

**Constitution© of the
South African Pagan Council
Amendment No. 3
Effective: 1 November 2015**

17 Pages...

Index

Resolution

1. Preamble

2. Name

2.1 Mission Statement

2.2 Code of Principles

3. Aims and Objectives

4. Legal Standing

5. Membership

5.1 Conditions of Membership

5.2 Categories of Membership

5.3 Members under the National Age of Consent

5.4 Subscribers

5.5 Withdrawal of Membership

5.6 Refusal of Membership

6. General Council

6.1 Composition

6.2 Function

6.3 Duties

6.4 Quorum

6.5 Meetings

6.6 Voting

6.7 Representatives

6.8 Resolution of Conflict

7. The SAPC Congress

7.1 Composition and Permanent Positions

7.2 Function

7.3 Duties

7.4 Quorum

7.5 Meetings

7.6 Voting

7.7 Representatives

7.8 Minutes & Reporting

7.9 Resolution of Conflict

8. The Executive Committee

8.1 Composition and Permanent Positions

8.2 Function

8.3 Duties

8.4 Quorum

- 8.5 Meetings**
- 8.6 Voting**
- 8.7 Representatives**
- 8.8 Minutes and Reporting**
- 8.9 Resolution of Conflict**

9. Sub-Committees of the Executive

- 9.1 Chairpersons Functions and Duties**
- 9.2 Minutes & Reporting**
- 9.3 Resolution of Conflict**

10. The Committee for Independent Members

- 10.1 Composition and Permanent Positions**
- 10.2 Function**
- 10.3 Duties**
- 10.4 Quorum**
- 10.5 Meetings**
- 10.6 Voting**
- 10.7 Representatives**
- 10.8 Minutes & Reporting**
- 10.9 Independent Sub Committees**
- 10.10 Resolution of Conflict**

11. Affiliated Organisations & Groups within the SAPC

- 11.1 Conditions of Affiliation**
- 11.2 Congressional and Executive Committee Representatives**

12. Not-for-Profit CBO

- 12.1 Donations and Incidental Expenses**

13. Dissolution of the SAPC

14. Changes to the Constitution

15. Availability of the Constitution.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PAGAN COUNCIL
Amendment No 3
Effective Date: 1 November 2015

RESOLUTION

We, the South African Pagan Council, do hereby resolve to amend the Constitution of the South African Pagan Council, in accordance with the changed characteristics of the Council and in accordance to the original Constitution.

Reason for Amendment:

1. To make provision for the fact that the SAPC is no longer a Non-Profit Organisation and Public Benefit Organisation in terms of section 30(4) of the Income Tax Act No. 58 of 1962. It remains a Registered Religious Organisation, in terms of the Civil Union Act No.17 of 2006, with the Department of Home Affairs and a recognised not-for-profit Community Based Organisation (CBO).
The objects of the SAPC as CBO are to further the religion and philosophical teachings of Paganism in South Africa and to provide assistance where applicable to those members of the SAPC in need.
2. To make provision for the resignations, new appointments and to lend continuity to the Administrative positions within the Executive Council, in accordance to the Council's current needs and adopted characteristics. The Convenor and Registrar roles have now been combined into Convenor-Registrar, whilst the Council Public Relations Officer and Council Scribe have been introduced as permanent positions in the Congress and Execo (*sans vote* in the Execo), in order to assist in the day to day running of Council Affairs. Furthermore the remaining Founding Executive Committee Members (Dr. Retha van Niekerk, Damon Leff, Shanyyn Tamra Pearson, MJA Principe and Rayne Packery), have been appointed as the permanent Administrative Body of the Council.

All additions to the Constitution have been marked with an ()*

_____ in: Nelspruit
MJA Principe
(Registrar & Convener) Date

_____ in: Nelspruit
(Witness) Date

1. PREAMBLE

The SAPC is dedicated to facilitating the realization of the ideal of a unified national South African Pagan society. Its aim is to facilitate a forum of self-identified Pagans who wish to ascribe to its Code of Principles, to share ideas, thoughts and philosophies for the furthering of Paganism within our respective communities. The SAPC supports the idea of moral regeneration in society as well as the nurturing of environmental ethics in South Africa.

Regardless of whether you represent an existing Pagan Organization or speak only for yourself, you are invited to register as a member of the SAPC today. Help us realize the ideal of a united and cooperative Pagan front in South Africa.

2. NAME

The 'South African Pagan Council' herein referred to as the 'SAPC' and 'the Council'.

2. 1. Mission Statement

The SAPC is dedicated to facilitating the realization of the ideal of a unified national South African Pagan society.

2.2. The Code of Principles

- 2.2.1. As Pagans we recognize humanity's duty towards the environment and acknowledge that Nature is our Mother and teacher. We should strive to protect Her and to live in harmony with Nature.
- 2.2.2. We acknowledge the interconnectedness of everything and should therefore strive to practice kindness, generosity, right action, hospitality and cooperation.
- 2.2.3. We acknowledge equality of the sexes and should therefore not regard one above the other.
- 2.2.4. We should honour those who teach and acknowledge those who have given themselves in leadership to the revival and advancement of Paganism.
- 2.2.5. We should avoid gossip and the repetition of unverified facts, and avoid passing judgment on others. We should not promote a spirit of animosity towards other religious paths but accept that all are equal and equally legitimate under our Constitution. Humour about and critical discussions of other Faiths and Spiritual Paths, in order to learn or elucidate points in case, will be considered our legitimate right, provided this be done without derision or insult.
- 2.2.6. Honour is a sacred virtue. Let our actions be upright, causing harm to none. We should at all costs, avoid deceit, exploitation of others, fraud, violence, theft, abusive behavior, substance abuse and any form of action deemed illegal and detrimental to society.
- 2.2.7. We believe in religious freedom and should therefore be tolerant and accepting of other Pagan and non-Pagan spiritualities and religions.
- 2.2.8. We should remain true to our highest selves and strive to act with wisdom and strive never to do anything that would bring our religion and spirituality into disrepute.
- 2.2.9. We should be honest with others and let them know that we expect nothing less from them. Our word should be our bond.
- 2.2.10. Pagans should strive to obey the just laws of the land and its government.
- 2.2.11. Pagans should strive to act with dignity. Let our words, thoughts and actions be in line with our philosophy of life, respect and reverence towards all.
- 2.2.12. Pagans reserve the right to preserve our cultural and Pagan heritage (including the use and carrying of swords, knives and ritual tools) and traditions in the form of rituals, doctrines, practices and religious holy days.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The SAPC shall:

- 3.1. Participate in local, regional and national religious structures in order to promote and engage in Conservation and Interfaith dialogue and activities;
- 3.2. Participate in local, regional and national programmes aimed at religious community building and nation building such as the Pagan Freedom Day Movement;
- 3.3. Participate in parliamentary, inter-governmental, and legislative processes wherever these may affect issues of religion.
- 3.4 Agree in principle to abide by the SAPC Code of Principles.

4. LEGAL STANDING

The SAPC is a separate legal entity which will continue to exist despite changes in its membership. It will have the capacity to acquire rights and incur obligations independently of its members. The SAPC claims national representation for its members in accordance with Section 15 (15.1.2.3) of Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

Section 15 of the SA Constitution embodies the guarantee to freedom of conscience, religion, thought, belief and opinion. The scope of section 15(1) is twofold, namely firstly to demand the freedom to practice one's religion without interference from the state and secondly to demand religious equality. The right to freedom of religion is available to individuals and groups or communities and therefore has an individual and a collective dimension. Religious freedom is therefore a right that operates both as a liberty right and as an equality right.

The definition goes further and requires an absence of coercion or constraint by the state and the absence of measures that could force people to act in a manner contrary to their religious beliefs. The person who alleges such impairment has the onus to prove that there has been coercion or constraint that impairs his freedom of religion. The SAPC holds that the right to freedom of religion can only be impaired under two circumstances, namely, if there was coercion to observe the practices of a particular religion or if constraints were placed on the observance of one's own religion at the hands of the State. The SAPC also holds that the individual may in no way suffer constraint to their right to entertain any religious beliefs as they might choose, or to declare their religious beliefs openly, or to manifest their religious beliefs and rituals.

Section 15(3)(a) paved the way for the recognition of religious marriages concluded in terms of these religions and the designation of Religious Marriage Officers.

5. MEMBERSHIP

5.1 Conditions of Membership

- 5.1.1. Membership shall be open to all South African Pagans who are in agreement with the SAPC Code of Principles in terms of 2.2 of Amendment No. 3 of the Constitution of the SAPC (hereafter referred to as the Constitution).
- 5.1.2. Members must be aligned to the Mission Statement, Aims and Objectives of the SAPC in terms of 2.1 and 3 of the Constitution.

5.2 Categories of Membership

There are two categories of membership in the SAPC

5.2.1. Independent Members:

Members consisting of individuals who are not formally affiliated with any organisations and groups as well as members of organisations and groups who are not officially affiliated with the SAPC in terms of 5.2.2 and 11.2.2 of the Amended Constitution and have registered directly with the SAPC. Independent members are bound by the constitution of the SAPC and the operating procedure of the Committee for Independent Members (refer to point 10 of the Constitution). Any complaints concerning Independent members will be dealt with by the Committee for Independent Members and that Committee's decision will be binding. Independent members shall have full voting rights in the Committee for Independent Members and be entitled to one vote in any referendum of the General Council of the SAPC as well as proportional representation in the SAPC Congress and Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of 6.7.1 of the Constitution.

5.2.2. Affiliated Members

Those members who are registered with and afforded voting rights within an officially affiliated autonomous organisation or group as stipulated in 11 of the Constitution. Affiliated Members shall agree in principle to the SAPC Code of Principles and remain bound by the Constitution of their own organisations. Affiliated Members shall have the right to elect a representative to the SAPC Congress and Executive Committee of the SAPC in accordance with the provisions of 6.7.2, 11.1 and 11.2 of the Constitution. Affiliated members shall be entitled to one vote within any referendum of the General Council of the SAPC. Any complaints concerning Affiliated Members shall be referred to their organisation's official and mandated representative within the SAPC.

5.3 Members under the National Age of Consent

Members under the National age of consent may join the SAPC as Independent or Affiliated Members if registered by a parent or legal guardian. No voting rights will be given to members under the age of 18 nor will they be entitled to proportional representation in the Congressional Council and Executive Committee of the SAPC.

5.4 Subscribers to SAPC Community Services

Subscribers are those who do not wish to become Independent or Affiliated members of the SAPC but who wish to subscribe to the various community services such as the reading material on the Official website and the Forums on FB. They must be over the National age of consent. They have no voting rights and receive none of the other benefits of Independent or Affiliated membership of the SAPC.

5.5 Withdrawal of Membership

5.5.1. Members may withdraw by notifying the Convenor - Registrar of the SAPC in writing.

5.5.2. The SAPC Congress reserves the right to impeach any person or organisation who acts against the aims and objectives of the SAPC directly and to withdraw their membership after due consultation between the SAPC Congress and the relevant member. Membership may only officially be withdrawn on a two-thirds majority impeachment vote of the SAPC Congress. Any impeachment of a person, organisation or group and the withdrawal of their membership from the SAPC must be communicated to the General Council upon said impeachment.

5.6 Refusal of Membership

The SAPC reserves the right to refuse membership to any individual or group that is not aligned to the aims, objectives and principles of the SAPC

6. THE GENERAL COUNCIL

6.1 Composition

The General Council is comprised of all registered Independent and Affiliated members in accordance with the provisions of point 5 Membership of the Constitution. All members shall have equal standing in the Council.

6.2 Function

The Council shall function as a democratic representational forum

6.3 Duties

- 6.3.1. Members of the SAPC are required to act in a responsible manner so as to further the mission statement of the SAPC in general.
- 6.3.2. Members may be nominated to serve on Sub Committees of either the Executive Committee or the Committee for Independent Members (if eligible).
- 6.3.3 Members may stand for election as representatives in either their officially affiliated group/organisation OR on the Committee for Independent Members depending on their category of membership as prescribed in 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 of the Constitution.
- 6.3.4. It is the duty of all Members of the Council to directly report to the other General Council Members concerning any resolutions, actions or activities that do not comply with any provision of the Constitution.

6.4 Quorum

A 51% attendance (including the duly mandated proxies) shall constitute a quorum of any official meeting of the General Council.

6.5 Meetings

Meetings of the General Council shall be held as often as deemed necessary. Meetings of the General Council shall be chaired by the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC or another SAPC Member appointed by the Convenor-Registrar.

6.6 Voting

- 6.6.1. Each member shall be entitled to one vote in any referendum or election undertaken by the General Council.
- 6.6.2. Members of the SAPC may be authorized to act on behalf of absent members. Members properly authorized to act on behalf of absent members must produce proof of proxy directly to the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC at no later than seven days prior to any voting in a General Council Referendum.
- 6.6.3. The outcome of any normal Referendum (other than those of points 12 and 13 of the Amended Constitution) of the General Council of the SAPC will be determined by the majority (51%) of votes cast.
- 6.6.4. The Annual General Meeting will take place on a date that will be set by the Executive Committee of the SAPC once in each twelve month period. Notification of the AGM will be sent to the General Council by no later than 6 weeks prior to the AGM.
- 6.6.5. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC and the Public Liaison Office shall oversee all procedures in accordance with 7.1.2.2 of the Constitution.
- 6.6.6 The PRO and Scribe will each have an Independent vote (if not affiliated with any other group, within the General Council). The PRO may be called on by the Convenor-Registrar to cast the deciding vote, in case of a 50/50 deadlock.

6.7 Representatives

For purposes of maintaining the democratic representational policy of the SAPC, the following provisions have been made for the annual elections of Affiliated and Independent Representatives:

6.7.1. Independent Representatives:

- 6.7.1.1. The first 10 Independent members, as stipulated in 5.2.1 of the Constitution, will be represented on the Committee for Independent Members by the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC.
- 6.7.1.2. For every 50 additional Independent Members, a further Independent Representative will be elected by the Independent Members of the General Council in case a vote is needed.
- 6.7.1.3. These additional Independent Member representatives will be entitled to a seat on the Committee for Independent Members in addition to a seat on the SAPC Congress.
- 6.7.1.4. All Independent Member Representatives other than the Convenor shall be elected at a date to be determined by the Executive Committee in terms of 6.6.4 of the Constitution.

6.7.2. Affiliated Representatives

- 6.7.2.1. Every affiliated organisation or group with over 10 members is entitled to an Affiliated Representative who will represent their affiliated members as stipulated in 5.2.2 and 11 of the Constitution.
- 6.7.2.2. These Affiliated Representatives must be duly mandated by their members to represent them and vote on their behalf in the SAPC Congress. Proof of this Mandate and Proxy to vote on the behalf of properly registered Affiliated Members must be presented to the Registrar of the SAPC upon the election of an Affiliated Representative.
- 6.7.2.3. For every 50 additional verified Affiliated Members from an already represented affiliated organisation or group, a further Representative may be elected. These additional Representatives will be entitled to a seat on the SAPC Congress.
- 6.7.2.4. Each Affiliated Group with over 10 verified members will be entitled to a single seat on the Executive Committee.
- 6.7.2.5. If more than one representative from a single affiliated organisation or group has been elected, then the affiliated organisation or group shall elect which single Representative shall sit upon the Executive Committee of the SAPC in accordance with the voting procedure of their own organisations or groups.
- 6.7.2.6. Affiliated Representatives must be elected annually and mandated to vote on behalf of their affiliated organisations or groups and members. New Mandates and Proxies must be supplied to the Registrar of the SAPC at the beginning of each annual term of office.
- 6.7.2.7. If any affiliated organisations or group's total membership numbers should drop below the requirements of the Affiliated Status of the SAPC in terms of 11.1 and 11.2 of the Constitution, the Affiliated Representative(s) will be allowed to serve out their annual terms of office and may not be re-elected until the Affiliated Status is reconfirmed by the Convenor -Registrar of the SAPC. This does not apply to the permanent founding members. Affiliated organisations and groups whose total membership should become fewer than 10 members automatically become Independent Members at the end of their term of office.

6.8 Resolution of Conflict

- 6.8.1. In the event that members of the General Council become divided on opinion without fair resolution, any member may request the intervention of the SAPC Congress and Executive Committee to determine an appropriate course of action for the General Council to pursue.
- 6.8.2. The SAPC Congress may vote as and when required to resolve conflict in the General Council. All votes of the Congress must be mandated by a simple majority of 1 (51%). The decision of the SAPC Congress is final and absolute.

7. THE SAPC CONGRESS

7.1 Composition and Permanent Positions

The SAPC Administrative Body is comprised of several permanent positions namely the Convenor-Registrar, the remaining founding Executive Members (Clan Ysgithyrwyn, the Grove, Lunaguardia, Correllian Nativist Tradition) the Public Relations Officer and the Scribe. It also consists of any elected representatives from the Committee of Independent Members and affiliated organisations or groups in accordance with the provisions for Representatives in 6.7.1 and 6.7.2 of the Constitution.

- 7.1.1. The Convenor-Registrar is the permanent Chairperson for the Committee of Independent Members. As such the Convenor-Registrar is the permanent Independent Representative for the first 10 Independent Members on the SAPC Congress and shall hold the permanent seat for Independent Members on the Executive Committee as well as representing the SAPC as a legal entity.
- 7.1.2. The Convenor-Registrar is permanently appointed to this position to act as General Secretary for the Independent Members Committee, SAPC Congress and the Executive Committee of the SAPC.
 - 7.1.2.1. The Convenor-Registrar shall also liaise with and sign on behalf of the SAPC as a legal entity with any external authorities with which the SAPC is registered.
 - 7.1.2.2. The Convenor-Registrar shall oversee all voting processes within the General Council, the SAPC Congress and the Executive Committee.
 - 7.1.2.3. To ensure the neutrality of the voting process, the Convenor-Registrar (not being a Member Representative) shall not have the right to a personal vote in the SAPC Congress or within the Executive Committee in an ordinary vote.
 - 7.1.2.4. In the case of a deadlock vote in an emergency meeting of the SAPC Congress or the Executive Committee, the Convenor-Registrar may call on the Public Relations Officer to cast the deciding vote. In his absence the Convenor-Registrar may cast the deciding vote.
 - 7.1.2.5. In the case of a deadlock vote in a normal meeting of either the SAPC Congress or the Executive Committee, the PRO may cast the deciding vote if all Members present are in agreement with immediate resolution.
 - 7.1.2.6. All votes in any internal election shall be counted and deemed fair by the Convenor-Registrar, who may call on the PRO's for ratification.
 - 7.1.2.7. The Registrar, the Public Relations Officer and/or the Council Scribe shall record and keep the Minutes of all meetings of the SAPC.

7.2 Function

The function of the SAPC Congress is to act as duly elected and mandated representatives of the membership of the General Council

7.3 Duties

- 7.3.1. The SAPC Congress is responsible for the determination of policies within the SAPC.
- 7.3.2. The Representatives with seats on the SAPC Congress have the right to vote on behalf of the members they represent with regards to any decisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Congress if the conditions of 6.7.2.2 and 6.7.2.6 have been met.
- 7.3.3. The SAPC Congress is responsible for the Resolution of Conflict within the General Council in terms of 6.8 and within the Executive Committee in terms of 8.9 of the Constitution.
- 7.3.4. It is the duty of the SAPC Congress to report back to their members concerning all resolutions adopted in accordance with 7.8.3 and 7.8.4. of the SAPC Constitution.
- 7.3.5. It is the duty of the SAPC Congressional Representatives to compile and issue the annual report, in accordance with 7.8.5, to the Members of the General Council that they represent.

7.4 Quorum

- 7.4.1. A 100% attendance shall constitute a quorum at any official meeting of the SAPC Congress.
- 7.4.2. If a Representative of the SAPC Congress is unable to attend a meeting, a duly mandated proxy must be given to the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC no later than one hour before the scheduled meeting. Failure to do so repeatedly (three times) will be deemed as absconding to the appointment to represent the affiliated group and to the right to vote. Members of this group will be considered as independents and may be represented by the Convener. Members of this group may re-apply for Affiliated Status and elect another Representative to the Congress.

7.5 Meetings

- 7.5.1. Meetings of the SAPC Congress shall be held at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary.
- 7.5.2. Meetings shall be held in whatever manner the Representatives of the SAPC Congress deem fit.
- 7.5.3. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC must give not less than 72 hours notice to Representatives of the SAPC Congress to attend a normal meeting.
- 7.5.4. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC must give not less than 24 hours notice to Representatives of the SAPC Congress to attend an emergency meeting.

7.6 Voting

- 7.6.1. All SAPC Congressional Representatives shall be entitled to one vote per resolution to be decided upon.
- 7.6.2. All resolutions to be put to the SAPC Congress must follow the prescribed procedure:
 - 7.6.2.1. All resolutions must be proposed by a duly elected and mandated Representative with a seat within the SAPC Congress.
 - 7.6.2.2. All proposed resolutions must be seconded by a Representative of the SAPC Congress other than the Representative who proposed the resolution.
 - 7.6.2.3. All seconded resolutions must be voted upon by the SAPC Congress
 - 7.6.2.4. All resolutions will be adopted by the SAPC Congress upon a simple majority (51%) of votes cast.
- 7.6.3. All proxies must be forwarded to the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC in accordance with 7.4.2 of the Constitution.

- 7.6.4. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC shall oversee all voting procedures in accordance with 7.1.2.2 and 7.1.2.6 of the Constitution.
- 7.6.5. In the case of a deadlock vote in an emergency meeting the Registrar shall be entitled to call upon the Public Relations Officer to cast the deciding vote in terms of 7.1.2.4 of the Constitution.
- 7.6.6. In the case of a deadlock vote in a normal meeting of the SAPC Congress, the Convenor-Registrar may cast the deciding vote in terms of 7.1.2.5 if the Convenor and all Representative Members that are present are in agreement with immediate resolution.

7.7 Representatives

Congressional Representatives, other than the permanent Administrative Body of the Council, shall be elected in accordance with 6.7.1 and 6.7.2 of the Constitution.

7.8 Minutes & Reporting

- 7.8.1. All meetings of the SAPC Congress will be duly recorded in the form of minutes.
- 7.8.2. Minutes of the Congressional meetings will be made available on request to any confirmed member of the SAPC.
- 7.8.3. The SAPC Congress will report all adopted resolutions to the Members of the General Council via an electronic circular to be posted on the SAPC website and on the South African Pagan Council Speak Up Forum, on Facebook, no later than 30 days after the effective date of the adoption of said resolution.
- 7.8.4. Failure to report an adopted resolution without a valid reason to the general membership in accordance with 7.8.3 will render such resolution null and void.
- 7.8.5. The Congress will report annually to the General Council in the form of a report detailing the resolutions, activities and actions of the SAPC Congress inclusive of the annual reports of the Executive Committee and its Sub Committees.

7.9 Resolution of Conflict

In the event that Representatives of the SAPC Congress become divided on opinion without fair resolution, any duly elected Representative may request a referendum of the General Council to determine an appropriate course of action for the SAPC Congress to pursue.

8. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

8.1 Composition and Permanent Positions

*The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the permanent position of the combined roll of Convenor-Registrar in terms of 7.1.1 and 2 of the SAPC as legal entity, the permanent, remaining Founding Members, the Public Relations Officer, the Scribe and a single annually elected representative for each officially affiliated group in accordance with 6.7.2.4 and 6.7.2.5 of Constitution.

8.2 Function

*The SAPC Executive Committee is to act as the executive management and administrative body of the SAPC.

8.3 Duties

- 8.3.1. The Executive Committee is responsible for the strategic implementation of the policies and resolutions adopted by the SAPC Congress
- 8.3.2. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to appoint Chairpersons of Sub Committees to administrate the SAPC and to implement the strategies of the Executive Committee.

- 8.3.3. The Executive Committee is responsible for the Resolution of Conflict within their Sub Committee structure
- 8.3.4. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to report back to the SAPC Congress concerning the implementation of any and all adopted resolutions and policies.
- 8.3.5. The Executive Committee must compile and issue an annual report, including the annual report of the Sub Committees, to the SAPC Congress for inclusion into the annual report to the General Council in accordance with 7.8.5 of the Constitution.
- 8.3.6. It is the duty of the Executive Committee to act as the official spokespersons for the SAPC or to appoint an Independent or Affiliate Member as their representative.
- 8.3.7. To propose all decisions that require new policies and resolutions to the SAPC Congress in accordance with the provisions of 7.6.2. of the Constitution.
- 8.3.8. To hear and investigate all complaints that should be forwarded to the Executive Committee.
- 8.3.9. To close inactive and unnecessary Sub Committees of the Executive Committee.
- 8.3.10 *The Scribe shall produce teaching material for the Official Website, on a regular basis and together with the PRO, shall keep the records and minutes of every meeting and major events which may happen with the Forums and Pages, as well as official website of the SAPC.
- 8.3.11 *The Public Relations Officer will moderate all public pages and forums and manage the SAPC domain and website. He may issue Press Releases and speak to the media on behalf of the Council (after consultation with the Administrative Body of the Council) and in accordance to the Media Kits issued and published on the official website.

8.4 Quorum

- 8.4.1. A 65% attendance or their duly mandated proxies shall constitute a quorum at any official meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 8.4.2. If a Member of the Executive Committee is unable to attend a meeting, a duly mandated proxy must be given to the Registrar of the SAPC no later than one hour before the scheduled meeting.
- 8.4.3 Failure to repeatedly show at Annual General Meetings and submit an annual report, or when convened, will result in the Council perceiving this as absconding to the permanent appointment. Members of the Organization represented will then automatically be seen as Independent Members, represented on the Execo by the Convenor-Registrar. They may re-apply for representation on the Executive Committee once they have voted for another Representative and submitted the application to the Convenor-Registrar.

8.5 Meetings

- 8.5.1. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary.
- 8.5.2. Meetings shall be held in whatever manner the Members of the Executive Committee deem fit.
- 8.5.3. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC must give not less than 72 hours notice to Members of the Executive Committee to attend a normal meeting.
- 8.5.4. The Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC must give not less than 24 hours notice to Members of the Executive Committee to attend an emergency meeting.

8.6 Voting

- 8.6.1. Any administrative or strategic decisions that should require a majority agreement without the adoption of a resolution or policy may be voted upon by the Administrative Body of the Council.

- 8.6.2. Each Member of the Executive Committee, shall be entitled to one vote per issue to be decided upon in a normal meeting. The Convenor-Registrar represents the Independents.
- 8.6.3. All proxies must be forwarded to the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC in accordance with 8.4.2 of the Constitution.
- 8.6.3. A vote will be determined by a simple majority (51%) of votes cast.
- 8.6.4. The Convenor-Registrar shall oversee all voting of the Executive Committee
- 8.6.5. In the case of a deadlock vote in an emergency meeting the PRO shall be entitled to cast the deciding vote in terms of 7.1.2.4 of the Constitution.
- 8.6.6. In the case of a deadlock vote in a normal meeting of the Executive Committee, the PRO may cast the deciding vote in terms of 7.1.2.5 if all Executive Committee Members that are present are in agreement with immediate resolution.

8.7 Representatives

Affiliated organisations and groups shall have a single seat on the Executive Committee in accordance with 6.7.2.4 and elect a Representative to the Executive Committee in terms of 6.7.2.5 of the SAPC Constitution.

8.8 Minutes and Reporting

- 8.8.1. All meetings of the Executive Committee will be duly recorded in the form of minutes and it will be the duty of the Scribe to ensure that these are filed and always available for examination by the Executive Committee.
- 8.8.2. Minutes of the Executive Committee will be made available on request to any confirmed member of the SAPC.
- 8.8.3. The Executive Committee will report annually to the SAPC Congress in the form of a report detailing the strategic implementations of Congressional resolutions and policies within the SAPC.

8.9 Resolution of Conflict

In the event that Executive Committee Members become divided on opinion without fair resolution, any Executive Committee Member may request the intervention of the SAPC Congress to determine an appropriate course of action for the Executive Committee to pursue.

9. SUB COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

9.1 Chairpersons Functions and Duties

- 9.1.1. Chairpersons of Sub Committees will be appointed directly by and shall receive a mandate from the Executive Committee.
- 9.1.2. Chairpersons of Sub Committees will report directly to the Executive Committee
- 9.1.3. Chairpersons will have the right to appoint their own committee members from any Affiliated or Independent Member of the SAPC who is in agreement. Any appointed Chairperson shall have the right to implement their own operating procedures in accordance with their function and duties.
- 9.1.4. Sub Committees in existence prior to Amendment No 3 of the Constitution of the SAPC shall remain unchanged and unaffected by any changes in Amendment and will continue according to their original Mandate.
- 9.1.5. To refer any resolutions or changes required in policy to the Executive Committee for the attention of the SAPC Congress.
- 9.1.6. To represent the Executive Committee in a responsible manner.
- 9.1.7. To run their Sub Committees according to the Constitution of the SAPC.

9.2 Minutes & Reporting

Chairpersons of Sub Committees must issue a monthly report to the Executive Committee

9.3 Resolution of Conflict

In the event that Sub Committee Members become divided on opinion without fair resolution, any Sub Committee Member may request the intervention of the Executive Committee to determine an appropriate course of action for the Sub Committee to pursue.

10. THE COMMITTEE FOR INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

10.1 Composition and Permanent Positions

The Committee for Independent Members is comprised of the permanent positions of the Convenor-Registrar in terms of 7.1.1 and 7.1.2. The Convenor shall act as the Representative for the first 10 Independent Members registered directly with the SAPC in terms of 6.7.1.1 of the Constitution. Further Independent Member Representatives shall be elected in terms of 6.7.1.2 and 6.7.1.3.

10.2 Function

The function of the Committee for Independent Members is to act as a representational and administrative body for the SAPC as a legal entity and a Religious Organisation as well representing Independent Members in accordance with 5.2.1 of the Constitution.

10.3 Duties

- 10.3.1. It is the duty of the Committee for Independent Members to represent the interests and concerns of the Independent Members of the SAPC within the SAPC Congress and the Executive Committee.
- 10.3.2. To communicate regularly with the Independent Members with regards the policies, resolutions and actions of the SAPC Congress and the Executive Committee with regards to 7.8.3 of the Constitution.
- 10.3.3. To organise the voting procedures for the Independent Member Representatives in accordance with 6.7.1.2 of the Constitution.
- 10.3.4. To issue the annual general report of the SAPC Congress, Executive Committee and their Sub Committees to the Independent Members in terms of 7.8.5 of the Constitution.
- 10.3.5. To hear and investigate the complaints of Independent Members of the SAPC.
- 10.3.6. To resolve conflict between Independent Members of the SAPC.
- 10.3.7. To appoint internal Independent Member Sub-Committees to ensure the efficient administration of the Committee for Independent Members
- 10.3.8. To regulate the actions and activities of the Independent Member Sub-Committees.

10.4 Quorum

- 10.4.1. A 65% attendance or their duly mandated proxies shall constitute a quorum at any official meeting of the Committee for Independent Members.
- 10.4.2. If a Member of the Committee for Independent Members is unable to attend a meeting, a duly mandated proxy must be given to the Registrar of the SAPC no later than one hour before the scheduled meeting.

10.5 Meetings

- 10.5.1. Meetings of the Committee for Independent Members must be held at least once annually or as often as deemed necessary. Meetings of the Committee shall be chaired by the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC or another SAPC Member appointed by her/him.

10.5.2. Meetings shall be held in whatever manner the Members of the Committee for Independent Members deem fit.

10.6 Voting

10.6.1. Any administrative or strategic decisions that affect only Independent Members of the SAPC may be voted upon the Committee for Independent Members

10.6.2. Each Member of the Committee shall be entitled to one vote per issue to be decided upon.

10.6.3. All proxies must be forwarded to the Convenor-Registrar of the SAPC in accordance with 10.4.2 of the Constitution.

10.6.3. A vote will be determined by a simple majority (51%) of votes cast.

10.6.4. The Registrar shall oversee all voting of the Committee

10.7 Representatives

10.7.1. Independent Member Representatives shall be elected whenever necessary, possibly once a year, if needed, in accordance with 6.7.1 of the Constitution.

10.7.2. In the event that either the Convenor-Registrar is unable to perform their functions and duties for a limited period of time, other Independent Member Representatives must be appointed by them to act on their behalf in the Committee for Independent Members, the SAPC Congress and the Executive Committee for the SAPC.

10.7.3. In the event that the Convenor-Registrar should be unable to perform their functions and duties for an indefinite period of time for whatever reason, the Independent Members in terms of 5.2.1 must elect a new Convenor in terms of 6.7.1 and 7.1.1 of the Constitution.

10.7.4. In the event that the Convenor-Registrar should be unable to perform their functions and duties for an indefinite period of time for whatever reason, the Convenor shall appoint a new Registrar in terms of 7.1.2 of the Constitution.

10.8 Minutes & Reporting

10.8.1. All meetings of the Committee for Independent Members will be duly recorded in the form of minutes and kept for reference, by the Scribe and be available for immediate examination by Council Members and by the Executive Committee.

10.8.2. Minutes of the Committee for Independent Members will be made available on request to any confirmed Independent Member of the SAPC.

10.8.3. The Committee for Independent Members will issue regular communications to Independent Members detailing the activities of the Committee.

10.8.4. The Convenor-Registrar shall report adopted resolutions and policies as voted by the SAPC Congress in accordance with 7.8.3 and 7.8.4 of the Constitution.

10.9 Independent Sub Committees

10.9.1. A Sub Committee shall be appointed to regulate the SAPC as a Religious Organisation and the registration of Civil Union Marriage Officers among Independent Members.

10.9.2. The Committee for Independent Members shall have the right to appoint any other Independent Sub Committees necessary for the purposes of administration of Independent Members.

10.9.3. These Independent Sub Committees will operate according to a procedure as prescribed by the Committee for Independent Members and in accordance with their function and duties.

10.10 Resolution of Conflict

10.10.1. In the event that conflict should arise between Independent Members of the SAPC, any Independent Member may request the intervention of the

Committee for Independent Members to determine an appropriate action to be taken.

- 10.10.2. In the event that Independent Sub Committee Members become divided on opinion without fair resolution, any Independent Sub Committee Member may request the intervention of the Committee for Independent Members to determine an appropriate course of action for the Independent Sub Committee to pursue.

11. AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS WITHIN THE SAPC

All registered affiliated organisations and groups within the SAPC shall remain autonomous and continue to operate under their own Constitutions. The SAPC will not interfere in the autonomous operations of affiliated organisations and groups. Any complaints received by the SAPC concerning Affiliated Members, organisations or groups shall be immediately referred to an elected and duly mandated Representative of the organisation or group concerned.

11.1 Conditions of Affiliation

- 11.1.1. Any organisation or group that has in its Constitution aims and objectives that are aligned to those of the SAPC may apply for registration as an affiliated organisation or group.
- 11.1.2. Any organisation or group that has 25 registered members and over with voting rights within their own organisations and groups.
- 11.1.3. The SAPC reserves the right to withhold or withdraw affiliation from any organisation or group who acts against the aims and objectives of the SAPC directly.

11.2 Congressional and Executive Committee Representatives

- 11.2.1. Affiliated organisations and groups may elect Affiliated Representatives to directly represent them in the SAPC Congress and the Executive Committees in accordance with 6.7.2 of the Constitution.
- 11.2.2. Organisations and groups with less than 25 members shall be represented within the Committee for Independent Members in accordance with 6.7.1 until such a time as their membership numbers warrant affiliated status in terms of 11.1.2 of the Constitution.

12. "NOT-FOR-PROFIT" COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION

12.1 Donations and Incidental Expenses

The SAPC may use donated funds to cover incidental expenses inherent to the function and administration of the SAPC. No Executive Member of the SAPC may in any way benefit financially from the donated funds, but members in need, may receive a small cash donation at the discretion of the Administrative Body of the Council.

The donated funds will be used solely for the purposes for which the not-for-profit CBO was established. Such funds will not exceed tax exemption limitations and will be strictly for the covering of incidental expenses inherent to the Organisation's admin and function and charity work in emergency situations.

Should the SAPC receive food or clothing donations, it may distribute it amongst the needy members of the Community.

13. DISSOLUTION OF THE SAPC

The South African Pagan Council may be dissolved if it is no longer driven by its members to achieve its purpose and function, and if not less than two-thirds (67%) of its entire membership vote in favour of dissolution.

14. CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SAPC

This constitution may be amended by a resolution supported by not less than 80% of the permanent Administrative Body of the Council, after public consultation with the active membership of the General Council of the SAPC on the proposed amendment.

15. AVAILABILITY OF THE CONSTITUTION

A copy of this Constitution will be available on the SAPC website and may be issued to each new member upon registration, on their express request.

Signed Amendment (3)

MJA Principe
(Registrar & Convenor)

Date

(Witness)

Date