

# CONSTITUTION OF ABBA UNITED USA, INC.

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## PREAMBLE

We, the descendants and indigenes of Abba comprising of the four communities of Umuokpara, Umudurunna, Ekitiafor and Ogwuaga, in Nwangele LGA in Orlu Senatorial Zone of IMO State of Nigeria (hereinafter interchangeably called Abba United) firmly and solemnly resolve:

TO COME TOGETHER AS ONE PEOPLE in the United States of America under one umbrella organization to be called and addressed as Abba United USA, Inc.,

FOR THE unity, harmony, progress and welfare of ourselves, our fellow descendants in Abba and for the interest of our prosperity and posterity,

DO HEREBY MAKE, ENACT AND ADOPT the following Constitution:

### ARTICLE 1: NAME & STATUS

Section 1: The name of this organization shall be ABBA UNITED USA, INC. (herein interchangeably called Abba United).

Section 2: Abba United shall be a non-profit and tax-exempt corporation.

Section 3: Abba United shall be the umbrella organization of Abba descendants and indigenes in the United States (“USA”).

### ARTICLE 2: OBJECTIVES

Section 1: To identify and unify Abba sons and daughters in the USA and beyond.

Section 2: To promote effective communication and networking between and amongst Abba sons and daughters and various members of ABBA UNITED in the USA and beyond.

Section 3: To boost the educational, cultural and economic empowerment of Abba sons and daughters in Abba and in the USA.

Section 4: To promote the good image and reputation of Abba sons and daughters through public relations programs and projects.

Section 5: To promote the exchange of ideas and cooperative learning on matters of self-respect, good citizenship, leadership skills and communal relationship amongst Abba sons and daughters.

Section 6: To pursue and engage in all other lawful activities in consonance with the laws of USA, the laws of Federal Republic of Nigerian and Igbo worldview.

## ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: ABBA UNITED membership shall be open to all Abba descendants and their families.

Section 2: Abba sons and daughters in USA cities that do not have their own organization shall be encouraged to form their own or register in the nearest city that does.

Section 3: Honorary Abba United Memberships:

- a. There shall be Honorary Abba United members to be nominated by any member and reviewed by ABBA UNITED executive.
- b. Those to be nominated shall be individuals who have demonstrated exceptional affection for Abba or Abba sons and daughters. Such exceptional affection shall be capable of verification by the ABBA UNITED executive.
- c. Such nominations shall be approved by a simple majority vote of members present and voting at ABBA UNITED conventions or meetings.
- d. All nominations shall be made 3 months before final approval.

Section 4: Patrons: ABBA UNITED shall have patrons as may be nominated by the members.

- a. Patrons shall be nominated by any member and reviewed by ABBA UNITED Executive.
- b. Such nominations shall be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of members present and voting at ABBA UNITED conventions or meetings.
- c. Any such nominations shall be made to the ABBA UNITED Executive 3 months before final approval by HOD.

Section 5: Qualifications of Patrons: Distinguished and illustrious sons and daughters of Abba shall be eligible to be appointed patrons. Such Abba sons and daughters must be individuals whose track record of exemplary service to Abba or Abba sons and daughters are public knowledge and capable of verification.

Section 6: Registration and Dues:

- a. Each individual member shall register with a non refundable fee of \$100 payable to ABBA UNITED.

- b. Each individual member shall pay annual dues of \$150 payable within six months of the organizations designated annual calendar.
- c. Individual membership under subsection (a) maybe individuals or member and spouse.

#### Article 4: RIGHTS AND OBLIGATION

- Section 1: Each member to ABBA UNITED convention shall have the right to vote and be voted for.
- Section 2: Every ABBA UNITED Convention and meeting shall be open to the members.
- Section 3: ABBA UNITED records shall be open to each individual member for review. Request for records shall be made to the President or Secretary.
- Section 4: In the event of the death of a member, a spouse or child (ren), any member shall notify the ABBA UNITED Executive within 3 days of receiving such news.
- Section 5: The president of ABBA UNITED shall notify every member within 3 days of such sad news.
- Section 8: Only individual members in good financial standing are entitled to benefits under this Article.

#### ARTICLE 5: ABBA UNITED EXECUTIVE

There shall be an ABBA UNITED Executive (hereinafter “Executive”) comprising the President, Vice President, General Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, Assistant General Secretary, and Parliamentarian.

#### ARTICLE 6: FUNCTIONS OF ABBA UNITED EXECUTIVE

The ABBA UNITED Executive shall:

- Section 1: Be responsible for the management of ABBA UNITED.
- Section 2: Be elected by the delegates at ABBA UNITED Convention or meeting.
- Section 3: Implement the policies and programs of ABBA UNITED.
- Section 4: Be responsible for ABBA UNITED Conventions and meetings.
- Section 5: Prepare the agenda for ABBA UNITED Conventions and meetings.
- Section 6: Increase the membership of ABBA UNITED.

Section 7: Each member of the ABBA UNITED executive shall make conscious effort to work in harmony with other members of the ABBA UNITED executive and shall not indulge in any habit, conduct, action or disposition that hinders the progress of ABBA UNITED or the progressive agenda of ABBA UNITED Executive.

## ARTICLE 7: QUALIFICATIONS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 1: Every member of the Executive shall be a member in good financial standing and shall not have a felony conviction.

Section 2: Any member of the Executive who is convicted of a crime of felony shall be removed from office by vote of no confidence or impeachment by a simple majority votes of members present and voting in a meeting.

Section 3: Any member of the Executive who embezzles ABBA UNITED funds shall be removed from office by a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority votes of members present and voting at ABBA UNITED convention or meeting and may be prosecuted in the appropriate jurisdiction in the United States or in Nigeria.

Section 4: To qualify to run for ABBA UNITED office, a candidate shall be in good financial standing.

## ARTICLE 8: Duties of ABBA UNITED Executive Officers

Section 1: Duties of ABBA UNITED President

The President of ABBA UNITED shall:

- a. Uphold the constitution, bylaws, policies, rules and regulations of ABBA UNITED at all times and shall be accountable for policies or resolutions not duly implemented.
- b. Render a written report of the state of the organization during each convention.
- c. Preside over all general meetings.
- d. Appoint members of all ADHOC Committees with the consultation of the Executive body, with the exception of the committees created under Articles 12, 13, 18, 20, and 21.

- e. Define duties, duration, and number of all ADHOC committee members appointed;
- f. Be the Chief Executive Officer and spokesperson of the organization;
- g. Prepare Executive meeting Agenda;
- h. Call for emergency meetings when necessary and appropriate.
- i. Serve as ex-officio member of all standing committees;
- j. Delegate duties to any Executive member as may be necessary and appropriate;
- k. Appoint members to fill vacancies created by resignation, withdrawal, disability, death, or impeachment of an officer pending a by-election within 90 days of such vacancy;
- l. Designate Master of Ceremonies in all events of the Union.
- m. Sign the minutes of both ABBA UNITED executive and ABBA UNITED Convention after adoption by those present.
- n. Be a signatory to ABBA UNITED accounts.

Section 2: ABBA UNITED Vice President shall:

- a. Perform all the duties of the President in his/her absence, with all the powers, rights, and privileges appurtenant thereto; and becomes the President, if a vacancy occurs in the office by reason of death, disability, resignation, withdrawal, or removal from office, for the unexpired term of the incumbent President.
- b. Perform other functions as may be delegated by the President.
- c. Be a signatory to ABBA UNITED accounts and shall sign all checks in the absence of the President.
- d. Chair the ABBA UNITED Convention Planning committee.

- Section 3: ABBA UNITED Secretary shall:
- a. Keep records of ABBA UNITED.
  - b. Take minutes of all properly constituted executive meetings or ABBA UNITED Convention.
  - c. Send minutes of ABBA UNITED Conventions to each member within 30 days of the end of each Convention.
  - d. With the consent of the President circulate the agenda for duly scheduled meetings of executive.
  - e. In absence of the President and Vice President summon meetings and preside.
  - f. With the consent of the President reply ABBA UNITED correspondences.

- Section 4: Assistant General Secretary:
- a. Shall carry out all the duties of the General Secretary in his/her absence.
  - b. Shall carry out any other duties as may be delegated by the President or the General Secretary.

- Section 5: Treasurer
- a. Shall deposit within 3 working days into FDIC bank all ABBA UNITED monies.
  - b. Shall be a signatory to ABBA UNITED accounts.
  - c. Shall keep records of all deposits, withdrawals and bank statements.
  - d. Shall prepare an income and expenditure report, which shall be part of the President's State of the organization Report during each Convention.

- Section 6: Financial Secretary
- a. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Financial Sec. shall collect and deposit within 3 working days and mail receipt of deposit to Treasurer within 3 business working days of such deposit or collection.
  - b. Prepare and present annual financial report, which shall include assets and liabilities of ABBA UNITED and shall be included in the President's State of the organization Report during each Convention.
  - c. In ABBA UNITED Conventions or other ABBA UNITED gatherings, the Financial Secretary shall collect ABBA UNITED money and submit it to the Treasurer for deposit

- d. Shall keep the physical custody of ABBA UNITED check books and prepare checks for signatories
- e. Shall prepare annual post Convention Financial Report within 60 days of each ABBA UNITED Convention and send it to each member.
- f. Shall chair the Fund Raising Committee [FRC]

Section 7: Public Relations Officer

- a. Shall be the image-maker of ABBA UNITED and shall coordinate and publicize all ABBA UNITED activities.
- b. Shall liaise between ABBA UNITED and its members without prejudice to any other section of this constitution.
- c. Shall coordinate social events of ABBA UNITED.
- d. Shall be a member of ABBA UNITED Convention Organization Committee and shall act as the alternate chair for convention organization committee in the event of the incapacity or unavailability of the Vice President.
- e. Shall assist the local PRO as the master of ceremony for ABBA UNITED Conventions.
- f. Shall perform other duties incident to the office of the Public Relations Officer and/or as may be delegated by the President.

Section 8: PARLIAMENTARIAN

- a. Maintain peace and order during executive meetings and ABBA UNITED conventions without bias.
- b. Recognize people to speak at Executive meetings and ABBA UNITED conventions without bias.
- c. Shall use the Robert's rules of order as a guide.

**ARTICLE 9: LEGAL ADVISOR:**

There shall be legal advisor appointed by the national president and approved by a simple majority of the members present and voting.

The legal Advisor:

1. Shall advise and counsel the Executive on legal matters regarding the Organization.
2. Shall be trained in the practice of law.



3. Shall serve a term of two years.
4. Shall be a member and chair of the Dispute Resolution Committee.
5. May be the legal representative of ABBA UNITED in legal proceedings.
6. Shall designate a local counsel in consultation with the executive on any matter in a jurisdiction
7. Shall be a member in good standing.

## ARTICLE 10: ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS (ABOD)

Section I: ABBA UNITED shall have an Advisory Board of Directors (ABOD). The ABOD shall consist of 4 members of ABBA UNITED. The members shall be drawn from the four communities of Abba. President and legal adviser shall be ex-officials members.

Section 2 To qualify as Board member, each nominee shall be subject to the same requirements as Executives under provisions of Article 7 of ABBA UNITED Constitution. An executive officer of ABBA UNITED shall not be a Board member.

Section 3: The Board shall elect its Chairman, Secretary.

Section 4: Members of the Board shall serve a term of two years.

Section 5: The president shall nominate the ABOD members and approved by a simple majority vote of the House Of Delegates.

ABOD FUNCTIONS: ABOD shall:

Section 6: Serve in an advisory capacity to ABBA UNITED Executive.

Section 7: Work with ABBA UNITED Executive to achieve goals and objectives of ABBA UNITED as enumerated in this Constitution.

Section 8: Recommend strategic plans of action on topical issues or projects to ABBA UNITED Executive.

Section 9: Investigate issues, allegations and complaints that may be referred to it by the Executive, HOD or other provisions of this Constitution.

Section 10: Submit its Report on any issue to the ABBA UNITED organ (Executive or HOD) that initiated the investigation. In no event shall ABOD report it's finding on the ABBA UNITED email forum.

#### RESIGNATION FROM BOD

Section 11: A Board member shall resign his membership from the board, in writing, by notifying the Chairman or Secretary to the Board.

Section 12: In the absence of the Chairman, the Secretary shall assume the duties of the Chairman, until a Chairman is elected. Such election shall occur at the next Board meeting following the resignation or the incapacity of the ABOD Chairman.

#### VACANCIES IN THE BOD

Section 13: Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by the president when vacancy occurred. Such a member shall serve out the remaining term of the vacating member.

#### REMOVAL OF A MEMBER OF THE ABOD

A member of the ABOD shall be subject to removal by simple majority vote of the members of the HOD at a duly scheduled meeting, if the member is:

Section 14: Unqualified at the time of appointment or thereafter, in accordance with provisions of Article 7.

Section 15: Unable or unfit to discharge his/her duties for a substantial part of his or her term.

Section 16: Absent from *two* (2) consecutive ABOD meetings, without good cause shown.

Section 17: Engages in a conduct(s) that brings ABBA UNITED, the ABOD into disrepute, acts in violation of ABBA UNITED Constitution or is convicted of a crime of felony.

#### REMOVAL OF OFFICERS OF THE ABOD:

Section 18: The removal of an officer of the ABOD shall originate from a member of the ABOD in a duly constituted Board meeting. Upon seconding of the

motion, the Chairman or a person acting on his behalf shall declare the motion open for discussion. A vote of simple majority of Board members shall be required to remove an officer.

Section 19: Upon the removal of the Chairman, the Secretary shall act in his/her capacity until a new election is conducted to replace the chairman.

Section 20: Upon the removal of any other officer, the Chairman of BOD shall appoint another member of the BOD to act in that office until a new officer is elected.

Section 21: Removal from office does not constitute removal from BOD.

#### ABOD MEETINGS:

Section 22: The ABBA UNITED ABOD shall meet at least three times in a year either by teleconference or in person as circumstances may warrant as long as there is no cost to ABBA UNITED. The ABOD shall meet in person at each Abba United convention.

Section 23: The quorum at any ABOD meeting shall be the chairman or secretary and any other member of the ABOD present.

#### VOTING:

Section 24: The ABOD shall vote in accordance with the provisions of ABBA UNITED Constitution.

Section 25: Voting in ABOD meetings shall be by simple majority of Board members present.

Officers of the ABOD & Terms:

Functions of the ABOD Officers:

The ABOD Chairman shall:

Section 26: Preside over all Board meetings.

Section 27: Convene or cancel all BOD meetings, including emergency meetings after due consultations with other Board officers.

Section 28: Represent the ABOD at occasions.

Section 29: Prepare agenda for ABOD meetings after due consultation with other ABOD officers.

Section 30: Manage the affairs of the ABOD.

Board Secretary shall

Section 31: Record all ABOD meeting minutes

Section 32: Send out written meeting notices, with agenda and minutes of previous meetings at least two weeks prior to each meeting date.

Section 33: Manage the directories of ABOD members

Section 34: Manage and read all correspondences of the ABOD.

#### DISSOLUTION OF THE BOARD:

Section 35: A Motion to suspend/dissolve/remove the Board shall be seconded and in writing stating the reasons for the motion and/or the section(s) of the ABBA UNITED Constitution that has been violated by the Board. Such motion shall originate from the HOD. A copy of the Motion shall be sent to the President, the Board Chairman and each HOD member at least sixty (60) days before the HOD meeting in which the motion will be heard.

Section 36: The president shall, upon receipt of the Motion, include in it the agenda for the next HOD meeting. A vote of two third (2/3) majority of the HOD shall be required for the dissolution of the BOD.

Section 37: No Motion to suspend, dissolve or remove the Board shall be debated unless there is an unforeseen contingency, scandal or other violation of this Constitution by the Board.

#### ARTICLE 11: House of Delegates

Section 1: Definition: The House of Delegates (“HOD”) shall be the representative body of the membership of ABBA UNITED in a duly authorized meeting or convention of the organization.

Section 2: Authority: The HOD shall be responsible for the legislative functions of ABBA UNITED.

Section 3: Functions of the House of Delegates: The HOD shall:

1. Serve as the legislative body of ABBA UNITED.
2. Elect ABBA UNITED officers consistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

3. Approve by simple majority budgets and programs for all ABBA UNITED activities for each year.
4. Receive formal reports from the Executive, Standing and Ad hoc Committees, and other bodies as may be requested regarding their past, current or future activities.
5. Consider such other matters as may be brought before it as well as carry out all other responsibilities of ownership and as stipulated in this Constitution.

Section 4: Quorum: The quorum for the HOD shall consist of at least two executive members and three or more other members.

#### ARTICLE 12: DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE (DRC):

1. There shall be a Dispute Resolution Committee, (hereinafter DRC) which shall be a Standing Committee of ABBA UNITED.
2. The DRC shall be chaired by the legal advisor.
3. Members of the DRC shall include the following:
  - a. Two members of the executive to be appointed by the president.
  - b. Two members of the Board to be appointed by the board chair.
  - c. Two delegates to be elected by the HOD
4. The DRC report on any matter shall be submitted to the ABBA UNITED president unless in a matter involving the president in which case the DRC report shall be submitted to the HOD. The president shall call a meeting of the HOD within 30 days of receiving the report from the DRC
5. In the event the president fails to call the meeting within the 30 days, the VP shall call the meeting within 30 days. The HOD shall initiate impeachment process in accordance against the President with Article 22 of this constitution.
6. The DRC shall have power to:
  1. Investigate and adjudicate matters or conflicts between members.
  2. Investigate and adjudicate matters or conflicts between HOD members, Executive members and BOARD members.
  3. Investigate and adjudicate matters or conflicts between the executive, Board and/ or HOD referred to it by the Executive.
7. The DRC shall have the power to question any person that it believes has information necessary for the resolution of issues before it.

8. It shall have the authority to demand and receive documents from any ABBA UNITED member, Executive, Board or HOD having custody of such documents.
9. In adjudicating all cases before it, the DRC shall abide by ABBA UNITED Constitution.
10. ABBA UNITED shall encourage each member to resolve its own conflicts and/or grievances. Both parties shall agree to a binding arbitration.
10. ABBA UNITED shall not entertain an arbitration or mediation request from a non member.
11. In the event of a dispute between executive members, the president shall submit such in writing to the DRC for investigation and resolution. In the event of a dispute between Board members, the Board Chairman shall submit such in writing to the DRC for investigation and resolution

#### ARTICLE 13: ABBA UNITED ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- Section 1: There shall be an Election of Abba United Election Commission (hereinafter “EC”) comprising three members all of whom shall be appointed by ABBA UNITED Board from the membership to conduct ABBA UNITED general elections
- Section 2: The three members of the EC shall be appointed during the convention in which ABBA UNITED general elections are held.
- Section 3: No member of EC shall be a candidate for election to Abba United executive office at the same time of membership in EC
- Section 4: The ABBA UNITED Executive shall be dissolved prior to the conduct of ABBA UNITED general elections by EC
- Section 5: The EC shall choose among themselves the chairman and secretary

#### ARTICLE 14: ELECTIONS

- Section 1: Election shall be by secret ballot.
- Section 2. There shall be no voting by Proxy.
- Section 3 Election shall be by accredited members in good financial standing,
- Section 4. Election shall be by simple majority of the delegates present and voting.
- Section 5. In the event of a tie, there shall be a run-off election.

- Section 6. The ballot papers and other materials shall be prepared by Board.
- Section 7. Each member shall cast one vote for each elected Abba United position.
- Section 8. Elected officers shall be sworn in immediately after the election and shall take office thereafter.
- Section 9. The Legal adviser shall swear in the elected officers.
- Section 10. The Legal adviser shall dissolve the EC after swearing in the new officers.
- Section 11. The outgoing executive officers shall prepare their hand over notes prior to and hand over to the newly elected officers after the election.
- Section 12. The outgoing executive officers shall supplement their hand over records, if any, within 30 days from the date of the election.
- Section 13. The Board shall send out the notice of intent to run for any office to the members at least 90 days before ABBA UNITED Convention.
- Section 14. Every candidate for office shall fill out and return to the Board a notice of intent to run for office 30 days before the ABBA UNITED Convention
- Section 15. Each member shall endorse, initial or sign the notice of intent to run to authenticate such notice of intent to run forms.
- Section 16. In the event that member did not offer to run for some offices, the EC shall ask for nominations during the election from among the members in good financial standing.
- Section 17. Each member shall be in good financial standing before he will be allowed to vote or be voted for.

## ARTICLE 15: TENURE AND RESIGNATION

- Section 1: The tenure for elected office shall be two years.
- Section 2: No elected officer shall run for a particular office for more than three consecutive terms totaling six years.
- Section 3: Any officer who has served three consecutive terms in a particular office shall be eligible to run for any other office.
- Section 4: Any elected officer can resign by submitting a letter of resignation to the Secretary within 30 days of intended date of resignation.
- Section 5: In the event that the Secretary wants to resign he/she shall submit his resignation letter to the President.
- Section 6: Any resigning officer shall surrender all ABBA UNITED property to the Secretary or the President within 7 days of such resignation.

## ARTICLE 16: MEETINGS AND QUORUM

- Section 1: Notice of ABBA UNITED Executive meeting shall be sent to each member at least 14 days before the scheduled meeting.
- Section 2 All Executive meetings shall be held by teleconference or as may be agreed by Executive members, as long as ABBA UNITED bears no cost for live meetings.
- Section 3 The Secretary shall send the notice of meeting to each Executive by email, telephone or fax.
- Section 4 The President shall with the consent of his executives schedule each executive meeting.
- Section 5 The President shall draw up the agenda for each executive meeting.
- Section 6 The President shall solicit input from his executives in the preparation of the agenda for each executive meeting.
- Section 7 Three members of the ABBA UNITED executive, (which must include the President or Vice President, and General Secretary or Assistant) and one other member of the executive shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 8 A duly scheduled and publicized ABBA UNITED Convention shall proceed with out regard to the number of members attending and without regard to the regional or geographical representation of the members.

## ARTICLE 17: DISCIPLINE

- Section 1: Every member of the ABBA UNITED executive shall be responsible for his/her own conduct during ABBA UNITED executive meetings or ABBA UNITED Conventions.
- Section 2: Executive to make bylaws governing the smooth running of meetings and conventions, including sanctions and fines.

## ARTICLE 18: ABBA UNITED CONVENTIONS

- Section 1: There shall be an ABBA UNITED convention every year.
- Section 2: The venue of every convention shall be determined two years in advance.
- Section 3: The hosting city shall assist in the planning of the said convention and the cost and net profit of the convention shall be borne by Abba UNITED.
- Section 4: There shall be an ABBA UNITED Convention Organization Committee (“AUCOC”) comprising the Vice President and a Local Organizing Committee appointed by the local members.

## ARTICLE 19: DUTIES OF THE AUCOC



- Section 1: Shall organize the Annual Convention.
- Section 2 Shall, during the convention, divide attendees into committees to deliberate on the socio-economic, cultural, technological, educational and political aspects of ABBA UNITED agenda.
- Section 3 The Vice President of ABBA UNITED shall be the Chairman of AUCOC.
- Section 4 The President, in consultation with the local member shall appoint the Master of Ceremony who will be assisted by the ABBA UNITED PRO to moderate the Convention gala night

#### ARTICLE 20: FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

- Section 1: There shall be a fund raising committee [FRC].
- Section 2 ABBA UNITED shall derive revenue from as many sources as may be designated by the Executive and approved by the members in ABBA UNITED Convention or in a HOD duly scheduled meeting.
- Section 3 The President shall, with the consent of his Executive, nominate members of the FRC to be approved by a simple majority of HOD.
- Section 4 The FRC shall present to the ABBA UNITED Executive and ABBA UNITED Convention a proposal for fund raising for the fiscal year.
- Section 5 The FRC shall present during each ABBA UNITED Convention a report of its activities in the past year and its planned activities for the next year.

#### ARTICLE 21: ANNUAL AUDIT COMMITTEE

- Section 1 There shall be an annual audit committee comprising 3 members other than the President, Financial Secretary and Treasurer. One of the three members may be knowledgeable in general accounting principles.
- Section 2 The auditors shall be nominated from the membership after the election of ABBA UNITED Executive.
- Section 3 The auditors shall complete the audit and discuss their findings with the Executive prior to submitting their report to the HOD within 120 days of their election.
- Section 4 The auditors shall distribute the audit report to the OE, HOD.
- Section 5 The audit committee members shall be eligible for reappointment for one year terms.
- Section 6 ABBA UNITED fiscal year shall begin on First January of every year and end on December 31st of each year.

## ARTICLE 22: REMOVAL/IMPEACHMENT

- Section 1 Removal from office or impeachment for improper conduct of any ABBA UNITED Executive member shall be by two third (2/3) majority of members in ABBA UNITED Convention or a duly scheduled meeting. Such impeachment process shall be initiated by the HOD through the Board. The ABOD shall have 90 days to report back to the HOD on their findings.
- Section 2 ABBA UNITED Board shall send notice of the grounds of impeachment of a member of the ABBA UNITED Executive to each member within 90 days of the ABBA UNITED convention or a duly scheduled meeting.
- Section 3 There shall be a right to hearing at ABBA UNITED Convention or duly scheduled meeting prior to impeachment from office.
- Section 4 In the event of a report of misconduct involving member of the ABBA UNITED Executive, the Board shall promptly investigate such allegation and recommend disciplinary measures as stipulated in Section 1 above.

## ARTICLE 23: CONTINUITY OF ABBA UNITED

To preserve ABBA UNITED history, benefit from its past experiences and ensure its continuity:

- Section 1: There shall be continuity from one administration to another to foster progress. Each new administration shall continue any duly approved projects, which was not finished by the previous administration unless such project(s) is revised, or discontinued by 2/3 votes of the HOD.
- Section 2: All past Executive meeting minutes duly signed by past Presidents and Secretaries shall be turned over to the new administration.
- Section 3: All past Convention minutes duly signed by the past Presidents and Secretaries shall be turned over to the new administration within 30 days of new election.
- Section 4: All past Convention planning minutes duly signed by the Vice President and designated Convention planning Secretary shall be turned over to the new administration.

Section 5: There shall be official recorded video of all ABBA UNITED Conventions and public events, which shall remain the property of ABBA UNITED. Such videos shall be under the custody of the Secretary General.

## ARTICLE 24: DEFINITIONS

Section 1 ABBA UNITED or ABBA USA as used herein means and shall be construed to mean ABBA UNITED USA, Inc.

Section 2 AUCOC as used herein means ABBA UNITED Convention Organizing Committee

Section 3 Executive as used herein means ABBA UNITED Office Of Executive

Section 4 PRO means Public Relations Officer

Section 5 EC as used herein means Electoral Commission

Section 6 Assembly as used herein refers to ABBA UNITED

Section 7 HOD means House of Delegates

Section 8 FRC means Fund Raising Committee

Section 9 ABOD means Advisory Board of Directors

Section 10 DRC means Dispute Resolution Committee

## ARTICLE 25: AMENDMENT

Section 1: A motion or bill for the amendment of this constitution shall be in writing and initiated by a member in good financial standing and sponsored by at least one member in good financial standing.

Section 2: Such motion or bill shall be sent to each member at least 90 days before Abba United meeting or convention in which it will be debated.

Section 3: An amendment bill shall be fully debated in one convention or meeting and approved by two third (2/3) majority of ABBA UNITED delegates present and voting.

### **FIRST AMENDMENT TO ABBA UNITED CONSTITUTION (August 21, 2010)**

**In the event of a tie in the voting of the Advisory Board of Directors (ABOD), the President of Abba United shall be authorized to cast a vote to break the tie.**