



Network of Local Elected
Women of Africa
(NLEWA)



Draft Rules and Regulations
Network of Local Elected Women of Africa
(NLEWA)

Article 1: DEFINITION

The Network of Local Elected Women of Africa (NLEWA) is a part and parcel of “United Cities and Local Governments of Africa” and constitutes its Commission of Local Elected Women. It represents the Local Elected Women of Africa within the Women Commission of the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments of (UCLG).

The Network shall deliberate on issues of joint interests to its members.

The Network shall participate in the debates, proposals and exchanges of information, reflection conducted within the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLGA); on issues interesting specifically the local elected women as well as issues concerning local governance in general.

Article 2: OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Network shall be:

- To propose strategies and actions aiming at taking into account the concerns of women in all areas of local life;
- To promote a better participation of women in the political life and in the management bodies of local governments;
- To build up the capacities of local elected women and develop women leadership in the management of local affairs;
- To represent the voice of Local Elected Women of Africa in the bodies of United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLGA) and within the Women Commission of the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG);
- To consolidate networking of Local Elected Women at the Pan-African level by promoting exchanges of experiences and mutual apprenticeship, including peer apprenticeship.

Article 3 : MEMBERSHIP

The Network of Local Elected Women of Africa shall regroup all the women exercising an elective function within the local governments. It shall be composed of local elected women of the 5 regions of Africa: Northern Africa, West Africa, East Africa, Central Africa and Southern Africa.

Shall also be considered as members the non elected women exercising the same functions within the local governments.

3.1 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP:

May become a member of the Network any African local elected woman exercising an effective function within a local government of Africa, and who is prepared to support the activities of the Network. The application for membership shall be addressed to the UCLGA Secretary General and shall be considered by the appropriate bodies of the Commission of Local Elected Women of Africa.

3.2 LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP:

A member of the Network shall cease to be a member if she:

- No longer exercises an elected function,
- Deliberately resigns,
- Is excluded by the bodies of the Network for actions which are opposed to the interests of the Networks.
- Dies

3.3 DUTIES:

Each member must:

- Work and contribute to the realization of the objectives of the Network;
- Communicate with the Network, send to it information on her activities and on the main working themes relating to local governance;
- Inform and consult the other members of her country, of the activities of the Network;
- React to the invitations to participate in the activities of the Network;
- Assist in the identification and recruitment of new members and enlargement of the audience of the Network.

3.4 RIGHTS:

Each member is entitled to:

- Participate in the actions and activities of the Network;
- Be a voter and eligible during the appointment of members of the different bodies of the Network;
- Have access to information resources and the capacity building activities of the members of the Network;
- Request the support of the Network for any assistance coming under the mandate of the Network.

Article 4 : BODIES

The Network of Local Elected Women of Africa shall be endowed with a General Assembly, a Commission, a Bureau and a Presidency.

The mandate of the different bodies of the Network shall end at the same time with the one of the other bodies of UCLGA, whose normal term of office is three years.

4.1 The General Assembly

The General Assembly shall be the highest decision making body of NLEWA and shall be empowered to intervene in all matters concerning the activities of the Network. The following issues are reserved for the General Assembly and shall be considered during its ordinary sessions:

- Determination of the orientation of the Network.
- Receipt and approval of the activity report of the Commission of the Network, presented by the President.
- Election of members of the Commission of the Network
- Review of the revision proposals of the present Rules and Regulations

The General Assembly shall comprise all the members of the Network and shall meet in ordinary session once every three years, during which it shall review the aforementioned issues.

4.2 Commission of the Network

The Commission of the Network is the body that is elected directly by the General Assembly.

Its mission is to:

- Elect the members of the Bureau of the Network among its members
- Elect the members of the Presidency among the members of the Bureau of the Network
- Elect the President of the Bureau of the Network
- Approve the annual program of activities and the annual activity report submitted by the Bureau of the Network

The Commission of the Network shall comprise forty-five (45) active members, nine (9) for each African sub-region.

The Commission of the Network shall meet as often as possible and its decisions shall be passed in as much as possible by consensus, if not, by a simple majority of the members present or represented.

4.3 The Bureau of the Network

The Bureau shall be made up of fifteen (15) members, on the basis of three (3) representatives proposed by each of the five (5) regions of Africa.

The Bureau shall prepare all the issues to be submitted for the attention and approval of the Commission of the Network, and shall propose notably the political orientations, the annual action plan and the schedule of annual membership dues.

The Bureau shall initiate all actions necessary for the implementation of the political orientations and action plan, adopted by the Network.

The decisions of the Bureau shall be passed in as much as possible by consensus, if not, by a simple majority of the members present or represented.

4.4 Presidency of the Network

The Presidency of the Network of Local Elected Women of Africa shall be composed of the five Vice-Presidents appointed for each of the five regions of Africa.

The President shall be appointed by the Commission of the Network among the members of the Presidency for a term of office of three (3) years.

Any loss of elective mandate by the President, the Vice-Presidents and the members of the Bureau shall lead ipso facto and without conditions, to the immediate end of their functions and their automatic replacement with the new elected woman of the local government. .

The role of the President is to:

- Convene and chair the meetings of the Network;
- Mobilize the resources and see to the implementation of the action plan;
- Coordinate the working groups within the framework of the objectives and action plan of the Network;
- Represent the Network in the different events and meetings;
- Manage the interface between the Network and the UCLGA bodies and the ones of the UCLG in charge of Women;
- Prepare the annual activity report and present it to the Bureau for approval

Article 5 : The Secretariat of the Network

The Secretariat of the Network of Local Elected Women of Africa shall be handled by the General Secretariat of UCLG Africa at the Headquarters of the organization in Rabat that will allocate for it a specific resource.

Under the authority of the Presidency of the Network, the UCLGA General Secretariat shall be responsible for:

- Developing a Web page for the Network on the UCLGA Internet Portal;
- Publishing the newsletter of the Network;
- Organizing the activities of the Network and facilitating the exchange of information between its members ;
- Assisting the members of the Network bodies during the preparation of the meetings of the bodies and the different meetings and activities organized by the Network;
- Drawing up summaries of decisions and the minutes of the meetings of the Network's bodies, as well as well as the reports of the different meetings and activities organized by the Network;
- Preparing the agenda of the meetings of the bodies of the Network and submitting it to the President.

Article 6 : FINAL PROVISIONAL PROVISIONS

The working languages of the Network shall be the UCLGA Africa working languages which are as at today French and English. Efforts shall be made so as to introduce Arabic and Portuguese as working languages.

The present Rules and Regulations shall enter into force as from its signing by the members of the Commission of the Network.