



Building capacity for Water Resources Management in Southern Africa

REVISED GUIDELINES FOR WATERNET MEMBERSHIP

Revised by decision of the 10th Annual General Meeting, Entebbe, Uganda, 29 October 2009

1. Classification of Membership, Benefits and Obligations:

WaterNet is a regional network whose membership is drawn from the region from institutions that subscribed to the principles of IWRM as well as the overall objectives of the network. The increasing number of applications against limited resources has necessitated that the network comes up with clear guidelines on membership, highlighting the benefits and obligations. Four such categories of membership have been identified:

- a) **Core Member** – An organisation established within SADC involved in education, training and research not for profit such as university departments/research institutions. This shall include non-SADC founding members.
- b) **Supporting Member** – an organization which supports or co-funds activities with WaterNet such as UNESCO-IHE, GWP-SA, and SADC.
- c) **Associate Member**- a profit-making organization or an a institution from outside the SADC region which also subscribes to the principles of IWRM.

NB: Only representatives of Core Members shall be eligible for election to the Board of Trustees. Non-SADC members admitted prior to formation of Trust shall retain Core-membership.

Core and associate members pay an annual subscription of €300.00.

2. Benefits, Rights and Obligations for Associate Members

- i. **Associate members cannot apply directly to access any of the following WaterNet funds:** Nodal Strengthening Fund, Symposium Fund, Publication Fund, Fellowship Fund, Professorial Chair Fund, Professional Training Fund, Language Course Fund, and Staff Development Fund. However, Associate members can access Staff Exchange Fund by partnering with a Core Member.
- ii. **Associate Members can also benefit in others ways such as** Collaboration- teaching courses, research, information sharing and capacity building.
- iii. Associate members shall be invited to attend the AGM as observers, and they shall have no voting rights. They shall not become members of the Board of Trustees.

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3. Definition of a Member and Level of Admission

In a university system, the lowest level for admitting members shall be at the Faculty or the equivalent level. For any new applications for membership, departments/units within the same faculty shall be encouraged to submit a joint application so that the faculty becomes the member.

4. Admission Criteria

In addition to the existing rules, the following points are recommended. An institution applying for membership shall be requested to submit the following information:

- i. Specify the proposed contribution to Waternet.
- ii. Resources which the prospective member has to enable it to contribute to Waternet's activities.
- iii. A 3 year work plan showing how the prospective member will implement the proposed contributions.
- iv. A supporting letter from the Head of the Institution.

5. Rules for Continued Membership

The procedures for continued membership or resignation from the network are outlined in the Deed of Trust. However, the Board may expel from the network any member that fails to fulfill WaterNet's duties and obligations. The Secretariat will maintain a file for each member documenting the contributions that every member makes to Waternet. Each member shall be required to submit an annual report documenting its contributions/participation in Waternet.

In case of inactive members the following procedures shall apply:

- a) In the event that a member has not both (i) submitted an annual report and (ii) paid its current subscription dues and arrears, the member shall be given a **warning** and shall not be eligible to accessing WaterNet symposium funds.
- b) If a member has not submitted annual reports and paid its subscription dues and arrears for **two** consecutive years, the AGM shall **suspend access to all funds** and the member shall be suspended from Waternet with official communication going to the head of the institution.
- c) A suspended member shall lose voting rights.
- d) If a member has not submitted annual reports and paid its subscription dues and arrears for 3 consecutive years **the member shall be expelled from Waternet.**
- e) An expelled member may apply for re-admission after two years from the date of expulsion.