

Karura Community Chapel,
Summary of Major Amendments from the Two (2) Constitution Review Meetings
As discussed by the Elders Court on 15th March & 22nd March 2025

<u>Article:</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Rationale</u>
Objects		
	Roman i-ix were added	Enable a wider range of tasks that were previously limited or not possible under the current constitution. In 2(iv) the addition of the word 'institution' is subject to the Church Secretary's research on registrar requirements.
	A Statement of Faith is to be created as Schedule 1; the text will include the note " See Schedule 1. ". The word " Faith " is to be capitalized.	Minimize the number of attachments
Membership		
	Adoption/Inclusion of 'Member Commitments' title as part of Section B	To clarify for members what they are entitled to—whether voting or non-voting.
	Church Secretary to review the numbering to ensure proper order: Number, Alphabet, Roman.	To maintain order and consistency
	All church meetings to be referred to as 'Church General Meeting' (AGM, SGM, & EGM).	The term 'General Meeting' aligns with the requirements of the Registrar of Societies.
	Addition of 'Cessation and Change of Membership Status'	For clarity
Office Bearers		
	Bishop This entire section is new, introduced following the recent establishment of the Office of the Bishop. A clear narrative or background on the Bishop's section is required.	To be reviewed (Church Secretary). He will rework the section and update the Board accordingly.

	As such, the sub-articles relating to the Bishop will be addressed at a later stage, including the determination of their appropriate placement within the document.	
	Women representative Missing in the Constitution To deliberate on the Women's Representative role, there is a need to review the paperwork and deliberations regarding the establishment of this office.	To be reviewed alongside the office of the bishop. The Elders' Court will form a subcommittee to review the Women's Representative document. They are to formulate a proposal for the constitution.
	Senior Pastor V(b) Removal of the word 'insanity' was proposed	Not measurable and is defined as an illness
	Secretary & Treasurer Addition of the term 'church' in the title.	To provide clarity that this does not pertain to the Secretary of the Court.
	Secretary & Treasurer Addition of Rom (xii) In the event that the elders court establishes that an office bearer is unable, incapable, unfit, and/or unwilling to discharge their duties and responsibilities, the Elders shall exercise their mandate by appointing a replacement to the respective office, subject to ratification at the next General meeting.	To address additional reasons for the termination of terms, for example, resignation, incompetence, or failure to discharge duties.
	Secretary & Treasurer Review of their term of service to be defined as subject to the discretion of the Court and ratification by the AGM.	To give the court the mandate to review their terms in extraordinary circumstances.
	Elders Addition of "A Bishop in accordance with established rules and regulations" as X(c)	To allow the Elders to define the Bishop's roles and responsibilities separately, along with the associated rules and regulations. This will provide flexibility for the Court to guide the appointment and removal from office.
	x(b): This refers to the Secretary of the Court, not the Church, though it could be the same person. (Removed the addition of "Treasurer").	To ensure clarity.
	Rom (vii) Addition of [The number of years of service may be reviewed by the Elders' Court in exceptional	To make provisions in case an extension is needed, ratification by the AGM serves as a control measure.

	circumstances, subject to ratification at the next Church General meeting.]	
Church meetings		
	Addition of 'Hybrid' as a recognized form of meeting, bringing the total to three options: In-person, Virtual Platforms, and Hybrid.	Ensure all provisions are comprehensive and adaptable to accommodate any future legal changes.
	Addition of 'General' in the title	Consistency
	AGM	
	A few amendments and additions of terms were made. Church Secretary to verify the 21-day notice period requirement for hybrid meetings	To clarify the statement & the terms & ensure no gaps.
	(f) Change from 21 to 7 days for additional matters.	The 21-day notice period may not allow adequate time for feedback, as the notice is typically sent 21 days before the AGM.
	SGM	
	Addition of digital media as a valid form of notice wherever a notice board is used.	For posterity and considering technological advancements, to account for the phasing out of traditional physical notice boards as we know them.
	Deletion of rom(iii) "Formation of branches churches"	Not needed/misplaced
	On (Procedures for AGM & SGM), Rom (ii) Remove trustees	There is a trustee deed that clearly outlines this.
	"Electronic Poll" added	Due to the virtual/ hybrid option.
	EGM	
	Addition of (ii) to justify/ expound on (i)	To provide clarity on (i)
	Reworked (iii) former (ii) A lack of quorum for an EGM shall result in the calling of a second meeting within fourteen days. Members agreed that notice for such a meeting shall be published at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.	To provide clarity. The previous reference to 5 D (ii) was impractical, as it required a 14-day notice period, which is the same duration needed to call for such a meeting.
	Section D (iii) 'Procedures at an Extraordinary General Meeting' reworded	For clarity and to remove ambiguity.
Marriages		
	Qualification Removal of the "section 52 of the Marriage Act 2014, as read together with section 18 and 50 thereof"	To account for any changes in the Marriage Act 2014 or any other future government acts, and to allow for the accommodation of any subsequent related legislation.

	<p>Addition of "... existing laws, regulations"</p> <p>Change of "Pastor" to "Church Minister"</p>	<p>"Church Minister" is a broadly accepted and more general term, and the term used within the Marriage Act to refer to the person authorized to conduct weddings in Church under the Act.</p>
	<p>Conduct of Marriage Ceremony. Amended "Pastor" to "Church Minister," along with the addition of "existing laws, rules, and regulations."</p>	<p>"Church Minister" is a broadly accepted and more general term, and the term used within the Marriage Act to refer to the person authorized to conduct weddings in Church under the Act. The second part accounts for any changes in the Marriage Act 2014 or any other government acts, and allows for the accommodation of any subsequent related legislation.</p>
Funds		
	<p>(Part B) No need to have the " and all cheques on such bank account shall be signed by two Church signatories."</p>	<p>The number of signatories can be defined at the Finance Policy level. Additionally, cheques are gradually being replaced by EFTs (Electronic Funds Transfers) and other methods of payments.</p>
Trustees		
	<p>Addition of Clause 'B', stating: "A Trustee or Trustees shall be appointed in accordance with the registered Trust Deed, duly incorporated under the existing laws, rules, and regulations."</p>	<p>Some parts have been re-worded to ensure that the deed being referred to is registered under the relevant Act, without tying us down to any future changes in the Act.</p>
	<p>Members agreed to remove 'C'. Last part of 'C' (terms of appointment)</p>	<p>Included in the Trust deed</p>
	<p>No need to have the Trust Deed as a schedule in the constitution.</p>	<p>It is registered with the Registrar of Societies and is available at the church office.</p>
Titles, Assemblies, Campuses, Branches		
	<p>The court approved the removal of 'branches'.</p> <p>"Branches" have been removed from the guidelines under this clause, and the guidelines have been amended to guide assemblies and campuses. Replace branch with Assemblies & campuses</p>	<p>Most of the text applies to assemblies & campuses. Branches must be registered.</p>
	<p>10 (i) Removal of "Church may at a Special General Meeting" replaced with "Elders may"</p>	<p>Members may not be familiar with the branches, so there is no need to involve them. The Elders' Court can handle this.</p>

	Rom (iii) removed.	Campuses can't form Branches since they aren't registered as Branches.
	Introduced "Rom (vi)" to guide assemblies and campuses on how they can register and transform into branch churches.	To guide assemblies and campuses, giving them the freedom to register and transition into branch churches. At the point of approval by the Elders, internal policies will need to be in place for branches to guide the process of transferring property held by the campuses and assemblies.
	It was agreed that a Table of Definitions should be added to the Constitution. Terms to be defined include: Campuses, Branches, Assemblies, Church Meetings, Church Secretary, and Secretary of the Court.	For ease of reference to readers and ensure clarity for all parties involved (To be outlined in Schedule 2.
Affiliation		
	Rewording and addition of “institutions, organisations or entities”	Reworded to enhance clarity and expand the range of possible partners.
Amendments to Constitution		
	'Clause' 5 D(i) c/b amended to 'Clause' 5 D(i) b	Typo
Dissolution		
	Remove "If no quorum... meeting" section.	<p>EGM stipulations to still apply in this case</p> <p>The Church Secretary will review the statutory requirements for church dissolution to ensure the wording here aligns with the law. He is also to clarify whether the "30 days" is informed by legal requirements.</p>

Constitutional Approach & Future Steps

- It was agreed that the comments at the bottom of the current draft should be removed and placed in a schedule.
- The draft constitution document will be submitted to a few legal experts within the Karura CC congregation for a legal and compliance review.
- Simultaneously, the document will be shared with the Elders' community for their review and feedback. The Senior Pastor will guide this process.
- An Elders meeting will be convened thereafter to consider the final version of the constitution document before it proceeds for consideration at an EGM.

Color-codes for ease of review

(Green - Proposed additions, Blue - Suggested removal, Red – For Consideration).