

CHARTER *of the* **ASIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADERS' ALLIANCE (ADLA)**

ARTICLE 01: NATURE

The Asian Democratic Leaders' Alliance (ADLA) is an alliance of leaders and organizations in Asia that shares a common interest in making democracy work for the people in their respective countries and the region in general.

ADLA is a non-profit organization that is open to different political beliefs that adhere to democratic values and principles.

ARTICLE 02: MISSION

ADLA aims to advance and consolidate democracy in Asia through:

- a community of responsible and accountable civic, business, and political leaders,
- a learning and engagement platform on public policy, peace building, and sustainable development, and
- an inclusive network of organizations and groups that promotes democratic leadership and governance.

ARTICLE 03: VISION

ADLA envisions a society where individuals live with freedom, dignity, prosperity, and peace as a result of democratic governance and leadership.

ARTICLE 04: STAKEHOLDERS

5.1. Membership Categories

- 5.1.1. Core members - full-fledged membership is open to all alumni of the Konrad Adenauer School for Young Politicians (KASYP). The list of KASYP alumni shall be determined by the KASYP programme.
- 5.1.2. Honorary Members – civil society, business, thought, and democratically elected leaders in Asia who advocate, advance, and embody democratic values and

principles shall be welcomed as honorary members of the Alliance upon the recommendation of the ADLA Membership Committee subject to the approval of the ADLA Executive Committee (AEC).

5.1.3. Supporters - individuals who adhere to the values and will work on achieving the common interest of the Alliance can engage and participate in the activities of the organization as supporters.

5.1.4. Partners - all organizations who support of the Alliance's mission and vision shall be welcomed as partners in the development and implementation of initiatives subject to the approval of the AEC.

5.2. Membership Expansion

5.2.1. Core members shall have the privilege to nominate honorary members, supporters, and partners.

5.2.2. A Membership Committee shall be headed by the AEC Chairperson and two other ADLA country representatives selected by the ABR.

5.2.3. The Membership Committee shall put in place membership nomination, application, review, and approval policies relating to accepting, rejecting, and removing stakeholders of the Alliance subject to the approval of the AEC.

5.2.4. The Membership Committee shall review membership applications and make the appropriate recommendations to the AEC for approval.

5.3. Voting – core members who are dues-paying shall have voting rights while honorary members, supporters and partners shall have no voting privileges.

5.4. Membership Dues

5.4.1. Core members are required to pay an annual fee.

5.4.2. The ABR shall decide on the amount of the membership fee based on the recommendation from the Membership Committee through the AEC.

5.5. Responsibility, Grievances and Discipline Procedure

5.5.1. All stakeholders, irrelevant of their membership category, are expected to support, contribute, and actively participate in the successful realization of the Alliance' mission and initiatives.

5.5.2. Stakeholders of ADLA may lose their stakeholders status without refund of their membership dues on the following grounds:

5.5.2.1. Repeated defaults on membership dues, if applicable,

- 5.5.2.2. Violation of any provisions of these constitution and bylaws and other internal regulations,
 - 5.5.2.3. Not abiding by the decisions of the ABR and AEC,
 - 5.5.2.4. Any action that runs in contrary to the mission, values, principles, and interest of the Alliance, and
 - 5.5.2.5. Voluntary resignation.
- 5.5.3. The Membership Committee shall put in place fair and just grievances and disciplinary procedure subject to the approval of the AEC.

ARTICLE 05: ADLA ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS

The Alliance shall be organized into three levels namely, the ADLA Country Chapters (ACC), ADLA Board of Representatives (ABR), and ADLA Executive Committee (AEC).

6.1. ADLA Country Chapters

- 6.1.1. Any Asian country where there is presence of KASYP alumnus can establish an ACC.
- 6.1.2. The ACC shall elect its Executive Committee and reserve an adhoc position for the representative of KAS, if applicable. ACC Executive Committee Officers shall be elected to a maximum of 1 term with 2 years or a 2-year term . The elected ACC Chair shall automatically sit as ex-officio on the ABR representing the respective ACC.
- 6.1.3. The ACCs shall be granted autonomy when it comes to its governance, management, and administration with adherence to democratic values and principles.

6.2. ADLA Board of Representatives

- 6.2.1. The ABR shall be composed of elected ACC Chairs. The number of board of representatives shall depend on the number of ACCs plus 2 adhoc positions which will be designated to the Director and respective Programme Manager of the Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS PDA). There shall be only one representative per ACC.
- 6.2.2. The ABR shall be responsible with the strategic policy direction, decision-making, and election of the ADLA Executive Committee (AEC).

6.3. ADLA Executive Committee

- 6.3.1. The AEC shall be composed of six elective positions namely, the Chairperson, Secretary General, Finance Secretary, Communication Secretary, 2 Members of the

Membership Committee plus 2 ex-officios, the Programme Manager and Administrative Officer from the KAS PDA. These AEC positions shall be elected to a maximum of 1 term with 2 years or a 2-year term.

- 6.3.2. The AEC shall be responsible in implementing the strategic direction as approved by the ABR; manage the regular business, property and affairs of the Alliance; recommend organizational policies, initiate overall planning and budgeting, create necessary committees and appointments, and issue public statements subject to approval of the ABR; carryout operational goals and objectives; authorize agreements, contracts, meetings; review committee reports and determine actions to be taken.

ARTICLE 06: ACTIVITIES

- 7.1 ADLA Summit - the ADLA Summit shall be held every two (2) years. This is an open invitation event for all ADLA stakeholders (core members, honorary members, supporters and partners) and the general public. The general objective of this summit is to tackle current trends and emerging issues affecting democratic progress in the region. The AEC shall be responsible to identify the theme, create working committees, delegate tasks to other members of the ABR when necessary, and to take lead in organizing the summit. The venue and the number of participants shall be decided by the AEC subject to the available resources.
- 7.2 ABR Meeting – the ABR meeting shall be held semestral. This meeting is by invitation for the members of the ADLA Board of Representatives. General policies, annual plans, elections, creation of committees, appointments, country reports and issues affecting the Alliance shall be discussed, conducted, and approved by the ABR meeting. In between ABR meetings, the AEC shall be authorized to act on behalf of the ABR. Decisions on any subject shall generally be made by consensus. Matters on which consensus cannot be attained shall be decided with two-thirds majority of the votes casts. The AEC shall be responsible in organizing the ABR meetings. The venue of the ABR meeting shall be decided according to the available resources.
- 7.3 AEC Meetings – the AEC meetings shall be held quarterly. This meeting shall be spearheaded by the AEC Chairperson or a two-third call from the members of the AEC. The main function of the AEC meeting is to ensure the successful implementation of the annual plan.
- 7.4 ADLA Programmes and Projects – subject to the approved annual plan and budget, the Alliance will implement programmes and projects solely or in cooperation with supporters and partners all year round. All stakeholders can propose different types of programmes and projects as long as these will contribute to the fulfilment of the Alliance’s Mission.

ARTICLE 07: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND MOBILIZATION

ADLA shall endeavour to be provide the needed resources for its present and future operations. The AEC through its Finance Secretary shall put in place financial management system and fund sourcing plan subject to approval of the AEC. The AEC shall practice responsibility, transparency, accountability, and prudence in the management of the Alliance's resources.

ARTICLE 08: AUDITORS

ADLA shall have 3 auditors, one appointed by the AEC Chairperson and the other two are elected from the core members. The auditors will submit an annual report at the end of each calendar year.

ARTICLE 09: INTRA-ORGANIZATIONAL DEMOCRACY

ADLA shall practice intra-organizational democracy in its conduct of business where all voting members are given equal opportunity to participate and represent in the decision-making processes of the Alliance. There shall be an Election Committee composed of 3 members namely, one from KAS, the respective Programme Manager, and two other members elected by the core members.

ARTICLE 10: LANGUAGE

ADLA will adopt the English as its official working language.

ARTICLE 11: AMENDMENTS

Any voting member of the Alliance shall have the privilege to propose amendments to this Statue. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the AEC three months before the next ABR Meetings. The AEC shall communicate this proposed amendment to all voting members. Any proposed amendments shall take effect after approval by two-thirds of the members of the ABR and shall be enforced by the AEC immediately.