

**INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR INTELLECTUALS AND CULTURAL  
AFFAIRS  
PAX ROMANA ICMICA  
AFRICA REGION**

**INTERNAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**APRIL 2005**

## **PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **Article 1**

The International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (ICMICA) is a private association of the faithful with personality and pontifical recognition at the international level in accordance with the Code of Canon Law. (...) It constitutes an Association for civil purposes in the sense of articles 60 to 79 of the Swiss Code. Its international office is located in Geneva, Switzerland.<sup>1</sup>

### **Article 2**

“ICMICA comes from the tradition of Pax Romana, an association of Catholic students founded in Fribourg, Switzerland in 1921 and approved by a letter from Cardinal Gasparri to Max Gressly, President of the “International Union of Catholic Students” of 5 June 1921.

ICMICA was founded in the years 1946 and 1947 as the graduate branch of Pax Romana, together with the Student branch, which became known as the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS), both Movements remaining independent of each other and with specific statutes”.<sup>2</sup>

### **Article 3**

Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa is part of the wider family of Catholic professionals living their faith by promoting the values of peace, social justice, gender equity, sustainable development and human rights in the continent.

### **Article 4**

These rules and regulations (RAR) apply to and bind the structures of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa.

### **Article 5**

The decisions and actions of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa will be guided by the following:

- a) the international Statutes of ICMICA;
- b) the Africa Region’s rules and regulations
- c) the decisions of the Regional Council, the International Council and the Plenary Assembly.

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<sup>1</sup> Statutes of ICMICA, Pax Romana, Chap.1, art1, as amended by the 29<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly un Poland in July 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Statutes of ICMICA, Pax Romana, Chap.1, art.2

## **Article 6**

National federations are encouraged to integrate the resolutions of their respective Bishop's Conferences in their analysis and actions in promoting social justice and human rights amongst Catholic Professionals in Africa.

## **Article 7**

These Rules and regulations shall be reviewed by the Regional Council by a majority of 2/3 of its members. Such review should be dictated by the changing context within the movement and the need to address social, economic, political, and environmental issues in order to respond to the emergence of new challenges in the continent. Any federation or council member can initiate the review process.

## **PART II. LOCATION**

### **Article 8**

The office of Pax Romana ICMICA, Africa Region, is based in Nairobi, Kenya. The Regional Council may relocate the office to another country in consultation with the national federations.

### **Article 9**

The regional team is responsible for the overall management of the office.

## **PART III. STRUCTURES**

### **Article 10**

The structures of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa are as follows:

- a) National Federations (NF)
- b) Regional Team (RT)
- c) Regional Council (RC)

### **Article 11 National Federations**

a) A national federation is one, two or more groups of Catholic Professionals in a given country recognised by the National Bishops' Conference and affiliated to Pax Romana ICMICA.

b) The executive of the national federations nominate one of their members to represent the movement at the regional and international levels. He/she is the focal point of Pax Romana ICMICA at the national level.

c) National federations may choose any name for their association. However, their official documents/letterheads shall indicate their affiliation to Pax Romana ICMICA.

### **Article 12 Regional Team**

a) The regional team is the executive structure of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa.

b) It guides and accompanies national federations, contact groups and persons at the regional level.

c) The regional team is made up of:

- The Vice-President for Africa;
- The 2 federations, members of the International Council;
- The Regional Ecclesiastical Assistant;
- The Regional Secretary.

### **Article 13 Appointments and tenure of office**

d. 1. The vice-president and the 2 International Council members are elected by the plenary assembly of Pax Romana ICMICA upon recommendations from the international council and nominations from the region.

d. 2. The Regional Ecclesiastical Assistant is confirmed by the International Council upon strong recommendation by the international Ecclesiastical Assistant based on nominations from the region.

d. 3. The Regional Secretary is elected by the regional Council by a simple majority based on nominations from the national federations.

d. 4. The members of the regional team are elected for a four-year term, which can be renewed once.

### **Article 14 Responsibilities**

The Vice-President is the leader of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa. He/She is the overall coordinator of ICMICA's programs in the region.

He/She is responsible for representation of the movement in and outside Africa, in particular at civil society organisations, Church institutions, AU structures and UN agencies as appropriate.

As a member of the International Council of ICMICA, he/she reports on the activities of the movement in the region. He/she assists the International Team in carrying out its mandate.

He/she leads Pax Romana ICMICA's annual planning process in Africa, and takes fundraising initiatives for the regional activities.

### **Article 15 International Council Members**

The 02 countries elected international council members:

- Represent the region at the International Council meetings;
- Represent their respective sub-regions in the regional council;
- Support the extension of the movement to new countries in Africa;
- Actively participate in consultation processes on the work of Pax Romana ICMICA in Africa and the world.

### **Article 16 Regional Ecclesiastical Assistant.**

The Regional Ecclesiastical Assistant leads the movement in Africa in theological, spiritual and doctrinal matters.

He is the link of the movement with ecclesiastical authorities.

As a member of the Regional Council and Team he actively participates in the extension work within the movement.

### **Article 17 Regional Secretary**

The Regional Secretary takes the minutes of the council and the regional team meetings, keeps records for the movement and manages the regional office.

He/she coordinates and facilitates regular communication with / amongst federations, other regional team members and contact groups/persons.

As a member of the regional team he/she participates in project planning and implementation; workshop and events organising; fundraising and other duties as required by the regional team.

### **Article 18 Regional Council**

The Regional Council is the decision making body within the movement in Africa. It has the following responsibilities:

- Giving orientation of the movement at the regional level;
- leading the consultation process for major decisions within the region particularly elections at the international level;
- Approving the movement's annual action plan, budget, financial and narrative reports.
- Analysing and approving the final audited financial and narrative reports of the regional team every four years to be presented at the plenary assembly.
- Electing the regional secretary;
- Amending rules and regulations.

### **Article 19 Members of the council**

The members of the Council are as follows:

- i) the regional team
- ii) 02 federations from 02 sub-regions other than those of the members of the international council.

This is to ensure that every sub-region of Africa is represented in the Council. Particular attention should be paid to language representation.

The Council may appoint another member of the movement with required expertise and skills should need arises.

### **Article 20 Meeting of the council**

The Council meets at least once every two years at a location decided by the Regional Team in consultation with its members. To execute the other responsibilities the council will use other means of communication. The regional team should submit the agenda items to the Council members at least two 02 weeks before the meeting.

## **Article 21 Quorum**

To foster consultation and strengthen collaboration the decisions within the Council are taken by consensus. However, the Council members may decide to vote. In this case, decisions are taken by simple majority except for the review of rules and regulations which requires a 2/3 majority.

## **IV. Membership**

### **Article 22**

There are two types of members:

- Affiliated members;
- Contact Groups;

### **Article 23**

Affiliated members are operational national federations as defined in article 11.

They organise the activities of the movement at the national level, participate in programs or activities organised at the regional and / or international levels and have a voting right within the movement.

Every national federation shares its annual planning with the regional team, and pays affiliation fee to the International secretariat.

### **Article 24**

Contact groups are individuals or groups willing to join Pax Romana ICMICA. They participate in the activities of the movement in the region. They can be consulted in the decision making processes without voting rights.

## **V. FINANCES**

### **Article 25 Sources**

The funds for the administration and the implementation of ICMICA's programs<sup>3</sup> in Africa will be mobilised from:

- Contributions from national federations<sup>4</sup>;
- Friends of Pax Romana ICMICA;

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<sup>3</sup> National Federations are encouraged to develop innovative fundraising programs for their activities.

<sup>4</sup> Each National Federation is required to pay annual contribution to the regional team to be decided from time to time.

- Funding agencies ( through fundraising initiatives of both the Regional and the International secretariat);
- Income generating initiatives.

## **Article 26 Financial management**

The decision to allocate funds to a particular programme or activity, at the regional level, lies with the Vice-president in consultation with the regional team members.

Funds are located in a bank account where the Africa Regional Office is based. The Regional Team decides on the signatories of the bank account and is responsible for the financial management including book keeping, reporting and auditing.

National Federations should be kept informed about the financial situation of the movement every year.

The Financial year of the movement starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

## **V. RELATIONS WITH PAX ROMANA ICMICA AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

### **Article 27**

Pax Romana ICMICA, Africa Region, is part of the larger movement of Catholic Professionals in the world. As such, it supports the work of and benefits from the movement at the international level, and participates in its activities.

The relations between the Africa Region, the International Secretariat and other regions will be that of partnership.

## **VI. OTHER PROVISIONS**

### **Article 28**

These rules and regulations are written in English and translated into French. In case of any conflict of interpretation, the English version, which is the original, will be the reference.

### **Article 29**

Any conflict arising from the structures of the movement should be solved amicably within the region. In case the conflict persists, the Regional Council will consult the International Council for advice.

**Article 30**

These rules and regulations will take effect from May, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2005 after the Regional Team has consulted the national federations, the International Secretariat and other members of the Regional Council.

Adopted by the Africa Council in Nairobi on 03/04/2005

Proposal adopted at the first Africa Regional Council held in Nairobi – Savelberg Retreat Centre, from 01 to 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2005 by the following participants:

Jean Lokenga Nsonjiba, Vice-President for Africa

Egide Rwamatwara, Regional Secretary

Etienne Triaille, S.J., Regional Ecclesiastical

Mary Mwingira, Tanzania

Anastasia Mhango, Zambia (International Council Member)

Edouard Rubayiza, Rwanda

Lillian Muyomba, Uganda