

THE
BY-LAWS
OF
FARMERS CHOICE SAVINGS
AND CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIETY LIMITED

*(A Regulated Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking
SACCO or A Regulated Non-WDT-SACCO)*

CS/ NO 4877

Contents

1. NAME AND AREA OF OPERATION	1
1.1. NAME	1
1.2. AREA OF OPERATION	1
1.3. CHANGE OF NAME OR AREA OF OPERATION	1
2. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS	1
2.1. GENERAL INTERPRETATION	1
2.2. GENDER NEUTRALITY	1
2.3. SPECIFIC INTERPRETATION	1
2.4. QUESTIONS CONCERNING WORDS AND PHRASES IN THESE BY-LAWS.....	3
3. REGISTERED OFFICE/ POSTAL ADDRESS.....	3
3.1. HEAD-OFFICE LOCATION.....	3
3.2. POSTAL AND ELECTRONIC ADDRESSES	3
3.3. CHANGE/RELOCATION OF HEAD-OFFICE.....	3
3.4. NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS.....	4
3.5. OPENING OTHER PLACES OF BUSINESS	4
4. OBJECTS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	4
4.1. GENERAL OBJECTS.....	4
4.2. SPECIFIC OBJECTS.....	4
4.3. PROHIBITED BUSINESS.....	5
5. CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLES AND VALUES	5
5.1. CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLES.....	5
5.2. CO-OPERATIVE VALUES AND ETHICAL BELIEFS.....	6
6. MEMBERSHIPHIP OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	6
6.1. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP	6
6.2. QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP BY NATURAL PERSONS	6
6.3. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP BY INSTITUTIONS	7
6.4. PROHIBITION AGAIST DUAL MEMBERSHIPS.....	7
6.5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP	7
6.6. ADMISSION INTO MEMBERSHIP	7
6.7. MEMBERS' NAMES TO BE ENTERED INTO THE MEMBERS REGISTER	7
6.8. MINIMUM CONTENTS OF THE MEMBERS' REGISTER.....	8
6.9. ELECTRONIC MEMBERS' REGISTER	8
6.10. BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADMIT MEMBERS	8
6.11. MEMBERS ENTITLED TO COPY OF BY-LAWS	8

6.12.	REFUSAL OF ADMISSION	8
6.13.	RIGHTS OF MEMBERS.....	9
6.14.	OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS	10
6.15.	TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.....	10
6.16.	LIMITATION OF MEMBER’S RIGHT	10
7.	SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION FROM MEMBERSHIP	10
7.1.	GROUND FOR SUSPENSION	10
7.2.	PERIOD FOR SUSPENSION OF MEMBER	11
7.3.	GENERAL MEETING’S POWER OF EXPULSION OF MEMBERS	11
7.4.	PROCEDURE OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION.....	11
7.5.	RIGHT OF APPEAL TO GENERAL MEETING	11
7.6.	APPEAL TO THE TRIBUNAL	12
8.	WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SACCO SOCIETY	12
8.1.	NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM MEMBERSHIP	12
8.2.	REFUND OF NON-WITHDRAWABLE DEPOSITS UPON WITHDRAWAL	12
8.3.	PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL PROHIBITED	12
8.4.	PAYMENT ON CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP	12
9.	MEMBERS’ NOMINEES	12
9.1.	NOMINEE REGISTER	12
9.2.	MEMBERS TO NOMINATE NOMINEES	12
9.3.	MEMBER MAY CHANGE NOMINEE(S).....	13
9.4.	NAMES OF NOMINEES TO BE ENTERED INTO THE REGISTER	13
9.5.	PAYMENTS TO NOMINEE	13
9.6.	ADMISSION OF NOMINEE INTO MEMBERSHIP	13
10.	FUNDS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	13
10.1.	SOURCES OF FUNDS	13
10.2.	CAPITAL ADEQUACY	13
10.3.	HIGHER CAPITAL ADEQUACY.....	14
10.4.	LIQUIDITY.....	14
10.5.	APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS	14
10.6.	RESTRICTION ON INVESTMENTS	14
10.7.	ANNUAL ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURES	15
10.8.	EXPENDITURE, RECEIPT OF MONIES AND DISBURSEMENTS	15
10.9.	FINANCIAL YEAR OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	15
11.	SHARES OF THE SACCO SOCIETY.....	15
11.1.	PRESCRIBED MINIMUM SHARES	15

11.2.	MAXIMUM SHAREHOLDING.....	15
11.3.	TRANSFER OF SHARES.	15
11.4.	REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER OF SHARES.....	15
11.5.	LIABILITY OF MEMBERS LIMITED TO SHARES HELD	16
11.6.	SHARE TO BE BASIS OF DISTRIBUTION IN LIQUIDATION.....	16
11.7.	SHARES TO ATTRACT DIVIDENDS	16
12.	POWER TO BORROW	16
12.1.	RESTRICTIONS ON BORROWING	16
12.2.	LOANS FROM NON-MEMBERS	16
12.3.	SECURITY FOR LOANS.....	17
13.	GENERAL MEETING.....	17
13.1.	SUPREME AUTHORITY VESTS IN THE GENERAL MEETING	17
13.2.	COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL MEETING	17
13.3.	TYPES OF GENERAL MEETINGS.....	17
13.4.	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	17
13.5.	SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.....	17
13.6.	FAILURE TO CONVENE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.....	18
13.7.	AGENDA AT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING	18
14.	PROCEDURE OF MEETINGS.....	18
14.1.	NOTICE OF MEETINGS	18
14.2.	AGENDA AT MEETINGS	18
14.3.	QUORUM AT GENERAL MEETINGS	18
14.4.	ABSENCE OF QUORUM.....	18
14.5.	VENUE OF GENERAL MEETINGS	18
14.6.	VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETINGS.....	19
14.7.	VIRTUAL MEETINGS TO COMPLY WITH GUIDELINES	19
14.8.	DUTIES OF GENERAL MEETINGS.....	19
14.9.	RIGHT TO ATTEND GENERAL MEETINGS	20
14.10.	RECORD OF BUSINESS	20
15.	CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	20
15.1.	BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS THE GOVERNING BODY	20
15.2.	ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	20
15.3.	COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	21
15.4.	TERM OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	22
15.5.	CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	22
15.6.	THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD.....	22

15.7.	THE VICE–CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD	22
15.8.	HONORARY SECRETARY.....	22
15.9.	THE TREASURER.....	23
16.	MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	23
16.1.	FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS.....	23
16.2.	QUORUM AT MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	23
16.3.	FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS.....	24
16.4.	RECORD OF BUSINESS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	24
16.5.	CONFRIMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.....	24
16.6.	PRESERVATION OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD	24
17.	DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD.....	24
17.1.	LEGAL STANDARD OF CARE	24
17.2.	DIRECTING AFFAIRS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	24
17.3.	SPECIFIC DUTIES AND POWERS.....	25
17.4.	DELEGATION OF DUTIES TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....	27
18.	INDEMNITY BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS	27
18.1.	FILING OF INDEMNITY	27
18.2.	WEALTH DECLARATION UPON ELECTION	27
19.	COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	27
19.1.	RE-IMBURSEMENT TO BOARD MEMBERS.....	27
19.2.	NO FIXED REMUNERATION OR SALARY	27
19.3.	COMPENSATION TO BE DISLOSED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	27
19.4.	BOARD COMPENSATION POLICY	28
19.5.	AUTHORITY MAY VETO THE COMPENSATION POLICY	28
20.	ELECTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE.....	28
20.1.	NOTICE OF VACANCIES.....	28
20.2.	NOMINATION COMMITTEE	28
20.3.	RETURNING OFFICER TO PRESIDE OVER ELECTIONS	28
20.4.	SUBMISSIONS OF NAMES OF ELECTED PERSONS TO AUTHORITY	28
20.5.	ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE	29
21.	REMOVAL AND SUSPENSION A MEMBER OF BOARD	29
21.1.	REMOVAL BY THE AUTHORITY	29
21.2.	REMOVAL BY MAJORITY OF BOARD MEMBERS.....	29
21.3.	CESSATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE BY A BOARD MEMBER	29
22.	BOARD COMMITTEES	30
22.1.	ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES	30

22.2.	RESTRICTIONS ON CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES	30
22.3.	THE CREDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	30
22.4.	FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE.....	31
22.5.	BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE	31
23.	SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE	32
23.1.	ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE.....	32
23.2.	QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE.....	32
23.3.	REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE	32
23.4.	MEETINGS OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE	33
23.5.	DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE	33
23.6.	REPORTS TO THE BOARD.....	34
23.7.	REPORTS TO AUTHORITY.....	34
23.8.	INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION TO TECHNICAL SUPPORT	34
23.9.	LEGAL STANDARD OF CARE AND COMPENSATION FOR SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE	34
24.	THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	34
24.1.	APPOINTMENT BY BOARD OF DIRECTOR.....	34
24.2.	APPOINTMENT TO TAKE EFFECT UPON APPROVAL.....	34
24.3.	RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....	35
24.4.	PRESENTATION OF BOARD PAPERS TO THE BOARD	35
24.5.	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS.....	36
24.6.	REMOVAL FROM OFFICE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	36
24.7.	NOTIFICATION OF REMOVAL OR RESIGNATION OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER	36
24.8.	REMOVAL OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BY THE AUTHORITY	36
25.	CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICERS	37
25.1.	APPLICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICERS ETHICS ACT, 2003	37
25.2.	THIRD SCHEDULE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICERS.....	37
25.3.	CONFIDENTIALITY.....	37
25.4.	CONFLICT OF INTERESTS	37
25.5.	COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODES OF CONDUCT	37
26.	BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS.....	38
26.1.	MANDATORY MAINTENANCE OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS	38
26.2.	FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO DENOMINATED IN KENYA SHILLINGS	38
27.	POLICIES AND PROCEDURE MANUALS.....	39
27.1.	BOARD TO MAKE POLICIES.....	39
27.2.	REGISTER OF POLICIES.....	39
27.3.	AUTHORITY TO INSPECT POLICIES	39

28.	INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS, BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS ETC,	39
28.1.	INSPECTION BY AUTHORITY	39
28.2.	INSPECTION OF REGISTRATION AND AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATES	39
28.3.	INSPECTION OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS	39
29.	DISPUTE RESOLUTION	40
29.1.	REFERENCE TO THE TRIBUNAL	40
29.2.	APPEALS TO THE HIGH COURT	40
29.3.	ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS	40
30.	COMMON SEAL OF THE SACCO SOCIETY	40
30.1.	ADOPTION AND USE OF COMMON SEAL	40
30.2.	CUSTODY OF THE COMMON SEAL	40
30.3.	USE OF THE COMMON SEAL IN DOCUMENTS	40
31.	MISCELLANEOUS.....	41
31.1.	AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES.....	41
31.2.	DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS FUNDS	41
31.3.	RESTRICTION ON PAYMENTS OF DIVIDENDS, HONORARIA ETC.....	41
31.4.	FINES FOR BREACH OF BY-LAWS	41
31.5.	DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION.....	41
31.6.	AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS	42
31.7.	ACCEPTANCE	Error! Bookmark not defined.

1. NAME AND AREA OF OPERATION

1.1. NAME

The SACCO Society shall be called Farmers Choice Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (**Regulated Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking SACCO / Regulated Non-WDT-SACCO**) herein after referred to in these By-Laws as "the SACCO Society"

1.2. AREA OF OPERATION

The SACCO Society's area of operation shall be the Republic of Kenya.

1.3. CHANGE OF NAME OR AREA OF OPERATION

The SACCO Society shall not change its name or area of operation, or propose the change of its name or area of operation except with a prior written approval of the General Meeting

2. INTERPRETATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

2.1. GENERAL INTERPRETATION

In these By-Laws, unless the context otherwise suggests words or phrases shall be interpreted in accordance with the –

- a) Sacco Societies Act, No. 14 of 2008 (hereinafter referred to as the Sacco Societies Act;
- b) Sacco Societies (Non-Deposit Taking Business) Regulations, 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the Regulations, 2020;
- c) Co-operative Societies Act (Cap 490) (hereinafter referred to as the Co-operative Societies Act;
- d) Co-operative Societies Rules, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as the Co-operative Societies Rules

2.2. GENDER NEUTRALITY

In these By-Laws where the masculine gender is referred to, it will be construed to include the feminine gender.

2.3. SPECIFIC INTERPRETATION

In these By-Laws save as otherwise expressly stated:

- a) "**Authority**" shall mean the Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority established under the Sacco Societies Act.
- b) "**Authorization**" means the act of the Authority to grant permission to the SACCO Society to undertake non-deposit taking business within the meaning of the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations 2020;
- c) "**A nominee**" means a person appointed by the member to inherit the shares, deposits and other interests in the society upon the death of that member;

- d) "**Applicable Law**" means any other written law other than the Sacco Societies Act; and the Regulations, 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; and the Co-operative Societies Rules; and these By-Laws;
- e) "**Board**" means the Board of Directors of the SACCO Society constituted in accordance with these By-Laws;
- f) "**Board Member**" means a person who has been elected or co-opted to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the SACCO Society;
- g) "**Board of Directors**" means the persons elected at a duly convened General Meeting of the Society held in accordance with the Co-operative Societies Act, Co-operative Societies Rules, Sacco Societies Act, Regulations 2020 and these By-Laws, or in accordance with the provisions of any other applicable law;
- h) "**Commissioner**" means "the Commissioner for Co-operative Development as provided for in the Cooperative Societies Act."
- i) "**Core Capital**" means the fully paid-up members' shares, capital issued, disclosed reserves, retained earnings, grants and donations all of which are not meant to be expended unless on liquidation of the SACCO society;
- j) "**deposit-taking business**" has the meaning assigned to it in the Sacco Societies Act;
- k) "**dispute**" has the meaning assigned to it under the Co-operative Societies Act;
- l) "**dividend**" means the members' share of the surplus of the SACCO society which is divided amongst its members based on shareholding.
- m) "**Ethics Commission for Co-operatives**" means the Ethics Commission for Co-operatives established pursuant to the provisions of the Public Officer Ethics Act, 2003;
- n) "**non-deposit taking business**" means Sacco business, other than deposit-taking business;
- o) "**non-withdrawable deposits**" means all the members' deposits not available for withdrawal for the duration of the membership of a member in the SACCO Society, and which deposits may be used as collateral against borrowings and domestic money transfer services only.
- p) "**non-withdrawable deposit-taking SACCO**" means a SACCO Society whose Sacco business, is strictly limited to the receipt of non-withdrawable deposits from members and which deposits are not available for withdrawal for the duration of the membership of a member in a Sacco society, and which deposits may be used as collateral against borrowings and domestic money transfer services only, in accordance with Regulations, 2020;
- q) "**General Meeting**" means a meeting (either "Annual" or "Special") for all members/delegates duly convened by the SACCO Society to conduct its business; and include virtual or mixed physical and virtual General Meeting;
- r) "**Member**" includes a person, an institution and a Co-operative Society joining in the application for the registration of a SACCO society, and a person, an

institution or co-operative society admitted to membership after registration in accordance with the By-Laws.

- s) “**officer**” has the meaning assigned to it in the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020;
- t) “**places of business**” has the meaning assigned to it in the Sacco Societies Act;
- u) “**returning officer**” is a person appointed to oversee or conduct the elections of the SACCO Society at a General Meeting;
- v) “**SACCO Society**” has the meaning assigned to it under the Sacco Societies Act;
- w) “**share capital**” shall mean members’ equity in the form of issued and fully paid-up shares of common stock;
- x) “**Supervisory Committee**” means the Supervisory Committee of the Sacco Society elected in accordance with the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act, Co-operative Societies Rules, Sacco Societies Act, Regulations 2020 and these By-Laws, or in accordance with the provisions of any other applicable law
- y) “**Tribunal**” means the Co-operative Tribunal established in accordance with the provisions of Co-operative Societies Act.
- z) “**Written law**” means any written law for the time being in force in Kenya;

2.4. QUESTIONS CONCERNING WORDS AND PHRASES IN THESE BY-LAWS

Any questions concerning interpretation of or clarifications on these By-Laws or any matters not provided for herein, errors and omissions shall be referred to the Authority or Commissioner as is applicable.

3. REGISTERED OFFICE/ POSTAL ADDRESS

3.1. HEAD-OFFICE LOCATION

The registered office of the Sacco society shall be located and situated at **<please insert>**, within Kahawa West of Nairobi *County Kasarani Sub-County*.

3.2. POSTAL AND ELECTRONIC ADDRESSES

The Postal Address of the SACCO Society shall be care of Post Office Box Number 47791 – Nairobi and the official email address of the SACCO Society shall be fclsacco@gmail.com and the Official telephone numbers of the Sacco Society shall be **<please insert>**

3.3. CHANGE/RELOCATION OF HEAD-OFFICE

The SACCO Society shall not change or relocate its registered head-office or any other place of business or any addresses, except with a prior written approval of the Authority as provided in the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020.

3.4. NOTICE OF CHANGE OF ADDRESS

A notice of any changes in the postal and/or physical address and/or any other official address of the SACCO Society, including official electronic addresses (email, website and telephone) shall be furnished to the Commissioner; the Authority, and to all members of the SACCO Society through their last known address as per records held at the SACCO Society, within thirty (30) days of such changes.

3.5. OPENING OTHER PLACES OF BUSINESS

The SACCO Society may from time to time open and operate a place of business, other than its head office, including a branch, marketing office, satellite office or an outlet; provided that prior to opening and operating a place of business, the SACCO Society shall –

- a) notify the Authority in writing of such intention at least ninety days before opening the new place of business;
- b) obtain a written approval from the Authority before opening the new place of business;
- c) pay to the Authority the prescribed fee; and
- d) prominently display the authorization to operate the place of business at the new place of business.

4. OBJECTS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

4.1. GENERAL OBJECTS

The objects for which the SACCO Society is established are to organize and promote the quality of life of the members by providing quality financial products and services.

4.2. SPECIFIC OBJECTS

In particular, the SACCO Society shall -

- a) Promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity for accumulating their savings and deposits and providing them with credit exclusively for provident and productive purposes, at fair and reasonable rate of interest; thereby enabling them to use and control their money for their mutual benefit.
- b) Ensure personal growth through the introduction of new financial products and services that will promote the economic base of the members.
- c) Ensure progress of members and SACCO Society through continuous education programs on savings and proper use of credit, reduction of poverty, human dignity and co-operation.
- d) Apply the co-operative principle of co-operation among co-operatives in order to promote members' interests, and in furtherance to this and other

objects, the SACCO Society may affiliate to the relevant National Co-operative Union and the Apex society.

- e) For the attainment of all or any of its objects, do any other activity that are permissible under the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act and the Co-operative Societies Rules; and these By-Laws; and all such other activities as are incidental or consequential to the economic enhancement of its members interests provided such activities are approved by the General Meeting.

4.3. PROHIBITED BUSINESS

Notwithstanding the general and specific objects herein above, the SACCO Society not engage in -

- a) foreign trade operations;
- b) dealing in crypto currencies;
- c) trust operations;
- d) custodial services;
- e) investing in venture capital;
- f) underwriting or placement of securities;
- g) purchase or otherwise acquisition of any land except as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of expanding the Sacco business beyond the prescribed limits;
- h) transacting business with non-members;
- i) the establishment of a corporate body or any other legal entity as its subsidiary, except with a written approval from the Authority and in accordance with the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020; or
- j) any other activity or business as the Authority may generally or specifically direct.

5. CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

5.1. CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

In order to achieve its objects, the SACCO society shall act in accordance with the following International Co-operative Principles as established in the Co-operative Societies Act, namely -

- a) **Voluntary and open membership**

The SACCO society shall always be guided by the principle of voluntary and open membership in its member recruitment drive without political, ethnic, religious, gender or social discrimination.

- b) **Democratic member control**

The SACCO society will be fully controlled by members who will have equal voting rights on the basis of one member one vote.

c) **Economic participation by member**

Members shall contribute equitably to the capital of the SACCO society and share in the results of its operations.

d) **Autonomy and independence**

The SACCO society shall operate on mutually acceptable terms with its stakeholders who will ensure its autonomy and independence.

e) **Education, training and information**

The SACCO Society shall foster reciprocal, on-going education programs for members, leaders, staff and the community so that they can teach and learn from each other or from the appropriate resource persons in understanding and carrying out their respective roles.

f) **Co-operation among co-operatives**

In order to better serve the interests of the members and the community, the SACCO Society shall actively co-operate with other co-operatives locally, regionally, nationally and internationally.

g) **Concern for community in General**

The SACCO Society shall show concern to the community in which it exists and operates.

5.2. CO-OPERATIVE VALUES AND ETHICAL BELIEFS

The SACCO Society shall in all its activities and operations uphold the Co-operative Values of self-help, mutual responsibility, equality and equity; and practice the Co-operative Ethical beliefs of honesty, openness and social responsibility.

6. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

6.1. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the SACCO Society shall consist of –

- a) original members who signed the application for registration; and
- b) new members subsequently admitted in accordance with these By-Laws.

6.2. QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP BY NATURAL PERSONS

A person who possesses the following qualifications shall be eligible for membership -

- a) Is within the field of membership consisting of the following –
 - (i) Is an employee of Farmers choice Ltd
 - (ii) Is an employee of a subsidiary and affiliate of Farmers Choice Ltd

- (iii) Is an employee of farmers Choice SACCO Society Ltd
- b) Has attained the age of 18 years;
- c) Is of good character and sound mind; and
- d) Pays the entrance fee and share capital as prescribed in these By-Laws.

6.3. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP BY INSTITUTIONS

Subject to compliance with the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act and these By-laws, an institution, whether corporate or unincorporated, may be eligible for membership of the SACCO Society, if the institution -

- a) is duly registered or incorporated under any applicable law relating to its registration or incorporation;
- b) has resolution of its governing organ to join the SACCO Society including names of members, office bearers and individuals authorized to transact on behalf of the institution;
- c) has a written constitution, By-Laws, Memorandum and Articles of Association or any other constitutive instrument, as may be applicable to the institution; and
- d) pays the entrance fee and subscribes to the minimum share capital as may be prescribed for institutional members in these By-Laws or the General Meeting

6.4. PROHIBITION AGAINST DUAL MEMBERSHIPS

No member of the SACCO Society shall belong to more than one SACCO Society serving similar purpose or objectives

6.5. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Every applicant for membership shall complete **an Application for Membership Form**; which **Form** shall require the applicant to disclose all the details and information necessary for the registration of a member, as well as comply with the international best practices on customer due diligence.

6.6. ADMISSION INTO MEMBERSHIP

An applicant shall be admitted to membership of the SACCO Society on application upon payment of an entrance fee of Kshs 500 and purchase of minimum shares as shall be fixed by the General meeting from time to time.

6.7. MEMBERS' NAMES TO BE ENTERED INTO THE MEMBERS REGISTER

Upon admission into the membership of the SACCO Society, the member's name and other particulars shall be entered in the membership register and a unique membership number issued to the member.

6.8. MINIMUM CONTENTS OF THE MEMBERS' REGISTER

The Members' Register shall be maintained in accordance with regulation 21 of the Regulations, 2020 and shall at the minimum contain the following information and details for each member –

- a) the name of the member in full;
- b) the unique number assigned to the member;
- c) the national identity card number or passport number of the member or any other national identification number assigned to the member pursuant to any applicable law;
- d) the personal identification number (PIN) of the member issued by the Kenya Revenue Authority;
- e) the number of shares subscribed to by the member;
- f) the total value of the shares subscribed to by the member;
- g) the gender of the member;
- h) the date of birth of the member;
- i) the addresses of the member including postal, physical, email address or other electronic addresses;
- j) the names and addresses of the next of kin of the member; and
- k) any other information or details as the Authority may prescribe or direct.

6.9. ELECTRONIC MEMBERS' REGISTER

The SACCO Society shall at all times maintain a members' register in an electronic format using a Management Information System (MIS) that conforms to the requirements of regulation 5(4)(b) of the Regulations 2020.

6.10. BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO ADMIT MEMBERS

Members shall be admitted to the SACCO Society by the Board of Directors subject to confirmation/ratification by the General Meeting held immediately following such admission.

6.11. MEMBERS ENTITLED TO COPY OF BY-LAWS

Upon admission into the membership of the SACCO Society, a member shall be entitled to receive a copy of these By-Laws in an appropriate electronic format through the member's disclosed electronic address; provided that upon request in writing a member shall be supplied with a physical or hard copy of the By-Laws upon payment of a fee not exceeding its actual cost.

6.12. REFUSAL OF ADMISSION

The Board of Directors may refuse admission to the membership of the SACCO Society, to any person or institution applying for membership, and shall assign reasons for such decision; provided that a person or institution, if otherwise

eligible for membership, shall have the right to appeal to the next General Meeting.

6.13. RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

A member of the SACCO Society shall have the right to -

- a) Attend, participate and vote in decision making at all General Meetings of the SACCO Society;
- b) be elected to governance organs of the SACCO Society, subject to compliance with any written law and these By-Laws;
- c) enjoy the use of all the facilities and services of the SACCO Society, subject to compliance with any written law and these SACCO Society's By-Laws;
- d) access all legitimate information relating to the SACCO Society, including a copy of these By-Laws; any internal Policies and Procedure Manuals; registers; minutes of General Meetings and Supervisory Committee reports; Annual Financial Statements; and any other inventories or accounts at the SACCO Society's registered office;
- e) to be furnished with a free statement for each account that provides adequate details of each transaction made during the period on a quarterly basis or upon request by a member, through an electronic media to the members' disclosed electronic address;
- f) an advance written notice of at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of a change in the features of the SACCO Society's products and services in accordance with the Regulations, 2020;
- g) a full and accurate disclosure of the terms and conditions for subscription to the SACCO Societies' shares or the terms and conditions for the mobilization of non-withdrawable deposits or the opening and operation of a non- withdrawable deposit account including the savings frequency, tariffs, penalties, commissions, charges and fees among others in accordance with the Regulations, 2020;
- h) a full and accurate disclosure of the minimum lending terms, legal obligations and requirements of either party, including the amount to be financed; the finance charges, such as the interest rate, fees and any other charges that may be imposed; the interest computation method (variable, fixed, flat or reducing) and the date interest charges begin to accrue; the conditions for refinancing of loans; frequency of issue of statements; and the collateral or security required to secure the lending;
- i) a full and accurate disclosure of the method employed to calculate any dividends payable on shares and interest payable on non-withdrawable deposits; and the frequency of the dividend or interest calculation and the time the dividends or interest are paid or credited to an account;

- j) any other right as may be conferred upon the member by the Co-operative Societies Act, the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, these By-Laws and any other applicable law.

6.14. OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

A member of the SACCO society shall have the obligation to -

- a) observe and comply with all the SACCO Society's By-Laws and decisions taken by the relevant organs of the SACCO Society or any directive issued by the Authority to the SACCO Society pursuant to any written law;
- b) ensure that only fit and proper members are elected to the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee;
- c) buy and pay up for shares or make any other regular payments provided for in these By-Laws;
- d) meet the debts of the SACCO Society in case of insolvency in accordance with the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act and these By-Laws; and
- e) any other obligation imposed by the Co-operative Societies Act, the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, these By-Laws and any other applicable law

6.15. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

The Membership in the SACCO Society shall cease with effect from the date of -

- a) Death;
- b) Withdrawal;
- c) Expulsion;
- d) Being certified insane;
- e) Transferring all shares to another member; or
- f) Ceasing to hold qualification for membership as specified in these By-Laws.

6.16. LIMITATION OF MEMBER'S RIGHT

The SACCO Society may limit a member's right –

- a) to be elected to a position of leadership in the SACCO Society in case of the member's failure to remit any regular savings and loan repayments for any period without valid reasons or leave of the SACCO Society; or
- b) of access to any or all of the financial services or products offered by the SACCO Society, if directed to do so by the Authority or pursuant to any written law.

7. SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION FROM MEMBERSHIP

7.1. GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION

The Board of Directors may -

- a) suspend a member from the membership of the SACCO Society for a period not exceeding twelve (12) months; and
- b) subject to ratification by General Meeting, recommend to the General Meeting, the expulsion of a member; if the member –
 - (i) fails to fulfill the members' obligations to the SACCO Society as provided in these By-Laws or general internal Policies or a resolution of the General Meeting or in contravention of any other legal document or written law;
 - (ii) is a member of another SACCO society serving similar purpose or objective;
 - (iii) acts in any manner prejudicial to the interests of the SACCO society.

7.2. PERIOD FOR SUSPENSION OF MEMBER

No member of the SACCO Society shall remain in suspension for a period of more than twelve (12) months.

7.3. GENERAL MEETING'S POWER OF EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

An Annual General Meeting may expel a member following a recommendation by the Board of Directors, or upon discussing the member's conduct on the floor of a General Meeting.

7.4. PROCEDURE OF SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Upon formal and written proof that a member has committed a violation punishable by expulsion, the Board of Directors shall -

- a) serve a written notice of not less than thirty (30) days to the member, clearly stating the reason(s) or ground(s) for the proposed expulsion and requiring the member to file a defense to the allegations; and
- b) upon the expiry of the thirty (30) days period, and taking into consideration the member's defense or response, if any, the Board of Directors shall initiate an administrative inquiry, and make a decision of its findings within fifteen (15) days; which may include –
 - (i) suspension of the member, pending consideration of a recommendation for expulsion by the General Meeting; or
 - (ii) imposition of any other punishment as may be prescribed in these By-Law or as may be directed by the General Meeting from time to time.

7.5. RIGHT OF APPEAL TO GENERAL MEETING

A suspended member may appeal to the General Meeting, if not satisfied with the decision of the Board of Directors, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the decision of the Board of Directors.

7.6. APPEAL TO THE TRIBUNAL

A member of the SACCO Society who is dissatisfied by the decision of the General Meeting, or is expelled from the SACCO Society shall have the right to appeal to the Tribunal.

8. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SACCO SOCIETY

8.1. NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL FROM MEMBERSHIP

A member of the SACCO Society may at any time withdraw from the membership by giving at least sixty (60) days written notice to the Board of Directors.

8.2. REFUND OF NON-WITHDRAWABLE DEPOSITS UPON WITHDRAWAL

The SACCO Society shall refund to a member the amount accumulated in the member's non-withdrawable account within sixty (60) days of receiving the written notification of the member to withdraw from membership of the SACCO Society in accordance with regulation 21(6) of the Regulations 2020.

8.3. PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL PROHIBITED

Partial withdrawal of non-withdrawable deposits from the SACCO Society shall not be allowed under any circumstances.

8.4. PAYMENT ON CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

On cessation of membership, a person shall be paid the following, less any outstanding obligations including any debts owed to the SACCO Society or for which the non-withdrawable deposits have been pledged as security or collateral

—

- a) the non-withdrawable deposits;
- b) any dividends and interests due prior to the cessation date;
- c) any other funds other than shares held by the Sacco Society on his/her behalf.

9. MEMBERS' NOMINEES

9.1. NOMINEE REGISTER

The SACCO Society shall at all times keep an updated nominees' register stating inter-alia the age, relationship with the member and the name of the guardian where nominee(s) is a minor, provided that the nominee register shall be maintained in an electronic format using a Management Information System (MIS) that conforms to the requirements of regulations 5(4)(b) of the Regulations 2020.

9.2. MEMBERS TO NOMINATE NOMINEES

Every member of the SACCO Society shall on admission into membership be required to nominate in writing one or more persons as the member's

nominee(s); and every such nomination shall be attested by at least two witnesses who are members of the SACCO Society.

9.3. MEMBER MAY CHANGE NOMINEE(S)

A member shall have the right to change the nominee(s) in writing, in the presence of at least two attesting witnesses who are members of the SACCO Society.

9.4. NAMES OF NOMINEES TO BE ENTERED INTO THE REGISTER

The names of the nominee(s) submitted by members and any changes made in respect thereof, shall be entered in the nominees' register maintained in accordance with these By-Laws.

9.5. PAYMENTS TO NOMINEE

The SACCO Society shall, upon obtaining such documentary proof of the death of a member, pay to the deceased member's nominee(s), the value of the deceased member's deposits, interest and dividend after deducting monies owed to the SACCO Society, if any, within one hundred and eighty (180) days.

9.6. ADMISSION OF NOMINEE INTO MEMBERSHIP

A nominee may be admitted to membership of the SACCO society upon request; and upon such request the shares, deposits, interest and dividends due to the deceased member shall be transferred to the account of that nominee, and the account of the deceased member shall be closed down forthwith.

10. FUNDS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

10.1. SOURCES OF FUNDS

The funds of the SACCO Society shall consist of –

- a) paid up members' shares;
- b) retained earnings;
- c) disclosed reserves
- d) grants and donations;
- e) borrowings from other sources as may be prescribed by the Authority.
- f) fines, penalties, fees or other charges lawfully imposed or charged by the SACCO Society;
- g) funds obtained from lawful and permitted activities; and
- h) any other sources consistent with these By-Laws or any other written law

10.2. CAPITAL ADEQUACY

The SACCO Society shall at all times maintain a core capital which shall comprise of –

- a) not less than five million shillings;

- b) not less than eight percent of the total assets of the SACCO Society; provided that at least fifty (50%) percent of the core capital shall be composed of retained earnings and disclosed reserves; and
- c) not less than five percent of the total non-withdrawable deposits held by the SACCO Society on behalf of its members.

10.3. HIGHER CAPITAL ADEQUACY

The SACCO Society shall however maintain a higher capital adequacy threshold if required or directed to do so by the Authority in accordance with the Sacco Societies Act and regulation 11(2) of the Regulations, 2020.

10.4. LIQUIDITY

The SACCO Society shall at all times maintain a liquidity ratio of not less than ten (10%) percent of its non-withdrawable deposits and short-term liabilities in liquid assets or such other higher liquidity ratio in accordance with a Liquidity Policy prepared in accordance with regulation 14 of the Regulations, 2020.

10.5. APPLICATION OF THE FUNDS

The funds accruing to or obtained by the SACCO Society in the course of its business shall be applied or devoted only to the promotion of the stated objects of the SACCO Society, the running of the SACCO Society and such other purposes as set in the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act and Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws or any other applicable law.

10.6. RESTRICTION ON INVESTMENTS

The SACCO Society shall not make financial investments in non-government securities, including investments in equities, collective investment schemes, bonds, commercial papers and notes, or derivatives, or equities of a subsidiary or a related entity, in excess of forty (40%) per-cent of its core capital; provided that the –

- a) investments in equities of any legal entity or a derivate issued by any legal entity shall not exceed twenty (20) percent of the prescribed limit at any given time;
- b) investments in collective investment schemes, bonds, commercial papers and notes, shall not exceed thirty (30%) per-cent of the prescribed limit at any given time; and
- c) investments in equities of a subsidiary or related entity shall not exceed fifty (50%) per-cent of the limit prescribed at any given time.

10.7. ANNUAL ESTIMATES AND EXPENDITURES

The Board of Directors shall prepare and submit to the General Meeting of the SACCO Society for approval, with or without amendments, the proposed estimates of income and expenditure together with the Capital Expenditure Budget for the ensuing financial year, at least three (3) months before the commencement of the ensuing financial year.

10.8. EXPENDITURE, RECEIPT OF MONIES AND DISBURSEMENTS

No expenditure shall be authorized to be incurred or incurred by the Board of Directors and/or Management of the SACCO Society, unless such expenditure has been specifically provided for in the estimates formally approved by the General Meeting; and

- a) all monies received by the SACCO Society shall be recorded and reconciled accordingly with the evidence as provided in the approved policies and procedures manuals; and
- b) all payments made by the SACCO Society shall be recorded and evidenced as provided for in the approved policy and procedure manuals.

10.9. FINANCIAL YEAR OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

The Financial year of the SACCO Society shall commence on 1st January and shall end on 31st December of each year in accordance with the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act and the Sacco Societies Act.

11. SHARES OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

11.1. PRESCRIBED MINIMUM SHARES

Every member of the SACCO Society shall hold at least 150 shares of Kshs 20 each or as shall be fixed by the General Meeting.

11.2. MAXIMUM SHAREHOLDING

No member of the SACCO Society shall hold more than one-fifth (1/5th) of the total shares of the SACCO Society at any one point.

11.3. TRANSFER OF SHARES.

With the approval of the Board of Directors, a member of the SACCO Society may at any time transfer the shares held by the member, to another member provided that such transfers shall be in writing and at nominal value.

11.4. REGISTRATION OF TRANSFER OF SHARES

All transfers of shares shall be registered with the SACCO Society, and no transfer shall be valid unless it is so registered, and the transfer fee in the sum of Kshs 200 or such other sums as may be fixed by the General Meeting from time to time, shall be payable by the transferee for each such transfer.

11.5. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS LIMITED TO SHARES HELD

The liability of each member of the SACCO Society shall be limited to the nominal value of the shares held by the member.

11.6. SHARE TO BE BASIS OF DISTRIBUTION IN LIQUIDATION

In the event of liquidation of the SACCO Society, where available funds are insufficient to pay the full nominal value of the shares held by members, the funds shall be distributed pro-rata among the shareholders according to the amount of shares held by each.

11.7. SHARES TO ATTRACT DIVIDENDS

The SACCO Society may –

- a) pay dividends on the shares held by its members based on financial performance for the year; subject to compliance with the regulatory requirements prescribed in the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations 2020 and approval of the General Meeting; and
- b) the shares of the SACCO Society held by any member shall attract dividends whenever declared in favour of the member –
 - (i) so long as such member's share capital remains in the SACCO Society; and
 - (ii) notwithstanding that such member may have withdrawn from membership of the SACCO Society and the member's non-withdrawable deposits refunded.

12. POWER TO BORROW

12.1. RESTRICTIONS ON BORROWING

Subject to compliance with the provisions of the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations, 2020; Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; and any other applicable law; the SACCO Society may borrow from other SACCO Societies, Government, securities market and other financial or development institutions subject to the maximum borrowing powers approved by the General Meeting.

12.2. LOANS FROM NON-MEMBERS

The SACCO Society may obtain loans from persons or institutions which are non-members, subject to compliance with the maximum borrowing powers fixed by the General Meeting, the prescribed limits of the total external borrowing for SACCO Societies, and to approval by the Commissioner.

12.3. SECURITY FOR LOANS

The SACCO Society may secure any of loans granted to it by a charge over any of its assets or class or group of assets; provided that -

- a) authority to grant a charge shall be reserved to the General Meeting of the SACCO Society; and
- b) the rate of interest on the loans shall not exceed the prevailing market rates.

13. GENERAL MEETING

13.1. SUPREME AUTHORITY VESTS IN THE GENERAL MEETING

Subject to the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act, the Sacco Societies Act and any other written law or directions of the Authority, the supreme authority of the SACCO Society shall be vested in the General Meeting of the SACCO Society.

13.2. COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL MEETING

The General Meeting of the SACCO Society shall be constituted of the members of the SACCO Societies

13.3. TYPES OF GENERAL MEETINGS

The SACCO Society shall have two types of General Meetings namely –

- a) Annual General Meeting; and
- b) Special General Meeting

13.4. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting shall be convened within four (4) months after the end of the SACCO Society's financial year.

13.5. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting of the SACCO Society may be held when convened by the –

- a) Board of Directors in accordance with these By-Laws; or
- b) Commissioner; or
- c) Board of the Directors within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a written request by at least 70 members or one-fourth (1/4th) of the members, whichever is less, **PROVIDED** that the request is deposited by registered mail at the SACCO Society's address or delivered to the Chief Executive Officer at the SACCO Society's registered head-office within normal working hours.

13.6. FAILURE TO CONVENE SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

If the Board of Directors fail to convene a Special General Meeting within fifteen (15) days of receipt of notice from members as provided herein above, such members shall convene the Special General Meeting as requested by notifying the Commissioner and the Board of Directors.

13.7. AGENDA AT SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Any business not completed at the Annual General Meeting, may be taken up at a subsequent Special General Meeting of the SACCO Society.

14. PROCEDURE OF MEETINGS

14.1. NOTICE OF MEETINGS

The General Meetings of the SACCO Society shall be convened by giving at least fifteen (15) days' written notice to the members, and the Secretary of the SACCO Society, shall take necessary measures and steps to publish the notice of meeting in public places, the websites of the SACCO Society, notice boards, local newspapers, including the print and electronic media or any other mode decided by the members.

14.2. AGENDA AT MEETINGS

All notices constituting a General Meeting of the SACCO Society shall include a statement of the business to be dealt with at the meeting.

14.3. QUORUM AT GENERAL MEETINGS

Except when convened by the Commissioner, the presence of at least 70 members or twenty-five (25%) percent of the total membership, whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business at the General Meeting.

14.4. ABSENCE OF QUORUM

When a quorum is not attained the Chairman shall -

- a) adjourn the meeting and fix a date for another meeting within one month, which shall be advertised as prescribed in these By-Laws; and
- b) if the quorum is again not attained, declare the meeting open with those present one hour after the advertised time of the meeting.

14.5. VENUE OF GENERAL MEETINGS

All General Meetings of the SACCO Society shall be held at a physical venue and place which shall be contained in the notice constituting the meeting, except that a meeting may be held on such terms and conditions as the Commissioner may direct.

14.6. VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The SACCO Society may hold its General Meeting virtually or both virtually and physically, in exceptional circumstances as may be determined by the Board of Directors taking into account any prevailing socio-economic, political, health or environmental circumstances limiting physical interactions.

14.7. VIRTUAL MEETINGS TO COMPLY WITH GUIDELINES

Where the Board of Directors opts to hold a virtual or a mixed virtual and physical General Meeting, then the Board of Directors of the SACCO Society shall –

- a) take measures to ensure that the General Meeting is constituted, held and conducted strictly in compliance with any circulars or guidelines or directives which may be issued by the Commissioner and/or the Authority from time to time, or any written law; and
- b) the members of the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive officer, and the Commissioner or representative shall be present within the SACCO Society's registered offices for purposes of the General Meeting.

14.8. DUTIES OF GENERAL MEETINGS

The General Meeting shall have the powers and duties prescribed in the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; these By-Laws, and any other applicable law; and in particular the General Meeting shall -

- a) consider and confirm the minutes of the previous General Meeting;
- b) consider reports of Committees, the Commissioner or the Authority on the audited financial statements of the SACCO Society's activities during the past financial year;
- c) consider and resolve on the manner in which any available surplus shall be distributed or invested, subject to Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; these By-Laws, and any other applicable law;
- d) elect or remove members of the board and the Supervisory Committee, subject to the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; these By-Laws, and any other applicable law;
- e) fix the indemnity for the elected Board Members and management staff;
- f) consider recommendations on expulsion of members and refusal of membership by the Board;
- g) fix the maximum liability which the SACCO Society may incur in loans and deposits from members and non-members;
- h) approve the estimates of income and expenditure for the financial year following the General Meeting;
- i) fix the honoraria, if any, for officers or employees of the SACCO Society;

- j) decide on the management structure, including the establishment of branches to facilitate efficient and cost-effective delivery of services to members;
- k) appoint external auditors of the SACCO Society for the ensuing year;
- l) approve affiliation to any National Co-operative Organizations for SACCO Societies and the Apex society;
- m) transact any other business of the SACCO Society for which notice has been given to members in the manner prescribed in these By-Laws.

14.9. RIGHT TO ATTEND GENERAL MEETINGS

All members of the SACCO Society shall have the right to attend the General Meetings of the SACCO Society; and to participate in its deliberations including voting on any resolution proposed.

14.10. RECORD OF BUSINESS

All business discussed or decided at the General Meeting shall be recorded without erasures and corrections in a Minute Book, which within one month of the meeting, shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting and at least one other member of the Board of Directors who was present at the meeting, to indicate that in their opinion the minutes are a true and complete record of all matters discussed or decided at the meeting.

15. CONSTITUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

15.1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS THE GOVERNING BODY

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of the SACCO Society elected from the general membership and shall consist of nine (9) non-executive members, elected by the members pursuant to the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act, these By-Laws and any other written law.

15.2. ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

No person shall be eligible as a member of the Board of Director if he/she -

- a) has not been a member of the SACCO Society for at least one (1) year prior to the Annual General Meeting;
- b) has been adversely named by the Commissioner in an Inquiry Report endorsed by a General Meeting for mismanagement or corrupt practices whilst still a member of the Board of a Co-operative Society or Union in the last ten (10) years, or mentioned adversely in any other national government inquiries where he/ she has been shown or alleged to be engaging or have engaged in dishonest activities;
- c) has been adversely named by the Authority in an Inspection Report for mismanagement or corrupt practices while still a member of the Board of Directors or officer of a SACCO Society in Kenya;

- d) has been barred or prohibited from holding office as a director or officer of a SACCO Society by the Authority;
- e) has been charged of any offence involving dishonesty, a crime involving fraud, perjury or breach of contract of a financial institution;
- f) has been convicted of any offence involving dishonesty or is imprisoned for three (3) months or more with a crime involving fraud, perjury or breach of contract of a financial institution;
- g) is delinquent on loans with the SACCO Society for any period within two (2) years prior to elections;
- h) shall not have attained a minimum of "O" level certificate of Education or equivalent except as otherwise expressly exempted by the Commissioner;
- i) is undischarged bankrupt;
- j) is under 18 years of age;
- k) is of unsound mind;
- l) is a member of the Board of Directors of another existing SACCO Society authorized or licensed under the Sacco Societies Act;
- m) is an official of or holds a political office at any level;
- n) does not conform to minimum qualification standards in accordance to any applicable law;
- o) has been removed from public office or barred from holding public office by any agency of the government, on disciplinary action;
- p) has not executed and submitted or caused to be submitted to the Authority, the Fit and Proper Test Form as provided in the Regulations, 2020;
- q) receives any remuneration, salary, or other payments from the society save as in accordance with the Cooperative Societies Act;
- r) lends money on his own account;
- s) is not an active member of the society and whose monthly savings and loan repayments have not been contributed to the society for a period of three months;
- t) is not able to read and write;
- u) is unreasonably loaned in contravention of the loan policy;
- v) is a person against whom any amount of money is due under a decree, decision or order pending recovery under the Cooperative Societies Act;
- w) does not meet any of the conditions passed in a resolution of the general meeting and approved by the commissioner.

15.3. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall include the Chairman, Vice chairman, Treasurer and Honorary Secretary all of whom shall be elected by the Board of Directors from amongst the members of the Board.

15.4. TERM OF OFFICE OF MEMBERS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Members of the Board of Directors shall hold office for a period of three years provided that, one-third of the members Board of Directors shall retire every year but may be eligible for re-election.

15.5. CO-OPTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Where the membership of the Board of Directors falls below five (5) members the Board of Directors shall co-opt qualified member(s) into the Board of Directors until the next General Meeting.

15.6. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the SACCO Society shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board of Directors, and shall be responsible to the Board for –

- a) presiding at all General Meetings, board meetings and joint meetings with the Supervisory Committee; and
- b) perform such other duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors, not inconsistent with provisions of the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; the By-Laws and any other applicable law.

15.7. THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

The Vice-Chairman of the Board shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board of Directors, and shall be responsible to the Board for –

- a) deputizing the Chairman of the Board;
- b) performing the duties of the Chairman of the Board, during the absence of the Chairman of the Board; and
- c) performing any such other duties as the board may as may be directed by the Board of Directors, not inconsistent with provisions of the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; the By-Laws and any other applicable law

15.8. HONORARY SECRETARY

The Honorary Secretary shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board of Directors, and shall be responsible to the Board for –

- a) causing all the minutes of the General Meetings, Board Meetings, and joint meetings with the Supervisory Committee to be recorded;
- b) ensuring that notices of all meetings are prepared and sent out;
- c) performing such other duties as may be directed by the Board of Directors, not inconsistent with provisions of the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations 2020; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; the By-Laws and any other applicable law

15.9. THE TREASURER

The Treasurer of the SACCO Society shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board of Directors, with knowledge and experience of accounting or financial matters, and shall be responsible to the Board and the General Meetings for -

- a) managing or causing to be managed, the financial and accounting affairs and transactions of the SACCO Society;
- b) ensuring that proper record is kept of all monies received and disbursed by the SACCO Society;
- c) ensuring the safekeeping of the SACCO Society's money;
- d) signing or counter-signing documents, contracts and cheques in accordance with these By-Laws and the financial policies and procedure manuals of the SACCO Society;
- e) ensuring compliance with all directives of the General Meetings, the Board of Directors, the Authority and the Commissioner, particularly with regard to all financial and accounting affairs of the SACCO Society;
- f) preparation and submission of the financial statements showing the financial condition of the SACCO Society, to the Board of Directors for consideration, at least fifteen (15) days after close of each month;
- g) presentation to the Board of Directors, an up-to-date listing of all overdue borrowers, including relevant actions taken or being taken to recover the loans;
- h) performing any other lawful duty as may be directed by the Board, or as may be assigned under these By-Laws, the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules or any other applicable law.

16. MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

16.1. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The Board of Directors of the SACCO Society shall –

- a) meet not more than fifteen (15) times in a financial year and not more than two months shall lapse between the date of one meeting and the date of the next meeting; and
- b) furnish the Authority with a certified copy of the minutes of its meeting on a semi-annual basis to be received not later than the 15th July and 15th January of each calendar year.

16.2. QUORUM AT MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The quorum at every meeting of the Board of Directors shall be at least two thirds (2/3rd) of the members of the Board of Directors.

16.3. FAILURE TO ATTEND MEETINGS

If a member of the Board of Directors fails to attend three consecutive meetings without being excused thereon, or otherwise fails to perform his/her duties, the position shall be declared vacant and may be filled as provided for in these By-Laws.

16.4. RECORD OF BUSINESS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All business discussed or decided at the meeting of the Board of Directors shall be recorded without erasures and corrections in a Minute Book, which within one week of the meeting, shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting and at least one other board member who was present at the meeting, to indicate that in their opinion the minutes are a true and complete record of all matters discussed or decided at the meeting, provided that the Minute Book may be maintained in an electronic format.

16.5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

At the next meeting, after approving any alterations or variations, which shall be written below the above signatures and not as alterations to the original record, the meeting shall, by resolution, authorize its Chairman to sign and date the final record.

16.6. PRESERVATION OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD

The SACCO Society shall ensure that all proceedings of the meetings of the Board and any Committee of the Board are recorded and kept in the head office where other records are kept and shall be preserved in the same way the assets of the SACCO Society are kept and preserved.

17. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD

17.1. LEGAL STANDARD OF CARE

In the conduct of the affairs of the SACCO Society, the Board of Directors shall at all times exercise prudence and diligence of ordinary men of business and shall be held, jointly and severally liable for any loss occasioned by their actions which are contrary to the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, any guidelines and directives issued by the Authority, the Co-operative Societies Act, and Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws, or the direction of any general meeting of the SACCO Society or any other applicable law.

17.2. DIRECTING AFFAIRS OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

The Board of Directors shall develop and implement a Board Charter to govern its internal operations and procedures; and shall subject to any directions from the General Meeting generally –

- a) direct the affairs of the SACCO Society; and

- b) provide visionary leadership by providing strategic directions on the Sacco business without engaging in operational activities of the Sacco Society.

17.3. SPECIFIC DUTIES AND POWERS

The Board of Directors shall in particular –

- a) observe in all its transactions and activities provisions of the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws, any other applicable law, and prudent business practices;
- b) ensure that the SACCO Society's functions effectively and that an adequate and effective internal controls and risk management systems are in place consisting of appropriate policies including human resource management, savings, liquidity, investment, dividend, risk management, membership administration, cash handling and information management and preservation among others;
- c) develop and approve the terms of reference of the various Board Committees, consistent with these By-Laws;
- d) ensure that the management maintains proper and accurate records that reflect the true and fair position of the SACCO Society's financial condition;
- e) prepare and develop business plans and annual budgets and estimates for presentation at the General Meeting;
- f) formulate the Electoral Policy to guide in the nomination and election process;
- g) appoint such number of Board Committees as maybe necessary to effectively discharge its functions;
- h) approve interest rates on loans, the maximum maturities and terms of payment or amortization of loans from time to time and the maximum amounts that may be loaned with or without security to any member as recommended by the SACCO Society's management;
- i) cause the audited financial statements of the SACCO Society to be displayed in a conspicuous place at its registered office, and branches at least two weeks before presentation of the financial statements to the members at the General Meeting;
- j) submission of the audited financial statements to the Authority for approval within three (3) months after the close of the financial year;
- k) implementing and/or incorporating any general or specific directives issued by the Authority with regard to the form of, or contents or proposals or other disclosures in the audited financial statements;
- l) subject to approval of the audited financial statements, lay before the General Meeting the audited financial statements of the SACCO Society, together with proposals for the disposal of net surplus, if any;

- m) subject to any directives issued by the Authority, recommend to the General Meeting, the dividend rate to be paid on shares, if any, and interest to be paid on non-withdrawable deposits;
- n) fill through co-option, vacancies occurring in the Board of Directors between General Meetings;
- o) authorize the conveyance of properties;
- p) authorize borrowing of the SACCO Society in accordance with these By-Laws and any other written law;
- q) approve and review lending policies of the SACCO society to ensure compliance with the Law;
- r) approve or ratify all loans to directors and employees of the SACCO Society;
- s) approve interest rates on loans to members as recommended by the Committee for the time being responsible for financial affairs of the SACCO Society;
- t) designate a depository or depositories for the funds of the SACCO Society;
- u) prepare and submit or cause to be submitted for approval, the Code of Conduct in the form set out in the Third Schedule of the Regulations, 2020;
- v) employ and fix the remuneration of the employees including the appointment of Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the approved Human Resource Policy and Manual;
- w) notify the Authority in writing of any intention to remove the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Regulations, 2020; and notify the Authority in writing within fifteen (15) days of appointment, resignation or removal of the Chief Executive Officer and in the case of resignation or removal, the reasons for such resignation or removal;
- x) impose or recommend the imposition of any fines or fees as provided for under these By-Laws;
- y) ensure that the SACCO Society budgets for and pays promptly pay all the taxes, levies, fees and/or other charges due to the Authority and/or any other government entity, as and when they fall due;
- z) ensure adequate provisions for known and probable losses and recommend to the General Meeting the write-off of bad debts;
- aa) perform or authorize any function consistent with the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, and these By-Laws, unless specifically reserved for the General Meeting;
- bb) provide adequate budget for education and training of members, and the capacity development of the Board and staff;
- cc) receive and consider reports from the established staff technical committees and Board Committees;

dd)perform any other duty or functions, and exercise any other power as provided in the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws and any other applicable law.

17.4. DELEGATION OF DUTIES TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Board of Directors may delegate to the Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society such duties as it deems fit; provided that such delegation shall not absolve the Board of Directors from its responsibility of running the affairs of the SACCO Society in a proper and business-like manner.

18. INDEMNITY BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

18.1. FILING OF INDEMNITY

Each member of the Board of Directors shall provide an indemnity of in such sums and amount as shall be approved by the General Meeting; and a duly completed **Form V in the Schedule** to the Co-operative Societies Rules shall be duly completed and lodged with the Commissioner and the Authority within fourteen (14) days upon election to the Board.

18.2. WEALTH DECLARATION UPON ELECTION

Every member of the Board of Directors shall within thirty (30) days of being elected declare and file with the Commissioner the statutory wealth declaration in the prescribed form as provided in the Public Officers Ethics Act, 2003 and the Code of Conduct issued pursuant thereto.

19. COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

19.1. RE-IMBURSEMENT TO BOARD MEMBERS

The members of the Board of Directors may be paid reimbursements or allowances for necessary expenses incurred in the course of discharging lawful duties shall be determined at such rates as the members may approve during the general meeting.

19.2. NO FIXED REMUNERATION OR SALARY

A member of the Board of Directors shall not receive remuneration in the form of a salary or any fixed periodic payments in respect of services rendered to the SACCO Society.

19.3. COMPENSATION TO BE DISCLOSED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board of Directors shall disclose in the audited financial statements, any compensation, fees, travel or meeting expense or reimbursement paid to each director of a SACCO society and each member of the Supervisory Committee, and shall be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

19.4. BOARD COMPENSATION POLICY

The SACCO Society shall develop and implement a Board Compensation Policy clearly detailing the rates of compensation or allowances payable to the members of the Board of Directors, taking into consideration the economic and financial condition of the SACCO Society, which Policy or any amendments thereto shall be approved by General Meeting of the SACCO Society.

19.5. AUTHORITY MAY VETO THE COMPENSATION POLICY

The Authority may at any time in the exercise of its mandate under the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020 veto the implementation of a Board Compensation Policy or any sections thereof, and may suspend the implementation of any such Policy or direct the review thereof as it may deem fit, taking into account its supervisory and regulatory mandate.

20. ELECTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

20.1. NOTICE OF VACANCIES

The Board of Directors shall notify the members of the SACCO Society of the vacancies arising in both the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee.

20.2. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

There shall be a Nominating Committee of the SACCO Society which shall be constituted in accordance with the SACCO Society's Electoral Policy, which shall be formulated by the Board of Directors to vet and clear the prospective candidates for elections.

20.3. RETURNING OFFICER TO PRESIDE OVER ELECTIONS

During elections –

- a) the Returning Officer shall present duly nominated candidates for the vacant positions;
- b) each candidate must have a proposer and a seconder;
- c) at the elections, members shall decide, by majority vote, the method of voting, which method may be either by secret ballot or queuing or by show of hands;
- d) no member shall be entitled to vote by proxy;
- e) irrespective of the number of shares held by him, no member shall have more than one vote.

20.4. SUBMISSIONS OF NAMES OF ELECTED PERSONS TO AUTHORITY

The Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society shall, within fourteen (14) days of the elections, submit to the Authority and the Commissioner the names and addresses of all persons elected to the Board of Directors and Supervisory

Committee, including their respective Fit and Proper Test Forms in accordance with the Regulations, 2020.

20.5. ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE

The new Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee of the SACCO Society elected at the General Meeting shall not assume office unless they have been cleared by the Authority, and satisfied the requirements of the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws, and any other applicable law, as to the indemnity, ethics, codes of conduct or any other matter.

21. REMOVAL AND SUSPENSION A MEMBER OF BOARD

21.1. REMOVAL BY THE AUTHORITY

The Authority may suspend from duty any member of the Board of Directors charged in a court of law with an offence involving fraud or dishonesty pending the determination of the matter, directly or indirectly violates the Act, Regulations and these bylaws.

21.2. REMOVAL BY MAJORITY OF BOARD MEMBERS

By a majority of the members of Board of Directors, the Board of Directors may by a resolution, suspend a Board Member for a period not exceeding twelve (12) months, and recommend to the next General Meeting of the SACCO Society, the removal of such Board Member, on the ground and/or for reasons of –

- a) failure to disclose any vested interests; or
- b) Any other good cause.

21.3. CESSATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE BY A BOARD MEMBER

A member of the Board of Directors of the SACCO Society shall cease to hold office, if he/she –

- a) ceases to hold the qualifications of a Board of Director as specified in the Sacco Societies, the Regulations, 2020, these By-Laws; or any other applicable law;
- b) is removed or suspended by the Authority under the provisions of the Sacco Societies, the Regulations, 2020 or any other applicable law;
- c) is voted out by two-thirds (2/3rd) majority of members present and voting at the General Meeting;
- d) is removed by the Commissioner under the provisions of Co-operative Societies Act and the Co-operative Rules;
- e) continuously fails to remit savings/deposits or repay his/her loans for a period of six months

22. BOARD COMMITTEES

22.1. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES

The Board of Directors may delegate to any of its Committees, such powers, duties and responsibilities pursuant to these By-Laws or other internal policies as it deems fit and proper; provided that one of the Board Committees shall be the Credit and Risk Management Committee.

22.2. RESTRICTIONS ON CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES

The number of Board Committees of the SACCO Society shall not in any event exceed three (3) Committees, consisting of members drawn from the Board of Directors; and -

- a) members of the Board shall not sit in more than two committees; and
- b) the Chairman shall not sit in any of the Board Committees, but may attend any Committee meetings upon invitation in writing by the Committee;
- c) a member of the Board shall not chair more than one Board Committee; and
- d) the functions and/or duties and/or responsibilities traditionally performed by the Audit or Risk Committees of the Board –
 - (i) shall be strictly performed by the Supervisory Committee of the SACCO Society in accordance with regulation 58 of the Regulations 2020 and these By-Laws; and
 - (ii) the Board of Directors shall not establish or create another Board Committee to perform the said functions and/or duties and/or responsibilities.

22.3. THE CREDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Credit and Risk Management Committee of the Board which shall consist of not more than three (3) members of the Board, and which shall perform the duties of –

- a) ensuring the establishment and review of appropriate credit and risk management policies consistent with the relevant provisions of the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020 and these By-Laws.
- b) regularly assessing the loan quality of the SACCO Society to ensure that the portfolio at risk is within tolerable level;
- c) receiving and considering reports and recommendations from the Technical Credit Committee;
- d) ensure that the problem loan accounts are adequately identified and classified as prescribed in the Regulations;
- e) ensure adequate provisions for potential loss is maintained;
- f) review periodic credit and loan portfolio reports of the SACCO Society before submission to the Board.

22.4. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Finance & Administration Committee shall consist of three members from the Board. Its duties shall be to;

- a) Review and make recommendations to the board on the financial plans of the Sacco society ensuring its adequacy and soundness in providing for the Sacco Society current operations and long-term stability.
- b) Review, discuss and make recommendations to the board concerning significant financial planning, management and reporting issues of the Sacco society
- c) Review periodic financial statements of the Sacco society before submission to the board.
- d) Consider and advice the board on investments and borrowings.
- e) Make recommendations to the board on capital expenditure projects.
- f) Ensure all expenditure of the Sacco society are within the approved budgets
- g) Monitor the management's adherence to the procurement plans approved by the board
- h) Review and make recommendation on finance related policies including investments, capital adequacy and financial performance monitoring.
- i) Ensure the Sacco society has liquidity management policies as prescribed in the Regulations.
- j) Review loan interest rates and other levies proposed by the management and make recommendations to the board for approval.
- k) Review and make recommendations on appropriate Human Resource Policies,
- l) Review the organizational structure of the Sacco Society and ensure its manned by staff with relevant skills and experience.
- m) Ensure that periodic reviews of staff performance are conducted.
- n) Examine and recommend Human Resource expenditure for approval by the board.
- o) Ensure establishment of management succession plan in the Sacco society.
- p) Ensure the management adheres to the approved human resource and related policies

22.5. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The Business Development and Education Committee shall consist of three members from the Board and the CEO or his nominee as its secretary. The Business Development and Education Committee is expected to perform the following duties: -

- a. Identification and determination of education needs of the members, the Board of Directors, employees and of the potential members, in the principles and techniques of cooperatives, both economic and democratic.
- b. Evaluating the education and training activities of the Society.
- c. Create good relations between the Board of Directors, staff, members, other co-operative suppliers, business and public at large for increased productivity of the organization.

- d. Acquire information on behalf of the Society, with a view to setting up well knowledge base. This could include but not limited to the cooperative Act, Rules and By-laws, policies, cooperative texts and journals.
- e. Arrange for education and tours in liaison with other members of the Board of Directors.
- f. Advise the Board of Directors and members in general on matters within their jurisdiction, such as in event of any changes in the policies and legislation.
- g. Ensuring that adequate funds have been allocated for education purposes and utilized properly, for the benefit of the whole Society.
- h. Represent the organization in other bodies carrying educational functions.
- i. Preparation of educational reports depending on the needs of the Society.
- j. Identification, collection and preparation of co-operative news on behalf of the Society.
- k. Monitor implementation of educational programs formulated to ensure that the members and the Board are well trained and prepared for the tasks they are entitled with.
- l. Advising the Board on necessary revisions and/or amendments to the Society's Strategic Direction in view of emerging business and market trends.
- m. Receive and review regular reports of various Marketing and Customer Service-related matters and guide management on continuous improvement efforts.

23. SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

23.1. ESTABLISHMENT OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The SACCO Society shall have a Supervisory Committee consisting of three (3) members each elected at the General Meeting for a period of three years, and one member of the supervisory committee shall retire annually.

23.2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERS OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

A member shall be qualified and eligible for elections to the Supervisory Committee of the SACCO Society, if the members –

- a) have qualifications similar to those of Board Members; and
- b) have at least one (1) of person bearing some knowledge or qualifications in accounting or finance;

Provided that no person who has been in the Board within two years preceding the date of anticipated election shall be eligible for membership of the supervisory committee.

23.3. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The members of the Supervisory Committee –

- a) may be suspended or removed from office by the Authority or by a resolution of the General Meeting in the same manner and for the same reasons or grounds, as the suspension or removal of members of the Board of Directors or any other officer of the SACCO Society; and

- b) shall cease to hold office in the same manner, and for the same reasons or grounds as the cessation to hold office by Board Members.

23.4. MEETINGS OF THE SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

In addition to the joint meetings held with members of the Board or any other routine meetings held with the management for purpose of exercising their duties, the Supervisory Committee shall hold at least one meeting in every quarter.

23.5. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The Supervisory Committee, shall in addition to the duties assigned to it under the Co-operative Societies Rules, perform the following functions in accordance with the Regulations 2020 -

- a) review internal controls including the scope of the internal audit program, the internal audit findings, and recommend action to be taken by management;
- b) review internal audit reports and their overall effectiveness, the scope and depth of audit coverage, reports on internal control and any recommendations and confirm that appropriate action has been taken;
- c) ensure that accounting records and financial reports are promptly prepared to accurately reflect operations and results;
- d) review management reports, and reports from the internal and external auditors concerning deviations and weaknesses in accounting and operational controls;
- e) propose to the Board, the names of three (3) qualified persons, to be recommended to the General Meeting, for appointment as external auditors of the SACCO Society;
- f) monitor the ethical conduct of the SACCO Society and consider the development of ethical standards and requirements, including –
 - (i) effectiveness of procedures for handling and reporting complaints;
 - (ii) reviewing any related party transactions that may arise within the SACCO Society;
 - (iii) verifying that relevant plans, policies, and control procedures are established and properly administered;
 - (iv) investigating members' complaints and making recommendations for redress;
 - (v) considering any matter of significance raised by members during the General Meetings of the SACCO Society or the Authority or the Commissioner

23.6. REPORTS TO THE BOARD

The Supervisory Committee shall prepare and submit quarterly reports to be presented to a joint meeting with the Board of Directors within thirty (30) days after the end of each quarter.

23.7. REPORTS TO AUTHORITY

The Supervisory Committee shall submit or cause to be submitted to the Authority all quarterly reports of the Supervisory Committee, together with comments and actions made by the Board of Directors, within thirty (30) days, after presentation to the Board of Directors.

23.8. INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION TO TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The internal audit function of the SACCO Society shall be responsible to the Supervisory Committee and provide technical and secretarial support and services to the Supervisory Committee in accordance with the Regulations, 2020; and the Chief Executive Officer and management staff provide appropriate facilitation to the Supervisory Committee in the performance of its duties

23.9. LEGAL STANDARD OF CARE AND COMPENSATION FOR SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE

The members of the Supervisory Committee shall be held to the same legal standard of care as the Board of Directors, and shall be compensated under similar terms and circumstances; as prescribed for the members of the Board of Directors in these By-Laws.

24. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND STAFF OF THE SACCO SOCIETY**24.1. APPOINTMENT BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The SACCO Society shall have a Chief Executive Officer who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors on such terms and conditions as the Board of Directors shall approve provided that prior to appointing a person to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society, the Board of Directors shall submit or cause to be submitted to the Authority, the names and other particulars of the person proposed for such appointment, for approval.

24.2. APPOINTMENT TO TAKE EFFECT UPON APPROVAL

No formal appointment of a person to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society shall take effect unless the Authority's written approval has been granted to the SACCO Society; and the Board of Directors shall notify or cause the Authority to be notified, within fifteen (15) days of formal appointment of the Chief Executive Officer

24.3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for the day to day running of the affairs of the SACCO Society, including but not limited to -

- a) the implementation of and adherence to the prescribed policies, procedures and standards;
- b) ensuring that systems have been established to facilitate efficient operations and communication;
- c) ensuring that strategies are developed and employed to facilitate achievement of targets and objectives;
- d) overseeing human resource management and development;
- e) adherence and ensuring that the SACCO Society and its staff are at all time in compliance with the established Code of Conduct; the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, any guidelines and/or directives issued by the Authority; the Co-operative Societies Act; the Co-operative Societies Rules; these By- Laws; and any other applicable laws;
- f) advice the board of directors in formulating, preparing and implementing long term policies and programs of the Society through board papers and technical reports as appropriate;
- g) any other matter concerning the operations and activities of the SACCO Society as the Authority may direct.

24.4. PRESENTATION OF BOARD PAPERS TO THE BOARD

The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that the Board of Directors is frequently and adequately appraised on the operations and activities of the SACCO Society through presentation of relevant reports which shall cover, but not limited to the following –

- a) financial statements (monthly, quarterly and annual) indicating current compared with past period actual performance, the budget compared with the actual expenditure and explanations for any variances;
- b) showing current compared with past period actual performance, the budget compared with the actual and with explanations for any variances;
- c) capital structure and adequacy;
- d) delinquent loan list, and in particular growth in loans, loan losses, recoveries and provisioning;
- e) sources and application of savings and deposits;
- f) statement of comprehensive income (monthly, quarterly and annual) including a comparison of the budget against actual;
- g) all insider lending and non-performing insider loans if any;
- h) any violation or suspected violation of the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative

- Societies Rules, or any other applicable law; and remedial actions taken or proposed to be taken, to comply and remedy the violation;
- i) large risk exposures including but not limited to the exposures limits or risks prescribed in the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, or any other applicable law;
 - j) investment portfolio;
 - k) any regulatory reports, and internal reports;
 - l) any other relevant areas to the Sacco society's operations; and
 - m) any other matter as may be directed by the Authority from time to time.

24.5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS

The Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society or any position appointed by the Board of Directors to discharge the duties and responsibilities of a Chief Executive Officer of the SACCO Society in accordance with these By-Laws, shall -

- a) attend all meetings of the Board of Directors and all General Meetings of the SACCO Society, as an ex-officio member;
- b) be a signatory and the custodian to SACCO Society cheques, contracts, records and other documents as may be necessary; and
- c) perform any such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Authority or the Board of Directors.

24.6. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The SACCO Society shall not remove the Chief Executive Officer except with prior written notification to the Authority in accordance with regulation 64 of the Regulations 2020; which notification shall clearly state the grounds or reasons for the intended removal.

24.7. NOTIFICATION OF REMOVAL OR RESIGNATION OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Board of Directors shall notify the Authority, within fifteen (15) days of the resignation or removal of the Chief Executive Officer and in the case of resignation or removal, the Board of Directors shall indicate the reasons for such resignation or removal.

24.8. REMOVAL OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BY THE AUTHORITY

Notwithstanding anything in these By-Laws or any internal policies of the SACCO Society, the Chief Executive Officer and any other officer of the SACCO Society may be removed from office by the Authority or upon the direction of the Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Sacco Societies Act and Regulations, 2020.

25. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICERS

25.1. APPLICATION OF PUBLIC OFFICERS ETHICS ACT, 2003

All officers of the SACCO Society, including the Directors, members of the Supervisory Committee, Chief Executive Officer and other members of staff, shall comply with the requirements of the Public Officer Ethics Act, 2003 and the Code of Conduct made thereunder, including any Governance Guidelines as may be issued by the Ethics Commission for Co-operatives

25.2. THIRD SCHEDULE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICERS

The SACCO Society shall prepare a Code of Conduct which substantially conforms to the form set out in the ***Third Schedule to the Regulations, 2020*** for the approval of the Authority; and upon approval, the SACCO Society shall ensure that each and every officer thereof executes and abides by the Code of Conduct at all times.

25.3. CONFIDENTIALITY

The members of the Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee, and all other officers of the SACCO Society shall –

- a) hold in the strictest confidence all transactions of between the SACCO Society and its members; and
- b) comply with and/or cause the SACCO Society to comply with the provisions of the Data Protections Act, 2019 with regard to members' data and information.

25.4. CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

No member of the Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee or any other officer of the SACCO Society, shall in any manner participate in the deliberations and determination of any question affecting his/her financial interest. In the event of any disqualification, the remaining qualified members of the Board or Supervisory Committee or officers present at the meeting, if constituting a quorum with the disqualified person may exercise, with respect to the matter, all powers of the Board or Committee or management as the case may be.

25.5. COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODES OF CONDUCT

The SACCO Society and every officer of the SACCO Society shall at all times ensure and/or secure the compliance with the Codes of Conducts herein; including taking appropriate measures to implement any directives issued by the Authority or any other public body towards enforcing compliance with the Codes of Conduct.

26. BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

26.1. MANDATORY MAINTENANCE OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

The SACCO Society shall keep and maintain an up to date, and in a proper, accurate and business-like manner, in an electronic manner within its Management Information System (MIS), including and but not limited to the books of accounts and records as stipulated in the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act, the Co-operative Societies Rules, these By-Laws and any other applicable law; and in particular –

- a) a register of all registered members;
- b) a register of members' nominees;
- c) a register of all policies and procedure manuals approved by the Board, including any amendments to the policies and procedure manuals;
- d) a minute books giving details of proceedings of meetings of the Board of Directors; the Board Committees; the joint Board and Supervisory Committee; the Supervisory Committee; and any other meetings held in accordance with these By-Laws;
- e) minute book giving details of proceedings at the General Meetings;
- f) a cashbook showing the details of all monies received or paid out by the SACCO Society;
- g) a general ledger containing such accounts as is necessary to accurately reflect the business of the SACCO Society;
- h) a personal ledger for each member showing all the transactions with the SACCO Society;
- i) a register of assets and property;
- j) a loan application register showing amounts and the date when the loan was applied;
- k) a loan listing of loans to members showing in respect of each loan, the loan number, name of the borrower, age of borrower, gender of the borrower, the amount borrowed, the purpose of the loan, application date, interest applied, amortization type, repayment period, disbursement date, security, outstanding balance, the due date of repayments and the date repayments were completed and any other matter prescribed;
- l) such other books and records as the board or the Authority may decide or prescribe from time to time.

26.2. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO DENOMINATED IN KENYA SHILLINGS

The accounts and the financial records of the SACCO Society shall be denominated in Kenya shillings and shall comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and any reporting requirements as prescribed in the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, or as the Authority may direct generally or specifically,

27. POLICIES AND PROCEDURE MANUALS

27.1. BOARD TO MAKE POLICIES

The Board of Directors of the SACCO Society shall make and approve such policies and procedures as they shall deem necessary for the conduct of the business of the SACCO Society, including but not limited to the policies prescribed in the Sacco Societies Act; the Regulations, 2020; these By-Laws and any applicable law, or as may be directed by the Authority from time to time.

27.2. REGISTER OF POLICIES

The SACCO Society shall maintain an updated register of all policies and/or procedure manuals made and approved by the Board of Directors, an original copy of the policy duly; containing the name and/or other particular details of the policy, the date of approval of the policy; where any amendments have been made to the policies, the date of approval of the amendment.

27.3. AUTHORITY TO INSPECT POLICIES

The SACCO Society shall, when required to do so by the Authority, promptly avail copies of its policies and the register for inspection, in accordance with the requirements of the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020.

28. INSPECTION OF DOCUMENTS, BOOKS OF ACCOUNTS ETC,

28.1. INSPECTION BY AUTHORITY

All the books of accounts, financial statements and other records, whether held physically or electronically, shall at all times be available for inspection by the Authority, the Commissioner and/or the Supervisory Committee.

28.2. INSPECTION OF REGISTRATION AND AUTHORIZATION CERTIFICATES

The SACCO Society's By-Laws; the original Registration Certificate issued under the Co-operative Societies Act; and the original Authorization Certificate issued under the SACCO Societies Act; shall at all times be available and prominently displayed in a conspicuous place within the SACCO Society's registered head-office, for inspection by the Authority, the Commissioner, members, any other government agency, or pursuant to any applicable law.

28.3. INSPECTION OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The register of members (excluding details of nominees and shareholdings, deposits and loans), maintained in accordance with the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, and these By-Laws, shall be available for inspection by the any member and any other stakeholder upon payment of a prescribed fee.

29. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

29.1. REFERENCE TO THE TRIBUNAL

If any dispute arises, which cannot be determined by the Board of Directors or the General Meeting or through Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms, concerning the business of the SACCO Society -

- a) Among members, past members and persons claiming through members, past members and deceased members; or
- b) Between members, past members or deceased members, and the SACCO Society, its committee or any officer of the SACCO Society; or
- c) Between the SACCO Society and any other Co-operative Society; or
- d) Between the SACCO Society and the Authority;

then, such dispute shall be referred to the Co-operative Tribunal established under the Co-operative Societies Act.

29.2. APPEALS TO THE HIGH COURT

All appeals emanating from the Co-operative Tribunal shall be filed in the High Court in accordance with the provisions of the Co-operative Societies Act.

29.3. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS

A dispute between a SACCO Society and its members or other persons may be settled amicably through Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms; and at the instance of either party to the dispute; such a dispute may be referred to the Authority for alternative dispute resolutions.

30. COMMON SEAL OF THE SACCO SOCIETY

30.1. ADOPTION AND USE OF COMMON SEAL

The SACCO Society shall adopt and use a common seal. The seal shall have an imprint bearing the words "**Seal of Farmers Choice Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (Regulated Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking SACCO / Regulated Non-WDT-SACCO)**" which shall be different from the ordinary name-stamp of the SACCO Society.

30.2. CUSTODY OF THE COMMON SEAL

The common seal of the SACCO Society shall at all times be kept securely under lock and key by the Chief Executive Officer; and shall be used only in the presence of the officers authorized to sign documents on behalf of the SACCO Society.

30.3. USE OF THE COMMON SEAL IN DOCUMENTS

Where the common seal of the SACCO Society is used in any document, the seal shall be authenticated by the signature of the Chairman of the Directors and the Chief Executive Officer or any other officer authorized by the Board of the SACCO Society.

31. MISCELLANEOUS

31.1. AUTHORIZED SIGNATORIES

The authorized signatories of the SACCO Society shall be the Chairman or the Treasurer; and any one other Board Member, and the Chief Executive Officer who shall be a mandatory signatory.

31.2. DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS FUNDS

Subject to the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations, 2020, any directives of the Authority, and approval by the General Meeting, the net surplus resulting from operations of the Sacco society during any financial year may be disposed-off as follows –

- a) credited to the Reserve Fund;
- b) disposed of as decided by the General Meeting -
 - (i) for paying dividends on shares,
 - (ii) being forwarded to Education Fund or any other fund or funds of the SACCO Society including the appropriations,
 - (iii) paying honorarium to members of the Board, Supervisory Committee and/or bonus to management staff, or
 - (iv) in any other way recommended by the Board, and approved by the General Meeting.

31.3. RESTRICTION ON PAYMENTS OF DIVIDENDS, HONORARIA ETC

The SACCO Society shall not declare or propose for payment or pay any dividends on shares or honorarium or bonus to any officer, or make any other gratuitous payments to any officer, where the SACCO Society –

- a) has not met or maintained the prescribed core capital and capital adequacy requirements;
- b) has not met or maintained the prescribed liquidity ratios;
- c) has not complied with any specific or general directives issued by the Authority in respect of the financial condition of the SACCO Society;
- d) has been prohibited by the Authority from making such payments pursuant to the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020.

31.4. FINES FOR BREACH OF BY-LAWS

Any member of the SACCO Society, who without lawful cause breaches or violates these By-Laws or lawful instructions issued by the Board of Directors and/or the General Meeting, or who fails to honor his/her obligations on time, may be fined a sum of money not exceeding twenty thousand shillings (Kshs 20,000.00)

31.5. DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

The SACCO Society shall be dissolved and/or liquidated in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Sacco Societies Act, the Regulations 2020, the Co-operative Societies Act and the Co-operative Societies Rules.



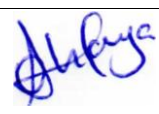
31.6. AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended only in accordance with the Co-operative Societies Act and the Co-operative Societies Rules, and the Sacco Societies Act and the Regulations, 2020 made thereunder, provided that –

- a) the SACCO Society shall obtain a prior written approval of the Authority before proposing to members any amendments to these By-Laws; and
- b) no amendment shall become effective until it is approved and duly registered by the Commissioner.

31.7. ACCEPTANCE

We, the undersigned Board Members of Farmers Choice Savings and Credit Co-operative Society Limited (Regulated Non-WDT-SACCO) named herein do hereby accept these by laws for and on behalf of the SACCO Society.

	NAME AND DESIGNATION	IDENTITY CARD NUMBER	SIGNATURE	DATE
1	SAMSON MUGET MWANISI CHAIRMAN	3740731		
2	VICE-CHAIRMAN			
3	CHARLES IKELIA SECRETARY	9644104		21/6/21
4	CAROLINE A. OHATA TREASURER	21380900		23/6/2021

OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY that the foregoing by-laws of the Farmers Choice Savings and Credit Cooperative Society Limited (Regulated Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking SACCO / Regulated Non-WDT-SACCO) have been approved and duly registered.

Given under my hand at Nairobi this..... Day of..... 20.....
COMMISSIONER FOR CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT

