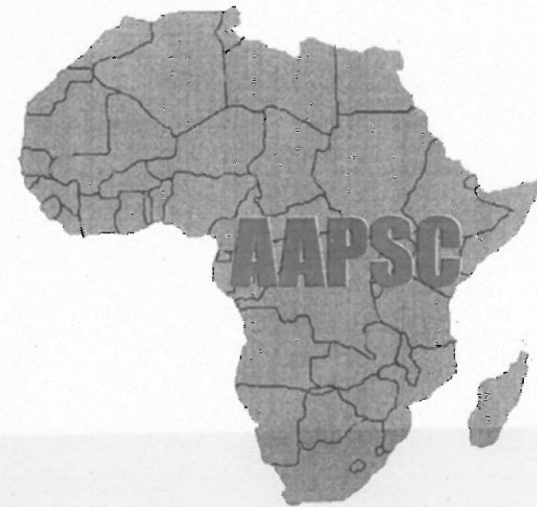


**THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR PASTORAL STUDIES
AND COUNSELLING
(AAPSC)**

**MISSION STATEMENT
AND CONSTITUTION**



Printed by Mbeyi & Associates Nig Ltd
Tel: 01-7749829

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**CONSTITUTION
OF THE
AFRICAN ASSOCIATION
FOR
PASTORAL STUDIES
AND COUNSELING (AAPSC)**

AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PASTORAL STUDIES & COUNSELLING (A.A.P.S.C.)

MISSION STATEMENTS

The Association is to promote the Ministry of pastoral Care and Counselling throughout Sub-Saharan Africa through:

- (i) Developing chapters in each Sub-Sahara country and Africans in the Diaspora.
- (ii) Promotion of the training of clergy and laity in the ministry of care and counseling, and
- (iii) Encourage the Africans in the Diaspora to assist in the promotion of the ministry of care and counseling in the continent of Africa.

Constitution Of The African Association For Pastoral Studies And Counselling (AAPSC)

Preamble:

The African Association for Pastoral Studies and Counselling was formed at the end of an ecumenical consultation on African Pastoral studies held from the 17th to the 24th of February 1985, at the Limuru Training and Conference Centre, Kenya. This consultation was jointly organized by the World Council of Churches Office of Family Education and the Conference of African Theological Institutions and was attended by thirty eight delegates and visitors drawn from the Roman Catholic, mainline Protestant, Orthodox, and African Republic, Egypt, Federal Republic of Germany, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya,

Lesotho, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, United States of America, Zaire and Zambia.

1. Name:

- 1.1 The Association shall be called "The Association For Pastoral Studies and Counselling AAPSC" hereinafter "The Association."
- 1.2 The Association shall be registered in the Republic of Kenya.
- 1.3 The Association is non-political, non-profit making, and non-denominational.

2. OBJECTIVES:

- 2.1 To promote and foster the advancement of pastoral studies and counseling from a distinctively African perspective.
- 2.2 To create a forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences of pastoral concern in Africa and to help raise such issues to a focal point.
- 2.3 To promote and foster an awareness of the spiritual, psychological and social processes taking place in Africa as they relate to Pastoral Studies and Counselling and to consider their theological significance.
- 2.4 To stimulate greater understanding and co-operation among students of African Pastoral Studies and Counselling.

- 2.5 To open up avenues and encourage specialized training, research, education and supervision in Pastoral Studies and Counselling relevant to the African situation.
- 2.6 To protect its interests, those of member institution with similar interests.
- 2.7 In furtherance of the above objectives, however, but not further or otherwise the Association may:
 - 2.7.1. Print, publish and circulate, gratuitously or otherwise, any relevant papers, books, pamphlets, journals, abstracts, newsletters, and any other documents.
 - 2.7.2. Arrange for and provide for or join in arranging and providing for the holding of meetings, lectures, classes, and training courses.
 - 2.7.3. Promote and carry out or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys, and investigations.
 - 2.7.4 Keep and publish a register of members, which may include their qualifications, appointments and experiences.
 - 2.7.5 Invite and collect subscriptions and donations to the funds of the Association by any lawful means.
 - 2.7.6 Purchase, take on lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any real or personal property and any rights or privileges necessary for the

promotion of the said objectives, and construct, maintain and alter any building or erections necessary for the works of the Association.

- 2.7.7 Raise money for the purpose of the Association on such terms and such security as shall be though fit.
- 2.7.8 Do all other lawful things, as they may be necessary for the attainment of the said objectives.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association shall be as follows:

- 3.1 Individual membership shall be open to individuals with training in pastoral studies, theology, psychology, psychiatry, sociology, and education and who are either involved in teaching or engaged in actual practice in the field of pastoral care and counseling, upon application, acceptance by the Executive Committee, and payment of the individual membership fee.
- 3.2 Affiliation membership shall be open to other individuals, institutions, societies or organizations inside or outside Africa who are engaged in or furthering the cause of the development of pastoral studies and counseling, upon application, acceptance by the Executive Committee and payment of the affiliation membership fee.

- 3.3.1 Honorary membership shall be open to any individuals or organizations who cannot for some reasons fulfill the requirements of full or affiliation membership but are sufficiently interested and would wish to be associated with the aims and objectives of the Association, upon application and acceptance by the Executive Committee.
- 3.3.2 Associate membership shall be opened to individuals seeking training in pastoral counseling.
- 3.4 Individual membership of the Association entitles members to be included in the register of the Association, to attend meetings, to propose, second, and vote on resolution.
- 3.5 Affiliation membership of the Association entitles such individuals and organizations to be included on the register of the Association, to nominate representatives to attend the Association's meetings, and have their representatives to report and make proposals. An application for voting rights may be submitted for consideration after five years of consistent active affiliation.
- 3.6 The Executive Committee shall have the right to refuse applications for membership from individuals or organizations, without necessarily stating reasons. The appeal from such refusal may be made to a General

- Meeting of the Association and if successful, forwarded to the appropriate committee for consideration.
- 3.7 Termination of membership shall be by lapse or resignation of the members or by notification in writing from the Association. The Executive Committee shall have the power to terminate an individual's membership upon a case stated, or for other good and sufficient reason. An appeal from such termination may be made to the Executive Committee or a General Meeting where due notice has been given.
- 3.8 The fees for membership (individual or affiliation) shall be reviewed by the General Meeting upon suggestion of the Executive Committee from time to time.
- 3.9 Membership and affiliation must be renewed annually by the payment of fees for the new fiscal year.
- 3.10 Local or national branches of the Association may be formed to advance the work of the Association, subject to the approval of the Association's Executive Committee. The Chairperson or the Secretary of the branches shall report at the General Meeting. The branches shall operate under by-laws approved by the Association.
- 3.11 The Association shall also seek affiliation with other international associations sharing similar aims and purposes.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

- 4.1 The members of the Executive Committee of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary (Anglophone), Assistant Secretary (Francophone), Treasurer, two Assistant Treasurers, the Editor-in-chief of the Journal and Publications, the Project Studies Secretary.
- 4.2 The election of the Executive officers shall take place at the General Meeting of the Association. Members of the Executive Committee so elected shall serve for two years or such time as may be determined under standing orders. Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election but no member shall serve on the Executive Committee for more than three terms (of 2 years each) consecutively.
- 4.3 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the conduct of the Association's business in between General Meetings.
- 4.4 The quorum of the Executive Committee shall be one-half of the Committee's total membership.
- 4.5 The Executive Committee shall have power to co-opt members to fill vacancies on Committees. Co-opted members shall serve until the next General Meeting and shall be eligible for election at the next meeting.
- 4.6 The proceedings of the Executive Committee shall not be invalidated by the failure to appoint or any defect in

the appointment, election, co-option or qualification of any member of the Committee.

- 4.7 The Executive Committee may appoint sub-committees as and when and for such periods and purposes it deems necessary.
- 4.8 An Executive officer may be removed from office by a vote of no confidence by a majority of all the members of the Association present and voting at the General Meeting.
- 4.9 All questions arising at any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be decided by a simple majority vote. In the case of an equality of votes the President shall have a casting vote.
- 4.10 The Executive committee shall cause Minutes to be kept for all meetings of the Association, including meetings of the Executive and all sub-committees.
- 4.11 The Executive Committee shall be sent copies of all minutes or reports of local, regional and affiliate branches and associations. This shall be kept appropriately by the Secretariat.

5. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- 5.1 The President, or in his/her absence the Vice-President shall:
 - (a) Preside at all Executive Committee and General Meetings of the Association;

4. (b) Represent the Association at legal matters and non-court issues.
- 5.2 The vice-President shall perform any duty of the President in his/her absence and participate in the duties of the presidency as necessary.
- 5.3 The Secretary, in conjunction with the Assistant Secretaries, shall be responsible to the Association for
 - (a) Recording the Minutes of General Meetings of the Association and of the Executive Committee Meetings;
 - (b) Correspondence and the general co-ordination of the work of Association;
 - (c) Such matters as shall be determined by the Association at the General Meetings or at the Executive Committee meetings.
- 5.4 The Treasurer, in collaboration with the Assistant Treasurers, shall, under the direction of the Association:
 - (a) Receive and disburse all moneys of the Association;
 - (b) Issue receipts for all moneys received;
 - (c) Preserve vouchers for all moneys paid by him or her;
 - (d) Keep books of the accounts of all moneys received and paid by the Association;
 - (e) Make such books available for inspection.

- 5.5 The Editor-in-chief, in collaboration with the Editors, shall be in charge of editorial matters and publication of books and the Journal of the Association and shall submit reports to the Executive Committee and General Meeting of the Association.

6. FINANCES

- 6.1 All monies raised by or on behalf of the Association shall be applied to further the specified objectives of the Association and for no other purpose.
- 6.2 The Association's accounts and other financial records shall be audited at least once a year. The Treasurer or his/her Assistant to each Executive and General Committee meeting shall submit an audited statement of accounts.
- 6.3 All moneys and funds received and paid to the Association shall be deposited by the treasurer in the name of the Association in the bank or banks approved by the Association.
- 6.4 Any moneys held by branches of the Association shall be duly accounted for, deposited in approved banks and audited statements of such account shall be submitted to the Treasurer in time for inclusion in the statements presented at the Executive Committee or General Meeting.

4.

7. MEETINGS

- 7.1 There shall be two classes of General Meetings: Annual General Meetings of the Association on a regional basis and Extraordinary General Meetings triennially at which all voting members shall be entitled to speak and vote while all non voting members shall be entitled to speak.
- 7.2 The Agenda of the General Meeting shall include the confirmation of minutes of previous meetings, election of the Executive and Standing Committees, the appointment of auditors, and the consideration of a report on the work done by or under the auspices of the Association, of audited accounts and of reports from regional and affiliated groups.
- 7.3 Special General Meeting of the Association may be called by the President and the Secretary in consultation with other officers of the Association or alternatively by written requisition signed by or supported by not less than one-third of the voting members of the Association.
- 7.4 A simple majority shall decide all questions arising at the General Meetings other than those relating to alterations to this Constitution. In case of equality of votes, the president shall have a casting vote.
- 7.5 Proxy votes of an officer or voting member of the Association shall be accepted at any General Meeting of the Association.

- 7.6 The quorum for the General Meeting shall be one third of the membership of the Association.
- 7.7 The Fiscal Year budgeting shall be presented by the Executive Committee and approved at the General Meeting.

8. STANDING COMMITTEES

- 8.1 The Association shall set up Standing Committees on major issues and challenges facing the Association.
- 8.2 Standing Committees shall operate under specified terms of reference, which may be reviewed when necessary at the General Meetings.
- 8.3 The Standing Committees shall present their reports to the Executive Committee and General Meeting for approval, decisions and modification.
- 8.4 Members of Standing Committees shall be elected at annual meetings with consideration for areas of expertise, resourcefulness and efficiency of the individual to discharge the particular duties.
- 8.5 The Executive Committee, as shall ratify the election of the chairperson of a Standing Committee, as elected from the membership of the Standing Committee. Additional members shall be co-opted for a Committee where necessary.
- 8.6 A Standing Committee shall have a minimum of 4 members from the Association membership where

necessary and subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

9. THE JOURNAL

- 9.1 The Name of the Journal shall be “The Journal of African Pastoral Studies and Counselling” (*Revue Africaine d’Etudes et de Psychologie Pastorale*).
- 9.2 The Journal shall be published twice a year, presently in French and English with future publications in major African languages.
- 9.3 The office of the Journal shall be in Kinshasa, Zaire.
- 9.4 The journal shall have a Committee of Editor-in-chief, two Editors, one for French and the other for the English languages as well as an Editorial Committee to review manuscripts.
- 9.5 The aims of the Journal shall be:
- 9.5.1 To stimulate and disseminate in depth research on issues related to pastoral studies and counseling as they affect Black Africans and people of African descent;
- 9.5.2 To contribute to the development of African pastoral studies and psychology through research, exchange of ideas, experiences, and critical evaluation of theories, methodologies on pastoral psychology and counseling praxis in Africa and Black communities in other parts of the world;

- 9.5.3 To establish cross-cultural and inter-confessional dialogue among pastoral theologians and psychologists;
- 9.5.4 To project the activities of the Association to the world at large;
- 9.5.5 To make a meaningful contribution to the development of the international movement of pastoral care and counselling.

10. TRUSTEES

- 10.1 The Association shall appoint Trustees who shall be lawfully registered and shall have vested in them the title of real personal property, which may be required by or on behalf of the Association.
- 10.2 The Trustees shall have power on behalf of the Association and after due reference to and approval of the Association to exercise the powers spelt out in the sections 2.7.6-2.7.7 of this Constitution.

11. AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Association may appeal, amend or add to any of the above-mentioned rules only by a majority or two-thirds of the votes cast at a General Meeting, on a motion proposed, seconded and circulated at least four weeks before the date of the said meeting.

4.

12. DISSOLUTION

The Association, by a resolution passed at least by two-thirds of the members recorded at the General Meeting, may resolve that it be dissolved. Subject to the payment of all debts of the Association, the meeting shall resolve on the disbursement of the balance of moneys remaining to the credit of the Association and such other assets belonging to the Association according to the submission of the Committee set up for this purpose.