

CODESRIA Charter

Proposed Amendments

February 2015

PREAMBLE

(No change)

TITLE I: Name, Legal Status and Location

Article 1

Name

(No Change)

Article 1a:

While the Council was previously known as "the Conference of Directors of Economic and Social Science Research Institutions in Africa" and "the Council for the Development of Economic and Social Research in Africa" the acronym CODESRIA and the objectives of the Council have remained the same. All official documents carrying the previous names of the Council remain valid.

TITLE II: Objectives

(No change)

TITLE III: Functions

(No change)

TITLE IV: Members

Article 6

(No change)

Article 7

A full individual member is an African scholar involved in the social sciences or humanities, who is:

- (a) a member or Fellow of a Social Science or Humanities Faculty or Department of a University;
- (b) a member of an independent research centre, unit or network;
- (c) a member of a professional association or not-for-profit organisation;
- (d) any other researcher, writer or public intellectual with a record of continued engagement in intellectual production or activity; or
- (e) a student undertaking postgraduate studies

who is engaged in social science and humanities research, training and/or

publishing, and has applied for and been admitted to membership of CODESRIA.

Article 8

A full institutional member is an African

- (a) university, research centre or unit within or outside a university;
- (b) discipline-based professional association or network;
- (c) national research body; or
- (d) not-for-profit organisation who is engaged in social science and humanities research, training and/ or publishing, and has applied for and been admitted to membership of CODESRIA.

Article 8A

An institutional member shall be represented only by a designated member of the institution in respect of matters relating to CODESRIA.

Article 9

An associate individual member is a non-African scholar engaged in social science and humanities research, training or publishing, who has applied for and been admitted to membership of CODESRIA.

Article 10

An associate institutional member is a non-African university, research centre, institute or not-for-profit organisation that is engaged in social science and humanities research, training or publishing, which has applied for and been admitted to membership of CODESRIA

Article 11

CODESRIA may from time to time confer honorary membership on individuals in recognition of their contribution to the African social sciences and humanities, and the objectives of CODESRIA.

Article 11A

An institution or individual that intends to be a member of CODESRIA may submit an application for that purpose in the form and the manner set out in the Bye-Laws.

Article 12

Full and associate members shall

- (a) accept the Charter of CODESRIA
- (b) uphold the highest standards in their scientific work and conduct;
- (c) support the vision, principles and programmes of CODESRIA;
- (d) participate actively in the activities of CODESRIA;
- (e) abide by the CODESRIA Code of Ethics; and
- (f) pay the requisite membership fees.

Article 13

Full individual or institutional members may:

- (a) participate in the governance of the Council through the right to vote and hold positions at all levels of the Council; and
- (b) participate in the General Assembly and in its committees and other organs.

Article 13A

To maintain the vision and integrity of CODESRIA, a Code of Ethics shall:

- (a) be drawn up for CODESRIA; and
- (b) be binding on all members, office-holders and staff of CODESRIA

Article 14:

(No change)

TITLE V: Official and Working Languages

(No change)

TITLE VI: Governing Organs of CODESRIA

(No change)

TITLE VII: The General Assembly

Article 17

(No change)

Article 17A

- (1) Participation in the General Assembly shall be open to a person who



- (a) is a member in good standing; and
- (b) has been such a member for at least three months before the General Assembly.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) a person who is not a fully-paid up member but who is participating in a concurrent scientific conference organised by CODESRIA may participate in discussions at the General Assembly but shall not have the right to vote on any matter that requires the decision of the General Assembly.

Article 17B

(1) Only full institutional and individual members who have been members of CODESRIA for at least three years shall have the right to vote in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Charter.

TITLE VIII: Executive Committee

(No change; as in the Charter)

Article 18

(No change)

Article 18A

A person qualifies to be a member of the Executive Committee if that person:

- (a) is a member in good standing;
- (b) has a record of continued engagement in intellectual production or activity;
- (c) has integrity and standing within the CODESRIA community; and
- (d) is familiar with and shares the vision of CODESRIA.
- (e) has attended at least one GA

Article 19

The elections of the EC shall be conducted by an Electoral Panel according to the procedures specified in the CODESRIA bye-laws.

Article 20 – 25

(No change)

TITLE IX Executive Secretariat

(No change)

[No change]

TITLE X Scientific Committee

(No change)

[No Change]

TITLE XI: Finances

(No change)

[No change]

TITLE XII: Donations

(No change)

TITLE XIII: Rules of Procedure

(No change)

TITLE XIV: Amendments to the Charter

(No change)

TITLE XV: Dissolution

(No change)

TITLE XVI: Final and Transitional

(No change)

Notes to Charter Amendment Proposals

February 2015

Article 1A: This proposed charter provision detailing CODESRIA name changes aims at enabling CODESRIA to validate the names used previously by the organisation and which still appear in official and valid documents of CODESRIA.

Articles 7-13 : The changes proposed in existing articles as well as the proposed new articles detail the criteria for membership as well as the benefits and responsibilities of membership. These provisions contribute to the effort to

rationalise and formalise the basis of membership as distinct from access to CODESRIA's services.

Articles 17A and 17B: These proposed articles detail and formalise one of the benefits of membership -- participation in the governance of CODESRIA. They are meant to differentiate between participation in the scientific conference organised in parallel with the General assembly and participation in the general Assembly itself.

Article 18A: This new article makes explicit the criteria of eligibility to membership of the Executive Committee, the highest decision making body of CODESRIA in between general assemblies.

Article 19: This article replaces regional caucuses with an Electoral Panel that oversees CODESRIA elections. The rationale is to formalise and improve election processes and free the General Assembly from the diversions created by elections in order to focus on matters pertaining to the organisation's development.