

January 16, 2006

IN ATTENDANCE:

Bobe Ndamukong	MEDA-USA National President
Dr. Chris Njeh	MEDA-USA National V. President/Representative CA
Valentine Mungyeh	MEDA-USA Secretary General
Denis Tenyah	MEDA-USA National Treasurer
Alfred Mudoh	MEDA-USA National Fin. Secretary/President Houston
Tom Tendong	Representative Boston/North East Branch
Gregory Njong	President Washington DC, Branch
George Timah	Vice President Washington DC, Branch
Martin Tinong	Secretary General Washington DC, Branch
Gang Boniface	Representative of President of Minnesota
Francis Fongang	President Atlanta /South East Branch
Denis Tebo	President Chicago Chapter
Acha Clifford	Vice President Dallas Branch

After pleasantries and roll-call the President General (PG) delivered a word of welcome to all present and delved into presentation of the agenda and immediately settled to business. The Agenda was read out by the P.G.:

1. Selecting a chair for the Expanded Executive Caucus
2. Status Update on MEDA-USA Projects
3. Proposal to revise membership at local/national level to include associate membership
4. Proposal for local chapter empowerment through convention profit sharing
5. Proposal for a symbolic retroactive reimbursement to the Houston Branch
6. Proposal to review annual membership dues
7. Proposals on the MEDA-USA group life insurance policy
8. Proposals on Storage of MEDA-USA donations
9. Supporting the DC bereavement effort for Theodore Scott Tendoh's family
10. Final resolutions to be published to Moghamoans

Mr. Fongang Mbanwei Atlanta/Southern branch president was nominated as chair and spokesperson for the caucus. This was seconded and approved by the entire caucus. Upon acceptance, Mr. Fongang echoed the noble mission of always putting Moghamo first in all our deliberations.

STATUS UPDATE:

The PG presented a status update on all MEDA projects emphasizing transition difficulties that have stalled some of the projects. Highlighted amongst these were the activities of the Health Committee with its New Year Rally that was stalled by the unfortunate passing of the Monarch of Batibo, The Culture Committee with its plans to stage the first ever MEDA-USA MOGHAMO GRAND CULTURAL FESTIVAL in Dec. 2006, the Communication Tech committee with its website

that is due by the ending of January, The Education and Scholarship Committee, The Membership/publicity Committee, the Projects Committee, and the Convention Planning Committee.

NEC Proposal 1: **EXPANDING THE MEDA-USA MEMBERSHIP BASE**

Allow friends of Moghamo who share our values and objectives as stated in the bylaws to obtain associate membership status as long as they NEVER do anything to divert the focus of the organization from the ultimate goal of developing Moghamo. The PG reminded delegates of the mandate given to NEC to leave no stone unturned in getting every Moghamoan and Friends of Moghamo to be involved in MEDA-USA activities. He called for an enforcement of this proposal at all levels of the organization.

Discussion:

Ni Tom Tendong the rep from Boston indicated that it has been an old practice in the Boston Branch. Almost every branch President emphasized the need to let every potential associate member know that the focus of MEDA will not shift from the development of Moghamo. Benefits accruing to associate members will only be limited to social commitments like “cry die”, “born house” etc.

Resolution:

It was unanimously agreed that all branches should henceforth adopt the practice of accepting friends of Moghamo and granting them associate membership.

NEC Proposal 2: **REVISING MEMBERSHIP DUES TO ACCOMMODATE NEW IMMIGRANTS:**

Abolish the old \$100 Registration and \$25 annual dues and replace it with a flat annual \$60 development levy.

Discussion:

The National Treasurer Mr. Denis Tenyah was of the opinion that the old amount be maintained on the basis that even the \$25 annual dues was proving difficult to collect. The PG stated that he had no problem with the \$25 amount, his real bone of contention being the \$100 registration fee that clearly makes it hard for new immigrants to join and participate in our activities. The national VP and CA rep Dr. Njeh agreed and suggested that \$60 may still be prohibitive considering that it is not very far from the \$100 amount. Dr. Njeh proposed a \$25 for new immigrants in their 1st year of residence in the US and a flat \$50 for everyone else. This was supported by Ni Tom Tendong and Gang Boniface.

Resolution:

The matter was put to the vote and unanimously approved by the caucus. It was agreed that the because of the responsibility given at Houston, the new fee structure takes effect immediately even though the General Assembly may still assess its merits and demerits.

NEC Proposal 3: **25% PROFIT SHARING FOR EMPOWERMENT OF LOCAL BRANCHES:**

President of the Chicago branch Mr. Tebo Denis highlighted the merits of the proposal. Gang Boniface of Minnesota representing Pa Samuel Tetuh also thought it was a great proposal. Ba Kwoshi and Bah Nyegwi from DC metro indicated that it can only make branches do more towards the success of conventions. Delegates were however torn between what percent to give to local branches. Ni Tom Tendong cautioned against making it so high that it

may deprive the national executive of the much needed funds to carry out our ultimate objective of developing Moghamo.

Resolution:

Delegates voted to maintain the sharing structure at -

- 10% for hosts who make a profit of <\$10000.00
- 15% for hosts who make a profit of >\$10000.00

NEC Proposal 4: **SYMBOLIC RETROACTIVE-PROFIT SHARING FOR HOUSTON:**

Extension of a symbolic retroactive profit sharing to the Houston Branch for being a great pacesetter host.

Discussion:

All delegates praised the merit of the proposal but were concerned about the unintended message to the other hosts prior to Houston. They cautioned against giving the impression to former hosts that they never did a good job. Some of the delegates especially those who were present in Houston, still thought that a symbolic gesture towards Houston will be just right while others wanted it to be a post Houston arrangement.

Resolution:

The matter was put to the vote and the non retro-proposal overwhelmingly carried the day. Houston will therefore not get any retro-gesture beyond fervent thanks.

NEC Proposal 5: **HOME BANK ACCOUNT WITH CCC CAMEROON:**

Open a bank account of an amount that can be used to make payments for some on-the-spot projects.

Discussion:

The PG indicated that this proposal came up several times at Houston and called upon all present to treat it as urgent. Delegates raised questions about the rate of corruption in Cameroon and the risks involved with such a transaction. The PG tried to allay such concerns by pointing out that CCC has been involved in business with CCC for quite a while now. Mr. Mungyeh pointed out that MEDA delegate Dr. Tar Marshal made use of CCC services for the disbursement of MEDA scholarships besides CCC is incorporated in the US and is covered by US laws.

Resolution:

Delegates mandated the NEC to determine an amount that may not expose MEDA resources to too much risk and opening the account instantly.

NEC Proposal 6: **GROUP LIFE INSURANCE**

To purchase a group life insurance policy for MEDA-USA and gradually efface the present \$1000.00 benefit.

Discussion:

Mr. Mungyeh indicated that the NEC had initially charged him with investigating this. Mr. Mudoh Alfred, the National Financial Secretary and Houston Branch President indicated that Houston has a policy but he has great difficulties getting members to pay their premium. Bah Kwoshi George Timah of DC Metro said that DC has a working program into which every registered member is paying in.

Conclusion:

Bah Kwoshi took the responsibility to find out how we could extend what DC presently has to cover every one and report to the caucus.

NEC Proposal 7: STORAGE AND SHIPMENT OF MEDA NON-CASH DONATIONS

Find a means of storing non-cash donations to MEDA for future shipment.

Discussion:

Mr. Fongang suggested the renting of a container from a shipping company into which donations may be stored until it gets full. Mr. Tinong on his part proposed that it may be more cost effective to outright purchase a container into which our donations may be store.

Resolution:

Mr. Tinong Martin of DC Metro took the responsibility of making findings on how we can purchase our container and where it can conveniently be stored and reporting to the caucus before the end of the month.

NEC Proposal 8: BEREAVEMENT IN DC

To actively raise funds both online and directly to support the DC chapter upon the unfortunate passing of Scott Tendoh.

Discussion:

The PG said that after verifying Scott Tendoh's status with the national Treasurer and Fin. Sec., he had authorized them to make the token \$1000.00 benefit to the family of late Scott Tendoh. The President requested a status update from Bah Nyegwi about what is going on in DC so far concerning arrangements for the funeral. Bah Nyegwi stated that Scott Tendoh is not a member of the DC Metro Branch and that he will make phone calls to ask members for free-will donations. The PG hinted at the semblance of double-standard considering that other "non-registered" Moghamoans in DC had enjoyed better death benefits in the past. The PG further advised against the unintended impression that some are more Moghamoan than others.

Resolution:

All branches will actively raise funds both directly and online through the newly created pay pal account to support the DC Metro effort.

The meeting ended at 12.10 am EST with a word of prayer by Boniface Gang and a charge to the chair/spokesperson to publish the resolutions as soon as they are developed. Delegates were also charged with acquainting their different branches with the contents of the resolutions especially those that need to take effect immediately. A motion for adjournment until further notice was moved by Denis Tenyah and seconded by Valentine Mungyeh.

Valentine A. Mungyeh

SG, MEDA-USA

A Moghamo Cultural and Development Association