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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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**REPORT ON ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT
AND VICE PRESIDENT OF
THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (PAU) COUNCIL**

REPORT ON ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (PAU) COUNCIL

1. The process of election of the President and Vice President of the Pan African University (PAU) Council is based on the provisions of the Revised Statute of the PAU (the Statute) as well as the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.

2. In accordance with Article 6 (1) of the Statute, *the PAU is a unitary academic; and innovation institution comprising thematic institutions hosted in different geographical regions by existing academic institutions operating at the graduate studies level.*

3. In accordance with Article 6(2) of the Statute, *the institutes of PAU shall be dedicated to the following thematic areas and shall be located in the corresponding geographic regions set out below:*

- (a) *Space Sciences in Southern Africa;*
- (b) *Water and Energy (including climate change) in Northern Africa;*
- (c) *Life and Earth Sciences (including health and agriculture in Western Africa;*
- (d) *Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation in Eastern Africa; and*
- (e) *Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences in Central Africa.*

4. The PAU Council is established by Article 8 (1) of the Statute as follows:

The PAU Council shall be the highest governing body of the university and shall have oversight of the policy, finances and property of the PAU. Unless otherwise provided in this Statute, the PAU Council shall have authority to adopt regulations and to issue directives, policies and guidelines to govern all activities and operations of the PAU.

5. Article 9 (1) of the Statute, provides that the PAU Council shall be composed of, among others, the President and Vice President.

6. The election of the President and Vice President of the PAU Council is provided under Article 9(2) of the Statute as follows:

“The Executive Council shall elect the President and Vice President of the PAU Council from a list of five candidates presented by the Bureau of the STC. The candidates presented shall be citizens of AU Member States.”

7. In accordance with Article 10(1) of the Statute, the members of the PAU Council serve for a term of three (3) years which may be renewed only once.
8. The Commission has the honour to inform Member States that the term of office of the President of the PAU Council, Mr. NZINZI Pierre Dominique from the Republic of Gabon, who was appointed by the Assembly in January 2018, for a term of three (3) years, expired in January 2021. However, it will be recalled that the Executive Council, vide Decision **EX.CL/Dec.1124(XXXVIII)** adopted in February 2021, postponed the election of the President of the PAU Council and extended the term of office of the outgoing President, Mr. Pierre Dominique NZINZI, until June/July 2021.
9. Subsequently, the term of office of the Vice-President of the PAU Council, Ms. Audrey Nthabiseng OGUDE (South Africa), who was elected in June 2018 for a term of three (3) years, also expired in June 2021.
10. In accordance with Article 10(1) of the Statute, the outgoing President and Vice-president are eligible for re-election.

Submission and Selection of Candidates

11. The Commission, through Note Verbale No. **BC/OLC/23.18-2/10467.21** dated 13 March 2021, requested the Bureau of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Education, Science and Technology (STC-EST) to undertake consultations in their respective regions in order to submit one (1) suitable candidate from each region on or before the deadline on **30 April, 2021**.
12. The deadline was extended to **20 May, 2021** through Note Verbal reference number **BC/OLC/23.18-2/10708.21** dated 07 May, 2021. In the same Note Verbal, the Commission reminded the Bureau of the STC-EST (hereinafter referred to as the Bureau) of the requirement to submit only one (1) candidate per each region.
13. On 20 May, 2021 the Bureau, through Note Verbal No. **XC/AD/27** submitted by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda, in its capacity as Chairperson of the Bureau, informed the Commission that it had received a total of three candidates, one(1) from each of the following regions: Central, Eastern, and Southern Africa.
14. In view of the fact that there were no candidates submitted from the Northern and Western regions, the Commission, through Note Verbal No. **BC/OLC/23.18-2/10811.21** dated 27 May, 2021 extended the deadline for submission of candidates from those two (2) regions to **6 June 2021**.
15. On 6 June, 2021, the Bureau, through Note Verbal No. **XC/AD/27** submitted by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Uganda, in its capacity as Chairperson of the Bureau, informed the Commission that it had received a total of four (4) candidates from the Northern region (indicating inability to select one candidate at the regional level) and no candidates from the Western region.

16. The Commission, through Note Verbale No. **BC/OLC/23.18-1/11106.21**, dated 16 July 2021 communicated to all Member States recommendations of the Bureau, among others, calling upon the Members States of the Northern and Western Regions to undertake final consultations and submit only one candidate per region by **31 July 2021**.

17. After the deadline, the Bureau had received four (4) candidates from the Western region and four (4) candidates from the Northern region, signaling inability to select one (1) candidate at the regional levels.

18. On 17 August, 2021 the Bureau (Ministerial level), in exercise of its mandate, as stipulated under Article 9(2) of the Revised PAU Statute met and undertook a selection process in order to present one (1) candidate from the Northern Region and one (1) candidate from the Western Region.

19. The following Members of the Bureau were in attendance:

- i. Uganda- **Chairperson**;
- ii. Central African Republic- **1st Vice Chairperson**;
- iii. Namibia- **2nd Vice Chairperson**;
- iv. Libya- **3rd Vice Chairperson**;
- v. Senegal- **Rapporteur**

The Commissioner, ESTI, H.E. Prof. Sarah Anyang Agbor was also in attendance during the said meeting.

20. During the selection process, the Bureau was guided by the following principles:

- (a) Article 9 (2) of the Revised PAU Statute, which states that “The Executive Council shall elect the President and Vice-President of the PAU Council from a list of five candidates presented by the Bureau of the STC. The candidates presented shall be **citizens of AU Member States**;
- (b) **Competence**: due consideration being given to relevant experience in running and managing a university for a considerable/substantial period and achievements thereof;
- (c) Highest professional position held by candidates;
- (d) Language competencies; and
- (e) Age.

21. Members of the Bureau with candidates were ineligible to actively participate in the deliberations involving their candidates.

22. In accordance with Rule 19(1)(a) of the Rules of Procedure of the STC-ESTI, the Bureau adopted its decisions by consensus, failing which, by two thirds majority and decided as follows:

A. NORTHERN REGION

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION	VOTE
1.	Abdulsalam EL-QALLALI	Male	Libya	Northern	1
2.	Amany Abdallah EL-SHARIF	Female	Egypt	Northern	0
3. *	Mahjoub AL-AOUNI*	Male	Tunisia	Northern	3
4.	Mokhtar SELLAMI	Male	Algeria	Northern	0

***Bureau's Decision by two-thirds majority.**

B. WESTERN REGION

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION	VOTE
1.	Victor Eshwanu Heathcote STRASSER-KING	Male	Sierra Leone	Western	0
2.	Nicholas N.N. NSOWAH-NUAMAH *	Male	Ghana	Western	4
3.	Mark ADOM-ASAMOAH	Male	Ghana	Western	0
4.	Babacar NGOM	Male	Senegal	Western	0

***Bureau's Decision by Consensus.**

23. Therefore, the final list of candidates received from the Bureau of the STC, for the **election of the President and Vice President of the PAU Council**, is as follows:

NO	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Mahjoub AL-AOUNI	Male	Tunisia	Northern
2.	Kenneth Kamwi MATENGU	Male	Namibia	Southern
3.	Nicholas N.N. NSOWAH-NUAMAH	Male	Ghana	Western
4.	Pierre Dominique NZINZI*	Male	Gabon	Central
5.	Fikre Lemessa OCHO	Male	Ethiopia	Eastern

*The candidate is eligible for re-election

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT

24. During the elections, the Executive Council shall first elect the President. The Vice President shall be elected among the remaining candidates.

25. It will be recalled that the Assembly vide Decision **Assembly/AU/Dec.760 (XXXIII)** adopted in February 2020 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia delegated its authority of appointment of members of AU Organs and institutions, including the PAU, to the Executive Council.

26. In this regard, once elected, the President and Vice-president shall automatically be appointed by the Executive Council.

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT
AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election and Appointment of the President and Vice President of the Pan African University Council;
2. **COMMENDS** the Bureau of the STC-EST and the Commission for the selection process of candidates;
3. **ELECTS AND APPOINTS** the following as President and Vice President of the Pan African University Council for a term of three (3) years:

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION	PORTFOLIO
1.					President
2.					Vice President

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