

The Birth of a New Pan-African Political Science Association

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A pan-African professional organization of teachers, authors and researchers in political science, government and development administration was formed at a meeting held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 21-23 December 1973. It is called the African Association of Political Science (AAPS). The inaugural meeting was attended by thirty-two delegates representing twenty universities and institutes of development management (public administration) from four of the five regions of the Continent. According to the Economic Commission for Africa, the five regions of the continent are: West, Central, Northern, Eastern and Southern Africa.

The list of participants at the inaugural meeting is given below. Several delegates who wished to attend were unable to raise the money for air tickets. Because there was no delegate from Northern Africa, a special meeting for that region alone was convened in Cairo in February 1974.

The constituency of the Association will be the Departments of Political Science and the Institutes of Development Administration in African universities. It will register and receive the membership of these institutions and individuals teaching or researching therein, in Government service or elsewhere. Full membership will be reserved for persons working in these institutions and Governments in Africa, but persons with an academic interest in Africa living in Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, North America, Western or Eastern Europe can become associate members, either individually or through their institutions.

The general purpose of the Association is to make the teaching of political science and development administration relevant to the continent and its problems. The sponsors felt that the teaching of political science needed to be removed from its colonial and neo-colonial background, and be made relevant to the on-going struggles for political and economic independence in Africa today. The Association agreed to seek appropriate association with the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Association of African Universities and other organizations at the discretion of the Executive. In particular, the Association will endeavour to render its constructive services to the OAU and the member States in any part of the continent and on any problem on which it has competence and expertise. It was pointed out that members of the Association may have to make sacrifices and take risks for the bold solutions of critical African problems.

The variety and complexity of problems of politics, government and administration in Africa became apparent when the inaugural meeting discussed the Constitution. It was agreed that its aims and objectives should include:

maintaining high professional standards of teaching and research; encouraging cooperation and collaboration among African scholars; disseminating research findings on crucial African problems to African scholars; and taking appropriate action concerning issues of social and political justice; more importantly, to seek collaboration and cooperation with statesmen and implementers of policy in our Governments.

A copy of the Constitution is published in this issue for the information of potential institutional and individual members, and the general public. The preparatory meeting held in Dar es Salaam in November 1973, the inaugural meeting of December 1973, and the regional meeting held in Cairo in February 1974, considered each and every Article of this Constitution. It now represents the considered opinion of the scholars who participated in those three meetings. Under Article XIII, machinery was created for amending and revising the Constitution at the discretion of the majority of the members. The working languages are Arabic, French and English.

The inaugural meeting agreed to encourage the formation of national associations in all independent African States, which will be affiliated to the Association. Representatives of national associations may send observers to any meeting of the Association. Although the Constitution provides for regional Vice-Presidents, it was felt that national associations should affiliate directly with the Association without having to form a regional association.

It was stressed that the Association should be financially self-reliant and should be funded primarily by African Governments, universities, development management institutes, the OAU, the League of Arab States and UNESCO. Local costs for conferences, seminars and research meetings should be met by the educational institution of the host country. Membership fees were set at:

Corporate members	\$100
Full or associate members	\$ 15
Students (undergraduate) members	\$ 5

The inaugural conference elected the following officers:

- Professor A. H. Rweyemamu—Head, Department of Political Science, University of Dar es Salaam—President;
- Professor Babatunde Williams—Head, Department of Political Science, University of Lagos, Nigeria—Deputy President and Vice-President for West Africa;
- Professor Negussay Ayelle—Head, Department of Government, Haile Selassie I University, Addis Ababa—Vice-President for East Africa;
- Mr Simbi Mubako—Lecturer, Faculty of Law, University of Zambia—Vice-President for Southern Africa;
- Mr Owona Joseph—Professor, Department of Law and Politics, University of Cameroon—Vice-President for Central Africa;
- Dr Malik Ouda—Professor, Department of Political Science, Cairo University, Egypt—Vice-President for Northern Africa;
- Dr Ali Mazrui—Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, USA—Committee Member;

Dr John Okumu—Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania—Committee Member;

Mr Nathan Shamuyarira—Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science, University of Dar es Salaam—General Secretary.

Officers will be elected every two years at a properly convened and constituted general conference (Article VII).

The following persons attended the inaugural meeting in Dar es Salaam, December 1973:

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| N. M. Shamuyarira, Chairman | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Claude Ake | Carleton University, Canada |
| Negussay Ayelle | Haile Selassie I Univ., Addis Ababa |
| Rweikiza Baguma | Institute of Development Management, Mzumbe, Tanzania |
| M. J. Balogun | Institute of Admin., University of Ife |
| Ali K. Galied | Somali Institute of Public Administration, Somalia |
| Cherry Gertzel | University of Zambia |
| Abdul Jalloh | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Owona Joseph | University of Yaoundé, Cameroon |
| K. Kahama | Institute of Development Management, Mzumbe, Tanzania |
| M. L. Kintu | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| C. C. Liundi | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Justin Maeda | Kivukoni College, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Yau Manu | University of Ghana |
| Augustine Mahiga | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Alan Macartney | University of Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland |
| J. M. Makwetta | Institute of Development Management, Mzumbe, Tanzania |
| Ali A. Mazrui | University of Michigan, USA |
| David Morrison | University of Zambia |
| A. B. Mujaju | University of Makerere, Uganda |
| Ruzwidzo Murapa | Cornell University, USA |
| Gelase Mutahaba | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Issac Nguema | National University of Gabon |
| Okwudiba Nnoli | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Nicholas Nyangira | University of Nairobi, Kenya |
| Ntajala Nzongola | National University of Zaire |
| John Okumu | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| A. H. Rweyemamu | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| Yashpal Tandon | University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania |
| William Tordoff | University of Manchester, UK |
| Babatunde Williams | University of Lagos, Nigeria |
| Linda Roemer | Recorder |

At its first meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya, in March 1974, the Executive decided that the next congress will be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, in September 1975.

The Executive discussed and approved twelve research projects to be undertaken during 1974/75. Copies of research projects are available on request from: The General Secretary, University of Dar es Salaam, P.O. Box 35042, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Constitution of the African Association of Political Science

Article I—Name

The Association shall be known as the AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF POLITICAL SCIENCE (AAPS).

Article II—Purposes

The purposes of the Association shall be:

1. To promote the study and application of political science throughout Africa by:
 - (a) maintaining high professional standards in teaching, research and publication;
 - (b) disseminating research findings; and
 - (c) encouraging cooperation at individual and institutional levels, e.g., by the exchange of teachers and students, and the holding of seminars and conferences.
2. To take appropriate action concerning issues of social and political justice of significance to the Association and its members.
3. To provide assistance to independent African Governments and to individuals and organizations in a manner compatible with the goals of the Association.
4. To promote and protect the professional and other concerns of the Association and its members.

Article III—Membership

1. Membership of the Association shall be both corporate and individual.
2. (a) Corporate membership shall be open to all Departments or Institutions of Political Science and the study of government and public affairs in independent Africa. These would include institutions of Public Administration, Public Law and International Relations.
 - (b) Associate corporate membership shall be open to all Departments or Institutions of Political Science and the study of government and public affairs outside Africa.
3. Individual membership
 - (a) There shall be 3 categories of individual membership:
 - (i) full members, with voting rights;
 - (ii) associate members, without voting rights;
 - (iii) student members, without voting rights.
 - (b) Full membership shall be open to:
 - (i) African political scientists, working inside and outside Africa;