

# **STATUTES OF THE NETWORK OF FOUNDATIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA**

## **INTRODUCTION**

We, the participants of the meeting on the establishment of the network of foundations and research institutions for the promotion of a culture of peace in Africa, held in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) on September 20, 2013:

**Reaffirming** our commitment to the Constitution of UNESCO and the Constitutive Act of the African Union,

**Conscious** of the need to monitor and coordinate the actions of foundations and research institutions to promote a culture of peace in Africa,

**Considering** the opportunity created by the adoption of the "Plan of Action on a Culture of Peace" adopted in Luanda (Angola), by the Pan-African Forum "Sources and Resources for a Culture of Peace" (March 2013 ) and the role that foundations and research institutions are expected to play in its implementation,

**Decide** to establish, by these statutes, a network called: "Network of foundations and research institutions to promote a culture of peace in Africa" and hereinafter referred to as "Network".

## TITLE I: GENERAL PROVISIONS

**Section 1:** A network entitled "Network of foundations and research institutions for the promotion of a culture of peace in Africa" shall be established, abbreviated "REFICA".

**Section 2:** Network aims to coordinate the activities of foundations and research institutions to ensure a common understanding and common practices and the pooling of resources and means of action.

**Section 3:** The Network should work towards the development and implementation of joint programs, to the implementation of the Luanda Action Plan as well as the African Union 2063 Agenda, the Inter-sectoral Program of UNESCO Culture of Peace, in the post 2015 development agenda.

**Section 4:** The Network headquarter is based in Yamoussoukro (Republic of Ivory Coast).

**Section 5:** The emblem of the Network is a logo composed of: a map of Africa, consisting of the word peace in various African languages, and an open hand on a green background.

## **TITLE II: MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK**

**Section 6:** With the exception of the founding members whose list is attached to these statutes, the network is composed of active members, supporting members and honorary members.

Active members shall be legal entities adhering to the present statutes, fulfill their dues and participate in the activities of the Network.

Sustaining members are individuals or legal persons who through their financial assistance and special materials contribute to the functioning of the Network.

Honorary members shall be individuals or legal persons who have rendered outstanding service to the network.

**Section 7:** The network membership shall take effect after the signing of the Constitutive act by the legal representative of the foundation or research institution and payment of the annual fee the amount of which is determined by the General Assembly.

**Section 8:** Membership shall be lost by resignation or expulsion approved by the General Assembly.

## **TITLE III: THE ORGANIZATION**

**Section 9:** The bodies of the Network are the General Assembly, the Executive Board and the Permanent Secretariat.

### **The General Assembly (GA)**

**Section 10:** The General Assembly (GA) consists of all members of the Network. Each member shall have one vote to be cast by his legal representative or by a person duly authorized by him.

**Section 11:** The General Assembly meets once every two years in regular session convened by the Board or when requested by two-thirds of the member associations. It may meet in extraordinary session whenever necessary and under the conditions laid down in the Rules of Procedure.

**Section 12:** The main functions of the General Assembly as the Network's decision-making body are:

- Defining the guidelines and the Network Action Plan;
- Approving the moral and financial reports of the Bureau;
- Voting the budget;
- Membership and exclusion of members;
- Revising the statutes and rules of procedure.

## **The Executive Board**

**Section 13:** The Executive Board is the governing and executive body of the network. It shall meet twice a year in ordinary session.

It is composed of 20 members elected for four (04) years by the General Assembly, in the accordance of the Rules of Procedure.

**Section 14:** The Executive Board is responsible for:

- The execution and enforcement of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;
- The monitoring of all activities assigned to the Permanent Secretariat;
- The coordination of the fundraising for the implementation of programs;
- Ensuring the regular implementation of the budget.

## **The Permanent Secretariat**

**Section 15:** The Permanent Secretariat in collaboration with the Executive Board shall participate in the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly, and of the administrative tasks necessary for the proper functioning of the network. It should facilitate networking, exchange of information and experiences.

**Section 16:** It is composed of a permanent executive secretary and two deputies elected by the General Assembly and representing the active members of the Network.

## **TITLE IV: RESOURCES**

**Section 17:** The Network's resources shall consist of:

- Membership fees and dues;
- Grants from national and international institutions;
- Donations and legacies;
- All other income, including income from its activities and sponsorship from companies and individuals and deemed admissible by the General Assembly.

**Section 18:** Projects conducted within the Network receiving funding will be monitored and managed by the foundation or research institution that submitted the query.

## **TITLE V FINAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 19:** Any dispute which may arise between the Network members in the activities thereof shall be settled amicably by the General Assembly.

**Section 20:** The rules of procedures shall set out modalities for the implementation of these statutes.

**Section 21:** The dissolution of the Network is pronounced by decision of the General Assembly, constituted of a two thirds majority votes from present members.