The Constitution for the Edward Bouchet – Abdus Salam Institute (EBASI)

The EBASI Constitution was adopted in Trieste, Italy on 9 November 2000.

Preamble

- Realizing the importance and role of science and technology, and in particular that of Physics and Mathematics, in the development of Africa;
- Considering the challenge, posed by the late Nobel Laureate Physicist, Professor Abdus Salam, to the population of African-American Physicists and Mathematicians in the USA, to contribute towards the promotion of Physics and Mathematics in Africa;
- Recognizing the fact that Edward A. Bouchet was the first person of African descent to receive the Ph.D. degree in Physics;
- Considering the successes already achieved by EBASI over the period of 10 years notwithstanding its small size as well as the financial limitations;
- Considering the untapped potential of the African-American Physicists in the USA to realize the broad objectives of the EBASI in collaboration with African Physicists and Mathematicians in Africa; and
- Honouring both Edward A. Bouchet and Abdus Salam;

the EBASI Council declares this Constitution to guide the operation of the Institute from the date of its adoption and as amended from time to time by the EBASI Council.

Article 1
Name and Headquarters

The Edward Bouchet – Abdus Salam Institute, hereinafter referred to as the 'Institute', is a non-profit making, international, non-governmental organization.

The headquarters of the Institute shall be located at the Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy.

Article 2
Objectives

A. General Objectives

The general objective of the Institute shall be the promotion of science and technology, and in particular Physics and Mathematics, in Africa with a view to strengthen the role of African scientists in the development of Africa through directing their scientific activities to the improvement of the quality of life of the African people. The Institute shall achieve this by promoting research collaboration between African-American Physicists and mathematicians in the USA with their counterparts in Africa, and by organizing conferences, schools and workshops in Africa and the USA to address specific development issues of greater relevance to the African continent.

B. Specific Objectives

1. To run sandwich programs for the training of African postgraduate students particularly at the level of Ph.D. under the general principle of the home institution offering the degree;
2. To encourage staff exchange between USA and African Universities that have staff who are participants of EBASI;
3. To organize schools, conferences and workshops on selected topics that have relevance to the development of Africa;
4. To promote collaboration and communication among African and African-American Physicists and Mathematicians, and with the International 'scientific community as a whole;
5. To increase scientific productivity of African and African-American Physicists and Mathematicians;
6. To popularize and promote science and technology particularly for the development of Africa;
7. To encourage international institutions and the private sector to support EBASI in particular, and in general increase their support in the promotion of science and technology for the development of Africa;
8. To do any other thing that will promote development in Africa by using science and technology.

C. Activities

The objectives of the Institute shall be met through the following activities to be sponsored by the Institute:

1. The creation of a data bank on the academic potential of African Universities and American Universities that have African-American Physicists and Mathematicians;
2. The organization of sandwich training programs particularly leading to the award of Ph.D. degrees by African Universities;
3. The organization of schools, workshops, and conferences on topics of greater relevance to the development of Africa;
4. The Support of staff exchanges between Universities/Research institutions in Africa and the USA, involving African-American Physicists and Mathematicians going to Africa and African Physicists and Mathematicians going to the USA;
5. The Acquisition of research equipment, books and Journals from Universities and Institutions in the USA and providing such equipment, books and Journals to Universities and Research institutions in Africa;
6. The forging of close contacts with Universities, institutions and organizations all over the world for the purpose of furthering the objectives of EBASI;
7. The use of the opportunities available at the Abdus Salam ICTP, the International Center for Science and Technology of UNIDO, and the Third World Academy of Sciences for the promotion of the objectives of EBASI;
8. The undertaking of fundraising missions particularly in the USA in order to promote the objectives of the Institution.
9. The establishment of regional Centers of excellence in Physics and Mathematics in Africa.
10. The initiation of any other activities that will further the objectives of the Institute.

Article 3
Membership

There shall be four types of members of the Institute:

A. Council Members

These are the individual members of the EBASI Council originally appointed by the late Professor Abdus Salam in 1988 and any other individual that will be appointed by the Council as a self-sustaining body from time to time.

B. Members

These are individual Physicists and Mathematicians working in Universities and Research Institutions and appointed by the EBASI Council in recognition of their demonstrated commitment to further the objectives of EBASI on a continuous basis.

C. Associate Members

These are individuals appointed by the EBASI Council in recognition of their demonstrated commitment to further the objectives of EBASI on a continuous basis.

D. Affiliated Institutions

These are institutions designated by the EBASI Council in recognition of their demonstrated support to EBASI on a continuous basis.

Article 4
Structure, Governing Body and Duties

The decision-making body of the Institute shall be:

A. The Council

The EBASI Council shall be the highest decision-making body of the Institute. The Council shall lay down the guiding principles and policies of the Institute for the purpose of enabling the Institute to further its objectives in the most efficient and elegant manner. As appropriate the Council shall elect a Chairperson.

B. The Executive Board

This shall be appointed by the Council from time to time, as a continuing entity to direct, as may be appropriate, the affairs of the Institute between sessions of Council Meetings. The Executive Board shall provide a report of its activities to the next meeting of the EBASI Council. The Chair of the Council shall serve as Chairperson of the Executive Board.

Article 5
Finances of the Institute

The funds of the Institute shall be obtained from:

1. Subventions and donations;
2. Contributions to support specific activities.

Article 6
Amendments to the Constitution

This Constitution can only be modified by the EBASI Council. Any modification shall be made at any of the regular meetings of the Council and passed by a two-thirds majority.

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