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CONSTITUTION

OF

**IDEMILI UNITED**

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OF

ATLANTA,

GEORGIA.

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## **1. NAME:**

This organization is to be known as IDEMILI UNITED OF ATLANTA, Inc., GA. This is and shall remain a nonprofit organization under the laws of Georgia.

## **2. AIMS and OBJECTIVES:**

- (i) To provide an official forum for general discussion by Idemili indigenes and members of their families.
- (ii) To foster mutual love, unity and cooperation among the people of Idemili locality.
- (iii) To promote social, cultural, charitable, and Educational activities in the communities where we live in United States of America.
- (iv) To promote social, cultural, charitable, and Educational activities in Idemili localities.

## **3. HEADQUARTERS:**

The headquarters of Idemili United of Atlanta, Inc. (known as the organization within this instrument) shall be in Atlanta, Georgia.

#### **4. MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership is open to all adults (18 years and above), male and female who hail from the 19 towns that make up former Idemili local Government of Nigeria, and also other females by virtue of marriage to indigenes of Idemili.

- (i) An applicant shall fill out the union's official membership application forms.
- (ii) Every person who qualifies for membership,
  - (a) shall remain in good standing.
  - (b) able to meet the union's financial obligations.
  - (c) able to attend the general monthly meeting.

#### **5. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:**

- (i) Enrollment Fee: There shall be an enrollment fee of \$10.00 payable on admission into the union. This fee is subject to an increase anytime the members deem it necessary.
- (ii) Annual Dues: There is an annual due of \$120.00. All members are expected to pay

up this money in a monthly installment of \$10.00 and the whole money must be paid no later than the end of the financial year. Financial year is from January 1st to December 31st.

(iii) Emergency Contribution:

In case of an emergency and as a matter arises, all members shall be levied amount to be determined by the general body of an emergency meeting to be summoned by the president through the Public Relations Officer.

The enrollment fee and annual dues as specified in (1) and (2) above may be modified by a motion of the president or executive and approved by a simple majority of members in good standing present at a general meeting.

**6. OFFICERS:**

The organization shall have the following officers whose functions shall be as stated below:

(i) BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

a. There shall be a Board of Trustees of at least 5 members whose term shall be five years.

b. The Board of Trustees shall comprise of persons nominated and elected by the general body, and shall perform duties set out in following the by-laws:

- The Board of Trustees shall play advisory role to the Executive and the organization in general.
- The Board in conjunction with Executive members and/or members of general body will perform adjudicatory functions with regard to disputes concerning organization matters.
- Upon sufficient evident of non-performance of duty by a Board member from the Board Chair, Board Members, and IUA General Membership a Board member's term will be terminated.

(ii) PRESIDENT:

The president is the head of the Idemili United of Atlanta, Inc. and shall preside at all meetings of the organization at which he/she is present, he shall direct and control the affairs of the organization; he shall be the Chief Spokesperson of the organization.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the president shall be a non-voting member of the organization.

(iii) VICE PRESIDENT:

The Vice president shall perform the functions of the President when the later is absent or otherwise unable to perform his functions for the organization. If both the president and the Vice President are absent or otherwise unable to act, the house shall appoint an official of the executive committee to preside over the meeting.

(iv) SECRETARY:

He/she shall prepare and circulate (read) the minutes of all meetings; shall carry out the organization's correspondence in consultation with and under the directions of the President.

(v) ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

He/she shall assist the Secretary in his/her duties and shall perform the functions of the Secretary where the later is absent or otherwise unable to carry out his/her functions.

(vi) FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

He/she shall collect all monies due to the organization and issue official receipts, keep proper and accurate account of all monies received, and pay such monies over to the Treasurer immediately after collections.

(vii) TREASURER:

He/she shall receive funds from the Financial Secretary, deposit them into the organization's account within 48 working hours of receipt, payout funds only as directed by the executive and signed by the signatories.

(viii) PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER:

The Public Relation Officer's duty is bringing to public notice such activities, intentions, and aspirations of the organization as approved by the President and the organization.

(ix) PROVOST:

The provost shall assist the presiding officers in maintaining order and decorum in meetings and functions of the organization. He appoints members to speak during meetings.



## **7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

(i) All offices are to be filled by election with the popular vote of a simple majority by casting secret ballots. In case of a tie, the president votes to break the tie.

(ii) At least two candidates will be nominated for any single post to be filled.

(iii) All candidates for any executive post must be in good standing. Good standing means that the person must have attended 70% of the monthly meetings for the year, and be financially up-to-date. In addition, he/she shall not be under any disciplinary action imposed by the organization.

(iv) Officers shall hold office for two financial years, and each officer shall be limited to no more than two terms in any particular position.

(v) Any officer can be removed from office for any offense and/or incompetency as determined by members at a general meeting. The officer shall have been duly notified and given opportunity to defend himself/herself before the general body.

(vi) An officer of the organization may resign his/her office by giving one month's notice, in writing, to the president or the secretary. Any officer resigning or outgoing officer shall return all Idemili United Atlanta instrument in his/her possession within 30 days of resignation.

## **8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- (i) The organization shall have an Executive Committee consisting of the president, vice-president, secretary, assistant secretary, financial secretary, treasurer, public relation officer and the provost.
- (ii) Subject to the provisions of these regulation, the Executive Committee shall take decisions and deal with any matter provided that the Executive Committee report all their Decisions and actions to the organization for consideration and ratification.

## **9. BANKING:**

- (i) The bankers of the Union shall be any bank approved by the organization from time to time.

- (ii) All monies belonging to the Union shall be deposited into the Union's bank account not later than 48 working hours following date of collection.
- (iii) All monies must be withdrawn under the signatures of the signatories elected. Elected signatories will comprise of the President, Financial Secretary, and the Treasurer. Any two of the officers can sign for withdrawal of the organization's money.
- (iv) There shall be a general audit of the Organization records at the end of every two year term. Three months before the end of any term, the President shall appoint Auditors who shall be approved by the general membership. Appointed auditors shall have financial background.

## **10. MEETINGS:**

- (i) General meetings will be held on the third Saturday of every month.
- (ii) General meetings will start officially at 2 (two) p.m. Duration of each meeting will be no more than two (2) hours.

- (iii) General meetings will be held at venue(s) selected by the organization.
- (iv) Executive meetings will be held at the President's selected venue or use other forms of communication as need arise.
- (v) Lateness is considered for any member who arrives 30 minutes after the onset of the meeting.
- (vi) Absence from any general meeting attracts a fine. Members unable to attend any meeting should endeavor to notify the president or any member of the executive committee. Noisemaking/Disturbances during any meeting shall be not condoned. Any member wishing to talk or contribute ideas must raise his/her hand to seek permission of the provost.
- (vii) Quorum. At all general meetings, the quorum shall be one-third (1/3) of the total membership.

## **11. PENALTIES:**

Lateness \$1.00

Absent from meeting without permission \$5.00

Noisemaking/Disturbances \$1.00

These fines are subject to changes by the general body.

The Executive Committee with general body's approval can call for levies and/or donations to offset shortfalls in raising any amount needed to meet social/welfare obligations.

### 13. DISSOLUTION:

In the event of the dissolution of IUA, its property, funds, and other assets shall be transferred to whatever organization or organizations operated exclusively for charitable, educational, and/or scientific purposes as IUA may determine, provided such organization or organizations qualify as tax-exempt under the Internal Revenue Code of the United States.

### 14. AMENDMENT:

The organization may as often as necessary amend this Constitution during an ordinary or emergency general meeting of organization and by a simple majority of those present and voting, provided that not less than three (3) months notice of intention to move for an amendment had been given to the organization.

15. ADOPTION:

CONFLICT WITH UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION:

Where the terms of this constitution is in conflict with the Constitution of the United States of America, the Constitution of the United States of America shall supersede this constitution of Idemili United of Atlanta, Inc., Georgia

This Constitution is approved and adopted by all members on this **21<sup>st</sup>** day of **March, 2009**.

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Ms. Amaka Nwabia, *Secretary*

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Dr. Emeka Onuorah

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Mr. Stanley Ejikeme, *Publicity Secretary*

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Dr. Boniface Otor

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Dr. Francis Osita Onukwuli, *Chairman*

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Dr. Chinedu Uyamadu

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Dr. (Mrs.) Uyamadu

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Mrs. Nkiru Otor