

## **THE ASSOCIATION'S PROFESSIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

The role of information institutions and professionals, including libraries and librarians in modern society is dependent upon equitable access to information and knowledge to support the optimization of the recording and representation of information in order to meet the requirements of the clients, irrespective of the Information Professional's personal interests and views on the content of the material and the client requirements.

To this end, The Association representing the interests of the library and information services, and recognizing its significances in the growth and development of Uganda proposes a Professional Code of Conduct that establishes the standards of professional practice and responsibility of The Association members, and give guidance on issues that may be regarded by the Disciplinary Committee as being contrary to the aims, objectives and interests of The Association or contrary to the library and information profession. The Code sets guidelines for the ethical conduct of all The Association members and shall apply to all classes of individual members who shall abide by the following:

- (1) Members shall adhere to the Constitution and Bylaws of The Association and the provisions of this Code of Ethics and Conducts.
- (2) Members shall not engage in conduct which may seriously prejudice the standing and reputation of the Library and Information Profession and The Association.
- (3) Members shall ensure access to information for all for personal development, education, cultural enrichment, leisure, economic activity and informed participation in and enhancement of democracy.
- (4) In order to promote inclusion and eradicate discrimination, members shall ensure that the right of accessing information is not denied and that equitable services are provided for everyone whatever their age, citizenship, political belief, physical or mental ability, gender identity, heritage, education, income, immigration and asylum-seeking status, marital status, origin, race, religion or any other minority groups.
- (5) Members shall be competent in their professional activities including the requirement to keep updated on developments in the library and information profession as well as those branches of professional practice in which qualifications and experience entitle them to engage.
- (6) Members shall uphold the principles of Intellectual Freedom and resist all efforts to censor information resources.

(7) Members shall treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness, and good faith, advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees; and avoid all forms of discrimination in the workplace.

(8) Members in professional positions shall have relevant qualifications from relevant accredited training institutions.

(9) Members shall ensure that the contractual obligations owed to their employers are fulfilled to the best of their ability. However, circumstances may arise when public interest or the reputation of the profession itself may be at variance with the narrower interests of an employer. If it is found to be impossible to reconcile such differences, then public interest and the maintenance of professional standards must be the primary consideration.

(10) Members shall protect the right to privacy and dignity of all information professionals and users and show respect for the confidentiality of the information/library-client relationship, even after the relationship ceases.

(11) Members shall advance Library and Information Science knowledge and practice through continuing Education, Research, Publications, and Presentations.

(12) Members shall provide their employer, organization, or clients with the highest level of service, by delivering the best sources and services possible within organizational constraints so as to contribute to the mission, goals, policies and strategies of the organization.

(13) Members shall respect the Intellectual Property of their employers, clients and competitors, and within the legal and ethical constraints of the organization, inform their clients or employers of potential legal and ethical violations in the provision of sources or services.

(14) Members shall strive for excellence by seeking and maintaining professional knowledge and competencies in intellectual and information technologies in themselves, their colleagues, their organization and other professionals, including education for information literacy.

(15) Members shall represent themselves accurately concerning their education, competencies and experience to their employers, clients, colleagues and other professionals.

(16) Members shall avoid conflicts of interest while in the performance of their work.