

**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF NATIONAL  
CHURCHES OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MISSION  
(AFM INTERNATIONAL)**

**1. NAME**

The name of the family and fellowship of Apostolic Faith Mission (AFM) churches worldwide including associate members shall be The Apostolic Faith Mission: International, hereinafter referred to as The AFM International.

**2. MEMBERSHIP**

2.1 The basis for membership of the AFM International shall be:

2.1.1 Acceptance of and adherence to the common Confession of Faith of the Apostolic Faith Mission International (Article 3 of this Constitution).

2.1.2 Acceptance of the Constitution of the AFM International.

2.1.3 Submission of the Constitution and any rules and regulations governing the said church. All member churches shall notify the AFM International of any constitutional changes by submitting a copy of their new constitution, indicating the relevant changes made.

2.1.4 Approval and acceptance by the Council of the AFM International in terms of Articles 2.1 to 2.3 above.

2.2 Membership shall comprise of:

2.2.1 AFM Churches

AFM National Churches who subscribe to the conditions as stated in 2.1.1 - 2.1.4, herein above and who have been accepted into the organization

2.2.2 Associate members

Associate members are other Pentecostal/Charismatic churches, whose Confessions of faith are similar to that of AFMI, who subscribe to the Conditions as stated in 2.1.1 – 2.1.4 herein above and who have been accepted into the organization through mutually signed agreements may attend as observers.

Associate members shall retain their legal identities.

**3. CONFESSION OF FAITH**

3.1 **WE BELIEVE** in God eternal, triune, almighty creator, sustainer and ruler of all creation.

3.2 **WE BELIEVE** in God the Father, the author of creation and salvation.

- 3.3 **WE BELIEVE** in Jesus Christ the only Son of God the Father, true God who for the sake of humanity and its salvation, descended from heaven and became flesh, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and was born by the virgin Mary; who lived on earth and was crucified, died and was buried, who rose from the dead and ascended to heaven where He is seated at the right hand of the Father.
- 3.4 **WE BELIEVE** in the Holy Spirit, true God proceeding from the Father and the Son, who convicts the world of sin, righteousness and judgement and leads in all truth.
- 3.5 **WE BELIEVE** that the Bible is the word of God, written by men as the Holy Spirit inspired them. We believe that it authoritatively proclaims the will of God and teaches us all that is necessary for salvation.
- 3.6 **WE BELIEVE** that all human beings are created in the image of God; due to their sinful rebellion, this image is marred, that all have sinned before God and it is the will of God that all people should receive salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.
- 3.7 **WE BELIEVE** in the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues as promised to all believers. We believe in the manifestation of the gifts and fruit of the Spirit in the life of a Christian. We believe that a Christian should be a disciple of Jesus Christ living a consecrated and holy life.
- 3.8 **WE BELIEVE** that Jesus Christ is the head of the Church which is constituted by the Holy Spirit and consists of born-again believers. The Church is responsible for the proclamation and demonstration of the gospel and God's will to people. As a charismatic community they fellowship with and edify one another.
- 3.9 **WE BELIEVE** that the believer's baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper are institutions of Christ to be observed by the Church.
- 3.10 **WE BELIEVE** that at the time appointed by God, Christ will come to take away his Church.
- 3.11 **WE BELIEVE** in a day of judgement when Christ will judge the living and the dead. We believe in the resurrection of the body and eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked. We believe in the new heaven and the new earth where God will reign in glory.

#### **4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the AFM International shall be:

- 4.1 To promote fellowship and foster unity between and amongst all the national AFM churches internationally based on the common Confession of Faith by organizing

spiritual conferences, workshops, seminars and meetings between the member churches.

- 4.2 To provide the forum through which national churches can work together at a local, regional and international level to spread the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and reach out to the whole world through missions and evangelism.
- 4.3 To coordinate and facilitate the sharing of resources and facilities in the areas of constitutional development, training, human and social development, welfare, emergency relief in national and international disasters, missions, youth, children's ministry and any other ministry or other related matters of concern.
- 4.4 To use all forms of communication, including both print (like regular publications, newsletters, etc.) and electronic media (like radio, television, tapes, videos, etc.) to share experiences, spread the Gospel to the ends of the world as well as disseminate information amongst member churches.
- 4.5 To enter into ecumenical relations with other churches or church organizations based on:
  - 4.5.1 Common aims and objectives; and
  - 4.5.2 A commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.
- 4.6 To advance the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- 4.7 To establish departments for specialized ministries.

## **5. AUTONOMY OF MEMBER-CHURCHES**

- 5.1 Member-churches of the AFM International shall remain autonomous national Churches, with their own constitutions and legal persona.
- 5.2 The AFM International Office Bearers shall offer advisory services and Guidance to member churches, whenever requested to do so, but shall not Interfere in the internal matters of member or associate churches.
- 5.3 Where internal matters within, a member or associate church affect the life, Integrity and the credibility of the AFM International, the AFM International ~~Mid-term~~ President may take appropriate steps to remedy the situation or act in a way that will secure the interest of the AFM International and submit a report to the Presidents' Summit for consideration.

## **6. THE AFM INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL**

- 6.1 The AFM International Council, herein referred to as the Council, shall be the ~~organ-~~ highest Council of the Church of the AFM International.
- 6.2 The Council shall consist of:

6.2.1 Four representatives delegated by each member-church, as authorized by the relevant member church

6.2.2 A representative of an organ of member-churches which is involved in foreign Missions in one form or another subject to the following:

6.2.2.1 That the delegation in this category shall be authorized by the relevant National church.

6.2.2.2 That the total members in this category shall not exceed half the number of representatives (50%) of the member-churches of the AFM International in Council.

6.2.3 One Representative of each AFM International Department

6.2.4 Observers, without voting rights, approved by the member-churches and/or by the Council of the AFM International.

6.2.5 Where deemed necessary and in the interests of the Council, the Council may appoint Honorary Members with voting rights subject to triennial renewal of such membership.

6.3 The Council of the AFM International shall meet at least once triennially.

## **7. QUORUM**

The member-churches of the AFM International present shall constitute a quorum subject to all member churches having been duly notified of the meeting.

## **8. OFFICE BEARERS**

8.1 With effect from 2016 the AFM International shall elect triennially a President, a Vice President, a Secretary General and a Treasurer General from its own ranks to serve as Office Bearers of the AFM International, with the proviso that not more than two members from any one country may be elected.

8.2 The Office Bearers shall act as Management Board of the AFMI and shall take Responsibility for all business of the AFM International as well as act on behalf of the Council, in between the meetings of the Council and the ~~mid-term~~ Presidents' Summit

8.3 The Office Bearers shall be empowered to provisionally accept minutes of the ~~mid-term~~ AFMI Presidents' Summit and distribute them to all member countries for comments and inputs. The Office Bearers shall, thereafter, be empowered to finally accept these minutes and act on them if they carry approval of all members.

8.4 The Office Bearers shall meet at least once a year to discharge their responsibilities.

**9. ~~MID-TERM~~ PRESIDENTS' SUMMIT**

9.1 Constitution

The ~~mid-term~~ Presidents' Summit shall comprise of:

- 9.1.1 The Office Bearers of the AFMI and
- 9.1.2 Presidents of the AFMI member churches ~~and associate churches and~~
- 9.1.3 Leaders of the AFMI Departments

9.2 Frequency of meetings

Regular meetings of the AFMI ~~mid-term~~ Presidents' Summit will be held in between the AFMI Council meetings

9.3 Responsibilities of the ~~mid-term~~ Presidents' Summit

- 9.3.1 The Presidents' Summit is empowered to take executive decisions on behalf of the AFMI
- 9.3.2 The Presidents' Summit shall fill vacancies that may occur from the Office Bearers.
- 9.3.3 The Presidents' Summit shall promulgate new Regulations to the constitution of the AFMI

**10. FINANCES**

- 10.1 Every member-church shall pay a subscription fee as determined from time to time by the International Council of the AFM International.
- 10.2 Member-churches may contribute extra funds for the AFM International or for special projects approved by the AFM International.
- 10.3 The Council may conclude any transaction, purchase, sell, hire or let any property, enter into any agreements or sign contracts where it is deemed to be in the interest of the AFM International or its member-churches.
- 10.4 The Office Bearers of the AFM International shall have the powers to receive, borrow, spend, lend or invest monies, and open or close any banking accounts in any country in the name of the AFM International subject to the approval of the Council.

**11. RULES OF ORDER (APPENDIX 1)**

All meetings shall be conducted in terms of the Rules of Order regulations (Appendix 1)

**12. AMENDMENTS**

12.1 Regulations

12.1.1 Amendments to Regulations shall be circularized by the Secretary General to all member and associate churches at least 60 days prior to the commencement of the ~~Mid-term~~ AFMI Presidents' Summit.

12.1.2 The ~~mid-term~~ Presidents' Summit, after taking in the inputs made, shall promulgate the new Regulation, if not more than 50% of member churches object to its promulgation

12.2 Constitution

12.2.1 A two-thirds majority of the member-churches present at the Council meeting is required to amend the Constitution.

12.2.2 Should a member-church deem it necessary to amend the Constitution such a member-church shall forward the proposed amendments, with motivation, to the Secretary General of the AFM International four months before the meeting of the Council.

12.2.3 The Secretary General of the AFM International shall circularize the proposed amendments two months before the meeting of the Council.

**13. DISSOLUTION**

13.1 Should the member-churches decide to dissolve the AFM International, the assets and liabilities shall be dealt with by the Office Bearers of the Council.

13.2 In the case of a dissolution, the assets of the AFM International shall be donated to churches and institutions related to the Apostolic Faith Mission.

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