

SENIOR HOSPITAL DOCTORS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

CONSTITUTION

(AS AMENDED MARCH 1994)

1. NAME

The Association is an official group of the Medical Association of South Africa, an Association incorporated under Section 21, Registered No 05/00136/8, and its name shall be the **Senior Hospital Doctors Association of South Africa** (Hereinafter called "the Association").

2. OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The objects for which the Association is established are -

- 2.1 To ensure proper representation of its members' interests.
- 2.2 To negotiate on behalf of its members.
- 2.3 To promote better communication between its members, the Medical Association of South Africa, the health authorities and other bodies.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

3.1 Full Membership:

Any person who is a registered medical practitioner within the Republic of South Africa and who is a member of the Medical Association of South Africa is eligible for full membership, provided that he has been a registered medical practitioner for two years or longer and is employed at a provincial, academic, regional, community or military hospital in the RSA, and is not a registrar or a university appointed specialist.

3.2 Affiliated Membership:

Persons who are not members of the Medical Association of South Africa but who would otherwise qualify in terms of Clauses 3.1.1 and 3.1.2 above, may be admitted at the discretion of the Executive Committee of the Association as affiliated members.

Affiliated members will enjoy all the benefits of the Association but shall not be allowed to vote on matters concerning the Medical Association of SA or have the right to be elected to any office of the Medical Association.

The membership of the Association shall at all times consist of at least 85% of full members of SAMA.

3.3 Election of Members

Candidates for membership shall be elected by a majority vote of the Executive Committee of the Association after being duly proposed and seconded in writing by two (2) full members of the Association.

3.4 Termination of Membership

3.4.1 Every full member shall remain a member until his membership is terminated by his resignation in writing from either the Association or the Medical Association of South Africa. His membership may be suspended if after 12 months he has not paid his due subscriptions, but he may be reinstated on payment of arrear subscriptions. During the period of suspension he shall not retain his vote.

3.4.2 Every affiliated member shall remain a member until his membership is terminated by his resignation in writing. His membership shall also be terminated after three years unless he becomes a full member.

3.5 Suspension of the Association's activities

3.5.1 The activities of the Association shall be suspended if at any time its membership shall be less than 11 full members.

4. CONTROL OF THE ASSOCIATION

4.1 The general control and direction of the policy and affairs of the Association shall be vested in the Executive Committee of the Association.

4.2 In exercising control over the Association, the Executive Committee shall at all times abide by the Articles and By-Laws of the Medical Association of South Africa.

4.3 The Executive Committee -

- (a) shall hold office for one (1) year;
- (b) shall be composed of one (1) full member per region elected on a regional basis at the Annual General Meeting of the Association, and one (1) full member elected to represent those members who are attached to the South African Defence Force;
- (c) shall determine the geographical disposition and number of the regions from which the regional representatives referred to in sub-clause (b) of this Clause, shall be elected;
- (d) shall have a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and an Honorary Secretary/Treasurer, which office bearers shall be designated by popular vote by the Annual General Meeting from the ranks of the members elected in terms of sub-clause (b) of this Clause.

4.4 A list of office bearers, together with a complete list of members of the Association shall be furnished annually to the Secretary General of the Medical Association of South Africa within thirty (30) days of the election of such office bearers.

4.5 The Honorary Secretary/Treasurer of the Association shall keep records of all meetings of the Association and of its Executive Committee and shall conduct all correspondence in connection with the affairs of the Association. He shall receive all monies due to the Association and shall make all disbursements authorised by the Executive Committee.

5. MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

5.1 An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held every year provided that no more than fifteen (15) months may lapse between the date of one Annual General Meeting and that of the next.

5.2 Extraordinary General Meetings of the Association may be held from time to time and shall be called by the Executive Committee on the written request of eleven (11) members of the Association.

5.3 Voting by proxy according to the Articles of the Medical Association of South Africa shall be allowed at all General Meetings.

5.4 The Executive Committee shall hold four (4) meetings annually.

6. ACTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 6.1 The Association may take such action as may be deemed necessary in all matters affecting the legitimate interests of its members; provided that the Medical Association of South Africa as a whole be not involved or pledged to any action and that any action contemplated by the Association be in conformity with the policy of the Medical Association of South Africa.
- 6.2 Should the Association refer a matter affecting the interests of its members to the Federal Council or the Board of Trustees of the Medical Association of South Africa for action, it shall take no further independent action unless requested to do so by Federal Council or the Board of Trustees.

7. ORGANISATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 7.1 It shall be competent for the Association to allow the formation of Sub-Groups of the Association within the framework of the Divisions or Branches of the Medical Association of South Africa or in such other manner as may be desirable. Such Sub-Groups may be allowed powers of independent action in local matters provided that such action is not in conflict with the general policy and rules of the Association and of the Medical Association of South Africa.
- 7.2 Such sub-groups shall elect a Chairman, and Honorary Secretary/Treasurer and an Executive Committee consisting of four (4) members annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Sub-Group, which shall be held approximately three (3) months prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- 7.3 Reports of local action taken shall be submitted by the Honorary Secretary/Treasurer of the Sub-Group to the Honorary Secretary/Treasurer of the Association.
- 7.4 Each Sub-Group shall have a minimum membership of four (4) full members.

8. SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

An annual subscription shall be payable by members of the Association to provide funds for the carrying out of the work of the Association. The amount of the subscription may be determined by the Executive Committee.

9. ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Honorary Secretary/Treasurer shall submit an Annual Report and a Financial Statement at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. A copy of each thereof shall thereafter be sent to the Secretary General of the Medical Association of South Africa within thirty (30) days of the meeting.

10. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this Constitution shall be effected only if passed by a two-thirds majority of those voting at an Annual General Meeting of the Association. Any amendment of the Constitution of the Association shall be approved by the Federal Council or the Board of Trustees of the Medical Association of South Africa before taking effect.

11. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Association the assets of the Association shall be given or transferred to some other organisation/s engaged in activities similar to those for which this Association was established. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for selecting the organisation/s in accordance with the stipulations of this clause provided that such organisation/ be a Group within the Medical Association of South Africa. The assets may also be transferred or given to the Medical Association of South Africa.