



CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF INSECT SCIENTISTS (AAIS)

2001



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A DEFINITIONS

The **African Association of Insect Scientists (AAIS)** serves persons and institutions interested in the promotion of insect science and its application in the African region.

- 1 The words “annual” or “annually”, wherever they occur, shall be construed to mean the period between 01 January and 31 December; the word “biennial” or “biennially” shall mean twice annually. The term “biennial” may substitute “annual” for purposes of holding business meetings of the Association whenever members deem it necessary. The word “Association” wherever it occurs without qualification, shall mean the African Association of Insect Scientists.

B NAME

- 2 The name of the Association shall be “The African Association of Insect Scientists”

C REGISTRATION, RECOGNITION AND HEADQUARTERS

- 3 The Association shall seek recognition, or registration, or cooperative agreements with other African and international organisations having similar objectives as those of the Association. The Association shall be registered in the host country in accordance with its laws. The Headquarters of the Association shall be Nairobi, Kenya and shall be registered in accordance with the country’s laws.

D OBJECTIVES

- 4 The objectives of the Association shall be the development, advancement and dissemination of knowledge in all aspects of insect science, particularly but not exclusively, in relation to insects on the African continent.
- 5 The Association shall strive to achieve its objectives in any or all of the following ways:
 - (a) By fostering communication and exchange of information between members and between affiliated societies;
 - (b) By organising inter-African scientific meetings;
 - (c) By participating in and acting as the host of regional and international entomological congresses;
 - (d) By publishing a scientific journal which will serve the interests of insect scientists in Africa and elsewhere;
 - (e) By such other activities as may be conducive to the attainment of these objectives. Such activities may include, for example, collaboration with national and international bodies in projects with an entomological content; participation in moves to improve the standards of entomological education in Africa; organisation of, or participation in expeditions to collect or study African insects; organisation of revisional work on groups of African insects by specialists inside and outside Africa; and serving as an advisory body, if invited, in relation to research grants, awards, and for other purposes.

E MEMBERSHIP

- 6 All persons who are interested in the study of insects shall be eligible for membership of the Association.
- 7 The “Foundation members” of the Association shall comprise:
- (a) Those eligible persons who, at the date of the meeting at which the Association was inaugurated in December 1978, had completed the application form for membership and undertaken to pay their first subscription;
 - (b) Those persons admitted to membership under clauses 6 and 10 from the date of the inaugural meeting until June 1979.
 - (c) A list of Foundation Members shall be up-dated and published from time to time.
- 8 “Life Membership” may be accorded to those willing to pay the annual subscriptions to the Association for ten or more years in advance.
- 9 “Student Membership” may be accorded to those who can prove their bona fide student status.
- 10 Persons desiring to join the Association shall apply by filling the appropriate membership Application Form. Election of a candidate shall be determined by the Executive Committee within three months after receipt of a valid and duly completed application form. The proposer and seconder of a rejected candidate may appeal on his behalf to the next meeting of the Committee.
- 11 Members of Affiliated National Entomological Societies in clause 18 shall automatically be granted membership of the Association provided that the Affiliation pays a membership subscription fee of US two dollars or such a figure as may be determined at an Annual General Meeting. Members under such category shall be entitled to the benefits as specified in clause 20b and shall be entitled to participate in all scientific and business meetings of the Association.

F NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

- 12 There shall be National Representatives of the Association serving as ambassadors for purposes of fostering mutual interests. The Representatives shall be appointed by the Executive Committee during its management term or whenever the Committee deems it necessary.

G ADVISORY BOARD

- 13 There shall be an Advisory Board. Members of the Board may be nominated at the Annual General Meeting or by the Executive Committee. They shall be prominent members of the scientific community in Africa or elsewhere and shall advise the Executive Committee in the promotion of the Association’s interests and towards the achievement of its objectives.

H PATRON

- 14 Persons of outstanding contributions to the development of Africa in any sphere of influence shall be considered by the Executive Committee for invitation to accept to be Patron of the Association, at no fee.

I SUBSCRIPTION

- 15 The annual subscription to the Association for members other than those defined under clause 11 shall be US dollars 20 or equivalent in convertible currency. For bona fide students, the annual subscription fee shall be US dollars 10.
- 16 The subscription shall be payable to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association during the year for which the subscription is due. No person shall be entitled to the privileges of membership until his subscription for the current year is paid. Any member whose subscription is more than two years in arrears without written notice from the Executive Committee shall automatically cease to be a member and shall be so informed.
- 17 The Financial Year shall start on 1st January and end on 31st December of each year.

J AFFILIATION

- 18 Any of the entomological or similar such society in Africa shall be invited or may apply for affiliation to the Association. The application and/or invitation shall be considered by the Executive Committee. Such society must abide by the conditions specified in clause 21.
- 19 Any other society, body or organisation with objectives in accord with those of the Association may apply for affiliation under the conditions specified in Clause 21. The application shall be examined by the Executive Committee which shall accordingly respond and thereafter report to the Annual General Meeting for endorsement. When approved, such a society, body or organisation shall be referred to as an Affiliate of the Association.
- 20 An affiliated Organisation shall be entitled to the following privileges
- (a) Receive a copy of each of the publications of the Association
 - (b) Its members shall receive electronic copies of such publications in sub-clause (a) and will be entitled to attend scientific meetings of the Association on payment of a Registration fee as required.
- 21 An Affiliated Organisation shall undertake the following obligations:
- (a) Pay membership fee of US Dollars 30 on or soon after the date of affiliation as provided for in clause 11.
 - (b) Provide to the Honorary Secretary and the Editor of the Association updated lists of members and regular information on its activities.
 - (c) Admit members of the Association to its scientific meetings and excursions under conditions similar to those provided for in clause 20b.
 - (d) Donate a copy of all its publications to the Association.

K MANAGEMENT

- 22 The officers of the Association shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Editor. These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee. As far as possible, two of the officers shall reside in the country hosting the headquarters of the Association.
- 23 Election of the office bearers to the Executive Committee shall be carried out by ballot during the Annual General Meeting or at any meeting called for such purpose under clause 24a.

- (a) The Secretary shall send nomination papers to members not less than 60 days before the date of the meeting and a ballot shall be conducted of all paid up members to fill any office for which more than one valid nomination has been received. Nominations from the floor during a General Meeting may also be acceptable. Valid nominations of members absent at a General meeting must have been consented to by the nominees in writing. The officers so elected shall hold office for a maximum of two consecutive terms of a total period between two Annual General Meetings; thereafter, such officers may seek election after a lapse of at least two years or such a period between two consecutive General Meetings.
- (b) The outgoing office bearers shall hand over to the in-coming officers all properties and assets of the Association within 3 months of leaving office.

24 The duties of the President shall be to preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee, the Annual and other General Meetings of the Association and to preside over policy decisions; act as the Association's representative in negotiations with national and international scientific and other bodies; and to act for the Association in such other ways as may further its objectives. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall act on his behalf.

L GENERAL MEETINGS

25 There shall be an Annual General Meeting, and if for expediency this is not possible as determined at a previous such meeting, at least a Biennial General Meeting must be held. The General meeting shall consist two parts:

- (a) A Business session organised by the Executive Committee. The business of the meeting shall include: Reports by the Executive Committee, presentation of audited accounts or financial statements, appointment of an Auditor; or any other business approved by the Executive Committee. A quorum of a business meeting shall be twenty paid-up members.
- (b) A Scientific session organised by an Organising Committee, appointed by the Executive Committee.

26 Proposals by members or affiliated organisations for consideration at the Business Session of the General Meeting in clause 24 and; documents relating to them shall be sent to the Secretary not less than 30 days before the date of the meeting and; the Agenda shall be sent out to all members not less than 14 days before the meeting.

27 The Executive Committee may organise or authorise a special scientific meeting at any time that it may consider convenient or expedient in the interests of the Association.

28 A Special Business meeting shall be held, on not less than 30 days when considered necessary by the Executive Committee, or on request by a member or members, provided that the request will have been signed by not less than 20 paid-up members setting out the nature of business to be discussed and the reasons for the urgency.

M PUBLICATIONS

29 The Executive Committee, through the Editor, shall be responsible for preparation of Association's publications, circulation and distribution to members and Affiliated societies:

- (a) A Newsletter or Bulletin containing reports of activities of the Association and other

news items of interest to members.

- (b) The Association shall sponsor a journal called *Insect Science and Its Application* or any other scientific journal that will promote its objectives.

N AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 30 The Executive Committee or members of the Association may initiate the process of amending the whole or any part of this constitution, provided always that, when proposals for amendment do not originate from the Executive Committee, there shall be required signatures supporting the proposals of at least 20 paid-up members. Such proposals must be circulated to all members at least 14 days before the General Meeting at which they will be considered.

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL MEETING OF AAIS AT ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 06 JUNE 2001.

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ASSOCIATION OF INSECT SCIENTISTS (AAIS)**

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