



**REPORT OF THE
AANI CONSTITUTION REVIEW
COMMITTEE
SUBMITTED TO THE
29TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
ON
7TH MARCH 2009**

Introduction

Following the decision of the 28th Annual General Meeting of our Association held on the 1st March 2008 at Kuru, a Constitution Review Committee was set up comprising of the following membership:-

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| 1. Prof. Akin Akindoyeni, mni – | Chairman |
| 2. Commodore O. U. Emele, mni - | Member |
| 3. Alh. Kabiru Alkali Mohammed, mni - | “ |
| 4. Dr. Garba Tetengi, mni - | “ |
| 5. Dr. Okey Onwuasoigwe, mni - | “ |
| 6. Dr. S. Mallo, mni - | “ |
| 7. Alh. Bukhari Bello, mni - | “ |
| 8. Mrs. Bola Imivian, mni - | “ |
| 9. Comrade Pat Eze, mni - | “ |
| 10. A. O. Oyelola, mni - | Member/Secretary |

The Terms of Reference for the Committee were as follows:-

1. To carefully examine the constitution and propose amendments with particular regards to the followings:
 - (a) The need for a National Social/Welfare Secretary;
 - (b) The imperative to restructure or review the Zones for relevance and effective performance;
 - (c) The need to empower the National Executive Committee to make wide ranging investments decisions;
 - (d) Imposing sanctions on members for nonpayment of annual dues;
 - (e) Empowering the National Executive Committee to review annual subscriptions and dues as the need arises;
 - (f) Review the relationship between the Association and its alma mater in order to foster closer linkages;
2. To make recommendations on proposed changes to the Constitution; and
3. To make any other recommendations on any matters incidental to all the terms of reference

In achieving the foregoing terms of reference and ensuring wider views, memoranda were to be invited from the generality of the membership of the Association. The Committee was also empowered to co-opt any member or members of the Association who could be useful in the attainment of the terms of reference of the Committee.

However, since the establishment of the Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Akin Akindoyeni, mni, the immediate past Director General of the National Institute, it was never inaugurated nor did it sit until the exit of the said Director General. Thus realizing that much time has been wasted, and the fact that the matter was of utmost importance, the National Executive Committee reconstituted the Committee, with A. O. Oyelola, the National Legal Adviser, as the Chairman, while, Commodore (NN) O. U. Emele, mni, Dr. Garba Tetengi, mni and Comrade Pat Eze, mni remained members.

The Committee through conferencing and series of group meetings and consultations, came up with a proposed amended Constitution of the Association in furtherance of the terms of reference, a copy of which it is hoped has been circulated to members for consideration, acceptance and approval having subjected same to thorough debate and further amendment to suit the purpose of the Association.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Having reviewed the current Constitution of the Association, it was deduced that the provisions lack adequacy of purpose and coverage and all the Sections have been poorly arranged.

Accordingly, the Committee in line with the Terms of Reference and in the wisdom of the Committee having regards to the complexities of managing an Association as AANI, it was resolved that a completely new Constitution should evolve taking cognizance of all the applicable and relevant provisions of the current Constitution.

To this end, apart from re-arranging the Sections or articles of the Constitution, the following additions were made:-

1. The National Secretariat of the Association;
2. Adding to the aims and objectives of the Association;
3. What qualifies one to be a member of the Association as opposed to what is contained in the current Constitution;
4. Identifying where the Supreme Authority of the Association lies, which is the Annual general Meeting;
5. Provisions for the holding of the Annual/Emergency General Meeting and how emergency meetings are to be requisitioned;
6. The composition of the National Executive Committee, the conduct of their meetings and the powers of the NEC;;
7. The National Officers;
8. The provision of more offices, i.e. Assistant Financial Secretary, Assistant Publicity Secretary and the Substantive post of Social/Welfare Officer;
9. Qualification to hold National Office;
- 10.The enhanced duties of the National Officers;
11. The list of Standing Committees that the Association should have in order to engender inclusiveness and participation of committed and passionate members of the Association in order to ensure relevance and progress;
12. The Power to also have other Ad-Hoc Committees;
13. Provisions for the Zones of the Association and the creation of Portharcourt Zone and reconstitution of some Zones in order to take care of Geographical proximity;
14. Providing for what the Zones can do and cannot do in order to avoid any seeming conflict the National Office;
15. Provision for discipline of members;

16. What Constitute the Funds of the Association;
17. Payment of Subscription by members and the power of the National Executive Committee to review the Subscription and other levies as exigencies determine;
18. The administration of the Finances of the Association;
19. Establishment of Trustees in order to make some of the Senior members active and relevant to the aims and objectives of the Association and in order to tap from their wisdom and goodwill;
20. There is provision for the steps towards amending the Constitution if desired by the Association.

BYE-LAWS

In order to make the Constitution easy to appreciate and applied, and to ensure that the Association is up and running in the attainment of its objectives, a scheduled BYE-LAWS have been drafted as part of the Constitution and has provided for the Association to have periodic JOURNALS which will highlight the Association's activities and contain policy discussed as digested and reviewed by the Association.

It also provides for the establishment of an EDITORIAL BOARD for purposes of coordinating the publication of the Journal.

How the NEC and the Zones are to keep members informed of their activities in order to erase the lack of information that presently exists between the National Executive Committee, the Zones and the Membership.

It provides for how notices, agenda and motions are to be handled and circulated in the interest of the membership.

STANDING ORDERS

The STANDING ORDER has been redrafted to comprehensively provide for the conduct of meetings, particularly the Annual General Meeting, providing for the agenda business, specifying who to preside, and conduct of members.

It provides for elections generally, and particularly the course of nomination of prospective Officers and the conduct by Electoral Committee.

Further provision is made in the Standing Order that the Annual General Meeting may by majority of votes at the meeting rescind, amend, or suspend the provisions of the Standing Order.

CONCLUSION

While thanking the Membership of the Association generally and particularly the National Executive Committee for the opportunity to serve and the confidence reposed in us to perform the arduous task of reviewing the constitution of an important Association as AANI, we would like to assure the membership that we have done this review with the best of intentions and in the absolute interest of the Association. We the entire membership of the Committee are indeed grateful.

In concluding, we urge all of us to painstakingly read through and make suggestions that will further enhance what we have done in the event that they are found inadequate or that the amendments are not wide enough to “cover the grounds”. We do not lay claim to infallibility and therefore are subject to corrections and further guidance. And if this piece is found adequate enough for our present circumstances, we urge you to most dispassionately approve the proposed amended Constitution. Those are our plea and prayers.

O. Oyelola, mni -

Chairman

Commodore (NN) OU EMELE, mni – Member

Dr. Garba Tetengi, mni - Member

Comrade Pat Emembolu Eze, mni - Member
