

ANNEXURE A

(**Donation Ethics Charter**)

A. Policy on Donations, Sponsorship, and Preservation of Organisational Independence

1. Purpose of the Annexure

This Annexure sets out the principles, rules, and procedures governing the acceptance, management, and use of donations, sponsorships, and gifts received by the Cuban-Trained Alumni Association of South Africa (CAASA)

Its primary purpose is to safeguard the independence, integrity, credibility, and decision-making autonomy of the Association, and to prevent any form of undue influence, control, or manipulation arising from financial or material contributions.

2. Guiding Principles

The following principles govern all donations and sponsorships at CAASA:

- a) Independence: CAASA shall remain independent in its governance, policies, positions, and decisions always.
- b) Transparency: All donations shall be openly declared, recorded, and reported.
- c) Non-Conditionality: Donations shall not be accepted if they are tied to conditions that compromise CAASA's autonomy.
- d) Equity: No donor shall enjoy special privileges, voting rights, leadership influence, or preferential treatment by virtue of a donation.
- e) Ethical integrity: Donations shall align with CAASA's values, vision, and constitutional objectives.

3. Definition of Donation

For this Annexure, a donation includes:

- a) Monetary contributions
- b) Sponsorships
- c) Gifts or grants
- d) In-kind contributions (goods or services)

- e) Any financial or material support offered to CAASA.

4. Prohibited Donations

CAASA shall not accept donations that:

- a) Are accompanied by explicit or implied demands for influence over governance, leadership, policy, or decision-making
- b) Seek to secure positions, titles, voting power, or recognition beyond standard acknowledgement
- c) Require CAASA to adopt, oppose, or promote specific political, commercial, or personal agendas.
- d) Compromise CAASA's reputation, independence, or ethical standing.
- e) Are intended to divide members or create parallel centres of power within the association.

5. Conditional Donations

- a) CAASA shall not accept conditional donations that seek to dictate how the Association is governed or managed
- b) Program -specific donations may be accepted only if they align with CAASA's objectives and do not interfere with governance or leadership autonomy.
- c) All conditions attached to any proposed donation must be fully disclosed in writing and reviewed before acceptance.

6. Approval Process for Donations

- a) All donations above a threshold determined by the National Executive Committee (NEC) shall require NEC approval.
- b) The NEC shall conduct a due diligence review to assess potential risks of influence, control, or reputational harm.
- c) The NEC reserves the right to decline any donation without obligation to justify the donor.

7. No Influence or Control Clause

- a) Acceptance of a donation shall grant the donor any right to influence CAASA's leadership, elections, policies, resolutions, or activities.
- b) Donors shall not participate in CAASA decision-making structures unless they independently qualify under the Constitution.
- c) Financial contribution shall never be used as a basis for authority, power, or entitlement within CAASA.

8. Recognition of Donors

- a) Donors may be acknowledged in a manner determined by the NEC.
- b) Recognition shall be symbolic and shall not imply endorsement, partnership, or influence.
- c) Naming rights, honorary titles, or branding that may create dependency or perceived control are prohibited unless approved by the General Assembly.

9. Financial Management and Reporting

- a) All donations shall be deposited into CAASA's official bank account.
- b) Donations shall be recorded in the Association's financial records and reflected in the annual financial statements.
- c) An annual donations report shall be presented to the General Assembly as part of financial accountability.

10. Conflict of Interest

- a) Any office-bearer involved in soliciting or recommending a donation shall declare any real or perceived conflict of interest.
- b) Failure to declare such conflict shall constitute misconduct and may trigger disciplinary action in terms of the Constitution.

11. Revocation and Return of Donations

- a) CAASA reserves the right to revoke acceptance of any donation if it later emerges that the donation was intended to exert influence or control.
- b) In such cases, the NEC may resolve to return the donation, in whole or in part, to protect the Association's integrity.

12. Review and Amendment

This Annexure may be reviewed or amended by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the NEC, provided such amendment remains consistent with the Constitution and the core principle of Organisational independence.

13. Supremacy of the Constitution

In the event of any conflict between this Annexure and other policy or agreement, the CAASA Constitution shall prevail.