



KENYA MOVEMENT OF
CATHOLIC
PROFESSIONALS

Paxromana



"Preferential Option for the Poor"

CONSTITUTION

OF

**THE KENYA MOVEMENT OF CATHOLIC
PROFESSIONALS**

(KMCP) Paxromana

*As amended at the National Plenary Assembly held in November
2014 in Nairobi, Kenya*

1/2/2015

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CHAPTER I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- a) The Kenya Movement of Catholic Professionals (KMCP) is a voluntary organization composed of men and women serving in different professions all over Kenya. Its membership is drawn from persons in different areas of profession and practice professing the Catholic faith. The movement is recognized by the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB) under the Kenya Catholic Laity Council in the Lay Apostolate Department of the Kenya Catholic Secretariat.
- b) KMCP is also recognized as a confederate of the International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs (ICMICA) Paxromana which is an international association of the faithful, with private juridical personality governed by canonical rules.
- c) Relations between KMCP and the International Movement of Catholic Students (IMCS), which constitute the two branches of Paxromana, are governed by their respective statutes and by any cooperation agreement entered into.

Article 2

- i. KMCP, which was founded in 1980 is characterised by methodologies, which include, among others, reflection-action-reflection, applied according to the various contexts in which it is present. It contributes towards the integral human development and to spiritual and social wellbeing of our society.
- ii. As an organization founded on Catholic religious beliefs KMCP/CST contributes to evangelization of the Kenyan Society. KMCP members undergo continuous renewal of their lives in accordance with Christ's teaching through spiritual activities.

Article 3

The identity of KMCP is self defined as being a lay Catholic movement composed of professionals and intellectuals with a spirituality of action guided by the principle of preferential option for the poor. Its members, as professionals and intellectuals, seek to bear witness to the Kingdom of God through their life and their commitment in the various contexts in which they are present, to share the Gospel in the environments to which they are committed and to contribute to the building up and renewal of the Church at the local and universal level.

Article 4

As a Church movement KMCP participates in making its living sacrament of salvation and a sign of hope for mankind through;

- a) Facilitating and encouraging growth of other Christian movements such as I.M.C.S. (International Movement of Catholic Students) and I.Y.C.S. (International Young Catholic Students);
- b) Creating an understanding of the Church as the People of God and promoting participation of the Laity in the life of the Church by encouraging theological reflections among the Laity to fulfil its prophetic, apostolic, religious and evangelical mission;
- c) Together with such bodies as the Pontifical Justice and Peace Commission, the Kenya Episcopal Conference, Pontifical Council for Laity; uphold the intrinsic value of human life at all times. To individually and collectively be outspoken on all violation of these values and inalienable human rights;
- d) Maintain close contact with the Church's hierarchy through Kenya Catholic Laity Council under the Kenya Catholic Secretariat's departmental of Lay Apostolate so as to understand the church's concerns and priorities;
- e) Encourage deep and personal interest of each member of the Movement in the activities of the Church from the parish to the national level as a basis for transforming actions;
- f) Encourage Members to participate in decision making in the church within its hierarchy.

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Article 5

KMCP participates in the struggle for liberation of the oppressed and the exploited by enlightening the society on their rights and elevating the living conditions of the poor and enhancing their spiritual well-being.

KMCP conducts research on societal issues in line with the movement's Motto of "Preferential option for the poor" to provide analysis and reflection on the social, economic, political, religious and cultural problems that face Kenya thereby contributing to its integral human development. From the research findings and reflections about the Kenyan reality, it undertakes transforming actions and projects according to the professional abilities of the membership.

CHAPTER II-OBJECTIVES

Article 6

The objectives of KMCP are, to the full extent of its strength and competence, to:-

- a) support the deepening of the faith and the integration of its members;
- b) support constant formation of its members in spiritual life, commitment, professional and intellectual matters.
- c) serve as witness of the Gospel in the various communities through proactive dialogue between the Christian faith and cultures, and between faith and reason.
- d) act in defence of human dignity and human rights, for the construction of true peace on earth for sustainable human development.
- e) pursue all its works in the light of the Social Teachings of the Church, and especially through the professional and intellectual contributions of its members;
- f) contribute to the path of ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue.
- g) promote national, regional and international networks and partnerships

CHAPTER III - MEMBERSHIP

Article 7

The Membership of KMCP shall consist of Professional Kenyan Catholics or persons not being Kenyans domiciled in Kenya. The membership criteria includes payment of Registration a fee and annual subscription as may be prescribed by the National Plenary Assembly. The members shall form branches at the parish, Diocesan or Regional levels and other affiliate groups.

- i. The movement membership categories include; Individual member, Associate members, corresponding members and group.
 - a. Ordinary Membership; This are individuals who have fulfilled all the basic conditions of membership and participates in the day to day activities of the movement.
 - b. Associates Membership; this are groups/organizations/movements who are autonomous entity with limited relationship with KMCP on relevant areas of common interest.
 - c. Affiliate Membership; This refers to group that entirely subscribes to the constitution of KMCP and are exist purely on account of their membership with KMCP.
 - d. Corresponding Membership; These are individual who subscribe to the constitution of KMCP but are available to the group membership or movements activities due to practical impediment not commitment or the legal limitation. They make their contributions through expected interventions, resource mobilization or linkages among many ways.
- ii. Membership fee shall be; registration Kenya shillings one thousand (Kes1000) and Annual subscription of Kenya shillings two thousand (Kes 2000)
- iii. Group Fees

Article 8

- a) The National Executive Council may periodically examine its Membership and propose to the National Plenary Assembly a change in the status of any Member should it deem this appropriate.
- b) Person ceases to be a member if they: -
 - I. Denounces the Catholic Faith
 - II. Does not pay the subscription
 - III. Is excommunicated from the Catholic Church
 - IV. Upon a decision of the Plenary Assembly

CHAPTER IV – THE NATIONAL PLANERY ASSEMBLY

Article 9

The supreme body of KMCP is the National Plenary Assembly which consists of the National Executive Council and two delegates from each Diocese and other affiliate groups.

The National Plenary Assembly meets once year, upon convocation by the National Executive Council, with a minimum notification of one month.

Article 10

The National Plenary Assembly: -

- a) elects the Members of the National Executive Council
- b) confirms the right to vote;
- c) discusses and approves the report and the program or activity presented by the National Executive Council, as well as the suggestions emanating from members of the Movement;

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- d) approves the accounts and votes the budget;
- e) fixes the annual contribution of the members;
- f) fixes the place and time of the next Assembly;
- g) upon recommendation of the National Executive Council, decides upon the creation of offices and Committees and defines their prerogatives;
- h) amends the Constitution under the conditions set under this constitution;
- i) chooses the location of the secretariat of the Movement.

Article 11

Votes are expressed by a delegate or delegates who have received a mandate to that effect from a Member who enjoys the rights to vote according to this constitution. This mandate must be written; it is valid for the whole session of the National Plenary Assembly.

Article 12

- (a) The quorum of the National Plenary Assembly shall be two thirds majority
- (b) A simple majority of the votes of the members present or their authorised representatives is required for the decisions of the National Plenary Assembly.
- (c) The exclusion of members and the modification of the constitution, however, must be voted for by two-thirds of the members present or represented.

CHAPTER V - THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Article 13

- (a) The National Executive Council shall comprise of:-
1. National Chairperson
 2. National Vice Chairperson
 3. National Secretary General
 4. National Deputy Secretary General
 5. National Treasurer
 6. National Publicity Secretary
 7. National Deputy Publicity Secretary
 8. Chaplain
 9. The Executive Officer of the Secretariat (*ex officio*)
- (b) The National Executive Council shall meet quarterly and upon convocation by the Chairperson.
- (c) The quorum of the National Executive Council shall be one third simple majority.

Article 14

The National Executive Council: -

- a) makes decisions by consensus or by majority vote where consensus fails. The quorum of the Council shall be half of its members.
- b) In matters to be decided urgently and when it is not feasible or expedient to convene a meeting of the National Executive Council the Chairperson may direct a poll of the members of the National Executive Council by correspondence and the effect of such a poll shall be the same as if the votes were cast at a meeting of the National Executive Council.
- c) Oversees the day to day activities of the movement;
- d) prepares for the holding of the National Plenary Assembly and accredits the delegates,
- e) supervises the execution of the decisions of the National Plenary Assembly;

- f) presents to the National Plenary Assembly the candidates for the National Chairperson, National Secretary General and National Treasurer;
- g) decides on the provisional admission of members, and on the admission and exclusion of members;
- h) Recommends the benefactors of the Movement to the National Plenary Assembly;
- i) proposes to the Plenary Assembly the Accounting Firm to be entrusted with the examination of the accounts;
- j) Recruits the employees of the secretariat;
- k) Recommends for approval by the National Plenary Assembly annual Action programmes of the movement

Article 15

In the event that the Assembly cannot meet within the time prescribed, the Council continues to operate on the condition that it obtains ratification of its acts by the next Assembly.

CHAPTER VI – ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Article 16

- a) Election of the members of the National Executive Council shall be done during the National Plenary Assembly
- b) The holders of all offices are eligible for re-election. Provided no office bearer shall be consecutively re-elected more than once in the same office.
- c) Should any office fall vacant before the next National Plenary Assembly the National Executive Council shall appoint a replacement;
- d) The appointment of the Chaplain must be confirmed the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops.
- e) The constitution of the National Executive Council shall observe the one third (1/3) gender rule.

CHAPTER VII- THE SECRETARIAT

Article 17

There shall be a secretariat of the Movement which shall be comprised of such officers as may be prescribed by the National Executive Council.

Reports quarterly to the National Executive Council

Article 18

- (a) The Secretariat works under conditions laid down by the Plenary Assembly and under the authority of the Council.
- (b) The internal regulations of the Secretariat must be submitted for approval by the Council. The Secretariat shall send a report to the Council at least once a year.

CHAPTER VIII DUTIES OF THE OFFICE BEARERS

Article 19

Chairperson

- (a) convoke and preside over the meetings of the National Executive Council;
- (b) convoke and preside over the National Plenary Assembly until the election of the National Executive Council;
- (c) supervise the execution of the decisions of the Assembly and the Council;
- (d) take necessary action in case of emergency in consultation with the Council;
- (e) Be the spokesperson for the movement;
- (f) Be a signatory of the movement;
- (g) Delegate duties to the officials of the movement.
- (h) Introduce the movement to other organization and relevant organizations.

National Deputy Chairperson

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- (a) In the absence of the chairperson; act as such;
- (b) lead mediation initiatives in conflict situations on behalf of the movement;
- (c) deputize the chairperson;

National Secretary General

- (a) Keep the records of the movement;
- (b) Take minutes during Council meetings;
- (c) communicate to members on behalf of the movement;
- (d) be the official signatory of the movement;
- (e) Receive and disseminate correspondence;
- (f) Supervise the Secretariat.
- (g) Prepare Administrative reports

National Treasurer

- (a) Manages the movement's funds;
- (b) keeps the accounts of the movement
- (c) submits the financial statements and the prepares the first draft of the budget;
- (d) Custodian of all financial records of the Movement;
- (e) Signatory to the movement accounts;
- (f) Prepares the draft budget;
- (g) Supervise the movements resources;
- (h) Leads fundraising initiatives of the movement.

Publicity Secretary

- (a) Organizes the events of the movement
- (b) Leads recruitment initiatives of new membership of the movement;
- (c) Creates public awareness about the movement;
- (d) be in charge of the public relations of the Movement;
- (e) Liaise with the media on behalf of the movement.

Chaplain

- (a) conserving the spiritual base of the Movement;
- (b) developing among members the spirit of the apostolate;
- (c) guarantee the fidelity of the Movement to the Catholic Church;

Article 20

The duties of the rest of the Council members shall be to deputize their respective Council members.

CHAPTER IX – BRANCHES

Article 21

- (a) The present Catholic dioceses shall be the branches of KMCP;
- (b) The diocesan movement shall form sub branches at the parish level;
- (c) The basic unit of the movement shall be the Parish.

CHAPTER X- RESOURCES AND FINANCES

Article 22

The resources of the Movement are: -

- a) the registration and annual subscriptions of the members fixed by the Plenary Assembly;
- b) gifts, subsidies and legacies;
- c) the net profit of all meetings or undertakings which it organises
- d) Proceeds of publications which it produces;
- e) revenues from its endowment;

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f) any fixed assets of the Movement.

Article 23

The signatories to the organization's accounts shall be the National Chairperson, Chaplain, National Secretary General and the National Treasurer.

Article 24

The fiscal year of the movement shall be from the first of January to the thirty first of December.

CHAPTER XI- AMMENDMENTS

Article 25

Any amendment to this constitution shall be made at the National Plenary Assembly after a proposal by any member of the Movement in writing one month before the plenary assembly.

CHAPTER XII- DISSOLUTION

Article 26

The dissolution of the Movement can only be decreed by a Plenary Assembly specially convoked for this purpose. Before submitting the resolution of dissolution to voting, the Kenya Episcopal Conference has to give its assent. A decision concerning dissolution must be backed by two-thirds of the votes of the delegates to the National Plenary Assembly.

Article 27

The liquidation process will be undertaken by the National Executive Council functioning at the time of the dissolution, unless the Plenary Assembly decides otherwise.

Article 28

After liquidation of liabilities and after the accounts of liquidation have been approved, the assets and archives of the Movement will be placed at the disposal of the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB)