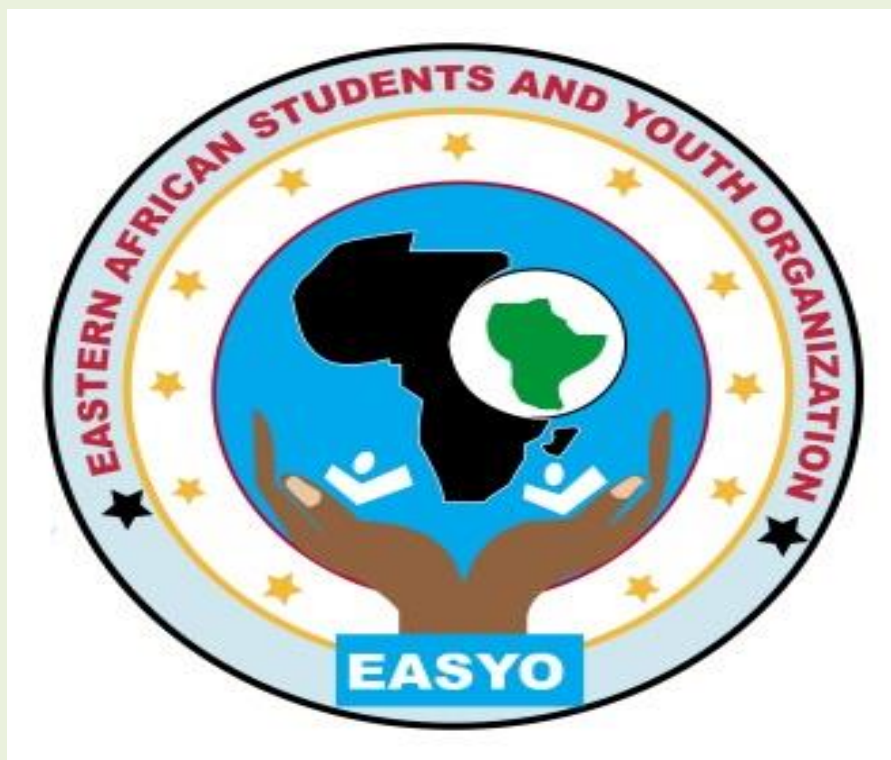


**EASTERN AFRICAN STUDENTS AND YOUTH ORGANIZATION (EASYO)**  
**ORGANIZATION DES JEUNES ET ETUDIANTS DE L' AFRIQUE DE L'EST**  
**JAMUHURIYA YA AFRIKA YAMASHARIKI YA WANAFUNZI NAWANAKIJANA**

# THE CONSTITUTION



Headquarter

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

September, 2019

## PREAMABLE

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**WHEREAS** EASYO has had history of leadership instability as a result of intolerance and lack of respect for diversity of views in the region;

**WHEREAS** the political instability has manifested itself in violence leading to untold human suffering and economic mismanagement;

**WHEREAS** poverty; ignorance; disease has afflicted the students and youth of Eastern Africa. As a result, **WE BEING COMMITTED** to eradicate conditions which give rise to leadership and political instability and building socio-economic and leadership skill which benefits all students in Eastern Africa.

**DO HEREBY** append our names, address and signature to this constitution and constitute ourselves into founding members of the Eastern African Students and Youth Organization, an Organization to do all such things as will further the will and objectives of this constitution which we now adopt for the EASYO.

## CHAPTER ONE

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### 1. ORGANIZATION'S NAME

The name of the Organization shall be Eastern African Students and Youth Organization or EASYO both meaning one and the same thing and having equal effect, were in after called an Organization

### 2. LEGAL PERSONALITY

The organization shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and common seal, may sue, be sued and do such other things as a body corporate may lawfully do.

### 3. HEAD QUARTERS

The headquarters of the organization shall be situated in **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**. The organization will have a branches in countries of Eastern Africa.

Kenya  
Rwanda  
Burundi

Uganda  
Tanzania  
Somalia

Eritrea  
Sudan  
Djibouti

South Sudan

## CHAPTER TWO

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### 4. MOTTO

The motto of the organization shall be: ***"Brewing Society through Youth's Leadership"***.

## CHAPTER THREE

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### 5. GOAL

The goal of the organization shall be the establishment of truly united and nonviolent **EASYO** for the empowerment of students and youth of Eastern Africa to achieve a better quality of life, leadership, education and success.

### 6. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives for which organization is formed are to:

- Unite and facilitate reconciliation between and among the students and youths of Eastern Africa
- Achieve sustainable peace, development, culture of dialogue, tolerance, compromise and good governance
- Fight ignorance, disease, and all forms of discrimination at the country level and regional.
- Enhance integrity, transparency, and accountability in the management of public affairs which provides a stable leadership skill to youth.
- Promote sub-regional and regional integration efforts through exchange programs in the field of politics, agriculture, health, education and business.
- Promote interchange, contact and cooperation among the universities and other institutions of higher education in Africa.
- Encourage and empower members of the organization to address developmental challenges and employment constraints to become effective and responsible members of their respective countries.
- Promote linkage with international higher education community
- Support cultural and traditional institutions
- Establish a policy of zero tolerance on corruption among youths
- Support and promote the struggle for the right of women, children, disabled students and all other marginalized groups through implementation of affirmative action
- Cooperate with other organization of students and youth in Africa or World Wide with similar objective where possible work together to achieve the social objectives.
- To promote gender and social equity in policies and delivery of services on higher education.
- To strengthen and support students associations at national level and students associations in Universities and high schools of Eastern African countries
- To help and support elders and marginalized groups by youth and students mobilizations

### 7. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Service to students and youth in Eastern Africa and the Organization
- Promotion and protection of the fundamental freedoms
- Peaceful resolution of conflicts among the students' bodies and the government of their country in the fight to push some agenda.
- Constitutionalism and rule of law for all students and youth either as officials or members

## **8. AFFIRMATIVE ACTIONS**

- In order to ensure that female youth are adequately represented in all organization structures the organization shall implement programs of affirmative action for a woman at least 40% in all of its structures.
- The method of achieving with implementation shall be detailed in all Organization guidelines.
- Platform and manifestos.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

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### **9. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY AND FUNDS**

The Organization shall acquire and dispose of any property from individuals, Organizations, countries, unions and partners and shall raise its own funds. However;

- The organization's income and resources may not be distributed to members or employees except for payment of legally permitted service fees;
- The organization's members or employees do not have an automatic right over the organizations resource only by the mere fact of their membership;

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

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### **10. MEMBERSHIP**

The organization is registered in Ethiopia and membership of the organization shall be open to all students and youth in Eastern Africa irrespective of sex, color, tribe, religion, background, and economic status that accepts its principles and programs and is prepared to abide by this constitution and rules.

**Membership of the Organization is open to:**

- a) Universities Students in East Africa
- b) Students from Colleges and high schools in East Africa
- c) National Students Unions/ organizations in East Africa
- d) Other Youth Groups / Organizations in the Region
- e) diaspora of Eastern African origin
- f) Any young People from East African Region Aged between 18-35 years' old

However, Membership does not devolve by inheritance.

**Admission Regulations:**

- All interested students and Youth must register to be a member.
- The Registration fees shall be 300 ETB /20 USD per Individual and 500 ETB/50 USD per a National student's Union /Youth group / National Youth Council from any country of Eastern Africa.

- The Governing board shall be guided by the charter or instrument of incorporation of the applicant when recommending admission.
- The application for organization membership shall be made completing the registration form specified in schedule 1 to this constitution and submit to the regional office or national office in the respective countries with the proof of payment of the registration fees to the organization account.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

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### **11. RIGHTS**

#### **Every Registered Member has the Right to:**

- Participate in any organization activities, e.g. elections
- Submit a question, petition or statement to any organs of the organization for consideration
- Attend meetings and freely express their ideas on any matter under discussion
- Take full and active part in the discussion formulation and implementation of the policies of the organization
- Claim a membership card and certificate to be issued every year.
- Enjoy the benefits created by the Organization.

### **12. DUTIES**

#### **It is the duty of every member to:**

- Protect the name of the organization
- Work honestly and efficiently of the organization
- Promote the aims and objective of the organization
- Register and vote
- Canvass support of the organization.
- Participate in the meetings and organs of the Organization.
- Pay membership fees of 300 ETB/20 USD annually.

### **13. CESSATION**

Officials and delegate membership shall be ceased on occurrence of:

- Death
- Resignation in righting to secretary general
- Engage in activities hostile to the organization.
- Dismissal of a member by the Organization's recognized constitutional organ.
- Provided that dismissal of a member under this article shall not bar a fresh application in respect of the same membership.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

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### 14. ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

- ❖ GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- ❖ EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- ❖ AUDITOR
- ❖ ELECTION COMMITTEE

#### 14.1. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall be the highest decision making organ of the organization.

It shall be comprising of all legally registered individual Members, the regional Executive Committee, and the Presidents of National Students Unions and the Presidents of National Youth councils of members of Eastern African Countries (if their union or a council is a member of EASYO). The General Assembly meeting is convened and chaired by the President of the Organization once a year. If the president fails to convene the General Assembly meeting, the Secretary General will invite it and chair it with a written approval of the deputy Vice presidents.

Functions of general Assembly

- Prepares and amends the constitution of the organization
- Based on the constitution they will elect the auditor, follow and his/her function
- Elects executive councils in accordance with this constitution
- Give final decision on change of the headquarter of the organization and the issue of opening branches of the organization.
- Make decision on dissolution of the organization
- Approve the budget of the organization

General Assembly shall have speaker, deputy speaker and secretary. Their function will be as follows

A) Speaker

He/ She shall call the meeting of general assembly

Prepares agendas of the meeting

Follow rules and regulations approved by general assembly

Shall confirm the annual reports approved by the general assembly whether they reach to concerning body or not

B) Deputy speaker

Shall work in place of speaker in case of his/her absence or delegation

Function any duties given to him/her by the general assembly

C) Secretary

Prepares agenda of the meeting by being with the speaker

Shall write the minutes of the meeting

## **14.2. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

The organization shall have a EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE at election authorized by the constitution comprising:

- 1) The President
- 2) Two Vice presidents (2)
- 3) The Secretary General
- 4) The Secretary for Finance
- 5) The Secretary for Information and Communication
- 6) The Secretary for Gender and Children Rights
- 7) The Secretary for People with Special Needs (Disabled people, refugee,)
- 8) The secretary for Regional and International Relations affairs
- 9) The Secretary for Education, sports and Culture
- 10) The Secretary for Election vetting and approval board
- 11) The Secretary for Youth Empowerments, Volunteerism and Innovation

Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the General Assembly.

The General functions and Responsibilities of the executive council are:

- Originate policy for consideration by regional council
- Supervise the national secretariat in various countries
- Implement decisions of the national and regional councils
- Prepare reports for regional councils
- Issue and send directions and instructions to and receive reports from national councils
- Organize panel discussions, summits, conference at regional level and approves laws discussed at national level.

## **15. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBER OF THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **1) The President**

The President shall be the Legal Representative of the organization. His responsibilities shall be:

- Legally Represent the organization
- Shall be administrative officer and chief spokesperson of the organization
- Convene and chair the executive council meeting and discussions
- Mobilize support of the organization regionally and internationally
- Shall be the main signatory to all monetary transactions of the organization
- She/he is the signatory member of the organization's bank account
- Shall preside over all secretariat meetings
- Shall be responsible for co-operation with governmental and non-governmental organizations

## **2) Vice Presidents (2)**

The organization shall have two Vice presidents preferably a male and a Female with the following responsibilities:

- To assist the president in organizing the work programme of the committee to which they have been appointed and ensure within the terms of the council's scheme of delegation that the programme has been completed;
- To support the president in their role as 'service champion' for the functions falling within the remit of the committee;
- assist in ensuring that members are kept informed regarding the committee's activities and work programme
- to help ensure that the organization; Executive, members and the community are kept appropriately informed regarding the work and activities of the committee and any issues that may affect it
- To assist in keeping under review, advising on and agreeing the training and development requirements of the committee and its individual members;
- To liaise with other bodies as appropriate to ensure the success of the committee's work programme;
- To maintain knowledge of and act in accordance with relevant legislation and the organization's constitution and protocols as regards decision making, codes of conduct, ethical government, member/officer relationship;
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior.

## **3) The Secretary General**

- Secretary to the executive council Meeting
- The custodian of the organization seal.
- Responsible for maintaining the corporate image of the party
- Responsible for compliance with all legal obligations of the organization
- Represent the organization in the absence of the president
- She/he is the signatory member of the organization's bank account
- He/she will identify fundraising strategies that benefit and complement the mission and vision of the organization.
- Receive periodical reports from various committees and national executive councils
- Receive and review the membership applications
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

## **4) The Secretary for Finance**

The Secretary for Finance shall have the following responsibilities:

- To assist the president and Secretary General in overseeing policy formulation and implementation of financial, monetary, economic, trade and development as well as innovation and technology matters.
- To Exercise control over the Exchange Fund with the assistance of the Monetary Authority
- She/he is the signatory member of the organization's bank account

- To prepare quaternary financial report and submit it to the chairperson and secretary General's office
- To present budgetary proposals and moves the Appropriation Bill, which gives legal effect to the annual expenditure proposals in the Budget
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **5) The Secretary for Information and Communication**

The Secretary for Information and Communication shall have the following responsibilities:

- He is of keeping all recorded the information of the organization
- Upon the Request of the president or Secretary General, He/ she prepare and release the press release
- He is responsible of informing and communicating to the organization members about the news/upcoming event in the organization
- He is the chief admin of the organization's website
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **6) The Secretary for Gender and Children Rights**

The Secretary for Gender and Children Rights shall have the following responsibilities:

- Assure that the gender balance principles are respected in the students and youth leadership structures of member countries.
- Promote gender equality and equity and fight against gender based violence among members
- promote Child Right and fight against child right violence
- Organize workshops and programs aimed at Fighting against pregnancies of children among member countries
- Educate members countries about Human rights
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **7) The Secretary for People with Special Needs (Disabled people, refugee...)**

The Secretary for People with special needs he/she shall be in the category of special needs with the following responsibilities:

- He is the Voice of Vulnerable people in the organization (People with Disabilities, Refugees...)
- organize workshops, seminars and trainings aimed at promoting inclusiveness among country members
- Working with concerned bodies to promote people with disabilities
- He is the head of emergency and rescue team in case of wars, epidemics all any other public health concern among the member countries.
- He/she must be in the category of vulnerable people in the time of election.

- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **8) The secretary for Regional and International Relations affairs**

The secretary for Regional and International Relations affairs shall have the following responsibilities:

- Together with the Secretary General; He/she is responsible to assure the good diplomatic Image of the organization
- He is responsible of all diplomatic related issues of the organization
- He/she is responsible to keep the good image of the organization among member countries
- He/she is the intermediate of the organization to the governments of the member's countries
- She/he is the Chief Protocol of the organization's officials and will always go with them while in administrative missions.
- He /She is responsible to advise the regional and National Executive committee on diplomatic matters
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **9) The Secretary for Education, sports and Culture**

The secretary for Education, Sports and culture shall have the following responsibilities:

- Advocate for members on Educational matters
- Assure that member's countries are offering quality education
- Organize regional sports activities among member countries
- Keep and respect the culture identity of each member countries in all of organization's activities
- organize regional culture showcasing competitions
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **10) The Secretary for Election vetting and approval board**

The Secretary for Election vetting and approval board shall have the following responsibilities:

- Assure the transparency and fairness of the organization's leadership
- He receives all candidatures applications
- Together with the presidents, vice presidents and Secretary General revise and approve the candidatures
- He /She organizes and conducts election at Regional Level
- He/She receives and keeps the oaths of Organization's officials
- Prepare and submit quaternary reports to the Secretary General
- Perform any duties assigned by his/her superior

#### **11) The Secretary for Youth Empowerments, Volunteerism and Innovation**

The Secretary for Youth Empowerments, volunteerism and Innovation shall have the following responsibilities:

- He /she has the responsibilities to initiates projects and programs that will empower members of the organization
- He /she interact and exchange ideas with other youth organization regarding the matter of youth empowerments projects
- Promote and mobilize members regarding volunteerism spirit
- Promote innovation and made in Africa spirit among members countries
- Organize regional innovation competitions among members countries

#### **16. AUDITOR**

He/She is directly elected by a general assembly

He/she cannot be a member of executive committee

Audit resources and finance of the organization

Shall have two offices:

a) Internal audit

Shall follow the activities within the organization and it will have two offices: resource audit and finance audit

Shall execute any duty given assigned by the chief auditor

b) Execution Audit

Shall follow the general activities and the plan of each executive body of the organization

Shall execute any duty given assigned by the chief auditor

#### **17. ELECTORAL COMMITTEE**

- The electoral committee shall be the line committee in respect of electoral matters relating to policy but no operational matters
- Members of the committee shall be selected from all members chaired by secretary of election and vetting
- Shall present the candidates to general assembly and the general assembly will elect the executive committee through a democratic election.
- Shall count the vote of each candidate and announce the result of election to the general assembly which will later reported to public via secretary for information and communication

#### **18. VACANCIES**

Any office in the organization shall fall vacant up on occurrence of any of the following

- Death

- Resignation
- Dismissal
- Inability to perform duties or unjustified absence from an office
- The Organization chair and Secretary General can only be relieved of his/her duties by the General assembly.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

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### 19. MEETING AND NOTICES

- There shall be one-month notice to the meeting
- In case of emergency meeting the committee shall require one-week notice
- The executive committee shall meet once a year before youth and students' conference and General Assembly to be held in selected area.

### 20. TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office for all organization officials shall be Four (4) years which can be renewed once

However, Change of the organization officials or Members of the organization do not have effect on the existence of the organization;

## CHAPTER NINE

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### 21. ORGANIZATION FUNDS

- ❖ The organization shall raise funds from the following:
  - Donations from various partners
  - Loans Credit and grants
  - Membership application fees
  - The finance of the organization shall be raised, managed and expended in accordance with procedures, manuals and regulations approved by the regional executive Committee
  - The organization shall open accounts in banks approved by the executive Committee
  - The organization shall have an authority to borrow funds for its activities
  - The accounts of the organization shall be audited annually
  - The Authorized Signatory of the Organization Account shall be: The President, The Secretary General and the Secretary for Finance.
  - The organization shall maintain a register of organization assets
  - The President together with the Secretary for Finance will prepare and present a financial report annually to the General Assembly after it is approved by the Executive Committee.

## CHAPTER TEN

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### 22. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

### ❖ SEAL OF THE ORGANIZATION

The organization shall have a seal reflecting its name and symbol and may be affixed on organization documents as may be prescribed in the rules

### ❖ AMMENDMENTS

- This constitution after being approved by the General Assembly of the Organization, may be amended by 2/3 majority of all the General Assembly members.
- An amendment to the constitution may be proposed by the executive committee or any students or youth of the member state, assessed by the executive committee then approved by the General Assembly.
- No amendment shall be introduced to the executive committee unless a proposal has given a one-month notice of the proposed amendment in writing to the president
- Any member who intervenes this constitution or regulation of the organization shall be liable to disciplinary action in accordance with guidelines approved by regional executive councils

### ❖ DISSOLUTION

- The executive committee may dissolve the organization by two third majority of all members and transfer the asset and liabilities; There must be a notice of at least one year but the final decision will be given by the general assembly
- The dissolution must be supported by at least 80% of the attendance of the secretariat at the general assembly
- During dissolution, once the debts of the organization are paid the outstanding money and property shall be transferred to another organization named by the organization's supreme body or to another body through the agency under which this organization is registered.

## CHAPTER ELEVEN

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### 23. APPENDIX

#### A. LIST OF FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN AFRICAN STUDENTS AND YOUTH ORGANIZATION (EASYO)

**LIST OF FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN AFRICAN STUDENTS AND YOUTH  
.....ORGANIZATION (EASYO).....**

| NO | NAMES | SEX | NATIONALITY | ADDRESS | SIGNATURE |
|----|-------|-----|-------------|---------|-----------|
| 1  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 2  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 3  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 4  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 5  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 6  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 7  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 8  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 9  |       |     |             |         |           |
| 10 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 11 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 12 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 13 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 14 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 15 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 16 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 17 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 18 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 19 |       |     |             |         |           |
| 20 |       |     |             |         |           |

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