

## **CONSTITUTION OF MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY**

### **PREAMBLE**

We, the people of Mbaise Universal Assembly residing all over the world, firmly and solemnly resolve to constitute ourselves into, an association to be known as and called Mbaise Universal Assembly. As believers in law and order we hereby provide a constitution that will ensure good governance imbedded in the principles of freedom, equality and justice for all the members of the association.

The constitution of Mbaise Universal Assembly is supreme and its provisions are binding on all members. In the event that confusions and misunderstandings arise among the members or between the officials and the governed, the constitution becomes the source of clarity. In the light of these facts, no individual or groups of individuals shall take control of the government of Mbaise Universal Assembly or its assets except in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of Mbaise Universal Assembly.

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **SECTION 1**

#### **NAME**

The name of this Organization shall be: MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY (MUA).

### **SECTION 2:**

#### **DURATION**

The duration of this Organization is perpetual unless terminated by due process of law or as stipulated in this constitution.

### **SECTION 3:**

#### **REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE**

The registered mailing address of the association is as follows:

**MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY**, 9898 Bissonnet Street, Suite 260, Houston Texas 77036 USA **Or**  
**MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY**, Dioka's compound opposite Nkwogwu Post Office Mbaise Imo State Nigeria.

That on the absence of a physical address, the residential address of the President in USA or any of the Vice President in Mbaise would be utilized.

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**CHAPTER 2:**

**SECTION 4**

**PURPOSE :**

The purpose for the formation of MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY includes but is not limited to:

- I. Fostering unity among the members and promoting their collective and individual well-being.
- II. Promoting the cultural and educational environment of Mbaise community in their Geographical areas and at home.
- III. Providing moral as well as material support for members in times of need for the purpose of encouraging them and helping them.
- IV. Promoting positive behavior on adolescent boys and girls of Mbaise origin within the community through workshops/discussions and a variety of activities. Championing the economic, educational and security initiatives that can help make Mbaise a good place to live.
- V. Promoting, nurturing and encouraging citizens of Mbaise to be full and active participants in the government.
- VI. Providing healthy interactive platforms between the government officials and the governed
- VII. Engaging in all activities not proscribed by law to raise funds in pursuance of its objectives.

**SECTION 5**

This ORGANIZATION shall be NON-PARTISAN, non-religious and non-sectarian in all of its relationships.

**CHAPTER 3 SECTION 6 CHARTER**

The Association shall maintain a global charter with headquarters in the United States of America and a liaison office in Mbaise in Nigeria as a non-profit organization.

**SECTION 7 GENERAL POWERS**

Notwithstanding to other powers granted by the constitution and other laws of the country of residence, Mbaise Universal Assembly shall have the powers

- I. To engage in the transaction of any and all lawful business permitted for a not-for-profit association or organization under the laws of the State and country in which she is established.

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- II. Mbaise Universal Assembly shall have the power to design and implement programs that promote or enhance its stated purposes
- III. It shall apply for, accept, hold, and administer any donations, grants, devise or any bequest in accordance with any instrument creating such a donation, grant, devise or bequest
- IV. Enact rules and regulations that will govern its activities, guide its elected officers, agents and or employees in the discharge of their duties and create business, cultural and social relationships to advance its goals.

## SECTION 8 LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

(A) No part of the income of Mbaise Universal Assembly raised from the general public shall be used for the benefit of any member, director or officer of the association, except as:

- i. Reasonable compensation or reimbursement paid for services rendered to the association
- ii. Expenses incurred to enhance one or more of the goals of the association
- iii. Gifts or rights and privileges accorded to members in good standing at events or occasions specified in this constitution

(B) Mbaise Universal Assembly shall not engage in any activities not permitted for a not-for-profit organization under the law

(C) On the dissolution of this organization by due process of law, any assets left after the payment of all costs and indebtedness shall be distributed to charitable causes which qualify for such gifts under the provisions of the not-for-profit organization code of the IRS as they exist at the period of such dissolution. No assets shall be distributed to any members, officers or directors of the association or any private individuals.

(D) Mbaise Universal Assembly shall not endorse nor offer financial support to any individual running for political office either here in the USA or in our native Nigeria. However, the organization can encourage individual members to do so.

## CHAPTER 4 SECTION 9 MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Mbaise Universal Assembly shall be open to MEN AND WOMEN BORN IN MBAISE OR OUTSIDE MBAISE BY MBAISE PARENTS or OF MATERNAL AFFILIATION OR BY MARRIAGE, who may wish to associate with the association as members.

## SECTION 10 OFFICERS

There shall be the following officers elected bi-annually: President, 3 Vice-President one, each from three Local Government Areas that make up Mbaise, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer,

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General Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Financial secretary, Assistant Financial secretary, PRO, The Audit Officer.

### **SECTION 11 QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS**

Any candidate running for an office in Mbaise Universal Assembly must be a member that must have acquired at least 100 MUA points (point acquired dependent ON member's participation level)

### **SECTION 12 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- (i) An electoral committee would organize elections and election guidelines would be set by the electoral committee and approved by the whole house.
- (ii) The BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall set up the Electoral Committee.
- (iii) The Minimum academic qualification FOR an elective office would be first-Degree (H.N.D or Bachelor's Degree)
- (iv) Elections shall be held at the December meeting of the year ending the tenure of the outgoing executive.
- (v) The outgoing executive shall continue to administer the affairs of the association until a newly elected executive is sworn in at the next meeting of the new term

## **CHAPTER 5 SECTION 13**

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

- i. The office of the President of Mbaise Universal Assembly shall be HELD by ONLY persons with Paternal Roots to Mbaise; that is someone whose Father is from Mbaise.
- ii. The Executive Council shall consist of the duly elected officers.
- iii. The Executive Council shall be charged with policy formulation of the Organization to be ratified by the Board of Directors
- iv. The Executive Council shall have an oversight function on all committees and could demand for documents at any time
- v. They are vested with the powers to revoke contracts for non-performance and other breach of confidence
- vi. Refer cases to the Ethics/Arbitration Panel via the Chairman, Vice Chairman or Secretary of the Panel for adjudication

## **SECTION 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors shall consist of 8 persons and the Secretary General of the Organization, making a total of 9 members. Members of the board of directors shall be elected by the general house.

## **SECTION 15 FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- a) The board of directors shall perform oversight functions over the Executive, such as (i) Approve all contracts and costs of contracts that would be awarded by the Executives. (ii) The Board of Directors are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that Executive's actions are members oriented.
- b) The board by a resolution could call for a vote of NO CONFIDENCE on the executive
- c) The board of directors could dissolve the Executives if after a call for VOTE of No Confidence on the Executives Passes on the general House.
- d) The board is empowered to constitute an interim administration to take full control of the house pending an election
- e) The board shall serve as the highest Appellate body of the Organization.
- f) Each member of the Board of Directors will keep an accurate accounting of duties and records of yearly activities. These records will be forwarded to the incoming Board of Directors successor in an orderly fashion at Board of Directors meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the outgoing President and the incoming President to oversee these transmissions.
- g) The board shall appoint a person (s) of proving integrity who shall also be members of the Organization as patron of this Organization.

## **CHAPTER 6 SECTION 16 INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES**

An accurate inventory of all physical assets (except society funds) and their location will be kept in duplicate. One copy to be retained with the Treasurer records and one copy to be retained with the Secretary records. This inventory will be reviewed at least once annually at the Board of Directors meeting and verified. It shall be the duty of the current President to delegate the locations of these properties with the approval of the Board of Directors.

**CHAPTER 7 SECTION 17 ETHICS AND ARBITRATION PANEL**

1. Ethics and Arbitration Panel shall consist of 7 elected members by the general house.
2. Ethics and Arbitration Panel is set up to adjudicate cases between members, that is a member and another member
3. They shall ensure that members adhere to the rules and regulations.
4. Penalty(ies) for offenses shall be determined by the Ethics and Arbitration Panel and the Executives

**Chapter 7 SECTION 18 LEGAL COUNSEL**

The Legal counsel shall comprise of all practicing attorneys who are members of the organization. Membership shall however be voluntary. The legal counsel shall have a Chairman and a Secretary who shall be selected by the members of the legal Counsel and presented to the Exco for approval. All the qualifications for running for an office in the organization shall also apply in the selections.

**Chapter 7 SECTION 19: PATRONS:**

The patrons shall serve in advisory capacity to the Organization as may be directed by the Board.

**CHAPTER 8 SECTION 20: MEETINGS AND CONVENTIONS**

- a) This organization shall hold regular online meetings (DELIBERATION HOUR) two (2) times a month.
- b) The Executives could however summon Emergency Deliberation Hour when the need arises.
- c) The Executives shall meet at their Discretion.
- d) The Board of Directors shall meet at least once in 3 months at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors.
- e) There shall be a Bi annual convention to be rotated among the three Local Government Areas in Mbaise.

## **SECTION 21 LOGO**

The MUA Logo shall be a blue globe, partly showing map of North and South America, in green color, and an inscription MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY written in red above the globe; the globe is placed on a palm and an inscription ISE DI N'OTU written across the palm. The Map should also show Mbaise on it.

## **SECTION 22: THE COMMON SEAL**

The Organization's seal shall be kept by the Treasurer, and the assistant Treasurer respectively to be used as required.

## **SECTION 23 SIGNING OFFICIALS**

The only members authorized to use their signature for the organization's business are as follows (except as noted elsewhere in the Constitution):

- A. Treasurers, Financial Secretaries and the President are automatic Signatories to the accounts.
- B. A Vice President in Nigeria must also be a signing officer.
- C. The Check books to the Nigerian account would be in the custody of a VP who is not a Signing Officer.
- D. An MOU with the banks against a sole signatory must be obtained
- E. Signing members shall not be related by marriage, blood or cohabitation.
- F. That emailed Bank Statements would be sent to the Secretariat's email address ([mbaiseuniversal@gmail.com](mailto:mbaiseuniversal@gmail.com))

## **SECTION 24 REPLACING A SIGNING MEMBER**

A signing member could be replaced when the Executive calls for a replacement and backed by a Board Resolution. Reasons for replacement may range from Death, being indisposed to carry out the duties, conviction by the Ethics and Arbitration Panel for acts of Insubordination and sabotage against the Organization or any other acts that could be adjudged as unhealthy for the organization.

**CHAPTER 9 SECTION 25 AFFILIATIONS**

The [MUA] may enter into any affiliation with another organization with approval of the general membership.

**SECTION 26 AMENDMENTS**

Any proposed amendments to this constitution must be submitted in writing to any elected officer. Such proposed amendments must be signed by five (5) active members of the organization before being submitted. They will be referred to the Board of Directors for investigation and recommendation. Proposed amendments will then be published within sixty (60) days and will be read and voted upon at the next regular meeting after publication. They shall become a part of this Constitution only if approved by two thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting at said meeting.

**CHAPTER 10 BYE LAWS**

**SECTION 27  
MEMBERSHIP**

All prospective members must be recommended by a member of the organization and must be vetted by the Executives in a matter chosen by the executives. Membership is based on integrity of the individual.

**SECTION 28 LEVIES**

- a) There shall be an MUA ANNUAL LEVY of Twelve Thousand Naira (N12, 000.00) per member.

**SECTION 29 TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP**

The Organization is based on single membership; wherein a husband and wife as members, each shall be considered as a separate individual.

The first call of membership is integrity.

**a) Honorary and/or Life Membership**

At the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has the final approval on classification of membership.



### **SECTION 30 REINSTATEMENT**

In the event any member drops out or is expelled from the society for a period of one year or more and wishes to rejoin, he may rejoin the organization. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, full former membership rights and privileges may be reinstated. No cancellations or refund of dues shall be paid if a member resigns before the close of his membership year.

### **SECTION 31 MODE OF CONTRIBUTION and MUA POINTS**

The method of contribution shall be by voluntary contribution. However, members are expected to participate actively during time for donation.

- (i) Member's participation in FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS would attract 15 points
- (ii) Participation on Deliberation Hour would attract 10 points
- (iii) Points should be awarded ONLY on Mbaise Projects
- (iv) DELIBERATION HOUR would be considered as AN Mbaise Project and would be accorded Participation Points

### **SECTION 32 VOTING:**

- i. Eligibility to vote is limited to members in good standing (one (1) vote per member
- ii. All voting is decided by simple majority except where specifically noted in the Constitution and By-Laws.

### **SECTION 33 ASSESSMENT TEAM**

The team shall be charged with the responsibility of Assessing members performance and to determine if their performance qualifies a member for Benefits. The team shall apportion MUA POINTS to performing members.

The composition of the team shall consist of The Sec. General, The Treasurer, the Financial secretary and 3 house members. The tenure of the house Assessment team shall be 2 years.

### **SECTION 34 INVITATIONS**

To participate in any ceremony, the association should receive a formal invitation. A formal invitation should include an invitation card, or posting in the forum.

**CHAPTER 11 BYE LAW 2 SECTION 35 DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**1. The President.**

The president shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Organization and shall be vested with the following powers

- (a) All Executive powers.
- (b) The Chief spokesperson of the association.
- (c) Preside over all regular and emergency meetings; terminate discussions after giving a good number of members the opportunity to be heard.
- (d) The public face of the association and the custodian of its constitution
- (e) Appoint members of all committees to be approved by the Executive
- (f) Authorize all disbursement of the association's funds authorized by the general assembly and be a signatory to all checks.
- (g) Designate duties to various committees and departments, and approved by the Executives
- (h) Revoke all non-performing contracts with the Executive council's approval

**2. The Vice Presidents.**

The vice president shall,

- (a) Assist the president in carrying out the executive functions assigned to the president
- (b) Assume the Chief Executive Officer's position and carry out his/her functions in the absence of the President.
- (c) Oversee MUA's projects and activities in their respective Local governments.

**3. The General Secretary.**

The General Secretary shall;

- (a) Issue notice of all general and executive meetings, Executive and board meetings
- (b) Record the minutes of all general, executives, board and emergency meetings and read them at succeeding meetings. Be responsible for all correspondence from and to the association
- (c) Take roll call at general meetings and keep a record of all attendance.
- (d) At the request of the president, convene emergency or extra-ordinary general or executive meetings.
- (e) Be the repository of all the association's non-financial records & custodian of the association's records, including the minutes.

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- (f) Be the face of the organization at the instance of the president (g) Be the administrator of the Secretariat.

### **4 The Assistant General Secretary.**

The Assistant General Secretary of the association shall

- (a) Assist the General Secretary in carrying out his/her duties to the association (b) Assume all the duties of the general secretary in his/her absence

### **5. The Financial Secretary.**

He/she shall

- (a) Keep accurate and up-to-date records of all monies paid to or owed the organization and all the organization's indebtedness.
- (b) Keep accurate record of all financial transactions executed in the Organization
- (c) During physical, face to face meeting, shall be responsible to collect checks and cash and record same appropriately but must Transfer such checks and cash to the Treasurer or assistant. Where the treasurer and assistant are not available shall proceed to deposit same into the Organization's bank account within 48 hours.
- (d) Provide monthly or quarterly bank statements & financial reports to the association.
- (e) Send a written notice of financial delinquency to all members owing the Organization.
- (f) Contact members via the telephone to solicit members for debt payments.

### **6. The Assistant Financial Secretary.**

The Assistant Financial Secretary shall assist the Financial Secretary in the performance of his/her duties and assume full responsibility when the Financial Secretary is unable to carry out his/her duties.

### **7. The Treasurer.**

The Treasurer shall

- (a) Be Responsible for safeguarding the association's funds
- (b) Deposit into the association's bank account all monies received from the financial secretary within 48 hours of such receipt
- (c) Reconcile the association's bank account statements periodically with the financial secretary
- (d) Be the custodian of the association's checks and other financial instruments

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- (e) Present a joint audit report at the end of their term of office with the financial secretary and the Auditor
- (f) Publish the Organization's bank statement, signed by the President

### **8. The Public Relations Officer.**

The Public Relations Officer shall

- (a) Be the chief information officer of the association
- (b) Gather and disseminate promotional information of the association's activities as directed and authorized by the general assembly

### **9. The Assistant Public Relations Officers.**

The Assistant Public Relations Officer shall assist the Public Relations Officer in the performance of his/her duties. When the Public Relations Officer is unable to perform his/her duties, the Assistant Public Relations Officer assumes the full duties of the Public Relations Officer.

### **(10) The Auditor**

Shall head the Budget and Planning department and shall also

- (a) the examination of all financial transactions and records to ensure compliance.
- (b) The verification of assets and property of the organization to ensure they are safeguarded.
- (c) The confirmation of Bank statement against record of the Financial Secretary.
- (d) Before passing any financial statement to the house, Financial Sec. is duty bound to pass it to the Auditor for examination and confirmation, etc.

## **SECTION 36 TENURE OF OFFICE**

Every elected officer shall serve for two calendar years. No elected officer shall serve for more than two consecutive terms; and such officer shall in perpetuity become ineligible to run for such post again.

## **SECTION 37 TENURE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The board of director's tenure shall terminate in 3 years, after which an election for a new board would be conducted.

**CHAPTER 12 BYE-LAW 3 SECTION 38 Vacancy of an Elected Office**

In the event of a vacancy of any elected office (as defined in the Constitution) for any reason, the President shall appoint a successor to serve the unexpired term within thirty (30) days of the vacancy.

**SECTION 39 Replacing a Board Member**

- a. A board position could be vacant either as a result of death, resignation or expulsion.
- b. To be a board member, a member must indicate interest, and then be voted into the board by 2/3 majority of participating members at that particular session.
- c. The process must be concluded within 60 days of such vacancy.

**CHAPTER 14 BYE-LAW 4 SECTION 39 Voting Regulations**

In order for a member to vote on any issue he/she must be present at the time the vote is taken and met all the qualifications of the Constitution. In cases where a member holds multiple positions on the Executives/Board of Directors, the member will be allowed only one vote.

**CHAPTER 15 BYE-LAW 5 SECTION 40  
EXPULSION**

The Executives by two thirds (2/3) majority vote, can expel any member of the Organization for the following reasons:

- A. Conduct unbecoming a member of the Organization.
- B. Malfeasance in office.
- C. As stipulated in the Code of Conduct/Rules of the organization

**SECTION 41**

- (a) Elected officers may be expelled from office for failing to attend three consecutive board meetings without extenuating circumstances.
- (b) Conducts in violation of adopted RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCTS and after due process as recommended in the Code of Conduct.

**CHAPTER 16 BYE-LAW 6 SECTION 42**

**a) Standing Committees**

- i). Think Tank Committee
- ii). Special Duties
- iii). Media and Public Relations
- iv). Assessment Team
- v). Audit and Budget Planning
- vi). Education Enhancement
- vii). Talent Fish Out/youths empowerment

**Section 41 b**

**APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

- (a) The President shall appoint the committee members and shall be approved by the Executives.
- (b) Committee membership could also be by voluntary membership on Executives recommendation
- (c) The chairperson of each committee shall be designated by the President or as decided by the President and approved by the Executives
- (d) Voting and decisions at the committee level must be in compliance with the RULES/ CODE OF CONDUCT provisions

**SECTION 43**

The president shall establish or dissolve such special committees, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors, as from time to time may be required, to sustain the functions of the society.

**CHAPTER 17 BYE-LAW 7 SECTION 44**

**QUORUM**

- a) One fourth (1/4) of the membership, with a minimum of twenty (20) shall constitute a quorum at the regular meetings of the society requiring a vote.
- b) At Executive Board meetings, two thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board of the society shall constitute a quorum.

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- c) At the Board of Directors meetings, two thirds (2/3) of the Executive Board and one half (1/2) of the standing committees shall constitute a quorum. Ad hoc committees and the nominating committee do not count for quorum.

### **CHAPTER 18 BYE-LAW 8 SECTION 45**

#### **Order of Business**

The order of business at all meetings of the Organization shall be as follows:

1. Call the meeting to order.
2. Reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, unless published.
3. Reading of the Treasurers' report.
4. At the general meetings—condensed report except for unusual transactions.
5. Old business.
6. New business.
7. Program.
8. Any other society functions.
9. Adjournment.

### **CHAPTER 19 BYE-LAW 9 SECTION 46**

#### **Amendments**

- (a) Proposed amendments to the By-laws will be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors, signed by three (3) active members. The board of directors would determine the veracity of such amendment, if found credible would submit it to the Executives. The Executive council will investigate and make their recommendations at the next general meeting. Voting will proceed at said meeting with a simple majority of eligible members present and voting required for passage.
- (b) The Executives could seek to amend part of the code of conduct with the approval of the board of directors.

### **CHAPTER 20 BYE-LAW 10 SECTION 47**

#### **\*MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY RULES/CODE OF CONDUCT\***

1. The language of Mbaise Universal Assembly chat forum shall remain English, Pidgin English and Igbo. The use of any other language must be interpreted, and such language shall not be more than 2 lines.

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2. We all became members of Mbase Universal Assembly with the objective of joining others in the development of Mbase, therefore all personal acrimonies and hate should not be brought into Mbase Universal Assembly, we would not allow personal grievances to interfere with our collective efforts.
3. Personal attacks, insults, innuendos, defaming or abusing others is forbidden.
4. Respect other members, respect their opinion or posts even if you disagree with them, treat them exactly as you would want them to treat you.
5. Remember that we did not state our age on the forum; but you must realize that there are elders in the forum; therefore, address everyone as if he or she is your elder.
6. Advertisements and Promotions are welcome are allowed on MUA Platforms, but they must go through the secretariat to be posted.
7. In the event of an ongoing verbal war between 2 members, it is forbidden for any other member to get involved in their altercation either in support of one over the other or to mediate on their case. Only the President, the Secretary General or the Vice Presidents can intervene or mediate between 2 members.
8. During Deliberations hour, the Moderator has the overriding powers to moderate deliberations and to maintain peace and order
9. Arbitration committee is set to adjudicate cases between members, that is a member and another member.
  - a) Cases of sabotage and insubordination against this organization shall be handled by the Arbitration committee.
  - b) Contentious Cases must be addressed and resolved within 48 hours and whereby an extension is needed such request must reach the Executive before the expiration of



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- the timeline; where the arbitration delays without adequate reasons such matters shall be taken over by the Executive.
- c) Members of the arbitration are barred from making any kind of public or private comment on a case before them, and such an erring arbitration member must recuse himself or herself if such occurs. Where 2 members of the committee are disqualified from a matter, such a matter would be handled by the executive.
  - d) The Ruling of Ethics and Arbitration Panel shall not be subjected to any debates by any Member.
  - e) Disagreements of E&A rulings MUST be appropriately directed to the Board of Directors.
  - f) Violations of (a) and (d) would lead to immediate suspension and readmission would be by the board after the violator had fulfilled all conditions as would be stipulated by the board.
  - g) Refusal to appear before the E&A as witness will attract suspension, pending the fulfilment of all the conditions as may be stipulated by the Board before Readmission.
10. If purportedly a post is offensive to an individual and if the offender is challenged by anyone who may not even be referred to in the post; and if the offender accepts his mistake and apologizes, the case should be laid to rest instantly. It would be a violation if anyone else revisits the issue 30 minutes later and beyond.
11. It shall be a serious violation for a member to instigate attacks against any other member either via inbox messages or through any other ways as such action if proven to be true could lead to expulsion after fair hearing
12. If a member is attacked with a derogatory word or words, it would be regarded as a gang up if any other member uses the same derogatory words, terminology, expression or description on the same member who had earlier been so attacked.

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13. Members of the arbitration committee are barred from participating in controversial issues as such issues could end up on their desks for adjudication

14. An executive, board member or arbitration committee member who instigates or promotes fracas, attacks, gang ups, fights shall be deemed as engaging in anti-Mbaise Universal Assembly activity and such member stands the risk disciplinary actions and possible expulsion.

15. All committee members must work together on assignments, and must render joint presentation to the house. If a member is inactive or unavoidably absent, the Secretary General must be notified

15 (a) In a committee, the decision of a simple majority would be considered as the decision of the committee. An aggrieved committee member must find redress with the Executive if desired.

15 (b) A committee member who sidelines an agreement by the committee to implement his or her decision unilaterally, such action shall be null and void and such member would face Executive disciplinary action

16. All Mbaise Universal Assembly projects shall be executed by bidding only, but a member who is qualified to do the job would be assigned the job as long as meets all other requirements.

16 (a) Any member who wants to execute a project for MUA must give the organization 25% discount, after a competitive bidding had been exhausted.

17. Decisions during DELIBERATION HOUR shall be by simple YEAH vote, however any member could call for actual voting to resolve an issue. In that case voting, would be based on 2/3 of members who formed the quorum; and voting would be by names.

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18. The President and the Secretary General and the third Admin have the power to remove an erring and disruptive member instantly and then refer the matter to the Executives for ratification or reversal.
19. When a member is officially referred to the Ethics and Arbitration Panel, such a member must be removed immediately pending the determination of his case by the E&A Panel.
20. The financial statements of Mbaise Universal Assembly bank accounts must be posted once a month for members to view.
21. Whereby a husband and wife are members, such are barred from speaking for or against points raised by any of the two and when one of them is involved in an altercation with another member, or members, the non-involved spouse is barred from interfering or interceding in such matter
22. No member shall be intimidated, harassed, blackmailed or discriminated outside the forum because of their positions, decisions, interactions, or even relationships as such actions would be treated as sabotage against MUA.
23. Any resolution, decision, ruled and passed by the executive will not be revisited, adjusted or reviewed by any member or members of the same EXCO who probably could not participate when the decision or resolution was made.
24. When a matter has been fully deliberated in the general house and ruled by the President, such a matter shall not have revisited by any member. All protests on such ruling must be channeled via the Secretary General to the BOARD
25. Political Criticism against an Mbaise Politician is allowed but such criticism shall be devoid of Malice, pull down syndrome, insults, humiliation and unsubstantiated allegations. This violation could lead to suspension

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26. Party Politics is forbidden; but individual support for any candidate of their choice is allowed.

27. When the Authorities of MUA institute a ban order on any discussion in the Forum, it will be an offence and will attract a penalty to breach the order.

### **Chapter 20 SECTION 48**

#### **SUSPENSIONS**

1. A member who fails to comply with penalty directives as recommended could be suspended by the Executives and removed from the Forum
2. A member who is out of status for non-payment of obligations for a long period of time shall be suspended until full payment is made.
3. A member, whose behavior during a meeting, an event sponsored by the Organization or an event to which the organization is invited is deemed disruptive or unacceptable, can be suspended by the President for a period not exceeding one year. During the period of suspension, a member loses all rights due to him/her from the Association. At the end of the suspension period, the suspended member shall apologize to the General Assembly for the action that led to the suspension.

### **SECTION 49**

#### **Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of this Organization, any remaining funds and other assets will be donated to the charitable organization as prescribed by the law of the land.

### **SECTION 50**

#### **SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution and By-Laws shall supersede all previous documents and shall become effective February 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

CONSTITUTION OF MBAISE UNIVERSAL ASSEMBLY

**Constitution Review Committee:**

Barrister Chinwendu Anyanwu

Mr. Stan Dioka

Alhaji Sanni Uzo Ibrahim

Chibuzor Nnorom