



ASIAN ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Asian Athletics Association and its abbreviation shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Association” or “AAA”.

The Association is a continental area association constituted in Manila, Philippines on 21 November 1973 within the framework of the then International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) and now, World Athletics (WA).

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 Membership in the Association is open to governing bodies of the sport of athletics of ASIAN countries and/or territories affiliated with World Athletics.
- Section 2 Application for membership shall be addressed to the Secretary-General of the Association who shall present the same to the AAA Council for its consideration and recommendation to the Congress for final approval for the applicant to be accepted as an Affiliated Member Federation of AAA (hereinafter shall be referred to as “Member Federation” (MF)).
- Section 3 No application for membership shall be considered unless the same contains the following requirements:
- (a) List of officials of the applicant.
 - (b) The title of the national territorial association.
 - (c) The postal address of its headquarters.
 - (d) An application fee of US\$100 which shall constitute its annual dues if the application is approved.
- Section 4 It is the obligation of Member Federations to submit to the Secretary-General a copy of their Annual Report simultaneously when the said Annual Report is submitted to World Athletics each year in the form and timeframe as required by World Athletics. If any Member Federation fails to do so, then such Member Federation will lose its right to attend the Congress.
- Section 5 It is the obligation of Member Federations to carry out doping control in their major national competitions and out of competition testing, all results of which shall be communicated to the

Secretary-General once a doping incident has occurred and in any event together with the Annual Report.

ARTICLE III – AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Section 1 To establish friendly and loyal co-operation among national governing bodies of athletics for the promotion and development of athletics.
- Section 2 To strive to secure that there shall be no hindrance to the participation of any country or individual in international athletics competitions in Asia on social, religious or political grounds.
- Section 3 To organize and promote Asian Athletics Championships and other Asian athletics championships including Asian Under 20 Championships, Asian Under 18 Championships, Asian Indoor Championships, Asian Marathon Championships, Asian Cross-Country Championships and other competitions and events decided by the Council and subsequently endorsed by the Congress.
- Section 4 To cooperate with the Organizing Committees of the athletics programme of the Asian Games in carrying through and the control of all the technical and financial arrangements.
- Section 5 To frame rules governing the Asian Athletics Championships and other Asian athletics championships including Asian Under 20 Championships, Asian Under 18 Championships, Asian Indoor Championships, Asian Marathon Championships, Asian Cross-Country Championships and other competitions and events for the establishment and recognition of Asian records and all other Asian athletics championships records.
- Section 6 To disseminate reports, periodicals, books, films, pictures and instructional matter of any kind relating to or dealing with athletics, in particular, to educate the athletes to fight against the abuse of drugs in athletics.
- Section 7 To crystallize the Asian stand and viewpoint in the resolution of disputes arising among Member Federations and in all other difficulties that it may be faced with.
- Section 8 To represent Asia and work to form the Asian team to participate in international competitions.
- Section 9 To supervise and assist in the holding of Continental Group Championships, regional and bilateral meetings whenever possible.
- Section 10 To encourage the coaches of Asia to form their own body to be under the aegis and guidance of the Association and to assist them in their cause.
- Section 11 To encourage and support a responsible concern for environmental issues and to promote sustainable development in athletics.
- Section 12 To protect clean athletes in athletics by recognizing doping as a bane to the sport of athletics, by assisting and cooperating with World Athletics in applying and enforcing the World Anti-Doping Code, and by adopting and enforcing such rules, programmes, systems and disciplinary measures as may be implemented by World Athletics insofar as they are applicable in the context of AAA.

Section 13 To protect and promote good sportsmanship and to hereby promulgate and adopt a Code of Ethics with such rules and regulations governing persons who are engaged by or acting on behalf of AAA, officials or persons who are seeking to be officials of AAA such as members of the Council, Committees, Commissions, working groups, panels, units and standing committees, persons participating in competitions and events under AAA including athletes and athletes support personnel and such other persons that the Code of Ethics may be applicable thereto.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The Official Language of the Association shall be English.

ARTICLE V – SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The Annual subscription fee from each Member Federation shall be US\$100.00 and shall be paid on or before 7th January of each year failing which the defaulting Member Federation may be suspended and may not be invited to participate in the activities of the Association.

ARTICLE VI - FIVE (5) GEOGRAPHICAL REGIONS AND RESPECTIVE FIVE (5) REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Section 1 The Association's Affiliated Member Federations are grouped into five (5) Regional Associations according to their geographical locations:

- (A) Central Asia
- (B) East Asia
- (C) South Asia
- (D) South East Asia
- (E) West Asia

Section 2 Member Federations in each Regional Association shall be as follows:

- (A) Central Asia (7 Member Federations)

Afghanistan
Iran
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan

- (B) East Asia (8 Member Federations)

China
DPR Korea

Hong Kong
Japan
Korea
Macau
Mongolia
Chinese Taipei

(C) South Asia (7 Member Federations)

Bangladesh
Bhutan
India
Maldives
Nepal
Pakistan
Sri Lanka

(D) South East Asia (11 Member Federations)

Brunei
Cambodia
Indonesia
Laos
Malaysia
Myanmar
Philippines
Singapore
Thailand
Timor Leste
Vietnam

(E) West Asia (12 Member Federations)

Bahrain
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Palestine
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syria
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

Section 3 Each Regional Association shall draw up its own constitution and rules and regulations which shall be applicable only within its own Regional Association but shall not be contrary to the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of AAA. In the event of any inconsistency between the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of a Regional

Association and the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of AAA, then to the extent of that inconsistency, the Constitution and rules and regulations of AAA shall prevail.

Section 4 Subject to the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of AAA,

- (a) Each Regional Association shall have its Regional President and a Council democratically elected or appointed in accordance with the Constitution and Rules and Regulations of the Regional Association.
- (b) The Regional President of each Regional Association shall be appointed to the AAA to become a Vice-President in the Council of AAA in accordance with the provision of Article VIII Section 1(c) of this Constitution, or if he/she declines, such senior elected member of its Council as nominated by the Council of that Regional Association shall be appointed by it to replace, ipso facto, the Regional President to become the Vice-President in the Council of AAA in that capacity and shall represent his/her Regional Association in the Council of AAA.
- (c) Each Regional Association shall hold a general assembly of its Member Federations at least once every two (2) years at which representatives of its Member Federations are entitled to attend, speak and vote.
- (d) Each Regional Association shall hold a general assembly of its Member Federations once every four (4) years coinciding with the Election Year of AAA electing its Regional Association President and Council, and, if applicable, the person to be nominated to represent that Regional Association to be the Vice-President of AAA at least 3 months earlier than the Election Congress meeting of AAA.
- (e) Within 14 days of the President of the Regional Association shall have been elected or, if applicable, the Council of that Regional Association shall have nominated a replacement Vice-President in accordance with Section 4(b) of this Article, that Regional Association shall submit its nomination of the Vice-President together with the Declaration of Disclosure Form duly completed and signed personally by the nominee to the AAA Office in order for that nominee to be vetted by the Vetting Panel pursuant to Article VIII Section 4 of this Constitution.
- (f) Each Regional Association shall have and maintain an office responsible for its administration and to coordinate with AAA Office its activities and the timing of its meetings of significance including the above.

Section 5 The President and the Secretary-General of AAA shall be notified of, and have the right to participate, in all Council meetings and general assemblies of the Regional Associations without voting right.

ARTICLE VII – CONGRESS

- Section 1 The Congress shall be the governing body of the Association which shall consist of a Council and not more than two (2) delegates from each Member Federation and those persons mentioned in Sections 6, 10, 12 and 13 of this Article.
- Section 2 The Congress shall be convened every 2 years, normally at the time of the Asian Athletics Championships. Every meeting of such Congress which happens to take place in the same year as an Election Congress of World Athletics shall be an Election Congress meeting of the Association and shall take place in advance of such Election Congress meeting of World Athletics.
- Section 3 A special meeting of the Congress known as an Extraordinary Congress may be called by the Council or by one-third of the Member Federations who shall give notice in writing to the Secretary-General stating their desire for such a meeting and the reason relating thereto. Upon receipt of any such notice, the Secretary-General in consultation with the President shall convene a meeting of the Congress within three months. The Extraordinary Congress may only be called to address any of the following matters:
- (a) Resignation of two-thirds of the Council Members and the election of their replacements.
 - (b) Particularly urgent matters which need immediate action for the constitutional changes of the Association.
- Section 4 Invitations for an Extraordinary Congress shall be sent to Member Federations at least two months prior to the specified date of that Congress, indicating the reason or reasons for such a meeting. The rules of procedure in the Ordinary Congress shall apply to the meeting of the Extraordinary Congress unless decided otherwise.
- Section 5 The President shall preside at all Congress meetings. In his/her absence, the Senior Vice-President or, in his/her absence, one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside over the Congress.
- Section 6 On completion of his or her term of office, the President shall assume the status of Honorary Life President of the Association and be ex-officio member of the Congress without voting right. There may be any number of Honorary Life Presidents but all shall be ex-Presidents.
- Section 7 A Member Federation shall be represented at the Congress only by at most two (2) delegates, notice of whose appointment, certified in writing by the Member Federation must be lodged with the Secretary-General, at least one calendar month prior to the date of the Congress. Delegates shall be citizens of the country of the Member Federation they represent.
- Section 8 Only delegates of Member Federations shall have power to vote and votes shall be recorded by one delegate for each Member Federation. A delegate shall represent only one Member Federation. No voting by proxy shall be allowed.
- Section 9 The Congress shall in an Election Congress appoint the following six (6) Committees comprising five (5) members each. The Chairman of each such Committee shall be a member of the Council. The Congress shall delegate the task of the appointment of the composition of each such Committee to the Council which shall sit immediately after such Election Congress to select the Chairman and appoint the composition of each such Committee from the nominations of Member Federations:
- (a) Technical Committee

- (b) Women's Committee
 - (c) Medical Committee
 - (d) Coaching Committee
 - (e) Cross Country & Road Running Committee
 - (f) Race Walking Committee
- Section 10
- (a) Athletes from Member Federations serving on the current World Athletics Athletes Commission shall be given special recognition and be invited to be participants at the Congress, without voting right, in order to honour the athletes of Asia.
 - (b) Persons from Member Federations of the Association who are members of World Athletics Council shall be *ex-officio* members of the Congress and shall be entitled to attend and speak at the Congress meeting without voting right.
- Section 11
- The attendance of one-third of Member Federations at the Congress shall constitute a quorum. The Congress only shall have the power to approve or alter any Constitutional Rules. All additions, amendments or alterations to the Constitutional Rules must obtain two-thirds of the voting rights of those Member Federations present and entitled to vote and such two-thirds must also represent at least one-third of the voting strength of the Association in accordance with the total number of Member Federations in Article VI Section 2 of this Constitution. Proposals to be submitted to Congress must reach the Secretary-General three months prior to the date of the Congress. The Secretary-General shall send out the Agenda of the Congress and proposals to the Member Federations one and a half months prior to the date of the Congress.
- Section 12
- In recognition of valued services given to the Association, on the recommendation of the Council, Congress shall be entitled to elect Honorary Life Vice-Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members from individual members, officers and delegates from Member Federations to attend future Congress meetings, without voting right.
- Section 13
- The President of World Athletics shall be notified of and shall have the right to participate in all Congress meetings of the AAA without voting right.
- Section 14
- Congress shall act on the recommendation of the Council to expel any Affiliated Member Federation upon approval of a simple majority of the voting members present at that Congress.
- Section 15
- Any Member Federation or member of Council, Executive Board, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit or standing committee may participate in any meeting of Congress, Council, Executive Board, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit and standing committee respectively and vote on any proposed resolution at such a meeting without being physically present. Such meeting may occur by telephone, through video conference facilities or by other means of electronic communication (other than electronic mail (email) communication) provided that prior notice of the meeting is given to all Member Federations or members of Council, Executive Board, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit or standing committee respectively and all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other effectively and simultaneously. Participation in such manner at a meeting shall constitute the presence of that Member Federation or member at the meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – COUNCIL

- Section 1 There shall be a Council of the Association composed of eighteen (18) members. It shall consist of:
- (a) The President, democratically elected by the Congress;
 - (b) Senior Vice-President, democratically elected by the Congress;
 - (c) Five (5) Vice-Presidents, democratically elected by the general assembly, or if applicable, nominated by the Council of the respective Regional Associations in accordance with Article VI Section 4(b) of this Constitution;
 - (d) Three (3) Women Members, democratically elected as individuals by the Congress; and
 - (e) Eight (8) members, democratically elected as individuals by the Congress.
- Section 2 All members of the Council shall come from the different Member Federations.
- Section 3 All members of the Council shall serve for a term of four (4) years commencing at the conclusion of the Election Congress meeting in which they were successfully elected or appointed and expiring at the conclusion of the next Election Congress meeting.
- Section 4 Any person seeking to be elected or appointed as a member of AAA Council, Committee or Commission or member of such other AAA working group, panel, unit or standing committee as shall be decided by Council to be applicable within the definition of AAA Official in accordance with Section 1.1 of the Code of Ethics must be vetted by the Vetting Panel and must meet the requirements in the Vetting Process set out in the Code of Ethics promulgated and adopted in Article III Section 13 of this Constitution. Any person who breaches or violates or does not meet the requirements in the Vetting Process shall, ipso facto, be ineligible for such election or appointment. All existing members of such AAA Council, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit or standing committee elected or appointed at or after the 2023 25th Election Congress shall also be subject to the Vetting Process by the Vetting Panel during their term of office.
- Section 5 Should a vacancy arise in the Council during the tenure of the Council for whatever reason including death, extreme illness, resignation, disqualification, removal or retirement of any Council Member, the following shall apply:
- (a) In the case of the vacant position is the President, the Senior Vice-President shall become the Interim President of the Association and the replacement Asian Area President in the Council of World Athletics and his/her position as the Senior Vice-President shall be deemed to be vacated.
 - (b) In the case of the vacant position is the Senior Vice President, one (1) of the Individual Council Members to be elected by Council shall become the Interim Senior Vice-President and his/her position as an Individual Council Member shall be deemed to be vacated.
 - (c) In the case of the vacant position is a Vice-President, the applicable Regional Association shall nominate one of its senior elected members of its Council to be the Interim Vice-President to serve for the remaining vacated term of office of the Vice-President in the AAA Council. All such nominees shall be similarly subject to the Vetting Process pursuant to Section 4 of this Article.
 - (d) In the case of the vacant position is any Individual Council Member, the Council may proceed forthwith to appoint a replacement member from the list of

candidates of that category from the last Election Congress beginning with the candidate with the next highest number of votes to serve for the remaining term of office of such vacated Individual Council Member.

- Section 6 Any member of the Council who absents himself/herself from three (3) consecutive Council meetings without any explanation satisfactory to the Council shall be deemed not to be a member thereof any longer.
- Section 7 All nominations for candidature to any position of the Council shall be sent to the Secretary-General not later than three (3) calendar months prior to the date of the Election Congress at which elections will take place except for the nomination of the position of the five (5) Vice-Presidents which shall be sent in accordance with the prescribed timeframe in Article VI Section 4(e) of this Constitution. All such nominations shall be circulated to Member Federations one and a half months prior to the date of the Election Congress. Nominations can be made only by Member Federations except for the position of the five (5) Vice-Presidents which are to be made by the Regional Associations. At the time of the submission of a nomination for candidature, the applicable Member Federation or Regional Association shall also respectively submit a Declaration of Disclosure Form duly completed and signed personally by its nominee for the Vetting Process by the Vetting Panel pursuant to Section 4 of this Article. If, at the time of an election, there are fewer candidates than there are vacancies, the Chairman of the Meeting may invite Member Federations present to submit additional nominations. If any such additional nominees are successful, they shall be also subject to the Vetting Process. Any unsuccessful candidates for any position, once nominated, would be included, unless declined, in a subsequent ballot for any other position.
- Section 8 In the event that any seat in the positions enumerated in Sections 1(d) and (e) of this Article is not filled at the Election Congress, the Council shall at its meeting immediately after the Election Congress proceed to elect into the vacancy/vacancies from persons who are outstanding administrators/personalities from any Member Federation of the Association subject to the limitation in Section 2 of this Article. Any such elected person shall be likewise subject to the Vetting Process.
- Section 9 Persons from a Member Federation who are members of World Athletics Council shall be ex-officio members of the Council, except when they are already regular members of the AAA Council by reason of their positions in the Association. Ex-officio members may attend and speak in the Council without voting right.
- Section 10 The Council shall meet at least once a year at the time and place to be decided by the President. A majority of all the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 11 The Council shall, inter alia, have the following duties and functions:
- (a) To carry out and implement the aims and objectives of the Association as set forth in Article III of this Constitution.
 - (b) To conduct and manage the affairs of the Associations and act for and in behalf of the Congress while the same is not in session.
 - (c) To render technical, organizational and administrative assistance to Member Federations whenever and wherever possible and when as requested.
 - (d) To collate, study and consider proposals and recommendations by Member Federations for presentation to the Congress.

- (e) To submit a biennial budget to the Congress every 2 years for approval and to prepare an annual budget for itself.
- (f) To act upon all decisions of the Congress and make a report of such actions to the same.
- (g) To approve administrative and financial reports and statements submitted to it by the President and the Secretary-General, as well as other reports submitted to it by executive officials for its approval.
- (h) To draw and recommend to Congress a Development Plan on a yearly basis and a multi-year Strategic Plan for a vigorous and speedy promotion of athletics in Asia.
- (i) To act on all urgent matters in behalf of the Association, provided, however, that all such decisions must be reported to the next Congress.

Section 12 The Council shall constitute the following seven (7) Commissions comprising seven (7) members each to be appointed, namely Athletes Commission, Competitions Commission, Development Commission, Finance and Marketing Commission, Legal and Ethics Commission, Press and Media Commission and Youth, School and Sustainability Commission and may form or create such standing committees, commissions, working groups, panels and units as it may deem necessary to assist it in the performance of its duties and functions and for the development of athletics in Asia defining their duties, prescribing their compositions and such rules of procedure as might guide them in their deliberations.

Section 13 The Council may institute such appropriate disciplinary actions, and, as the case may be, impose one or more of the following sanctions on a Member Federation, member of Council, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit or standing committee or other official of the Association, athlete, athlete support personnel, technical official and any other person involved in the sport of athletics in Asia to which this Constitution and other Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the Association, including the Code of Ethics may apply for breach or violation of this Constitution, other Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the Association, including the Code of Ethics, of such nature and for such duration that the Council may decide, namely:

- (a) Recommend expulsion of a Member Federation.
- (b) Suspension.
- (c) Impose a fine.
- (d) Issue a caution or censure.
- (e) Exclude participation of the culpable official, athlete, athletes support personnel, technical official or other person in any competitions or events or any position or body of the Association.
- (f) Exclude participation of the official, athlete, athletes support personnel, technical official or other person of the culpable Member Federation in any competitions or events or any position or body of the Association.

- (g) Remove the culpable person from any position in the Council, Committee, Commission, working group, panel, unit or standing committee or any other body of the Association.
- (h) Remove or deny accreditation or other benefits for any competitions and other AAA events and activities.
- (i) Suspend right to attend, speak and vote at Congress meetings.

Section 14 All disciplinary actions and consequential sanctions imposed by the Council shall be reported to Congress. If the Council recommends the expulsion of any Member Federation, it shall be referred to Congress which may expel such a Member Federation upon the approval of a simple majority of the voting members of that Congress.

Section 15 The Council will decide the host of various competitions or events organized under the banner of AAA.

Section 16 The Council will decide any new Asian competitions and events.

Section 17 (a) The Council will appoint as a paid staff the Secretary-General who shall attend meetings of the Congress, Council, Executive Board and if deemed necessary, of the Committees and Commissions without however voting right. The Secretary-General shall manage the Asian Athletics Association (AAA) Office which shall carry out the daily administration of the Association in accordance with the decisions of the Congress, the Council, the Executive Board and the President. The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the engagement of the AAA office staff with the approval of the President.

(b) In consultation with the President and the Council, the Secretary-General shall ensure the effective and efficient implementation and monitoring of the AAA Development Plan and Strategic Plan. The Secretary-General shall be the focal point of the Development Plan and the Strategic Plan.

Section 18 The Council will appoint as a paid staff a Treasurer who shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Association and who shall attend meetings of the Congress and Council without however voting right. The Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer shall manage the finances of the Association. He/She shall submit to the Council periodic reports on the finances of the Association and to the Congress and Council the annual reports of the audited accounts for the respective financial years.

Section 19 Only Council Members can attend Council meetings except that the President may request the presence at a session of the Council, of a consultant/expert as well as one or several members of the Association's Committees, Commissions, working groups, panels, units or standing committees who shall take part in the debates and discussion in their various capacities without voting right.

Section 20 The President and the Chief Executive Officer of World Athletics shall be notified of, and have the right to participate in Council meetings of the AAA without voting right.

ARTICLE IX - EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 There shall be an Executive Board of the AAA composed of eight (8) members being:

- (a) The President;

- (b) The Senior Vice-President;
 - (c) The five (5) Vice-Presidents; and
 - (d) The Secretary-General without voting right.
- Section 2
- (a) The Executive Board would take decisions on all matters that are within the duties, functions and powers of the Council, in particular, on urgent cases the decision of which owing to constraint of time and the urgency of a decision, could not be deferred until the next Council meeting.
 - (c) The Executive Board would also discuss any matter to enable expeditious consideration to be taken for the decision making process to function smoothly in a timely manner for and by the Council.
- Section 3 A majority of all the members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 4 All decisions taken by the Executive Board shall be ratified by the Council in the subsequent meeting of the Council.
- Section 5 The Executive Board may be convened at any time on the initiative of the President but shall meet at least twice a year between the sessions of the Council.

ARTICLE X – OFFICERS, DUTIES, FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

- Section 1 The President’s duties, functions and powers shall include the following:
- (a) Ensure the implementation of the Association’s Development Plan and Strategic Plan in conjunction with the Secretary-General and other officers of the Association.
 - (b) Preside over all meetings of the Congress, the Council and the Executive Board.
 - (c) Represent the Association in all official functions and missions and at International and Continental Sport competitions and events.
 - (d) Represent the Association as Asian Area President in the Council of World Athletics.
 - (e) Implement the decisions of the Congress, the Council and the Executive Board that require executive action or when so directed by these bodies.
 - (f) Conclude and execute contracts for and in behalf of the Association.
 - (g) Make periodic and annual reports to the Council and Congress covering his activities in the Association as President.
 - (h) Approve disbursements of funds which have been properly provided for in the budget.
 - (i) Evaluate the performance of the Secretary-General and the Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer respectively and make an annual report to the Council in this regard.

- (j) Be responsible, as the principal elected officer of the Association, for the oversight of the operations of the AAA Office and where appropriate, to take such measures as may be deemed necessary for the proper administration of the Association. He/She shall periodically report to the Council in this regard. Such oversight shall be conducted in close collaboration with the Secretary-General.
- (k) Exercise all such powers and functions that devolve and are incumbent upon him/her as the principal elected officer of the Association.

Section 2 The Senior Vice-President shall perform the duties, functions and powers of the President during the temporary absence or incapacity of the latter except the right to represent Asia in World Athletics Council unless the Council so recommends and such recommendation is approved by World Athletics.

Section 3 The five (5) Vice-Presidents, shall in addition to their duties as members of the Council:

- (a) Submit an annual report of the activities and development of athletics in their elected/appointed Region of jurisdiction.
- (b) Supervise, coordinate and follow up the implementation of programmes and projects delegated by the decisions of the Congress and Council, in their respective Regions.

Section 4 All Individual Council Members shall perform the tasks and duties delegated to him/her by the President and Council for the proper functioning of the Association

ARTICLE XI – ASIAN AREA PRESIDENT TO WORLD ATHLETICS

The President shall represent Asia in the Council of World Athletics as Asian Area President for a period of four (4) years commencing and expiring at the times as provided in the Constitution of World Athletics.

ARTICLE XII - DISPUTES RESOLUTION AMONGST VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS

The Association incorporates and adopts those terms, rules, regulations and clauses which are and may from time to time be required to be incorporated and adopted by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of World Athletics relating to disputes and disciplinary proceedings to the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the Association, in particular Rules 2.1 (relating to the rights of the defendant in the strict adherence to the principles of Natural Justice), 2.2, 5.1 and 5.2 (relating to the rights of the parties involved to refer any deadlocked dispute to the Court of Arbitration for Sport) of the Disputes and Disciplinary Proceedings Rules of World Athletics, insofar as they are applicable.

ARTICLE XIII - INDEMNITY

AAA shall indemnify all members of AAA Council, Executive Board, Committees, Commission, working groups, panels, units and standing committees from all liabilities, claims, demands, costs and expenses that they may incur or suffer in acting or carrying out their duties, functions or powers as such members unless such liabilities, claims, demands costs and expenses arise from or are results of a) any breach or violation of this Constitution, the Code of Ethics or other Rules and Regulations of AAA; b) any act or omission not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or breach or violation of any law; or c) any transaction from which the member derived an improper personal benefit.

ARTICLE XIV – EFFECTIVITY

Any provision of this Constitution, its additions, amendments or alterations shall be effective and operative immediately upon its approval unless a particular date is indicated.

The 24th Congress held by electronic means on 8th November 2021 approved and confirmed that the Effectivity Date of the above Additions, Amendments and Alterations discussed and approved at the said 24th Congress shall be effective and operative immediately upon their approval date, that is, 8th November 2021

Asian Athletics Association (AAA)

Code of Ethics

Made under Article III Section 13 of the Constitution of AAA

(In force from 8th November 2021)

1. Application of Code of Ethics

- 1.1 This Code of Ethics applies to the following Applicable Persons:
 - 1.1.1 Persons who are engaged by or acting on behalf of AAA.
 - 1.1.2 Persons who are officials or seeking to become officials of AAA such as members of the Council, Committees, Commissions, working groups, panels, units and standing committees.
 - 1.1.3 Persons who are participating in any of the competitions under the auspices of AAA including but not limited to Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel.
- 1.2 All Applicable Persons as defined in 1.1 herein will be deemed to have agreed that it is their personal responsibility to familiarize themselves with the requirements of this Code of Ethics.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 Unless specifically stated otherwise, the following commonly used terms shall have the following definitions
 - “AAA Officials” means AAA Council Members, AAA Committee Members and AAA Commission Members and such members of working groups, panels, units and standing committees of AAA which the Council may from time to time decide to include for good reasons.
 - “Athlete” means any person who is entered into or participating in an athletics competition or event of AAA or its Member Federations.
 - “Athlete Support Personnel” means any coach, trainer, manager, authorized athlete representative or agent, team staff, parent or any other person working with, treating or assisting an Athlete participating in, or preparing for, an athletics competition or event.

3. Ethical Standards

- 3.1 In order to protect the integrity, authenticity and reputation of athletics, AAA expects

and requires all Applicable Persons to meet the highest ethical standards.

3.2 The Ethical Standards require Applicable Persons:

- 3.2.1 **Honesty:** to act with utmost integrity and honesty at all times including acting in good faith towards others and with mutual trust and understanding in all their dealings and in particular not to forge any document, falsify any authentic document or use a forged or falsified document.
- 3.2.2 **Fulfill Duties:** to actively fulfill their duties and responsibilities to AAA with all due care and skill and in good faith and in particular not to act outside of their authority.
- 3.2.3 **Clean Athletics:** to protect clean athletes and not engage in doping, and in particular to comply with the relevant anti-doping rules promoted by World Athletics.
- 3.2.4 **Maintain Integrity of Competition:** to ensure the integrity of, and not to improperly benefit from athletics competitions or events promoted by World Athletics and its Member Federations.
- 3.2.5 **Disclose Interests:** to ensure conflicts of interest are minimized and interests properly disclosed as outlined in Section 6 herein.
- 3.2.6 **Minimal Gifts and Benefits:** to ensure that any gifts, hospitality or other benefits which are offered, promised, given or received are strictly in accordance with the Duties Relating to Gifts as outlined in Section 7 herein.
- 3.2.7 **Protect Assets:** to protect the assets of AAA and only use or authorise others to use them within the authority granted.
- 3.2.8 **Proper Conduct:** to conduct themselves in a professional and courteous manner.
- 3.2.9 **Equality:** not to unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, sex, ethnic origin, religion, political opinion or any other difference.
- 3.2.10 **Dignity:** to safeguard the dignity of individuals and not to engage in any form of harassment or abuse.
- 3.2.11 **Maintain Confidentiality:** to keep confidential all information which is entrusted to them in confidence unless permitted to disclose.
- 3.2.12 **Fair Elections:** to conduct their candidacy for any role or position within AAA with honesty, fairness, and respect for others.
- 3.2.13 **Fair Bidding:** to conduct their candidacy for any bid to host AAA competitions or events with honesty, fairness and respect for others.
- 3.2.14 **Neutrality:** to remain politically neutral in their dealings on behalf of AAA with government institutions, national and international organizations.
- 3.2.15 **Reporting:** to promptly report to AAA any act, thing or information which the person becomes aware of that may constitute a breach or violation of this Code of Ethics or the Constitution of AAA.

- 3.2.16 **Comply with Rules:** to comply with the Constitution and all Rules Regulations and Bye-Laws of AAA.
- 3.2.17 **Protect Reputation:** to protect the reputation of AAA and not to act, or fail to act, in any manner which may adversely affect the reputation of AAA.
- 3.2.18 **Good Faith and Respect:** to show good faith and respect for teammates, opponents and coaches in all dealings and to the Affiliated Member Federations of AAA and the AAA.

4. Candidacy Process

4.1 Submission of Candidate Nomination Form

- 4.1.1 Save as provided in Section 4.1.7 herein, in order to stand for election to the position of Council Member of AAA under Article VIII Section 1 of AAA Constitution (other than as Vice President of AAA) or appointment to the position of Committee Member of AAA under Article VII Section 9 of AAA Constitution, the Member Federation to which a nominee to be elected or appointed belongs must submit to the Secretary-General of AAA a completed Candidate Nomination Form (mentioned in Article VIII Section 7 of AAA Constitution) together with a Declaration of Disclosure Form (mentioned in Section 5.4.1 herein) duly completed and signed personally by the nominee confirming the accuracy, truthfulness and completeness of the matters therein by no later than 3 calendar months prior to the Election Congress at which the relevant election will occur.
- 4.1.2 In order to be appointed to the position of Vice-President of AAA under Article VI Section 4(b) of AAA Constitution (including a vacancy arising under Article VIII Section 5(c) of AAA Constitution), the Regional Association to which a nominee to be appointed belongs must submit to the Secretary-General of AAA a completed Candidate Nomination Form together with a Declaration of Disclosure Form duly completed and signed personally by the nominee confirming the accuracy, truthfulness and completeness of the matters therein within 14 days from the date of the determination of the nominee by that Regional Association.
- 4.1.3 In order to qualify for the appointment by the Council to the position of a Commission Member of AAA under Article VIII Section 12 of AAA Constitution, the nominee which the Council has appointed must submit a Declaration of Disclosure Form duly signed and completed personally by him/her within 14 days of him/her having received the notice of appointment from the AAA Office by email, otherwise, such an appointment shall lapse.
- 4.1.4 The candidacy of a nominee of an AAA Official under Article VIII Section 7 of

AAA Constitution (except a Vice-President of AAA) must be supported by a Member Federation to which the nominee belongs by resolution of its Management Committee. In particular, the Candidate Nomination Form must be signed on behalf of the Member Federation by its President or Secretary-General.

4.1.5 The candidacy of a nominee of a Vice-President of AAA under Article VI Section 4(b) of AAA Constitution must be supported by the Regional Association to which the nominee belongs by resolution of its Council.

4.1.6 Upon submission of the completed Candidate Nomination Form and the Declaration of Disclosure Form of a nominee in accordance with the preceding provisions, such a nominee shall become a Candidate for election/appointment of an AAA Official.

4.1.7 In the event that a Council Member shall be elected pursuant to the provision in Article VIII Section 7 of AAA Constitution (by reason that there are fewer candidates than vacancies) or to the provision in Article VIII Section 8 of AAA Constitution (positions of Individual Council Members not filled at the Election Congress), the Member Federation to which the eventual successful Council Member belongs shall comply with the obligations in Sections 4.1.1 and 4.1.4 herein within the timeframe prescribed by the Council.

4.2 General Obligations of Candidates to be an AAA Official

4.2.1 Candidates are entitled to promote their candidacy, provided it is conducted with honesty, dignity and moderation and complies with this Code of Ethics.

4.2.2 Candidates shall, in promoting their candidacy, respect the other candidates and AAA, and shall not act in a way likely to adversely affect the reputation of AAA.

4.2.3 Candidates shall, in promoting their candidacy, respect Member Federations, their representatives and delegates, and AAA.

4.2.4 Candidates shall not harm or do anything likely to harm the image of another Candidate or cause any prejudice to them.

4.2.5 The content and presentation of all materials produced to promote candidacy must be fair, honest and respectful of other Candidates and AAA, and must comply with this Code of Ethics.

4.3 No Candidate may offer or give any gifts of any nature or value (including gifts otherwise in compliance with this Code of Ethics), whether directly or indirectly, to any AAA Official, Member Federation Official or any person who could vote in an

election. Notwithstanding the above, it is permissible for gifts and exchange of tokens of courtesy to be given if they are of nominal value, meaning such items must have little or no commercial value.

5. Vetting Process

- 5.1 The Vetting process conducted by the Vetting Panel is strictly applied to all Candidates for AAA Officials, existing AAA Officials elected or appointed at or after the 2023 25th Election Congress of AAA and any other persons deemed necessary by AAA.
- 5.2 The Vetting Panel shall comprise three members with at least one of whom shall be a lawyer. For the avoidance of doubt, it is expressly understood that members of the first transitional Vetting Panel shall be appointed by the Council only and they shall serve until the conclusion of the 2023 25th Election Congress of AAA. All subsequent members of the Vetting Panel (except for casual vacancy) shall be appointed by Congress at the recommendation of the Council and shall serve until the conclusion of the next Election Congress of AAA. Should a vacancy arise during the tenure of the Vetting Panel for whatever reason, the Council shall appoint another member to serve for the remainder of the term.
- 5.3 The role of the Vetting Panel shall be to decide whether the person is eligible or ineligible to be elected, appointed or act on behalf of AAA or continue to be eligible to be an AAA Official in accordance with this Code of Ethics.
- 5.4 The Vetting Panel shall conduct the Vetting Process, consistent with the following general framework:
 - 5.4.1 Every Candidate for election or appointment to a position of AAA Official shall complete and submit a Declaration of Disclosure Form through his/her Member Federation (except a Vice-President of AAA whose Declaration of Disclosure Form is to be submitted through his/her Regional Association) in which the person confirms, acknowledges and declares various matters stated therein for the Vetting Panel to decide his/her eligibility.
 - 5.4.2 The Vetting Panel will decide whether a Candidate is eligible or ineligible.
 - 5.4.3 In assessing the eligibility,
 - 5.4.3.1 the Vetting Panel shall take into account the following various matters, namely
 - a) whether the person is declared by a competent authority to be an undischarged bankrupt or is subject to any bankruptcy order under insolvency laws or has been in the last 3 years declared

bankrupt by a competent authority or subject to any bankruptcy order;

b) whether the person has been in the last 10 years convicted and sentenced by a judicial authority for an offence involving fraud or dishonesty or of a heinous, serious or violent nature to 3 months imprisonment (including a suspended sentence) or more or to a fine of an equivalent amount of US\$5,000 or more;

c) whether the person has been charged (with resolution not yet known) with an offence which carries a sentence of a term of imprisonment of 2 years or more;

d) whether the person has been in the last 10 years prohibited by a competent authority from being a director or promoter of or being concerned or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with any law;

e) whether the person has been removed or suspended from office in the last 10 years (unless such removal or suspension has been lifted with no finding of violation) as an AAA Official or a member of working group, panel, unit or standing committee of AAA for breach or violation of the AAA Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Bye-Laws or this Code of Ethics;

f) whether the person has been removed or suspended from office in the last 10 years (unless such removal or suspension has been lifted with no finding of violation) as a Council Member of World Athletics; or

g) whether the person has been found in the last 10 years to have committed by a competent authority in any sports for an anti-doping rule violation;

5.4.3.2 in the event that none of Sections 5.4.3.1(a) to (g) herein applies, the Vetting Panel may take into account

a) all other matters which are disclosed by the Candidate in the Declaration of Disclosure Form or of which the Vetting Panel may become aware from its own research or publicly available information and sources; or

b) whether that person is, or has been the subject of any public controversy, which has so undermined that person's credibility, integrity or reputation or is likely to adversely affect the reputation of AAA.

5.4.4 Every existing AAA Official elected or appointed at or after the 2023 25th Election Congress shall promptly submit an updated Declaration of

Disclosure Form in the event that any contents therein previously submitted by the AAA Official are no longer applicable.

- 5.4.5 Upon submission of an updated Declaration of Disclosure Form, the Vetting Panel will review whether the existing AAA Office shall continue to be eligible to be an AAA Official in accordance with Section 5.4.3 herein.
 - 5.4.6 The Vetting Panel may at any time, whether or not there has been any submission of an updated Declaration of Disclosure Form, review and consider whether any existing AAA Official shall continue to be eligible to be an AAA Official and may request such existing AAA Official to submit an updated Declaration of Disclosure Form.
 - 5.4.7 Following a preliminary finding that a Candidate or an existing AAA Official is ineligible, or may not be eligible, the Vetting Panel shall notify that person in writing of its preliminary finding and the reason/s and give the person at least 10 days to make any submissions on such preliminary finding. The Vetting Panel shall then consider any such submissions and once the final decision is made, the person will be notified as soon as possible, in writing, of its decision.
 - 5.4.8 The final decision of the Vetting Panel shall be final and binding.
 - 5.4.9 The AAA Office shall co-ordinate the Vetting Process by the Vetting Panel and provide the necessary administrative support to the Vetting Panel.
 - 5.4.10 Meeting of the Vetting Panel may be conducted by electronic means without any member of the Vetting Panel being physically present. Such meeting may occur by telephone, through video conference facilities or by other means of electronic communication (other than electronic (email) communication) provided that prior notice of the meeting is given to all members of the Vetting Panel and all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other effectively and simultaneously.
- 5.5 The Vetting Panel shall make its decision by simple majority amongst its members with each member having one vote.

6. Duties Relating to Conflicts of Interest

- 6.1 Conflict of Interest means a situation in which an individual has been or is involved with multiple interests, which may include both personal interests and interests arising from the person's duties or positions as a representative of an organization, and where benefiting of these interests may adversely affect the outcome in respect of another interest.
- 6.2 In their roles as officials, officers or staff of AAA, all Applicable Persons must act for the benefit of AAA when making decisions that affect or may affect AAA and must do

so without reference to their own personal interest, either financial or otherwise.

- 6.3 No person may use the opportunity of their relationship with AAA to promote their personal interests or those of connected organizations.
- 6.4 No person shall misuse information gained in the course of their relationship with AAA for personal gain or for political purpose.
- 6.5 Each person must take on-going responsibility for identifying and complying with their duties regarding any actual or potential Conflict of Interest.
- 6.6 An Applicable Person must promptly inform and disclose to the Vetting Panel through the AAA Office with full details either in the Declaration of Disclosure Form or the updated Declaration of Disclosure Form or otherwise if he/she becomes aware that a) that he/she, or b) any of his/her immediate family member, or c) any firm, business or organization in which he/she has a Personal Material Interest (defined in Section 6.8 herein), is seeking to have a contractual relationship with AAA as a supplier of goods or services, as a sponsor or as the host of or bidding for, or part of a group hosting or bidding for any AAA competition or event or if a Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest may arise. Failure to promptly inform or disclose shall constitute a breach of this Code of Ethics.
- 6.7 In cases where there is a Conflict of Interest or potential Conflict of Interest, the concerned individual shall exclude himself/herself from, and not seek in any way to be involved or to be able to influence, the process of evaluating or decision making of the matter in concern.
- 6.8 For the purpose of Section 6.6 herein and determining whether a person has a Personal Material Interest in any firm, business or organization, Personal Material Interest means any of the following:
- 6.8.1 any position as a partner, executive director or non-executive director, management committee member, or executive officer, including any position in a Member Federation of AAA;
- 6.8.2 any financial investment as a shareholder, member or partner amounting to 5% or more of the share capital or control;
- 6.8.3 any other position or financial investment amounting to a Material Influence defined to mean an individual's capacity to influence the strategy, activities or operations or any entity or organization in a meaningful way;
- 6.8.4 any interest of whatever nature or level which may present an actual or potential Conflict of Interest with that person's duties to the AAA including in any business venture (or whatever type) seeking to have a contractual relationship with AAA as a supplier of goods or services, as a sponsor or as the host of or bidding for, or part of a group hosting or bidding for any AAA competition or event.

7. Duties Relating to Gifts

- 7.1 Applicable Persons may be offered gifts (including hospitality), or may wish to offer gifts to others. The principles of reasonableness and proportionality shall be applied.
- 7.2 Each person shall exercise their judgment in determining whether the gift is reasonable and proportionate to the act or proposed act of the individual giving rise to the gift and shall avoid giving or accepting a gift to influence any decision in relation to a contract or other financial relationship with, or sought by, AAA. In particular, no gift shall be offered, given, requested or accepted in circumstances where doing so may be seen as attempting to influence improperly the outcome of decision-making in a manner advantageous to the person (including the Member Federation, organization or entity to which he belongs) who is giving the gift, including without limitation gifts offered by persons seeking election or appointment as AAA Officials or as members of working groups, panels, units or standing committees of AAA or by persons seeking to be awarded contracts for the supply of goods or services to AAA or involved in bidding to host AAA competitions or events.
- 7.3 Specific Duties governing gifts are as follows:
 - 7.3.1 Gifts and other benefits of Customary Value may be given or accepted as a mark of respect or friendship. The giving or acceptance of any other gift or benefit is prohibited. For the purpose of this Section, Customary Value shall mean that the gift is consistent with the gifts typically exchanged between representatives of organizations as a matter of custom and protocol.
 - 7.3.2 In all circumstances, the giving or acceptance of cash, other than in connection with advance payment or reimbursement of legitimate expenses, is prohibited.
 - 7.3.3 The hospitality shown to any Applicable Persons shall not be excessive and shall not go beyond Customary Value.
 - 7.3.4 Specific care must be taken when there is an election or appointment as an AAA Official or as a member of working group, panel, unit or standing committee and bid process ongoing for selection of the host of AAA competitions or events.
