

# Edo Indigenes in Diaspora (Constitution)

## 1. Preamble

This document provides a clear rule to govern the running and membership of the Indigenous Edo Diaspora. This constitution can be amended to reflect numerous different membership statuses and include provisions dealing with issues of becoming a member's qualifications and the election of Executive Committee members to run the organisation.

## 2. The Aims

2.1 To promote the Edo cultural awareness and to integrate the Edo children born in the UK into the rich Edo culture

2.2 To foster the integration of Edo cultural diversity in the lives of Edos born abroad and to promote the educational activities that bring about community cohesion among the Edo people.

2.3 To encourage and promote social and close cooperation between the people of Edo State, in Peterborough, Cambridgeshire and the UK at large.

2.4 To promote unity amongst the people of Edo State with the hope to support the vulnerable ones in Edo State.

2.5. *The members shall show respect to one another. This is one of the most crucial aspects of the Indigenous Edos Diaspora Preamble.*

2.6 *To contribute to community development in the various cities in the United Kingdom.*

## 3. How this constitution will be used

Any Edo person wishing to become a member of the Indigenous Edo Diaspora should request a membership form and understand the constitution before submitting the form. The rules and regulations will be contained in this document. Before admitting the member (s), the person will be provided with the opportunity to explain whether he or she understands the rules and regulations that govern each member of the organisation. At the same, if possible, will be required to provide a character reference from any of the existing members. Then, the person intending to become a member

will sign the rules, providing their name and address for correspondence. The secretary will then update the membership register with the details of the person joining.

#### **4. Executive members**

The Indigenous Edo Diaspora shall consist of six executive members:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary-General
4. Assistant Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Public Relation Officer

The tenure ship of The President and His or Her Vice shall be for a period of 3 years after which there shall be a new election. The president and the vice president shall only serve for 2 terms in office if re-elected. Every other post has no limitation of tenure ship. The vice president has the capacity to contest as the President after serving two terms as Vice President. The President shall automatically become a member of the Committee Board of Trustees at the end of his or her reign.

#### **Responsibility of executive members**

##### **4.1 President**

The president shall oversee and chair general meetings. He or she shall have a signatory to the organisation's bank account. He or she shall work closely with the Vice President and the Treasurer. As well as the secretary of the organisation. He or she shall countersign his signature. He or she shall call for meetings either for emergency purposes or on normal monthly or quarterly meetings.

##### **4.2 Vice President**

The Vice President shall chair meeting on behalf of the President and shall automatically become the President in the event of incapability of the President or death of the President. He or she shall work closely with the President and the Treasurer as well as the secretary. He or she shall call for meetings when instructed by the President.

### **4.3 Secretary-General**

The Secretary-General is the third-highest position in this organisation and shall take minutes during meetings. He or she shall work closely with the President and the Vice President. Most letters shall be written and signed based on the instruction of the President.

### **4.4 Assistant Secretary**

The Assistant Secretary shall assist the SG in minute-taking when SG is absent during meetings. He or she shall work closely with the Secretary and the President. Most letters shall be written and signed based on the instruction of the President.

### **4.5 Treasurer**

The treasurer shall be the powerhouse of the organisation relative to keeping the bank account of the organisation. The Treasurer shall countersign the cheque book with the President or be a signatory to the organisation's account. The Treasurer shall report to the President and the entire house quarterly or yearly on the financial strengths of the organisation. Yearly dues shall be collected from members by the Treasurer. He or she shall be able to use the organisation's letterhead to write to members to request membership dues.

### **4.6 Public Relations Officer**

The PRO shall work with the President and the Secretary-General to organise events. He or she shall be the link between the organisation and other organisations. He or she shall design flyers of events. He or she shall be able to come up with programmes that will be beneficial to the organisation.

## **5. Committee Board of Trustees**

This committee will comprise three members:

- Chairman
- The executive assistant also in this committee
- Provost

### **Responsibilities**

The Committee is held by a chairperson who shall convey and preside over the meeting. The Committee shall be responsible for managing problem that arises in the organisation. The committee shall also assess the role of the executive and provide advice that will be of immense benefit to the organisation. In case of conflict that cannot be resolved by the executive members, this will be referred to the committee for a resolution.

## **6. Power of The Indigenous of Edo Diaspora**

6.1 For achieving its objectives and purposes, the Indigenous Edo Diaspora has the powers conferred by sections 2, 3 and 4 of the aims.

6.2 Subject to the Act, the organisation may do all things necessary or convenient for carrying out its objects or purposes, and in particular, may: (a) provide financial support to the less privileged ones in Edo State (b) dialogue with Edo State Government for the interest of Edo people (c) bring together the indigenous Edo people around the world (d) Raise fund for the development of projects in Edo State.

## **7. Effect of the Constitution**

This Constitution binds every member of the organisation to the same extent as if every member and the organisation had signed and sealed this Constitution and agreed to be bound by it.

## **8. Application for membership**

To become a member of this organisation, the person must:

- I. submit a completed membership application form and character reference to the Committee
- II. The Committee must consider any application made under clause 3 at the next available committee meeting
- III. If an application is rejected, the applicant may appeal against the decision by giving notice to the President within 14 days after being advised of the rejection.
- IV. If an applicant gives notice of an appeal against the rejection of his or her application, the Committee must reconsider the application at the next committee meeting after receipt of the notice of appeal.
- V. If after reconsidering an application the Committee reaffirms its decision to reject the application, the decision is final.
- VI. If the application is approved, the admitted member shall be advised of the membership dues/fees
- VII. The new member will be invited to the general meeting to meet the new members.
- VIII. As part of membership, yearly dues shall be a requirement.

## **9. Yearly dues**

Membership dues of the organisation shall be fixed at £50.00 a year. Members willing to pay monthly shall set up a direct debit of £5.00 - £60 a year. This shall run from January to December yearly.

## **10. Meetings**

The members' general meeting shall be held every first Sunday of the month. The executive can call for an emergency meeting at any time where there is a need for it. The mode of the meeting shall be either face-to-face or virtual.

## **11. Liquidation**

In case of the liquidation of the organisation, any physical property shall be sold to generate money and available fund shall be put together to help:

Eghosa Orphanage Home  
20 Oko Central Road  
Off Airport Road  
Oka  
Benin City  
Edo State  
Nigeria