

15 April 2024

English only

---

**Committee on the Peaceful  
Uses of Outer Space**  
Legal Subcommittee  
Sixty-third session  
Vienna, 15 April – 26 April 2024

**Request for observer status with the United Nations  
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space: application of  
the African Astronomical Society (AfAS)**

**Note by the Secretariat**

1. At its thirty-third session, in 1990, the Committee considered guidelines for granting observer status with the Committee to international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The possible criteria suggested by the Outer Space Affairs Division to the Committee at that time were the following:

(a) As part of its programme, the organization should be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

(b) The aims and purposes of the organization should be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

(c) The organization should be a recognized international organization and should have an established headquarters, an executive officer, and a constitution, a copy of which is deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In the case of a non-governmental organization, it should be a non-profit organization.

2. Having considered the matter, the Committee at its thirty-third session, agreed, that in the future non-governmental organizations which request observer status with the Committee should have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and should, as part of their programmes, be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Committee.

3. At its fifty-third session, in 2010, the Committee agreed that observer status would be granted to non-governmental organizations on a provisional basis, for a period of three years, pending information on the status of their application for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. The Committee also agreed that the provisional observer status could be extended for an additional year,



if necessary. The Committee further agreed that it would grant permanent observer status to such non-governmental organizations upon confirmation of their consultative status with the Council.

4. While the Committee's decision did not specifically include the elements referred to in 1 (c) above, it has been the practice of the committee, since its decision in 1990, to have before it the constitution or statutes of the organization or entity requesting observer status.

5. On 31 January 2024, the Office for Outer Space Affairs received an application for observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space from AfAS. The following related correspondence received from AfAS is attached to this document:

- (a) Note Verbale from the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna;
- (b) Letter from AfAS conveying the intention to become a permanent observer of the Committee;
- (c) Constitution of the African Astronomical Society;
- (d) Certificate of Registration of Nonprofit Organization; and
- (e) Registration Certificate with the Companies and Intellectual Properties Commission.

\_\_\_\_\_



A.047/24

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and has the honour to request the Secretariat to grant Observer Status to the African Astronomical Society.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs the assurances of its high consideration.



VIENNA  
31 January 2024

The United Nations  
Office for Outer Space Affairs  
VIENNA



African Astronomical Society

1 Observatory Rd, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925

E-mail: [admin@afasociety.org](mailto:admin@afasociety.org)

[www.africanastronomicalsociety.org](http://www.africanastronomicalsociety.org)

08 December 2023

Ms Aarti Holla-Maini,  
Director,  
United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs UNOOSA,  
United Nations,  
Vienna International Centre,  
Wagramerstrasse 5,  
A-1220 Vienna  
Austria

Dear Ms Aarti Holla-Maini

## **APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT OBSERVER STATUS WITH THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE (COPUOS)**

---

I am privileged to write to you as President of the African Astronomical Society (AfAS), an organisation registered in South Africa as a non-profit organisation. On behalf of AfAS, I am formally applying for the status of permanent observer with the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).

AfAS was founded in 2011; it is a Pan-African Professional Society of astronomers, actively engaged in promoting and advancing astronomy on the continent. We are currently supported by the South African Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) in a collaborative effort to foster a globally competitive and cooperative astronomy community in Africa. We also work closely with the International Astronomical Union (IAU) – Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD) to use astronomy's skills, infrastructure and knowledge to benefit society and address developmental challenges on the continent.

AfAS comprises of an engaged community of astronomers across the African continent. With our growing membership and collaborative engagements with astronomical institutions both within and beyond Africa, we are dedicated to propelling astronomical science and education, thereby contributing to the region's socio-economic development. Our society is at the forefront of organising astronomical initiatives, conferences, and educational outreach programs on the African continent that are aimed at fostering scientific literacy and capacity-building in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those focusing on quality education, reduced inequalities, and partnerships for the goals (SDGs 4, 10, and 17).

### **Executive Committee Members**

Prof. Thebe Rodney Medupe (President), Dr Naomi Asabre Frimpong (Vice-President), Prof. J. Mimouni (Immediate Past President), Dr Charles Takalana (Head of Secretariat), Prof. Mirjana Pović, Dr Sthabile Kolwa, Mr Alemiye Mamo Yacob, Dr Sinenhlanhla Precious Sikhosana, Dr Elizabeth Naluminsa

AfAS conducts its affairs with a strong commitment to values such as excellence, transparency, accountability, responsiveness, relevance, participation, service orientation, ethics, humility, intellectual freedom, and diversity and inclusion.

Our objectives resonate with the mission and work of COPUOS, and we are eager to contribute to the Long-Term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. Our perspective is particularly valuable when it comes to the preservation of Dark and Quiet Skies, which is crucial for astronomical research and the cultural heritage of numerous African communities. Our engagement with COPUOS as a permanent observer would not only reflect our dedication to the sustainable and peaceful use of outer space but also our commitment to the educational and developmental needs of Africa, aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Africa is increasingly becoming a hub for astronomical research and development, hosting significant infrastructures such as the High Energy Stereoscopic System (HESS) in Namibia, the Oukaimeden Observatory in the Atlas Mountains of Morocco, Kottamia Astronomical Observatory in Egypt, the Entoto Observatory Space Science Research Center (EORC) in Ethiopia, Hydrogen Epoch of Reionization Array (HERA), MeerKAT radio telescope, the mid-frequency component of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) telescope, and the Southern African Large Telescope (SALT), which are in South Africa. These projects not only demonstrate the continent's growing capabilities in astronomy but also its commitment to contributing to global scientific knowledge. The participation and contributions of the African astronomical community in these projects are pivotal. By integrating AfAS into COPUOS as a permanent observer, the unique perspectives and insights gained from these African-led and participated initiatives can be shared, enriching the global discourse on the peaceful use of outer space. This move would not only be a testament to the collaborative spirit of the international astronomical community but also a recognition of Africa's role and potential in shaping the future of space exploration and science.

Enclosed with this letter, please find the relevant documents that support our application:

1. Constitution of the African Astronomical Society
2. Certification of Non-Profit Status by the South African Department of Social Development (DSD) and the Companies and Intellectual Properties Commission (CIPC).

I appreciate your consideration of our application and am ready to provide any additional information you might need.

Warm regards,



Prof. Thebe Medupe  
President,  
African Astronomical Society (AfAS)



## **Constitution of the African Astronomical Society**

Foundation: 26 March 2019

Version: 1.0 : 26 March 2019

Version: 2.0 : 19 July 2019

Version: 2.1 : 20 September 2019

Version: 3.0 : March 2021

Version : 4.0 : 18 March 2022

This updated Constitution was approved and accepted by members of AfAS at the African Astronomical Society (AfAS) General Assembly held at the South African Astronomical Observatory in Cape Town, South Africa, and virtually on 18 March 2022.

### **PREAMBLE**

At the 2010 launch of the African Physical Society in Dakar, astronomers from across the continent and the African diaspora resolved to form the African Astronomical Society. Following this meeting, a whitepaper on the formation and the structure of the African Astronomical Society was drafted and disseminated. An Interim Working Group was formed to carry out the formation of the African Astronomical Society at the IAU Symposium in Ouagadougou. The initial Constitution of the African Astronomical Society (AfAS) was agreed to and signed by the members of the Interim Working Group at Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 16 December 2010. The interim Working Group consisted of members from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, and the U.S.A. AfAS was officially launched at the 2nd Middle East and Africa Regional IAU Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, in April 2011. However, AfAS had not been an active organisation since its inception, and in 2017, at the 4<sup>th</sup> Middle East and Africa Meeting in Ethiopia, it was decided to bring together stakeholders and relaunch AfAS. In March 2019, the Astronomy in Africa meeting was held for this purpose at the South African Astronomical Observatory in Cape Town, South Africa. At that meeting, this revised Constitution was approved and accepted by delegates. It was drafted with the key objective of developing Astronomy and Human Capacity throughout the continent of Africa through a vibrant and active AfAS.

# 1. The Society

## 1.1. Name

The name of the society (hereinafter referred to as “The Society”) shall be the “African Astronomical Society” (AfAS).

## 1.2. Vision

A globally competitive and collaborative astronomy community in Africa

## 1.3. Mission

To be the voice of astronomy in Africa and to contribute to addressing the challenges faced by Africa through the promotion and advancement of astronomy.

## 1.4. Objectives

The Society will fulfil its vision and mission by:

1. cultivating collaboration among countries in Africa as well as collaborations between Africa and the rest of the world.
2. supporting collaborative international astronomical activities and projects in Africa
3. encouraging involvement in and collaboration with relevant organisations both within Africa and internationally
4. encouraging an appreciation of the significance of astronomy for society by countries in Africa, as well as the African Union (AU)
5. serving as the interface between the AU and astronomy-related activities
6. encouraging governmental and intergovernmental (AU) investment in astronomy-related activities
7. encouraging the use of astronomy for socio-economic development
8. strengthening the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in schools and the public through the use of astronomy and related fields
9. using astronomy to attract African youth into science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers
10. providing mentorship, leadership and guidance to early-career astronomers
11. increasing the number of African astronomers as well as the number of astronomers working in Africa
12. organising meetings and events pertaining to astronomy and related fields
13. highlighting and disseminating the scholarship of African astronomers in the public domain, and career opportunities for emerging astronomers
14. publish articles so as to promote research in astronomy and astrophysics
15. facilitating the use of existing African and other international astronomical facilities, and, where necessary, the development of new astronomical facilities in Africa
16. safeguarding astronomical sites in Africa
17. identifying and preserving indigenous astronomical knowledge
18. oversee all astronomical activities within the ambit of the Society

19. inspire and retain underrepresented groups, including women, to study astronomy

## **1.5. Values**

The activities of the Society shall be guided by the following values:

1. Excellence - the Society shall strive towards world-class excellence in Astronomy and all its aspects;
2. Transparency - the Society shall conduct its affairs in a transparent manner;
3. Accountability - the Society shall be accountable to all its stakeholders
4. Responsiveness - the Society shall be an organisation that is responsive to its changing environment;
5. Relevance - the Society shall be relevant to the scientific and developmental needs of Africa;
6. Participation - the Society shall encourage the participation of members in its affairs, be inclusive in its dealings with the membership, and shall interact freely with other organisations and the general public in order to advance its goals;
7. Service-oriented - the leadership of the Society should aim primarily to serve the astronomy community in Africa and not hold positions for the sake of status;
8. Ethics - the Society shall play a leading role in ensuring the professional competency and integrity of astronomers;
9. Humility - there should be due recognition of the work of others in developing astronomy in Africa. Every attempt should be made to collaborate, rather than compete, with other relevant initiatives on the continent.
10. Intellectually free - the Society shall respect and promote academic freedom and freedom of expression.
11. Diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination - the Society shall respect and promote diversity, inclusion and non-discrimination.

## **1.6. NPC Voluntary Association**

The Society is a voluntary not for profit and public benefit association for astronomy in Africa:

1. It is a legal entity separate from its members and registered as a not for profit company.
2. No profits shall accrue or be distributed to its members or office bearers.
3. The assets and liabilities of the Society will be held separately from those of its members.
4. Members and office-bearers of the Society are not personally liable for any of its obligations and debts.
5. The Society shall continue to exist despite changes in its membership.



## **2. Membership**

### **2.1. Categories of Membership**

The membership of The Society shall consist of the following categories:

#### **2.1.1. Full Membership**

Candidates for full membership shall be persons who satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

- (i) successfully completed a Doctoral Degree in astronomy or a related field; or
- (ii) successfully completed a Master's Degree in astronomy or a related field; or
- (iii) successfully completed a Bachelors and/or Honours degree in astronomy or related field and has thereafter for at least five years been engaged in activities related to astronomy; or
- (iv) have successfully presented proof of independent or co-authorship of accepted or published referred astronomy paper(s) to the Membership Committee of the Society.

#### **2.1.2. Associate Membership**

Associate Membership is open to any professional who is actively involved in the advancement of astronomy and/or related activities. This category is open to amateur astronomers, knowledgeable individuals in activities of astronomical relevance, and other astronomy enthusiasts who do not fall under the categories above.

#### **2.1.3. Student Membership**

This category is open to university students of astronomy and related fields.

#### **2.1.4. Honorary Membership**

This category of membership may be bestowed upon individuals who have shown an exemplary contribution to the field and/or The Society as judged by the Membership Committee of The Society. Honorary membership may be bestowed upon an individual only upon a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and a majority vote of the General Assembly.

#### **2.1.5. Institutional Membership**

This category is open to astronomical research institutes, such as observatories, and organisations that conduct astronomical activities as part of their primary goal, such as planetaria. It is also open to universities that teach astronomy or are significantly involved in astronomy in some way. Institutional Membership may be bestowed upon an institution only upon a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and a majority vote of the General Assembly.

#### **2.1.6. National Membership**

This category is open for African countries to be members through a national committee as supported by the government of that country. National Membership may be bestowed by the Society upon the establishment of that country's national committee

and upon a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee and a majority vote of the General Assembly.

## **2.2. Membership fees**

Membership fees and fee categories (e.g. individual or national membership) shall be proposed by the Society's Membership Committee and approved by the General Assembly.

## **2.3. Privileges and Obligations of Membership**

The Privileges and Obligations of Membership, such as voting rights, code of conduct, right of voting members to call for a referendum, etc., shall be incorporated into the constitution and bye-laws of the Society.

# **3. Structure of The Society**

## **3.1. The Executive Committee**

- (i) There shall be an Executive Committee of The Society, which shall be diverse (gender, geographical, age, etc.) and representative of the astronomy community in Africa, and consist of 8 voting individuals:
  - 1. President
  - 2. Vice-President
  - 3. Five General Members
  - 4. Head of Secretariat
- (ii) Members of the Executive Committee, with the exception of the Head of Secretariat, who is a full-time senior management employee of the Society, shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of 3 years. No member of the Executive Committee shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms.
- (iii) All members of the Executive Committee must be full members of the Society and must be based and working in Africa and affiliated to an African organisation.
- (iv) There shall be the following Ex-Officio non-voting advisors of the Executive Committee:
  - 1. Immediate past President of the Society
  - 2. Government representative of the country hosting the Secretariat
  - 3. Director of the Office for Astronomy for Development (OAD)
  - 4. Project Manager of the Society
- (v) The Executive Committee shall decide, by a two-thirds majority, to co-opt a maximum of 2 additional members. Co-opted members may only serve until the next General Assembly and will have no voting rights.
- (vi) The Executive Committee will also appoint Directors of the organisation to satisfy the host country's legal obligations as a not for profit organisation, such Directors will be appointed as members of the Executive Committee if they are not already committee members, and they will have full voting rights. However, the Executive

Committee will have full fiduciary responsibility in the management of the organisation, inclusive of its legal form.

### **3.1.1. Portfolios of Executive Committee**

- (i) **The President**  
The President shall be the Chief Executive of The Society and must be a Full Member and elected by the General Assembly. He or she shall normally preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly. The President is limited to one term in office.
- (ii) **The Vice-President**  
The Vice-President will be elected by the General Assembly for only one term of office. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside over the Executive Committee or General Assembly.
- (iii) **Head of Secretariat**  
The Head of Secretariat is a full-time senior management employee of the Society, and his/her duties and responsibilities are as outlined in the job description approved by the President of the Society.
- (iv) **General Members**  
The general members of the Executive Committee will be assigned portfolios as determined by the Committee; the portfolios and their assignment will be determined by consensus within the committee. In the event of a deadlock, the President and Vice President, in consultation with the Head of Secretariat, and the ex-officio members of the committee, will decide on the portfolios and subsequent member assignment.

### **3.1.2 Powers and Obligations of Executive Committee**

- (i) The Executive Committee shall administer the affairs of the Society in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the host country.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall organise and handle all matters relating to international connections and external relations on behalf of The Society.

## **3.2. The Secretariat**

The Secretariat shall be an Administrative and Operations Office, managed by a full-time Head of Secretariat, under the supervision of the President, which will conduct all the business, administer the funds, and preserve the archives of the Society. The host country for the Secretariat shall be determined through a selection process as defined by the Executive Committee, who will also decide on when to call for proposals to host the Secretariat. The choice of host shall be presented to and ratified by the General Assembly, and there will be a hand-over period of a maximum of 6 months. Any changes to the location of the Secretariat shall be done well in advance in order to allow for a smooth transition. The Office of the Secretariat shall be responsible for the development and implementation of appropriate Internal, Financial, Human Resources and Procurement Policies to manage employees and all Income and Expenditure of the

Society. Such Policies will be approved by the Executive Committee, including any amendments that are deemed necessary from time to time.

### **3.3. Committees and Ad-hoc Committees**

There shall be committees, sub-committees, and working groups, each governed by terms of reference as determined by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also appoint ad-hoc Committees and seek the advice of the members of the Society if necessary, prior to the appointment of such committees and/or ad-hoc committees. An ad-hoc Committee of The Society shall normally present the report of its work to the Executive Committee. There must be at least three people on a committee. Minutes of any committee meeting must be sent to the Head of Secretariat for record-keeping and must be made available to the Executive committee on request.

## **4. Meetings of the Society**

### **4.1. Meetings Procedures**

#### **4.1.1. Quorum**

The Quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be 50% plus 1 of voting Committee members, and for General Assemblies, one-third of active, Full and Associate Members.

#### **4.1.2. Decisions/Voting**

Decisions shall be made by consensus where possible, and if a vote is required, by a simple majority vote. In the event of a deadlock, the President will have the deciding vote.

#### **4.1.3. Conflict of Interest**

All members are expected to declare any conflicts of interest to the Executive Committee before any decision/voting takes place.

#### **4.1.4. Minutes**

Minutes of all meetings will be made available to the members of the Society on request; all confidential information, as determined by the Executive Committee, will be omitted prior to the issue of such minutes.

### **4.2. The General Assembly**

The Society shall convene, at least every three years; an ordinary General Assembly made up of all members of The Society. The agenda for the General Assembly shall be drawn up by the Executive Committee and distributed to members at least one (1) month before the General Assembly. All attempts will be made to link the time and venue of the General Assembly to the AfAS Annual Conference. The Executive Committee shall determine a process for the selection of the host of the Annual Conference and General Assembly. Decisions of the General Assembly shall be by a simple majority vote of all active Full and Associate members present.

### **4.2.1. Voting Members at General Assembly**

All active Full and Associate members of the Society shall be eligible to vote at a General Assembly.

## **4.3. Executive Committee Meetings**

The Executive Committee shall meet at least every three months during the financial year and, if necessary after each meeting, issue a communique to all members on the outcomes of the meeting that affect members in general.

- (i) Any member of the Executive Committee who does not attend two consecutive meetings without reasons that are acceptable to two-thirds of the rest of the Committee will be discharged of their duties, and the Executive Committee will decide on a replacement who will fill the vacancy until the next General Assembly.
- (ii) The President, or any two other members of the Executive Committee, can call a special meeting. They must notify other members of the Executive Committee of the date of the proposed meeting not less than 25 days before it is due to take place. They must draw up an agenda for the meeting and distribute it to other members of the Executive Committee. If, however, one of the matters to be discussed is to appoint a new Executive Committee member, then those calling the meeting must give the other Executive Committee members not less than 30 days' notice.
- (iii) The President shall act as the chairperson of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside over the Executive Committee. If both the President and Vice-President do not attend a meeting, then members of the committee who are present will choose a chair for the meeting prior to the start of the meeting.
- (iv) Minutes of all Executive Committee meetings must be kept safely and be issued timeously to all members.

## **4.4. Other Meetings**

The Society will hold an Annual Scientific Conference in March of each year; the Executive Committee, Sub-committees, and Partner projects will decide on the programme content and duration of the conference. There may be a need to have other meetings/conferences/workshops; the Executive Committee shall approve the need for such events and a process for the selection of hosts of these.

# **5. Finance**

## **5.1. General**

The revenue of the society shall consist mainly of such government grants, donations and sponsorships as are accepted by the Executive Committee and by membership

fees decided by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Assembly from time to time.

- (i) The financial year of the Society shall be from 1 April to 31 March.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall approve the appointment of external Auditors for The Society, and audited financial statements shall be compiled every year.
- (iii) The Society shall open and operate bank accounts at the time and places that shall be determined by the Executive Committee.
- (iv) All expenditure of The Society must be approved in terms of the Society's Internal Finance & Procurement Policies together with any amendments as approved by the Executive Committee.
- (v) The Society may not give any of its money or property to its members or office bearers unless it is in payment for work that has been carried out for the Society. Such payment must be market related in terms of the nature and quantity of work undertaken by the member or office bearer.
- (vi) Members or office bearers of the Society do not have rights over assets that belong to the Society.
- (vii) The Society may not directly or indirectly distribute any of its funds or assets to any person other than in the course of furthering its objectives;
- (viii) The Society is required to utilise substantially the whole of its funds for the sole or principal object for which it has been established;
- (ix) No member may directly or indirectly have any personal or private interest in the Society;
- (x) Substantially the whole of the activities of the entity must be directed to the furtherance of its sole or principal object and not for the specific benefit of an individual member or minority group;
- (xi) The Society may not have a share or other interest in any business, profession or occupation which is carried on by its members;
- (xii) The Society must not pay to any employee, office bearer, member or other person any remuneration, as defined in the host country's Income Tax Act, which is excessive, having regard to what is generally considered reasonable in the sector and in relation to the service rendered;

The majority of the Society's income must be derived from its annual membership fees, or from grants directly from Governments or their funding agencies or from bona-fide donations and/or sponsorships received in pursuance of the Society's objectives.

## **5.2. Common Currency**

For the purposes of financial reporting, membership fees, costings, hosting of conferences/General Assembly etc., the hosting country's currency will be used as the common currency unless another generally acceptable currency is approved by the Executive Committee.

## **6. Election of Office Bearers**

### **6.1. Election Administration**

The Secretariat, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall decide on the election process for the election of the Executive Committee.

The Head of Secretariat shall issue the elections process to all members of the Society and other stakeholders/interested parties at least three months before the General Assembly. The nominations process will be coordinated by the Secretariat, and the nominations list will be managed by a Nominations Committee. Final nominations must be approved by the Nominations Committee at least one month before any election. The Head of Secretariat shall circulate the list of nominated individuals to members of the General Assembly no later than two weeks before elections are held.

### **6.2. The Nominations Committee**

The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for approving potential candidates; this Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and consist of three members. The members of the Nominations Committee shall not be current members of the Executive Committee. The Secretariat will provide administrative and procedural support only. The Nominations Committee will be dissolved after the General Assembly.

### **6.3. Term of Office**

A “term of office” shall consist of three years, normally the period separating two consecutive ordinary General Assemblies.

## **7. Code of Conduct**

A Code of Conduct shall be defined by the Executive Committee and ratified by the General Assembly and incorporated into the by-laws and constitution.

## **8. Amendments to the Constitution**

Changes to the Constitution may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by ten or more full members of the Society who are in good standing.

- (i) Where a proposal is made by ten or more members in good standing, such a proposal shall initially be submitted to the Executive Committee no later than three months prior to the General Assembly.
- (ii) The proposed changes for General Assembly approval shall be circulated to all members at least one month before the General Assembly.
- (iii) The proposal shall be adopted by at least two-thirds of the active members present at the General Assembly, providing that such a meeting is quorate.

- (iv) Whereas proposals may be approved by the Executive Committee or at the General Assembly, the constitution may not be changed in substance or in spirit.
- (v) All proposed changes to the constitution which are suggested for operational and/or financial purposes or as a direct result of meeting the host country's laws, including company and taxation regulations, can be approved by the Executive Committee for implementation provided a notice of such changes is issued to members of the Society for comment no less than 21 days prior to the approval of such changes.
- (vi) All changes to the constitution which are implemented without direct formal approval at a General Assembly will be tabled at the next General Assembly for formal endorsement.

## **9. Dissolution of the Society**

Dissolution of the Society may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by at least fifty percent plus 1 or more members in good standing at least three months before a General Assembly.

- (i) Where a proposal is made by the appropriate number of members in good standing, such a proposal shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing.
- (ii) The proposal shall be communicated to all members at least two months before the General Assembly;
- (iii) Dissolution shall be decreed by at least four-fifths of the active members present at the General Assembly, providing that such a meeting is quorate.
- (iv) In the event that the General Assembly cannot be held within six months of the date of distribution of a valid motion to dissolve the Society, a vote shall be conducted by remote means. The support of more than four-fifths of the voting membership shall be required for the dissolution of the Society provided that at least Fifty percent plus 1 of the membership has cast their votes.
- (v) On the dissolution of the Society, it shall be necessary to decide the manner in which any surplus assets, after satisfaction of the Society's debts, shall be applied, and the voting on this matter shall be done by a simple majority at the General Assembly or by remote means. Upon its dissolution, the assets of the Society shall not be distributed amongst its members but shall be transferred to a body with similar aims and objectives.





## CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OF NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

In terms of the Nonprofit Organisation Act, 1997, I am satisfied that

**African Astronomical Society**

-----  
(name of the organisation)

meets the requirements for registration.

The organisation's name was entered into the register on **25 September 2019**  
(date)

Registration number **235-890 NPO**

Director's signature



Department of Social



Development



## COR14.3: Registration Certificate

Registration Number: 2020 / 223188 / 08  
Enterprise Name: AFRICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

### ENTERPRISE INFORMATION

Registration Number: 2020 / 223188 / 08  
Enterprise Name: AFRICAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
Registration Date: 13/05/2020  
Business Start Date: 13/05/2020  
Enterprise Type: Non Profit Company  
Enterprise Status: In Business  
Financial Year End: March  
TAX Number: 9298702235

Addresses	<u>POSTAL ADDRESS</u>	<u>ADDRESS OF REGISTERED OFFICE</u>
	NO 1 OBSERVATORY ROAD OBSERVATORY CAPETOWN WESTERN CAPE 7925	NO 1 OBSERVATORY ROAD OBSERVATORY CAPETOWN WESTERN CAPE 7925

### ACTIVE MEMBERS / DIRECTORS

Surname and First Names	Type	ID Number / Date of Birth	Appointment Date	Addresses
GOVENDER, KEVINDRAN	Director	7808165150086	19/07/2021	Postal: 10 BAALEN ROAD, MARINA DA GAMA, MUIZENBURG, WESTERN CAPE, 7945 Residential: 10 BAALEN ROAD, MARINA DA GAMA, MUIZENBURG, WESTERN CAPE, 7945
SIKHOSANA, SINENHLANHLA PRECIOUS	Director	9303280328088	04/05/2023	Postal: 35 LONDONDERRY CRESCENT, SPRINGFIELD, SPRINGFIELD, KWA-ZULU NATAL, 0000 Residential: 35 LONDONDERRY CRESCENT, SPRINGFIELD, SPRINGFIELD, KWA-ZULU NATAL, 0000
TAKALANA, CHARLES	Director	9305215686084	19/07/2021	Postal: 9026 KANSAS STREET, EXTENSION 10, LENASIA, GAUTENG, 1827 Residential: 9026 KANSAS STREET, EXTENSION 10, LENASIA, GAUTENG, 1827

