



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
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منظمة الوحدة الافريقية

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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

Addis Ababa

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session

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REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS - ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES IN AFRICA



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ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES IN AFRICA

(Application for Observer Status with the OAU)

The Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa (AAASA) is an association of individual agricultural scientists, research institutions, and organizations engaged in agriculturally related research, teaching and extension education in Africa. It was inaugurated in April 1968, at Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The inaugural conference was organized by the US National Academy of Sciences and was supported by USAID and FAO. Active participants at the conference included the ECA, FAO, UNESCO, USAID, OAU/STRC, ABD and IBRD.

The objectives of the Association as contained in Article II of the Association's constitution are:

1. To foster the development and application of agricultural sciences throughout Africa.
2. To provide for the exchange of experiences among scientists and all professionals engaged in agricultural research and production throughout Africa, by means of periodic conferences and meetings, and through exchange of publications.
3. To encourage Africans to avail themselves of the opportunity to get training in the various fields of agricultural sciences.
4. To cooperate with other organizations interested in the steady progress and development of African agriculture.

Membership

Membership of the Association consists of any person who is professionally engaged in agriculturally related research, teaching, and extension education in Africa, provided he pays such dues as may be determined by the Association. There are also the following membership.

1. Associate members - all full-time post-graduate students in the agricultural sciences are eligible for associate membership.

2. Honorary members - honorary members are either those persons invited by the Association to participate in its activities on account of the support they can bring to the Association, or

Those persons wishing to help the Association by paying an honorary membership fee fixed by the Association.

3. Benefactors -- are persons or legal entities wishing to help the Association by paying a fee fixed by the Association.
4. Corporate members - are legal entities (research stations, firms, societies, foundations, etc.) who are interested in the activities of the Association. Such corporate members shall be entitled, through payment of a fee fixed by the Association, to a complimentary copy of each AAASA publication, and may be represented by a designated individual at all General Meetings.
5. Life membership -- life membership may be conferred on any ordinary member who fulfills the stipulated conditions.

Financial Sources

The financial sources of the Association are:

1. Membership fees,
2. Revenue from publications,
3. Grants from African Governments. The following African Governments have given grants to the Association:
 - a) Government of Ethiopia
 - b) " " Nigeria
 - c) " " Senegal
 - d) " " Ghana
 - e) " " Sierra Leone
4. Grants from outside Africa:
 - a) U.S.A.I.D.
 - b) Rockefeller Foundation
 - c) Ford Foundation
 - d) French Aid for Development and Cooperation.

5. Assistance in technical personnel;

United Kingdom: Publications officer.

6. Assistance in equipment;

- a) Typewriters - United Kingdom
- b) Duplicating Machine - United Kingdom
- c) Office furniture - USAID

Since the establishment of its secretariat, the Association has achieved a successful conference on agricultural research and production in Africa (efficiency application and cooperation). The Association now publishes a Scientific Journal in circulation almost all over the world. The journal is essentially devoted to wide sphere of agricultural science in Africa.

In addition to the journal, the Association has sponsored the publication of books under its auspices, e.g. Agricultural Research in Tropical Africa, by St. G.C. Cooper. An editorial board of the Association was formed to include the following sections:

- Section I - Crop Production and Protection
- Section II - Animal Production and Protection
- Section III - Soil and Water Management and Mechanization
- Section IV - Agricultural Economics
- Section V - Agricultural Education, Extension and Rural Sociology

General Comment

The Association's aims and objectives are in line with those of the OAU and as such it may qualify for observer status with the OAU under the conditions laid down in CM/162/Rev.2, Article 5 (a) and (b) which are as follows:

- a) "The request shall conform with the fundamental principles set forth in the Charter of the OAU;
- b) The activities of the body seeking observer status shall be in conformity with the objectives of the OAU".

However, membership of the Association includes individuals and institutions from United Kingdom, U.S., France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Mexico, West Indies and if these are full members, they shall have full voting rights. Objections have always been raised as to foreign membership of African Organization seeking

observer status with the OAU. These objections are valid in that foreign membership have the possibility of diverting the aims and objectives of the Association to the detriment of Africa. This would be seen also against the back-ground of the Association's foreign financial sources. In any case, this disadvantageous possibility could be compared with the wider field of knowledge which would be available to the Association from foreign membership. However, in as much as the Association continues to remain predominantly African, the disadvantage of foreign membership could be prevented.

The application of the Association is submitted for consideration. If it is granted, it would obtain observer status under Category C, which includes:

- i) "Inter-African non-governmental organizations, associations or unions,
- ii) Inter-African non-governmental institutions".

Category C observers may:

- i) "attend the public sessions of the OAU Specialised Commissions during discussions of a matter of particular interest to them,
- ii) communicate a written declaration to the Commission through the medium of Administrative Secretary-General and after approval by the Chairman of the Session".

Annexed to this paper are the Constitution(Annex I) and the Memorandum of Activities(Annex II) of the AAASA.

CONSTITUTION

of the

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES IN AFRICA (AAASA)

Adopted September 3, 1971

ARTICLE I This organization shall be called the "Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa" or in French, "Association pour l'Avancement en Afrique des Sciences de l'Agriculture", (AAASA)

This organization shall be an association of individual workers in the agricultural sciences, directed and controlled by the scientists themselves.

ARTICLE II

Objectives

1. To foster the development and application of agricultural sciences throughout Africa.
2. To provide for the exchange of experiences among scientists and all professionals engaged in agricultural research and production throughout Africa, by means of periodic conferences and meetings, and through exchange of publications.
3. To encourage Africans to avail themselves of the opportunity to get training in the various fields of agricultural sciences.
4. To cooperate with other organizations interested in the steady progress and development of African agriculture.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Any person shall be eligible for membership who is professionally engaged in agriculturally related research, teaching, and extension education, in Africa, provided he pays such dues as may be determined by the Association. Such ordinary members on an individual basis shall be privileged to attend all meetings of the Association and to participate in its discussions and other activities. There shall also be the following additional categories:

1. Associate members - all full-time post-graduate students in the agricultural sciences shall be eligible to associate membership.
2. Honorary members - honorary members shall be either those persons invited by the Association to participate in its activities on account of the support they can bring to the Association, or those persons wishing to help the Association by paying an honorary membership fee fixed by the Association in ARTICLE IV.
3. Benefactors - shall be persons or legal entities wishing to help the Association by paying a fee fixed by the Association in ARTICLE IV.
4. Corporate members - are legal entities (research stations, firms, societies, foundations, etc.) who are interested in the activities of the Association. Such corporate members shall be entitled, through payment of a fee fixed by the Association in ARTICLE IV, to a complimentary copy of each AAASA publication, and may be represented by a designated individual at all General Meetings.
5. Life membership - life membership may be conferred on any ordinary member who fulfills the conditions stipulated in ARTICLE IV.

ARTICLE IV

Resources

1. Members characterised in ARTICLE III shall pay the following fees:**

Ordinary Members	\$10.00
Associate Members	\$ 3.00
Honorary Members	\$20.00 - \$150.00
Corporate Members	\$100.00
Benefactors	\$150.00 +
Life Members	\$200.00

**Expressed in US Dollars

Membership fees may be altered by the Executive Committee acting in response to the apparent desires of the membership and in accordance with the financial needs of the Association.

2. Grants, gifts, legacies, bequests, etc., may be accepted.

ARTICLE V

Sections

There shall be as many sections as may be deemed necessary to meet the needs of the scientists engaged in agricultural research in Africa. Creation of new sections shall be a responsibility of the Executive Committee, initially, the following sections shall be provided:

- 1) Crop Production and Protection
- 2) Animal Health and Production
- 3) Soil, Water Management, and Mechanization
- 4) Agricultural Economics
- 5) Agricultural Education, Extension, and Rural Sociology

Each section shall have a Chairman, elected by the Section membership in attendance at the meeting, to serve until the next General Conference. The Chairman shall be responsible for the development of the program of the Section for the period in which he serves. The Section may designate such other Section officers as it desires, each of whom shall be elected at the General Conference. The Chairman and other Section officers shall be rotated yearly to provide a fair representation of the supporting sciences and the types of agricultural problems of importance within Africa. Section Chairmen shall report the Section activities to the General Meetings of the Association.

ARTICLE VI

Officers

There shall be a President, Vice-President, a General Secretary, and Treasurer, each of whom shall be elected at the General Conference to serve until the next General Assembly. The President and Vice-President shall not be eligible to succeed themselves, but the Vice-President may be considered for the Presidency.

ARTICLE VII

Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the elected officers the immediate past President, and four members elected on the basis of Regional and linguistic representation, and one from among the Chairmen of the Section.

ARTICLE VIII

Duties

1. The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the Association, the Executive Committee. The President shall be the spokesman for the Association in all matters of policy approved by the Executive Committee.
2. The Vice-President shall perform all duties of the President in the absence of the latter, serve as ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned him by the Executive Committee.
3. The General Secretary shall handle the general affairs of the Association; arrange for meeting places for the holding of Conferences as directed by the Executive Committee; assist the President in preparing programs for Conferences and any other scheduled meetings of AAASA; direct local arrangements for such scheduled Conferences and meetings; disseminate information and promote attendance at these scheduled events; and direct the publication and distribution of research reports presented at Conferences and Business Meetings.

In order to insure the efficient running of the Association's Secretariat, there shall be a full-time Administrative Secretary-General employed by the Association to manage the affairs of the Secretariat and the Association.

4. The Treasurer shall collect any authorised membership dues, solicit for new members, account for all sums received, and make disbursements in accordance with policies established by the Executive Committee.

Funds for the Association shall be carried on deposit in a banking institution approved by the Executive Committee, and Checks drawn on these funds shall carry the signature of both the President of the Association and the Treasurer. Records covering all financial transactions must be kept on file, subject to examination by an auditing Committee designated by the AAASA Executive Committee. The Fiscal Year shall coincide with Membership Year.

5. The Executive Committee shall provide general administration of AAASA between meetings, to insure adherence to policies established by the Executive Committee. It may delegate specific duties to the elected officers, and shall review such delegated actions at the following meeting of the Executive Committee.
6. The Executive Committee shall promote the objectives of the Association, and develop the influence of the Association in such a manner as to serve the needs of scientists in agriculture throughout Africa, so as to have the greatest value for the improvement of agricultural production to meet the needs of all peoples. The Executive Committee shall establish policies and general programs, and supervise the work of all officers of the Association.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

There shall be regular meetings of the Association at a specified location and on specific dates to be set by the Executive Committee. These meetings shall be rotated to the several sections of the Continent to provide as many different member scientists as possible with the opportunity to attend these meetings, through cycles of years. The principal events of these meetings shall be programs for the presentation of research reports by individual scientists, open discussion of important agricultural problems, and informal exchange of information between scientists. The business meeting shall be held at the time of each meeting.

Special meetings of AAASA may also be called by the President upon approval by the Executive Committee, as it may deem desirable, to meet the science needs of African agriculture.

At least 30 days prior to the meeting, the President shall appoint the following committees:

Nominating

Auditing

Resolutions

and give specific charges to each committee. Report of these committees shall be presented at the business meetings of AAASA.

ARTICLE X

Editorial Board

There shall be an Editorial Board made up of the Chairmen of the Sections and two others appointed by the Executive Committee. The Board shall be responsible to the Executive Committee and for the publication of all scientific documents of the Association, and shall elect its own Chairman.

ARTICLE XI

Creation of Sections Within AAASA

Responsibility for creation of new sections or revision of existing sections rests with the Executive Committee. A two-third's vote of the Executive Committee in attendance at the meeting shall be required to alter the existing section of AAASA.

ARTICLE XII

Subscription The annual subscription shall be fixed by the Executive Committee in response to the apparent desires of the membership and in accordance with the needs of the Association. The Financial Year for Membership shall be July 1, to June 30.

ARTICLE XIII

Amendments of the Constitution

Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of members present and voting, at an open business meeting held during the meeting, provided that a copy of a proposed amendment has been mailed to each dues paying member at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment would be voted on.

ARTICLE XIV

The Executive Committee shall have authority to decide any question not covered by bylaws.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES IN AFRICA (AAASA)MEMORANDUM OF ACTIVITY

1. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
2. Publication of the Journal of Agricultural sciences in Africa (2 issues per year).
3. Publication of an Agricultural Newsletter (4 issues per annum).
4. Publication of books on agriculture occasionally.
5. Holding of Seminars/Workshops on important Agricultural Problems in Africa.
6. Holding of Conferences on important Agricultural problems in Africa.
7. Publication of the Proceedings of Conferences.
8. Programme of activity 1975-76 attached.

FINANCIAL SOURCES

1. Membership Fees.
2. Revenue from publications.
3. Grants from African governments. The following African Governments have given grants to the Association:
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 - (2) " " Nigeria
 - (3) " " Senegal
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 - (a) U.S.A.I.D.
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 - (c) Ford Foundation
 - (d) French Aid for Development and Cooperation
5. Assistance in technical personnel
 - (a) United Kingdom: Publications officer
6. Assistance in equipment
 - (a) Typewriters - United Kingdom.
 - (b) Duplicating machine - United Kingdom
 - (c) Office furniture - USAID



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