Kenyans@MIT Constitution

We, students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in recognition of the need to build a strong Kenyan community on campus have decided to form an organization.

Article I (Name)
The organization shall be officially known as Kenyans@MIT of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Article II (Membership)
Section 1: Student membership shall be open to all Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) students, faculty, staff and alumni.

Section 2: Membership shall be recognized upon participation at Kenyans@MIT activities and subscribing to our mailing list.

Section 3: Membership shall participate in at least 3 fundraisers per semester.

Section 4: Membership will consist of at least 5 MIT students, and will constitute more than 50% MIT students.

Section 5: The Kenyans@MIT does not discriminate based on any characteristic listed in MIT's Nondiscrimination Statement.

Article III (Aims and Objectives)
Kenyans@MIT has adopted the following as its aims and objectives:

1. Promote Kenyan culture, art and heritage on MIT campus
2. Build a strong community and support system for Kenyans in MIT
3. Provide a forum to discuss current affairs and emergent issues in Kenya
4. Stimulate alumni involvement in Kenyans@MIT activities and events. Facilitate alumni engagement with students for vocational, academic and personal guidance.
Article IV (The Executive Board)

Section 1: The executive board is the main decision making body of Kenyans@MIT. It shall consist of the following officers:

1. President
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer

Section 2: The duties of the executive officers shall be as defined below:

The President shall:

1. Direct the affairs of Kenyans@MIT
2. Summon and preside over all general, executive, and emergency meetings
3. Coordinate the logistics of all Kenyans@MIT events
4. Ensure the cohesive functioning of the organization
5. Be the official voice and spokesperson of Kenyans@MIT

The Secretary shall:

1. Take minutes at both general and executive body meetings.
2. Be responsible for the general correspondence of Kenyans@MIT with the rest of the MIT community.
3. Send biweekly updates to the executive body and/or general body to facilitate the completion of tasks.
4. Send semesterly updates to alumni and donors with details of Kenyans@MIT progress, activities, events and future direction of the organization
5. Send appreciation calls/cards to donors, and event sponsors

The Treasurer shall:

1. Be responsible for all Kenyans@MIT financial correspondence
2. Be responsible for reimbursements
3. Be responsible for collecting all dues (if applicable)
4. Attain payment methods (SAO cash box, tech cash reader/forms, etc) for all fundraising activities
5. Give monthly updates on financial status of the organization
Section 3: All student members of Kenyans@MIT, as defined by Article II, may run for any one of the offices of the executive body.

Section 4: These are the regulations for electing executive board members:

a) The choosing of officers for the executive body by the membership shall be done through secret balloting at a general body meeting every spring semester.

b) All nominees for office should be present at time of election but, with prior arrangement, may be elected proxy.

c) The assumption to duty of Officers shall become effective two weeks after the election, and shall last one calendar year.

d) There shall be a pro tem President who shall preside at the meeting to elect new Officers. This will be the outgoing President if he/she is not seeking re-election.

e) Before the actual balloting, each candidate for each office may explain his candidacy, and give a general idea of his plans.

f) Each member of the Association shall have one vote.

g) There shall be no proxy votes or absentee ballots.

h) In case of a tie the pro tem President may, at his discretion, cast a tie breaking vote, before announcing the results.

Article V (Filling of the Vacancy of an Office)

Section 1: Elections must be held within 31 days after the vacancy occurs.

Section 2: In the event that an election cannot be held within the required (31) days, the executive body can appoint someone to the vacant office until the next general body meeting.

Article VI (Ad Hoc Committees)

Section 1: The executive body may establish ad hoc committees during the academic year as they deem necessary for planning events, drafting official documents for release, etc.
**Article VII (Financial Transactions)**

Section 1: All financial transactions shall be approved by one of the 3 executive body members whose signatures are authorized by Kenyans@MIT.

Section 2: The Kenyans@MIT executive body must have an annual audit and make a financial report to the membership.

**Article VII (Meetings)**

Section 1: A membership meeting shall be held at least once every month, during the school period.

Section 2: Emergency meetings shall be called by at least 2 of the executive body members, upon request of any member of the executive body or of the membership.

Section 3: Executive body meetings shall be called by the President.

**Article VIII (Quorums)**

Section 1: Two-thirds of the members of the membership shall constitute a quorum of any membership meeting.

Section 2: The three officers of the executive body shall constitute a quorum at any executive meeting.

**Article IX (Constitutional Amendment)**

The constitution of the association may be amended upon petition by a member, by means of a written request to the President, and on approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership.

**Article X**

Kenyans@MIT agrees to abide by the rules and regulations of the Association of Student Activities and its executive board. This constitution, amendments to it, and the by-laws of this organization shall be subject to review by the ASA Executive Board to ensure that they are in accordance with the aforementioned rules and regulations.