
SAINT AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA

THE SAUT STUDENTS UNION ORGANISATION CONSTITUTION

2008

Revised Edition 2015

Table of Contents

[PART ONE](#) 3

[ARTICLE 1: INTERPRETATION](#) 3

[ARTICLE 2: NAME OF ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION](#) 4

[ARTICLE 3: OFFICIAL LANGUAGES](#) 4

[PART TWO](#) 4

[ARTICLE 4: STATUS](#) 4

[ARTICLE 5: OBJECTIVES](#) 5

[ARTICLE 6: FUNCTIONS](#) 6

[PART THREE](#) 7

[ARTICLE 7: MEMBERSHIP, OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF MEMBER](#) 7

[ARTICLE 8: GENERAL CONDUCTS OF SAUTSO MEMBERS](#) 8

[ARTICLE 9: ORGANS](#) 9

[PART 4](#) 21

[ARTICLE 10: Office Bearers of the SAUTSO Government.](#) 21

[ARTICLE 11: Finance](#) 23

[PART 5](#) 24

[ARTICLE 12: Power to make rules](#) 24

[ARTICLE 14: Miscellaneous provisions](#) 24

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS WE the students of St. Augustine University of Tanzania have resolved to establish an Organization representing the students of the University to be known as Saint Augustine University of Tanzania Students Organization (SAUTSO).

Considering that, Article 25 of the St. Augustine University Charter provides for the establishment of an organization representing the students of the University.

Bearing in mind that, the said Students' Organization shall create, foster and maintain harmonious relations among and between students of the University, the academic staff, the University administration, the University community, the public and other student organizations inside and outside Tanzania.

Affirming that, the Students' Organization shall be run democratically by the students themselves and shall be responsible to the students and serve their interests to the best level.

Convinced that, the said Students' Organization shall uphold and pursue the mission and objectives of St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

Reaffirming that, the said Students' Organization shall promote among its student members the values of civic and social learning and responsible citizenship.

Therefore:

- A. SAUTSO after consulting the University administration will always be ready to join any umbrella organization catering for students at the national or international level and will make sure that she participates effectively in all youth activities as it seems fit to the interest of her members.
- B. SAUTSO will always advocate for transparency, democracy, rule of law, good governance, active community participation in all possible levels of leadership within and outside Tanzania and will further advocate for voluntary self-discipline and the sense of social responsibility.
- C. SAUTSO will always fight against social economic segregation, apartheid, poverty, ignorance, corruption and diseases so as to save her members at large.
- D. SAUTSO will always defend and advocate for humanity and human health within and outside Tanzania.

PART ONE

ARTICLE 1: INTERPRETATION

1.0 The following words shall have meanings assigned to them as follows:

1.1 “President” means the president of SAUTSO and includes any person who shall at any relevant time be discharging the function of the office of the president.

1.2 “Vice president” means the vice president of SAUTSO.

1.3 “Government” means SAUTSO government.

1.4 “Bunge” means the University Student Representative Council of SAUTSO.

1.5 “Mbunge” means any representative in the Bunge as stated in this constitution.

1.6 “Secretary” means the secretary of SAUTSO, and it includes Deputy Secretary authorized to perform any duties on behalf of the secretary.

1.7 “Informal meetings” means any unscheduled meeting of any SAUTSO organ duly convened.

1.8 “Office Bearer” means the president, the vice president, the Prime Minister, Secretary General, Ministers and Deputy Ministers (if any) and the principal Secretaries of respective ministries.

1.9 “Rules” means the rules made by the Bunge under provision of this constitution.

1.10 “Speaker” means the person who shall chair and preside over the meetings of the Bunge as the case may be and shall be elected as provided for in this constitution.

1.11 “Deputy Speaker” means the chief assistant to the speaker and shall preside over Bunge meetings in the absence of the speaker or in any case as stated in this constitution.

1.12 “Status” means the status of SAUTSO as declared under this constitution.

1.13 “Student” means all those members of the university community who are undertaking courses at the university as provided for under Article 7:1:1 of this Constitution.

1.14 “Finalist” means any SAUTSO member who is in his/her last year as student at the University.

The following abbreviations have been used in this constitution and shall have their long form as:

1.15 SAUT= St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

1.16 SAUTSO =St Augustine University of Tanzania Students Organization.

1.17 VONOCO= Vote of No Confidence.

1.18 Words, phrases, expressions and other grammatical signs not expressly defined herein shall be given an ordinary interpretation assigned to them depending on context and technique or legal expression and shall be given their technical or statutory meaning as the technical legal practice allows.

ARTICLE 2: NAME OF ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION

2.1 This constitution shall be cited as the SAUTSO Constitution of 2008 and shall be for the Students' Organization of St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

2.2 LOCATION

2.2.1 The headquarters of SAUTSO shall be at any place where all the University Administrative activities shall take place. The office premises shall be the officially accepted office.

2.2.2 The organization shall pursue its activities in Tanzania or outside as the case may be, if her members undertake official duties.

2.3 The officially accepted office shall not be contravening any By-Laws and shall be open all the time after lecture hours during academic year according to St. Augustine University of Tanzania almanac unless otherwise stated and/or provided.

ARTICLE 3: OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

3.1 The official language of SAUTSO Shall be English, Swahili shall only be used where effective communication cannot be facilitated save by the use of the same.

3.2 Any other language as the case may be shall be translated and documented in English Language.

PART TWO

ARTICLE 4: STATUS

4.1 SAUTSO shall be an organization of students working hand in hand with the University administration.

4.2 SAUTSO shall be the student organization which shall endeavour to fulfill its objectives to the best interest of its members in accordance with St. Augustine University of Tanzania Charter, rules and regulations made by the Council and Board of Trustees of the Catholic Universities in Tanzania.

4.3 SAUTSO under the leave of the University administration shall have power of signing and terminating any contract(s) that in one way or another affects or involves the SAUTSO members, whenever necessary.

(ii) During the tendering process, the one who meets the tendering requirements to satisfy the interest of the students and the University shall be given priority.

(ii) The tendering process must be advertised in public so as to advocate environment of fairness and transparency.

ARTICLE 5: OBJECTIVES

5.1 SAUTSO shall pursue its objectives without regard to race, nationality, creed, gender, age, HIV status or sexual orientation.

5.2 The objective of SAUTSO shall be:

5.2.1 To promote and protect students welfare and needs during their stay at St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

5.2.2 To establish a proper organization basic for communication between the University authorities and students as well as maintaining harmonious relations between students and academic members of staff, the University administration, non-academic staff and the university community in general.

5.2.3 To contribute to the intellectual life of Tanzania by furthering the image of the University as centre of excellence in terms of knowledge creation, skills building, effective entrepreneurship and formation of responsible attitude for the betterment of the student community, the University and the nation.

5.2.4 To promote love and respect for learning the pursuit of truth, and to ensure that every student understands his/her responsibility to educate himself/herself to the best of his/her capabilities and to search for knowledge for the betterment of humankind and in so doing cherish and promote academic freedom as an inalienable right of student at the institution of higher learning.

5.2.5 To stimulate and promote all desirable aspects of cultural development which includes the spirit and love for music, sport and art in order to keep the University a ground from which best talents are developed.

5.2.6 To ensure that every student has the right to believe and/or worship according to his/her belief without being interfered with by any other student in accordance with the laws of the land.

5.2.7 To promote and maintain fraternal relations with other students in institutions of higher learning in Tanzania, East Africa, and the world over.

5.2.8 To promote the spirit of voluntary activities in life saving or rescue operations especially during epidemics.

5.2.9 To sensitize her members to be necessary and sufficient catalyst in academic reform spearheading academic campaign in the country and elsewhere in leadership practice.

5.2.10 To prepare her members to defend the nation and be ready to advocate against all sorts of social-economic evils like corruption, ignorance, poverty, diseases, apartheid, tribalism, etc.

5.2.11 To ensure that, the Rule of law, good governance, transparency and active community involvement are given “priority” for the betterment of SAUTSO and the nation at large.

5.2.12 To do all such other things as may be conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objectives or any one of them and to question other things whatsoever, which appear to compromise the status of SAUTSO.

ARTICLE 6: FUNCTIONS

6.1.0 SAUTSO in pursuit of her objective stated in Article 5 herein may carry out any or all of the following functions,

6.1.1 To organize debates, seminars, workshops, conferences, congresses, study tours and symposia to enhance intellectual and political awareness to the students’ community.

6.1.2 To invite at any time without violating University time table and after consulting the University Administration, any distinguished personalities such as national, social, academic and cultural leaders to interact with the panel or group discussion, workshop, etc.

6.1.3 To establish academic, social and cultural collaboration by exchange visits correspondence conference/seminars and sport activities, with other higher learning institutions inside and outside Tanzania which are beneficial to the students and the University in general.

6.1.4 To undertake such fund raising activities as the students’ organization may deem expedient without prejudice to Article 8.2.1(v)

6.1.5 To publish her journals, books, newspaper, leaflets, magazines, recordings or otherwise through any other means of presenting information to the public in accordance with rule 5(8) of SAUT Students’ By-Laws.

6.1.6 To cooperate and communicate or otherwise promote relationship between SAUTSO and all students/youth’s organization and any other organization which share and promote objectives common to those of SAUTSO.

6.1.7 To establish committees, secretariats, commissions or any functional organs or task forces for the better carrying out of the objectives of the Organization.

6.1.8 To undertake any other activity or function in conformity with SAUTSO objectives.

PART THREE

ARTICLE 7: MEMBERSHIP, OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF MEMBER

7.1 MEMBERSHIP

7.1.1 Every person admitted to the St. Augustine University of Tanzania as a student for higher degree (postgraduate degree), degree, Diploma, certificate or any other award of the University including occasional and part time students shall become a member of SAUTSO upon admission as a student.

7.1.2 Membership of SAUTSO ceases when such member ceases to be a student of the St. Augustine University of Tanzania.

7.2. OBLIGATIONS

7.2.1 Every member of SAUTSO shall uphold this constitution and endeavour to educate oneself to the best of one's capability and to use one's education for the benefit of humankind. Every member of SAUTSO shall pay fees and annual subscription when due as may be prescribed by the University administration.

7.2.2 Every member of SAUTSO shall attend relevant meetings, regularly carry out assignments and be an example of self-discipline, industriousness, ethical and academic responsibility. He/she shall participate in all activities of SAUTSO and refrain from influencing SAUTSO or her office bearers in any way or manner which may appear to prejudice the status.

7.2.3 Every member shall adhere to student By-Laws as it is a condition for one's stay at the University in accordance with By-Laws of 1998 or as may be amended from time to time.

7.3. RIGHTS

7.3.1 Every member of SAUTSO shall participate in general activities of SAUTSO.

7.3.2 Every member shall be eligible to vote or hold office when elected or nominated except for presidential post which is reserved for Tanzania citizens only.

7.3.3 Every member shall receive all publications of SAUTSO (if any) as the case may be.

7.3.4 Every member shall have a right of appearance and appeal before SAUTSO that may determine the member's vital interest for SAUTSO and University at large.

7.3.5 Above all every member shall have the right of audience and of expression before all organs of SAUTSO and all her media provided that in the course of enjoyment of the right stated in this constitution nothing should be construed to entitle a member of SAUTSO to hinder in any way other members from enjoying the same.

ARTICLE 8: GENERAL CONDUCTS OF SAUTSO MEMBERS

8.1 Every SAUTSO member shall be obliged to observe the personal integrity, dignity and rights of other members. In any event when it is proved that any SAUTSO member has committed any misconduct he/she shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this Constitution. For avoidance of doubt, misconduct shall mean all disciplinary offences under the Students' By-Laws 1998 as amended from time to time and shall include but not be limited to-:

- (i) Financial impropriety.
- (ii) Sexual harassment as defined in the St. Augustine University Students by Laws 1998 as amended from time to time.
- (iii) Failure or refusal to respond when summoned by the disciplinary authority of SAUTSO.
- (iv) Use of scandalous, abusive, obscene or threatening language by any SAUTSO member against any other.
- (v) Using force or violence against or striking a fellow SAUTSO member during the course of students interaction.
- (vi) Conduct which does or is likely to cause damage, defacement or violence to person or property of a fellow SAUTSO member.
- (vii) Any violent and or conduct which is willfully intended to obstruct any of the SAUTSO meetings
- (viii) Any act or omission that severely diminishes or prejudices the status of SAUTSO and or its member
- ix) Using force or using violence against or assaulting a fellow student, an officer or any member of the University Community provided that such act occurred in the University Campus or any other premises rented by the University.
- (x) Act or conduct which is likely to obstruct or frustrate the holding of any academic or administrative activity or both;
- (xi) Maliciously damaging, defacing or destroying a wall, gate, fence, post or any other property of the University movable or immovable whether or not such property has been leased to any public or private company or person;
- (xii) Unauthorized use of, or interference with, any technical, electrical, installation or other service of the University;
- (xiii) Unauthorized possession of any University property;

(xiv) Refusal or failure to comply with a lawful order or directives given by any officer of the University or under an order from any appropriate organ of the University;

(xv) Knowingly giving false information;

(xvi) Failure or refusal to attend a meeting called or authorized by any other competent organ of the University when summoned to do so either verbal or by giving him proper written notice;

(xvii) Willful obstruction or interference with the work or proceedings conducted by any competent organ

8.2 Prohibitions

8.2.1 (i) Gambling of any kind is forbidden on the organization's premises.

(ii) The funds of the organization shall not be used to pay fines of members who have been convicted in court.

(iii) The organization shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and or premises to be used for political purpose.

(iv) The organization shall not engage in any lottery, whether confirmed to its members or not in the name of the organization or office bearers or government, or members unless with prior approval of the University administration.

(v) The organization shall not raise funds from members of the public for whatever purpose without the prior approval of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and/ or the University administration.

(vi) The organization shall not write or publish, circulate or be in possession of any material or information in print or electronic which is obscene or libelous and/or which contravenes or is likely to contravene the Students' By-Laws or the Law of the country or is likely to instigate religious conflicts.

(vii) The organization shall not allow its premises to hold drugs, be used for drug trafficking or allow members to be in possession, use or traffic in drugs.

ARTICLE 9: ORGANS

9.1 The principal organs of SAUTSO shall be

(i) Bunge.

(ii) SAUTSO Government.

(iii) Electoral Committee.

9.2 **Bunge**

9.2.1 There shall be a Bunge of SAUTSO which shall be composed of the Speaker/Deputy Speaker of the Bunge (Who shall preside over Bunge meetings), members of the SAUTSO Government (Ministers and Deputy Ministers), Bunge Secretary who shall be Secretary to the Bunge and elected members of Bunge from classes, hostel and off-campus zone(s).The members of Bunge from off campus shall be appointed by the president of SAUTSO as per acceptable allocations of off campus zones.

9.2.2 Members of the Bunge including the office bearers shall perform their duties and carry out their functions diligently in the interest of SAUTSO and in so doing they shall not seek or receive direction from any person, body or authority which are at variance or controversy to this Constitution or the Rule (s) of SAUTSO.

9.2.3 The Bunge shall convene two times per semester in ordinary meeting according to the dates in the University almanac, provided that the Bunge shall meet any time as the Speaker determines by notes as provided under Article 9.2.2

9.2.4 The quorum of the Bunge meetings shall be half of all members and its decision shall be carried by the consensus or by simple majority.

9.2.5 Every Bunge member shall be a member for two academic semesters and shall be eligible for re-election unless it is otherwise stipulated in this constitution.

9.2.6 The office Bearers and other members of the Bunge shall be entitled to be reimbursed for any expenses incurred by the performance of their respective duties as provided for under the rules unless decided otherwise by the Bunge.

9.2.7 Without prejudice to the generality contained in paragraph 9.3.2 the Bunge shall have power:

- (i) To approve or disapprove the name of the appointed Prime Minister as submitted before it by the SAUTSO President.
- (ii) To review and approve or disapprove policies and actions of SAUTSO government whenever it considers it necessary or desirable to do so.
- (iii) To consider the annual general handing over reports on activities of SAUTSO submitted to it by the government office bearers.
- (iv) To make provisions for all matters relating to funds of SAUTSO including but not limited to preparation of annual estimates of income and expenditure and periodical financial statements.
- (v) To approve or disapprove budget estimates presented by the Minister of Finance at the budget session that will be prepared by SAUTSO.
- (vi) To make provision in any appropriate manner for regular watching of books according to all organs of SAUTSO to ensure a sound, proper and efficient administration of SAUTSO fund. There shall be an annual audit report of SAUTSO according to the chief Internal Auditor of the University.

- (vii) To investigate and make appropriate disciplinary and legal measures against any of the SAUTSO member and or office bearer of SAUTSO government in cases of malpractice.
- (viii) To meet in ordinary session once each month provided that the Bunge shall convene a budget session every new academic year at the time when other University organs are preparing the University annual budget.
- (ix) To establish committees as may be found necessary for the execution of its functions.
- (x) To discuss and make final decision on approving a vote of no confidence (VONOCO) to the SAUTSO President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Secretary General and Speaker as provided under Article 9.2.7 of this constitution.

9.3. **The Speaker**

- 9.3.1 There shall be a Speaker of Bunge who shall be elected by members of the Bunge as per Article 9.2.1 of this constitution.
- 9.3.2 A speaker must be a member of SAUTSO and must not be an appointed or elected Mbunge. Once the Speaker is duly elected, among other things, he/she shall enjoy all rights of a Mbunge.
- 9.3.3 The Speaker shall preside over the Bunge meetings.
- 9.3.4 The Speaker shall cease to hold office if removed from office by resolution of the Bunge by vote not less than half of all the Bunge members if he/she violates Article 9.12.1 of this constitution.

9.4. **The Deputy Speaker**

- 9.4.1 There shall be a Deputy Speaker of Bunge who shall be elected by the members of the Bunge. The Deputy speaker shall be elected as per Article 9.2.1
- 9.4.2 In the absence of the Speaker or in any case the Deputy Speaker shall preside over the Bunge meetings.
- 9.4.3 The Deputy Speaker shall cease to hold office if removed from office by a resolution of the Bunge by vote of not less than half of all members if he/she violates article 9.12.10.

9.5 **Bunge Secretary**

- 9.5.1 There shall be a Bunge secretary who shall be the executive to the Bunge meetings.
- 9.5.2 The Bunge secretary shall be elected by the Bunge in the first meeting of the Bunge after General Election and can be any registered student who is not a finalist.
- 9.5.3 Any member who shall be elected to the Bunge secretary and he/she is any office bearer shall cease or resign to hold such a position.
- 9.5.4 The Bunge secretary shall be the documentary person in the Bunge meetings.

9.5.5 In the absence of the Bunge secretary the members of the Bunge shall appoint any member of the Bunge to assume the activity and the appointee shall cease to hold such a position where the Bunge secretary resumes his/her normal activity.

9.6.6 **Dissolution of the Bunge**

(i) The University Bunge shall be dissolved at the maturity by the President (or Vice President in the absence of the president).

(ii) When conflict(s) arises between the SAUTSO government and Bunge or within the SAUTSO government or within the Bunge the matter shall be referred to the Dean of Students and University Administration for final decision which shall be binding.

9.6.7 If a member of Bunge dies, is disqualified, or resigns the Speaker shall declare their seat vacant and shall appoint a special committee to oversee the process of the **BY ELECTION** as he/she thinks fit and reasonable within 14 days, or in any other reasonable time from the date of receiving formal information (confirmation) of the matter.

9.7 **The SAUTSO Government**

9.7.1 There shall be established a University Students' Government which shall be the central executive committee of SAUTSO and in the rules of the constitution shall carry out the daily functions of SAUTSO.

9.7.2 The SAUTSO government shall be the executive arm of SAUTSO and its office bearers are:

The President (who shall preside over the meeting), The Vice President, The Prime minister (who shall be the chief executive officer), Ministers, Deputy Ministers, The Secretary General, the President's office, Principal Secretaries, The Chief Advisor of the President, CRs and HRs unless otherwise stated elsewhere in this constitution and the constitutional rules. Article 9.8, 9.9, 9.10, and 10.1 of this constitution are hereby applicable.

Ministries of the SAUTSO Government

9.7.3 The SAUTSO government shall be composed of not more than eight (8) ministries. Subject to provision of this Article the following ministries shall be mandatorily established:

- (a) Ministry of Finance.
- (b) Ministry of Food, Health and Environmental affairs.
- (c) Ministry of Education.
- (d) Ministry of Law, Constitution and Parliamentary Affairs.
- (e) Ministry of Loans.
- (f) Ministry of Defense and Campus Affairs.
- (g) Ministry of Sports and Games.
- (h) Ministry of Information.

Each ministry shall have only one minister, one Deputy Minister and one Principal Secretary.

- 9.8.1 The President of SAUTSO shall be elected by simple majority of all total votes of SAUTSO.
- 9.8.2 All SAUTSO Presidential candidates shall be required during the nomination to obtain a minimum number of two hundred (200) supporters at least fifty (50) from each faculty which their running mates must be inclusive to qualify as candidates.
- 9.8.3 The President shall be the head of SAUTSO and Chief Spokesperson and shall preside over the SAUTSO Government meetings. The duties of the President, Vice President, and Treasurer will be as follows:

President:

- A. Act as a liaison between the students at the University, Represent the SAUTSO at the University,
- B. Respond to all issues and concerns expressed by students at the University, Inform and consult with the faculty and administration of the University,
- C. Facilitate all SAUTSO meetings, provide leadership to the SAUTSO Executive Board, and enforce policies of the SAUTSO,
- D. Assist in the development of annual goals for the SAUTSO and ensure, along with the Treasurer, that fiscal priorities reflect those objectives, in conjunction with the SAUTSO Treasurer, disburse funds approved by the Executive Board.

Vice President:

- A. In the absence of the President, temporarily take the office during the Executive Board meetings and project events.
- B. Coordinate with all Executive Board members to assist with SAUTSO events and communicate all workgroup proceedings to the President.
- C. Advise and support the Executive Board in decision making and project planning.
- D. Serve as a liaison between the organization, faculty, and administration.

Treasurer:

- A. Develop and maintain an annual budget for the SAUTSO Executive Board.
 - B. Prepare and present monthly budget updates to be presented during SAUTSO Executive Board meetings.
 - C. Approve all expenditures in conjunction with the SAUTSO Executive Board.
 - D. In conjunction with the SAUTSO President, disburse funds approved by the Executive Board.
 - E. Assist with fundraising efforts.
- 9.8.4 (i) The SAUTSO president in consultation with and upon the advice of the Vice President shall have powers to appoint and dismiss the Prime Minister of the SAUTSO without violating Article 9.8.6 and 9.9.4 of this Constitution pending approval or disapproval by the Bunge.
- (ii) The SAUTSO President after consultation with the Vice President and Prime Minister shall have powers to dismiss from office any appointed member of the SAUTSO government.

- 9.8.5 The SAUTSO President may if he/she deems it necessary and in the interest of SAUTSO but subject to provision of Article 9.8.4 appoint Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Principal Secretaries.
- 9.8.6 The SAUTSO President shall preside at any stated period of time and once he ceases to become President he/she will not be involved in any activity of SAUTSO as he/she performed as being the President.
- 9.8.7 The SAUTSO President shall have the responsibility of defending SAUTSO Government proposal and resolution when questioned to do so by any of the members of the Bunge.
- 9.8.8 For the purpose of expediency and prompt reaction to emergencies, the President may convene an informal meeting of all students provided that no resolution of such meeting shall be binding on it.
- 9.8.9 Save as expressly provided by the provision of this Constitution, the president of the SAUTSO government upon consultation with the Vice president shall have powers to appoint office bearers and members of the Bunge from time to time as provided by this Constitution. The President shall have powers to appoint not more than ten (10) persons to hold office as office bearers in the SAUTSO Government.

9.9 The SAUTSO Vice President

- 9.9.1 The Vice President of SAUTSO shall be elected concurrently with the SAUTSO president as the running mate as per Article 9.8.1 – 2 and 9.9.2 of this constitution.
- 9.9.2 The candidate for Vice President for this purpose shall be required during the nomination to assist the candidate for President of their choices to obtain minimum of two hundred (200) supporters at least fifty (50) from each faculty to qualify as candidate as per Article 9.8.2 of this Constitution.
- 9.9.3 The Vice President shall be the chief advisor to the president of SAUTSO in making and terminating appointments of members of SAUTSO Government, establishing Committees and Commissions in accordance with Article 9.8.5 of this constitution.
- 9.9.4 The Vice President shall assist the president in his/her responsibilities of defending SAUTSO proposals and resolutions when questioned to do so by any of the members attending at any of the Bunge meeting or elsewhere and shall observe the principle of collective responsibility for the whole time he/she will be in power.
- 9.9.5 In the temporary absence of the President, the Vice President can exercise such other duties as conferred upon him/her by the President.
- 9.9.6 Pursuant to an affirmative vote of no confidence and in reference to the doctrine of collective responsibility, the Vice President shall not be eligible to hold office of the President save only

where he/she had resigned from office or had submitted written allegation against the president to the Bunge within 21 days prior to the VONOCO.

9.9.7 If the Vice President dies or is disqualified from studies then the President shall appoint the new Vice President within 21 days who will be approved or disapproved by the Bunge.

9.10 **The SAUTSO Prime Minister**

9.10.1 The President after consulting the Vice President shall appoint the Prime Minister who shall be approved or disapproved by the members of Bunge. The Prime Minister shall be appointed from among Bunge members.

9.10.2 The Prime Minister shall be the chief executive officer of SAUTSO Government and shall be the chief executive of the SAUTSO Government in the Bunge.

9.10.3 The Prime Minister in his/her absence may appoint an acting Prime Minister from amongst the office bearers to discharge the function(s) for the office of the Prime Minister provided that such office bearers shall cease to act in that office as soon as the Prime Minister returns and assumes/commences to discharge the functions of his/her office.

9.10.4 The Prime Minister shall make sure that an annual timetable of meetings of all SAUTSO organs is prepared and maintained.

9.10.5 It shall be the responsibility of the Prime Minister to prepare and submit before the Bunge a brief report of the events that occurred during the representation of SAUTSO to any tour, symposium, seminar, workshop, conference or congress by any member or group of members of SAUTSO outside the University.

9.11.1 **The Secretary General President's Office.**

9.11.1 There shall be Secretary General in the President's office who shall be appointed by the President according to the provision of this constitution.

9.11.2 The Secretary General shall call and arrange the meetings after consultation with the President.

9.11.3 The Secretary General shall keep minutes and other records of the meetings to which he/she is a Secretary.

9.11.4 The Secretary General shall circulate a copy of this Constitution to any office holder, Mbunge upon request.

9.10.5 The Secretary General shall prepare and keep an up to date register of all SAUTSO members with entries denoting courses, year of study, sponsor, hostel/zone (in case of off-campus student), nationality and such other entries for smooth administration of student affairs.

9.11.6 The Secretary General shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the President

9.12 Termination from office.

9.12.1 The following circumstances/features shall cause office Bearer to leave the office or resign.

- (i) Suspension
- (ii) Impeachment
- (ii) Vote of No Confidence
- (iv) Dissolution of the Bunge
- (v) Postponement of study

9.12.2 Suspension

9.12.3 The Bunge meeting shall instruct Ethics and Disciplinary Committee of the Bunge to probe into the subject matter or the suspension of any office Bearer and report back to the Bunge.

9.12.4 (i) The Cabinet of SAUTSO may decide to temporarily remove from office, an office bearer as a result of any dubious circumstances surrounding his/her integrity in-service for avoidance of doubt. The President shall not be suspended by the Cabinet.

(ii) The Bunge may decide to temporarily remove from office any office bearer (President inclusive) and any other member of Bunge from attending the Bunge function and meetings as a result of any dubious circumstances surrounding his/her integrity in service.

(iii) An emergency meeting of Bunge may be called specifically to suspend an Office Bearer or member of Bunge as stated in Article 9.12.4(i) and 9.12.4(ii) of this constitution.

9.12.5 The Impeachment

9.12.6 (i) The Office Bearer susceptible to impeachment shall be SAUTSO President and Vice President.

(ii) The SAUTSO organ to impeach the President or Vice President shall be the Bunge, the outcome(s) of which shall be similar to those of a vote of no confidence.

(iii) The decision to impeach the President or Vice President may be necessitated by abusing of his/her power and as per Article 9.12.10 of this constitution.

9.12.7 **THE VONOCO**

9.12.8 If any SAUTSO member(s) is dissatisfied with service of Office Bearer and or any representative he/she or they can consult the Bunge so as to initiate the motion of Vote of No Confidence (VONOCO) against the said leader/person as per Article 9.3.1 of this constitution.

9.12.9 If the said leader/person has been proven not to be in service, the SAUTSO Bunge shall suspend him/her from Bunge while the VONOCO is being done.

9.12.10 The decision to move VONOCO may be necessitated by gross misconduct on the part of a leader. For the purposes of this subsection, misconduct means:

(i) Violation of the provision of this Constitution.

(ii) Sexual harassment (as defined by the student By –Laws 2011 as amended from time to time)

(iii) Financial impropriety/theft

(iv) Any other act that severely compromises diminishes or prejudices or jeopardizes the existence and or status of SAUTSO and or her member.

9.12.11 **Effects of VONOCO**

(i) If a VONOCO to the Vice President is affirmative she/he shall immediately leave the office/ resign and the post shall be vacant for a new appointment by the President pending confirmation by the Bunge.

(ii) If VONOCO to the president in person (as per Article 9.12.1(ii) and Article 9.12.1(iii) and misconduct of the like) is affirmative shall subject the President to immediate resignation and this shall automatically promote the Vice President to the presidency subject or not subject to By-Election as the Bunge may determine.

(iii) If VONOCO to the President in policy matter is affirmative, the President with his/her entire government including the Vice president shall immediately resign whereupon the Bunge shall take over as an Interim SAUTSO government pending By-Election subject to Article 9.8.8(ii) of this Constitution.

9.12.12 **Effect of Impeachment**

If the Bunge has resolved and declared to remove the President by impeachment, the effect shall be as those of the VONOCO under Article 9.12.19(i) and Article 9.12.19(iii) of this constitution.

9.12.13 If the President dies, is disqualified, impeached or resigns, the Vice President shall assume office for the remaining period.

9.12.14 If the Vice President dies, is disqualified, impeached or resigns the President shall appoint another person to hold the seat who shall be approved by the Bunge.

9.12.15 Subject to any rule regulating election if both the President and the Vice president shall be disqualified at once from holding office for personal matters upon approval by the Bunge, the Prime Minister shall call for election of the President and Vice President within 21 days.

THE ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

9.13 Electoral Committee

9.13.1 There is hereby established an Electoral Committee which shall be the overall supervisory organ of the SAUTSO General Election.

9.13.2 (a) The electoral committee shall be composed of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, the Secretary and other members of the committee, who shall not be more than 30. It shall be a mandatory requirement for the committee to have at least two Law students from third or fourth year to form part of the members of the committee.

(b) Any member appointed to hold office in the electoral committee shall be an independent and an impartial figure, a person of high moral standards who shall not be appointed to hold any office in the elected SAUTSO government to which he/she conducted the election.

9.13.3 (i) (a) The general election shall be supervised by the Electoral Committee which shall be elected 21 days before the General Election.

(b) The Electoral Committee members shall be elected by the BUNGE from within the BUNGE and other SAUTSO members who shall be present in the Bunge on the day of election.

(c) Any member of SAUTSO Bunge shall have the right to propose any member from outside the SAUTSO Bunge to be member of the Electoral Committee who shall not exceed eight in number. Any member of the Bunge who proposes any SAUTSO member from outside the Bunge to be a member of the Electoral Committee shall have the duty to notify him to be present at the Bunge on the day of election of the committee.

(d) The president, Vice president Prime, Minister, Secretary General President's Office, Speaker, and Deputy Speaker are not eligible for Electoral Committee.

(e) No member of the Electoral Committee can endorse or campaign on behalf of any candidate.

9.13.4 (i) Dean of students shall be the associate member of the electoral committee.

(ii) The associate member shall participate in all meetings of electoral committee but shall not be involved in any matter(s) of voting.

The Functions of the Electoral Committee

9.13.5 (i) There shall be the SAUTSO Electoral Committee which shall be responsible for holding SAUTSO general election and other elections.

(ii) There shall be the general election and other elections of The SAUTSO.

(iii) For the purpose of this Article other elections shall mean election of the speaker, deputy speaker and secretary of the SAUTSO Bunge or any other election referred to the committee by the SAUTSO Bunge.

9.13.6 (i) To announce the date of the general election and to update the election by laws.

9.13.7 (ii) To provide the election forms to the candidates two weeks before the General Election.

(iii) To screen the contestants.

(iv) The final screened candidates shall not be more than four (4) in each contested post and their names shall be presented to the University management for approval. The Chairperson of the Electoral Committee shall announce the presidential contestant with their running mates after the final screening done by the committee.

9.13.8 The distribution and number of polling stations shall be determined by the Electoral Committee. For the purpose of this Article, The Electoral committee shall be responsible for setting up election polls for all students from Certificate level, Diploma level, Bachelor degree and Masters level as long as reasonable and practicable.

9.13.9 Each candidate shall have one representative during voting and counting of the ballots as witness.

9.13.10 The election results shall be announced publicly by the Chairman of the committee immediately after the conclusion of the election.

9.13.11 The handing over shall be seven days (7) and not more than fourteen 14 days after the general election.

9.13.12 Any allegation made against the electoral committee shall be determined by the Corporate Counsel.

9.13.13 Any allegation should be supported by hard evidence and not by acts like hearsay, rumors, anonymous letters, and publications from social media.

9.13.14. Any person aggrieved by the decision of the electoral committee shall have the right to appeal within seven days after the announcement of the results. Every appeal made hereunder shall be directed to the SAUT Corporate Counsel by way of petition supported by hard evidence.

9.13.15 The Electoral Committee shall cease its functions after the SAUTSO general elections.

9.13.14. The SAUTSO Bunge may make rules to regulate students' election and matters incidental thereto from time to time as it thinks fit and reasonable.

9.13.15 Every SAUTSO member who wishes to **vie** for any post, be it a Mbunge, Class Representative, Speaker, Deputy Speaker, SAUTSO Bunge Secretary, President, Vice President, Electoral Committee Chairperson, Electoral Committee Secretary, Electoral Committee member, and any person to be appointed Prime Minister, Minister, Deputy Minister or Secretary must prove by a valid provisional academic results, that he/she has a GPA of three point five (3.5) and above, of the previous academic year(s) of study, save for first year students who will have to prove same GPA for a previous academic semester.

9.13.16 No candidate who desires to contest for any post in the SAUTSO government shall be allowed to side with any political party, tribe, religious denomination, or geographical location during the campaigns, elections, or in any conduct relating to SAUTSO affairs.

9.13.17 No member of Electoral Committee shall be eligible to be re-elected to the Electoral Committee. That is, a member can only serve as an Electoral Committee Member for a single term only for his entire life as a student at SAUT.

9.13.18 No member of Electoral Committee shall be eligible to be appointed to hold any office or position in the new government.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER, DEPUTY SPEAKER AND SECRETARY OF THE BUNGE

9.13.19(1) There shall be a Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary of Bunge who shall be elected by members of the Bunge subject to the following procedures:

- (a) The Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary of SAUTSO Bunge shall be independent members of high proven integrity and moral character who are not members of the SAUTSO Bunge or Government.
- (b) The Electoral Committee established hereunder by this Constitution shall be responsible for the election of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary of SAUTSO Bunge.
- (c) On election of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Secretary of SAUTSO Bunge the Electoral Committee shall screen and present two candidates in each post for election by the SAUTSO Bunge.
- (d) Once the Speaker, Deputy Speaker and the Bunge Secretary are elected the electoral committee shall cease to operate.
- (e) The Speaker and Deputy Speaker shall take oath of office before the Electoral Committee Chairperson.
- (f) The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for all sorts of SAUTSO Elections. Class Representatives and Hostel Representatives shall be conducted within seven (7) days after the general election every year.
- (g) The Electoral Committee shall take oath of office before the Corporate Counsel.
- (h) The Electoral Committee shall entertain all appeals save for appeals against the election of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, SAUTSO BUNGE Secretary and Presidential Candidates, which shall be entertained by the Corporate Counsel.

PART 4

ARTICLE 10: Office Bearers of the SAUTSO Government.

10.1.1 (1) The SAUTSO government shall be the executive arm of SAUTSO and its office bears:
The President, The Vice President, The prime minister, The General Secretary, President's office, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Principal Secretaries, The Chief Advisor of the President, CRs and HRs.

(2) For any person to be an office bearer he/she must qualify to be a Mbunge.

10.1.2 Any person who is elected to any office established under Article 10.1.1 in the order of the organ of SAUTSO shall be subjected to censure and recall by relevant organs of SAUTSO if it appears in any way to;

(i) Compromise, diminish or prejudice the status of member of SAUTSO.

(ii) Influence or have a negative effect on the freedom(s) and right(s) of SAUTSO shall be provided as stated herein.

10.2 Election Procedures

10.2.1 The procedures for election of Office Bearers and or representatives of SAUTSO shall be provided as stated herein.

10.2.2 The President and Vice President

(i) All members of SAUTSO shall be allowed to elect the President and Vice president during the general election.

(ii) Every member of SAUTSO has the right to contest for the position of president and running mate provided that he/she is a SAUTSO member and he/she is not a finalist or first year student save for Masters student who may contest during first year.

(iii) If before the general election the running mate disengages (resigns, dies or disqualifies) from the campaigns then the presidential candidate shall have two(2) days to nominate the new running mate who shall be approved by the electoral committee provided that two (2) days before the general election no such situation shall be allowed.

(iv) The general election shall take place in the fourth (4th) week of the second academic semester.

(v) The President and Vice president shall take oath of office before the Corporate Counsel.

10.3 The Speaker and Deputy Speaker

10.3.1 The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker shall be any member of the Bunge with regard to Articles 9.10.1 and 9.10.2 of this constitution.

10.3.2 The quorum of the Bunge members for the election of speaker and deputy speaker shall be more than half of the total Bunge members.

10.3.3 The election of the speaker and deputy speaker shall be held on the first meeting of the new Bunge.

10.4 The Bunge Secretary

10.4.1 The Bunge secretary shall be any member of SAUTSO.

10.5 Bunge members

10.5.1 Bunge member from each year programme and hostel shall be any elected member from the respective areas, with the exception of off campus Mbunge who shall be appointed by the President in accordance with the zone allocated.

10.5.2 They shall be elected in their respective courses and hostels provided that the election shall be held concurrently with the presidential election.

10.5.3 Any Bunge member when appointed to an office bearer shall cease to be Mbunge and by-election shall be conducted immediately to fill this post.

10.5 Class Representatives, Hostel representatives and zonal Representatives

10.5.1 Class representatives (CRs), Hostel representatives (HRs) and Zonal representatives (WHO SHALL BE WABUNGE) shall be any member of the class, hostel and/or off campus zone concerned. The name shall be submitted to the president's office for confirmation and they shall be executive officers in their respective areas.

10.6 Resignation from office

(i) Any office bearer or representative shall be deemed to have duly resigned from office or post upon giving sufficient notice to the body that elected or appointed him/her.

(ii) Such sufficient notice shall constitute a letter stating clearly the reasons(s) for resignation.

(ii) For the case of President and the Vice president the letter of resignation shall be addressed to the Dean of students, all SAUTSO members and the Speaker.

The Chief Advisor of the President

10.6.1 (1) There shall be the Chief Advisor of the President of SAUTSO government who shall be responsible for all advisory matters relating to administration, students welfare and governance of SAUTSO government. The office established hereunder shall be responsible for advising the President and the Vice President of SAUTSO.

(2) The office of the Chief Advisor of the President shall consist of not more than three persons to be appointed by the President and who shall remain unknown to other public members of SAUTSO unless the context require otherwise.

ARTICLE 11: Finance

11.1 The sources of funds of SAUTSO shall be the students' subscription fees, fees from various SAUTSO self-reliance activities and assistance from the University administration and the money from various donors.

11.2 Subject to the University Finance Regulations, the SAUTSO budget and all matters relating to finance shall be independent affairs of the SAUTSO government; to ensure efficiency and effective administration of funds and matters incidental and or consequential thereto;

- (a) SAUTSO shall have its own independent budget to be approved by the SAUTSO Bunge.
- (b) The Minister of Finance shall be responsible for preparing a proposal of the SAUTSO budget within sixty days after his appointment, and shall cause it to be available for discussion and action by the Bunge members.
- (c) The Dean of Students shall be eligible member on Bunge meetings concerning the SAUTSO budget. The Dean of students in budget meetings shall appear as an advisory party unless otherwise expressly provided by this Constitution and his/her views shall not be binding.
- (d) The Dean of students shall endorse his/her signature on the budget.
- (e) The Speaker of the Bunge shall cause a copy of the Budget to be forwarded to the University administration for implementation within seven days after its approval by the Bunge and the Dean of Students.
- (f) There shall be the SAUTSO Account to regulate inflow and outflow of finance within the Students' Organization and to ensure efficiency and transparency in matters relating to finance administration.
- (g) There shall be SAUTSO financial regulations to be made by the SAUTSO Bunge from time to time as it thinks fit and reasonable.
- (h) Upon receiving a copy of the SAUTSO budget the Bursar shall endorse his/her signature on the budget and within fourteen official days, the SAUTSO budget shall be transferred to the SAUTSO Account from the University Account.
- (i) For the purpose of this article the following shall be the signatories of SAUTSO Account
 - (a) The Dean of Students,
 - (b) The President
 - (c) The Minister of Finance

11.3 Subject to the student By-Laws and the written law of the country, any default on the use of money of SAUTSO shall be deliberated by the Bunge which shall present its finding to the University administration for appropriate action.

PART 5

ARTICLE 12: Power to make rules

- 12.1 SAUTSO government may from time to time propose rules and amendments thereon to the Bunge for ratification.
- 12.2 Such rules and/or amendments may also be proposed by any member(s) of SAUTSO through relevant organs of SAUTSO and upon recommendation shall be the responsibility of the Bunge.
- 12.3 Formation of Associations/Clubs/Societies.
- 12.3 Any member(s) of SAUTSO wishing to form association, club or society must present a copy of the proposed Constitution of the association, club or society to SAUTSO President who shall present it to the Corporate Counsel.

ARTICLE 13 Amendment(s) of the constitution

- 13.1 The Bunge when need arises shall appoint a committee to collect proposals, opinions and comments from the students and other legal personnel if it deems necessary, the effect of which shall be the preparation of a proposal for amendment(s). The proposal for amendment(s) shall be discussed and notified in the Bunge.
- 13.2 The Bunge shall communicate to the SAUTSO members through the Minister of legal affairs before, during and after the commencement of the bill to act as a new rule.
- 13.3 For inconvenience of doubt the committee for amendments shall be composed of two (2) members from the Ministry of legal affairs and any other not less than three (3) members from the Bunge.

ARTICLE 14: Miscellaneous provisions

- 14.1 A record of SAUTSO leaders, office bearers and representatives shall be kept in the SAUTSO official documents.
- 14.2 No member or group of members or any other person may use the title SAUTSO without the consent in writing of the President.
- 14.3 If any subject matter shall have not been covered by provision of this constitution then such subject matter shall be put before the Bunge for discussion pending decision/declaration by the Dean of Students.

