Corporate Governance Framework

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Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)

6 June 2024
# African Academy Mandate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academy</th>
<th>Mandate</th>
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<tr>
<td>KNAS</td>
<td>Promote STI endeavor and achievement, recognition of excellence in the field.</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASSAf</td>
<td>Science advise on national imperatives for the benefit of society; promote, inspire and recognize excellence in all scientific fields</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZaAS</td>
<td>Science advise, promote utilization of STI, establish and strengthen national and international cooperation, support curriculum development in STEM</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAST</td>
<td>Science Advise on matters pertaining to STI;</td>
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<td>ASM</td>
<td>Develop STI in Mozambique; promote research of excellence in the country; strengthen cooperation within academia and society, locally and globally</td>
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<td>ANSALB (Benin)</td>
<td>Science advise to the State or the private sector, national or international,</td>
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African Academy Mandate
The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) is the official national Academy of Science of South Africa (across scholarly disciplines)

Inaugurated in May 1996 with Nelson Mandela as the patron of the launch


ASSAf is a Public Good
The Act prescribes the governance and management framework

Outlines ASSAf objectives

Outlines relationship with Government

Financial compliance: Public Finance Management Act 1 of 1999

Prescribes the Composition of the Academy

Council formulation (Board)

Accounting Officer

Secretariat scope

Reporting requirements: Audit, Annual, Financial reports
• Constitution in harmony with the Academy Act

• Constitution prescribes Regulation of the Academy, e.g.:

**Regulation 1**: Election of New Members

**Regulation 4**: Issuing of Academy Statements

**Regulation 6**: Annual ASSAf Distinguished Visiting Scholar Programme

**Regulation 7**: Quorums: Council and Membership meetings

**Regulation 13**: Election of New Council

**Regulation 14**: Constitution and Functions of Standing Committees
Governance: Council

- Council is the highest decision-making body and accounting authority of the Academy:
  1. President (Accounting Officer)
  2. Two Vice Presidents
  3. General Secretary
  4. Treasurer
  5. 7 Members
  6. Ministerial appointment

Executive Committee of Council
Governance: ASSAf Council EXCO

President (Interim)
Prof Stephanie Burton

Deputy-President (Interim)
Irvy (Igle) Gledhill

Deputy-President
General Secretary
Prof Sabiha Essack

Treasurer
Prof Eugene Cloete
Governance: ASSAf Council

President (Interim)
Prof Stephanie Burton

Vice-Presidents
Prof Sabiha Essack
Prof Irvy (Igle) Gledhill (interim)

General Secretary
Prof Sabiha Essack

Treasurer
Prof Eugene Cloete

Council Members
Prof Mary Scholes
Prof Refilwe Nancy Phaswana-Mafuya
Prof Wim De Villiers
Prof Evance Kalula
Prof Julian May
Prof Christian Pirk
Prof Thokozani Majozi

NACI representative:
Vacant

Council Advisor
Prof Letlhokwa George Mpedi
Governance: ASSAf Council

• **Full governance and control:**
  - Accountability to Parliament
  - Ensure compliance to Acts and Policies *(NB Public Funds)*
  - Maintain relationship with Govt through reporting Department

• **Ensure that the objectives of the Academy are actively pursued:**
  - activities remain within the Academy scope
  - activities advance Academy objectives
  - structures/portfolios align with objective of the Academy

• **Exercise general control over the performance of the Academy:**
  - 5-year Strategic, Annual Performance plans
  - Operational Policies
  - Optimal resources enabling Secretariat to perform its functions
Governance Summary

• Academy Act and Constitution

• Council fully governs the Academy

• Council is the Accounting Authority to Parliament and Government

• Council provides Academy strategic direction

• Council approves Strategic Plans, Operational Plans, Oversight on Implementation, Oversight on Reporting
PART I ENDS
Governance Framework Part II: structures/portfolios

Council Provides Strategic Direction: *Polycrisis*

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1. **Sustainable Development Goals**
   - 1-17

   **International**
   - 2. G20 Chief Science Advisers
     - 2.1 One Health
     - 2.2 Expansion of access to scholarly scientific knowledge
     - 2.3 Diversity, equity and accessibility in STI
     - 2.4 Action oriented global science advice

   **National**
   - 1. White Paper on STI
     - 1.1 Inclusive NSI
     - 1.2 Enabling whole-of-society STI involvement
     - 1.3 Increasing human capabilities and NSI
   - 2. STI Decadal Plan
     - 2.1 Societal Grand Challenges
       - 2.1.1 Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability
     - 2.1.2 Future Proof Education and Skills
     - 2.1.3 Future of Society
   - 3. G20 Chief Science Advisers
     - 3.1 Clean energy
     - 3.2 Universal and holistic health
     - 3.3 Connecting science with society and culture
     - 3.1 Removing barriers to access and participation

   **ASSAf Strategic Outcomes**
   - 1. Climate Change
   - 2. Energy Sustainability
   - 3. Digital Inclusivity
   - 4. Future of Society
   - 2.3 Internationalisation of STI

4. **BRICS Academies**
   - BIG Data for Sustainable Development in:
     - 4.1 Food security and poverty alleviation
     - 4.2 Digital Economy
     - 4.3 Climate action and disaster reduction
Objective 1: Independent, authoritative and influential scientific advice

Objective 2: Science engagement

Objective 4: Facilitating partnerships

Objective 5: Scholarship support

Objective 6: Supporting transformation
Objective 2: Science engagement

Objective 3: Knowledge Mobilisation

Objective 5: Scholarship support

Objective 6: Supporting transformation
Governance Framework: Science Advice

**Standing Committees:** Health Sciences; Humanities; STEMI, Biosafety and Biosecurity; Poverty & Inequality Reduction; Scholarly Publishing in South Africa

**ASSAf Forums:** Just Transition; Climate Change; Water and Sanitation Sustainability
Governance Framework: Science Advice

Policy maker booklet
Workshops and symposia
Policy commentaries
Statements
Consensus studies
Governance Framework: Science Advice

Council Review & Approval

Statements, Commentaries, Policymaker Booklets

Concept: - ASSAf Members - Council - Client

Proposal: - Lead - Executive Officer

Approval: ASSAf Council

Execution: Panel

Review: - Peer Review

Publication Approval: ASSAf Council
Governance Framework: Science Advice

Consensus studies

Stage 1: Proposal and Study Panel
→ Council Approval

Stage 2: Execution
→ Panel autonomous

Stage 3: 3 Peer Reviewers
→ Council Approval

Stage 4: Study Report
→ Council Approval
Governance Framework: Science Advice

Council Review & Approval

Statements, Commentaries, Policymaker Booklets
Governance Framework Overview

**Accounting Authority:** Council

**Accounting Officer:** Academy President

**Strategic Direction Provision:** Council → Strategy Development: Executive Management

**Operational Plans Development:** Executive Management → Council Approves → Implementation: Executive Management

**Reporting preparation:** Executive Management → Council approval
Thank you!

For more information, please contact the NASAC Secretariat:

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