THE CONSTITUTION OF



REMO NORTH AMERICA ASSOCIATION A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION NOVEMBER 2020

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LOGO



LIONS - STRENGTH AND ROYALTY
CROWN - ROYALTY FROM ILE-IFE
KOLA NUT - REMO LAND MAIN CASH CROP
33- THE REMO 33 CITIES

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The organization shall be known, addressed, called, and referred to as:

REMO NORTH AMERICA ASSOCIATION (RNAA).

ARTICLE 2: MISSION

The RNAA is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes as may qualify it as exempt from federal income tax under section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or) the corresponding provision of any future law of The United States Internal Revenue department in furtherance of support for the Nigerian-Remo communities in North America and across Remoland in Nigeria. Such purposes shall include but are not limited to the following:

- A. To embark on programs that will create and promote unity among all people of Remo descent.
- B. To motivate and assist eligible Remo people to avail themselves of the opportunity to become naturalized North Americans
- C. To improve the quality of life for Remo people who reside in North America.
- D. To promote progress and harmony among all people of Remo origin.
- E. To render educational supports to Remonians, not to include postgraduate programs
- F. Through constructive engagement, to promote social interaction among Remo people everywhere.
- G. To disseminate relevant information received from Remo land to its members
- H. To facilitate the registration and incorporation of the association in any state in North America
- I. To pay all costs, charges, and expenses, preliminary and incidental to the promotion, formation, establishment, and incorporation of the Remo North American Association
- J. To engage in any and all other activities, which will directly or indirectly improve the welfare and the economic conditions of the Remo people.
- K. To promote and advance the common interest and welfare of Remo people in Northern America.
- L. To engage in other activities that are incidental or conducive in the opinion of the majority of the members to the attainment of any or all of the above objectives.

ARTICLE 3: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Full membership of this Organization shall be open to all Remonians in North America, including their family members, who will be prepared to serve and comply with the rules and regulations of the Organization.

Section 2 Qualification for admittance to this organization: All people of Remo descent, including their spouses and children, are welcome regardless of age, sex, sexual orientation, social or economic status.

Section 3: A member shall be deemed to be in good standing if he/she is up-to- date in the payment of membership dues and any other special levies determined by the membership and attend, at least, two-thirds of the monthly meetings yearly.

Section 4: A member is entitled to the rights/privileges of membership in the Association, only when he/she is in good standing as defined in article 3, section 3.

Section 5: All members shall be required to sign a "declaration of membership" statement as shown in "Appendix A".

Section 6.0 Membership dues are stipulated and fixed at \$20 a monthly per individual.

ARTICLE 4: Meeting

Section 1 The Association shall meet every two years for an election at which the membership shall elect the officers, formulate overall policy and direction, and, if necessary, amend the by-laws and/or Constitution of the Association. The association shall remain assembled until all business shall have been completed or a motion for adjournment shall have been passed by a majority vote.

Section 2 Membership meetings shall be called as provided in Article 11,

Section 1-"Frequency of Meetings".

Section 3 During the membership meeting, the members have the power to levy dues, collect monies, and appropriate funds to pay debts of the Association and to provide for the general welfare of the Association.

Section 4 All legislative matters to be considered by the Association shall be placed on the Agenda for the annual membership meeting.

ARTICLE 5: ELECTIONS

Section 1 Nominations & Election Committee

Nominating an Election Committee consisting of a chairperson and two members shall be appointed at the time of regular elections by the President to conduct the elections according to the procedures set up.

Section1.1 Report of the Nominations and Election Committee shall be made immediately after the voting.

Section 1.2 Candidates can be nominated to any office from the floor by, and of any member in good standing, as long as the nomination is seconded.

Section 1.3 To be eligible for nomination, a candidate must have been a member in good standing, as stated in Article 3, Section 3, for, at least, six (6) months.

Section 1.4 Election shall be by secret ballot voting

Section 1.5 Voting Privilege: Election shall be based on one man, one vote principle. Voting is allowed to eligible members in good standing. Eligible members must be, at least, eighteen (18) years of age.

Section 1.6 Absentia Voting: Members can be voted for in absentia.

Section 1.7 To be elected to an office, a simple majority is required.

Section 1.8 Absentee voting: Any member in good standing is allowed to send in his/her vote prior to, or on the election day, to the chairperson of the election committee.

Section 1.9 Upon the ratification of the election results, the Nominations and Election Committee shall cease to be in operation.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

Section 1.1 The officers of the Association shall consist of the following:

- a). President
- b). Vice President
- c). General Secretary
- d). Assistant General Secretary
- e). Treasurer

- f). Financial Secretary
- g). Social Secretary
- h). Assistant Social Secretary
- i). Public Relations Officer
- i). Welfare Officer
- j). Chairman, Board of Trustees
- k). Ex-Officio

Section 1.2 Each officer must be a member in "good standing" in the Association at all times and must have attended, at least, two-thirds of the monthly meetings yearly to keep this status.

Section 1.3 All officers shall serve for a period of not more than two consecutive Association years, and eligible for a maximum of two terms.

Section 1.4 If the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice President shall act as the President. The executive officers will appoint the Vice President to the position of President, by a majority vote for the unexpired term. If any other office becomes vacant, the executive shall elect an eligible member to fill the office for the unexpired term. Service in an office for the unexpired term shall not make the officer ineligible for nomination or election to that office or any other office.

ARTICLE 7: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1: The President

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all meetings of the Association. The President shall be the spokesperson of the Association unless otherwise so designated by the President. The President shall cast the deciding vote whenever there is a tie. The President is vested with the authority to summon executive meetings as appropriate.

The President shall appoint the chairman and members of each committee of the Association and may appoint special assistants as may be deemed necessary and appropriate subject to approval by the simple majority vote of the members, He/She shall reside in North America.

Section 2: Vice President

The Vice President shall perform such duties as the President may assign and act for the President in his/her absence. The Vice President shall be required to perform the following duties:

Oversee and coordinate the activities and reports of the Association.

Assist in the development of programs.

Ensure the implementation and consistent application of policies as established by the constitution.

Make frequent calls to members that are absent from meetings.

Maintain a liaison with other organizations, which perform similar activities.

Section 3: General Secretary

The Secretary shall record and keep accurate all general meeting minutes

The Secretary shall read and present the minutes for adoption.

The Secretary shall be the custodian of all records, files, and documents.

The Secretary shall be responsible for the general correspondence and shall keep a record of all proposals for membership.

The Secretary shall keep records of all old and new Members and a roster of members. The secretary shall have further powers and duties as prescribed.

The shall conduct the affairs of the Secretariat

Shall convene all general and emergency meetings on the directive of the President

Shall distribute the constitution to all members

Shall represent the President or Vice president in their absences

As the Chief Administrative Office, shall serve as the CEO of all Business ventures

The General Secretary shall be part of the B Signatory to the banking account

In case of the removal or termination of the General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary automatically takes over the role and an election is conducted to fill the position of Assistant General Secretary.

Section 4: Assistant General Secretary

The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the discharge of his or her duties. In the absence of the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary shall act as the Secretary. The Assistant Secretary shall notify members of the meeting dates and times if notices were not sent out in a timely manner.

Section 5: Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and supervise the safekeeping and expenditure of the funds and investments of the Association.

The Treasurer shall make expenditures only upon written authorization of the President and the Association.

The Treasurer shall deposit all monies paid in the name of the Association to the bank within three (3) working days of their receipt.

The treasurer shall pay all obligations and bills by check drawn by him/her and countersigned by the signatories.

The Treasurer shall report on the financial condition of the Association at all meetings and other times when called upon by the President.

The Treasurer shall bring all account books, checks, and register of the Association to all meetings.

The Treasurer shall make the financial books and records of the Association available to the auditor on demand and provide all necessary assistance to make the auditor's work efficient. At the expiration of the Treasurer's term of office, the treasurer shall deliver to the successor all books, liquid cash, and properties of the Association.

Section 6: Financial Secretary

The Financial Secretary shall collect dues from members and keep an accurate record of all money collected.

The Financial Secretary shall hand over all money collected to the Treasurer within 48 hours or otherwise to the General Secretary in the absence of the Treasurer.

The Financial Secretary shall be the collector of all donations, membership dues, and levies, and submit financial reports every three months to the Association.

The Financial Secretary shall keep records of member's financial contributions

The Financial Secretary shall work with the Treasurer to reconcile Association's account

Section 7: Social Secretary

The Social Secretary shall take charge of all social activities of the Association.

The Social Secretary shall be the Chairman of the welfare committee.

Section 8: Assistant Social Secretary

The Assistant Social Secretary shall assist the social secretary in the discharge of his/her duties.

Section 9: Public Relations Officer (P.R.O.)

The Public Relations Officer shall be responsible for the publicity of all activities of the Association. The P.R.O. shall be in-charge of the Association's Publications. He/she shall chair the liaison committee.

Section 10: Chairman, Board of Trustees

Candidates shall be elected by the simple majority vote of the members. Membership shall be an odd integer. The chairman of the board shall serve as an active member of the trustee's executive committee. His/her term shall expire with that of the appointing President.

Section 11: Ex-Officio

The Ex-Officio shall be the immediate past president of the Association. He/she shall serve as an active member of the executive committee. His/her term shall expire when a new President is elected, unless if the new President is an incumbent.

Section 12: Grand Patrons and Patrons

The Akarigbo of Remo Land shall be the Grand Patron and the rest of the Obas shall serve as the Patrons of the Association.

ARTICLE 8: BOARD OF TRUSTEES (a.k.a. The Board)

The Board of Trustees shall consist of five (5) voting members, appointed by a majority vote of the members. The chairman of the Board shall be appointed and approved by the majority votes of the member.

Section 1: Powers or Responsibilities:

All real property of the Remo North America shall be managed, directed, and controlled, through supervision and advisement of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall also be charged with the following responsibilities:

- a. Identify sources where the organization can solicit contribution/fund and make appropriate contact.
- b. Identify and advise the executive branch of the needs of Remo people for which available funds can be distributed.
- c. Develop a systemic approach to safeguard any property donated to the Association.
- d. Identify and advise the executive of the programs that can promote the welfare of the Remo people.
- e. The board shall present a report of recommendations at the executive meeting of the Association.
- f. The board shall report annually to executives of The Association.
- g. Identify, initiate, and advise the executive members on fundraising initiatives and programs.
- H. They shall serve as the General Overseers of the Association

Section 2 Term of Office

Each member of the Board of Trustees, upon approval by the executive members, may serve for not more than two consecutive terms. One Board of Trustees' term shall be for three (3) years.

Section 3 Procedures for Appointing the Board of Trustees

Apart from the initial Board of Trustees, new trustees shall take office as soon as the executive ratifies their appointment.

Section 4 Qualifications

The qualifications for becoming and remaining a trustee of the Association shall include, but not limited to a demonstrated understanding of the goals and objectives of the Association, coupled with the experience and expertise required for achieving the Board's responsibilities to the Association.

Section 5 Selection Procedure

The executive branch shall establish procedures appropriate for the selection of such candidates to serve on the Board.

Section 6 Appointment of Officers of the Board of Trustees

The Chairman will be appointed by the trustee members by simple majority vote of the board members at the first meeting after election, and serve until their successors have been duly elected and assumed office:

Vice-Chair of the Board; Secretary of the Board. Only members in good standing shall be eligible for selection to serve on the Board.

Section 7

The powers vested in the Board of Trustees under section 1 shall be exercised so as not to:

- a. Usurp the powers of the president.
- b. Misuse/Mismanage any asset or investment, if any, of the Remo North America Association
- c. Jeopardise the continuance of the Remo North America Association.

Section 8 Removal

Upon any established infraction that is in conflict with the goals and objectives of the association, any member of the Board of Trustees may be removed from his/her position by simple majority vote of the members.

Section 9 Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy on the Board of Trustees, the general members of the association may appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy on interim basis upon recommendation by any member in good standing, and the appointee will not run for that office upon completing the term.

Section 10 Absences

Absence without just cause from two consecutive regular meetings of the Board by a Trustee members may be considered as an infraction.

Section 11 Compensation

Board of Trustees shall, subject to the approval of the executive committee be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. No board members shall be paid salary or wages.

Section 12 Resignation

A member of the Board of Trustees may resign from his/her position by submitting a letter of resignation to the Chairman of the Board, thirty (30) days before the effective date of the resignation. The letter shall be submitted to the executive, for approval, through the President of the Association.

ARTICLE 9: COMPLETION OF TERMS

All officers shall relinquish all official records and pertinent information of the Association to the President within thirty (30) days of the completion of their terms.

ARTICLE 10: TRANSFER OF POWER

- I. All officers shall assume their respective positions for the ensuing Association year upon adjournment of the annual meeting at which they were elected, by swearing to an oath of office.
- ii. The president shall relinquish all official records and pertinent information of the Association within forty (30) days of the completion of his term of office.

ARTICLE 11: BY-LAWS

By-laws consistent with the provisions of this Constitution may be adopted or amended only at an annual meeting by a majority of the members present and voting in plenary session upon the following conditions:

All proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be received by the general secretary no later than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting, and the proposed amendments shall be mailed or circulated to each member of the Association at least fifteen (15) days prior to the annual meeting. In the event that the Secretary shall fail or neglect to mail or circulate to the members of the Association, the proposed amendments as provided may be submitted at the annual meeting, provided that a majority of the members present agree to waive the notice requirements and act thereon.

The Association shall remain assembled until all business shall have been completed or a motion for adjournment shall have been passed by the majority vote.

Section 1 Frequency of Meetings:

- a. The general meetings of the Association shall be on the last Saturday of every month.
- b. The President can, at any time between the dates of the regular meetings, summon an

emergency meeting but cannot cancel a meeting

- i. **Time**: Meetings shall be held at such time as the President shall fix.
- ii. Place: Meetings shall be held virtually and any places deem fit.

Section 2 Quorum

The presence of at least ten (10) members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at the general meetings. If however, such quorum shall not be present, the presiding officer shall have the power to delay or adjourn the meeting from time to time, until a quorum shall be present.

Section 3 Finance

- a. The financial calendar period of the Association shall be January 1 to December 31 of each year.
- b. The signatories shall be the President with A signatory mandate, General Secretary, and Treasurer with B Signatories Mandate. (Signatory A and any of B shall always sign).
- c. The accounts of the Association shall be audited annually by an audit committee who shall be appointed by the general body with the approval of the executive officers through the recommendation of the finance committee and who shall report through the executive officers of the Association to the whole house.

Section 4 Removal from Office

Any officer's rights could be terminated by two-third majority votes of the whole house after a thorough investigation. The President shall establish an ad-hoc committee to investigate and report to the executive any allegation of wrongdoing by any member of the executive. However, if the President is under investigation, the executive members shall appoint the investigation committee.

Section 5 Dissolution or Discontinuance

Remo North America Association shall use its funds only to accomplish the objectives and missions specified in the bylaws and no part of said funds shall insure or be distributed to the executive members, board of Trustees, or member, except for reasonable Association expenses. On the dissolution or discontinuance of the Association, any funds remaining shall be distributed to one or more regularly organized and qualified charitable, educational, scientific or philanthropic organizations to be selected by the board members.

Section 6 Prohibition of Religion

Remo North America Association. shall operate as a secular body and shall, on no occasion, adopt any religion as a dominant religion.

ARTICLE 12 AD HOC AND STANDING COMMITTEES

Committees shall be composed of members in good standing and chaired by a member appointed by the members of the committee. All committees formed by the executive members shall function solely in accordance with such directives as the executive members may, by resolution, lawfully approve and shall at all times be responsible to the executive members to insure that policies of the Associations are complied with. All Committee shall be odd numbers.

Section 1 Executive Committee

The committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, ex- Officio, Chairman and other officers as outlined in Article 6, Section 1.1. The President of the Association shall serve as the chairperson of the executive committee.

Section 2 Budget and Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance Committee shall advise the association on the financial status of the Association. The committee shall be chaired by the Treasurer and consist of at least three (3) members of the Association. The committee shall assist the President in preparing an annual budget. The committee shall be responsible for developing the financial procedures of the Association.

Section 3 Public Relation/Liaison Committee

A Liaison Committee shall be established to coordinate and be responsible for the public affairs and public relations of the Association, particularly with respect to interacting with other Associations promoting cooperation in providing benefits to **Nigerians** in North America and other places worldwide. The committee shall be chaired by the Public Relations officer and consist of at least three members.

Section 4 Ad Hoc Committee

An Ad Hoc Committee may be established by the executive members to undertake any task of a temporary nature within the scope of the purposes of the Association. Unless otherwise prescribed by the executive members, all ad hoc committees shall act by majority vote of those present and entitled to vote at a duly held meeting thereof at which a quorum, consisting of a majority of the members thereof, shall be present.

Section 5 Policy Committee

A policy committee shall be established to prepare policy statements, including the revision of membership criteria and amendments to the Association documents including the creation or termination of any committee function. Their responsibilities also include procuring professional services for the Association, as required.

Section 6 Welfare Committee

A Welfare Committee shall be established to oversee the well-being of members of the Association. The committee shall be required to make periodic telephone calls to members who are either absent from meetings or have some other problems brought to the attention of the Association. The committee shall make recommendations on appropriate assistance the Association may provide to alleviate any problems the member may be experiencing. The committee shall be chaired by the Social Secretary and consist of at least three members.

Section 7 Disciplinary Committee?

The disciplinary committees' role is to monitor the professional practice of the members in order to fulfil one of the aspects of their mission: protecting the association. To ensure that the behavior of our members is flawless and that their deeds and actions respect the Code of Ethics of the association.

ARTICLE 13 AMENDMENTS

These bylaws can be amended or repealed, by a vote of two thirds of the members in good standings, but only at a meeting in which written notice of the substance of the proposed amendments was given ten (10) working days prior to the meeting. The executive members and/or Board of Trustees may propose amendments, on its own initiatives.

ARTICLE 14 ADOPTION

These bylaws shall become effective when adopted by the members and shall remain effective until amended by the membership in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article 11 &13.

Adopted	,	

ARTICLE 15: MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS: SUPPORT FUNDS.

The Association shall make financial commission or congratulatory donations to members. Such donations shall be restricted to events/ activities involving eligible members' direct and immediate family members (biological family members.) The funds cover only the biological nucleus family of a member in good financial standing, must attend meetings regularly, and must have been a member for at least one year. No members shall receive more than twice in a year.

Section 14.1; Bereavement of Member/	spouse's parents\$250.00
Section 14.2: Bereavement of a Membe Spousechild	\$250.00Section 14.3 Bereavement of Member's
Section 14.4: Member's wedding	\$250.00
Section 14.5: Member's child wedding	\$1000.00
Section 14.6: Member's naming ceremo	ny\$100.00

Section 14.7: Members are entitled to a plaque for a birthday celebration which cost must not exceed \$80.00. The birthday celebrations are 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 in that sequence.

APPENDIX A



REMO NORTH AMERICA ASSOCIATION Membership Form

Name:	
Address:	
Home Town in Remoland:	
	Phone #
Birthday:	
•	ostitution, policy and procedures of the Association. of my own free will, and I append my signature
- Siamatura	Nome
Signature	Name

REMO ANTHEM

Eesoe Eesoe Eesoe

Eesoe Eesoe Eesoe

Awa Remo lati Iremo lo gbode

Ibi oju tinmo wa lorirun wa

Ilu metalelogbon ri dede eni

Lomode lagba lokunren nobiren

L'Oba ni 'Joye ka jagun molu

Abowo fun awon agba totilo

Areee

E hoo ihoo ayo

E hoo ihoo ayo

Ureyin eluife

Remoo busan Remoo busan

Dede oni ree maa sori ire

THE AKARIGBOS FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL

1.	Eweyi or Birayi Owa Ajaye	-	from Ile Ife
2.	Adeosin Liyangu The Akarigbo	1.	Migration
3.	Oba Koyelu Oyelumade The Akarigbo	-	Migration
4.	Oba Ogunsade Owarodo The Akarigbo	1-	Okun Owa
5.	Oba Adediran Torungbuwa The Akarigbo	-	Okun Owa
6.	Oba Ikudamoju The Akarigbo	-	Orile Ofin
7.	Oba Moduade Anoko The Akarigbo		Orile Ofin
8.	Oba Oguntade Menigbuwa The Akarigbo	-	Orile Ofin
9.	Oba Adeyoruwa Erinjugbo The Akarigbo	-	Orile Ofin
10.	Oba Adetuge Osonusi Ogbonyari The Akarigbo		Orile Ofin
11.	Oba Onamade Otuntubiosun The Akarigbo	-,1	(1835 - 1850)
12.	Oba Sowafu Adenuga Faranpojo The Akarigbo	- ,	(1850 - 1852)
13.	Oba Jibawo Lubajo Abejoye The Akarigbo	7	(1852)
14.	Oba Owogbagbe Liyangy The Akarigbo	-	(1853 - 1862)
15.	Oba Adesoye The Akarigbo	-	(1863)
16.	Oba Oluyomade Rojugbuwa The Akarigbo	-	(1863 - 1865)
17.	Oba Ade Odumena Igimisje Orile Sagamu	-	(1865 - 1871)
18.	Oba Adetoye Adeuja The Akarigbo Sagamu	- "	(1872 - 1892)
19.	Oba Oyebajo The Akarigbo Sagamu	- 1	(1892 - 1915)
20.	Oba Awolesi Erinwole I The Akarigbo Sagamu	-	(1915 - 1916)
21.	Oba W.C. Adedoyin The Akarigbo Sagamu	-	(1916 - 1952)
22.	Oba M. S. Awolesi Erinwole II The Akarigbo	-	(1952 - 1988)
23.	Oba M.A. Sonariwo The Akarigbo	-	(1990 - 2016)
24.	Oba Adewale Ajayi The Akarigbo		(2017 -)

Source: Extracted from Document provided by Alhaji A. Allinson (Olotu-Abejoye 2018)

THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE MEMBERS DRAFTED THIS CONSTITUTION

On November 14, 2020, the below committee members reviewed, modified, and finalized the compilation of the Remo North Association Constitution.

Pastor Isiaka Oyesile - Chairman of the Committee - New York, USA

Dr. Kemi Funlayo Sanni- Secretary for the Committee - Delaware, USA

Mr. Olufunmibi Awosile - Member of the Committee - New York, USA

Hajia Yetunde Salami - Member of the Committee- Toronto, Canada

Professor Kayode Jowosimi - Member of the Committee- Illinois, USA

Mr. Oladimeji Olokun - Member of the Committee- Illinois, USA

Mr. Jamiu Sokoya - Member of the Committee - Illinois, USA

Bashorun Niyi Dada - Member of the Committee - Texas, USA

Mrs. Modupe Sodimu - Member of the Committee - Illinois, USA