



TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY MODEL LAWS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Regional Parliamentary Model Laws Oversight Committee was established through an amended by the 43rd Plenary Assembly on 27th June 2018, at Luanda, Angola. Its mandate is as given in Article 16 of the SADC-PF Constitution as follows—

ARTICLE 16: THE REGIONAL PARLIAMENTARY MODEL LAWS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

1. The Regional Parliamentary Model Laws Oversight Committee (RPMLOC) shall comprise Chairpersons of Standing Committees and the Chairperson of the Regional Women's Parliamentary Caucus, to be appointed on such terms and conditions as the Plenary Assembly may determine.
2. The RPMLOC shall elect at its first meeting a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.
3. The RPMLOC shall meet at least twice a year at such place and time as the Secretary General shall determine.
4. The functions of the RPMLOC shall include the following—
 - (a) monitoring and evaluating progress made by Member States in domesticating SADC Model Laws and implementing related laws and policies;
 - (b) advising the SADC PF on the progress Member States are making in fulfilling the objectives of the various Model Laws;
 - (c) supporting Member States' measures and interventions for addressing the various issues the Model laws aim to address;
 - (d) facilitating awareness on specific issues in the Model Law by engaging with appropriate authorities, grass-roots and community based organisations and the private sector, including the media;

- (e) underscoring the importance of addressing various development and governance related issues during the consideration of Member States Reports on related subject matters;
 - (f) paying particular attention to disadvantaged groups, and or marginalised communities in line with the provisions of the Model Laws;
 - (g) ensuring that Member States set out mechanisms or processes for the engagement of the public, mainly during committee sittings in a holistic, multi-sectorial manner, with a balance between preventive and protective measures, as specified in the Model Laws;
 - (h) encouraging the appropriate authorities of Member States and other relevant actors to build an evidence based information and data system on the various issues, including documentation of good practices and the production of disaggregated data on the various interventions;
 - (i) encouraging National Parliaments and appropriate authorities to establish a desk/focal person or subcommittees to co-ordinate actions on the various Model Laws;
 - (j) supporting national and regional efforts aimed at generating data through research, ensuring innovative community based mechanisms and advocacy interventions;
 - (k) supporting Member States to set up functional monitoring mechanisms and establishing data collection and management systems on the various Model Laws;
 - (l) assisting Member States in building the capacity of the relevant subject matters and law enforcement system to further the implementation of the Model laws;
 - (m) sharing information on the various interventions and action plans with relevant stakeholders in SADC and beyond and, when requested, elsewhere;
 - (n) facilitate coordination with other Standing Committees and the Regional Women Parliamentary Caucus on addressing issues relating to the implementation of laws and policies in accordance with the objectives of the Model Laws; and
 - (o) formulate, develop and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on oversight and accountability mechanisms in relation to the implementation of Model Laws.
5. The funds available for use in relation to the RPMLOC shall consist of such moneys as may be allocated by SADC PF.
 6. Except as is expressly provided for in this Article and the Rules of Procedure, the RPMLOC shall be guided by the Executive Committee and the Plenary Assembly in the transaction of its business.