

Italy Diaspora Constitution

DRAFT

Article 1: The Organization

Name of the organization: *Kenyan Diaspora in Italy (KDI)*

Address: Embassy of the Republic of Kenya, Viale Luca Gaurico, 205-00143 Rome, Italy

Article 2: Objectives

The Association is an umbrella body bringing together all Kenyans and groupings to promote the welfare and culture of Kenyans living in Italy and Vatican City.

Article 3: Membership

- (a) Membership of Association shall constitute both individual and co-operate members:
 - Individual membership open to every individual living in Italy and Vatican City that is either born in Kenya or of Kenyan descendants by birth or by marriage.
 - Corporate membership
 - i. Anybody corporate or legal entities that may be interested in taking part in the activities of the Association
- (b) Membership requirements
 - Paid up non-refundable registration fee periodically considered.
- (c) Any member shall have the right to voluntarily withdraw from membership of the Association.

Article 4: Functions of the Association

The Association shall:

- (a) Create a forum for Kenyans to interact and promote their welfare
- (b) Promote economic, employment and education opportunities
- (c) Facilitate relationship between the Kenya Embassy in Italy and its members.
- (d) Promote unity and cohesion among Kenyans
- (e) Organize goodwill activities such as cultural, intellectual and recreational activities among others
- (f) Establish and organize chapters in other major cities and towns in Italy.

Article 5: Values

The Association shall adopt Kenyan values as stipulated in the Kenyan constitution

Article 6: Leadership

- (a) Be governed by the Executive Committee
- (b) Be elected by membership
- (c) Serve for a term of two (2) years
- (d) The Executive Committee will consist of:-
 - 1. Chairperson
 - 2. Deputy Chairperson
 - 3. Chair-persons of Chapters
 - 4. Secretary
 - 5. Treasurer
 - 6. Organizing Secretary
 - 7. Two (2) representatives of regional associations
 - 8. Student Representative
 - 9. Board Members/ Advisors
 - i. Dean
 - ii. Patron
- (e) The Executive committee
 - 1. Be elected with a majority vote;
 - 2. Shall be from among the Kenyans holding a valid Kenyan passport.
 - 3. Shall form, facilitate or and oversee sub-committees as may be deemed necessary by members through the Executive Committee
 - 4. Shall ensure the observance of the Constitution;
 - 5. Shall be responsible to the Organisation and keep the Members informed of its work and of any matter concerning/or the interests of the association.
- (f) Eligibility for elections
 - 1. Elections shall be carried out by secret ballot every two years.
 - 2. To oversee the elections, there shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three members, suggested by the Executive committee and approved by the Board Members.
 - 3. Elections shall have a third party observer i.e. Commune of officials of other African Associations will be invited as observer to the elections.
 - 4. A successful candidate in Associations Executive election shall be declared by a simple majority.

Article 7: Meetings

- (a) Executive meetings shall be determined by the Executive Committee
- (b) General Meetings (GM) shall be held once a year, and any other time of need- Extra-ordinary General Meeting as determined by the Executive Committee. The provisional agenda shall be circulated to members at least 15 days before the GM.
- (c) Decisions of the annual GM shall be reached by a simple majority vote of the members present or through electronic voting.

Article 8: Resignation and Removal of Officers

- (a) A member of the Executive Officers and Nominating committee may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority vote of the association.
- (b) If such an member/Officer ceases to be the Committee, or submits his resignation, then she/he shall cease to exercise the functions of such office or alternate office upon the date of the respective event.
- (c) In case of vacation of office of one of the Executive Committee members during term of office, the Executive Committee will nominate a member to act in an ad interim basis until the next GM.

Article 9: Amendment of the Constitution

- (a) The proposal to amend the constitution can be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a member
- (b) The subject matter of amendment shall be communicated by written notification, presented to the Executive Committee, discussed by members and the resolution passed by vote
- (c) To pass a constitutional amendment, two thirds of members must approve it by vote, during a general Assembly
- (d) The Association may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of the Vote. A motion for dissolution shall be submitted to the annual GM in the form of a proposed amendment to this Constitution and the provisions of Section 9 (a),(b) and (c) above shall apply.