



ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat  
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منظمة الوحدة الأفريقية  
السكرتارية  
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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE  
AFRICAINNE

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B. P. 3243

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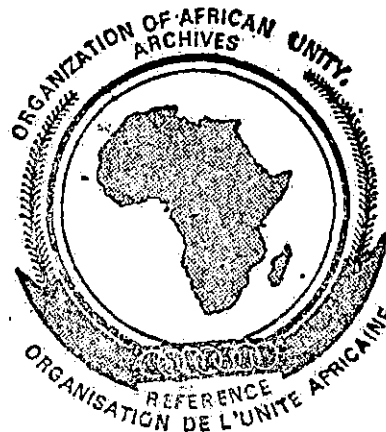
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Ababa

Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session

Addis Ababa - February 1976

REQUEST FOR OBSERVER STATUS - FEDERATION OF AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS  
OF ENGINEERS



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FEDERATION OF AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF ENGINEERS

(Application for Observer Status with the OAU)

The Organization is known as the Federation of African Organizations of Engineers.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Federation shall be to develop, in the spirit of African Unity, direct relationship between its several member organizations on a basis of mutual understanding, so that their activities may be fostered and directed to the greater public good and, in particular:

- a) To promote the advancement of engineering science and practice and their applications for the benefit of mankind.
- b) To advance the common aims and objectives of its member Organizations.
- c) To support the work of each member organization in its own territory.
- d) To provide a focal point for the expression of the professional engineering opinion of its member organizations.
- e) To collaborate with other national and international organizations, as it may think fit, to support and supplement their work.

MEMBERSHIP

The Federation comprises the engineering organizations of the African nations which were represented at the exploratory conference convened by UNESCO in December 1970, in Nairobi and any other African engineering organization admitted from time to time to membership of the Federation in accordance with articles 4 and 5 hereof. Such organizations shall have an independent and autonomous status and shall comprise, and be competent to speak for, a substantial number of the professionally qualified engineers in their respective countries.

Any Engineering Organization -- satisfying the requirements in Article 3 -- in any African country can put in an application for membership of the Federation and submit it to the Secretariat of the Federation. The Executive Committee shall examine each application for membership of the Federation and inform all member organizations of the application and communicate its recommendation in respect thereof to all members, not less than three months before the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Source of finance is as follows:-

- A. The regular membership subscriptions paid by member organizations. These are fixed by the Executive Committee.
- B. Any additional contribution paid by member organizations, as a contribution in financing the Federation in proportion to the number of professional engineers who are members of the Organization.
- C. The subsidies from states and international organizations, whether of engineers at continental level or international organizations that have similar objectives as those of the Federation.
- D. Donations to the Federation after approval by the Executive Committee.
- E. Income from activities and services provided by the Federation to international organizations.

#### ACTIVITIES

The Organization has exerted efforts towards bringing together all African Engineers.

The Federation produces a newsletter as media for disseminating information amongst its members.

The problems of basic and continuous education of engineers of which the UNESCO is fully aware has been subject of discussion among the member organizations and a growing interest to find possible plans is also under discussion.

The activities of the Federation are directed in close cooperation with the Arab League in order to use the Arab Fund to serve the technical and economical projects of interest to both African and Arab countries.

Projects of common interest to African countries such as roads, railways, and harnessing of rivers will be subject of discussion between member organizations.

#### GENERAL

The conditions for granting Observer Status with the OAU as provided in CM/162/Rev.2 are:

- "(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 objective of the OAU".

The FAOE would seem to qualify for consideration for Observer Status with the OAU, and the Council may wish to grant the application.

If the application is granted the FAOE will attain the status of observer under Category C which involves:

- a) The attendance of public sessions of the OAU Specialised Commissions during discussion of matters of particular interest to it.
- b) Right to communicate a written declaration to the Commission through the media of the 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 FAOE.

CONSTITUTION OF  
FEDERATION OF AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF ENGINEERS

Article 1 The name of the Federation shall be "The Federation of African Organizations of Engineers", hereinafter referred to as the Federation.

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

Article 2 The objective of the Federation shall be to develop, in the spirit of African unity, direct relationship between its several member organizations on a basis of mutual understanding, so that their activities may be fostered and directed to the greater public good and, in particular:

- a) To promote the advancement of engineering science and practice and their applications for the benefit of mankind.
- b) To advance the common aims and objectives of its member organizations.
- c) To support the work of each member organization in its own territory.
- d) To provide a focal point for the expression of the professional engineering opinion of its member organizations.
- e) To collaborate with other national and international organizations, as it may think fit, to support and supplement their work.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Article 3 The Federation shall comprise the organizations of engineering of the African nations which were represented at the exploratory conference convened by UNESCO in December 1970, in Nairobi and any other African engineering organization admitted from time to time to membership of the Federation in accordance with articles 4 and 5 hereof. Such organizations shall have an independent and autonomous status and shall comprise and be competent to speak for a substantial number of the professionally qualified engineers in their respective countries.

Article 4 Any Engineering Organization - satisfying the requirements in Article 3 - in any African country can put in an application for membership of the Federation and submit it to the Secretariat of the Federation. The Executive Committee shall examine each application for membership of the Federation and inform all member organizations of its receipt and communicate their recommendation in respect thereof to all members not less than three months before the next meeting of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly may accept the application for membership by two-thirds majority of member states by representative present or by proxy.

Once the applicant organization is admitted it shall be considered as the sole representative of all organizations of engineers in its own country.

Article 5 The Executive Committee may invite the attendance of at any meeting of the Federation of one or more engineers from any African nation in which, at the time no national engineering organization exists. Such engineers may, upon approval by the General Assembly take part in the deliberations of the meetings which they attend, but shall not vote.

Article 6 The General Assembly may, by a two thirds majority of such member organizations, as being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy, terminate the membership of any member which has failed to fulfil its obligations to the Federation or the activities of which become incompatible with the objectives of the Federation. Any member may propose the termination of the membership of any other member. Any such proposal shall be submitted to the Secretary General of the Federation, supported by a written statement on the grounds upon which the proposal is made. The Executive Committee shall examine any such proposal and shall communicate their recommendation in respect of it to all members not less than three months before the earliest meeting of the General Assembly at which the matter can be decided. The readmission of a member organization to the Federation will be in accordance with procedures stipulated in Article 4.

Article 7 As the relationship of the member organizations of the Federation one with another rests on good will and mutual understanding without compulsion, any member organization may withdraw from the Federation at any time, by giving notice of such withdrawal to the Federation.

## POWERS

Article 8 The Federation shall not act solely in an advisory and consultative capacity, except that it shall be competent to determine finally a question arising pursuant to Articles 3, 4, 5 and 6 hereof.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 9 The General Assembly of the Federation shall meet at the end of its second fiscal year or as the need arises, by agreement of not less than two-thirds of the member organization.

Article 10 Each member organization may be represented at meetings of the General Assembly by a delegation composed in such manner as the member organization shall decide. Representatives of one-third of all member organizations shall constitute a quorum.

Article 11 At meetings of the General Assembly, each member organization shall have one vote with the exception of Article 4 and 6. The vote of each member organization shall be cast by a representative present at the meeting who is a member of the delegation. When a vote is taken the resolution shall be carried only, by two-thirds majority.

## OFFICERS

Article 12 The president of the Federation shall be elected every two years on a rotative basis from amongst member organizations.

The President shall represent the Federation in all circumstances and secure the implementation of its decisions.

The President shall preside over the General Assembly and chairmanship of the Executive Committee. He shall have a casting vote at Executive Committee's proceedings. He shall also represent the Federation at conferences or Assemblies of other international organizations.

Article 13 There shall be a Secretary General of the Federation elected by the General Assembly for at least two periods of two years each. He shall maintain the records, supervise the accounts, undertake consultative

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duties/furtherance of the objectives of the Federation, maintain liaison with such international and other organizations as the Federation may decide, prepare matters for discussion at meetings of the General Assembly, distribute an agenda, maintain close liaison with the Secretariat of the member organization of the host country and carry out such secretarial duties as may arise from the discussions or decisions of the General Assembly. The Secretary General after his election, shall submit for approval to the General Assembly, the names of the regional correspondents who will help him carry out his duties. These correspondents shall cover several countries in the light of various considerations.

Article 14 The Secretariat of the member organization which acts as host of a meeting of the General Assembly, shall be responsible for the conduct of all the administrative work needed to arrange the meeting and shall prepare its programme. The host secretariat shall maintain close liaison with the Secretary General and shall be responsible for all secretarial work during the meeting.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Article 15 To ensure continuity between meetings, the General Assembly shall elect an Executive Committee which shall hold a meeting two times or more between two meetings of the General Assembly - should the President deem it necessary. The Executive Committee shall comprise the President, the Immediate Past President, the Secretary General and five members elected by the General Assembly who shall be representatives of the member organization

The Executive Committee shall conduct the normal business of the Federation; oversee compliance and implementation of decisions taken by the General Assembly, and deal with such other matters as may be directed by the Assembly, scrutinize annual budgets and applications for membership or termination thereof and make recommendations thereon to the Assembly for consideration. The Committee shall recommend to the Assembly amendments to the Rules of Procedure that may become necessary from time to time. The Committee shall also have powers to set up sub-committees to execute its functions.



## RESOURCES OF THE FEDERATION

Article 16 I - Sources of financing the Federation proceeds from:

- A. The regular membership subscriptions paid by member organizations. These are fixed by the Executive Committee.
- B. Any additional contribution paid by member organizations, as a contribution in financing the Federation in proportion to the number of professional engineers who are members of the organization.
- C. The subsidies of states and international organizations, whether of engineers at continental level or international organizations that have similar objectives as those of the Federation.
- D. Donations to the Federation after approval by the Executive Committee.
- E. Income from activities and services provided by the Federation to International organizations.

II - The Secretariat shall draw up a proposed budget comprising income and expenses including those estimated for meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Committee.

III - Member Organizations shall jointly contribute to meet any deficit in the budget.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Article 17 Any member organization may propose an amendment to this Constitution and the Secretary General shall circulate such proposals to all other member organizations. Resolutions to adopt the amendment shall be discussed at the next meeting of the General Assembly, and may be passed by one-third of member organizations by direct voting.

MEMORANDUM ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
FEDERATION OF AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF ENGINEERS

The United Nation year book shows that the densely populated countries in Africa are in the north and west, with an annual increase of about 2.6% to 4.8%. This means that, while the populations of Africa continue to rise the highway development and urbanization precedes apace. Another feature is that most countries of the African Continent have become dependent for their welfare upon overseas markets and are subjected to the fluctuations of these markets.

Road transport tends to serve as drains. They carry the raw materials from the interior of the continent to ocean ports to be shipped to the outside market in other continents such as Europe and America.

This leads to the fact that prosperity of African countries will be affected by interregional traffic and trade. To have interregional exchange of commerce effectively, an adequate road system should come into being, and should have priority in planning and execution.

To make it more beneficial, an overall interregional scheme, taking into consideration the requirements of each region will be worked out, so that a degree of balanced development can be attained. The cost of the construction of interregional transport roads will be so minimum beside the losses and difficulties that will result if an attempt to develop without proper highway system is made.

The Federation is therefore concerned with the special studies of the transport problems of land locked states, liberalization of customs procedure, transport aspects of development plans of the economic values resulting from investment in roads serving industries, natural resources and tourist area.



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# Request for Observer Status- Federation of African Organizations of Engineers

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