



CONSTITUTION OF THE BEIJING +30 AFRICAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

INSPIRED by the historic 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA) and its 30th anniversary (Beijing+30);

MINDFUL of the 70th anniversary of the historic 1956 Women's March to the Union Buildings in Pretoria, South Africa, including significant advancements gained by women's struggles for social justice and equality;

GUIDED by continental frameworks including the Maputo Protocol, the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA), and the African Union's Agenda 2063;

COGNISANT of the persistent challenges in achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in Africa, despite normative and institutional progress;

COMMITTED to a revitalised, intergenerational, inclusive, and consultative women's movement in Africa;

RECOGNISING the need for women to agitate, mobilise and inspire society towards the achievement of gender equality;

DEDICATED to supporting the implementation of national, continental, and global commitments on gender equality;

WE HEREBY establish this Framework Constitution to govern our collective action.

1. Name and Establishment

1.1 The name of the organisation shall be the **BEIJING +30 AFRICAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT**, hereinafter referred to as **“The Movement.”**

1.2 The Movement is established as a civil society-led, multi-stakeholder platform.

2. Vision

An Africa where gender equality is fully realised, women and girls are empowered, and their human rights are universally respected and fulfilled.

3. Mission

To revitalise, coordinate, and amplify the African women's movement by monitoring commitments, advocating for transformative policies, and facilitating collaborative action to accelerate the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and all related continental and global frameworks for gender equality and women's empowerment.

4. Core Objectives

The Movement shall strive to:

4.1 Monitor & Advocate: Systematically monitor and advocate for the implementation of the CEDAW, BPfA, Maputo Protocol, SDGEA, UNSCR 1325, and other relevant national and continental commitments.

4.2 Assess & Mobilise: Conduct candid, evidence-based assessments of progress, challenges, and gaps in achieving gender equality in Africa and mobilise public and political will for action.

4.3 Coordinate & Facilitate: Serve as a strategic coordination and engagement platform for civil society, governments, the African Union, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and development partners to promote coherence, alignment, and partnership.

4.4 Amplify & Support: Amplify the voices of African women, particularly rural women, youth, and marginalised groups, and support community-led and national-level programmes.

4.5 Catalyse Action: Develop and promote a clear, prioritised, and resourced Programme of Work for the post-Beijing+30 era (2026–2031 and beyond).

5. Guiding Principles

The work of The Movement shall be guided by:

5.1 Inclusivity & Intergenerational Dialogue: Ensuring meaningful participation of women of all ages, backgrounds, and diversities.

5.2 Subsidiarity & Bottom-Up Approach: Prioritising community engagement and ensuring local, national, and regional perspectives inform continental and global advocacy.

5.3 Solidarity & Partnership: Building strategic alliances across civil society, governments, and regional bodies.

5.4 Autonomy & Independence: Maintaining the identity of The Movement as a civil society entity while seeking constructive collaboration with state and related actors.

5.5 Accountability & Transparency: Holding duty-bearers accountable and operating The Movement with openness in governance and decision-making.

5.6 Focus & Impact: Prioritising a strategic number of key areas to avoid dilution of effort and maximise impact.

6. Priority Thematic Pillars

The initial Programme of Work of The Movement shall be organised around the following six Priority Thematic Pillars, derived from the AU Common Position and national consultations:

6.1 Inclusive Development, Economic Empowerment & Decent Work

6.2 Poverty Eradication, Social Protection & Services

6.3 Health, Rights & Ending Gender-Based Violence (including SRHR and GBV)

6.4 Education, Skills & Technology

6.5 Peace, Security & Participation in Decision-Making

6.6 Environmental Conservation, Climate Action & Resilience

Each Priority Thematic Pillar shall be guided by a dedicated Working Group.

7. Governance Structures

7.1 Governing Board

Composition

7.1.1 The supreme governing body of The Movement shall be a Governing

Board composed of a minimum of eleven (11) and a maximum of fifteen (15) members.

7.1.2 Members of the Governing Board shall be selected at a duly constituted meeting of the entire membership of The Movement, for a three-year term, renewable once.

7.1.3 In selecting the Governing Board, members shall ensure that the Governing Board is broadly representative and possesses the requisite competence, expertise, diversity and experience necessary to advance the Vision, Mission and Objectives of The Movement.

7.1.4 The Governing Board shall:

- Provide strategic direction;
- Approve Work Plans and budgets;

- Oversee the Secretariat; and
- Represent The Movement at high-level forums.

7.2 Secretariat

7.2.1 The Governing Board shall establish a **Secretariat** to provide administrative, technical, and coordination support and to manage communications, fundraising, and record-keeping.

7.2.2 Working groups shall report operationally to the Secretariat and strategically to the Governing Board through periodic progress updates.

7.3 Thematic Working Groups

7.3.1 Working Groups shall be established for each Priority Thematic Pillar and shall be composed of experienced activists, practitioners, advocates and technical experts.

7.3.2 The Working Groups shall be responsible for developing sector-specific strategies, monitoring tools, advocacy messages, and programme concepts.

8. Membership

8.1 Membership of The Movement is open to civil society organisations, women’s rights networks, social movements, professional associations, and individual experts committed to the Vision and Mission of The Movement in Africa.

8.2 A Membership Policy shall be developed to outline rights, responsibilities, and admission procedures.

9. Operations

9.1 The Movement shall operate as a flexible network, leveraging the existing structures and strengths of its members.

9.2 The Movement shall engage in:

- Policy analysis, research, and shadow reporting;
- Strategic advocacy at national, REC, AU, and UN levels;
- Public mobilisation and awareness campaigns;
- Convening dialogues, workshops, and commemorative events; •
Facilitating peer learning and sharing of best practice.

9.3 The Movement shall develop a clear Strategic Plan (2026–2031) and annual Work Plans with measurable outcomes.

10. Meetings and Quorum

10.1 Meetings of The Movement may be convened at any time by the Governing Board, on reasonable notice.

10.2 A quorum for any meeting of the structures of The Movement shall be an ordinary majority of the members present at the meeting.

11. Resources and Funding

11.1 The Movement shall seek diverse and sustainable funding from development partners, foundations, governments, and private sector entities aligned with its principles.

11.2 Resource mobilisation shall be guided by a dedicated strategy to ensure the independence and longevity of The Movement.

12. Amendments

This Framework Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Governing Board, following a consultative process with the broader membership of The Movement.