

# CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSLATION STUDIES IN AFRICA

## **A. NAME**

The name of the Association shall be the Association for Translation<sup>1</sup> Studies in Africa (ATSA), hereafter referred to as the Association.

## **B. VISION**

To enhance a translation studies agenda pertaining to Africa.

## **C. AIMS**

The promotion and co-ordination of the research, study and teaching of translation studies by means of:

- (1) The organisation of regular conferences, seminars, workshops and tutorials to provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas and for mutual stimulus to researchers, learners and practitioners in the field of translation.
- (2) The formation of a network of translation studies scholars in Africa.
- (3) The formation of research links with translation studies scholars from outside of the continent.

## **C. MEMBERSHIP**

- (1) There shall be the following categories of membership:
  - (a) *Personal Membership* is open to persons interested in translation studies (as explained in footnote 1).
  - (b) *Honorary Membership* may be conferred by the Board (see Paragraph E) on persons who have made outstanding contributions to the field;
  - (c) *Corporate Membership* may be conferred by the Board on corporations. Membership fees shall be four times that of personal membership. Four votes shall be allowed per corporate membership, on the condition that the names of these members are submitted in advance whenever voting takes place.
- (2) The fees to be paid by the different categories of members are determined at AGMs after a proposal by the Board.
- (3) The Board may suspend the membership of any member for an appropriate cause, e.g. bringing the Association in disrepute and membership lapses in the case of overdue fees.
- (4) Members may exercise their right to vote on any activities of the Association when personally present or by electronic ballot where applicable.

## **D. MEETINGS**

- (1) The Association will hold meetings as determined by the Board, but at least one general meeting shall be held every two years.
- (2) Audited accounts of the funds of the Association shall be put before the general meeting for the approval of the members present.

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<sup>1</sup>Translation studies is meant in its broadest sense, including interpreting and other fields of studies interested in the notion of translation such as semiotics, sociology, intercultural studies, postcolonial studies, cultural studies, literary studies, editing studies, terminology studies, lexicographic studies and African studies.

- (3) The quorum shall consist of ten members during general or special meetings of the Association.
- (4) Special meetings may be called at any time at the request of at least ten members giving a month's notice of the time, venue and purpose of the meeting.

## **E. THE BOARD**

- (1) Control of the Association shall be vested in a Board which consists of five elected members, all of whom shall be members in good standing with the Association.
- (2) The Board shall appoint a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- (3) The fifth member will be responsible for marketing and maintaining the web page.
- (3) Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election for a maximum of three successive terms (a term is two (2) years), but can again become available for election after another term has elapsed.
- (4) The President is eligible for two successive terms of office, but can again become available for election after another term has elapsed.
- (5) The Board shall have powers of co-option.
- (6) The Board shall be elected by electronic vote or at a general meeting of the Association, and members shall hold office for two years.
- (7) The quorum for a properly constituted Board meeting shall be 50% of the total number of Board members.
- (8) The Board shall have the power to delegate its work to an Executive Committee appointed from among its members.
- (9) The responsibilities of the Board shall be:
  - (a) To see that the aims of the Association are carried out;
  - (b) To take care of the financial affairs of the Association, including the opening of such Bank accounts as shall be considered necessary, the keeping of proper books of account, the presentation of audited accounts, etc.;
  - (c) To determine the fees payable by the different categories of members;
  - (d) To encourage the formation of branches of the Association;
  - (e) To arrange and assume responsibility for conferences and/or gatherings of any nature of the Association;
  - (f) To liaise and co-operate with other academic and professional bodies with related interests;
  - (g) To appoint any sub-committees which may be necessary for the carrying out of the work of the Association;
  - (h) To formulate any necessary regulations which will take immediate effect, within the framework of this Constitution. Such regulations shall be submitted to and approved by a general or special meeting of the Association (called specifically for this purpose) for ratification and/or modification.
- (10) Any complaint made against a member of the Board shall be investigated by the other members thereof assisted by one or more of the Honorary Members of the Association. If, as a result of such investigation, such other members deem it expedient so to do, they may formulate a recommendation for consideration by a general meeting of the Association or

convene a special meeting for the purpose of placing such recommendation before it, and the meeting shall take such action with regard to the complaint as it may consider appropriate.

(11) Honorary membership can be bestowed by the Board upon persons who have made outstanding contributions to the field and the Association. Any member of the Association can nominate a person for honorary membership by submitting a detailed motivation to the Board. Honorary members are exempted from the payment of membership fees. Honorary members will be acknowledged where applicable in publications of the Association such as newsletters, conference programmes and proceedings as well as on the website of the Association.

## **F. CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION**

(1) The constitution is changed by a two-thirds majority, calculated on the basis of paid-up members in good standing.

(2) Voting can be done both electronically and physically at a meeting.