



**YOUNG
AMBASSADORS
AFRICA**

1 CHAPTER ONE

1.1 NAME

The organisation shall be known as Young African Ambassadors (YAA).

1.2 LOGO



1.3 OUR COLOURS AND SYMBOLS

- Map of Africa

The map of Africa shall be bordered by green and black lines. The map is a

- African Drum

Just like drums were used traditionally to produce melodies that communicated with the whole village. The drum shall represent the modern youths who shall be the advocates and key players of prosperity in the continent of Africa.

- Joining hands

The joining hands shall be in the colours black and green. YAA subscribes to the ideologies of a united Africa therefore the joining hands shall serve as a sign of unity amongst African nations.

The logo shall consist of the following colours;

- Yellow

The colour yellow shall be representation of resources in Africa in form of minerals in which the youth must learn to utilise for the benefit of Africa.

- Green

The green shall represent the organisation's commitment to sustainable development. YAA is totally committed to principles of sustainable development and environmental protection therefore the colour green shall be used as a representation.

1.4 VISION

- To harness the full potential of Africa, through training and engaging young Africans in contemporary socio-economic issues.
- To mould young Africans into empowered & knowledgeable adults who are adequately informed to influence domestic and international relations systems in the contemporary world.
- To churn out effective and efficient future international practitioners of impact for the good of wider society.
- To train, groom and develop young Africans to become leaders of impact with integrity who have a broad and wider understanding of different systems at national, regional and international levels.
- To forge an alliance and working partnership amongst African youths who wish to pursue careers in international affairs with relevant institutions for the benefit of the society.

1.5 MISSION

- **To orient** young Africans to various international discourses that shape and inform the practice of international relations and diplomacy, economics & trade.

1.6 OBJECTIVES

- To provide a platform for intellectual engagements in the form of research, debates, seminars and public lectures.
- To create a symbiotic and professional working relationship between members of the society, various international institutions, organisations and agencies at home and abroad.
- To familiarise and give insight to African youths interested in international affairs, ambassadorship, and diplomacy in existing socio-economic and political institutions and organisations.
- To prepare, develop and position young African leaders who are interested in international affairs to understand policy making and implementation process.

1.7 SEVEN PILLARS OF YAA

- Promotion and recognition of all African cultures, traditions and languages.
- Preparing young future leaders.
- Promotion and recognition of African youths interested in the innovation and entrepreneurship.
- Collective working together of all African states for socio-economic development.
- Promoting African youths interested in diplomacy, leadership and entrepreneurship.
- Fostering participation of the youth in issues affecting their communities, countries, continent & the world at large
- To help the youth through networking and dialogue to come up with solutions to the problems facing their communities, countries, continent & world at large

1.8 CONDUCT

- The affairs of this forum shall at all times be undertaken in a manner consistent with the constitution of each state in which YAA is operating and any other relevant subsequently modifying legislation, hereinafter referred to as the 'Legislation'.

- Should any conflict arise between the Legislation and this constitution, the Legislation shall take primacy and the constitution will be amended to incorporate the necessary changes.
- All members, without exception shall abide by the Constitution of YAA, the rules, the Standing Order and Codes of Conduct as adopted or amended from time-to-time.
- Disciplinary proceedings against a member shall be confined to violations of the YAA constitution.
- Rules, Standing Orders and Code of Conduct shall not be instituted as means of solving private problems or as means of interfering in the private lives of members where the norms of the forum are not directly affected, unless such conduct itself constitutes a violation or an offense affecting the forum.

2 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 ELIGIBILITY

- Membership to the forum shall be open to anyone who is 15 and above and the forum shall abide to a principle of no discrimination on basis gender and differences in political preferences.
- Membership status shall be granted to anyone within minimum required age and willing to accept the constitution.
- Any person desiring to join YAA shall do so after a successful interview
- After being accepted as a member of YAA, a member shall in a language they know well be oriented to the requirements of YAA.

2.2 DUTIES

Every member shall;

- Take an active part in the work of the forum.
- Carryout the policy, aims and programs of YAA.
- Combat any propaganda that is detrimental to the interests of YAA.
- Observe discipline and to submit loyalty to the decision of the majority or to decisions of the higher committee.

2.3 PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

Every member has the right to;

- To vote and be voted for in any executive committee position.
- To participate in meetings and all other activities organised by the organisation.
- Use the name the organisation for noble courses.
- Freedom of speech and expression.

2.4 MEMBER OBLIGATION

- To hold the name of the organisation in full good reputation at all times.
- To adhere to the organisation's code of conduct at all times.
- To be active in the organisation and be a good ambassador of the organisation at all times.
- To be helpful to all beings, to make them feel great about themselves and their heritage at all times.
- To be active organisers and participants.
- To report all behaviour contrary to achievement of organisation goals.
- To be proud of whom they are and hold their heads high as Young Ambassadors.
- To be respectful of all leaders past and present who made the birth of YAA.
- To respect and keep pledge of honour.
- To renounce, abstain and reject any action involving dishonesty and corruption.

2.5 REVOKING OF MEMBERSHIP

No member shall commit or participate in conduct including utterances which amount to;

- Bringing the organisation into dispute.
- A breach of the YAA constitution, its policies and principles.
- Abuse of power of office.
- Promoting discrimination based on race, sex, origin, ethnicity, or any other form of unfair discrimination.
- Corruption and self-enrichment.
- Sexual harassment.

- Meting out any form of physical form of violence against any member of YAA.
- Undermining the integrity and impeding the organisational programmes of YAA.
- Misappropriation of organisation funds.

2.6 AFFILIATIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS

The forum shall be open to all individuals, organisations and groups who

- Accept our constitution.
- Whose objectives are compatible with the forum.
- Whose affiliation is approved by the executive committee.

Affiliated organisations must not interfere with the YAA constitution rather act as partnership.

Any affiliation or partnership development must be reported and accepted by Founders.

3 EXECUTIVE BOARD

3.1 The executive board shall consist of the following;

- Chairperson
- Vice Chairperson
- Secretary General
- Treasurer
- Events Coordinator
- Projects Coordinator
- Information Director
- Committee Member
- Committee Member

The forenamed officers shall be collectively referred to as the Executive Board

- All members are voted into office.
- The term of office is 3 years.

- Only active members are eligible for these posts.

3.2 FORUM DEPARTMENTS

- a) International Relations
- b) Culture Department
- c) Business
- d) Information and Technology

These shall be held by head of departments thereupon these head of departments are to be appointed by the Executive Board.

3.3 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chairperson

- Convene and preside over meeting of the Executive Board.
- Ensure a proper discharge and conduct of YAA members on their duties.
- Shall responsible for the general management and all the activities of the society.
- Shall in consultation of the Treasurer and the Secretary General approve any payment on behalf of the organisation.

Vice Chairperson shall

- Chair the Finance committee.
- Have the right to inspect and examine all financial reports immediately to the Chairperson if there are any irregularities.
- In the absence of the Chairperson due to any reason and cause assume office as acting Chairperson.
- Exercise all/any duties delegated to him/her by the Chairperson.
- Work hand-in-hand with the Chairperson in the running of the union.
- Together with the Secretary General act as the Electoral Board for all elections provided he/she is not a candidate.
- In the absence of the Chairperson approve payments in collaboration with the treasurer and the Secretary General on behalf of the association.

Secretary General

The Secretary General will be the chief administration officer of the Forum. He/she shall work directly under the Chairperson's office to;

- Keep a record of the current union's constitution.
- Assist the Chairperson and other YAA members in carrying out their work in a proper and efficient manner and ensure in the General Councils efficient all round administration.
- In the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson, may delegate of their powers to the Secretary General.
- Act as the Electoral officer for all elections provided he/she is not a candidate.
- Shall chair the events and projects committee.
- Shall call for executive meetings.
- Shall in the absence of Chairperson or Vice chairperson approve all payment in consultation with the treasurer on behalf of the organisation.
- Shall in consultation with the Chairperson prepare the agenda and distribute it timeously to all members of the executive council.
- Shall be responsible for preparing minutes and distribution thereof to the Executive councils and all members. The minutes must be distributed within 7 days to be held.

Treasurer

- The treasurer is the chief custodian of all funds and property of YAA.
- Shall receive and bank all monies on behalf of YAA and shall together with any 2 executive members operate the organisation's account.
- Keep such books of accounts as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of YAA.
- Submit a quarterly report of all funds of the organisation, including income, expenditure and the balance sheet.
- Shall be responsible with the Vice Chairperson, Secretary General, Events coordinator and projects coordinator for working out plans and schemes for raising funds for YAA.
- Shall direct and take active part in campaign of raising funds.
- Where forum requires external audit to comply with the legislation the treasure together with executive board shall ensure such independent audit is undertaken.

- Shall collect joining fees and subscriptions for all members.
- Shall be required to give a financial report when required to do so by the Chairperson or finance committee.
- Shall be required to report any suspicious financial irregularities to the Vice Chairperson or the Secretary General of the union.
- Shall be required upon relinquishing office to give accurate financial reports and must be approved by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.
- Shall approve release of funds.

Events and Project coordinators

- Shall do the project planning and execution of the union.
- Shall work hand in hand with the Vice Chairperson in planning activities.
- Shall direct all ceremonies and hosted events with the Chairperson's approval.
- Shall lease with the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and advisory board prior to all projects and events
- Shall spearhead debates and look into international affairs.

Information Director

- Shall together with the Secretary General be responsible for taking minutes for each meeting.
- Shall keep all members of the union abreast of all the developments.
- Conduct all researches with the events and project coordinators to ensure quality projects.

Committee Members

- Shall conduct their duties as delegated to them by the Chairperson.
- Shall from time to time consult with the Secretary General and conduct duties delegated to them.

Finance Committee

- This shall comprise of the Treasurer, Vice Chairperson, Secretary General and one committee member.
- The Chairperson and the advisory board shall seat and contribute to the finance committee but not eligible to vote.

Events Committee

- This shall comprise of Secretary General, Events coordinator, Projects coordinator and one committee member.
- The Chairperson and the advisory board shall seat and contribute to the finance committee but not eligible to vote.

Advisory Board

- This shall comprise of YAA members that previously executive board postions.
- They shall seat with finance and events committee but not eligible to vote.

1

3.4 LEAVING OFFICE

Any member can vacate office;

- Through personal resignation everything should be tendered to the Secretary General and accepted by YAA executive board members.
- Automatically by frequently failing to attend meetings without acceptable reasons.
- Where a vote of no confidence is passed by two-thirds majority vote of ordinary union members present at a lawfully constituted general meeting.
- Where the organisation makes a finding of gross misconduct and the report by two-third of the executive members present at a lawfully constituted general meeting of YAA.

4 MEETINGS

- The union shall conduct meetings per fortnight chaired by the Secretary General.
- Ideas for fundraising and raising awareness are discussed and planning or organizing events is undertaken.
- The society works on a principle of obedience from the executive board.
- At least four members of the executive board must be there to constitute a quorum.
- The union shall have quarterly meetings in which the executive council members will present their quarterly reports and feedback to the union about the progress the union has made.

- Current affairs, debates and opinions shall be raised in meetings to equip personnel with knowledge skill and artistry in challenging the international opinion.
- Public lectures debates and awareness shall be made so as to create a platform for creation of international opinion.

5 ELECTIONS

- Every member of the executive council is voted for.
- Elections shall be held at a three year interval.
- Only active members who have fully paid up subscriptions.
- Any member of the executive board if deemed by the union as active after the expiry of his tenure may be re-elected into office or change a post during another election but not for two terms.

5.1 VOTING PROCEDURES

- Voted may be conducted by ballot or through electronic voting.
- The commissariat committee shall consist of the Vice Chairperson, Secretary General and one Committee member and they shall conduct elections (in the case that they are not running)
- The Secretary General shall announce the results.
- Where the forenamed commissariat are in-eligible or absent the founding members are to facilitate the elections and no elections shall be done without informing or in their absence.

6 AMMENDEMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

- This may only be done a two-thirds majority vote of active members, present and voting at the special meeting convened for that purpose.
- Notice for such amendments should be submitted to the executive board at least 21 days before prior to the special quarterly meeting.
- An amendment shall come into effect with the approval of the Founding members who hold the Veto power and if two-thirds of the executive affirm the amendment proposal brought to them to be effected.

- All amendments when adopted shall automatically amend and become provisions of the constitution.
- The Secretary General shall head all amendments, which shall be approved by the Founders.