Statutes of SIOP Africa

Article 1: Name
SIOP AFRICA

Article 2: Aim
The aim of SIOP Africa is to improve and disseminate knowledge of childhood malignant diseases, and their management, in African countries.

Article 3: Objectives:
The activities of SIOP Africa will be developed in close co-operation with the organization of SIOP international.

1. To improve knowledge of childhood malignant diseases and life threatening blood disorders among children in Africa.
2. To promote scientific and educational activities and continuing professional development in pediatric oncology in African countries through:
   - The organization of educational meetings, symposia and international conferences to be held regularly in member countries.
   - The establishment of a platform for scientific publication.
   - A professional website, preferably housed within the SIOP website.
   - A regular electronic newsletter.
   - To establish, support and unify the use of treatment protocols through member countries of similar scientific standard.
3. To participate in the development of setting-specific guidelines for, and standards of training and care in paediatric oncology.
4. To improve the welfare of affected children and their families.
5. To encourage the establishment of support groups
6. To promote scientific relations with similar societies or associations in Africa and other continents.
7. To work with the regional offices of the World Health Organization to promote nation-wide and continent-wide health care for children with cancer.
8. To maintain the bonds of friendship between members and to foster such bonds with all people working in the multi-disciplinary team of paediatric oncology.
9. To develop the aims of SIOP Africa by any other means that SIOP Africa may consider necessary or desirable.

Article 4: Social Seat
The office of the SIOP Continental President of Africa shall be the office of SIOP Africa.

Article 5: Language
The official language of SIOP Africa is English.

Article 6: Membership
1. Any SIOP member residing in Africa will be a SIOP Africa member.
2. Any non-member of SIOP from an African country who is working or has worked with
children with cancer in Africa who wishes to become a SIOP Africa member and whom the SIOP Africa board considers as qualified.

3. Any non-African who is working or has worked with children with cancer in Africa and who wishes to become a SIOP Africa member, and whom the board considers as qualified.

**Article 7: Removal**
Resignation; death; loss of membership of SIOP.

**Article 8: Resources**
SIOP Africa is not profit making, but may raise funds to support the expenses of activities directed towards its aims, by any legal means authorized by the SIOP Africa board.

**Article 9: Board**

- A board of nine members shall conduct SIOP Africa.
- The board of SIOP Africa is chaired by the President who is elected by the African members of SIOP and who will serve on the board for a period of 6 years: 3 Years as President, 3 years as Past-President. He/she is not eligible for re-election as President. He/she will be responsible directly to the SIOP International board and may be invited to attend board meetings.
- A secretary-general is nominated from within the board and voted by board members, and will serve for a period of four years. The secretary-general handles administrative and financial affairs and is not eligible for re-election as secretary-general.
- Other members of the board are elected as representative of North Africa, Southern Africa, West Africa, East Africa, Francophone Africa, Nursing and Parent organizations. These members will be considered representatives of their regions and are expected to act in close liaison with established regional societies or associations. These members will be elected by votes of SIOP Africa members from each region, and will serve for a period of four years. These members may be re-elected once.
- No more than 2 members of the board may come from the same country.

**Article 10: Responsibilities of the board**
These include the designation within the board of a secretary general, and the administration and management of SIOP Africa and particularly:

- the agenda of the meeting of general assembly
- the execution of decisions taken during the general assembly
- The decisions regarding membership by non-SIOP Africa members
- the budget and financial affairs of SIOP Africa

**Article 11: Meeting of the board**
The board will meet at least once a year after notice is sent by the President or may meet more frequently at the request of at least five of the board members. Attendance at board meetings may be in person or by tele-conference. Decisions will be taken by an absolute majority of the votes of members who are present or represented. In the case of an equal vote, the President shall have a casting vote.
**Article 12: General Assembly**
All SIOP Africa members will be eligible to participate in an ordinary or extraordinary general assembly.

**Article 13: Ordinary General Assembly**
A general assembly will be held once a year. On each occasion, the President will give a report of SIOP Africa, and the secretary general will give a financial report. Members of the board will be elected if so needed.

General assembly meetings will take place at the SIOP Africa meeting. In years where there is no SIOP Africa meeting, the general assembly will take place at SIOP International Congress.

**Article 14: Extraordinary General Assembly**
An extraordinary general assembly will be held at the request of the president or at least four of the board members. Decisions will be made by a majority of the members who are present or officially represented.

**Article 15: Internal Rules**
They may be proposed by the board and must be approved by the general assembly. They will be designed to give directions about items that are not covered by the statutes of the society of SIOP Africa and to support the internal administration structure.

**Article 16: Dissolution**
This can only be initiated by a quorum of the general assembly. The board would be expected to designate liquidators.