



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

### 1. WHO WE ARE

What is the African Women's Movement (AWM)?

AWM is a volunteer based, non-profit organisation headquartered in Rivonia, South Africa. We are PRO-women, PRO-success group of PROfessionals who are motivated and passionate about women inclusiveness in the African economy. Our vision is to be the African change agent that prepares every emerging woman professional to be able to occupy leadership roles of influence and power i.e. key decision making positions.

### 2. HOW TO JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Who qualifies to join AWM?

We welcome any professional woman located anywhere in the world who considers themselves to be African or identifies with being African to join the movement as a member. In this context, **women** refers to those who identify themselves as female and **professional** as those who are engaged **or** qualified in a profession **or** those who are competent **or** skilled through RPL (Recognised Prior Learning) in any particular field.

I consider myself as a woman professional and am interested in becoming an AWM member. How do I join?

Congrats!!! Getting started is easy. Click [here](#) to sign up as a member. Alternatively, you can fill the [application form](#) and email it to [member@awmovement.org](mailto:member@awmovement.org). You will then receive a welcome email and thereafter be allocated a unique membership number.

There are so many other women organisations around. Why should I join AWM?

Our unique selling point is that we prioritise self-development. We are deliberate and active in ensuring that women equip themselves with tools that build self-esteem and confidence. This is our way of acknowledging the dire effects patriarchy has on women. Our goal is to assist groups and individuals to identify and resolve the effects of patriarchy that continue to hold women back from rising up the ranks to achieve gender equality. As such, we have partnered with Hawa Charfaray of Training Excellence, Mireille Karera of Kora Coaching Group as well as relationship expert Paula Quinsee to provide our members with the best life coaching, training, seminars and a gourmet of self-development resources. These award winning women also have extensive international experience and have served organisations such as the World Bank, Thomson and Reuters, Centre of Economic Leadership and Development to name a few. These services are offered to AWM members at discounted rates of up to 40%

### How much is the Membership fee?

As of 1 January 2018, membership fee is R100 payable each calendar year running from January to December.

### What are the Membership benefits?

Membership includes a unique membership number and discounts to attend AWM flagship events. You also qualify for special discounts and services with our training and coaching partners Training Excellence and Kora Coaching Group.

## 3. AWM NETWORKING EVENTS

### What is the format of the AWM networking events?

AWM has three flagship events; The Frank Talk, open to all industries, Business For Breakfast (Johannesburg only) that is industry focused, as well as the book club titled "Beyond The Book" that is designed to promote books that enable women to prepare themselves to occupying leadership positions of influence and power as well as the AWM Circles which are smaller regional groups. There are also various ad-hoc networking events, seminars, workshops, collaborative events, get-aways, learning expeditions as well as invitations from other organisations communicated only to members.

### What is the profile of the guest speakers invited at AWM events?

AWM has two flagship events every month, the Frank Talk (not industry focused) as well as the Business for Breakfast (industry focused). An influential speaker is invited to teach us about the principles of success and the power of focus. In the past, we have had the honour of hosting Judy Dlamini, Nonkululeko Gobodo, Yvonne Chaka Chaka, Portia Derby, Advocate Nomvula Mokhatla, Johanna Mukoki, Basetzana Kumalo, Advocate Brenda Madumise, David Kau, Dr Terence Nombembe, Mohale Ralebitso, Bright Malopa, Dr Eugene Watson, Nozipho Mbanjwa, Nola Mashaba but to name a few. We endeavour inviting influential women and men with influence and power to draw lessons from their wisdom and experience.

### Why should I attend AWM networking events?

We have research focused networking events designed for women professionals. We make an effort in creating slots such as the AWM Ice-Breakers that leave attendees with no choice but to talk to one another. This method has led to the formation of various meaningful personal and business relationships for our members. Our events are highly energised and we try to have prize draws at the end where we give away prizes donated by member businesses and corporate sponsors in the name of fund raising.

### Who attends AWM events?

AWM events are mainly attended by emerging women professionals who seek a platform that advocates for growth and balance in one's personal and professional life. The attendees are from varying professions such as chartered accountants, lawyers,

engineers, doctors, actuaries, creatives, those that hold key government positions but to name a few. Seventy three percent of attendees are official AWM members.

**How often are events organised and how will I know if there is an event?**

All AWM events can be found on our website which we endeavour to keep up to date as best as we can (<http://awmovement.org/events/> ). In the event of any abrupt changes in dates, venue or other similar changes, we endeavour to notify those who have RSVP'd via SMS in time.

**Can I invite my friends and colleagues to the event?**

Absolutely! You are encouraged to invite your like-minded friends who believe in the spirit of sisterhood and those who support the upliftment of women in key decision making positions in the economy. At AWM, we recognise that when more powerful women meet in the name of empowering one another and collaborating, the louder our voices become and the more positive impact we can effect in our communities. We also welcome men to our events and recognise them as key collaborators in achieving our goals.

**Can non-members attend AWM networking events?**

Non-members are welcome to attend AWM events as non-members at a higher rate than members.

#### **4. OPPORTUNITY TO ADVERTISE ON THE AWM PLATFORM**

**I am interested in advertising at an AWM conference, workshop, event... What is the process?**

We offer varying advertising opportunities on the AWM platform. To find out more about our offering, please contact Refilwe Matenche on [refilwe@awmovement.org](mailto:refilwe@awmovement.org) and we will provide a custom made quotation.

#### **5. SPONSORSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERS**

**I am interested in sponsoring a prize for an AWM event to promote my product/service/business. How do I go about it?**

Contact us at [events@awmovement.org](mailto:events@awmovement.org) stating clearly the prize you would like to sponsor and we will contact you within 24 hours.

**How does the organisation sustain itself and how can I assist?**

We rely on donations (in cash and kind), corporate sponsors, selling merchandise and fundraising initiatives. We welcome donations from members and non-members as well as volunteers in form of time. This is to assist the movement sustain its advocacy work.

### How can one be an AWM volunteer?

AWM is a non-profit company that relies on volunteers to sustain itself. We especially need volunteers in the following areas:

1. Research – for advocacy needs analysis in the four core groups including the effective, most efficient and sustainable solutions and approaches etc.
2. Events preparation and coordination – planning, set up, registration, sales, ushering etc.
3. Fundraising – raffles, books, event tickets etc.

If you are interested in being an AWM volunteer, please complete your details here (it will take less than 20 seconds).

### What are the benefits of being an AWM volunteer?

At AWM we have phenomenal influential speakers that come through to teach us about the principles of success. Volunteers may get the opportunity to network directly with our guests to promote their personal ambitions. We also award our volunteers with certificates for every 10 tasks completed in a prestigious ceremony once a year.

### How can an organisation partner with AWM?

We offer varying corporate membership packages payable per annum to corporates. [Click here](#) for our corporate packages as well as to view benefits that would best suit your organisation.

We also partner with other advocacy groups and have an ongoing relationship with the [30% Club](#), [Black Management Forum \(BMF\)](#), [the Advancement of Black Accountants of Southern Africa \(ABASA\)](#) to name a few.

Would you like to discuss the possibility to partner with us? Please contact Phindile Llale at [phindile@awmovement.org](mailto:phindile@awmovement.org).

### What industries are your members in?

The organisation comprises of four core advocacy groups to support its mandate, namely:

1. Women In Corporate (WIC) – for women who are in corporate;
2. Women In Government (WIG) – for women who are in government;
3. Women In Business (WIB) – for women who are entrepreneurs;
4. Women In Art (WIA) – for women in the arts and creative industries.

All core groups have sub categories and are looked after by industry portfolio heads.

### How can I contact the organisation?

Email us at [info@awmovement.org](mailto:info@awmovement.org) with your request and we will get back to you within 24 hours.

Visit our offices at 39 Wessel Road, Rivonia, Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa strictly on an appointment basis.

Call us during our office hours 08:00 – 16:00 on 081 362 9099

Follow us on social media:

Twitter: @AWM\_Women

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Facebook: @AWMWomen

YouTubeChannel: African Women's Movement