STATUTES

Preamble

Considering the need for promoting the independence of the Judiciary in African States;

Considering the need for an organisation gathering African Associations of Judges;

Considering the need for promoting friendship relations among African Judges;

In accordance with article 8 of the Statutes of the International Association of Judges,

it is created among the African Member Associations of the International Association of Judges (IAJ) an association called: African Group of the International Association of Judges (AG-IAJ).

Article 1: The African Group of the International Association of Judges is an apolitical, non-religious and no-profit making association.

Article 2: The Seat
As the African Group of the International Association of Judges forms integral part of the International Association of Judges, its seat is based at the headquarters of the International Association of Judges.

Article 3: The African Group of the International Association of Judges adheres to the statutes and ideals of the International Association of Judges.

Members of the Group are African national associations of judges that are members of the International Association of Judges

Article 4: Objectives
Objectives of the African Group of the International Association of Judges are:
- the promotion of the co-operation and friendly relations among member associations on the one hand, and among African Judges, on the other;
- the promotion and safeguard of the independence of Justice.

Article 5: Bodies
Bodies of the African Group of the International Association of Judges are:
- the General Assembly,
- the Presidency.

Article 6: Composition of the General Assembly
The General Assembly includes all the delegates of member associations.
In the event of voting, each member association is entitled to one vote.
The General Assembly is held each year in a Member State of the Group.

Article 7: Capacities of the General Assembly
The General Assembly is the body having authority to take decisions on behalf of the African Group of the International Association of Judges.
It deliberates on any question concerning the life of the Group, in particular:
- it determines the work programme of the President;
- it examines and approves the management report of the President;
- it fixes the date and place of the General Assembly of the Group.
The Extraordinary General Assembly can meet either at the request of the President of the group, or at the request of two thirds of its members to examine any urgent question. In this case, it only deliberates on the agenda of its convocation, fixed for that meeting.
**Article 8**: The President of the group
The President of the group is elected for two years by the Central Council of the International Association of Judges.
He/she cannot be re-elected more than three times (Article 5, Paragraph 4 of the Statutes of the International Association of Judges).
He/she can designate a panel of Judges from member associations of the group, charged of helping him/her in the performance of his/her functions.

**Article 9**: Election of the President
The candidate to the presidency of the group is elected by the General Assembly which precedes the meeting of the Central Council during which the charges of the International Association of Judges are renewed.

**Article 10**: The person thus designated is automatically the candidate of the African Group to the post of Vice-President of the International Association of Judges, President of the African Group.

**Article 11**: Contribution
The African Group of the International Association of Judges is financed by the contributions from the International Association of Judges.
The General Assembly may fix an annual supplementary contribution to be paid by each member association.

Montevideo (Uruguay), November 20th, 2005.