



Kingdom of Morocco
Parliament
House of Councillors

Technical paper on the Association of Senate, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and Arab world

ASSECAA General Principles

In accordance with the statute of the Association, this entity is based on adherence to the principle of bicameralism and belief in a more active role of parliamentary diplomacy in building relations of cooperation and partnership among the member countries of the Association at the political, economic and cultural level, in addition to providing space for dialogue, coordination and consultation based on fostering the common interest aspirations of African and Arab countries. The Association is also keen to play an active role in promoting international cooperation by supporting and keeping abreast of Arab, African and Islamic parliamentary efforts in regional and international forums and organizations.

ASSECAA member states also emphasize the importance of the role parliaments play in nurturing the values of democracy, the protection of human rights, the insurance of effective partnerships between civil society and governments, and the support of the role of women in achieving comprehensive and sustainable development in all ASSECAA member countries.

Background information on the creation of the Association

At the initiative of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco, the founding meeting of the Association of Senate, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and Arab world took place in Rabat on the 6th and the 7th of June 2002, where the Rabat Declaration was adopted, thus establishing the Association.

Date of establishment: 7th of June 2002 in Rabat

Current Chairman: H.E Hakim Benchamach, Speaker of House of Counselors of the Kingdom of Morocco. (since 21st september 2017)

Chairmanship: rotating

Current Secretary-General: H.E Mr. Abdulwasie Yusuf Ali from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Headquarters of the General Secretariat: ASSECAA headquarters is located in Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, with a temporary office established for management in Ethiopia due to the war in Yemen.

Activities held

<p>Conferences and Council meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rabat - Morocco Conference 2002 ● Constituent Conference, Sana'a, Yemen ,2004 ● Second Conference, Sana'a, Yemen, 2007 ● Third Conference, Khartoum, Sudan, 2008 ● Fourth Conference, Rabat, Morocco, 2009 ● Fifth Conference, Libreville, Gabon, 2011 ● Sixth Conference, Bujumbura, Burundi, 2012 ● Seventh Conference, Manama, Bahrain 2013 ● Eighth Conference Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2014 ● (Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Association) ● Ninth Conference, Sudan - Khartoum 2016 ● Tenth Conference - Rabat - Kingdom of Morocco, 2017
<p>Meetings of Chambers of Commerce and Industry</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First meeting, Cape Town, South Africa, 2008 ● Second Meeting, Manama, Bahrain, 2010 ● Third Meeting, Rabat, Morocco 2012 ● Fourth Meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2015
<p>democracy and human rights & culture, Security, Peace, Good Governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ASSECAA Day for Democracy and Human Rights, Sana'a, Yemen, 2012 ● ASSECAA Day for Culture, Sana'a, Yemen, 2013 ● ASSECAA Day for the Promotion of Security, Peace and Good Governance, Sana'a, Yemen 2014
<p>Meetings of Committee of Women Parliamentarians</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First consultative meeting, Abuja, Nigeria, 2009 ● Second Meeting, Khartoum, Sudan, 2010 ● Third Meeting, Khartoum, Sudan, 2011 ● Fourth Meeting, Khartoum, Sudan 2014 ● Fifth meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2014 ● Sixth meeting, Cairo, Egypt 2015
<p>Peace and Conflict Resolution Committee meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Meeting, Abuja, Nigeria Meeting, 2007 ● Second Meeting, Bujumbura, Burundi, 2009 ● Third Meeting, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2013
<p>Retreats</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First Retreat, Abuja Nigeria, 2006 ● Second Retreat, Amman, Jordan, 2007 ● Third Retreat, Nouakchott, Mauritania, 2008 ● Fourth Retreat, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2011 ● Fifth Retreat, Bujumbura, Burundi, 2013 ● Sixth Retreat, Amman, Jordan, 2014 ● Seventh Retreat, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2016 ● Eighth Retreat, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 2017
<p>Other events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Afro-Arab parliamentary, economic forum Rabat, Morocco, 2018 <p>International seminar on National Reconciliation Experiences, Rabat, Morocco, 2019</p>

ASSECAA Member Councils

Arab countries

1. Council of the Nation of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
2. Shoorā Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain
3. House of Representatives of the Arab Republic of Egypt
4. The Senate of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
5. National Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
6. House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco
7. Shoorā Council of the State of Qatar
8. Shoorā Council of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
9. The Consultative Council of the Republic of Yemen

Observers

10. The Consultative Council of the State of the Sultanate of Oman
11. Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates
12. House of the Uper State of Libya

African countries

13. Senate of Republic of Burundi
14. Senate of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
15. House of Federation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia-
16. Senate of Republic of Gabon
17. National Council of Namibia
18. Senate of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
19. National Council of Provinces of South Africa
20. Senate of the Kingdom of Swaziland
21. Senate of the Republic of Lesotho
22. Senate of the Republic of Zimbabwe
23. Senate of the Republic of Cameroon

Observers

24. Senate of the Republic of Rwanda
25. Senate of the Republic of Kenya
26. Senate of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea
27. Senate of the Republic of Madagascar
28. Senate of the Republic of Liberia
29. Senate of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Organizations invited to ASSECAA meetings

Arab and Islamic Organizations	African Organizations	European and International Organizations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arab Parliament• Arab Parliamentary Union• The Shura Council of the Maghreb Union• League of Arab States• Organization of Islamic Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• African Parliamentary Union• Pan-African Parliament• Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe• The European Parliament• Inter-Parliamentary Union• Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

Current Chairman



H.E Hakim Benchamach,

Speaker of House of Councilors of the Kingdom of Morocco, Current Chairman of ASSECAA
Since september2017

Former ASSECAA Chairmen

 <p>H.E Kassa Teklebrahan , Speaker of House of Federation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Chairman of ASSECAA from 2015- 2016</p>	 <p>H.E Yaleo Abate, Speaker of House of Federation of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia ,Chairman of ASSECAA from October 2015-March 30, 2016</p>	 <p>H.E Omar Suleiman Adam Wanis, Speaker of Council of States of the Republic of Sudan, ASSECAA Chairman for 2016</p>
 <p>H.E. Dr. Mohamed Al-Cheikh Baidallah, Chairman of the House of Councilors of Morocco – Chairman of ASSECAA for 2010</p>	 <p>H.E. Gabriel Ntisezerana, former President of the Senate of the Republic of Burundi, Chairman of ASSECAA for 2012</p>	 <p>H.E Ali Bin Saleh Al-Saleh, Speaker of Shura Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain, Chairman of ASSECAA for 2013.</p>
 <p>Late H.E Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani, Speaker of the Consultative Council of the Republic of Yemen, Chairman of ASSECAA from 2004-2008. -ASSECAA Chairmanship is rotating based on its Statute</p>	 <p>H.E. Rose Francine Rogombe, President of the Senate of the Republic of Gabon, Chairperson of ASSECAA for 2011</p>	 <p>H.E Ali Yahya Abdullah, Speaker of Council of States of the Republic of Sudan, Chairman of ASSECAA for 2009</p>