

# **Report of the Review of the Senior Common Room Constitution (1994)**

## **Circulated with Draft Constitution for SCR Members' input from 19<sup>th</sup> April to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

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### **Background**

During the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Senior Common Room on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2015, it was resolved that the incoming Executive Committee set in motion a process for the review of the Club's constitution (1994) with a view to aligning it with the Constitution of Kenya (2010), and also with the aim of refining it to enhance accountability and efficiency in the governance of the Club. Consequently, upon assuming office, the SCR Executive Committee appointed a Constitutional Review Committee, to be chaired by Dr. Reginald M.J. Oduor (Executive Committee Member and also a person with total visual disability). The other two members of the Committee were Mr. D.K. Macoco and Dr. Jacob G. Kariuki. The Review Committee was also mandated to identify a female member of the Club for co-option with a view to enhancing its representative character. The Review Committee requested Dr. Joy M. Kiiru to join it, whereupon she obliged.

The Review Committee held a total of nine (9) meetings in the period between 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2015 to 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

On or about 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, the Committee issued a notice to the Club's membership requesting for their input into the review process. Thereafter, the Committee set about reviewing the Constitution, taking into consideration the Club members' comments, together with the results of the Committee's own deliberations on *all* the articles of the Constitution.

The Committee made numerous changes to the 1994 SCR Constitution. In general, the document was amended in the following ways:

- The chapters were re-ordered with a view to consolidating related articles.
- The wording was made more gender-sensitive.
- The rights and responsibilities of members with disabilities were recognised.
- Numerous typographical errors were corrected. It is noteworthy that even "University" at the top of the 1994 Constitution was mis-spelt.

Below we outline the main changes made to the SCR Constitution (1994).

## **Outline of the Amendments**

### **Preliminaries**

- **Cover page:** the spelling of “University” corrected and page reformatted.
- Table of contents added.
- **Preamble:** reformatted to conform to other constitutions.

### **Chapter 1 – Definitions**

- Categories of membership clarified.
- “General Assembly” and “inclusive media” added.

### **Chapter II - Aims and Objectives**

Title changed to “Objectives”.

### **Chapter III – Membership**

- Original articles slightly amended.
- Article 4 Sub-article 3 on the rights of members with disabilities added.

### **Chapter IV – Rights and Duties**

- Title changed to “Rights and Responsibilities”, and chapter merged with Chapter III.
- Article 4 and 5 amended and reorganized.

### **Chapter V – Officers**

- Title changed to “Officials” and is now chapter IV.
- All articles amended and some reorganized.

### **Chapter VI- Administrative Organs**

- Now chapter V.
- All articles amended.

### **Chapter VII – Standing Committees**

- Now Chapter VI.
- All articles amended.

### **Chapter VIII – Ad Hoc committee**

Chapter deleted and this function is now in Article 15 Sub-article 7.

### **Chapter IX – Meetings**

- Now Chapter VII.
- Most articles heavily amended.

## **Chapter X – Elections**

- Now Chapter VIII.
- Minor amendments made.

## **Chapter XI – Membership Fees**

Now article 17 sub-article 2(e) of chapter V.

## **Chapter XII – Employees of the Club**

- Now chapter X.
- Article 29 (now 31) sub-article 2 heavily amended.

## **Chapter XIII – General Provision**

- Now chapter XI.
- Title changed to “General Provisions” (plural).
- Most articles amended and reformatted.
- **Article 41 (Now 37) and amended.**

## **Chapter XIII – Dissolution**

This is a new chapter.

Articles 36 to 40 have been amended and relocated, and are now articles 26 to 30 in a new Chapter IX- Finances.