

**ASSOCIATION OF SENATES, SHOORA AND EQUIVALENT
COUNCILS IN AFRICA AND ARAB WORLD
(ASSECAA)**

**For Arab - African Partnership
on Various Levels**



**Overview on the Association and the goal
of its establishment and its executive organs**



Establishment

The process of establishing the Association started in Nouakchott , Islamic republic of Mauritania , when the presiding officers of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World assembled from 21 -23 February to discuss how to create parliamentary organ that enhances the cooperation between Africa and the Arab world and join upper councils (second chambers) in Africa and the Arab World , following the pattern of the European continent.

Some of speakers of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World met again in Rabat, Morocco from 6th to 7th June 2002 and agreed to pursue the establishment of a body to be known as the Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World (ASSECAA).

The presiding officers and leaders of the Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World assembled in Sana'a in the Republic of Yemen from 25th to 27th of April 2004 and unanimously adopted the Resolution that established the Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World, as well as the pertaining Statute and Rules of Procedures.

Member Councils

- 1-The National Council of Provinces of South Africa**
- 2-The Nation's Council of Algeria**
- 3-The House of Chiefs of Botswana**
- 4-The House of the Federation of Ethiopia**
- 5-The Senate of Gabon**
- 6-Al-Ayan Council of Jordan**
- 7-The Senate of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania**
- 8-The House of Counsellors of Morocco**
- 9-The National Council of Namibia**
- 10-The Senate of Nigeria**
- 11-The Senate of Kingdom of Eswatini**
- 12-The Shoora Council of Yemen**
- 13-States' Council of Sudan**
- 14-The Shoora Council of Saudi Arabia**
- 15-The Shoora Council of Qatar**
- 16-The Shoora Council of Bahrain**
- 17-The Shoora Council of Egypt**
- 18-The Senate of Congo**
- 19-The Senate of Burundi**
- 20-The Senate of Cameroon**
- 21-The Senate of Democratic Republic of Congo**
- 22-The Senate of Zimbabwe**
- 23-The Senate of Kingdom of Lesotho**
- 24-The Senate of Republic of Ivory Coast**
- 25-The Senate of Republic of Equatorial Guinea**



Objectives of the Association

- I) To encourage, support and strengthen parliamentary bicameral systems in and outside the African and Arab regions.
- II) To encourage, support and strengthen cooperation in economic, political, social and cultural spheres between the African and Arab regions and in the world at large.
- III) To regularly organize meetings and dialogues among Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in the member states and to undertake joint actions to advance cooperation and exchange expertise.
- IV) To coordinate the efforts of Senates and Equivalent Councils in regional and international conferences and organizations.
- V) To contribute in the parliamentary activities of Arabs, African and international Unions and effectively participate in the dialogues originating from them.
- VI) To deliberate upon issues of common interest within national and international spheres and to make appropriate recommendation and adopt practical resolutions concerning them.
- VII) To resolutely engage in efforts to deepen awareness of democratic values and concepts.
- VIII) To engage in the encouragement and protection of the role of civil society organizations and human rights.
- To support and expand economic & trade and development cooperation between Africa and the Arab world .

Organs of the Association

A) The conference :

The conference of the Association is the General Assembly of the Association ; it is made up of delegates from member Senates , Shoora councils . The chairmanship of the conference is entrusted to the host country .

The conference shall be convened at the time and place determined by the council to consider the issues proposed by the council; its meetings should be held by the presence of two-thirds of the members of the association.

B) The council :

The council is composed of two members representing each Senate, Shoora or council. (one of them is usually the Speaker) .

Member countries shall have the right to delegate other members as observers , provided that the additional number should Not exceed three.

The chairmanship of the council is according to the alphabetical order of member countries , and the council holding the chairmanship shall have the right to pass it over to the next member states in alphabetical order .

- The council shall enjoy the following responsibilities :
- Approving and endorsing the annual budget of the Association and audit andit report of the previous year .
- Drafting and amending the rules of procedures , drawing the financial and administrative regulations which shall be subject to the approval of two- thirds of the attending quorum.
- Appointing the Secretary General of the Association and his two Assistants
- Appointing an auditor for the accounts and specifying his charges .
- Reviewing the annual report of the Secretary General .
- Preparing the agenda of the conference and determining the subjects to be discussed during the meeting .

The General Secretariat :

Sana'a , the capital of the Republic of Yemen , is the Headquarters of the Association wherein the general Secretariat of the Association is situated .

The council shall appoint a secretary general from among experienced people in parliamentary affairs and of a scientific and administrative caliber for a term of three years renewable for one term.

The nomination from a member state shall be recommended by another member state.

The council decided the duties and salary of the secretary general .

The Secretary General of the Association shall have two assistants , one representing the Arab countries and the other representing the African states.

The council , upon the proposal of the Secretary General shall specify the appropriate numbers of directors and staff ; taking into consideration the required experience and representation of member states.

The General Secretariat undertakes the following tasks :

- Preparing issues , reports and documents to be submitted to the association's council and its conference for consideration.
- Following the implementation of the programs and activities approved by the council and the conference .
- Organizing and managing continuous communications among member councils and the Association and other international organizations .
- Reporting resolution and recommendations taken by the conference or the council to the member councils .
- Forming database concerning the member councils which shall be updated.
- Representing the Association in regional and international forums.



Glance on the activities of the Association

- The Association of Senates & Shoora and equivalent councils in Africa and the Arab World organizes annual meetings for its members to study issues of common interest .
- it carries out joint studies on political, parliamentary , economic , cultural and trade issues , as well as it encourages study visit exchanges programmes among member councils
- It can set up , upon a proposal from one of its members , an ad hoc group composed of speakers and presiding officers of parliaments Assemblies or their representatives to make a specific parliamentary study.

Address

Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and Arab World (ASSECAA)

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Email : assecaa@gmail.com

Web Site : <https://www.assecaa.org>

Chairpersons of The Association



H.E. Mohamed ould Errachid
Current President of the Council
of councilors of the Kingdom of
Morocco. Current Chairman of the
Association



H.E. Naam Miyara
Former President of the Council
of councilors of the Kingdom of
Morocco. former Chairman of the
Association 2021 to 2024



H.E. Abdelhakim Benchemach
Former President of the Council
of councilors of the Kingdom of
Morocco. Former Chairman of the
Association from September
2017 to October 2021



H.E. Dr. Omer Suleiman Adam
Former Speaker of The State Coun-
cil of Republic of Sudan.
Former Chairman of the Association
from 30 Mars, 2016 to
20 September 2017



H.E. Yalew Abte
Former Speaker of The House of
Federation of the Democratic
Federal Republic of Ethiopia.
Former Chairman of the Association
from 5 October 2015 to 30 Mars
2016



H.E. Ato Kassa Teklebirhan
Former Speaker of The House of
Federation of Ethiopia, Former
Chairman of the Association 2014

Chairpersons of The Association



H.E. Ali Bin Saleh Al-Saleh

The President of Shoora Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Former Chairman of the Association 2013



H.E. Kassa Gabriel NTISEZERANA,

Former President of the Senate of the Republic of Burundi Former Chairman of the Association 2012



H.E. Rose Francine Rogombe

Former Chairperson of the Senate of the Republic of Gabon, Former Chairperson of the Association 2011



DR. Mohammed AL-Cheikh Biadillah; Former Chairman of the House of councilors of the Kingdom of Morocco, Former Chairman of the Association 2010.



H.E. Ali Yahya Abdullah;

Former Chairman of the Council of States of Sudan, Former Chairman of the Association 2009



H.E. Late Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani; Former Chairman of the Shoora Council of Yemen, Former Chairman of the Association From 2004 To 2008

Management of the Secretariat



H.E. Abdulwasie Yusuf Ali

The Current Secretary General

From the Federal Democratic Republic of
Ethiopia



H.E. Mohamed Al

Tayeb the Current Assistant
Secretary General for Political
and cultural affairs from the
Republic of Yemen



H.E. Egwim Nkemjika

The Current Assistant
Secretary General for
Finance & Admin. affairs
from the Federal Republic of
Nigeria