

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

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**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The Executive Council of the Union,

Having regard to the Statutes of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council, and in particular Article 17,

**HAS ADOPTED THESE RULES OF PROCEDURE:**

**Rule 1**

**Definitions**

In these Rules:

**“African Diaspora”** means the African Diaspora as defined by the Executive Council of the Union;

**“Assembly”** means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union;

**“Bureau”** means the Bureau of ECOSOCC elected by the General Assembly under Article 9 (4) of the Statutes of ECOSOCC;

**“Commission”** means the African Union Commission;;

**“Constitutive Act”** means the Constitutive Act of the Union;

**“Credentials Committee”** means the Credentials Committee of ECOSOCC;

**“CSO”** means Civil Society Organization;

**“ECOSOCC”** means the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union;

**“Executive Council”** means the Executive Council of Ministers of the Union;

**“Member of ECOSOCC”** means a CSO elected or nominated into the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union;

**“Member State”** means a Member State of the Union;

**“Secretariat”** means the Secretariat of ECOSOCC as provided for under Article 14 of the Statutes of ECOSOCC;

**“STC”** means a Specialized Technical Committee of the Union.

**“Standing Committee”** means the Standing Committee of ECOSOCC;

**“Statutes”** means the Statutes of Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union;

“**Union”** **or “AU”** means the African Union

**SECTION I**

**STATUS, COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS**

**Rule 2**

**Status**

ECOSOCC is an advisory organ of the Union in accordance with Articles 5 (1) (h) and 22 of the Constitutive Act.

**Rule 3**

**Composition**

ECOSOCC shall be composed of different social and professional groups of the Member States of the Union and the African diaspora.

**Rule 4**

**Functions**

In accordance with Article 7 of the Statutes, ECOSOCC shall:

1. contribute, through advice, to the effective translation of the objectives, principles and policies of the Union into concrete programmes, as well as the evaluation of these programmes;
2. undertake studies that are recommended or deemed necessary by any other organ of the Union and submit recommendations accordingly;
3. carry out other studies as it deems necessary and submit recommendations as appropriate;
4. contribute to the promotion of popularization, popular participation, sharing of best practices and expertise, and to the realization of the vision and objectives of the Union;
5. contribute to the promotion of human rights, rule of law, good governance, democratic principles, gender equality and child rights;
6. promote and support efforts of institutions engaged in review of the future of Africa and forge Pan-African values in order to enhance an African social model and way of life;
7. foster and consolidate partnership between the Union and CSOs through effective public enlightenment, mobilization and feedback on the activities of the Union; and
8. assume such other functions as may be referred to it by any other organ of the Union.

**SECTION II**

**MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE**

**Rule 5**

**Membership**

In conformity with Article 4 of the Statutes, ECOSOCC shall be composed of:

1. Two (2) CSOs from each Member State of the Union;
2. Eight (8) CSOs operating at continental level;
3. Ten (10) CSOs operating at regional level;
4. Twenty CSOs from the African Diaspora; and
5. Six (6) CSOs nominated by the Commission, in ex-officio capacity.

**Rule 6**

**Term of Office of Members**

1. A member of ECOSOCC shall have a mandate of four (4) years and may be reelected only once.
2. The mandate of all the Members of ECOSOCC shall run from the day the General Assembly is constituted.
3. Notwithstanding sub rule 1, Members of ECOSOCC shall hold office until the election of new Members.
4. ECOSOCC shall report to the Executive Council during the Executive Council’s next succeeding session the reasons for any delay in conducting the elections of new Members of ECOSOCC.

**Rule 7**

**Oath of Office**

Upon being elected as a Member of ECOSOCC, each Member of ECOSOCC shall take the oath of office or affirmation as set out in Schedule 1 of these Rules in an open session of the General Assembly.

**Rule 8**

**Conduct of the Members**

1. Each Member of ECOSOCC shall be expected to be exemplary and abide by the highest standards of behavior in conformity with the objectives of ECOSOCC.

2. The General Assembly shall establish a disciplinary committee composed of one (1) CSO representative per region which shall have powers to inquire into the conduct of the Members of ECOSOCC. The rules governing the proceedings of the disciplinary committee shall be adopted by the General Assembly.

**Rule 9**

**Cessation of Membership**

1. A Member of ECOSOCC shall cease to be a member under the following circumstances:
2. Resignation;
3. Having been dissolved, wound up or deregistered in accordance with laws/regulations of the Member State in which it was registered;
4. If the General Assembly decides that the Member has been acting in a manner contrary to the objectives and functions of ECOSOCC provided that such a Member was accorded a reasonable opportunity to defend itself.
5. The resignation of a Member of ECOSOCC shall be in writing addressed to the Presiding Officer with a copy to the Secretariat.

**Rule 10**

**Representation**

Each Member of ECOSOCC shall be represented by an accredited representative.

**Rule 11**

**Credentials**

1. The credentials of the Members of ECOSOCC and of their representatives shall be submitted to the Secretariat not less than two (2) days before the first meeting they are to attend**.** The Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials and submit a report thereon to the General Assembly.
2. In the event that a Member of ECOSOCC intends to replace its accredited representative, the Member of ECOSOCC shall replace such representative by sending the credentials of its new representative to the Secretariat to be examined by the Credentials Committee

**Rule 12**

**Structure of ECOSOCC**

The structure of ECOSOCC shall be as follows;

1. The General Assembly;
2. A Standing Committee;
3. Sectoral Cluster Committees;
4. Credentials Committee

**Rule 13**

**The General Assembly**

1. The General Assembly shall be the highest decision and policy making body of ECOSOCC.
2. The General Assembly shall be composed of all the Members of ECOSOCC as provided for in Rule 5 (Membership).
3. The functions of the General Assembly shall be as follows:
4. elect members of the Standing Committee and oversee its work;
5. prepare and submit advisory opinions and reports as appropriate;
6. submit proposals on the budget and activities of ECOSOCC;
7. approve and amend the Code of Ethics and Conduct for CSOs affiliated to or working with the Union;
8. review the activities of ECOSOCC and propose appropriate actions and recommendations;
9. recommend amendments to the established Sectoral Cluster Committees as it may deem necessary;
10. adopt the rules of procedure of the Standing Committee and the Credentials Committee;
11. declare the cessation of membership if a Member has been found to have been acting in a manner contrary to the objectives and functions of ECOSOCC suspend a Member;
12. set up ad hoc working groups as it may deem necessary and define their composition and mandates
13. perform such other functions for the furtherance of ECOSOCC activities in conformity with the Statutes of ECOSOCC and these Rules.

**SECTION III**

**SESSIONS**

**Rule 14**

**Ordinary Sessions of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly shall meet in ordinary session once every two (2) years.

**Rule 15**

**Agenda of Ordinary Sessions**

1. The General Assembly shall adopt its agenda at the opening of each session.
2. The provisional agenda of an ordinary session shall be drawn up by the Secretariat in consultation with the Standing Committee and may include:
3. Items which the General Assembly decided, at a previous session, to place on its agenda;
4. Items proposed by a Member of ECOSOCC;
5. Items proposed by a Member State of the Union;
6. Items proposed by any other organ of the Union.
7. The Secretariat shall communicate the provisional agenda as well as the working documents to Members of ECOSOCC at least fourteen (14) days before the opening of the session.

**Rule 16**

**Other Items included in the Agenda**

Any additional agenda item, which any Member of ECOSOCC wishes to raise at a session of the General Assembly, shall only be considered under the agenda item “Any Other Business” . Such agenda items shall be for information only and not subject to debate or decision

**Rule 17**

**Extraordinary Sessions**

The General Assembly may meet in extraordinary session, subject to availability of funds, at the request of:

1. Policy organs of the Union;
2. The General Assembly itself;
3. The Commission;
4. The Standing Committee, any Member of ECOSOCC any Member State upon approval by a two-thirds majority of the General Assembly;

**Rule 18**

**Agenda of Extraordinary Sessions**

1. The Secretariat shall communicate the provisional agenda and working documents of an extraordinary session to Members of ECOSOCC at least ten (10) days before the opening of the session.
2. The agenda of an extraordinary session shall comprise only of the item(s) requiring the urgent attention of the General Assembly.

**Rule 19**

**Venue of Sessions**

Sessions of the General Assembly shall be held at the Headquarters of the Union, unless, in pursuance of a previous decision of the General Assembly or at the request of a majority of the Members of ECOSOCC, any other venue is designated**.**

**SECTION IV**

**THE BUREAU AND COMMITTEES**

**Rule 20**

**The Bureau of the General Assembly**

1. Immediately after the election of the Members of the General Assembly, the General Assembly shall elect from amongst the representatives of its Members, the Bureau consisting of:
2. The Presiding Officer;
3. Five (5) Deputy Presiding Officer, including one (1) from the African Diaspora
4. In electing the Bureau, the General Assembly shall ensure that each of the five (5) regions of the Union including the African Diaspora is represented in the Bureau.

**Rule 21**

**Term of Office of the Bureau of the General Assembly**

1. The Presiding Officer and the five (5) Deputy Presiding Officers shall hold office for a term of two (2) years. They are eligible for re-election only once.
2. Notwithstanding sub rule 1, the Presiding Officer and the five (5) Deputy Presiding Officers shall hold until their successors are elected by the General Assembly provided that at the expiry of the term of office of the General Assembly, the term of office of the Bureau shall also expire.

**Rule 22**

**Oath of Office by the Bureau**

Upon being elected as a Presiding Officer of Deputy Presiding Officer, the Presiding Officer or Deputy Presiding Officer shall take the oath of office or affirmation as set out in Schedule 2 of these Rules in an open session of the General Assembly.

**Rule 23**

**Functions of the Bureau of the General Assembly**

The Bureau of the General Assembly shall, inter alia:

1. provide political responsibility for the general management of ECOSOCC;
2. coordinate the activities of ECOSOCC in conformity with the Statutes;
3. perform such other functions as directed by the General Assembly or Standing Committee.

**Rule 24**

**Duties of the Presiding Officer**

1. The Presiding Officer shall:

1. convene the sessions of the General Assembly and the Standing Committee;
2. open and close the sessions;
3. submit for approval the records of the General Assembly or Standing Committee;
4. guide the proceedings of the General Assembly or Standing Committee;
5. submit to a vote, where required, matters under discussion and announce the results of the vote taken; and
6. rule on points of order.

2. The Presiding Officer shall ensure order and decorum of the proceedings of the General Assembly.

3. In between the sessions of the General Assembly or Standing Committee, the Presiding Officer, shall represent ECOSOCC in conformity with the Statutes and these Rules of Procedure.

4. The Presiding Officer shall liaise and consult with the Commission and other organs of the Union on issues concerning the effective functioning of ECOSOCC.

5. In the absence of the Presiding Officer, the Deputy Presiding Officer designated by the Presiding Officer shall act as the Presiding Officer.

**Rule 25**

**Duties of the Deputy Presiding Officers**

1.The Deputy Presiding Officer, acting in the capacity of the Presiding Officer, has the same powers and duties as the Presiding Officer.

2. The Deputy Presiding Officers shall be in charge of ECOSOCC activities in their respective regions and shall perform any other function as delegated to them by the Presiding Officer.

3. The General Assembly, in consultation with the Bureau, may assign responsibilities to the respective Deputy Presiding Officers.

**Rule 26**

**Meetings of the Bureau**

The Bureau shall meet at least four (4) times a year and as often as necessary subject to the availability of funds. The meetings shall be convened in consultation with the Secretariat.

**Rule 27**

**Replacement of Members of the Bureau**

1. If the Presiding Officer or any of the Deputy Presiding Officers ceases to be able to carry out his/her functions or ceases to be a representative of a Member of ECOSOCC, or if the member of ECOSOCC of which he/she is the representative ceases to be a member of ECOSOCC, the Presiding Officer or any of the Deputy Presiding Officers shall cease to hold such office. The General Assembly shall fill the vacancy in accordance with Rule 20 sub rule 2.

2. The officer elected to replace a member of the Bureau whose term of office has not expired shall be from the same region and he/she shall hold office for the remainder of the predecessor’s term.

**Rule 28**

**The Standing Committee**

1. The General Assembly shall elect the Standing Committee which shall be composed of eighteen (18) members as follows:

1. The Presiding Officer;
2. The five (5) Deputy Chairpersons;
3. The chairpersons of ten (10) Sectoral Cluster Committees
4. Two (2) representatives of the Commission

2.Upon being elected as a member of the Standing Committee, each member shall take the oath of office or affirmation as set out in Schedule 3 of these Rules in an open session of the General Assembly

**Rule 29**

**Functions of the Standing Committee**

1. The Standing Committee shall perform the following functions.
2. coordinate the work of ECOSOCC;
3. prepare the meetings of the General Assembly;
4. follow up on the implementation of the Code of Ethics and Conduct developed for civil society organizations affiliated to or working with the Union
5. prepare and submit annual reports of ECOSOCC to the Assembly of the Union
6. carry such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Bureau or the General Assembly.
7. The Standing Committee shall, in consultation with the Commission, determine the criteria and modalities for granting observer status to ECOSOCC.
8. The Standing Committee shall meet at least two (2) times a year and as often as necessary subject to availability of funds. The meetings shall be convened in consultation with the Secretariat.

**Rule 30**

**Term of Office of the Standing Committee**

1. The members of the Standing Committee shall hold office for two (2) years. They shall be eligible for re-election only once.
2. Notwithstanding sub rule 1, the members of the Standing Committee shall hold office until their successors are elected by the General Assembly provided that at the expiry of the term of office of the General Assembly, the term of office of the Standing Committee shall also expire.

**Rule 31**

**Rules of Procedure for the Standing Committee**

The General Assembly shall adopt the rules of procedure of the Standing Committee at the recommendation of the Standing Committee.

**Rule 32**

**Sectoral Cluster Committees**

1. ECOSOCC shall have the following Sectoral Cluster Committees:
2. Peace and Security;
3. Political Affairs;
4. Infrastructure and Energy;
5. Social Affairs and health;
6. Human Resources, science and Technology;
7. Trade and Industry;
8. Rural Economy and Agriculture;
9. Economic Affairs;
10. Women and Gender; and
11. Cross-Cutting Programmes.
12. Each member of ECOSOCC shall belong to at least one (1) Committee.
13. Each Sectoral Cluster Committee shall be headed by a Chairperson who shall be elected by the General Assembly.
14. The Sectoral Cluster Committees shall prepare and provide inputs into the policies and programmes of the Union.
15. The General Assembly may recommend amendments to the established Sectoral Cluster Committees, as it may deem necessary.
16. The General Assembly shall determine the modalities and rules for the effective functioning of the Sectoral Cluster Committees.

**Rule 33**

**Term of Office of the Sectoral Cluster Committees**

1. The term of office of the Sectoral Cluster Committees shall expire at the expiry of the term of office of the General Assembly.
2. The Chairperson of the Sectoral Cluster Committees shall hold office for a term of two (2) years. The Chairperson shall be eligible for re-election only once.

**Rule 34**

**The Credentials Committee**

1. The General Assembly shall establish a Credentials Committee which shall be composed of nine (9) members as follows:

a) one (1) CSO representative from each of the five (5) regions;

b) one (1) CSO representative of the African Diaspora;

c) one (1) nominated representative for special interest groups; and

d) Two (2) representatives of the Commission.

2. The term of office of the Credentials Committee shall expire at the expiry of the term of office of the General Assembly.

3. Upon being elected as a member of the Credentials Committee, each member shall take the oath of office or affirmation as set out in Schedule 3 of these Rules in an open session of the General Assembly.

**Rule 35**

**Functions of the Credentials Committee**

The Credentials Committee shall be responsible for examining the credentials of members of ECOSOCC and of their representatives.

**Rule 36**

**Rules of Procedure for the Credentials Committee**

The rules of procedure for the Credentials Committee shall be adopted by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.

**SECTION V**

**THE SECRETARIAT OF ECOSOCC**

**Rule 37**

**Secretariat**

The AUC Directorate responsible for Citizens and Diaspora Organizations shall serve as the secretariat of ECOSOCC until the policy organs of the Union decide otherwise.

**Rule 38**

**Duties of the Secretariat**

The Secretariat shall, inter alia;

1. assist the General Assembly including its Bureau and the other ECOSOCC structures in the performance of their functions;
2. keep proper records of the General Assembly including of its Bureau and all the ECOSOCC structures;
3. submit all items that must be considered by ECOSOCC;
4. perform all secretarial and logistical services for ECOSOCC; and
5. perform any other activity as may be determined by the General Assembly.

**SECTION VI**

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS**

**Rule 39**

**Quorum**

The quorum for meetings of the General Assembly shall be a simple majority of the total membership of ECOSOCC.

**Rule 40**

**Working Languages**

The working languages of the General Assembly shall be those of the Union.

**Rule 41**

**Majority Required for Decisions**

1. The General Assembly shall take all its decisions by consensus failing which it shall be two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
2. Decisions on questions of procedure shall be taken by a simple majority of the Members of ECOSOCC present and voting.
3. Decisions on whether or not a question is one of procedure shall also be determined by a simple majority of the Members of ECOSOCC present and voting.
4. Abstentions by a Member of ECOSOCC shall not prevent the adoption by the General Assembly of decisions by consensus.
5. For the purpose of this Rule, the phrase "members present and voting" means

Members of ECOSOCC casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members which abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

**Rule 42**

**Amendment of Decisions**

1. A proposed decision or an amendment (s) thereof may at any time, prior to it being submitted to a vote, be withdrawn by the initiator.
2. Any other Member of ECOSOCC may reintroduce the proposed decision or amendment that has been withdrawn.

**Rule 43**

**Point of Order and Point of Information**

During deliberations on any matter, a Member of ECOSOCC may raise a point of order. The Presiding Officer, in accordance with these Rules, shall immediately decide on the point of order.

The Member of ECOSOCC concerned may appeal against the ruling of the Presiding Officer. The ruling shall immediately be put to a vote and decided upon by simple majority.

In raising a point of order, the Member of ECOSOCC concerned shall not speak on the substance of the issue under discussion.

A Member may also raise a point of information on any matter under discussion. The point of information shall not interrupt any speaker.

**Rule 44**

**List of Speakers and Use of the Floor**

1. The Presiding Officer shall, during the debate, grant the use of the floor in the order in which the speakers indicate their intention.

2. A Member of ECOSOCC or other invitee shall not have the floor without the consent of the Presiding Officer.

3. The Presiding Officer may, during the debate:

* 1. read out the list of speakers and declare the list closed;
  2. call to order any speaker whose statement deviates from the issue under discussion;
  3. accord the right of reply to any representative where in his/her opinion a statement made after the list is closed justifies the right of reply; and
  4. limit the time allowed to each representative irrespective of the issue under discussion, subject to sub Rule 4 of this Rule.

4. The Presiding Officer may, on procedural questions, limit each intervention to a maximum of three (3) minutes.

**Rule 45**

**Closure of Debate**

When a matter has been sufficiently discussed, the Presiding Officer shall close the debate at his/her discretion.

**Rule 46**

**Suspension or Adjournment of the Meeting**

During the discussion of any matter, any Member of ECOSOCC may move for the suspension or adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted. The Presiding Officer shall immediately put such motion to a vote.

**Rule 47**

**Order of Procedural Motions**

Subject to Rule 43 (Point of Order) of these Rules of Procedure, the following motions shall have precedence in the order listed below, over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

* 1. suspend the meeting;
  2. adjourn the meeting;
  3. adjourn the debate on the item under discussion; and
  4. close the debate on the item under discussion.

## Rule 48

## Voting Rights

Each Member of ECOSOCC shall have one vote.

**Rule 49**

**Consensus and Vote on Decisions**

After the debate has been closed, and there is no consensus, the Presiding Officer shall immediately put the proposal with all the amendments to a vote. The vote shall not be interrupted except on a point of order related to the manner in which the vote is being taken.

**Rule 50**

**Vote on Amendments**

1. When there is no consensus, the Presiding Officer shall put all amendments to vote.

2. A proposal shall be considered as an amendment to a text if it adds or removes there from.

**Rule 51**

**Methods of Voting**

* + - 1. The methods of voting shall be determined by the General Assembly.
      2. Except where the General Assembly decides to proceed without taking a vote, all elections shall be by secret ballot.

**Rule 52**

**Open and Closed Sessions**

1. The General Assembly shall hold open sessions unless it decides otherwise.

2. For the avoidance of doubt, where the General Assembly decides to hold a closed session, only Members of ECOSOCC and the Secretariat shall be allowed in the meeting room.

**Rule 53**

**Observers**

An organization that has been granted observer status to ECOSOCC may, at its own expense, participate in the deliberations of the General Assembly, without a right to vote.

The General Assembly may allow Member States, AU organs, Regional Economic Communities and other regional or international organizations with a particular interest in the matter seized by the General Assembly to participate, at their own expense, in the deliberations of the General Assembly as observers without a right to vote.

Observers may submit proposals to the General Assembly which may be put to a vote at the request by any Member of ECOSOCC.

Representatives of observers shall be required to submit their credentials to the Credentials Committee at least two (2) days before the beginning of a session.

**SECTION VII**

**PREPARATION OF ADVISORY OPINIONS AND REPORTS**

**Rule 54**

**Advisory Opinions and Reports**

1. ECOSOCC shall on its own initiative or at the request by any Member State or organ of the Union prepare advisory opinions and reports and provide inputs into the policies and programmes of the Union.
2. Before the preparation of any advisory opinion or report, the Standing Committee shall identify the appropriate Sectoral Cluster Committee (s) in whose specialty the matter under consideration falls.
3. Upon identification of the appropriate Sectoral Cluster Committee (s) by the Standing Committee, the Presiding Officer shall notify the chairperson of the Sectoral Cluster Committee (s) of the matter and the time limit, if any, for completion of the matter.
4. The Sectoral Cluster Committee (s), under the guidance of the Standing Committee, may consult and hold meetings with any other Sectoral Cluster Committee (s) or organ of the Union during the preparation of the advisory opinions and reports.
5. Any advisory opinion or report prepared by the Sectoral Cluster Committees shall be submitted to the General Assembly for consideration.

**Rule 55**

**Annual Reports**

An annual report of ECOSOCC shall be prepared and submitted by the Presiding Officer to the Assembly through the Executive Council.

**SECTION VIII**

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**Rule 56**

**Budget of ECOSOCC**

1. The budget of ECOSOCC shall constitute an integral part of the budget of the Union and shall be prepared in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the Union.
2. The execution of the budget of ECOSOCC shall be in accordance with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the Union.
3. ECOSOCC may mobilize and accept resources from extra-budgetary sources in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Executive Council and provided that such resources/grants are consistent with the purposes and objectives of ECOSOCC.
4. The Secretariat shall provide regular updates on the activities and financial matters including the implementation of the ECOSOCC budget.to the Bureau at least after the expiration of each financial quarter.

**SECTION IX**

**FINAL PROVISIONS**

**Rule 57**

**Implementation**

The General Assembly may lay down guidelines and supplementary measures to give effect to these Rules.

**Rule 58**

**Amendment**

The General Assembly may propose amendments to these Rules to the Executive Council for consideration.

**Rule 59**

**Provisional Application of the Rules**

Pending the adoption of these Rules by the Executive Council, the provisions shall apply provisionally once adopted by the General Assembly.

**Rule 60**

**Entry into Force**

These Rules shall definitively enter into force upon their approval by the Executive Council.

**Adopted by the Twenty Eighth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 27 – 28 January 2016**

**SCHEDULES**

**SCHEDULE 1**

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE MEMBERS OF ECOSOCC“I, ………………………………………………, hereby swear/solemnly declare:**

(full name of organization)

**That:**

**I will perform my functions selflessly, as a Member of the ………(*number*) General Assembly of Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union to the best of my ability and with honour and dignity in the service of the African People;**

**I will be faithful, loyal and bear true allegiance to the African Union and the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union and will preserve, protect and defend the Constitutive Act of the African Union.**

**I will respect and promote the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and abide by the rules and objectives of the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union. I will not seek or accept instructions from any authority external to the African Union.**

**So help me God** *(in the case of an oath)*

*or*

**I so affirm** *(in the case of an affirmation)***.**

Done in ………, ………(city and country), this …..day of………..20...

# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# *Full name of Organization*

# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Signature of authorized representative***

Before me: --------------------------------------------------------

**The Legal Counsel/Representative of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union Commission”**

**SCHEDULE 2**

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE BUREAU MEMBERS**

**“I, ………………………………………………hereby swear/solemnly declare:**

(full name of the Representative elected)

**That:**

**I will perform my functions selflessly, as Presiding Officer/Deputy Presiding Officer of the ………(*number*) General Assembly of Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union to the best of my ability and with honour and dignity in the service of the African People;**

**I will be faithful, loyal and bear true allegiance to the African Union and the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union and will preserve, protect and defend the Constitutive Act of the African Union.**

**I will respect and promote the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and abide by the rules and objectives of the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union. I will not seek or accept instructions from any authority external to the African Union.**

**So help me God** *(in the case of an oath)*

*or*

**I so affirm** *(in the case of an affirmation)*

Done in ……., ………, this……day of………. 20...

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# *Full name of the representative elected*

# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Name of Organisation***

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***Signature***

Before me: --------------------------------------------------------

**The Legal Counsel/Representative of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union Commission”**

**SCHEDULE 3**

**OATH OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

**“I, ………………………………………………, hereby swear/solemnly declare:**

(full name of organization)

**That:**

**I will perform my functions selflessly, as a Member of the Standing/Credentials Committee of the ………..(*number*) General Assembly of Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union to the best of my ability and with honour and dignity in the service of the African People;**

**I will be faithful, loyal and bear true allegiance to the African Union and the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union and will preserve, protect and defend the Constitutive Act of the African Union.**

**I will respect and promote the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and abide by the rules and objectives of the Economic Social and Cultural Council of the African Union. I will not seek or accept instructions from any authority external to the African Union.**

**So help me God** *(in the case of an oath)*

*or*

**I so affirm** *(in the case of an affirmation)***.**

Done in ………, ………(city and country), this …..day of………..20...

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# *Full name of Organization*

# \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Signature of authorized representative***

Before me: --------------------------------------------------------

**The Legal Counsel/Representative of the Office of the Legal Counsel of the African Union Commission”**