



YALPAE

**YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS
PIONEERS AND ENTREPRENEURS**

Africa's Light, paying forward to the future

**PARTNERSHIP &
SPONSORSHIP
ANNEX E
MARCH 2026**



YALPAE Policy

LEGAL STATEMENT

This document constitutes an official governance instrument of Young African Leaders, Pioneers and Entrepreneurs (YALPAE), a registered Non-Profit Company operating in accordance with the laws of the Republic of South Africa.

This document forms part of YALPAE's internal governance framework and shall be read together with the YALPAE Constitution, By-Laws, Mandate, and all applicable Annexes and policies.

This document applies to all persons acting under the authority, representation, or auspices of YALPAE, including members, directors, officers, volunteers, partners, and affiliated participants.

AUTHORITY CLAUSE

This document is issued under the authority of the YALPAE Board of Directors in accordance with the YALPAE Constitution and By-Laws.

Its provisions derive their authority from, and must be interpreted consistently with:

- The YALPAE Constitution
- The YALPAE By-Laws
- The YALPAE Mandate
- All applicable Annexes, including the Code of Conduct and Safeguarding Framework

In the event of any inconsistency:

- The Constitution shall prevail
- Safeguarding provisions shall take precedence in all safeguarding-related matters
- This document shall govern operational implementation within its defined scope

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ANNEX E: PARTNERSHIP & SPONSORSHIP GOVERNANCE

1. Legal Status & Constitutional Authority

1.1 This Annex is adopted pursuant to the YALPAE Constitution and shall be **binding** on all members, directors, officers, chapters, volunteers, partners, sponsors, and any person or entity acting under YALPAE's name or authority.

1.2 This Annex prevails over any conflicting guideline, practice, or agreement and shall be interpreted to preserve YALPAE's independence, youth-led mandate, safeguarding obligations, and public trust.

2. Purpose

2.1 To regulate how YALPAE initiates, approves, manages, reviews, and exits partnerships, sponsorships, and formal collaborations.

2.2 To ensure all collaborations advance YALPAE's mission while protecting governance integrity, safeguarding standards, and institutional independence.

3. Guiding Principles

All partnerships and sponsorships shall:

- Align with YALPAE's **mission, vision, and core values**;
- Advance youth empowerment, African development, or organisational sustainability;
- Preserve **institutional independence and neutrality**;
- Be ethical, lawful, non-discriminatory, and transparent;
- Never compromise safeguarding, governance integrity, or decision-making autonomy.

YALPAE reserves the right to decline any collaboration that fails to meet constitutional or ethical standards, irrespective of financial or material benefit.

4. Classification of Collaborations

For governance and risk management, collaborations are classified as follows:\

4.1 Strategic Partnerships: Long-term, high-impact, cross-border, or institutional collaborations aligned with core objectives.

4.2 Programmatic Partnerships: Joint delivery of programs, events, research, campaigns, or services.

4.3 Sponsorships: Financial or in-kind support without governance or program control.

4.4 Institutional & In-Kind Support: Mentorship, training, professional services, internships, advisory or technical assistance.

The Board may set thresholds defining *high-value*, *high-risk*, or *long-term* collaborations.

5. Governance, Approval & Delegation

5.1 Board Supremacy: All national, strategic, high-value, long-term, or cross-border collaborations require **prior Board approval**.

5.2 Delegated Authority: The Board may delegate approval of routine or low-risk collaborations to a designated committee or officer, subject to written limits and mandatory reporting.

5.3 Chapters: Chapters may identify and propose collaborations but **shall not approve or sign** any agreement.

5.4 No Informal Commitments: No member, officer, or chapter may bind YALPAE through informal promises or representations.

6. Signing Authority

6.1 All MoUs, sponsorship agreements, and partnership contracts shall be signed only by:

- The **Chairperson and Secretary**, acting jointly; or
- An officer expressly authorised by **Board resolution**.

6.2 Agreements executed without proper authority are **null and void**.

7. Mandatory Safeguarding & Ethics Compliance

7.1 All partners and sponsors shall comply with:

- YALPAE's **Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy and Safeguarding Annex**;
- YALPAE's **Code of Conduct & Ethics**;
- Applicable child protection and safeguarding laws.

7.2 No partner may engage in child-facing activities without written safeguarding clearance.

7.3 Safeguarding breaches constitute **material breach** and grounds for immediate termination.

8. Conflict of Interest & Institutional Independence

8.1 Partners and sponsors shall not:

- Influence YALPAE governance, leadership appointments, elections, or internal policies;
- Exercise decision-making authority within YALPAE structures;
- Impose political, ideological, or commercial conditions contrary to YALPAE values.

8.2 All actual or perceived conflicts of interest must be disclosed and managed in accordance with Section 12 of the Constitution.

9. MoU & Agreement Minimum Requirements

All formal agreements shall be in writing and include, at minimum:

- Purpose, scope, and duration;
- Roles and responsibilities;
- Financial or in-kind contributions;
- Safeguarding and ethics clauses;
- Data protection and confidentiality;
- Branding and publicity rules;
- Reporting and accountability;
- Termination and dispute resolution mechanisms.

Agreements involving naming rights, exclusivity, or significant financial exposure require heightened Board scrutiny.

10. Monitoring, Reporting & Review

10.1 Material collaborations shall be recorded in the **Partnership Register**.

10.2 Strategic or long-term collaborations shall be reviewed **annually**.

10.3 Responsible officers shall report to the Board on performance, alignment, risks, and compliance.

11. Suspension, Termination & Exit

11.1 The Board may suspend or terminate any collaboration where:

- Safeguarding or ethical standards are breached;
- Reputational risk arises;
- Conflicts of interest become unmanageable;
- The collaboration no longer serves YALPAE's mission.

11.2 Termination may be immediate where child safety or organisational integrity is at risk.

12. Transparency, Records & Disclosure

12.1 Major collaborations shall be disclosed in YALPAE's annual report or equivalent accountability platforms, subject to confidentiality.

12.2 Records shall be retained in accordance with YALPAE's data and document retention policies.

13. Review & Amendment

13.1 This Annex shall be reviewed at least every **two (2) years**, or sooner if required by law or organisational risk.

13.2 Amendments require Board approval and must remain consistent with the Constitution.

