

# **THE CONSTITUTION OF**

**EGBENGWU BROTHERHOOD UNION (EBU)**

**NIMO**

**NJIKOKA LOCAL GOVT. AREA  
ANAMBRA-STATE**

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# PREAMBLE

We, the entire citizens of Egbengwu Ojideleke, one of the four quarters that comprise Nimo town in Njikoka local government area of Anambra State; made up of eleven villages or council wards for the time being; In the exercise of our inalienable right of freedom of association within the framework of the laws of our land, Nigeria, and conscious of the need for us to bind ourselves together as an organized body for the pursuit and promotion of our common interests and welfare as brothers, and in pursuance of this goal, contribute to the overall development and well-being of Nimo town in general,

**DO HEREBY AGREE TO MAKE, ENACT, AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION AND TO OPERATE WITHIN, AND ABIDE BY, ITS PROVISIONS.**

## **ARTICLE I**

### ***The name, Vision, Mission, Motto, Secretariat/Head-quarters, Postal/email addresses, Slogan.***

- A. **Name:** The organization shall be known and called EGBENGWU BROTHERHOOD UNION, herein referred to as EBU or the Union.
- B. **Vision:** To be the best example of a most developed, progressive, and safe community where unity, harmony, peace, and orderly progress reign supreme.
- C. **Mission:** To provide quality leadership and create a vibrant, healthy, physical, social, and economic environment in cooperation with all citizens and municipal authorities, using available human, natural, and financial resources to provide community services in an honest, respectful, and professional manner.
- D. **Motto:** Harmony, Peace, and orderly Progress
- E. **Secretariat/Headquarters:** The secretariat, or headquarters, of EBU shall be in Egbengwu, Nimo.
- F. **Postal and email addresses:**  
The postal and email addresses of EBU shall be, for the time being, P.O. Box 30, Nimo, and [egbengwuojideleke@yahoo.com](mailto:egbengwuojideleke@yahoo.com) respectively.
- G. **Slogan:**
  - a. The slogan, for the time being shall be,
  - b. Egbengwu kwenu... Ojideleke!
  - c. Egbengwu kwenu... Ojideleke!
  - d. Egbengwu kwezuenu... Egbengwu Ojideleke!  
Anyi cholu oganiru!

## **ARTICLE II**

### ***Aims and Objectives:***

To bring together all adult sons of EGBENGWU origin and their spouses.

- A. To build a family-like community where all the residents in Egbengwu will respect and support one another through thick and thin.
- B. To ensure the security of life, properties, and businesses of all the residents of Egbengwu community.
- C. To improve the standard of living of the people by embarking on sustainable development strategies.
- D. Through the provision of agricultural and rural development programs, to work towards attaining food security and poverty alleviation among the people.
- E. To initiate, facilitate, and execute youth development, women's empowerment, community health and nutrition programs, as well as the development of sports and culture.
- F. Through education and literacy campaigns, sports, character, and leadership training, to raise the next generation of informed community builders and ensure that the future of our children is guaranteed.
- G. For the self-reliance of the residents, we shall promote the establishment of smallscale enterprises as well as the development and application of relevant indigenous technology.
- H. To engage in any business venture that will raise the economic position of the generality of Egbengwu people.
- I. To initiate and execute developmental projects in Egbengwu and provide opportunities that support indigenous growth and enrichment.
- J. Celebrate the community with special family-oriented events.

- K. To interact and communicate effectively with the residents of Egbengwu, business owners, and institutions in the community to get their support for the development of Egbengwu.
- L. To improve our environment and preserve in the community the rich history of character, honesty, courage, an enviable reputation, and traditional values of fairness we inherited from our fathers.
- M. Thus, to promote and adhere to a Code of Ethics that holds the residents to ethical standards of honesty and integrity that go beyond legal requirements,
- N. To put the community first and represent and promote her interests at all times.
- O. To encourage residents to give generously of their resources, time, talent, and treasures to support the development of the Egbengwu community, especially in the provision of light, potable water, good roads, security, etc.



## **ARTICLE III**

### ***Branches and Membership.***

Membership in EBU is open to all adult sons and their spouses at home and abroad.

- A. In every council ward in Egbengwu and in towns within and outside Nigeria where there are not less than five Egbengwu citizens of membership age, there shall be formed a branch of the EBU.
- B. There shall be an EBU Women's Wing, whose membership is open to every woman married to an Egbengwu man.
- C. The women's wing is entitled to have their own Constitution, provided that any provision of it that is inconsistent with any provision of this constitution shall be invalid to the extent of its inconsistency.
- D. There shall be an EBU Youth Wing. The membership of the youth wing is open to sons of Egbengwu who are not more than 25 years old but not less than 18 years old.
- E. The Youth Wing shall have its own constitution, provided that any provision of it inconsistent with any provision of this constitution shall be invalid to the extent of its inconsistency.
- F. The EBU Branch of domicile for both the women's and Youth wings of EBU shall approve the constitutions as appropriate and shall be given a copy for records. For branches in Egbengwu, the relevant authority shall be the EBU national.
- G. The meeting days of the women's wing and Youth wings, both at home and branches, shall be fixed by them and made known to EBU National or the relevant EBU branch via an official letter to the appropriate Secretary.

- H. Every planned activity or event of either the women's or youth wings of EBU, both at home and abroad, must first be communicated to the EBU National or the relevant EBU branch through an official letter signed by their respective Chairman and Secretary.
- I. The EBU National or Branch has the authority to approve or disapprove any activity or event through an official letter signed by both the Chairman and Secretary of EBU National or the relevant EBU branch.
- J. In case of conflicting dates for activities among different organizations in Egbengwu, the EBU National or Branch can approve or disapprove the activity or event in the interest of the community. Their decision, along with their reasons, shall be communicated through an official letter and is final.
- K. There shall be financial and non-financial members.

**Definition:** A financial member is a person who is gainfully employed, while a nonfinancial member is a person without employment.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### ***Elections, Tenure of Office and Caretaker Committee.***

- A. Election shall be conducted in an election year, and a member shall be deemed duly elected if he receives the majority of votes cast in that election.
- B. Elections shall be by secret ballot every three years in the month of December and shall be publicized in the general meeting in August of the election Year.
- C. Election shall be conducted by an ad hoc election committee to be appointed on the election day by the General Assembly, one of whom shall be selected as the returning officer.
- D. Before the elected officials assume duties, they shall take an oath of office before the General Assembly to be administered by one of the patrons or a Priest if any is available; in the absence of these, the General Assembly can appoint anyone from the house to administer the oath.
- E. To vote and be voted for in the elections, a person must be a member in good standing.
- F. To be in good standing means not to be indebted to the Union in any way, in addition to having attended at least 50% of the general meetings in the past year for voters and in the past two years for those seeking to be elected into any office.
- G. All elected officers shall hold office for three (3) years. They may be eligible for reelection if the officer in question is willing to serve again. In all cases, a member shall hold the same office for not more than six (6) years running.
- H. An elected officer may be removed before the expiration of his tenure by a simple majority of the

members present and voting in a well-constituted meeting that has the removal on the agenda.

- I. If, for any reason, it is not possible to conduct elections in any election year or the General Meeting passes a vote of no confidence at a general meeting on the Executive Committee, they (The General Assembly) shall appoint a caretaker committee from each of the eleven (11) villages or council wards to run the affairs of the Union for a period not exceeding twelve months.
- J. The General Assembly shall also appoint from the committee the Chairman, Secretary, financial secretary, Treasurer, Provost, and Public Relations officer.
- K. The Caretaker Committee shall ensure that elections are conducted at the earliest December General Meeting from the date of their appointment and shall give notice of the same in the last general meeting preceding the election date.
- L. No member of the outgoing Executive shall be a member of the caretaker Committee.
- M. The old Exco shall hand over to this Caretaker committee within seven days from the date of the appointment, failing which the Chief Legal Adviser will write to the EBU Bankers, introducing the caretaker Chairman, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer as the new signatories to the EBU's Bank account(s).

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Offices, and Functions of Elected Officers.**

#### **A. Offices**

EBU shall have the following offices:

1. Patrons
2. Chairman
3. Vice Chairman
4. Secretary
5. Assistant Secretary
6. Financial Secretary
7. Assistant Financial Secretary
8. Treasurer
9. Provosts
10. Internal Auditor
11. Publicity Secretary
12. Welfare Officer
13. Chief Security Officer
14. Legal Adviser

#### **B. Functions of Elected Officers**

##### **1. Patrons**

The Patrons shall be the fathers of EBU.

- a. They shall be appointed on the basis of their service and contributions to the development and progress of Egbengwu in both human and material aspects.
- b. They may or may not attend the General Assembly meetings of the Union, but they are obliged to attend whenever specifically invited.
- c. Except when called upon to perform any specific task as need may arise from time to time, their duties shall essentially be advisory, conciliatory, and ceremonial.
- d. He may hold office for life, provided he is not found guilty of any conduct unworthy of his position at any time.

## **2. Chairman**

- a. The Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the Union and shall have a casting vote when there is a tie.
- b. He shall be the chief executive officer of the Union ensuring that all the decisions of the General Assembly are implemented.
- c. He shall have the power to overrule any discussion or matter that he feels is out of order or is not in the interest of the union, stating clearly his reasons.
- d. He shall sign minutes of meetings or any other correspondence that requires his attention.
- e. Furthermore, he shall countersign Bank withdrawal vouchers or cheques.
- f. The chairman shall appoint the Chief Security Officer and the Legal Adviser in consultation with the Executive Committee.
- g. He shall perform other duties that the Union may assign to him including those ones contained in other parts of this constitution.
- h. The chairman shall present the report of his stewardship at every December General Meeting and in August of every election year or the last meeting preceding his last meeting as the chairman.

## **3. Vice Chairman**

- a. The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman in the performance of his duties.
- b. He shall perform all the duties of the Chairman where the chairman is absent or unable to do his duties for any reason.
- c. He shall perform other duties that the Chairman or the Union may assign to him, including those that are contained in other parts of this constitution.
- d. Also, he shall oversee the financial desk, ensuring that they are performing their duties well.

**4. General Secretary**

- a. The General Secretary shall, in consultation with the Chairman, summon such meetings as may be deemed necessary at any time.
- b. He shall prepare an agenda for every meeting in consultation with the chairman.
- c. He shall attend meetings, accurately record meeting proceedings, write minutes, and read them at the appropriate meetings.
- d. Furthermore, he shall deal with correspondence and perform any other duty that the Chairman or the General Assembly may assign to him.
- e. He shall send minutes of meetings and other vital correspondences to all the branches of EBU not more than 14 days after the meeting or the correspondence is due.
- f. He shall take note of the financial secretary's report concerning the total amount of money he collected at each meeting and record it accurately in the minutes.

**5. Assistant General Secretary**

- a. The Assistant General Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in the performance of his duties.
- b. He shall take full responsibility for the duties of the General Secretary in his absence or inability to do his duties for whatever reason.
- c. He shall perform such other duties as the General Secretary or the Union may assign to him from time to time, including other duties mentioned in other parts of this constitution.

**6. Financial Secretary**

- a. The financial secretary shall attend all the meetings of the union, be responsible for the collection of all money due to the union, and pay the same to the

Treasurer within two (2) working days of the collection of such money.

- b. Where he is unable to reach the Treasurer within two (2) working days as required in 6.a. above, he may pay such money to the bank within three (3) working days of collection.
  - c. He shall prepare and sign vouchers for authorized withdrawals.
  - d. He shall obtain the statement of account from the bank for the Auditors and EBU National on demand.
  - e. Likewise, he shall keep a record of all financial transactions of the Union and issue receipts for all monies received.
  - f. Furthermore, he shall submit his books for auditing at the end of each year and/or at such other time as EBU or the Auditor may require from time to time.
  - g. The financial secretary shall be responsible to the house in all financial matters, while any committee set up by the union shall in turn be responsible to the financial secretary.
  - h. At the end of his tenure, he shall prepare a comprehensive end-of-tenure financial report at the general meeting preceding his last meeting in office as a summary of the yearly reports he had presented at the previous December General Meetings.
  - i. He shall perform other duties that the Union may assign to him from time to time.
- 7. Assistant Financial Secretary**
- a. The Assistant Financial Secretary shall assist the Financial Secretary in the discharge of his duties.
  - b. He shall assume the full duties of the Financial Secretary if the office of Financial Secretary becomes vacant or he is unable to perform his duties for any reason whatsoever.



- c. Where the financial secretary's office becomes vacant, there shall be a bye-election to elect a new Financial Secretary within four months.
  - d. Pursuant to paragraph b. of this section, shall submit all monies collected to the Treasurer within two working days of collection and obtain acknowledgement of such submission from the Treasurer.
  - e. If he is unable to reach the secretary within 48 working hours, he shall pay such money to the bank within 72 working hours of collection.
  - f. On demand, make the book of accounts and other records of the Union in his possession or custody available to the internal and external auditors, the examiners, or such other persons as may be authorized by the general house.
8. **Treasurer**
- a. The Treasurer shall attend all meetings of the Union, receive all money due to the Union from the Financial secretary, and deposit the same at the Bank within two working days of receipt of such money.
  - b. He shall issue a receipt for such money received to the financial secretary and make approved payments to beneficiaries.
  - c. Not only that, but he shall always have an imprest account of Twenty Thousand (N20,000) Naira only after proper retirement of previous collections.
  - d. The Treasurer shall be one of the signatories to EBU Bank Accounts.
  - e. He shall prepare and present annual financial reports.
9. **Provost**
- a. The provost shall see to the orderliness of the meetings of the Union by giving members the right to speak during meetings.

- b. He shall ensure discipline at meetings by collecting fines for disturbances, lateness, and other forms of indiscipline in line with this constitution.
- c. He shall report any dissident or troublemaker to the Chairman for disciplinary action.
- d. He shall keep a register of latecomers and supervise the signing of the attendance register at meetings and other gatherings of the Union.

10. **Internal Auditor** The internal Auditor:

- a. From time to time, he will ensure that all concerned follow due process in the handling of EBU finances.
- b. Shall regularly check all the financial documents and records of the branch, including bank statements, to ensure that they are in order.
- c. Have the power to request such documents and information from any officer or member of the branch as may be necessary for the proper discharge of his duties from time to time.
- d. Present to the General Meeting a report of his audit pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section at least once in every twelve (12) month period; and
- e. On demand, make his reports, the books of accounts, and other records of the Society in his custody available to the External Auditors, the examiners, or such other persons as may be authorised by the General Meeting to have access to our records.

11. **Welfare Officer**

- a. He shall organize the social and welfare activities of the Union.
- b. He shall be the head of the Welfare committee and be responsible for the house.

- c. Likewise, he shall render an account of all approved financial transactions to the financial secretary for records.

**12. Publicity Secretary**

- a. He shall be responsible for publicizing the activities of EBU.
- b. He shall pursue good relations with the public and other organisations in the interest of EBU.
- c. He shall respond to requests for information from media outlets.
- d. Furthermore, he shall aim to maintain the positive image of the Union. To that end, he may write newsletters, social media posts, and press releases.
- e. He shall be the point of contact for external and internal communications.
- f. In addition, he shall spearhead press conferences, exhibitions, and tours or visits.

**13. Chief Security Officer**

- a. The Chief Security Officer shall be appointed by the chairman in consultation with the Executive subject to the approval of the General Assembly.
- b. He must be someone versed in security matters.
- c. He shall oversee and coordinate the security outfit/vigilante activities in Egbengwu Nimo, ensuring effective policing of the community.
- d. Furthermore, he shall report directly to the EBU Chairman and, where necessary, to the police.

**14. Legal Adviser**

- a. The Legal Adviser shall be appointed by the chairman in consultation with the Executive subject to the approval of the General Assembly.
- b. He must be a qualified Barrister or Solicitor with reasonable experience in legal practice.

- c. He shall advise the EBU on all legal matters and prepare such legal documents as may be referred to him from time to time by the EBU.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### ***Elections following Resignations and or Removal from Office.***

- A. A by-election shall be held to fill a vacant post following the resignation or removal from office of an elected officer within four months of the vacancy.
- B. Any officer elected through a by-election shall only complete the term of the person he replaces and is free to contest in the next election.
- C. If an elected officer wishes to resign his position, he shall address a letter of resignation stating his reason(s) to the chairman, who shall present the matter at the next general meeting.
- D. The General Assembly shall accept such resignation if the simple majority of the members present, and voting are satisfied with his reason(s).
- E. However, such officers shall still be held accountable for any outstanding matter(s) he has with the Union while he served.
- F. An elected officer who is absent for three consecutive general meetings without a proper excuse shall forfeit his position.
- G. Furthermore, an elected officer shall be removed from office if he is found wanting in the performance of his duties or found guilty of gross misconduct or is wantonly breaking the code of conduct rules as contained in Article VII below.
- H. A member of the Executive shall be removed from office only if the proposal to this effect is signed by at

least 30 members of the union who are currently up to date on the payment of their dues and commitments.

- I. This proposal should be submitted to either the chairman or the secretary of EBU, unless the officer in question is the chairman or secretary. In that case, the proposal should be submitted to the vice chairman or assistant secretary, respectively.
- J. On receipt of the notice, the recipient shall serve a copy on the affected officer as appropriate.
- K. The motion is considered in the next general meeting following the meeting in which it was moved, and the officer concerned shall be given the opportunity to defend himself in person, verbally, or in writing.
- L. The officer concerned shall be removed from the office if a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting support the motion.
- M. If he is absent from the meeting without excuse or reasonable cause and does not send any written defense, the removal shall still stand provided that a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the General meeting is satisfied that he was duly served the notice and that his absence or silence is unreasonable.
- N. Any officer duly removed from office shall be barred from holding any post in the Union and is not qualified to be appointed as a patron.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Code of conduct**

- A. All members must be law-abiding.
- B. All members must be truthful and honest.
- C. All members shall respect the Constitution, the Chairman, and the Executive.
- D. The Association shall respect and uphold the fundamental human rights of all individuals.
- E. The Union, the Executive committee, sub-committees, members, groups, associations, etc. shall always treat others like human beings and equally in similar situations and individual circumstances. Hence, there shall be no discrimination against any member or resident on the basis of sex, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status.
- F. All members shall maintain self-discipline, cooperate with one another, and act in the best interest of the Association at all times.
- G. Noisemaking is disruptive and is not allowed in all deliberations of the Union's business.
- H. Members may not talk during meetings without the proper permission of the Chairman or the Provost.
- I. Any aggrieved member or group of members, associations etc., that are aggrieved with a fellow member, group of members, associations, etc., shall, in all civil matters, or regarding issues that will denigrate or put our community, her leadership, traditional institutions etc. into ridicule, first seek the internal conflict resolution mechanism provided in this constitution before resorting to third parties or outside arbiters, the press, demonstrations etc. The chairman reserves the right to impose a penalty, fine, suspension,

etc on any discordant member who is unable to live within this code.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### ***Meetings, Quorums and Proceedings.***

- A. The EBU General Meeting shall be held three times in a calendar year: in December, Easter, and August.
- B. Notwithstanding the above, emergency General Meetings may be summoned as the need arises.
- C. The Executive Committee Meetings shall also be held in December, Easter, August, or any other time as the need arises. They may also convene emergency meetings to suit their needs and those of the Union.
- D. The venue for General meetings, celebration of festivals, and other activities shall, for the time being, be at Ojideleke Square, Ogbenkie, unless otherwise agreed by the general house.
- E. The quorum for the EBU General Meetings shall be thirty (30) members.
- F. The quorum for executive committee meetings is six (6) members.
- G. The quorum for Emergency General Meetings shall be fifteen (15) members.
- H. In all cases, the number of members present (quorum) must be inclusive of the Chairman or Vice Chairman and the Secretary or Assistant Secretary.
- I. The proceedings and transactions at any meetings of EBU shall, as much as possible, be recorded in writing by the Secretary and, in his absence, the Assistant Secretary.
- J. Decisions at EBU meetings shall be made by voting and by a simple majority of members present, unless otherwise stated in any other part of this Constitution.

- K. Every member of the EBU is entitled to apply for and obtain from the EBU National Secretariat a Certified True Copy of any document, correspondence, proceedings of any meetings, etc., by and/or with the EBU, on payment of a reasonable amount to be decided by the Executive, who should be guided by the prevailing market price of typing or photocopying of documents.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### ***The Executive Committee***

#### **A. General**

1. There is hereby established for the Union an Executive Committee, which shall be the executive organ of the branch and accountable to the General Assembly.
2. The Executive Committee shall include all the elected officers of the Union, the Chairman and Secretaries of all the Sub-committees, the Patrons, two Branch Representatives, Ward Councilors, and
3. Such other persons as the General Assembly may appoint or elect from time to time on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

#### **B. The powers of the Executive Committee**

The powers of the Executive Committee shall include:

1. Conducting the affairs of the Union in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
2. Preparing and presenting the Union's annual and supplementary budgets to the General Assembly for consideration and approval and implementing the budget as approved.



3. Implementing and/or supervising the implementation of the decisions of the General Assembly.
4. Ensuring adequate representation of the Union at the Nimo Town Development Union and that the overall interests of the community and its members are protected at all times.
5. Subject to the prior approval of the General Assembly, seeking and obtaining all concessions, approvals, consents, permits, grants, and authorizations from the appropriate authorities; entering into such contracts or agreements; and performing such acts that may be necessary for the affairs of the Union.
6. Establishing such sub-committees, standing committees, and ad hoc committees as may be necessary to undertake specific assignments on behalf of the Union.
7. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, recommending the dues, levies, fees, and contributions that shall be payable by the members (including non-members and non-indigenes resident and/or working or operating business(es) in Egbengwu) from time to time for the approval of the General Meeting.
8. Encouraging and establishing EBU branches throughout Nigeria and in any other cities outside Nigeria where at least five (5) Egbengwu indigenes reside.
9. Settling and resolving disputes that may arise from the women's and youth wings of any branch, provided that the men's wing of the affected branch has first tried unsuccessfully or unsatisfactorily to resolve the dispute.
10. Dissolving or suspending any defaulting or recalcitrant EBU branch executive anywhere in the world where

the activities of the members are repugnant to Egbengwu tradition and culture or inconsistent with its interests and provisions of this constitution, and setting up or causing to be set up a caretaker committee to oversee the affairs of the Branch until a new executive is formally elected in their place; and

11. Exercising such other powers as may be conferred on the Executive Committee by this Constitution or the General Assembly from time to time.

### **C. Tenure of the Executive Committee**

1. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution dealing with removal from office, resignation, and vote of no confidence, the tenure of every Executive Committee shall be three (3) years.
2. A member of an outgoing Executive Committee shall be eligible for re-election into the same office for a second term only or into any other offices of the Society, PROVIDED that he is not otherwise disqualified under any of the provisions of this Constitution.
3. A member of the Executive Committee who is elected into the same office for a second term in a row, though eligible for other offices, shall not be eligible for further election into the same office until the expiration of a period of at least six (6) years from the end of his second term of office.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Sub-Committees**

#### **General provisions**

- A. The Chairman, in consultation with the Executive, subject to the approval of the General Assembly, shall constitute the committees 1-11 below.
- B. Apart from the committees mentioned in 1-11 below, the Chairman/EXCO is at liberty to constitute other committees they deem necessary to actualize their plans and objectives for the community.
- C. The various Sub-Committees shall be the working arms of the Executive Committee and contribute to the efficient operation of the Union.
- D. Their primary function shall be the provision and communication of relevant information to the leadership and the Union with a view to assisting them in the decision-making process. E. They should establish only realistic, attainable goals.

#### **F. Tenure**

- 1. The tenure of each Committee of EBU shall expire with the tenure of the chairman or the EXCO that appointed it, except where otherwise stated in this Constitution.
- 2. Where necessary, the newly elected EXCO may permit in writing any committee to continue functioning, pending when a new committee is constituted.

#### **G. Qualification of Members**

Members to be appointed to a committee, among other attributes should be interested in the committee's area of activity.

- 1. Also they should be knowledgeable about the subject matter and the specific responsibilities of the committee.

2. They should know the Union's practices, policies, and procedures, especially as they pertain to the committee in question.
3. Furthermore, members should be willing to give recognition to the committee chairman and to support and respect other members of the committee.
4. They should be enthusiastic about the committees' activities and goals and ready to get involved in them; actively participate in the team's efforts and encourage other members to do so.

**H. The Sub-Committees for the time being shall be:**

1. Trust Fund Management
2. Finance
3. Work and physical development
4. Education and Economic Empowerment
5. Culture and Tourism
6. Agriculture and Environment
7. Security Committee
8. Health Care Delivery
9. Electricity Committee
10. Conflict Resolution.
11. Leaders-of-Thought

**1. TRUST FUND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

**a. Composition:**

- i. The members of this Committee shall be at most 7 but not less than 5, provided the total is an odd number.
- ii. The members of this committee should be versed in fund and project management and possess excellent analytical and decision-making skills, with working experience in the financial industry.

**b. Functions:**

- i. It shall be the duty of this sub-committee to Manage funds for EBU's Special Projects such as Security, Roads, etc.
- ii. It shall oversee the financial operations of funds on behalf of the Union.
- iii. It shall execute investment decisions for the Union, ensuring that her funds are profitably invested or employed.

**2. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**a. Composition**

- i. This committee shall have eleven (11) members appointed from each of the villages in Egbengwu.
- ii. The EBU chairman shall nominate the chairman and Secretary of the committee from among the 11 members.
- iii. The General Assembly of the EBU must approve all the nominations.

**b. Functions:**

- i. Planning and budgeting within the scope of finance available, actual or expected
- ii. Overseeing the use of EBU funds and ensuring the proper use and accountability for funds expended
- iii. Monitoring the progress of works into which such funds are channeled
- iv. Updating the register of members annually and making recommendations to the General Assembly as to the exemption of some members from payment of dues and levies due to old age or incapacity or inclusion as a financial member due to maturity or cessation of financial incapacity.

- v. Embarking on other financial due diligence works as may be assigned to the committee from time to time to ensure transparency.

### **3. WORKS AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

#### **a. Composition**

- i. This Committee shall comprise seven (7) members.
- ii. The Chairman shall appoint the members of the committee, subject to the approval of the simple majority of the General Assembly.

#### **b. Functions:**

- i. To oversee and supervise all physical projects going on in the community.
- ii. To make progress reports on such projects to the chairman from time to time.
- iii. To advise and make necessary recommendations to the Union where necessary.
- iv. To ensure that such physical projects are implemented to the satisfaction of the EBU.

### **4. EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE.**

#### **a. Composition:**

- i. This committee shall either have 5, 7, or 9 members.
- ii. The Chairman shall appoint the members of the committee, subject to the approval of the simple majority of the General Assembly.

#### **b. Functions:**

- i. To undertake and engage in establishing educational development endowment Funds.

- ii. To explore and recommend areas of educational need for the community.
- iii. To establish scholarship schemes for the community and draw up programs for effective implementation of the program.
- iv. To encourage and recommend deserving sons and daughters of Egbengwu for scholarship awards.
- v. To design, develop, and provide other informal education schemes necessary for skill acquisition, economic empowerment, and self-development to youths and members of the community.
- vi. To develop other economic empowerment programs as may be envisaged and deemed necessary for the community.

## **5. CULTURE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE.**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This Committee shall either have 7, 9, or 11 members and shall be appointed by the chairman.
- ii. The appointed members shall be subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.

### **b. Functions:**

- i. To see to the promotion of Egbengwu cultural heritage. To organize Egbengwu Mass Returns, Social functions, the New Yam Festival (Iwa ji), and other cultural activities and make them attractive so as to promote the tourist potential of Egbengwu in particular and Nimo in general.
- ii. To see to the orderly registration of Age Grades and other social clubs in Egbengwu.
- iii. To regulate and supervise the activities of these Age groups and Social Clubs to ensure that their activities are in line with the promotion of peace, unity, and the cultural heritage of our community.

- iv. To advise the Executive on the best way to promote, develop, and harness the cultural potential of Egbengwu.
- v. To monitor and ensure that marriage ceremonies and requirements in our community are done within the centrally harmonized list.
- vi. However, they shall, whenever necessary, make recommendations to the Exco for a downward review of the existing requirements with a view to reducing the marriage expenses in Egbengwu to encourage suitors.
- viii. To supervise and ensure that the current rules and regulations concerning burial and funeral ceremonies are being observed by all.
- vii. They shall from time to time make recommendations to the Exco for a downward review of the burial and funeral expenses and requirements with a view to reducing the financial burden of the deceased families, especially in the areas of drinks, foods, and other items for various groups.

## **6. AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This Committee shall not be less than five (5), provided the total number of members is an odd number.
- ii. The chairman shall appoint the members of the committee, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of the EBU.

### **b. Functions:**

#### **This Committee shall:**

- i. Oversee matters relating to Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock, and fishing.
- ii. Also be responsible for ensuring environmental protection, especially in the areas of erosion control,



- Environmental Sanitation, Waste Management, non-blockage of drainages, etc.
- iii. Make policies necessary for food security in the community and beyond.
  - iv. Articulate and develop various ways of increasing agricultural products through preservation, processing, and adding value to the produce, as well as marketing the produce.
  - v. Conduct research and train the farmers with a view to transforming the community from subsistence farming to commercial farming.
  - vi. Update the community on various government-assisted (both federal, state, and local) programs, such as the distribution of high-yielding seedlings, agricultural loans, pesticides, etc.
  - vii. Assist farmers by arranging for low-interest loans from banks or from well-to-do Nigerians to increase their produce to commercial quantities.

## **7. SECURITY COMMITTEE:**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This committee shall not have more than eleven (11) members, who shall be appointed from each of the eleven council wards.
- ii. The chairman shall appoint the members of the committee, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.
- iii. The Chief Security Officer of Egbengwu shall be the chairman of the committee and be versed in security matters.

### **b. Functions:**

- i. To organize and arrange a vigilante group in Egbengwu village.
- ii. To ensure the peaceful coexistence of all citizens and residents of Egbengwu and their neighbours.

- iii. Also, they shall establish and supervise NIGHT and DAY Guards and enforce discipline in the Egbengwu quarter.
- iv. Furthermore, they shall impose disciplinary measures as appropriate on any person breaching the peace in the community.
- v. They shall settle disputes that are not criminal in nature.
- vi. To give reports of their activities to the General Assembly at the General Meetings and/or whenever the reports are called for by the General Assembly.
- vii. To see to the safety and protection of members of the community and their properties.
- viii. Likewise, they shall help the Police ensure peace and security in the community and monitor all cases reported to the police and ones pending in court.
- ix. He shall make returns on cases disposed of.
- x. To enforce community by-laws and Restrictions.

## **8. HEALTH CARE DELIVERY COMMITTEE**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This Committee shall not have more than nine (9) members, provided it is an odd number.
- ii. The chairman, in consultation with the Executive, shall appoint the committee members, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.

### **b. Functions:**

- i. This committee is responsible for developing an adequate health care plan for the community.
- ii. They shall advise the Executive on the appropriate budget allocation for the maintenance and acquisition of health care facilities.

- iii. To sensitize the community through proper information dissemination on the availability of the health centres and services obtainable therein.
  - a) Furthermore, to mobilize capable individuals, corporate organizations, NGOs, and communities on the need to contribute to the Community Health Fund and ensure judicious use of the funds so contributed.
  - b) They shall ensure adequate availability of drugs, facilities, and qualified health care personnel who are always available to discharge their duties.
  - c) To monitor the activities of the centre from time to time without notice to the personnel or management and ensure the availability of personnel outside work hours for emergency needs.
  - d) Also, to intervene in conflicts that may arise between the community and the health workers.
  - e) To ensure good working conditions for the health workers for maximum performance.
  - f) To liaise with the local government Primary Health Centre Authority to ensure the availability of government health care services, support, monitoring, and coordination.

## **9. ELECTRICITY COMMITTEE.**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This Committee shall not have more than nine (9) members, provided the total is an odd number.
- ii. The members of the committee shall be appointed by the Chairman in consultation with the Executive committee, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.

### **b. Functions**

- a) To ensure the availability of an adequate power supply for the community.

- b) To ensure the extension of electricity supply to every part of Egbengwu.
- c) They shall also ensure that there is a good relationship between the staff of EEDC and the community.
- d) To liaise with the Executive to see to the procurement of additional Transformers for the community.
- e) Furthermore, to ensure adequate provision of Street lights to the community,
- f) To seek the intervention of the Enugu Electricity Distribution Company (EEDC) whenever the need arises.
- g) To see to the protection of community electricity installations such as transformers, cables, etc. and ensure that the surroundings are kept clean.
- h) They shall put measures in place to discourage illegal connections to electricity.
- i) And sensitize and assist the community on the need for the procurement of Prepaid meters to avoid exorbitant estimated bills.

## **10. CONFLICT RESOLUTION COMMITTEE**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This committee shall not have more than nine members, provided it is an odd number.
- ii. The chairman shall appoint the committee members in consultation with the executive committee, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.

### **b. Functions:**

- i. To look into matters that may be brought before it in an unbiased manner and make a just decision.
- ii. To settle land and boundary disputes between parties.
- iii. Also, to settle marriage and domestic violence matters,

- iv. To settle family property inheritance issues.
- v. To settle Master Apprentice disputes concerning settlement
- vi. They shall be responsible for settling any other civil matter brought to them.

## **11. LEADERS OF THOUGHT**

### **a. Composition:**

- i. This committee shall have as many members as the need demands, provided the number is an odd number.
- ii. Those to be appointed to this Committee shall be indigenes who are of good character and have accomplished themselves in their chosen vocations.
- iii. They must have some kind of knowledge that would add value to the community and be seen as role models in society.
- iv. In addition, all past EBU Chairmen who completed their tenures without blemish shall be members of this committee.
- v. The Chairman shall appoint members of the committee in consultation with the Exco, subject to approval by a simple majority of the General Assembly of EBU.

### **b. Functions:**

- i. This committee shall act as a think tank for the community and, as such, shall offer fatherly advice in all affairs of EBU.
- ii. They shall ensure that peace and unity are maintained in the community.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### ***Representation at NTDU***

- A. Whenever it is the turn of Egbengwu to produce candidate(s) for election into NTDU offices, anyone desiring to serve Nimo in that capacity should indicate his interest to EBU.
- B. The Leaders of Thought Committee or any ad hoc committee that may be set up for that purpose shall screen and select not more than three persons out of the interested persons according to merit and present them to the General House.
- C. The selected persons, among other criteria, must be qualified to stand for election in Egbengwu and satisfy any requirement that NTDU and the office demand.
- D. The General House shall elect, by open or secret ballot, two out of the three candidates: the person who scored the highest number of votes and the runners-up, while the one with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped. These two will be the only ones eligible to present themselves to Nimo for the election.
- E. If an individual runs for election without the community's endorsement, whether elected or not, he will be suspended from EBU and prohibited from participating in its activities for one year after the election term ends.
- F. Reinstatement is possible only after he submits a written apology and a pledge not to act against the community's interests in the future.
- G. The General House shall elect persons to represent Egbengwu in any committee of NTDU requiring quarter representation by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast.
- H. However, where the need is so urgent that there's no time for election as prescribed above, the chairman

shall, in consultation with the EXCO, appoint the required number of representatives subject to ratification by a simple majority of the General Assembly in the earliest general meeting.

- I. Whoever deviates from this rule is only representing himself and not the Egbengwu community on such a committee.
- J. In addition, such a person will be sanctioned and not allowed to participate in any EBU activities after he has been notified to withdraw from such a Nimo committee through a letter from the EBU Chairman.
- K. The sanction remains until he submits a written apology and a pledge not to act against the community's interests in the future.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### ***Death in Active Service***

- A. If any member of the EBU dies in active service, the EBU shall attend his or her funeral and present a purse of ₦10,000.00.
- B. Definition: A member is said to die in active service if he dies while on duty for EBU. The decision of the executive as to whether or not a member died in active service

## **ARTICLE XIII**

### ***Vote of no Confidence on the Executive Committee and SubCommittees***

#### **A. Executive Committee**

- i. If a member moves a motion of no confidence claiming that the Executive Committee has lost its credibility and is supported, an inquiry panel will be established if two-thirds of the members present at the General Assembly support the investigation of the allegations.
- ii. The General Assembly shall set up a Panel of inquiry made up of one person from each of the eleven (11) villages in Egbengwu to investigate the allegation(s) and shall afford members of the Executive ample opportunity to defend themselves either orally or in writing.
- iii. The Panel shall submit their report at the general meeting after their appointment. And a vote of no confidence shall be passed if the Panel, by a 2/3 majority of the members, finds the Committee guilty, and the Committee shall be immediately dissolved.
- iv. If the allegation is against a member of the Executive Committee, it shall be treated as the removal of the officer concerned and not a vote of no confidence in the whole Committee.

#### **B. Sub-committees**

- i. If a committee established under this constitution is accused of wrongdoing, the Executive Committee will set up an inquiry panel to investigate.
- ii. If the panel finds the committee guilty by a 2/3 majority and the General Meeting ratifies this decision by a simple majority, the committee will be



- dissolved and replaced with a new one in accordance with the constitution.
- iii. Where the issue alleged is against a member of the committee other than the committee as a whole, the Chairman of the Committee shall report the matter to the Executive Committee for their deliberation and disciplinary action where necessary.
  - iv. However, where the issue alleged is such matters as absence from assigned duties, neglect to accomplish assigned duties, behavior undeserving of a member of the committee, etc., it shall be treated as misconduct, and there shall be no need for a panel of inquiry.
  - v. Whenever such a vote of no confidence is moved and supported, it is at the discretion of the General House to decide if the committee concerned should step down or remain in office while the investigation is ongoing.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### ***The power of EBU General Assembly to make and enforce rules and regulations:***

- A. The General Assembly of the Union shall be the highest authority or law-making body in Egbengwu, with its powers superseding those of individuals, members, residents, associations, clubs, age grades, committees, etc., and its laws are only inferior to the laws of the land and the National body, NTDU.
- B. The General Assembly shall, by a simple majority vote of members present and voting in a properly constituted meeting, make rules, regulations, decisions, motions, and the like that shall be binding on its members,

- suspended members, and other residents in the community.
- C. The general assembly shall, by a simple majority of the members present and voting in a properly constituted general meeting, impose and/or collect from its citizens of membership age, residents, and/or business owners in the community, any dues, levies, collections, fees, fines, penalties, or the like.
- D. The Union empowered by the General Assembly shall enforce the payment of levies, dues, collections, fees, fines, and penalties, and any Committee set up by it shall use all lawful means to enforce the payment of levies, dues, collections, fees, fines, and penalties from defaulting Egbengwu citizens, residents, business owners, etc.

## **ARTICLE XV**

### ***Validation of Rules, Regulations, Resolutions, Decisions and Motions.***

It is hereby adopted that the validation of Rules, Regulations, Resolutions, decisions, and Motions of the EBU shall be by a simple majority vote of the people present and voting at the meeting, except where otherwise provided in this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE XVI**

### **Fees, Levies, Collections, Penalties and Sanctions**

**A. Enrolment Fee:**

The General Assembly shall, from time to time, fix the enrolment fee at the recommendation of the executive committee by a simple majority of the members present and voting in a general meeting.

**B. Annual Security and Development Levies:**

- i. The General Assembly shall, from time to time, fix the annual Security and development levies at the recommendation of the executive committee by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting in a general meeting, provided that notice of the proposed increase has been circulated to all the branches of EBU well in advance of the meeting in which it will be discussed.
- ii. All adult persons resident in Egbengwu shall pay any agreed levies and dues. To this end, a register for all non-members of EBU and residents in the community shall be maintained and updated from time to time.
- iii. All persons aged 75 and above shall be exempt from payment of dues and levies unless they opt to pay but shall not be penalised for any default.
- iv. To qualify for this exemption, however, he must have informed the union and cleared all his outstanding debts that accrued prior to the attainment of the exemption age.
- v. The secretariat shall keep and regularly update the register of all such exemptions.

**C. Lateness at Meetings:**

- i. The Executive shall, subject to the approval of the general House, from time to time, fix the fine for lateness to meetings.
- ii. A person is considered late to a meeting if he comes one hour after the advertised time for the meeting or after the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, whichever comes earlier.

**D. Disturbance at meetings:**

- i. *Minor Disturbances:* The Executive Committee, subject to the approval of a simple majority of members at a general meeting, shall fix the fine for minor disturbances, such as a member making a noise during a meeting and disrupting the proceedings.
- ii. *Major Disturbances:* However, major disturbances, like challenging the table or any person violently, verbally or physically, fighting, etc., shall attract a more severe and appropriate punishment, which a disciplinary committee shall determine on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the Executive Committee.

**E. Premature exit from a meeting:**

The Executive Committee shall from time to time determine and recommend to the general House an appropriate fine for any member who leaves any meeting before it is declared closed without the permission of the person presiding or the provost.

**F. Absence from meetings without excuse:**

- i. For members who absent themselves from meetings without excuse, the Executive Committee will

determine a penalty, and members must approve it by a simple majority at a general meeting.

- ii. In like manner, for Registered branches that fail to send delegates to meetings in line with this constitution without excuse, the Executive Committee will determine the appropriate penalty, subject to the approval of the general House by a simple majority of members present and voting at a general meeting.
- iii. Appropriate registers shall be kept and maintained by the Assistant general Secretary for defaulting members and branches.

**G. Neglect of Duties:**

Any member of the Union who refuses to do or negligently does any duty that this constitution, the officers of the Union, or the General Assembly assign to him shall be liable to a penalty to be determined by the Executive Committee, subject to approval by a simple majority of members at a general meeting.

**H. Embezzlement or Misappropriation of Property:**

- i. Any member, whether financial or non-financial, who embezzles or misappropriates any property or money of the Union shall return the stolen property or money with a penalty of 100% of its value, or if the asset is no longer with him, shall pay twice its value.
- ii. This is without prejudice to any criminal prosecution against him and shall be barred from the activities of the EBU for a period of two years from the date of embezzlement or the date the misappropriation is discovered.

**I. Defaulters and Debtors:**

Any member, suspended member, or any Egbengwu citizen of membership age who fails to

restore any stolen item, or pay any type of dues, collections, levies, fees, fines, penalties, or the like imposed by the EBU within one year after the liability arose shall be liable to pay double the amount involved.

**J. Gross Misconduct.**

Any member who does or omits to do any act amounting to gross misconduct including any act and or omission inconsistent with the objectives of the EBU shall be liable to a penalty to be fixed by the Executive from time to time and approved by a simple majority of members in a general meeting.

## **ARTICLE XVII**

### ***Death of a suspended and or unpatriotic citizen***

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee subject to the approval of the National Assembly to decide what acts may warrant the suspension of any member.
- B. A suspended person's membership may be restored upon the expiration of the suspension period, or the satisfaction of the penalty and other conditions attached to it.
- C. Any suspended member of the EBU who dies while suspended or any Egbengwu citizen who dies while declared to be unpatriotic by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the General Assembly when he was alive shall forfeit any benefits accruable to him as a bona fide member of the EBU.

- D. If a branch suspends any of its members, it shall inform the national executive of its action; provided, however, that the branch suspension shall not by itself operate as a suspension by the National Executive or General Assembly.
- E. However, it may provide a ground for the suspension of such a person by the Exco or the General Assembly if it is a case of gross misconduct that threatens the peace, security, and good name of Egbengwu.
- F. If a branch of the EBU suspends any member, the suspended person may appeal to the National Executive if he strongly feels that the branch was not fair to him.

## **ARTICLE XVIII**

### ***EBU Debtors***

- A. If any member of EBU dies while having outstanding indebtedness in dues, levies, fines, penalties, etc., his relatives shall settle the debts before performing the burial or funeral.
- B. Where the bereaved, in defiance, goes ahead to carry out the burial or funeral without clearance, the security shall stop him, and no Egbengwu citizen or organization shall be allowed to participate in the ceremony.
- C. Where, for any genuine reason, confirmed by the ward councilor, any person finds it extremely difficult to pay or clear his debts, the EBU may waive the debt exceptionally for the person.

## **ARTICLE XIX**

### ***Stealing and Other Criminal Activities in Egbengwu:***

- A. Anyone resident in Egbengwu caught in any act of criminal activity like, but not limited to, stealing, raping, kidnapping, cultism, smoking of Indian hemp, "Mkpuru Mmiri", etc., shall be handed over to the police for prosecution.
- B. The Executive shall liaise with the President General (PG) of Nimo Town Development Union and HRH, the Owelle of Nimo, to ensure that the accused person(s) is/are properly prosecuted.
- C. Where a non-Egbengwu indigene is involved, it shall be the duty of the Executive to take further action to ensure that the person, if convicted, does not return to Egbengwu to reside.

## **ARTICLE XX**

### ***EBU National Secretariat:***

- A. The EBU National Secretariat shall keep appropriate registers, ledgers, exercise books, receipt books, diaries, invoices, cash books, vouchers, registration cards, pay slips, other slips, coupons, and any other type of stationery necessary for recording all its transactions and matters.
- B. All transactions, matters, correspondences, and the like, by, with, concerning, relating to, or affecting the EBU, shall be in writing, and all monies or any other property received or given out shall be receipted.
- C. Also to be kept are registers of attendance at any meeting, which shall contain the full names, occupation,



family clan (Umunna), and residential address of every member present at any meeting.

- D. The National Secretariat shall have control and custody of all registers, ledgers, exercise books, notebooks, diaries, invoices, cash books, receipt books, vouchers, registration cards, pay slips, other slips, coupons, and any other types of stationery in use.

## **ARTICLE XXI**

### ***Defense:***

To all obligations, duties, powers, omissions, dues, collections, levies, fees, fines, penalties, sanctions, and the like imposed in this constitution, a reasonable explanation or excuse for noncompliance acceptable to a simple majority of members present at a National Executive Meeting shall be a defense, unless where it is otherwise provided.

## **ARTICLE XXII**

### ***Financial Year***

The Financial year of the EBU shall be from January 1 of any year to December 31st of the same year.

## **ARTICLE XXIII**

### ***Bankers and Bank Mandate***

- A. EBU's bankers will be First Bank PLC for the time being.  
B. As the need arises, more bankers may be appointed on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, subject to the approval of a simple majority of the General Assembly.

- C. Signatories to the Bank account
- D. The signatories to the bank account shall be:
  - 1. The National Chairman
  - 2. The Financial Secretary
  - 3. The Treasurer.
- E. The Bank Mandate shall be:
  - 1. The National Chairman
  - 2. And either
    - a. The Financial Secretary or
    - b. The Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE XXIV**

### ***Signatories to the Constitution:***

A representative from each of the eleven (11) Council Wards in Egbengwu for the time being plus the Chairman and secretary of this Constitution Drafting Committee plus the National Chairman shall be the signatories to this constitution.

## **ARTICLE XXV**

### ***Amendment and Supersession***

- A. Any member of this union, the Executive, or any branch of EBU may initiate an amendment to any provision of this constitution.
- B. Any of the above persons proposing the amendment shall clearly state in writing the article and section they want to be amended, the amendment proposed, and the reason for the proposal.

- C. The written proposal for amendment shall be submitted to the chairman or secretary, who shall in turn make copies and send them to all the branches of EBU and council wards.
- D. Each branch and councilor ward shall state in writing their agreement or otherwise with the amendment. They may suggest an amendment to the proposed amendment, stating their reasons throughout.
- E. All the branches and council wards shall send their opinions to the EBU National within four calendar months from the date of receipt of the Notice of Amendment.
- F. The General Meeting shall vote on the amendment or addition, and it shall be considered passed if a two-thirds majority of members at the general meeting vote in favor of the amendment or additional clause.
- G. This constitution supersedes every other constitution heretofore made by the people of EGBENGWU.
- H. However, any act, rule, resolution, order, regulation, appointment, election, direction, thing, or proceeding that was done, made, passed, conducted, given, performed, or undertaken, as the case may be, prior to the commencement of this Constitution shall, on the commencement of this Constitution and subject to the provisions of this Constitution, continue in force as if it were done, made, passed, conducted, given, performed, or undertaken under this Constitution.
- I. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, every officer, committee, subcommittee, and patron who was elected or appointed and is holding office on the commencement of this Constitution shall continue in office as if he or it were elected or appointed under this Constitution.
- J. However, he or it shall be deemed to be elected or appointed on the date on which he or it was in fact

elected or appointed and not on the commencement date of this Constitution:

- K. And any such officer who has held or is holding an office for a first or second term before or on the commencement of this Constitution shall be deemed to have held or be holding the office pursuant to this Constitution, and the provisions of this Constitution relating to tenure of office shall apply to such an officer.

## **ARTICLE XXVI**

### ***Commencement Date:***

This Constitution shall become operational on the 29th day of December, 2023.

## Appendix A

### *Oath of Office*

I, ....., having been duly elected to the office of....., do hereby solemnly swear to carry out my duties conscientiously, to the best of my ability, in accordance with the Constitution of Egbengwu Brotherhood Union (EBU) and in the overall best interest of Egbengwu in particular, Nimo in general, and her citizenry; that I shall at all times be loyal and pay allegiance to the General Assembly of the Union.

## Appendix B

### *Signatories to this constitution*

In witness whereof, by our authority and at our instance, our incumbent Chairman, incumbent Secretary, and the councillors of the eleven wards in Egbengwu have hereunto set their hands and seals in authentication of this Constitution this 1<sup>st</sup>. day of December 2023.

- 1) Barr. Sunday Mmagu  
*Chairman Review Committee*
- 2) Dr. Ifeanyi Obiefuna  
*Secretary Review Committee*
- 3) Ekene Obelagu  
*National Chairman*

## **Appendix C**

### ***Members of the Review Committee***

The following are the members of the review committee in line with the National Chairman's note below:

Appointment as a Member of the Egbengwu Brotherhood Union (EBU) Constitution Review Committee.

This Notice serves to formally inform you of your appointment as a member of the above committee.

Members of the Committee are:

- 1) *Barr Sunday Mmagu -Ebonano (Chairman)*
- 2) *Sir Charles Okulu—Uruonyejem*
- 3) *Dr Ifeanyi Obiefuna—Ebonano*
- 4) *Francis Diji—Uruonyejem*
- 5) *Barr Pat Okwuaya—Uruorika*
- 6) *Barr Nnamdi Odike—Umudunu Uno*
- 7) *Dr Obi Omile—Umudunu (Diaspora)*
- 8) *Emmanuel Nwankwo—Urukwelora*
- 9) *Agbalanze Innocent Obinyeluaku— Uruorika*
- 10) *Tchr. Chika Obiekii Iloerika— Umudunu Ndi Agu*
- 11) *Engr Jimbuoy Okoye—Umudu*
- 12) *Uche Ngene—Atukpolom*
- 13) *Johnny Eke—Uruaguobele*
- 14) *Emeka Obuzo—Etiti Ebonano*
- 15) *Barr Oscar Obi—Ebonato*