

ICA Africa Rules

*Reviewed and approved by the
ICA Board Governance Committee, September 2010.
Approved by the ICA Africa Regional Board
and Regional Assembly in October 2010.*

RULES OF ICA AFRICA

The International Co-operative Alliance - Africa (ICA Africa) is the ICA region that serves members of the International Co-operative Alliance in the Africa region.

Article 1: Mission Statement

ICA Africa shall implement the ICA Mission as stated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance at the regional level.

Article 2: Objects

ICA Africa will promote the objects of the International Co-operative Alliance at the regional level as stated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance.

Article 3: Structure

The ICA Africa is structured at the regional, sectoral and thematic levels and comprises a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya.

The ICA Africa serves all ICA members in the Africa region and adjacent islands.

The Regional Assembly is the highest authority of ICA Africa and all the decisions are monitored and supervised by the elected Regional Board.

The Regional Director and a team of technical staff implement the plans and actions approved by the Regional Assembly.

Article 4: Regional Authorities

The regional authorities of ICA Africa are: Regional Assembly, Regional Board and Regional Director.

Article 5: Regional Assembly

1. There shall be a Regional Assembly for the Africa region consisting of representatives appointed by the ICA member organisations in the region subject to the full discharge of their financial obligations;
2. The powers of the Regional Assembly, being the highest authority within the ICA Africa, is stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance with the following added provision;
3. The Regional Assembly shall, as a rule, meet every second year. Extraordinary meetings of the Regional Assembly may be convened on the decision of the Regional Board or at the request of one-fifth of members;

4. All questions on which the Regional Assembly votes are decided by a majority of the votes cast, unless specified otherwise. Voting procedures for election shall be in accordance with the ICA Bye-Laws.

Article 6: Powers of the Regional Assembly

The powers of the Regional Assembly are stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance with the following additional provisions:

1. The Regional Assembly shall elect a President of the region who shall, as a rule, be the Chairperson of the Regional Assembly and the Regional Board and shall serve as the ICA Vice-President;
2. The Regional Assembly shall elect at least one and maximum two Vice Chairpersons (if two, one shall preferably be a woman). The Vice Chairperson(s) shall be Vice Chairperson(s) of the Regional Assembly;
3. The Regional Assembly may establish Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees at the regional level and approve their Constitutions.

Article 7: Regional Board

1. There shall be a Regional Board of at least five (5) persons consisting of a Chairperson and at least one Vice Chairpersons elected by the Regional Assembly. Not more than one person from one country can be elected to the Regional Board excluding the Chairperson and the youth representative;
2. The term of office-bearers of the Regional Board is four (4) years. In case any elected person ceases to represent or is withdrawn by his/her sponsoring organisation, the sponsoring organisation may nominate a replacement for the remaining term and the decision on the replacement rests with the Regional Board;
3. A Youth Representative shall be co-opted in the Regional Board. The Africa members of the ICA Board who are not members of the Regional Board, shall have the right to attend and speak at the Regional Board;
4. No person shall be entitled to serve on the Board whose organisation has ceased affiliation with the ICA or is in arrears with its membership subscription fee, or who has ceased to be an accredited representative of the nominating Member;
5. The composition of the Regional Board shall endeavour to reflect gender and regional diversity;
6. A quorum of the Board shall be constituted when more than half of its members are present. Acceptance of a resolution shall be on a two-third majority of members present and voting;
7. Each member of the Board who has paid in full the membership subscription shall be entitled to one vote;
8. The Board shall meet at least twice a year. The meetings shall be convened by the Chairperson or at the request of one-third of the members;
9. The Regional Director of ICA Africa shall be the Secretary of the Regional Board.

Article 8: Powers of Regional Board

The powers of the Regional Board are stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance.

Article 9: Regional Director

The Regional Director is the Chief Executive of the Africa region. His/her responsibilities are stipulated in the Statutes of the International Co-operative Alliance.

Article 10: Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees

1. The Regional Assembly may establish or dissolve Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees;
2. Regional Sectoral Organisations may be established in areas of economic and social activity of co-operatives as considered desirable;
3. Regional Thematic Committees may be established based on requirements of the region;
4. The Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees will draw up rules for approval by the Regional Assembly. They will work within the Regional Strategic Plan and will submit annual work plans/ budgets to the Regional Director.

Article 11: Official Language

The official languages of the Regional Assembly / Regional Board are English and French. Delegates using other than English and French shall arrange their own interpreters

Article 12: Finance

1. The delegates or their sponsoring organisations shall be responsible for covering the expenses of their participation at the Regional Assembly/Regional Board;
2. Participation in the Regional Assembly and other related meetings shall be subject to payment of Registration Fee as prescribed by the Regional Board;
3. In line with ICA tradition, Regional Assemblies shall be hosted by the member organisations in the region who may take care of logistics and other related costs as mutually agreed upon.

Article 13: Others

1. Amendments to these Rules and any subsequent alterations shall be subject to the approval by the Regional Assembly;

For all other matters, which are not covered by these Rules, ICA Statutes and Bye-laws shall apply.