

**MEDA - USA**



**Iforti ya kah**

THE  
CONSTITUTION  
OF  
MOGHAMO ELEMENTS FOR  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
MEDA-USA (A MOGHAMO CULTURAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION)

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## PREAMBLE

**W**e the sons and daughters of Moghamo in union, solemnly and voluntarily bond ourselves into a non-partisan, non-violent and non-profit organization, whose primary goals are to maintain, foster and propagate the cultural norms of Moghamo.

This organization shall be the foremost rallying forum for all Moghamo people and all friends of Moghamo throughout the United States of America committed to treating all individuals equally, regardless of their linguistic, gender, village of origin, political or religious affiliations and their mental or physical disability, race or nationality. It shall commit itself to nurturing a belief in the worth and capabilities of its members and to fostering an awareness of the mutually beneficial and non-divisive relationship between Moghamoans at home and abroad, which is a prerequisite for the establishment of a strong Moghamo based on unity, culture and progress.

The word "Moghamo" in this document wherever used, applies to the geographic and administrative villages and towns under the jurisdiction of Batibo Subdivision, headquartered in Batibo, North West Province, Cameroon.

The "Friends of Moghamo" refers to all persons related to a person(s) of Moghamo heritage, and interested in fostering the goals of the Association.

This organization, a Moghamo cultural and development Association by virtue of common objectives and partnership shall be referred to by the acronym **MEDA-USA** which stands for "MOGHAMO ELEMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION - UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

## **CHAPTER I: GENERAL**

### **ARTICLE 1: NAME & DURATION**

The Association shall be called: The Moghamo Elements for Development Association in the United States of America (MEDA–USA) and the Duration of MEDA-USA shall be perpetual.

### **ARTICLE 2: PURPOSE**

- 2.1 To provide assistance that improves the wellbeing of Moghamoans.
- 2.2 To provide Moghamoans with a vehicle through which they can contribute effectively to the socio-economic, cultural and technological development of Moghamo.
- 2.3 To develop and implement an educational and cultural program for preserving the Moghamo cultural heritage.
- 2.4 To provide members with a professional, social, cultural network and forum to offer perspective, direction to economic, business, public policy, administrative, developmental issues.
- 2.5 To foster a Moghamo spirit of solidarity, tolerance, respect and understanding of each other and a sense of responsibility among Moghamoans.
- 2.6 provide career & professional development, job placements and facilitation for newest Moghamo immigrants to the USA.
- 2.7 Identify programs which excite the youth and encourage their participation in national conventions and chapter activities.
- 2.8 To promote the welfare, the socio-economic development and progress of Moghamoans in the United States of America.
- 2.9 To maintain continual contact and association between MEDA USA and other Moghamo Cultural and Development Associations.
- 2.10 To create a forum where Moghamoans and friends of Moghamo can come together and get acquainted.

### **ARTICLE 3: MOTTO**

The motto of the Association shall be “UNITY, CULTURE AND PROGRESS”

### **ARTICLE 4: EMBLEM**

The emblem of the Association shall be a traditional drum “anuh” topped by an arc-shaped gold lettering of the Associations name (above) and the words “iforti yah kah” a Moghamo translation for “Unity is Strength” below.

### **ARTICLE 5: MISSION**

This Cultural Association is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under section 501(c) (3) of the United States Internal Revenue code.

## **ARTICLE 6: MEMBERSHIP & DUES**

6.1 Membership shall be open to all persons of Moghamo heritage. Membership shall also be opened to the spouses (wives and husbands) of persons of Moghamo heritage, and their sons, daughters or adopted family members, as well as to friends of Moghamo.

### **6.2 Dues and Fees:**

Members shall pay an annual development due of \$25 in their first year of residency in the US and \$50 there after. This due shall be a membership requirement and shall be the basis of membership benefits. Active membership refers to members who are up to date with their annual payments. Active membership entitles members to all benefits offered by the organization.

Membership in MEDA - USA shall be maintained as long as a member pays his/her annual dues and adheres to the rules of conduct and behavior expected of members.

Chapters shall assist in the collection of dues and forwarding same to the National Treasurer. Non-Chapter members may send their annual membership dues directly to the Association Treasurer or use the secured Paypal link at the website or pay it at the National Convention for the current year, or use the local chapter most feasible to the member.

### **6.3 Discipline of Members for Serious Infractions**

Membership may be suspended or terminated for poor conduct or for violation of the Association's Constitution, By-Laws or other governing rules. Any member accused of an infraction or violation of the MEDA-USA Constitution and/or other governing Rules and Regulations of the Association shall be provided an opportunity to present arguments/evidence in his or her defense. The National Executive Committee (NEC) shall appoint an ad hoc Disciplinary Committee to review each case, taking into consideration the accusation and all arguments and evidence presented by the parties in their totality, and arrive at a decision based on arguments and evidence presented. The ad hoc Disciplinary Committee shall then report its recommendations to the National Executive Committee. The NEC shall review the recommendations of the Disciplinary Committee and submit its conclusions before the General Assembly at the next annual convention for a vote. The individual(s) found guilty of the infraction(s) can be suspended or expelled on the basis of an absolute majority vote against the individual(s) by registered members present at the General Assembly. A recommendation to expel a member shall be adopted only after the Association has exhausted every avenue of settlement or reconciliation available to the Association. Any member who is expelled forfeits all the rights and privileges that come with membership in the Association. All privileges shall be restored upon readmission of the member into the group by the General Assembly.

## **CHAPTER II: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

### **ARTICLE 7: ORGANS**

To ensure the effective running of the Association's activities and projects, and to ensure accountability of its resources, the Association shall be organized as follows:

1. The General Assembly (G.A)
2. The National Executive Committee (NEC)
3. The Expanded Executive Committee
4. The Local Chapters
5. Non-Chapter Members

### **ARTICLE 8: THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- 8.1 The General Assembly shall comprise of an assembly of members from across the United States of America convened during the MEDA-USA National Convention, or at the request of Local Chapters as provided by Article 8.2 of this constitution.
- 8.2 The General Assembly shall be the supreme organ of MEDA-USA, and shall meet during every National Convention. An Extra-Ordinary Session may be convened on a thirty-day notice given by the National Executive Committee, or by an affidavit signed by the Executive Committees of three-fifths of all registered Local Chapters of the Association.
- 8.3 The National President shall issue a notification to all members of the Association at least thirty days prior to the date scheduled for any General Assembly meeting at the National Convention. Notice of such a meeting must include the date, time and exact location of the meeting.
- 8.4 The General Assembly shall enact by-laws to guide its activities in areas not specifically provided for in this constitution.

### **ARTICLE 9: THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

- 9.1 The National Executive Committee (NEC) shall be elected by the General Assembly and shall be responsible for executing the policies of this Association. The NEC shall be the governing body of the Association and shall faithfully implement its goals and objectives in full compliance with the constitution of the Association. Each official is obligated to operate his /her office within the stipulations of the Association's constitution and policies. Failure to abide by the constitution shall result in a review of the member for possible expulsion from the committee as provided by Article 6.3 of this constitution.
- 9.2 Any member of the NEC may, at any time file his resignation in writing with the National President and it shall become effective after thirty days. Within the said thirty days he/she shall surrender to the National President all or any property of the Association that may be in his/her custody.

- 9.3 The National Executive Committee shall create Standing or ad hoc Committees when necessary to perform special duties for the Association.
- a) A Committee chairperson appointed by the President of the Association shall head the Committee
  - b) The Committee chairperson shall serve as Ex-Officio member of the National Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE 10: EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

The National Executive Committee shall comprise the following officers:

- a. National President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary General
- d. Treasurer
- e. Assistant Secretary
- f. Financial Secretary
- g. Publicity Secretary/Fundraising Officer
- h. Chief Whip
- i. Ex-Officio members

#### **ARTICLE 11: EXECUTIVE DUTIES**

##### **A. NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

- 1.1 The elected person shall be custodian of the constitution and policies of MEDA - USA.
- 1.2 Represent the Association and its interest whenever and wherever the need may arise.
- 1.3 Ensure the implementation of committee decisions and resolutions adopted at all National Conventions.
- 1.4 Oversee the smooth running of the Association and all its activities.
- 1.5 Initiate disciplinary action against any member who violates Association's policy.
- 1.6 Make appointments in case of vacancies, with the approval of the executive organ.
- 1.7 The President is allowed to delegate where appropriate some of his or her duties to any member of the National Executive Committee.
- 1.8 Shall approve, in consultation with the Executive, all financial transactions.
- 1.9 At the General Assembly, the President shall present a State of the Association Address followed by a half hour of mandatory question and answer session with the General Assembly delegates to ensure a leadership that is aware of its functioning and answerable to its members.
- 1.10 Shall appoint a Committee Chairperson to head each Committee of the association as the President may deem necessary.

**B. VICE PRESIDENT**

- 2.1 Assist the president in all matters pertaining to the activities of the Association.
- 2.2 Perform the role of the president whenever the President is unable to by delegation.
- 2.3 Perform functions as assigned by the NEC, the President and the General Assembly.
- 2.4 Assume the presidency in case of vacancy due to abdication by the President. Such an assumption of presidential responsibility shall be limited to the term of office of the president.

**C. SECRETARY GENERAL**

- 3.1 Heads and runs the General Secretariat at all times including all executive and General Assembly meetings. Prepares the agenda for MEDA meetings in consultation with the Executive Committee
- 3.2 In charge of publishing, distributing and archiving of all the association's publications.
- 3.3 Shall maintain a membership database and thus will be the first point of contact between the membership and the Executive Committee.
- 3.4 Preparation and preservation of the minutes of executive committee meetings.
- 3.5 Shall be the custodian of a convention registry referred in Article 17.10.

**D. TREASURER**

- 4.1 Shall be the custodian of all the funds/assets of the association.
- 4.2 Maintain up-to-date financial and final records of the association.
- 4.3 Collection of membership dues.
- 4.4 Enforcement of all financial policies.
- 4.5 Receipt and disbursement of funds as approved by the President and / or the NEC.
- 4.6 Presentation of financial reports in Association News letters, executive meetings and especially during the national conventions.
- 4.7 Shall suggest ways of fund raising for the association.
- 4.8 Shall reconcile pledges for cash donations against actual receipts.
- 4.9 Shall maintain a bank account for the association's financial resources.

**E. ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

- 5.1 Collaborate with the Secretary General to run the office of the General Secretariat.
- 5.2 The Secretary General may delegate some of his/her duties to the Assistant.
- 5.3 In case of incapacity and/or prolonged absence of the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretary acts as the interim of the Secretary General and assumes the responsibilities of the Secretary General as outlined in article 11(C) above until elections of a new Secretary General at the next National MEDA Convention.

**F. FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

- 6.1 Shall keep separate record from that of the Treasurer on all monetary transactions conducted

by the association.

- 6.2 Shall initiate discussion on questionable financial transactions
- 6.3 Assist in reporting the financial situation of Association in all conventions.
- 6.4 Shall outline plans for raising funds for the Association.
- 6.5 Shall be authorized access to the Association financial banking records for the sole purpose of ensuring accuracy of financial records and the monetary situation of this organization.
- 6.6 Shall not have approval or disapproval powers on any financial matters.

**G. PUBLICITY SECRETARY / FUNDRAISING OFFICER**

- 7.1 Co-ordinate any and all activities between the association and other friendly or other organizations which seek to attain similar goals as this association.
- 7.2 Assist in coordinating activities or assignments specified by the President/executive between the association, executive and other cultural groups.
- 7.3 When invited, shall attend meetings of other ethnic groups on behalf of the Association. In such meetings he/she shall serve only as an observer/member of this Association's executive. He/she shall not participate in making decisions for this Association without prior consultation with the president or Executive.
- 7.4 Shall solicit appropriate media for informing members and non-members of Association-related activities.
- 7.5 Shall sell the association strategically to as wide an audience as possible to raise funds and keep the entire membership informed of the activities of this office to the association.
- 7.6 Shall advertise activities of the Association requiring publicity to members and non-members.

**H. CHIEF WHIP**

- 8.1 Enforcement of the rules of protocol.
- 8.2 Carry out special assignments as delegated by the Executive Committee.
- 8.3 Collect any late-comer fees that might be imposed by the General Assembly.
- 8.4 Maintain discipline, enforce attendance and perform general whip duties.

I. All members of the NEC, committee chairpersons and other officers created to facilitate governance shall report to the National President.

**ARTICLE 12: THE EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

This shall be made up of the National Executive officers and the Chapter Presidents. This committee shall convene at least once every year to evaluate the overall strategy and performance of the association. The National President in consultation with the Executive Committee can also convene extraordinary meetings if it so warrants.

**ARTICLE 13: THE LOCAL CHAPTER**

- 13.1 The Chapter shall be the local arm of the Association and shall be created in any city, state, or region where members of the Moghamo Community wish to be organized under the

Association .

- 13.2 Each chapter shall adhere to the Constitution of the Association and shall participate in activities, programs, and projects organized by the Association. Notwithstanding the preceding clause, each Chapter may, at its discretion, bylaws for its group and undertake activities, programs, and projects different from those of the Association. However, no chapter shall adopt a constitution or organize activities, programs or projects that are incompatible with, contrary to, or inconsistent with this Constitution of MEDA-USA, its mission nor the laws of the United States of America. In this regard all branch leadership must prior to implementation, notify the National Executive Committee of all on-going programs in the branch.
- 13.3 Each chapter shall elect a Chapter Executive Committee (CEC) and the President of the chapter shall oversee the operations of the chapter and also serve as a member of the Expanded Executive Committee.
- 13.4 Each chapter shall collect annual membership dues from its members and submit same to the National Treasurer.

**ARTICLE 14: NON CHAPTER MEMBERS**

Non-Chapter members shall be defined as individuals residing in a city or state where there is no chapter. These individuals shall have the option of paying their membership dues directly to the National Treasurer or seeking membership to a chapter in a neighboring city or state.

## **CHAPTER III: ELECTION OF OFFICIALS**

All officials of MEDA – USA shall be elected for a two year term, and each official shall be limited to two terms of office. All executive committee members shall be elected during the General Assembly of a national convention.

### **ARTICLE 15: ELIGIBILITY:**

- 15.1 To serve in any position in MEDA – USA, a candidate must be a solvent and fully paid-up member of the association with a proven commitment to the ideals of the association and provable track of record of valuable service to the association and/or Moghamo.
- 15.2 No one shall be nominated or elected to the offices of President or Vice President who has not attended the two most recent conventions. Attendance shall be verified from the convention registry as stated in Article 17.10
- 15.3 All candidates for the post of National President must participate in all pre-election presidential debate(s) organized during an election year National Convention and must present their platform and their vision for the organization. No candidate shall be eligible for this office without participating in a presidential debate.

### **ARTICLE 16: BALLOTING:**

- 16.1 Voting shall be conducted by either secret ballot casting or by acclamation as deemed appropriate by the Electoral Committee.
- 16.2 Voting for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary General and Treasurer require an absolute majority of all voting paid up members of the association. All other positions will require a simple majority of all voting paid up members of the association.
- 16.3 Acclamations shall only be accepted when there is only one (1) candidate for the position.

## **CHAPTER IV: NATIONAL CONVENTIONS**

### **ARTICLE 17: THE ASSEMBLY**

- 17.1 The Moghamo elements for Development Association-USA shall hold National Conventions during the last weekend of July every year.
- 17.2 The General Assembly shall select the site for the next convention from a list of nominated sites.
- 17.3 Only chapter leaders or their representatives may nominate their chapter as hosts of the next convention and only members of the said chapter may second the nomination
- 17.4 When sites have been nominated and properly seconded, the General Assembly must review the nominated sites and make a decision.
- 17.5 Washington DC, shall be the permanent seat of MEDA – USA and in the event of the designated host for a specific year not being able to fulfill its obligations and there being no other host ready to take the convention, the NEC may take the event to the permanent seat, while assuring that the burden of organizing is evenly spread throughout the Association and not unduly borne by the permanent seat.
- 17.6 The Assembly shall allocate specific projects and development themes for Conventions in order to sensitize Moghamoans and friends of Moghamo about the need for generous financial donations.
- 17.7 Every convention shall have a Resolution Committee to record the resolution from chapter presentations and to draw up a prioritized list of actions. The Executive is required by the General Assembly to consult these resolutions and to integrate its components into the program of action.
- 17.8 Depending on the resources at the disposal of the NEC, the NEC shall meet with the CEC to determine the amount of financial or other assistance to be granted the host chapter.
- 17.9 The NEC has emergency powers to review the convention venue at any time if the need arises.
- 17.10 A convention registry will be maintained for attendance of delegates.

## **CHAPTER V: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **ARTICLE 18: AMENDMENT**

Amendments to this constitution may be initiated in any of the following methods:

- 18.1 On the proposal of the National Executive at a General Assembly duly convened as provided for under Article 8(2) of the constitution. Notice of such amendment shall be communicated to all Local Chapters with the notice convening the General Assembly.
- 18.2 On the proposal of one-third of the registered Local Chapters that make up the Association, provided that they comply with the provisions of Article 18(1) herein above and provided further that a motion for an amendment shall be effective only if carried by two-thirds majority of registered, paid up members present to vote, adopt and pass the amendment.

Amendments to the MEDA-USA constitution shall only become effective during the General Assembly of meeting of the subsequent year except where such an amendment is in a notarized opinion of an attorney authorized to practice law in the USA, necessary to protect MEDA-USA against the possible violation of US law.

### **ARTICLE 19: DISSOLUTION**

- 19.1 Should it become absolutely necessary for the Association to dissolve either voluntarily or by operation of law, such dissolution shall be effected in accordance with the following procedure.
  - a. **VOLUNTARY DISSOLUTION:** A voluntary dissolution shall be occasioned when at a General Assembly a motion is tabled in accordance with the by-laws annexed to this Constitution. A motion moved in its proper form shall bring about dissolution if three quarters of the registered members vote in its favor.
  - b. **OPERATION OF LAW.** Dissolution by operation of law shall take place if any legislative act or Act of State ordains the particular dissolution of the Association of this type in general terms.
- 19.2 Whether a dissolution is occasioned voluntarily or by operation of law, the General Assembly, summoned specially for this purpose shall proceed to set a Trustee Administration Committee (TAC) which shall comprise the National President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, and two other members who shall be empowered to call up all assets of the Association and settle any liabilities of the Association.
- 19.3 Upon the dissolution of the association, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future Federal tax code, or in the case of any residue, pay same to

National Moghamo Cultural Development Association (NAMOCUDA) or other charitable institution conforming to the provisions of Article 5 of this constitution to be decided upon at the General Assembly meeting authorizing a dissolution, or shall be disposed of by a Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such association or associations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**ARTICLE 20: INTERACTION**

No part of the net earnings of the association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article 2 hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the association shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the association shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on

- (a) by an association exempt from federal income tax under section 501( c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or
- (b) by an association, contribution to which are deductible under section 170( c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

## **CHAPTER VI: FINANCE**

### **ARTICLE 21: BANKING:**

- 21.1 All monies shall be deposited in a Bank agreed upon by the National Executive or in the case of a Local Chapter by the Local Chapter's Executive Committee.
- 21.2 No funds shall be transferred or relocated from one financial institution to another without the approval of the National Executive Committee.
- 21.3 Where any transfer is made as provided in Article 21.2 above, a notice of such transfer, the amount of the transferred funds in US dollars and reason for such a transfer must appear on the annual financial statement and must be communicated to delegates during the National Convention.
- 21.4 MEDA-USA shall maintain a bank account in Cameroon to facilitate or support development initiatives in Cameroon.

### **ARTICLE 22: SIGNATORIES**

- 22.1 The National President or Vice President and either the Treasurer or the Financial Secretary at the relevant levels shall sign all financial transactions.

### **ARTICLE 23: FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 23.1 There shall be a Finance Committee at both the National and Local Chapter levels each comprising the President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and two other Executive members of the Association.
- 23.2 The duties of the Finance Committee shall include the following:
  - a.) To study and approve all expenditure by a simple majority of members present and voting. A quorum shall be formed when three-fifth of members are present.
  - b.) To study the general financial situation at the National and local levels as the case may be and make appropriate recommendations.
  - c.) To prepare and submit budgets to the General Assembly for approval.
  - d.) To be answerable to the organization at its own level.
  - e.) To be the trustee of all the organization's movable and immovable properties.

### **ARTICLE 24: DUTIES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The duties of the various members of the Finance Committee shall be apportioned as follows:

#### **A. THE PRESIDENT:**

- 1.1 He shall chair all meetings.
- 1.2 He shall be signatory to the Bank Account and
- 1.3 He shall request periodical internal audits of the financial records by a special committee.

**B. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY:**

- 2.1 He shall take minutes of the Finance Committee.
- 2.2 He shall be responsible for collecting the monies due to the Association.
- 2.3 He shall pay all the monies collected to the Treasurer for banking against a receipt.
- 2.4 He shall be a signatory to the bank account.
- 2.5 He shall keep a receipt book.
- 2.6 He shall act in the full capacity of the Treasurer in the absence of the latter, and
- 2.7 He shall present a full and detail statement of account to the association.

**C. THE TREASURER:**

- 3.1 He shall take custody of all monies.
- 3.2 He shall bank money in the name of the Association within two immediate banking days following collection.
- 3.3 He shall keep a simple cash book;
- 3.4 He shall prepare and submit a statement of income and expenditure as required by the Association and
- 3.5 He shall be signatory to the Bank Account.

**D. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 They shall attend all Finance Committee meetings and participate in the voting;
- 4.2 The committee or the President may give them any special responsibility.

**ARTICLE 25: EXPENDITURE**

- 25.1 All expenditures shall be approved by the Finance Committee.
- 25.2 All expenditures shall be incurred in accordance with the missions of MEDA-USA as outlined in Article 5 of this constitution.

**ARTICLE 26: AUDITING**

- 26.1 The General Assembly may appoint an EXTERNAL auditor to audit the financial records and accounts as prepared by the Financial Secretary/Treasurer. At the request of the President, the General Assembly may also appoint an audit committee from among its members to examine the association's records and documents.
- 26.2 Only external auditors shall be entitled to remuneration.
- 26.3 Members of the executive shall not serve as auditors.

## **CHAPTER VII: BY LAWS OF MEDA– USA**

These By-Laws are made in accordance with the provisions of Articles 8(4) of the Constitution of Moghamo Elements for Development Association in the United States of America (MEDA – USA). They shall come into force on the same day with the amended constitution.

### **ARTICLE 1: QUORUM**

No business of MEDA-USA shall be transacted in a General Assembly or meeting unless one third of Registered members are present, or where such meeting is organized during the national convention, and the time, place and date duly stated in the Conventions Agenda. A roll call on every G.A. meeting shall be taken and recorded according to Articles 17(10) of the constitution.

### **ARTICLE 2: MEETINGS**

The General Assembly of MEDA-USA shall meet every year at a place and on a date as stipulated in Articles 17(1) and 17 (2) of the constitution.

Local Chapter meetings shall be held as often as need arises but at least once in every quarter;

The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once annually.

### **ARTICLE 3: ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. The order of business at all MEDA-USA meetings shall be contained in an agenda, which shall include the following:
  - a. Opening prayer
  - b. MEDA-USA Anthem rendition;
  - c. Reading and adopting minutes of the previous meetings
  - d. Matters arising from the minutes;
  - e. Current business, and
  - f. Closing prayer &
  - g. MEDA-USA Anthem rendition

### **ARTICLE 4: MOTIONS**

In the course of a meeting any motion moved by a member shall be duly seconded, and where there is a counter motion, duly moved and seconded the matter shall be put into precedence over all other motions. The President or presiding member shall overrule any motion from, and may bar any member from participating in the proceedings if he is satisfied that the said member is not a registered paid up member of the Association.

### **ARTICLE 5: MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

All minutes of MEDA-USA shall be under the custody of the Secretary General, and The minutes of the General Assembly shall be circulated to all branches not later than ninety days after the General Assembly meeting.

## **ARTICLE 6: VOTING**

1. Every registered and paid up member is entitled to one vote at MEDA- USA meetings and where there is a tie, the President or presiding member shall cast the tiebreaker.
2. Voting shall be done by a show of hands except for the elections of officers when the voting shall be by secret ballot, and
3. Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution and By-Laws, decisions shall be by a simple majority of votes cast.

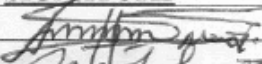

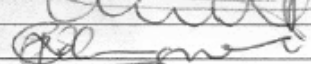
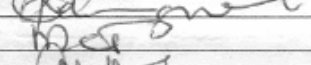
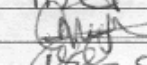
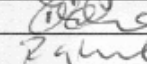
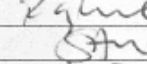
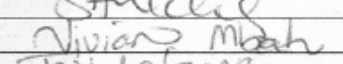
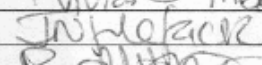
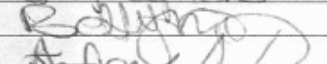
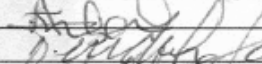

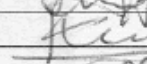
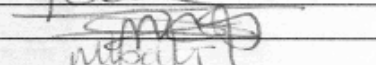
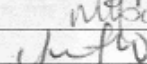
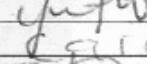
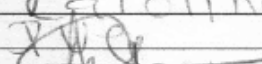

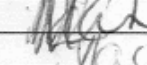
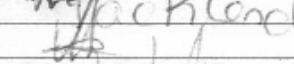

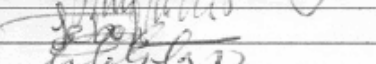
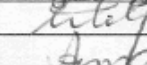
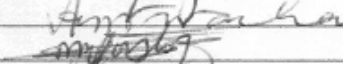
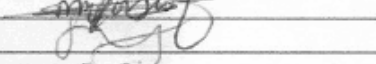
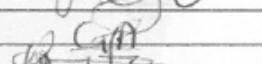


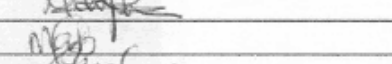
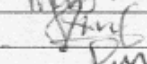
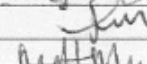







## **ARTICLE 7: ELECTIONS**

1. Any registered and fully paid member shall be entitled to vote and be voted for according to the eligibility requirements for each office, and Where it is necessary, observer status may be granted to a member who may participate in the proceedings but shall not be entitled to vote or be voted for.

## **ARTICLE 8: FISCAL YEAR AND REPORTS**

1. The fiscal year of MEDA-USA shall run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> of the subsequent calendar year.
2. All budgets, reports and statements shall be prepared on a fiscal year basis unless otherwise requested by external entities.
3. All dues shall be collected on a fiscal year cycle, and the term “annual” appended to any provision of the MEDA-USA constitution shall refer to the fiscal year.

My Signature below is an indication that I was part of the discussion that culminated in the adoption of the revised constitution of MEDA-USA on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July, 2006. This signatures would be added to the document and its authority goes into effect this same day the 29<sup>th</sup> of July, 2006.

<u>PRINT NAME</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
Marcel Acha	
Mathus Nguere	
Denis Tenyoh	
Comfort Adimwan	
Mat Tezock	
Mercy Tezock	
Acha E. Acha	
RAPHAEL MIBELI	
Stella Nideh	
Nivian Mbach	
Judith Nholack	
Beatrice Mchanga	
Jane Mba	
PAUL TENDOFF	
Francois Fongang	
Ken Bumbara Helen	
Dr. Mbach Emmanuelle	
Esabelle Mbach	
Florence Kezika	
Lingwai Caroline	
David Mba	
Augustin Acha	
MARIE-CLAIRE ACHA	
Josephine Ndirim	
VICTORINE E. TAH	
Quake King	
DR. BRIDGET TEBOH	
Claudys Tazo-Mopu	
Anthony Nwachan	
ACHA Houston	
Emmanuel Nguere	
Alice Gwan Acha	
Rachel Ncha	
Emulate Mundaye	
Martin Ndum	
Mabel B. Mibeli	
TEBID MOSES	
TEBID VICTOR	
ALFRED MUDROT	