

THE CONSTITUTION
OF
ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS NETWORK OF NAMBIA (EENN)

1. NAME

1.1 The name of the network shall be "The Environmental Economics Network of Namibia", abbreviated to EENN.

2. JUDICIAL ENTITY AND STATUS (LEGAL FORM)

2.1 The EENN is a not-for-profit, member-governed network but separate from its members as an entity in its own right. Individual members are not liable for any of the actions or liabilities of EENN as far as they are legal and carried out in good faith in accordance with this Constitution.

3. MISSION

3.1 The mission of EENN is to contribute to the understanding of the relationships among ecological, social and economic systems for the mutual-well-being of nature and people in Namibia. EENN brings together like-minded individuals working together to protect Namibia's inimitable biodiversity by promoting and mainstreaming the use of environmental economics within Namibia.

4. OBJECTIVES

4.1 The objectives of EENN include among others but are not limited to the following:

- a) To be a forum for exchange of ideas, experiences, discussions and policy advice
- b) To facilitate meeting people and connect with interesting new partners
- c) To provide information about job offerings, tenders and relevant publications
- d) To promote young environmental economists and research in the area of environmental economics
- e) To produce and disseminate information on environmental economics and biodiversity protection through internet, email and other mediums
- f) To provide opportunities for mutual learning and advanced professional development
- g) To further the study and teaching of environmental economics and related subjects in Namibia,
- h) To engage in constructive dialogues and undertakings with other local, regional and global economics networks
- i) To further publication of environmental economics and related research in Namibia; and
- j) Any other relevant task.

5. POWERS

5.1 In order to further the objects set out Clause 4, the Network shall have the following powers:

- a. To organise seminars, workshops and other training conferences to further advance the objectives of the Network and its members.
- b. To obtain and or encourage contributions to the funds of the Network by way of donations, aid grants or otherwise;
- c. To publish or print any informational documents needed for the promotion of the objects of the Network;
- d. To invest and deal with any monies of the Network not immediately required for any of its objects upon such security or otherwise as the Management Committee sees fit;
- e. To undertake appeals whether personal or written by or public meeting or otherwise to obtain or encourage contributions to the funds of the Network by way of donations, aid grants or otherwise;
- f. To do all such things-as are or may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of any of the objects set out in Clause 4.

6. AFFILIATION

6.1 The Network shall not affiliate with any political, religious or welfare organisation or group, but shall co-operate with such groups where co-operation can assist in the furtherance of the objectives of the Network as set out in Clause 4.

6.2 Where appropriate, the Network shall seek to be affiliated with national, regional and international associations that have objectives and interest similar to those of the Network.

7. MEMBERSHIP

7.1 Any person who or institution that subscribes to this Constitution can become a member or subscriber of EENN.

7.2 Membership shall be effected by:

- The completion of a membership form, which contains a declaration that the proposed member has read and agrees with the stated objectives of the Network; and
- Payment of the annual subscription fee.

7.3 A list of all members shall be held in a Register of Members which shall be kept current.

7.4 All members are obliged to ensure that their contact details remain up to date, by submitting any changes in such to the Secretary of the Network.

7.5 Any member may resign from the Network by sending a written resignation letter to the Management Committee. His/her membership shall be terminated forthwith, without any rebate of membership fee.

7.6 The Network may, in its absolute discretion, terminate the membership of any member who it considers is not acting in the Network's best interest. This decision shall be by consensus agreement of the Network's at a general meeting. Notification of the termination of the membership shall be in writing to that member.

7.7 Prior to a termination decision being made, the Network must ensure that the member has the right to address the general meeting.

8. SUBSCRIPTION

8.1 The annual subscription fee shall be determined on an annual basis by the committee.

8.2 The subscription fee must be in advance, and in full for the Network financial year. Payment in instalments or payments for part of a year will not be accepted.

9. ORGANISATION

9.1 Management Committee

9.1.1 There will be a Management Committee (ManCom) consisting of at least four members, including portfolios for

i. 1x Chairperson

ii. 1x Vice Chair

iii. 1x Secretary

iv. 1x Treasurer

v. Up to 3x Co-opted Members..

9.1.2 Vacancies on the ManCom are filled by co-option by the remaining members, after nominations are solicited from members.

9.1.3 The ManCom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a period of two financial years.

9.1.4 The ManCom will be responsible for:

- a) The day-to-day management of EENN's affairs;
- b) Determining the benefits of members and subscribers;
- c) Overseeing proper management of EENN funds and other assets, including decisions on investment of funds;
- d) Promoting the objectives of EENN;
- e) Liaising with other interested parties;
- f) Determining membership and subscriber fees; and
- g) Representing EENN and any other functions in pursuance of the above-mentioned mission and objectives of the Network.

9.1.5 The ManCom meets at least quarterly or as frequently as is necessary for effective business. These meetings may be in any format suitable for the specific purpose. Proper minutes of such meetings will be kept and made available to members.

9.1.6 The ManCom may formulate and adopt rules and regulations to promote the effective functioning of EENN.

9.1.7. The ManCom decides on applications for membership.

9.1.8 In matters for which this Constitution does not provide the ManCom will decide on a modus operandi in accordance with the above objectives of EENN.

9.2 Regional Representatives

9.2.1 Regional representatives may be appointed to promote the interests of EENN in a particular region and to serve as liaison between ManCom and members as well as with affiliates such as local environmental clubs.

10. FINANCES

10.1 EENN can obtain its funds from any sources including, but not limited to:

- a) Membership and subscriber fees,
- b) Donations,
- c) Sponsorships,
- d) Subsidies,
- e) Payments for services rendered, and
- f) Interest earned.

10.2 EENN funds may only be utilized in pursuance of the objectives in clause 4 above.

10.3 EENN funds may not be distributed to members except in the form of fair compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred. No member has any claim on assets of EENN.

10.4 If EENN has funds to invest, such funds may only be invested in locally registered financial institutions.

10.5 A proper accounting system for the funds of EENN must be maintained in accordance with prescribed norms and standards.

10.6 Financial statements must be prepared for each financial year in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice, and be submitted within two months after the end of the financial year to a suitably qualified external auditor for verification. The report of this audit must be made available to all members.

10.7 The financial year of EENN extends from 1 January till 31 December.

11. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

11.1 Any proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be presented at a General Meeting.

11.2 An amendment to the Constitution shall be passed if two-thirds of members present at a General Meeting vote in favour of it.

12. ADOPTION

12.1 This Constitution was first adopted on the day/month/year.

13. DISBANDEMENT

13.1 The Network may be wound up or merged voluntarily if at an Extraordinary General Meeting specially called for that purposes or at a General Meeting, a resolution to dissolve or merge the Network is passed by two-thirds of the members present.

13.2 In case where EENN would be disbanded, the remaining assets (net of all liabilities) will be transferred to an organisation with a similar objective. In the absence of such organisation the assets will be donated to an organisation agreeable to the majority of EENN members.