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# TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL ZIMBABWE

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## Membership Policy

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## 1. Introduction

Transparency International Zimbabwe (TI Z) is a non-profit, non-partisan, systems oriented local chapter of the international movement against corruption. Its broad mandate is to fight corruption and related vices through networks of integrity. It was established in 1996 and became accredited as a national chapter in 2001, as one of six such chapters in Southern Africa. TI Z is affiliated to Transparency International, a global non-governmental organisation which is dedicated to increasing accountability in the government, the private sector and civil society and curtailing both national and international corruption.

Accredited National Chapters account for at least two-thirds of the voting power at Transparency International Annual Membership Meetings. Thus, there is a strong mutual accountability between the Board of Directors of TI and the National Chapters. This necessitates a careful procedure to ensure that National Chapters are, and remain, in compliance with all the basic principles of TI. Similarly, there is a need for a procedure to ensure that Members at all times comply with all the basic principles of TI. National TI chapters are independent non-governmental organisations, with their own governance structures and funding sources. They are supervised by an international board, which reviews each chapter every three years. TI Z will endeavour to serve as an example by applying democratic principles of accountability, openness, integrity and empowering its members to participate in the strategic decision-making process of the Organisation.

## 2. Objectives of the Membership Policy

The following shall be the objectives of the Policy:

- a. To foster participation and inclusion of Members in contributing to the affairs of TI Z.
- b. To provide a strong ownership of the Organisation to its members to make decisions on the leadership and the strategic direction of the Organisation.
- c. To provide a framework for strengthening and supporting the Global movement against corruption.

## 3. Types of Membership

There shall be Corporate/ Institutional and Individual membership as provided for in this Policy.

### 3.1. Corporate/ Institutional Membership

Corporate/Institutional Membership shall be drawn from civil society organisations, private sector, media and development partners. An individual nominated to represent a member organisation on the Board shall be either the Director or a member of management of the member organisation.

### 3.1.1. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for corporate/institutional membership of the TI Z, the Institution must meet the following criteria:

- a. Be fully registered according to the laws of Zimbabwe;
- b. Demonstrate its determination, diligence and competence to combat corruption in its own entity;
- c. Adopt and accept the core values and guiding principles of TI Z and continuously act in accordance with them;
- d. Take all necessary steps to prevent and detect corruption within its own entity by adopting and implementing an internal anti-corruption policy;
- e. Adhere to and comply with a Code of Conduct of TI Z;
- f. Be non-partisan to the greatest extent possible in the discharge of its mandate.

### 3.2. Individual Membership

- a) The objective of appointing Individual Members is for the Organisation to benefit from the diverse competence, experience, knowledge and dedication from reputable individuals of integrity, who are committed to the active promotion and realization of the Organisation's goals.
- b) Persons who have served the Organisation in different capacities shall be recognized as Honorary members, with the full rights and obligations as any other member.
- c) Honorary membership is conferred to a person in honour or recognition for his/her meritorious, diligent and distinguished work, service, or contribution in meeting the ideals of TI Z and its membership at large.
- d) A nomination for an individual for Honorary Membership shall be submitted by a current member of the TI Z Board and must be endorsed by the Board through a Board resolution. A nominee shall be declared an Honorary Member upon receiving the unanimous recommendation by the Board and approval by two thirds (2/3) of voting Members of TI Z.

#### 3.2.1. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible as an Individual Membership of TI Z, one should meet the following:

- a. Be at least 18 years of age at the time of application.
- b. Have never been convicted of a criminal offence or any corruption related charge or human rights violation anywhere in the world, unless such charge can be proven as persecution, or targeting for human rights defence work or other greater good cause.
- c. Have demonstrated competence and commitment to combat corruption and promote integrity.
- d. Have demonstrated ability to comply with the Organisation's vision, mission and values.

- e. A member shall not be an office bearer in any political party or a cult/pressure groups and may not espouse any of their political party views, manifesto or propaganda to or through the organisation and its members, or any other structures.
- f. Present two recommendations from highly respected figures in the civil society in Zimbabwe or abroad.

#### 4. Selection For Membership

For the purposes of adoption by the Board, consideration for recommendation and monitoring for membership shall be the responsibility of a dedicated Membership and Programmes Committee as provided for in the TI Z Constitution, read together with the TI Z Board Charter.

- a. The Membership and Programmes Committee shall be responsible for the following;
  - i. To coordinate the membership affairs of TI Z through the Executive Director and shall report its work to the Board for review and direction.
  - ii. Undertake due diligence on all the prospective Members, through the Executive Director before submission for approval by the Board.
  - iii. Oversee all matters relating to TI Z membership, attend to any membership issues that may arise and recommend the annual subscription fees to be paid by TI Z members.
- b. The Executive Director, on behalf of the Board, shall send an invitation for membership to candidates recommended by the Selection Committee.
- c. A member shall be admitted upon payment of the prescribed subscription fee.

#### 5. Rights and Obligations of Members

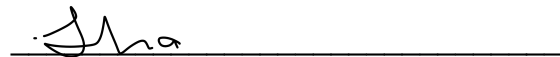
- a. All members (corporate and individual) shall have the right to be informed at the AGM of the activities being carried out by TI Z.
- b. All members shall have the obligation to contribute to the development and objects of organisational strategy through recommendations made in writing through the Executive Director to the Board.
- c. All members are expected to participate in TI Z activities at the request of the Executive Director through the Board where they can contribute their expertise, skills or by any other means financial or otherwise.
- d. All members whose membership subscriptions are fully paid up shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings of TI Z.
- e. No member of TI Z shall be entitled to receive any remuneration from TI Z except re-imbusement for expenses such as travel, accommodation, food, incurred while carrying out the official business of TI Z and where they are lending their professional expertise.

## 6. Termination and Disqualification of Membership

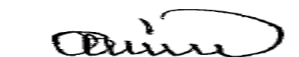
- a. A member of TI Z may resign by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the Board through the Executive Director, provided that the Executive Director may allow for a shorter notice period, in consultation with the Board Chairperson, and provided that the member who has resigned shall remain liable for any subscription fees due but not paid.
- b. A member, other than an employee of TI Z, shall be deemed suspended if such member fails to pay within 90 days from the due date, his/her membership subscription approved for the calendar year.
- c. Members who are not able to contribute to the development of the organisation's activities, or consistently fail to participate in the AGM, EGM or other General Meetings of the organization shall be expelled from membership.
- d. A member may be expelled for conduct which is prejudicial to TI Z or brings the organisation into disrepute but such expulsion may only take place after there has been a fair hearing, conducted within 30 working days by a disciplinary committee established for this purpose by the Board.
- e. A member may be expelled if in the opinion of the Board as advised by the Executive Director, that the member has failed to contribute meaningfully to the Organisation within a period of 12 months.
- f. Membership may only be cancelled by a decision of the majority of the Board Members, in their opinion, if such member's conduct is not in the interests of the Organisation or is in conflict with the objectives of the Organisation.
- g. The Board Members shall not be under any obligation to assign reasons for their decisions in relation to the admission or cancellation of membership.

## 7. Declaration

We, the Chairperson and Secretary of TIZ, on this 28th day of September 2023, hereby sign this Membership Policy for and on behalf of our members:



Isheanesu Chirisa  
Chairperson



Tafadzwa Chikumbu  
Secretary