

HUVO YA VATSONGA

1. NAME

The name of this organisation shall be Huvo ya Vatsonga, hereinafter sometimes referred to as (HYV)

2. LOCATION

Its location shall be in Gauteng, Gauteng Province, and Polokwane, Limpopo Province, but it may locate its office or offices as the Executive Committee may from time to time establish. However, it will have a national presence and mandate.

3. AIM

The purpose of this Council is to Promote and Protect the Culture, Religion, Language and Heritage of the Tsonga People of South Africa and the Interests of the Tsonga people and those who work and associate themselves with these above mentioned issues of the Tsonga.

4. OBJECTIVES

- 4.1. to encourage research and investigation in the issues affecting the Tsonga People of South Africa.
- 4.2. cooperation of the members; to hold public discussions and programs;
- 4.3. to encourage and promote the activities that promote and the culture, religion, language and heritage of the Tsonga people; and
- 4.4. to integrate the efforts of all those who are concerned with the promotion and protection as well as improvement of aspects affecting the Tsonga.

5. MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1. The Council offers two types of membership: individual membership and organization membership.
- 5.2. Individual membership shall be available to all persons engaged in the activities that pursue the aim and objectives of the HYV anywhere in the world.
- 5.3. Organisation membership shall be available to all organizations and institutions interested in the improvement of the aim and objectives of the HYV.

6. AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

6.1. Basic Qualifications

- a. Bona fide Tsonga cultural groups, irrespective of size, institutions and associations of cultural groups and institutions, including those that do not limit membership to Tsonga,
- b. Traditional Councils, religious, business, professional, women and student groups,
- c. Every affiliate of the COUNCIL shall appoint or elect a liaison officer for the purpose of interpreting the affiliate to the Council and the Council to the affiliate.
- d. The Council recognizes the desirability of organizing affiliates at (local municipality level), (district municipality or metropolitan level) and provincial level,

7. Affiliation Fees

The Council shall determine if its affiliates shall pay annual affiliation fees, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Council.

8. Criteria for Affiliation

- 8.1. Affiliates of the Council or groups applying for affiliation with the Council shall meet the following standards:

- a. All members of the governing board either of the affiliate or the group applying for affiliation shall be members of the Council.
- b. The affiliate or the group applying for affiliation shall have a functionally written constitution, minutes or a resolution associating it with the Council, a copy of which shall be filed in the executive office of the Council with an indication of the stated provision.
- c. Each affiliate or group applying for affiliation with the Council shall designate that its secretary and/or liaison officer submit reports at least annually to the Council, and that these reports shall include:
 - a. a statement of the membership of the affiliate;
 - b. a generalized report of an annual meeting;
 - c. the results of the election of officers if any;
 - d. a summary of projects undertaken or contemplated;
 - e. notice of special situations and problems as they arise in the area served by the affiliate; and
 - f. notice of special needs of the affiliate or its committees.
- d. Each affiliate or group applying for affiliation with the Council shall maintain some effective means of disseminating information among its members.

9. Executive Committee of the Council

- 9.1. The Executive Committee shall comprise of the Chairperson as the head of the organization and the Deputy Chairperson to deputise him/ her
- 9.2. There will be the National Secretary to coordinate the committee and its reporting and a Deputy National Secretary to deputise him/ her.
- 9.3. There will be the National Treasurer to handle all issues pertaining to the finances of the Council.

9.4. There will also be a Spokesperson to manage and coordinate all communication with the public.

9.5. Provincial, District and Local Structures will emulate the same structure.

10. Responsibilities of the Executive Committee of the Council

10.1. The Chairperson of the Council, assisted by other members, shall work to increase the services to affiliates performed by the Council and especially shall assume responsibility for the following functions:

- a. screening the applications of new affiliates;
- b. keeping records of the activities of the affiliates;
- c. preparing to visit affiliates for the purpose of appraisal and counsel to the greatest extent possible;
- d. working over a period of years toward establishing a vertical and coordinated sequence of responsibility and action between the affiliates and the Council;
- e. helping to create a desirable uniformity in the functions and purposes of affiliates;
- f. planning and initiating an organization of regional areas of the Council; and
- g. promoting positive and continuing programs of action among affiliates based upon the recommendations and policies of the Council.

11. OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT

11.1. Executive Committee Members

- a. *Authority.* The Board of Directors and other Council members present at the Annual Members' Meeting shall approve or disapprove official position statements on all issues affecting the Tsonga. An official position statement may also be adopted when the Executive Committee agrees on it at any of its duly constituted meetings
- b. *Election.* The Directors shall be chosen in the following manner:

- a. Each local, district, or provincial organisation affiliated with the Council and with dues fully paid shall be entitled to select one or more of its members who are also members of the Council General Meetings.
- b. Any member chosen to represent an affiliate shall be familiar with the affairs of the affiliate.
- c. All affiliates shall be entitled to nominate one of their members to attend all designated meetings

12. Election of Office Bearers

- 12.1. The members of the Council shall elect annually from the membership of the Council at local, district, provincial and national levels.
- 12.2. A nominating Committee of three members, all appointed by the Executive Committee of each level shall receive proposals for candidates in their area of jurisdiction.
- 12.3. The Council shall stipulate the procedures and calendar for nomination and Election.

13. Duties of the Executive Committee

- 13.1. *Membership and Quorum.* The office bearers of the Council shall constitute the Executive Committee at each of the four levels, which shall be responsible for approving official policies, and decisions concerning internal Council operations and structure.
- 13.2. A simple majority of the total number of voting members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- 13.3. The Executive Committee shall take actions on position statements on all issues approved by the Executive Committees at each level and those affecting the national level. But no level can adopt a position contrary to the national version.

14. COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council may appoint a committee or commission to deal with specific matters at any of the four levels.

15. MEMBERS ASSEMBLY

- 15.1. At local level, it will be constituted by all affiliated individuals and organizations based in that locality plus the incumbent local executive committee.
- 15.2. At District level, it will be constituted by all the executive committees of the local councils based in that specific district plus the incumbent district executive committee.
- 15.3. At Provincial level, it will be constituted by executive committees of all the districts in that particular province plus the incumbent provincial executive committee.
- 15.4. At national level, it will be executive committees of all the provinces plus the incumbent national executive.