

Copyright & Licence Agreement and Ethics Declaration Form

Publishing licence, open-access terms and ethics declaration for accepted manuscripts

This form is completed and signed by all authors once a manuscript has been accepted for publication in an IIAR journal. Part A identifies the manuscript. Part B sets out the copyright and licence terms under which IIAR publishes: authors retain copyright and grant IIAR a licence to publish, and the article is released to readers under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence. Part C is the ethics declaration required of every article. Part D records the disclosure of artificial intelligence tools, and Part E carries the signatures. The article cannot be scheduled for publication until the signed form has been received.

PART A — MANUSCRIPT DETAILS

Journal	
Manuscript ID	
Manuscript title	
All authors (in manuscript order)	
Corresponding author and institutional email	
Date of acceptance	

PART B — COPYRIGHT AND LICENCE TO PUBLISH

B1. Copyright

Copyright in the Article remains with the Authors. The Authors are not required to transfer or assign copyright to IIAR. The published Article will carry the line: “© [year] the Authors. Published by the International Institute of Artificial Intelligence and Research (IIAR) under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0) licence.”

B2. Licence granted to IIAR

In consideration of publication, the Authors grant to IIAR, for the full term of copyright and throughout the world, a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licence to:

- publish, reproduce, distribute, display and store the Article in the journal in any medium or format now known or later developed, including print, online and machine-readable forms;
- make the Article available to readers under the CC BY 4.0 licence (Section B3);
- register and deposit the Article and its metadata with indexing, abstracting, archiving and persistent-identifier services (for example Crossref, digital preservation networks and discovery databases);
- create and distribute translations, abstracts, summaries and derivative formats of the Article for the purposes of indexing, discovery and accessibility, always with attribution to the Authors;
- enforce the terms of the CC BY 4.0 licence against third parties on the Authors' behalf where the Authors request it;
- identify IIAR as the original publisher and to require that any reuse cites the journal of first publication.

The Authors agree that the version of record is the version published by IIAR and that any other version they distribute will link to the version of record by its DOI once assigned.

B3. Open-access licence to readers

The Article will be published under the **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)** licence (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>). Under this licence anyone may copy, redistribute, remix, transform and build upon the Article for any purpose, including commercially, provided that appropriate credit is given to the Authors and the journal, a link to the licence is provided, and any changes are indicated. No additional restrictions may be applied.

B4. Rights retained by the Authors

In addition to the rights granted to all users under CC BY 4.0, the Authors retain the right to:

- deposit any version of the Article, including the accepted manuscript and the version of record, in institutional, subject or personal repositories at any time, without embargo;
- reuse the Article, in whole or in part, in their own future works, theses, teaching materials, presentations and books, with citation of the original publication;
- be identified as the Authors of the Article and to object to derogatory treatment of it (moral rights, which are not affected by this Agreement).

B5. Authors' warranties

Each Author warrants, jointly and severally, that:

1. the Article is original, has not been published previously in any form or language, is not under consideration elsewhere, and does not infringe any existing copyright or other right of any third party;
2. the Author has the full power and authority to enter into this Agreement and, where the Author is employed or funded, has obtained any permission required by the employer or funder;
3. all material reproduced from other sources (text, figures, tables, images, data) is identified as such and the necessary permissions for open-access reuse under CC BY 4.0 have been obtained and can be produced on request;
4. the Article contains nothing that is defamatory, unlawful, or that breaches any duty of confidentiality or any data-protection obligation, and all necessary consents have been obtained from identifiable individuals;
5. the Article does not contain any instruction, data or material that, if acted upon, would cause harm to a person;
6. all statements presented as fact are true or based on reasonable research, and all reported data are genuine.

The Authors agree to indemnify IIAR against any loss, damage or expense arising from a breach of these warranties.

B6. Corrections, retraction and removal

The Authors acknowledge that IIAR may publish a correction, an expression of concern or a retraction of the Article, in line with the IIAR Editorial Policy and the guidance of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), where a significant error, ethical breach or breach of this Agreement is established. A retracted Article remains available with a retraction notice; it is removed only in exceptional legal circumstances.

B7. General

This Agreement takes effect on signature by the corresponding author on behalf of all Authors and remains in force for the full term of copyright. It is the entire agreement between the Authors and IIAR concerning the Article. If the Article is not published by IIAR, the licence in Section B2 lapses and all rights revert to the Authors. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

PART C — ETHICS DECLARATION

Tick one box for each statement. Where a statement is ticked "Yes", the relevant details must appear in the Declarations section of the manuscript. Any "No" answer must be explained in the space provided at the end of this Part.

Declaration	Yes	No	N/A
The work is original and is not published or under consideration elsewhere.	☐	☐	☐

Declaration	Yes	No	N/A
All listed authors meet the IIAR authorship criteria, and no qualifying contributor has been omitted.	☐	☐	☐
All authors have approved the final version and agree to its publication.	☐	☐	☐
All sources of funding are stated in the manuscript.	☐	☐	☐
All competing interests are disclosed, including any relationship between an author and IIAR, its parent organisation, or its editors.	☐	☐	☐
The research involved human participants or personal data, and ethics approval was obtained. Approving body and reference number: _____	☐	☐	☐
Informed consent was obtained from all participants, including consent for publication of any identifiable information.	☐	☐	☐
The research involved animals, and approval was obtained. Approving body and reference number: _____	☐	☐	☐
Data supporting the results are deposited in a public repository, or the reason they cannot be shared is stated in the manuscript. Repository and accession number / DOI: _____	☐	☐	☐
Figures and images have not been manipulated beyond uniform adjustments that are disclosed.	☐	☐	☐
No data, images or results in the manuscript were generated by artificial intelligence.	☐	☐	☐
Any use of AI tools in preparing the manuscript is disclosed specifically in Part D and in the manuscript Declarations.	☐	☐	☐
Permission has been obtained for all third-party material reproduced or adapted in the Article, including permission for reuse under CC BY 4.0.	☐	☐	☐
The manuscript complies with the IIAR similarity and AI-writing thresholds stated in the Author Guidelines.	☐	☐	☐

Explanation of any “No” answers:

PART D — DISCLOSURE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS

State whether generative AI or AI-assisted technologies were used in the preparation of the Article. If used, name the tool and version and describe precisely what it was used for. AI tools may not be listed as authors. The same wording must appear under **Use of AI tools** in the manuscript Declarations.

AI tools used?	☐ No — no AI tools were used at any stage of preparing this Article. ☐ Yes — details below.
Tool(s) and version(s)	
Purpose(s) of use	☐ Language / grammar editing ☐ Literature search or screening ☐ Code generation or data processing ☐ Drafting text ☐ Other: _____

Description of what the tool produced and how the authors verified it	
Confirmation	☐ The authors reviewed and edited all AI-assisted output and accept full responsibility for the content of the Article. No AI-generated data, images or results are reported.

PART E — SIGNATURES

Every Author must sign. By signing, each Author confirms that they have read Parts B, C and D, that the declarations are true and complete, and that they agree to the copyright and licence terms. If there are more than eight authors, attach a continuation sheet in the same format. Electronic signatures are accepted.

Full name (as it appears on the manuscript)	Affiliation & ORCID iD	Signature	Date

Corresponding author's declaration. I am authorised by all co-authors to sign this Agreement on their behalf. I confirm that every co-author has read and approved it and that the information given is complete and accurate.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Return the signed form to the Editorial Office through the journal's online system or by email to submissions@publications.airinternational.org.