

Constitution

1. Name The Society shall be known as the International Society for the Oral Literatures of Africa (ISOLA).

2. Object The Society exists to celebrate, study and promote the oral arts of Africa. It pursues these aims by organizing regular international meetings of scholars, oral artists and other interested persons, and by any other means the Council may from time to time determine.

3. Membership Membership is open to all persons who subscribe to the aims of the Society.

4. General Meetings General Meetings of the Society will take place during the international conference, which should be held at least two but no more than three years after the preceding conference. All members will be given at least one calendar year's notice of the conference, and will be invited to attend and submit proposals for papers.

5. Council At each General Meeting of the Society, an international Council will be elected consisting of a President, and two or more Councilors with powers to co-opt. The President will be elected at the General Meeting; an Administrative Secretary will be elected by the Councilors at their first meeting. At least one member of the Council shall reside in or near the venue for the forthcoming conference, which will be determined at the General Meeting. A local sub-committee of the Council will be formed in or near the venue for the forthcoming conference under the chairmanship of a member of the Council, to be elected if necessary at the first meeting of the sub-committee.

5.1 The Council will promote the aims of the Society in any manner it deems fit, and is also responsible through the local sub-committee for the organization of the forthcoming conference and General Meeting of the Society. The local sub-committee in co-operation with the Council has the power to co-opt members, to raise funds to subvent the costs of the conference and to establish conference fees. The Council has the right to levy a membership fee.

5.2 The President will represent the Society while in office, and take the chair at all meetings of the Council and at the General Meeting of the Society.

5.3 The Administrative Secretary will keep the minutes of the meetings of the Council, maintain a roll of the members of the Society and communicate with them.

6. Amendments to the Constitution Members should be given at least three calendar months' notice of any proposed amendments to the Constitution. Amendments to the Constitution will be agreed by a simple majority of members present at the General Meeting.