

AFRICA METHODIST COUNCIL

BYE-LAWS OF THE AFRICA METHODIST COUNCIL WOMEN MOVEMENT (AMCWM)

1. PREAMBLE:

The Africa Methodist Council (AMC) is a Pan-African Association of Methodist, Wesleyan and related Uniting and United churches- with a vision to be a unifying Wesleyan movement for the holistic evangelism for transformation of Africa and humanity. The Africa Methodist Council Women's Movement (AMCWM) is a wing of the AMC and so these BYE-LAWS shall be subject to the AMC constitution, decisions and practices.

2. NAME:

The name of the organisation shall be Africa Methodist Council Women's Movement (AMCWM) herein referred to as " the Movement".

3. MEMBERSHIP:

Membership is open to all women in the Wesleyan/ Methodist and related Uniting and United churches that belong to the AMC.

4. VISION:

To be a unifying forum of Wesleyan women to amplify their voices and witness for the transformation of Africa.

5. MISSION:

The Movement seeks to inspire, empower and equip Wesleyan women to actively participate as agents of transformational impact and development in Africa.

6. CORE VALUES:

- Unity in diversity
- Advocacy
- Women's empowerment
- Gender equality
- Effective transformation
- Guided by Wesleyan tradition and Theology.

7. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

The aims and objectives of the AMCWM are aligned with the strategic goals of the Africa Methodist Council (AMC). They are as follows:

- 7.1. To forge partnerships and collaborations of Wesleyan women's fellowships across the conferences and borders within the continent.
- 7.2. To support and strengthen women's ministries and witness within and among conferences.
- 7.3. To identify challenges that confront women and girls and promote programs and actions to end them e.g. GBV and other harmful cultural practices.

- 7.4. To advocate for gender equality and women's leadership in church governance and in society.
 - 7.5. To initiate, promote and encourage programs towards economic independence, social cohesion and peace.
 - 7.6. To collaborate with the AMC Youth and Men's Movements, the World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, the All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC) and other strategic partners within the continent and globally, to champion holistic evangelism and transformation of Africa.
8. OFFICERS OF THE AMCWM: (Executive Committee)
- 8.1. The President
 - Chairs meetings and gatherings of the movement
 - Represents the Movement at the AMC meetings i.e. Annual Heads of Conferences Summit, the Enlarged AMC Executive Meeting and the AMC Quadrennial Conference.
 - Provides leadership for the promotion of women's ministries in Africa.
 - Is the official spokesperson of the movement
 - Shall chair the electoral process of the movement in the absence of the AMC General Secretary.
 - 8.2. The Vice President
 - Shall assist the President in the performance of duties.
 - Shall chair meetings in the absence of the President.
 - 8.3. The Secretary
 - Takes minutes of all meetings and keeps records of the Movement
 - Prepares quarterly reports, calendar and handles correspondence and updates records.
 - Prepares agenda for meetings-in consultation with the President.
 - Responsible for disseminating information to members and publicizing the activities of the movement
 - Shall also serve as a representative at the AMC Enlarged Executive Meeting and the Quadrennial Conference.
 - 8.4. The Treasurer
 - In charge of all income and expenditures of the Movement.
 - Keeps records of all financial transactions and prepares reports on the same to ensure transparency and accountability.
 - Responsible for leading Fundraising for the movement.

8.5. Regional representative members

Co-ordinator- for-West Africa Anglophone

Co-ordinator- for-West Africa Francophone

Co-ordinator-for- Southern Africa- Anglophone & Lusophone

Co-ordinator-for- East Africa

Co-ordinator-for- Central Africa

(The Executive and/or General Assembly shall elect not more than THREE members with Special Skills to champion some of the core values of the movement e.g. gender justice etc)

8.6. FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- To transact any business on behalf of AMCWM relevant to the aims and objectives of the Movement
- To promote women ministries in Africa in collaboration with all stakeholders.
- To ensure the effective implementation of the objectives and decisions of the movement
- To support the activities of the various women's organisations within the various conferences of Africa
- To fill any vacancy that may occur in the Executive until the next Women's General Assembly.
- The Executive shall be accountable to the Women's General Assembly and to the AMC Executive to which it shall present reports of its work.

8.7. THE ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- The election of the Executive shall take place at the AMCWM's General Assembly.
- The AMC General Secretary shall chair the election process. In his/her absence, the President will chair the process.
- All offices of the movement are open to all active, full members in good standing, Wesleyan women, irrespective of race, age, marital status, lay or clergy.
- Nominations shall be taken at the floor of the General Assembly, voted on and declared elected. The elected committee is to be inducted by the President of the AMC or his/her representative in a service at the same assembly.
- Each executive member shall hold office for FOUR years- non-renewable. A member of the executive can be elected for a

different role in the executive- but cannot serve more than two terms in the Executive body of the Women's movement.

8.8. FUNCTIONS OF THE REGIONAL CHAIRPERSONS:

The functions of the Regional Chairpersons shall include:

- Identification of all Women's organisations/ fellowships in the various Conferences within the Region.
- Liase and communicate with and through the Presidents/ Chairpersons (or their representatives) of women's fellowships in the various conferences in the Regions.
- Chair the Women's Movement Regional Meetings and ensure that Regions have leadership.
- Schedule periodic Regional meetings, Retreats and activities. (physical or online)
- Report on a quarterly basis the programs and activities of the Region to the AMCWM executive meetings or conferences.
- Ensure the implementation of the Movement's objectives, practices and decisions in line with the vision and mission of the Movement.

9. MEETINGS OF THE MOVEMENT

- 9.1. Executive Meetings shall be held at least once every quarter.
- 9.2. Seminars/retreats or Workshops shall be held as per the annual calendar of the Movement and open to all Wesleyan women.
- 9.3. Conference- shall be open to all members and shall be held at least, once in every two (2) years, to promote and encourage Programs and activities agreed upon, to share on work done and to receive and consider Reports from the Executive and from Regions. The Conferences can be conducted physically or virtually.
- 9.4. Women's General Assembly- shall be open to all members and shall be held once in every FOUR years.
 - It shall be the highest decision -making body of the women's movement.
 - Shall elect the Executive of the movement.
 - Shall ensure adherence to the Bye-laws of the movement and shall propose/endorse proposed amendments.
 - Regions shall rotate in hosting the General Assembly and it shall be held physically.
 - Shall make inputs in the plans and activities for the next four years. (The executive to lead the process)

10. FINANCES:

The funds of the Movement shall be raised through :

- annual membership dues/ subscription from various conferences. Each AMC member conference shall contribute \$ 100 annual subscription towards Women's Movement work.
- from the sale of AMCWM's paraphernalia and other Fundraising efforts.
- from grants and members' voluntary contributions.
- The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be signatories to the account of the Movement.

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