

**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

SECRETARIAT
P. O. Box 3243

ADDIS ABABA

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

SECRETARIAT
B. P. 3243

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Addis Ababa,
17th - 24th February 1969

AFRICAN NATIONAL RADIO AND
TELEVISION SERVICES (URDNA)



URTNA/SG/3219/68

To: Mr. DIALLO TELLI
Administrative Secretary-General of
Organization of African Unity,
ADDIS ABABA (Ethiopia)

Mr. Secretary-General,

I have the honour to request on behalf of the Union of African National Radio and Television Services (URTNA), to kindly put the Union's request for observer status at the Organization of African Unity to the next Council of Ministers.

URTNA was established in accordance with Articles 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 64, 70 of the United Nations Charter. The Constitution was adopted by the General Assembly meeting in Lagos from 22 to 29 November 1962. The Seventh General Assembly, held in Cairo in the spring of 1967, did not hesitate to insert in the Constitution that the URTNA was also in conformity with Article II of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

In a message addressed to the Fifth Ordinary Session of the General Assembly, held in Accra from 17 to 21 November 1964, you said and I quote "I hope that the Conference, anxious to carry out its activities within the framework of OAU, will turn its attention to the most appropriate ways and means of co-operating closely and perhaps institutionally with the OAU General Secretariat; or else in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the Charter concerning the standing commissions of our Organization".

In the light of this message and of the common objectives of our two organizations, I am sure, Mr. Secretary-General, that the next OAU Council of Ministers will grant the status of non-governmental international organization within category "B"-consultative and informative - that is accorded to it by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Sgl) M. BASSIOUNI
SECRETARY-GENERAL.

FOUNDATION:

URTNA is the first continent wide Union in Africa and was created before the OAU, although initial steps to its institutions were only taken in 1960.

The Statutes of the Union have been developed by the Legal and Administrative Commission which met in Tunisia from 18 to 21 October, 1961, and were unanimously adopted in Rabat (Morocco) on January 19, 1962, and accepted by the General Assembly which met in Lagos from 25 to 29 September, 1962 by the following delegations: Cameroon, Chad, Congo (Brazza), Congo (Kinshasa), Dahomey, Ethiopia, Republic of Central Africa, Senegal, Sierra-Leone, Tanganika (Tanzania), Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Republic, Upper Volta.

The Statutes were amended by the Legal and Administrative Commission, ratified by the General Assembly which met in Cairo from 27 March to 6 April, 1967.

Zambia also adhered to the Union as a full member while France (ORTF) was admitted as an associate member; other Broadcasting Organizations applied for full and associate membership.

The seat of the Union is in Dakar.

OBJECTIVES: The objectives of the Union are:

- a) to support in every field the interests of those African Organizations operating Radio and/or Television Services that have accepted the present Statutes and to establish relations with other International Organizations.
- b) To promote and coordinate the study of all questions relating to Broadcasting and to secure the exchange of information on all matters of general interest to those Radio and/or Television Services.

- c) To take all possible steps designed to assist the development of African Radio and Television in all its forms.
- d) To seek within the framework of African cooperation, the solution to any difference that might arise among members, to aim at the cooperation among Radio and Television Organizations and to promote African Culture in accordance with the African Unity Charter.
- e) To use its good offices to ensure that all members respect provisions of International and Inter-African agreements concerning Radio and/or Television.

URTNA is employing all suitable means to further these objectives:

- a) The Administrative and Exchange Center has been established in Dakar;
- b) The Technical Center has been established in Bamako (Mali).

A Monitoring Center is under construction in Markala (Mali), and will be completed this year.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES: It might be useful before enumerating the problems and needs of URTNA to give a brief outline of its current activities;

URTNA has now passed its initial teething stage; however, URTNA has not yet obtained any external aid.

To promote African Culture, and introduce African Nations to each other, URTNA is now giving emphasis to Programme Exchange. Its Headquarters in Dakar, receive recordings from each Member Broadcasting Organization, dub them, and dispatch them to other Members. This is unique in Broadcasting Unions but suits African Broadcasting Organizations and relieves the originating organization by dispatching its contributions to all members.

1. A Folkloric Music Festival was organized by URTNA from 22 to 29 May, 1968.

To raise the standard of programmes, various competitions will be organized in November in Congo Kinshasa before the meeting of the 9th ordinary General Assembly under URTNA auspices and prizes will be awarded by URTNA to the winners.

The Contribution of URTNA is to receive the tape recordings, to dub them and distribute them to URTNA members.

Programme Exchanges will not be limited to Radio but will also include Television.

An URTNA Day to be celebrated on the 29th of September, for the first time.

2. A Seminar on the " Role of Broadcasting in Community Development" was organized in Dakar from the 17th to 26th June 1968, for Senior Staff of Member Organizations; FAO, ILO, UNESCO and ORTF cooperated by providing lecturers.

SPACE COMMUNICATIONS: URTNA is aware of the importance of the use of Space Communications in Broadcasting their effect on existing conventional means as well as on the social, educational, cultural fields and of its information and political aspects. URTNA therefore, followed with interest, studies and researches undertaken to this end, positively participates in International Conference on this question, and communicates discussions and resolutions to its members.

TRAINING: URTNA is also aware of the shortage of qualified staff as well as of the need of training most of its Member Broadcasting Organizations personnel, their needs to cope with the newest developments in the field of Radio and Television, programming and engineering; it therefore encourages its members to make use of the training services provided by existing training Centres in the African Continent until another advanced and well equiped Centre can be established.

LEGAL AFFAIRS: URTNA is taking the lead in providing its members with the latest developments in the field of Copyright and in defending the interests of developing countries in that field by participating to International Conferences. It is considering holding a meeting in the near future in cooperation with UNESCO and BIRPI, to draft Model Copyright Law to meet the demands of African Countries, after the revision of the Berne Convention. This will lead to drafting of a Model Law for Copyright Societies in Africa, which later on could be grouped in a regional Union.

A Regional Copyright Convention is also suggested by URTNA under the auspices of the OAU with the cooperation of UNESCO.

ENGINEERING: As mentioned above, URTNA in spite of its limited resources, is building a Monitoring Center in Markala (Mali). The duties of this Center are the following:

1. Monitoring the broadcasting frequencies of Member Organizations and submitting comprehensive listening reports, it will also give the necessary suggestions to avoid interferences with one another or with other stations.

2. To measure the field intensity and the transmission frequencies of the different Broadcasting Stations of the Member Organizations and to forward a report.

3. To participate in the research and measurements carried out by different International Broadcasting Organizations and Unions and to exchange services and technical information with them. A Monitoring Service is presently provided to members from a temporary place other technical services will be provided when the URTNA Center is operative.

<u>POPULATION</u>	<u>UNITS</u>
From 0 to 1,000,000	1
" 1,000,001 to 5,000,000	2
" 5,000,001 to 10,000,000	3
Above 10,000,000	4

The Unit Rate, however, goes high as \$ 5,000, the amount of subscriptions collected, hardly meets the growing requirements of the Union.

TRAVEL EXPENSES: Travel expenses in a vast continent like Africa, is a big item on the budget of small organizations and attendance to meetings is often impossible.

INTERPRETATION: URTNA, in conformity with its statutes, Arabic, English and French being the official languages of the Union, serves the whole continent, these three languages must necessarily be used in our Conferences. We therefore, need to recruit interpreters for the three languages and pay for their travel expenses and per diem, in addition to their salaries. URTNA has the intention of convening a Conference in 1969 for Radio and Television Educational Programs before the E.B.U Fourth Conference in 1970, and the Conference also requires financial assistance.

DOCUMENTATION CENTER: The need is urgent for a documentation Center containing a reference library. Due to lack of funds, this documentation center has not yet been established.

TRAINING CENTER: Although UNESCO has made a statement in favor of establishing a Television Educational Training Center in Lagos, in 1964, the foundation stone of this Center has not yet been laid, and it is difficult to know when the work would start.

During the UNESCO Conference held in Paris, on the use of Space Communications in Broadcasting, the urgent need of the developing countries for training technical and programme staff has been underlined. Before training the personnel on the use of Space Communications in Broadcasting, I wonder if it is not our responsibility to train the personnel first to make better use of Radio and Television.

The existing training Center on the continent are not sufficient to meet the increasing demand in the growing field of broadcasting.

We are fully aware of what URTNA stands for; we know it is unique, and perhaps a key factor in the development of Africa itself.

M. BASSIOUNI
SECRETARY GENERAL

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE UNION OF AFRICAN NATIONAL RADIO AND
TELEVISION SERVICES

ARTICLE I

ESTABLISHMENT

1. The African National Radio and Television Services have agreed to create a union in compliance with articles 55, 56, 57, 59, 62, 63, 64 and 70 of the United Nations Charter and with Article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity which provide for the establishment of such Unions with cultural and scientific objectives.

This Union shall be known as: "Union of African National Radio and Television services" (Union des Radiodiffusions et Televisions Nationales d'Afrique) with the initials U.R.T.N.A.

This Union shall have a legal personality.

2. Any State organ responsible for production of programmes transmitted from one or more of its own stations shall be considered as a Radio and Television Service.

3. Radio Television Service shall be understood to mean a Radio-communications service transmitting either sound or objects or both simultaneously to the public.

4. The duration of the Union shall be unlimited.

5. The Union shall have its headquarters in Dakar but may be transferred to any other place on the African continent if the General Assembly so decides.

ARTICLE II

OBJECTIVES

1. U.R.T.N.A. shall have no commercial aims.

2. It shall have the following objectives:

- a) to support, in all fields, the interests of those African operated radio and television services which shall adhere to the present constitution and establish relations with other international organizations;

- b) promote and co-ordinate studies connected with radio and television and ensure the exchange of information on all matters of general interest to the services;
 - c) Take steps aimed at developing African radio and television services in all its aspects;
 - d) to seek a solution, through inter-African collaboration, to any differences that may arise among its members, co-operation among radio-television services and promotion of African culture, in the spirit of African Unity;
 - e) offer its good offices with a view to ensuring that all matters concerning radio and television.
3. For these purposes, U.R.T.N.A. shall use all adequate means of study or action, in particular:
- a) establish and maintain permanent services;
 - b) compile and keep all documentation up to date and issue publications on matters connected with radio and television;
 - c) it may set up commissions and study groups entrusted with the study of specific problems;
 - d) It may acquire premises, installation equipment and all material necessary for the implementation of its social objective.

ARTICLE III

M E M B E R S

The Union shall comprise active members and associate members.

1. Active Member:

- a) any independent African country may be represented by a national radio-television corporation. This corporation shall enjoy the status of an active member as defined in the present constitution. This member may be authorized by its government to represent, on occasion, more than one national radio-television corporation.

There shall be only one active member from one particular country.
~~Those African countries that are fighting for their independence~~
may apply for active membership if they are recognized by the
Organization of African Unity.

- b) Application for active membership shall be recommended by the Board of Directors to the General Assembly where a majority of three-quarters of half plus one of the active members of the Union present or represented shall be required. Should an application for membership be rejected by the Board of Directors, it may still be submitted to the General Assembly.

2. Associate Member:

- a) The Union shall admit, as an associate member, a national radio-television corporation of a non-African country. The application shall be submitted to Members of the Union six months before the session of the General Assembly.

The application for associate membership shall be recommended by the Board of Directors to the General Assembly and shall be adopted by three-quarters of the votes cast out of a quorum of three-quarters of the members of the Union present or represented.

- b) The associate members shall enjoy the social rights of active members, unless otherwise stipulated in the constitution of the Union.

ARTICLE IV

R E S I G N A T I O N

1. All members resigning shall notify the President of the Union by registered letter.

2. The active members which shall resign from U.R.T.N.A. shall, forfeit all rights to the assets of the Union from the date of their resignation.

ARTICLE V

WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

1. Any member which shall not abide by the provisions stipulated in the constitution of the Union or by the decisions of the General Assembly or which shall not honour its financial commitments may be expelled from the Union if recommend by the Board of Directors to the General Assembly at least three months before a session. All members shall then be informed within the same time limit.
2. The decision shall be taken by a majority of three quarters of the votes cast with a quorum of three quarters of the members of the Union.
3. The defaulting member may be granted a time-limit within which to set intself right.

At the end of this time, the Board of Directors shall investigate whether the member has set itslef right. If the member has not done so it shall be exelled.

4. Active members which shall cease to be members of U.R.T.N.A, shall **forfeit** all rights to the assets of the union.

ARTICLE VI
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly shall be the Supreme body of U.R.T.N.A. and shall have full powers in the implementation of its objectives. It shall be composed of all members.
2. Only active members shall have the right to vote in the General Assembly.
3. The General Assembly shall hold an ordinary Session once a year.
4. The General Assembly, shall hold, should the occasion arise, an extraordinary session in accordance with the provisions of article 9 of the present constitution.
5. Each member may be represented at the sessions of the General Assembly either by a delegation or a representative of its choice or may delegate its powers to the delegation or representative of another member.

6. The agenda of the ordinary session of the General Assembly shall comprise:
- a) Approval of the summary records of the previous session;
 - b) Annual Report of the Board of Directors on U.R.T.N.A.'s activities and in particular on measures taken with a view to implementing the decisions of the General Assembly.
 - c) Auditor(s) reports;
 - d) The examination and approval of the accounts of the previous financial year and discharging the administrators of their responsibility.
 - e) Drawing up of the budget and Programme of activities for the following year.
 - f) Establishment of the scale of assessment for the following year;
 - g) date and place of the next ordinary session of the General Assembly;
 - h) If necessary, the election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Board of Directors;
 - i) On applying the rules on the quorum and majority required and under the provisions of Article V, paragraph 1, any proposal submitted by the Board of Directors;
 - j) Any appeal submitted by a member against a decision taken by the Board of Directors.
7. The General Assembly shall accept, by a majority of the active members present or represented, legacies, donations and subsidies in accordance with legal provisions existing on this matter. It shall determine how the monies are to be expended.
8. The General Assembly shall determine the official languages among which there are already Arabic, French and English.

ARTICLE VII

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall comprise nine directors who, in the exercise of their functions, shall represent U.R.T.N.A. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be elected by the General Assembly from among the directors. The Post of director shall not be a salaried post.

2.

a) The countries where the official headquarters and the Technical Centre of U.R.T.N.A. are established shall by rights have a seat each on the Board.

The other seven seats shall be allotted by the General Assembly among the other active members, through elections.

Directors from countries where the official headquarters and the Technical Centre are established, shall control funds and assets of the permanent centres of the Union; These members shall have no other duties on the Board of Directors.

3. Seats on the Board of directors shall be held for a period of two years. Any out-going member may be re-elected if it obtains two-thirds of the votes cast in the General Assembly.

4. The General Assembly shall, at its very next meeting, replace any member sitting on the Board of Directors which shall give up its office, resign from U.R.T.N.A., whose membership shall have been withdrawn or which shall have been expelled before the end of its term of office; the substitute shall finish the term of the out-going member; whatever the duration, it shall not enter among the conditions of the substitute's re-elegibility.

5. All members on the Board of Directors shall appoint a qualified representative. The latter shall sit on the Board validly only after the President shall have received his credentials.

6. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a year.

7. The Board of Directors shall:

- a) exercise all rights and powers of the General Assembly during the inter-session, subject to subsequent approval by the latter, except those that the General Assembly shall have reserved for itself by an explicit decision;
- b) ensure the implementation of decisions of the General Assembly.
- c) report on the activities of U.R.T.N.A. at each ordinary session of the General Assembly and send a report on the discussions after each of its meetings to all active members.
- d) make proposals on the admission, withdrawal of membership and expulsion of members;
- e) consider and propose to the General Assembly, the establishment of commissions, when necessary, to complement those set up by the General Assembly and appoint any study group which it shall deem necessary.
- f) receive and examine reports of the committees and study group and decide on how they should be followed up;
- g) prepare the provisional programme of activities and the draft budget for the following financial year, draw up and audit the statement of accounts of the past financial year, in conformity with article 17 of the present constitution;
- h) make proposals to the General Assembly on the appointment or dismissal of the Directors, fix the amount of their emoluments and allowances; appoint and dismiss agents and collaborators, determine their emoluments and allowances; it may however, delegate all or part of these prerogatives to the Directors within the framework of their respective duties defined in article XV;
- i) carry out all legal transactions, in respect to the budget, necessary for the realization of the objectives of U.R.T.N.A. it may, however assign the day to day management to the Directors in accordance with their respective functions set forth in Article XV;

- j. determine the respective functions and responsibilities of the Directors according to the provisions of the present constitution;
 - k) assess the subscription of active members and contribution of associate members, in conformity with the provisions of Article XVI.
8. The Board of Directors alone, delegated by the General Assembly, shall have the right to set up joint commissions with other organizations.

ARTICLE VIII

THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

1. The General Assembly shall elect for a period of two years a Chairman and Vice-Chairman. They shall assume, by rights, the same functions on the Board of Directors.
2. At the end of their term of office, the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for re-election to their posts, provided that they obtain, at least, three-quarters of the votes of the active members present or represented.
3. In the event of the absence of incapacity of the Chairman his functions shall be assumed by the Vice-Chairman unless the General Assembly or the Board of Directors decides otherwise.
4. Whenever the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman are unable to perform their duties, the other members on the Board shall elect an acting Chairman until the Chairman or Vice Chairman shall have resumed his functions or until the following session of the General Assembly.
5. The Chairman and the competent Director shall, on behalf of U.R.T.N.A. conduct legal proceedings in cases where U.R.T.N.A. is either plaintiff or defendant.
6. Except otherwise stipulated, all transactions other than those of day to day administration, shall be signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman after prior discussion by members of the Board.

ARTICLE IX

CONVENING OF MEETINGS

1. The Chairman shall convene the ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly. He shall convene an extraordinary session at the request of at least one third of the active members.
2. The Board of Directors shall be convened by the Chairman and at the request of at least two members of the Board.
3. Invitations to a session of the General Assembly or to a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be sent by registered letter two months before the date set for the session or meeting. This time-limit may however, be reduced under exceptional circumstances, by the Board of Directors in the case of a session of the General Assembly or by the Chairman in the case of a meeting of the Board of Directors except for the compulsory annual ordinary session of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE X

AGENDA OF THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND OF THE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The agenda of all General Assembly sessions and all Board meetings shall be drawn up by the Chairman with the assistance of the Administrative Centre - Permanent Secretariat of U.R.T.N.A. and if necessary, after consultation with members by registered letter, within the time stated in paragraph 3 of the preceding article.
2. The General Assembly may not take a decision on an item not included in the agenda except in the case below.
3. Any member shall have the right to request that an item be included in the agenda of an ordinary session of the General Assembly. However, it shall only be included in the agenda of that session if it is received by the Director of the Administrative Centre not less than ten days before invitations are sent out or if it is approved by at least one-third of the members present or represented.

ARTICLE XI

WORKING PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AND OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Chairman may allow remarks to be made in a language other than one of the working languages provided the speaker assumes the responsibility for the translation.
2. The General Assembly shall deliberate validly only if the majority of the active members is present or represented, except otherwise stipulated in the present constitution.

However, if the quorum is not reached, another ordinary session shall be convened not less than in three days and not more than seven. Regardless of the number of members present or represented, the deliberations shall then be valid.

The Board of Directors shall deliberate only if the majority of the Directors is present.

3. The Chairman shall conduct the discussions and shall see to the smooth running of the sessions and meetings. He shall not take part in the vote when there is an equal ballot. If the majority is not obtained on the second ballot, the motion shall be withdrawn.
4. A register shall be drawn up after each sitting of each session or meeting.
5. The Secretary General shall draft the minutes of each sitting of the General Assembly or of the Board of Directors.

The minutes shall be submitted to the current Chairman for his signature. It shall become final after approval by the following session or meeting. They shall be translated into the official languages of the Union stipulated in article VI, paragraph 8.

VOTING

6.
 - a) the Chairman shall judge the appropriate time to submit a written text prior to discussion of proposals;

b) Before voting, the Chairman shall ascertain whether the quorum required for the validity of the General Assembly's deliberation has been reached. If there is no quorum, the proposal being voted on, shall be postponed to the next meeting of the General Assembly which may validly take a decision on this matter regardless of the number of active members voting.

c) Except otherwise stipulated herein, a proposal shall be accepted only if it obtains more than half of the valid votes cast.

d) During the counting of votes, abstentions shall not be taken into account when the vote is taken by show of hands or roll-call, neither shall spoilt or blank ballot papers, when the vote is by secret ballot.

e) Unless a vote by roll-call is requested, the vote is taken by a show of hands.

f) the vote shall be taken by secret ballot only for the election of the members of the Board of Directors and the Chairman and vice-chairman or at the request of five members of the General Assembly or two members of the Board of Directors.

In the case of an equal ballot, during the election of the Chairman, of the Vice-Chairman or of the members of the Board of Directors, there shall be a second and if necessary a third ballot. If the majority is still not acquired on the third ballot, the candidates who shall have obtained the same number of votes shall draw lots.

7. Should urgent matters be referred to the Board of Directors in between meetings, the Chairman shall put the matter to the vote by post or telegramme subject to the subsequent approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XII

DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The decisions of the General Assembly shall bind all members whether or not they are present and represented at the discussions of the session during which these decisions were taken on condition that they are notified.

These decisions shall be applicable immediately unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly. The General Assembly may allow members to depart from the rules should they be unable to abide by these decisions for compelling reasons.

2. Any member may appeal to the ordinary session of the following General Assembly on any decision taken in its absence. This appeal shall not be a stay, should it come from a member affected by this decision; it shall be considered by the General Assembly only if the appellant has taken part in the application of the decision in question or if he had justified beforehand why he had found it impossible to apply it.

ARTICLE XIII

ADMISSION TO SESSIONS AND MEETINGS

1. Only duly accredited delegations or representatives shall have the right to take part in the discussions of the General Assembly. However, the representatives of specialized organizations and the competent administrations of members of U.R.T.N.A. may attend sittings of the General Assembly.

2. Admission to the Board of Directors shall, in principle, be strictly limited to the Directors who may, with the approval of the Board, be accompanied by experts.

3. The Chairman may, with the consent of the Board of Directors, decide that a part of the General Assembly and Board meetings as well as the appropriate documents shall be confidential except otherwise agreed upon. Unless a decision to the contrary, the Chairman may, with the consent of the Board of Directors, invite any person or organization whose advice may be useful, to attend all or part of certain meetings of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE XIV

COMMISSIONS AND STUDY GROUPS

1. The powers of a commission shall include all matters pertinent to the study of the question which it has been assigned.

The powers of a study group shall include only the question which it has been assigned to study. The study group shall cease to exist as soon as it shall have accomplished its task and submitted its final report.

The commissions and study groups shall have a strictly advisory capacity.

2. Any member shall have the right to be represented in each commission.
3. The composition of a study group shall be limited to those members appointed for this purpose.
4. Each commission shall appoint its officers by secret ballot for a period of two years, shall establish its rules of procedure and, in a general way, shall set its working procedure based on the procedure laid down by the present constitution for the work of the General Assembly and the Board of Directors. The rules on the right to vote and eligibility in the General Assembly and the Board of Directors are applicable to the commissions and their officers.

The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman who shall assume these same functions in the Bureau, shall be elected by secret ballot for a period of two years from among the representatives appointed by members with a seat on the Bureau.

At the end of their term of office, the members of the Bureau as well as the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman may be re-elected to the same posts if they obtain at least three-quarters of the votes of members of the commission present or represented.

Each question studied by a commission or a study group shall form the basis of a report to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XV

PERMANENT OFFICES

1. The Permanent offices of U.R.T.N.A. shall be:
 - a) the Administrative Centre
 - b) the Technical Centre
 - c) The Programmes Centre which is now housed at the Administrative Centre.

Each centre shall be headed by a Director appointed by the Union. The Union may, if it deems it necessary, establish other permanent offices.

2. The Administrative Centre shall be the permanent Secretariat of U.R.T.N.A.
3. The Headquarters of the Administrative Centre must be at the official headquarters of U.R.T.N.A.

4. The Director of the Administrative Centre and programme exchange centre shall carry out those decisions of the Board of Directors that are not of a technical nature. Unless the Board of Directors decides otherwise, he shall also be responsible for the Secretariat of the commissions and, should the case arise, of the study groups, except for those of a technical nature. He shall co-ordinate the exchange of programmes.

5. The Technical Centre shall constitute the permanent technical office of U.R.T.N.A.

6. The Headquarters of the Technical Centre shall be MARKALA (Republic of Mali).

7. The Director of the Technical Centre shall carry out decisions of the Board of Directors, that are of a technical nature; taken by, he shall be responsible for the personnel of this centre, the secretariat of the Commissions and, if necessary, for that study groups of technical nature, except otherwise decided by the Board of Directors.

8. During the sessions of the General Assembly and meetings of the Board of Directors, the Director of the Administrative Centre and of the Programme exchange Centre shall serve in the capacity of secretary of these assemblies. During the inter-session, he shall ensure the co-ordination of administrative activities of the Administrative Centre, the Programme Exchange Centre and of the Technical Centre. He shall serve as Secretary General of the Board of Directors and shall see that its decision on matters connected with the outside are implemented.

ARTICLE XVI

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

1. All active members shall pay an annual subscription and all associate members a contribution.

a) SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscription fees shall be fixed by the General Assembly in terms of the total population of each member country.

b) CONTRIBUTIONS

Associate members shall not pay an annual subscription but shall share in the expenses of the Union according to the financial resources of each member and services received from the Union.

It shall pay an annual contribution fixed yearly and separately for each member by the Board of Directors and

- shall pay an amount set each year by the Board of Directors, for exceptional services rendered by U.R.T.N.A.

2. All members of U.R.T.N.A. shall be debited with one-twelfth of the subscription or contribution for each full month until the end of the financial year.

3. Subscriptions and contribution shall be payable at the beginning of the financial year. However, at the request of a member, the Board of Directors may authorize that member to pay in installments.

4. The budget and accounts shall be drawn up in dollars, the monetary unit U.R.T.N.A. may keep subsidiary books or have subsidiary bank accounts in any other currency, which shall be deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

Subscriptions of active members, contributions and payments of associate members shall be payable to the account of the Administrative Centre in Dakar and, except upon prior agreement between a member and the Board of Directors subject to review at the end of the financial year, payment shall be made in dollars, the monetary unit.

5. The financial obligations of members shall be limited to their contributions of subscriptions.

6. If the letter of withdrawal of an active member does not arrive at the official headquarters of U.R.T.N.A. six months before the end of the current financial year, that member shall pay an amount equivalent to half of its subscription of the preceding year for the following financial year.

An associate member who shall withdraw, shall have to pay the totality of its contribution if its letter of withdrawal is not sent in six months before the end of the financial year in addition to payments for special services.

7. U.R.T.N.A. shall honour its financial commitments towards third parties up to the total of its assets.

ARTICLE XVII

FINANCIAL AND ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

1. The financial year shall commence on 1 January and end of 31 December of the same year.
2. Books, registers and accounts shall be closed on the 31 December of each year.
3. The Board of Directors shall draw up in good time, for the General Assembly, the accounts of the past year which shall have been audited by one or several qualified accountants. During the ordinary session, the auditor(s) appointed by the General Assembly shall submit the Union's financial report to the latter. The Board of Directors shall also establish the draft budget for the following financial year.
4. U.R.T.N.A. shall be financed by:
 - a) the annual subscriptions of active members
 - b) the annual contributions of associate members;
 - c) payments by associate members for exceptional services rendered by U.R.T.N.A. at their request;
 - d) Returns from its publications and activities of any other nature;
 - e) donations, legacies, gifts and subsidies, in accordance with the provisions of Article VI paragraph 7.
5. The Board of Directors shall decide on the accounting system of the Union.

ARTICLE XVIII

DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Proposals on the dissolution of U.R.T.N.A. or the amendment of the constitution may come from either the Board of Directors or one-third of the active members who shall present them to the Chairman of U.R.T.N.A.

2. Amendments to the constitution shall be made on the decision of the General Assembly. The quorum required shall be half plus one of the members. The majority shall be three-quarters of the votes cast.

3. Proposals of dissolution shall be decided on by the General Assembly only during an extraordinary session especially convened for this purpose, in accordance with the procedure stipulated in Article IX paragraph 1, invitations accompanied by proposals shall be sent by registered letter two months before the date fixed for that session.

4. The dissolution of U.R.T.N.A. may be validly decided by the Extraordinary General Assembly only if not less than three-quarters of the active members are present or represented; the majority required shall be three-quarters of the votes cast.

However, if there is no quorum another extraordinary session shall be convened within a year, unless during that interval, an ordinary General Assembly is held, in which case it shall be qualified to discuss the matter.

5. In case of dissolution, the net profits of U.R.T.N.A. shall be handed over to an organization with similar objectives or to any other organization which U.R.T.N.A. shall consider to have the same objectives. This Committee shall be assisted by at least three persons chosen from among the members of U.R.T.N.A. and acting as advisors.

ARTICLE XIX

AUTHENTIC TEXT

The present constitution is drafted in Arabic, French and English. Should there be a disagreement, the French shall be the authentic text.

ARTICLE XX

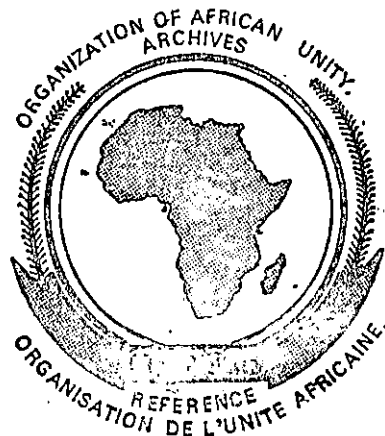
FINAL PROVISIONS

The present version of the constitution drawn up by the Administrative and Legal Commission meeting in Tunis from 18-21 October 1960, unanimously adopted by the General Assembly convened in Rabat from 15-19 January 1962 by the delegations of Mali, Morocco, United Arab Republic, Libya, Guinea, Algeria, Ghana, Somalia and Tunisia and re-examined in Conakry on 5 May 1962 and approved by the General Assembly meeting in Lagos from 25-29 September 1962 by the delegations of Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville).

Congo (Kinshasa), Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Upper Volta, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Central African Republic, United Arab Republic, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Chad, Togo, Tanganyika, and Tunisia. Amended in CAIRO on 27 March 1967 and approved by the General Assembly convened in this same city on 27 March and 6 April 1967, by the delegations of Algeria, Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Kinshasa), Ivory Coast represented by Senegal, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, UAR, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Chad, Togo, Tanzania represented by Mali and Zambia.

ARTICLE XXI

The approved version of the above constitution shall come into force from April 1967.



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