - 13.2.5. notify Members of their Membership fees and ensure the collection thereof;
 - 13.2.6. ensure the recording and capturing of ExCom meetings and General Meetings;
 - 13.2.7. monitor and ensure compliance with contracts and agreements concluded by AFROPAC;
 - 13.2.8. co-ordinate, as necessary, regular and ongoing collaboration and communication among the clerks of Members;
 - 13.2.9. assist, as necessary, ExCom and especially the Sub-regional Representatives with communication and outreach to potential Members and other PACs (e.g. at sub-national levels) from the relevant Sub-region(s);
 - 13.2.10. act as the focal point for collaboration by AFROPAC with external organisations;
 - 13.2.11. assist with preparation of the annual report and annual financial statements to be tabled at ExCom;
 - 13.2.12. provide feasible general support and other assistance as needed by all bodies and Members within AFROPAC;
 - 13.2.13. monitor and report upon the activities of AFROPAC and its Members; and
 - 13.2.14. fulfil any other duties and responsibilities assigned by ExCom.

14. **ARTICLE FOURTEEN: AUDIT AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

- 14.1. The Secretariat shall keep proper records and books of account which fairly reflect the affairs of AFROPAC, in line with General Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP").
- 14.2. The accounts of AFROPAC shall be submitted for auditing to the auditors approved at the General Meeting, within 2 (two) months of the end of AFROPAC's financial year, after approval of those annual financial statements by ExCom.
- 14.3. The following institutions may qualify as auditors of AFROPAC:
 - 14.3.1. an SAI of a Member State; or

14.3.2. an audit firm.

14.4. Audit costs will be covered by AFROPAC.

14.5. The Secretariat shall supply the auditors with any information required for the performance of their duties and shall assist them with their tasks.

14.6. The Secretariat shall not incur any expenditure above the approved budget without the prior approval of ExCom.

15. **ARTICLE FIFTEEN: INCOME AND PROPERTY**

15.1. The income and property of AFROPAC shall be used solely for the promotion of the aims and objectives of AFROPAC as set forth in the Constitution.

15.2. The income of AFROPAC is derived from:

15.2.1. Membership fees;

15.2.2. grants, donations, sponsorship or any other kind of contribution from Governments, national or international organizations or individuals; and

15.2.3. any other source of funds that may lawfully accrue to AFROPAC,

provided that the aforementioned does not undermine the aims and objectives of AFROPAC, or result in the exclusion of any Member.

16. **ARTICLE SIXTEEN: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

16.1. Any dispute arising among the Members in connection with this Constitution, which cannot be settled among the Members themselves, must be referred to an impartial third party for settlement by mediation and, failing resolution by mediation, may be referred by any Member to arbitration provided that the referring Member takes responsibility for the full arbitration costs of all parties to the dispute.

16.2. The arbitrator's award shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute.

16.3. Article 16.1 shall not preclude any party to a dispute from obtaining relief on an urgent basis from a court of competent jurisdiction.

17. **ARTICLE SEVENTEEN: APPLICABLE LAW**

The Constitution will at all times be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of the Seat of the Secretariat at the time at which the cause of action arises, and all disputes and other actions relating to the Constitution will be determined in accordance with such law.

18. **ARTICLE EIGHTEEN: DISSOLUTION OF AFROPAC**

18.1. AFROPAC shall, subject to any liabilities having been settled, dissolve if decided by a vote of two-thirds of its Members.

18.2. Upon the dissolution of AFROPAC, the Membership at the time shall decide on the transfer of the net assets of AFROPAC to an appropriate organization with similar aims and objectives.

19. **ARTICLE NINETEEN: LANGUAGE**

19.1. Recognising the different working and official languages of its Members and the Sub-regions, the official languages of AFROPAC shall be English and French and such other languages as may be determined by the General Meeting from time to time.

19.2. Where feasible within its available resources, the Secretariat will take reasonable steps to procure translations of key AFROPAC documents for its Members, and may request Members to assist with translation services.

20. **ARTICLE TWENTY: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

20.1. Any amendment of this Constitution must be approved by two-thirds of those Members present at the General Meeting, and at least half the total Members of AFROPAC.

20.2. Proposed amendments must be submitted to ExCom at least 2 (two) months before submission to the General Meeting.

21. **ARTICLE TWENTY ONE: EFFECTIVE DATE AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

21.1. This Constitution takes effect on the date of a resolution adopting this Constitution at a General Meeting, and replaces in its entirety the previous constitution of AFROPAC (as agreed on 1 September 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya).

21.2. With effect from the effective date of this Constitution, anything done or any decision or steps taken in terms of a provision of the previous constitution of AFROPAC is deemed to have been done or taken in terms of the corresponding provision of this Constitution.