CONSTITUTION
PREAMBLE

The mission of Atheists In Kenya (AIK) is to promote the growth and interaction of atheists in Kenya.

ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the Society shall be Atheists In Kenya Society and is referred to as "the Society" within this document.

ARTICLE II: OBJECTS

The objects of the Society are non-profit making and non-political in nature and are as follows:

a) to promote and practice the open, rational, and scientific examination of the universe and our place in it

b) to advocate that ethics and morality be meaningfully based on rational and humanistic ideals and values

c) to promote skeptical inquiry

d) to provide community for atheists

e) to organize activities, such as forums for discussion, guest speakers, and debates

f) to foster public acceptance of atheists in Kenya

g) to engage in social issues affecting its membership and the wider community

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Registrar of Societies
ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

a) Any persons over the age of 18 years shall be eligible for membership of the Society and shall, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, become a member on payment of a registration fee of KSh. 500.

b) Any member desiring to resign from the Society shall submit his resignation to the secretary, which shall take effect from the date of receipt by the secretary of such a notice.

c) Any member may be expelled from membership if the Executive Committee so recommends and if a general meeting of the Society shall resolve by a two-thirds majority of the members present that such a member should be expelled on grounds that his conduct has adversely affected the reputation or dignity of the society, or that he has contravened any of the provisions of the Constitution of the Society. A member who has been expelled shall have the right to appeal to such a decision for consideration.

d) Any person who resigns or is removed from membership shall not be entitled to a refund of his subscription or any part thereof or any moneys contributed by him at any time.

e) Any member who falls into arrears with his monthly subscription for more than six months shall automatically cease being a member of the Society and his name shall be struck off the register of members. The Executive Committee shall however, at its discretion, reinstate such member on payment of the total amount of subscription outstanding.
ARTICLE IV: OFFICE BEARERS

a) The office bearers of the Society shall be –

I. The Chairman
II. The Vice-Chairman
III. The Secretary
IV. The Assistant Secretary
V. The Treasurer
VI. The Assistant Treasurer

all of whom shall be fully paid up members of the Society and shall be elected at the annual general meeting to be held in each year.

b) All office bearers shall hold office from the date of election until the succeeding annual general meeting.

c) Members shall be notified of a pending election at least seven (7) days in advance and at the meeting shall elect from among themselves a three (3) member committee to oversee the election. The Election Committee shall stand disbanded immediately following the pronouncement of the winners.

d) Members may nominate themselves for any position up until the nomination process is closed by the Election Committee. Any member shall be eligible for.

e) Election of officers shall be conducted by secret ballot and decided by simple majority provided that uncontested candidates shall be declared winners-by-default. Terms shall begin immediately following the disbandment of the Election Committee, and shall last until the terms of the next officers begin.

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ARICLE V: DUTIES OF OFFICE BEARERS

The Chairman shall -

a) ensure this Constitution is observed
b) oversee all the Society's functions
c) chair all Society's meetings
d) be the official representative for the Society
e) maintain contact with related Society's both within and outside Kenya
f) identify and pursue potential new sources of funding
g) ensure the books of account are audited annually by an external appointed auditor before the Annual General Meeting and
h) have the final word in all decisions where a vote is not specifically called for in this document

The Vice-President shall

a) in the absence of the President assume all presidential functions
b) assist the President in the preparation and running of meetings activities, and events
c) be responsible for reserving appropriate spaces for events and for making equipment bookings
d) be responsible for keeping all the Society's movable assets and
e) maintain contact with local media outlets

The Treasurer shall

a) be responsible for the keeping of the accounts and financial records of the Society,
b) collect and deposit membership dues in the Society's bank account and inform the Secretary to make record of the payments,
c) be responsible for keeping an updated inventory of assets,
d) keep records of all organizations and individuals who have donated resources of any kind to the Society,
e) ensure that all drawings from the Society's bank account are signed by the relevant signatories and
f) make payment of bona fide and duly authorized expenditure of the Society and issue receipts.

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REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES
The Assistant Treasurer shall

a) in the absence of the Treasurer perform all the duties of the Secretary and such other duties as shall be assigned to him by the Secretary or Executive Committee whether the Secretary is present or not.

The Secretary shall

a) record the results of all votes taken,
b) record minutes at each meeting and disseminate the minutes to members,
c) collect attendance at each meeting,
d) process membership requests after dues have been paid to the Treasurer,
e) keep a current membership register and
f) in liaison with the President send and publicize notices of meetings.

The Assistant Secretary shall

a) in the absence of the Treasurer perform all the duties of the Secretary and such other duties as shall be assigned to him by the Secretary or Executive Committee whether the Secretary is present or not.

ARTICLE VI: REMOVAL OF OFFICE BEARERS

a) An elected officer may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote at a duly constituted general meeting. Officers and members, including the officer in question, shall have the opportunity to make presentations on the matter.

b) If any elected position should become vacant by way of resignation, death or incapacitating illness that prevents the officer from fulfilling his commitments for a period of over six (6) months, then a by-election shall be conducted at a duly convened general meeting within fourteen (14) days of the vacancy. The functions of the vacant office shall in the interim be carried out jointly by the remaining elected officers.

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REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES
ARTICLE VII: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a) The Executive committee shall consist of all the office bearers of the Society and any other members elected at the annual general meeting. Members of the Executive Committee shall hold office until the following annual general meeting. The Executive Committee shall meet at such times and places as it shall resolve but shall meet not less than once every three month.

ARTICLE VIII: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a) The Executive committee is the top-most organ of the Society and shall be responsible for the management of the Society. The Executive Committee shall have power to appoint such sub-committees as it may deem desirable to make reports to the committee upon which such action shall be taken as seems to the committee desirable.

b) Decisions made by the Executive Committee shall be in line with the objectives of the Society, and must be communicated to members in the shortest time possible.

c) All moneys disbursed on behalf of the society shall be authorized by the Executive Committee.

d) The quorum for meetings of the Executive Committee shall be not less than 2/3 of the members.
ARTICLE IX: GENERAL MEETINGS

a) There shall be two classes of general meetings – annual general meetings and special general meetings

b) 
   i. The annual general meeting shall be held not later than once a year. Notice of such annual general meeting, accompanied by the annual statement of account and the agenda for the meeting shall be sent to all members not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting and, where practicable, by press advertisement not less than 14 days before the date of the meeting.
   
   ii. The agenda of any annual general meeting shall consist of the following:
       a) Confirmation of the minutes of the previous annual general meeting.
       b) Consideration of the accounts.
       c) Election of office bearers and the committee members.
       d) Such other matters as the Executive Committee may decide on as to which notice shall have been given in writing by a member or members to the Secretary at least four weeks before the date of the meeting.

c) A special general meeting may be called for any specific purpose by the Executive Committee. Notice of such a meeting shall be sent to all members not less than 7 days before the meeting date thereof, and where applicable, by press advertisement not less than 7 days before the date of such meeting.

d) A special general meeting may also be requisitioned for a specified purpose by informing the Secretary.

e) Quorums for general meetings shall not be less than two thirds (2/3) of the registered members of the society.
ARTICLE X: FUNDS AND ASSETS

a) The funds and assets of this Society shall be applied solely for the purpose of promoting the objects of the Society as set out in this Constitution and no portion shall be transferred directly or indirectly to the members or office bearers of the Society by way of gift, bonus or dividend.

b) No remuneration or other benefit in money's worth shall be given by the society to any office bearer provided that properly receipted out-of-pocket expenses may be repaid.

c) An office bearer who is in any way, either directly or indirectly, interested in a contract or proposed contract with the society shall disclose the nature of his interest to all other office bearers.

ARTICLE XI: ACCOUNTS

a) All money shall be received by the Society through the Treasurer and shall be deposited by him in the Societies bank account.

b) The Treasurer shall keep up-to-date accounts as regards;
   i. the sums of money received and expended by the Society and the matters in respect of which such receipts and expenditures take place;
   ii. The assets and liabilities of the Society.

c) The Treasurer shall lay before members a proper income and expenditure account and a balance sheet accompanied by an auditor's report for the period since the last preceding account;

   i. at the Annual General Meeting, or
   ii. before vacating his office for any reason.

d) The accounts and auditor's report shall be deemed adopted by a simple majority vote at a duly convened general meeting.

e) The Treasurer shall avail for inspection all of the Society's accounts upon a twenty four (24) hour notice of intention by any officer or member.
ARTICLE XII: FORMATION OF BRANCHES

a) The Society may establish branches unlimited in number provided that all branches shall remain under the umbrella and support of the Society and this Constitution shall be the supreme governing law. Any rule formulated by a branch that is inconsistent with this constitution shall be void.

ARTICLE XIII: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendment to the constitution of the Society must be approved by at least two thirds (2/3) majority of members at a general meeting of the Society. They cannot however be implemented without the prior consent in writing of the Registrar, obtained upon application to him made in writing and signed by three of the office bearers.

ARTICLE XIV: STATEMENTS OF AFFIRMATION OR CONDEMNATION

a) Statements of affirmation shall be an official declaration made by the Society that it supports a certain issue or action being taken by another group or individual. Statements of condemnation shall be an official declaration made by the Society that it denounces or condemns a certain issue or action being taken by another group or individual.

b) Statements of affirmation or condemnation shall not have governing power over the Society.

c) Any member of the Society can propose an official statement of affirmation or condemnation at a meeting. The statement shall be put to a vote by secret ballot provided that it is seconded by another member of the Society and shall only be adopted by a two-thirds majority of voting membership at a meeting with quorum.

d) A statement of affirmation or condemnation can be retracted in a process identical to the process for passing one.

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Registrar of Societies
ARTICLE XV: NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Society and its members shall not discriminate against any individuals for reasons of sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, race, ethnicity, national origin, creed, religion, health status or disability.

ARTICLE XVI: DISSOLUTION AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY

a) The Society shall not be dissolved except by a resolution passed at a general meeting of members by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. If no quorum is obtained, the proposal to dissolve the society shall be submitted to a further general meeting which shall be held one month later. Notice of this meeting shall be given to all members of the society at least 14 days before the date of the meeting. The quorum for this second meeting shall be the number of members present.

b) Provided, however, that no dissolution shall be effected without prior permission in writing of the Registrar, obtained upon application to him made in writing and signed by three of the office bearers

c) When the dissolution of the Society has been approved by the Registrar, no further action shall be taken by the committee or any office bearer of the Society in connection with the aims of the Society other than to liquidate for cash all the assets of the Society. Subject to the payment of all the debts of the Society, the balance thereof shall be distributed in such other manner as may be resolved by the meeting at which the resolution of dissolution is passed.

ARTICLE XVII: INSPECTION OF ACCOUNTS AND LIST OF MEMBERS

The books of account and all documents relating thereto and a list of the members of the Society shall be available for inspection at the registered office of the Society by any officer or member of the Society on giving not less than seven days' notice in writing to the Society.