

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales · Charity number 1185823

Details

Other names AFAS

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-10-15

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Marble Arch Apartments
11 Harrowby Street
London
W1H 5PR

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Email eo3@soas.ac.uk

Website <https://afas-global.org/>

Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE EDUCATION IN THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, TECHNIQUES, USE AND METHODS OF ARBITRATION BY THE PROVISION OF:(A)FUNDING FOR STUDENTS IN AFRICA TO ATTEND ARBITRATION RELATED CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MOOTS.(B)A WEBSITE THAT WILL ENABLE INFORMATION RELATING TO ARBITRATION TO BE MADE AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Activities: To advance education in the knowledge, skills, techniques, use and methods of arbitration by the provision of:a) Funding for students in Africa to attend arbitration related conferences, workshops and moots.b) A website that will enable information relating to arbitration to be made available and accessible to the general public.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£13,191	£10,679	-	-
2024-04-05	£10,000	£7,000	-	-
2023-04-05	£1,425	£2,757	-	-
2022-04-05	£7,000	£3,215	-	-
2021-04-05	£0	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Dr Chrispas Nyombi	Chair	2019-09-01
Dr Nneka Emilia Onyema		2019-09-01
Joy Tabitha Raore		2022-08-06

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185823

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
06/04/2024

To

Period end date
05/04/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	13,191	-	-	13,191	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	13,191	-	-	13,191	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	13,191	-	-	13,191	-
A3 Payments					
Sponsorship		-	-	-	-
Management Consultancy Fees		-	-	-	-
IT Expenses		-	-	-	-
Design Fee		-	-	-	-
Bank charges	25	-	-	25	-
Other expenses	2,487	-	-	2,487	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,512	-	-	2,512	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,512	-	-	2,512	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	10,679	-	-	10,679	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	10,679	-	-	10,679	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance as at 05/04/2025	2,931	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,931	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185823

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	05	April	2023		05	April	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

Other names charity is known by

AFAS

Registered charity number (if any)

1185823

Charity's principal address

FLAT 403, MARBLE ARCH APARTMENTS

11 HARROWBY STREET

LONDON

Postcode

W1H 5PR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Nneka Emilia Onyema	Founder		Board of Trustees
2	Chrispas Nyombi	Chairman		Board of Trustees
3	Eunice Shang-Simpson	Secretary	Until 30 September 2024	Board of Trustees
4	Tabitha Joy Raore	Member	-	Board of Trustees
5				
6				
7				
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12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Nneka Emilia Onyema	

	Chrispas Nyombi	
	Eunice Shang-Simpson	
	Tabitha Joy Raore	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountants	Barnett Young & Partners	15 The Broadway, Woodford Green, 1G8 0HL

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by the Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Board of Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All three of our trustees over the reporting period are British nationals from an academic/ legal practice background with a longstanding record of service. According to our Constitution, no individual can be appointed as a Trustee if they are under the age of 16 years and no one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged his or her acceptance of the office of Charity Trustee.

The Charity's activities are organised and run by the Board of Trustees. It is the main management and decision-making body of the organisation. It consists of:

Founder: Professor Nneka Emilia Onyema (SOAS University of London)
Chairman: Dr Chrispas Nyombi (University of Derby)
Secretary: Eunice-Shang Simpson (Canterbury ChristChurch University)
Member: Ms Tabitha Joy Raore

The Charity holds Trustees' meetings every first Saturday of the month. There must be at least two Charity trustees present to have a quorum. The Charity undertakes its activities with the support of the Trustees. This has enabled the Charity to expand its activities, as detailed under Section

D. The Charity also seeks to develop partnerships with organisations from the UK and around the world that share our common belief in equality, diversity and developing capacity in Arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution in Africa.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of AFAS as set out in the Constitution is:

To advance education in the knowledge, skills, techniques, use and methods of arbitration by the provision of:

- (a) funding for students in Africa to attend arbitration related conferences, workshops and moots.
- (b) a website that will enable information relating to arbitration to be made available and accessible to the general public.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Charity documents and its current and future events are on the AFAS website [\[https://afas-global.org/\]](https://afas-global.org/). Over the course of this financial year, the Charity applied for and was awarded the sum of Euro 20,000 by Arbitral Women [\[https://www.arbitralwomen.org/\]](https://www.arbitralwomen.org/) to enable us to deliver our AFAS ADR Student Connect Network Project in four African countries (Uganda, Ghana, Tanzania and Rwanda). This was our primary project delivered over the reporting year. Our ADR Connect project is designed to introduce arbitration and alternative dispute resolution processes to finalist students at one secondary school and to undergraduate students at one university in each of the target countries, over a three-day period in-country. The funds we received from Arbitral Women contributed to the cost of flights, accommodation for our team, and lunch for the students. We delivered the project in Ghana (11-14 April 2024); Uganda (18-20 April 2024); Tanzania (14-16 November 2024) and Rwanda (20-22 November 2024). We sent a report and receipts for costs to Arbitral Women at the end of each project.

Over the summer of 2024, AFAS delivered its first virtual summer school over six Saturdays (6 July to 10 August 2024) to the student members of its ADR Connect clubs. This attracted a total of 150 students from GIMPA University (Ghana), Makerere University (Uganda), Young Arbiters club University of Nairobi (Kenya), Our Lady of Good Counsel Gayaza (Uganda), Legacy Girls College (Ghana).

The Charity continues to generate its income from contributions by some of its trustees. It expects to receive a surplus from the savings its trustees will make from co-sponsoring the ADR Connect project through eg paying for their hotel accommodations.

The Charity from 2024 committed to support students to attend the moots through Africa in the Moot annually with the sum of Euro1,500 and to discontinue individual funding of students or groups to moots and conferences. The Charity gave a three-year commitment to support Africa in the Moot in this sum.

To further enhance the reach of our activities and to leverage on additional support, the Board of Trustees agreed at its Board meeting on [29 June 2024] to set up an Advisory Board which will provide additional guidance and accountability to the trustees and support the delivery of their projects. The Advisory Board is composed of the following 12 members (11 lawyers and 2 non-lawyers): Ms Esine Okudzeto (chair), Dr Nuhu Yidana, Dr Amel Makloul, Mr Jeffry Kaddu, Mr Likanda Kalaluka SC, Mr Alpay Beler, Ms Kate Emuchay, Mr Isaiah Bozimo SAN, Dr Sylvie Bebohi, Dr Abayomi Okubote, Ms Alexandra, Ms Rose Rameau, Mr Thierry Ngoga. The Advisory Board will be inaugurated in January 2025.

All our Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

During this financial year, the Charity has largely depended on the goodwill of our Trustees and the support of the international arbitration community to carry out its core activities as exemplified by the summer school taught by the following colleagues: Prof Chrispas Nyombi, Mr Jeffrey Kaddu, Mrs Sola Adegbonmire, Mr Jonathan Ripley-Evans, Ms Fiorella Noriega del Valle, Dr Nagla Nasser, Ms Tabitha Raore, and Prof Emilia Onyema.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Charity has committed and successfully discharged a number of projects/activities over the course of this financial year.

1. AFAS ADR Connect project financially supported by Arbitral Women as set out above.
2. AFAS virtual Summer School delivered over the summer (6 July-10 August 2024) through our Zoom platform to 150 students from Kenya, Uganda, and Ghana.
3. Composition of our Advisory Board as set out above.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity's finances are administered by the Founder and Chair, with oversight from the Board of Trustees. During this financial year, the charity received a Euro 20,0000 donation from Arbitral Women to deliver our ADR Connect Project.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Charity does not currently have a financial deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

N/A

Section F Other optional information

None.

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Chrispas Nyombi

Nneka Emilia Onyema

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Founder

Date

20 December 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
4/6/2023

To

Period end date
4/5/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	5,825	-	-	5,825	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,825	-	-	5,825	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	5,825	-	-	5,825	-
A3 Payments					
Sponsorship	1,322	-	-	1,322	-
Management Consultancy Fees	3,303	-	-	3,303	-
IT Expenses	156	-	-	156	-
Design Fee	1,366	-	-	1,366	-
Bank charges	77	-	-	77	-
Other expenses	497	-	-	497	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	6,721	-	-	6,721	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	6,721	-	-	6,721	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 896	-	-	- 896	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 896	-	-	- 896	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance as at 05/04/2024	1,597	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,597	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185823

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

No (if any)

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
06/04/2022

To

Period end date
05/04/2023

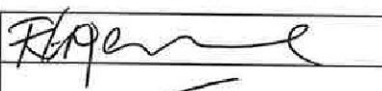
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,425	-	-	1,425	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,425	-	-	1,425	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,425	-	-	1,425	-
A3 Payments					
Moot Sponsorship	1,948	-	-	1,948	-
CI Arb Payment	408	-	-	408	-
Accountancy fee	180	-	-	180	-
Administration	144	-	-	144	-
Bank charges	77	-	-	77	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	2,757	-	-	2,757	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,757	-	-	2,757	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,332	-	-	- 1,332	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 1,332	-	-	- 1,332	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank balance as at 05/04/2023	2,492	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,492	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	NNEKA-EMILIA OTUEMA	02/02/2024

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185823

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

Nil (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

06/04/2021

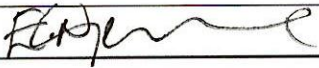
To

05/04/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	7,000	-	-	7,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	7,000	-	-	7,000	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	7,000	-	-	7,000	-
A3 Payments					
Website fee	3,000	-	-	3,000	-
Administration	144	-	-	144	-
Stationery	39	-	-	39	-
Bank charges	32	-	-	32	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,215	-	-	3,215	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,215	-	-	3,215	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,785	-	-	3,785	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	3,785	-	-	3,785	-

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		3,824	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	3,824	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets			Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Dr Nneka Emilia Onyema	22/11/2022	

ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

England & Wales - Charity number 1185823

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date
From 05 April 2020 To 05 April 2021

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name ARBITRATION FUND FOR AFRICAN STUDENTS

Other names charity is known by AFAS

Registered charity number (if any) 1185823

Charity's principal address
FLAT 403, MARBLE ARCH APARTMENTS
11 HARROWBY STREET
LONDON
Postcode W1H 5PR

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Nneka Emilia Onyema	Founder		Board of Trustees
2	Chrispas Nyombi	Chairman		Board of Trustees
3	Eunice Shang-Simpson	Secretary		Board of Trustees
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Nneka Emilia Onyema	

Chrispas Nyombi	
Eunice Shang-Simpson	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountants	Barnett Young & Partners	15 The Broadway, Woodford Green, 1G8 0HL

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Nneka Emilia Onyema,	Chrispas Nyombi,	Eunice Shang-Simpson
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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution
How the charity is constituted	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods	Appointed by the Board of Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

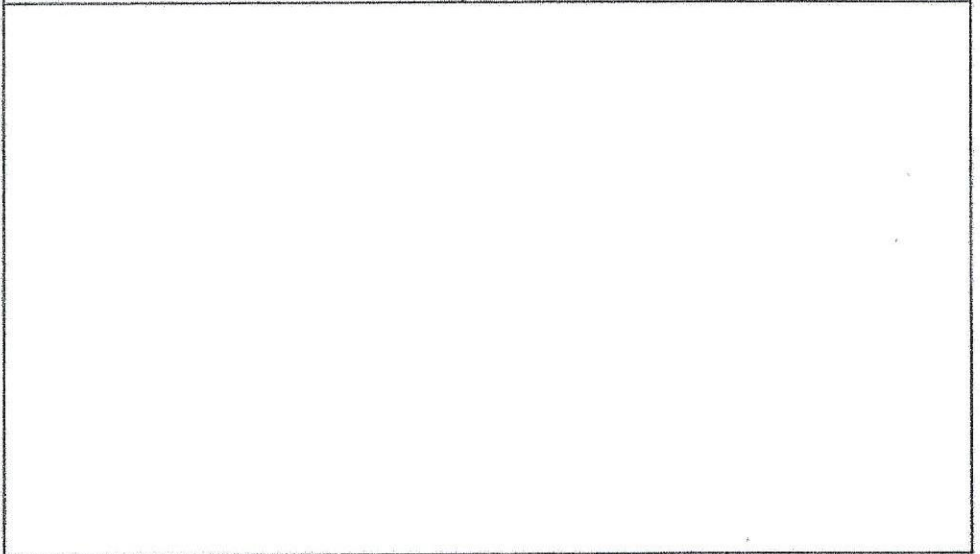
Every Trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Board of Trustees. In selecting individuals for appointment, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity. All three of our trustees over the reporting period are British nationals from an academic/ legal practice background with a longstanding record of service. According to our Constitution, no individual can be appointed as a Trustee if they are under the age of 16 years and no one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged his or her acceptance of the office of Charity Trustee. We also have a very diverse body of Trustees, with two females and one male, from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

The Charity's activities are organised and run by the Board of Trustees. It is the main management and decision-making body of the organisation. It consists of:

Founder: Professor Nneka Emilia Onyema (SOAS University of London)
Chairman: Dr Chrispas Nyombi (University of Derby)
Secretary: Eunice-Shang Simpson (Canterbury ChristChurch University)

The Charity holds Trustees' meetings every first Saturday of the month. There must be at least two Charity trustees present to have a quorum. The Charity undertakes its activities with the support of the Trustees and their respective organisations. This has enabled the Charity to expand its activities, as detailed under Section D, and its reach across the UK, the

European Union, Africa and around the world. The Charity also seeks to develop partnerships with organisations from the UK and around the world that share our common belief in equality, diversity and developing capacity in Arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution in Africa.



Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of AFAS as set out in the Constitution is:

To advance education in the knowledge, skills, techniques, use and methods of arbitration by the provision of:

- (a) funding for students in Africa to attend arbitration related conferences, workshops and moots.
- (b) a website that will enable information relating to arbitration to be made available and accessible to the general public.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Charity documents and its current and future events are on the AFAS website [<https://afas-global.org/>]. Over the course of this financial year, the Charity has undertaken a number of activities aimed at tackling the particular disadvantages faced by Africans in participating in International Arbitration as supported by empirical research [see SOAS Arbitration in Africa Survey 2020]. Our activities have grown exponentially over the course of this financial year. This included the successful launch of the "AFAS in Conversation" series. The speakers have included leading figures in international arbitration based on the African continent, Europe and around the world. The series, advertised via Eventbrite and our own website, have been a lever for skills development enabling young students and practitioners from around the world to learn from the knowledge and experiences of leading figures in the field. In addition, using our website, we launched video series where leading academics and practitioners from around the world shared their knowledge by answering key/topical questions in the field of international arbitration. This is a good method for disseminating knowledge and information, particularly given the calibre of the presenters.

The Charity's finance generation and grant making activities were largely affected by the absence of a bank account. This matter was placed on top of the agenda for the financial year 05 April 2021- 05 April 2022. Nonetheless, the Charity was able to offer fee waivers to 20 students/young practitioners to attend the 7th SOAS Arbitration in Africa Conference that was held virtually on 25-26 November 2021.

To support our vision of closer collaboration between anglophone and francophone African countries, the Charity has forwarded a Memorandum of Understanding following discussions with the Secretary-General of the Common Court of Justice and Arbitration of the Organization for the Harmonization in Africa of Business Law (CCJA) in an effort to bridge the divide between arbitration communities in Francophone and Anglophone Africa (Communities). We committed to increase awareness around diversity/inclusion and in particular fair representation of Francophone African Arbitration Practitioners (FAAP) on international arbitration tribunals and in Africa-related arbitrations in line with the *African Promise*. We also committed to increase dialogue between Communities with the AFAS offering translations of official text of important arbitration related court decisions or awards from the CCJA (or other francophone African countries) into short summaries in English to increase access to such jurisprudence within the English-speaking parts of Africa.

In February 2021, the AFAS accepted support from Alliant Law, an international law firm headquartered in the US to host our virtual AFAS in Conversation series. As a result, Alliant has been pivotal to the success of our Conversation series which are streamed via their zoom account. Furthermore, in this financial year, the AFAS launched a blog for the purposes of providing a platform for disseminating research on key developments in the field of arbitration from around the world. We support and encourage articles/blogs that are innovative, demonstrate original scholarship and contribute to the field of international arbitration, with a particular interest (but not limited to) arbitration in Africa. Thus, the AFAS is committed to diversity and inclusion in publishing with the objective to disseminate high-quality research. The AFAS plans to launch its mentorship programme and strengthen existing activities in the next financial year.

All our Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity

Commission on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

During this financial year, the Charity has largely depended on the goodwill of our Trustees and the support of the international arbitration community to carry out its core activities.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Charity has committed and successfully discharged a number projects/activities over the course of this financial year.

1. Launch of the AFAS Blog. The blog publishes once a month, following a robust peer review process. It therefore promises to become a widely sought-after publisher/ information source. During this financial year, publications have featured on the blog from academics/practitioners from a number of institutions, not only the UK, but around the world.
2. Launch of the Conversation Series. The series have undoubtedly raised the profile of our Charity and helped to project our mission and activities in the UK, Africa and around the world. The invited guests are often eminent figures in their respective fields including academics, judges, lawyers, politicians and other respected members of the legal fraternity, from around the world. This serves our objective of advancing education in the knowledge, skills, techniques, use and methods of arbitration.
3. Collaborations with Alliant Law, an international law firm and the CCJA. Our charity remains committed to developing links, associations and partner with organisation who share our vision. Both these collaborations advance our interests both through the provision of technical/logistical support or expanding knowledge, skills and techniques.
4. Launch of AFAS Videos. Following the launch of our website, we committed to publishing essential content on international arbitration. A number of leading academics and practitioners in the field were invited to address key foundational questions on international arbitration and the videos were posted on our website. This has had the effect of raising awareness on a number of key issues such as lack of diversity in international arbitration and above all, disseminating knowledge and information.
5. Case Summaries. We invited colleagues from across Africa to send us case summaries for upload on our website. We received some case summaries which are freely downloadable from our website. This service provides much needed access to judicial decisions from across African judiciaries.

None of our activities in this financial year involved the provision or generation of funds/donations. These activities will be undertaken in the next financial year following the successful opening of our charity bank account.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Charity's finances are administered by the Founder and Chair, with oversight from the Board of Trustees. During this financial year, the charity received a £6,0000 donation from our Founder Prof. Nneka Emilia Onyema.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

The Charity does not currently have a financial deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

These funds (£6000) remained unspent during this financial year. However, the Charity has already entered a number of commitments for the next financial year, including the creation and management of our Charity website; obtaining our own zoom account for our events; and signing up for a gmail based email account. This will include paying our accountants that we have now appointed.

Section F

Other optional information

None.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Chrispas Nyombi

Nneka Emilia Onyema

Full name(s)

Chrispas Nyombi

Nneka Emilia Onyema

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Founder

Date

28 January 2022