

# **CONSTITUTION OF CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (CAN)**

## **ARTICLE 1: NAME**

The name of the Association shall be "CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA" (CAN).

## **ARTICLE 2: DEFINITION**

Christian Association of Nigeria is an *Association* of Christian Churches with distinct identities, recognizable Church structures and a system of worship of one God in the Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This Association makes Christ the Centre of all its works and shall promote the glory of God, by encouraging the growth and unity of the Churches and by helping them to lead the nation and her people to partake of Christ's salvation and all its fruits

## **ARTICLE 3: MOTTO**

"That they all may be one" (John 17 : 21)

## **ARTICLE 4: LOGO**

The Association's Logo shall be two circles: the inner circle enclosing the map of Nigeria, in which is placed an Open Bible with a Cross in the background, and in-between the two circles shall be the name of the Association and its Motto. The colour of the Association shall be Green.

## **ARTICLE 5: OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of Christian Association of Nigeria shall include the following:

- (a.) To serve as a basis of response to the unity of the Church, especially as contained in our Lord's pastoral prayer: "That they all may be one". ( John 17 : 21)
- (b.) To promote understanding, peace and unity among the various people and strata of society in Nigeria, through the propagation of the Gospel.
- (c.) To act as a liaison committee, by means of which its member-churches can consult together and when necessary, make common statement and take common actions.
- (d.) To act as watch-man of the spiritual and moral welfare of the nation.

## **ARTICLE 6: MEMBERSHIP**

### **(a) CHURCH GROUPS:**

To qualify for the membership of Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), a Church shall have been registered under COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT 1990 or previous legislations and shall belong to one of the five Church Groups namely.

- i. Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN)
- ii. Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)
- iii. Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN) / Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)
- iv. Organization Of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)
- v. TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship.

(b.) **BRANCHES OF CAN**

There shall be the following Branches of CAN namely:

- [i] Zonal Branches of CAN made up of Church Groups in the States of all the Geo-Political zones of the country.
- [ ii ] State branches of CAN made up of Church Groups in the State.
- [ iii ] Local Government Branches of CAN made up of Church Groups in the Local Government.
- [ iv ] Each Branch of CAN may make bye-laws to regulate its affairs and operation provided that such Bye-laws are not in conflict with constitution of the Association and must have been approved by the NEC of CAN.

Note: **THE ZONAL BRANCHES OF CAN** comprise the following states

1. **South-South Zone:-** Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Akwa-Ibom and Cross-River.
2. **South East Zone:-** Anambra, Imo, Enugu, Ebonyi and Abia.
3. **South West Zone:-** Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ondo, and Ekiti.
4. **North-Central Zone:-** Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Plateau, Nassarawa, Niger and Federal Capital Territory (FCT).
5. **North East Zone:-** Adamawa, Gombe, Bauchi, Yobe, Borno and Taraba.
6. **North West Zone:-** Sokoto, Zamfara, Kebbi, Kano, Katsina, Kaduna and Jigawa.

**c) WINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Each Branch of the Association shall establish a Youth Wing (abbreviated YOWICAN) and/or a Women's Wing (abbreviated WOWICAN).

Each Wing shall forward its bye-laws to its Branch for consideration and approval. The National Executive Committee shall establish the National YOWICAN and WOWICAN. The membership of the National YOWICAN and WOWICAN shall be drawn from the various Branches of YOWICAN and WOWICAN.

**(d) ACTIVE MEMBERS**

These are members of a group within CAN who have at least paid their Annual Membership Subscription and have active participation and regular attendance to meetings. They shall enjoy all rights including the right to vote and be voted for. The leader of any group that is owing Annual Subscription shall cease to represent any group on the high table and shall not benefit in anyway from the National CAN. All rights shall be restored to such group as soon as their arrears have been paid.

**(e) NON ACTIVE MEMBERS**

These are members of a group within CAN who have been owing at least two years of Annual Membership Subscription. The members of such group shall not receive any benefit from CAN including subsidies from CAN.

They shall have no right to vote or be voted for.

7. **ARTICLE 7: INDEPENDENCE AND CO-OPERATION OF MEMBER-CHURCHES:** Each member-church shall be autonomous in its internal affairs, but may receive advice from the Association in case of dissension and sharp disagreement within its fold.

Notwithstanding the autonomy, each member-church shall always be ready to co-operate with the other member-churches, in order to ensure the smooth running of the Association.

8. **ARTICLE 8: SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

- (a). The National Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend a member-group, pending the Assembly's final determination of the issue or issues which led to the suspension.
- (b). Membership of the Association shall be terminated by the member's own choice, or on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee, ratified by the decision of not less than two-thirds of the Assembly.

9. **ARTICLE 9: ORGANS OF THE ASSOCIATION:**

The organs of the association shall be the following:

- (i) The National Assembly
- (ii) The National Executive Committee
- (iii) The President-in-Council
- (iv) Zonal Assembly
- (v) Zonal Executive
- (vi) The State Assembly
- (vii) The State Executive Committee
- (viii) The Local Government Executive Committee

[I]. **THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The National Assembly shall be the highest Policy making organ of the Association and shall comprise the following representatives;

[a]	Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN)	---	50
[b]	Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)	---	50
[c]	Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/ Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)	---	50
[d]	Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)	---	50
[e]	TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship	---	50
[f]	1 Representative from each State Branch of CAN and FCT CAN	---	37
[g]	The National Officers of the Association	---	10
[h]	Past Presidents and General Secretaries of the Association shall be honorary members		

[i] The National Chairman and Secretary of the YOWICAN & WOWICAN shall be members—4

**(II) THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NEC**

The National Executive Committee shall be the Association's Executive Body and shall comprise the following representatives:

[a]	Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN)	---	10
[b]	Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)	---	10
[c]	Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/ Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)	---	10
[d]	Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)	---	10
[e]	TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship	---	10
[f]	1 Representative from each Zone of CAN	---	6
[g]	1 Representative from each State Branch of CAN and FCT CAN	---	37
[h]	The National Officers of the Association	---	10
[i]	The National Chairman of YOWICAN & WOWICAN	---	2

**(III) THE PRESIDENT – IN - COUNCIL**

[a] There shall be a President-in-Council which shall comprise the National Officers of the Association and the Head/Leader of each Church-Group.

[b] The President shall consult members of the President-in-Council or a majority of them before making public statements of Policy or taking urgent decision on behalf of CAN in an emergency situation or in urgent emergency, the President can act on behalf of the Association and report back immediately to the President-in-council.

**(IV) THE ZONAL ASSEMBLY**

The Zonal Assembly shall be the highest organ of the Association in the Zone and shall comprise the following representatives:

[a]	Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN)	---	30
[b]	Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)	---	30
[c]	Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/ Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)	---	30
[d]	Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)	---	30
[e]	TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship	---	30
[f]	2 Representative from each State Branch of CAN in the zone		

- [g] The Zonal Officers of the Association --- 10
- [h] Past Chairman and Secretaries of the Zonal CAN shall be honorary members

**(V) THE ZONAL EXECUTIVE**

The Zonal Executive Committee shall be the Association's Zonal Executive Body and shall comprise the following representatives;

- [a] Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN) --- 10
- [b] Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN) --- 10
- [c] Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/  
Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) --- 10
- [d] Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC) --- 10
- [e] TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship --- 10
- [f] 1 Representative from each State Branch of CAN in the Zone
- [g] The Zonal Officers of the Association --- 10

**(VI) THE STATE ASSEMBLY**

The State Assembly shall be the highest organ of the Association in the State and shall comprise the following representatives:

- [a] Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN) --- 20
- [b] Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN) --- 20
- [c] Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/  
Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) --- 20
- [d] Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC) --- 20
- [e] TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship --- 20
- [f] 2 Representatives from each Local Government Branch of CAN in the State.
- [g] The State Officers of the Association --- 10
- [h] Past Chairman and Secretaries of the State CAN shall be honorary members.

**(VII) THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The State Executive Committee shall be the State Executive Body and shall comprise the following representatives:

- [a] Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN) --- 10

[b]	Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)	---	10
[c]	Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/ Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)	---	10
[d]	Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)	---	10
[e]	TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship	---	10
[f]	1 Representative from each Local Government Branch of CAN in the State		
[g]	The State Officers of CAN	---	10

**(VIII) THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Local Government Executive Committee shall be the Local Government Executive Body and shall comprise the following representatives:

[a]	Catholic Secretariat of Nigeria (CSN)	---	10
[b]	Christian Council of Nigeria (CCN)	---	10
[c]	Christian Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (CPFN)/ Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN)	---	10
[d]	Organization of African Instituted Churches (OAIC)	---	10
[e]	TEKAN and ECWA Fellowship	---	10
[f]	The Local Government Officers of the Association	---	10

**10. ARTICLE: 10 FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS**

- [a] The National Assembly shall meet once every three years. It may however meet more often if necessary.
- [b] The National Executive Committee shall meet at least twice in a year.
- [c] The Zonal Assembly shall meet once every two years, it may however meet more often if necessary.
- [d] The Zonal Executive Committee shall meet at least twice in a year.
- [e] The State Assembly shall meet once in a year. It may however meet more often if necessary.
- [f] The State Executive Committee shall meet at least three times in a year.
- [g] The Local Government Executive Committee shall meet at least four times in a year.

## **11. ARTICLE: 11 QUORUM AT MEETINGS**

The Quorum at every meeting of each of the Organs of the Association shall be at least one-third of the total of the voting members provided that

- [i] Representatives of at least three member Church Groups and one-third of Zonal and State Branches of CAN are present at National Meetings.
- [ii] Representatives of at least three member Church Groups and one-third of State Branches of CAN are present at Zonal Meetings.
- [iii] Representatives of at least three member Church Groups and one third of the Local Government Branches of CAN are present at State Meetings
- [iv] Representatives of at least three member Church Groups are present at Local Government Meetings.

## **12. ARTICLE: 12 OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **(1) NATIONAL OFFICERS**

The National Officers of the Association shall be

- [i] The President
- [ii] The Vice President
- [iii] The General Secretary
- [iv] The Assistant General Secretary
- [v] The Treasurer
- [vi] The Heads or Directors of Department

### **(2) ZONAL OFFICERS**

The Zonal Officers of the Association shall be

- [i] The Chairman
- [ii] The Deputy Chairman
- [iii] The Secretary
- [iv] The Assistant Secretary
- [v] The Treasurer
- [vi] The Heads/Directors of Department

### **(3) THE STATE OFFICERS**

- [i] The Chairman
- [ii] The Deputy Chairman
- [iii] The Secretary
- [iv] The Assistant Secretary
- [v] The Treasurer
- [vi] The Heads/Directors of Department

### **4) The Local Government Officers**

- [i] The Coordinator
- [ii] The Assistant Coordinator

- [iii] The Secretary
- [iv] The Assistant Secretary
- [v] The Treasurer
- [vi] The Heads/Directors of the Department

**13A ARTICLE 13A – DUTIES AND FUCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS:** In view of the fact that CAN is an umbrella organization of the churches in Nigeria, led by an elected senior church dignitary for the purpose of relating to fellow church leaders and the society in general, it is important that the duties and functions of CAN leadership be spelt out vis-à-vis the other employees of the Association.

### **1. THE PRESIDENT SHALL**

- (i) Preside over all the National Meetings of the Association including the National Assembly, the National Executive Committee, the President-in-Council any other adhoc or emergency meetings that may arise from time to time. He shall when necessary exercise a casting vote.
- (ii) Direct the summoning of all the National Meetings as specified above.
- (iii) Authorize and approve all expenditure of Association.
- (iv) Authorize and approve the release of Imprest Account to the General Secretary who shall control the disbursement of the said Imprest.
- (v) Represent the Association at any meeting in which Association is involved OR delegate any person to represent him at any such meeting.
- (vi) Issue Press Statement when necessary on behalf of the Association.
- (vii) Be the Principal Signatory to the Association’s Bank Accounts.
- (viii) Be an ex-officio member of any Committee of Association or delegate any person to represent him in such a Committee.

### **2. THE VICE-PRESIDENT SHALL**

- (i) In the absence of the President, preside at any meeting of Association and act for the President.
- (ii) Perform all other duties, which the President shall assign to him from time to time.

### **3. THE GENERAL SECRETARY SHALL**

- (i) Summon, on the instruction and direction of the President all meetings of Association.
- (ii) Keep record of the meetings and the correspondence of the Association.
- (iii) Be the Chief Administrative Officer of the Association and be in charge of the day to day running of the secretariat and all staff of the Secretariat shall be under his supervision.
- (iv) Be in charge of the disbursement of the Imprest Account and give the details of expenditure to the President before any replenishment of the Imprest.
- (v) Submit a general report of the activities of the Association to the National Executive Committee at its last meeting of each year.
- (vi) Liaise, collect and compile annual report of zonal and state branches and Wings of Association.
- (vii) Be one of the Signatories of the Association’s Bank Accounts.



- (viii) Always act in consultation with the President for the execution of the policies of the Association.
- (ix) Represent the President as an ex-officio member in all Boards and Committees set up by the National Executive Committee.
- (x) Be the Secretary to the Assembly and the National Executive Committee.
- (xi) Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the President.

#### **4. THE ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY SHALL**

- (i) He shall also be the Administrative Officer of the Association.
- (ii) Perform other duties as may be assigned to him by the President and/or the General Secretary.

#### **5. THE TREASURER SHALL**

- (i) Be the keeper of the Association's Funds
- (ii) Present an Annual Budget and Financial Report to the National Executive Committee at a meeting of the Committee held before the year in which the budget is to be implemented
- (iii) Be one of the Signatories of the Association's Bank Accounts.
- (iv) Receive and pay into the bank within 48 hours of working days all monies received by the Association.
- (v) Keep the Association Bank notes, cheque books and Cash Books and submit same for auditing on demand.

#### **6a. DIRECTOR OF ECUMENISM AND INTER-FAITH**

- (i) Be in charge of all the ecumenical activities involving all the different Church Groups of the Association,
- (ii) Promote ecumenical harmony and understanding amongst the various blocks and denominations of the Association.
- (iii) Mediate in all conflicts and misunderstanding involving member blocks and denominations.
- (iv) Ensure that member-blocks maintain and promote the Historic Christian Faith and Morals

#### **6b DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS SHALL**

- (i) Take up all the Legal Matters concerning the Association.
- (ii) Draw up, vet and legally advise on all contractual documents, literature, paper, and publication meant for the public.
- (iii) Give publicity to the existence, affairs and activities of the Association and act as its Public Relations Officer.
- (iv) Produce, promote and publicize all the publications of the Association.

#### **6c THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ISSUES AND SOCIAL WELFARE SHALL**

- (i) Be in charge of the National Issues including moral, social, economic and political welfare of the Nation,

- (ii) Be in charge of the welfare of the members of the Association
- (iii) Articulate, plan, formulate and carry out broad and benefiting welfare programme of the Association.

**6d DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, YOUTH AND WOMEN DEVELOPMENT SHALL**

- (i) Be in charge of Education, Youth and Women development in the Nation,
- (ii) Plan for a well-balanced Christian Education that will protect the morality of the Nation.

**6e THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, RESEARCH AND STRATEGY SHALL**

- (i) Be in charge of planning, Research and Strategic activities of the Association
- (ii) Maintain a data and information Bank of every necessary plan and activity.
- (iii) Be in charge of surveillance and intelligence.

**13B. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF ZONAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS OF CAN**

All provisions regarding the duties and functions of the National Officers of the Association shall apply *mutatis mutandi* to the Zonal, State and Local Government Officers of the Association.

**14. ARTICLE: 14 ELECTION AND TENURE OF OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT**

**(a) Nomination before Election:**

The President and Vice-President shall be elected by the National Assembly from nominations submitted by the National Executive Committee and shall hold office for an initial term of three years and shall be eligible for a final term of another three years, thereafter the office shall rotate to another Church Group accordingly.

**(b) Qualification of the President:** To qualify as a candidate for the office of the President, a candidate must:

- i. Be a Spiritual Head or Leader, not below the rank of a Bishop or its equivalent, with not less than 15years record with his Church Denomination;
- ii. Be a product of a recognized Theological Seminary and must possess sound, working knowledge of the fundamental doctrines of Christianity.
- iii. Be a Leader without reproach, having a good reputation and personal integrity, as required in I Tim. 3, so as to be a good example of Christian Leadership to the country; Be conversant with, and possess vast knowledge of current affairs in National, International and Local affairs, so as to be able to speak for and direct Christian opinion on any issue, on behalf of the Church in Nigeria.
- iv. Represent one of the established Church Group in order that he may earn loyalty of all the Church Leaders in Nigeria.

(c) **Qualification of the Vice-President:** The Vice-president shall be a Spiritual Leader, who must possess the same qualifications as those demanded of the President.

(d) **Method of Nomination and Election of the President and Vice-president:**

- i. The President and Vice President must be nominated by an Electoral College of 15 Spiritual Leaders, each of whom must not be below the rank of a Bishop or its equivalent selected from the CSN, CCN, CPFN/PFN, OAIC and TEKAN/ECWA Fellowship in the ratio of 3:3:3:3:3.
- ii. Four or five candidates as the case may be shall be presented to this Electoral College, one from each constituent group of CAN. Two of the candidates who obtained the highest number of votes from the voting of the Electoral College shall be deemed nominated.
- iii. The two candidates with the highest number of votes shall be presented to the N.E.C. of CAN and the one with the majority of votes of the NEC shall be deemed nominated as President while the runner-up, as the Vice-President.
- iv. N.E.C. shall then present this nominated leader to the National Assembly as a sole candidate for ratification as President by the majority of votes by the representatives qualified to vote. While the runner-up will also be ratified accordingly as Vice President.
- v. In the event that any candidate was opposed by the majority of the National Assembly, the Electoral College will be requested to reconsider the suitability or otherwise of the candidate, based upon the reasons adduced by those who opposed. The College may return the candidate or choose another for ratification. The College may not be compelled to substitute the defeated candidate for the position.
- vi. In the event of a deadlock on points: ii, iv and v above, in which case the candidate i.e, presented is rejected, a combined committee of the Electoral College and the Registered Trustees of CAN will examine the issue and make a final choice for the current term.
- vii. Whenever the President of the Association becomes incapacitated, or is no longer in a position to perform the Presidential functions, the Vice-President shall act as the President until the next National Assembly. Such a person shall not automatically become the successor to the President.

## **15. ARTICLE: 15 FUNCTIONS OF THE ORGANS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- (a) The Assembly of the Association shall discuss and pass resolutions on major issues concerning the Church and spiritual and moral welfare of Nigeria. It shall reserve the right to defer all matters requiring further investigations and to instruct the National Executive Committee to carry out such investigations.
- (b) The National Executive Committee of the Association shall be the Association's Executive Body. It shall:

- i. Carry out the decisions of the Assembly in accordance with the Association's aims and objectives:
- ii. Set up Departments, Boards, Committees and Sub-committees, as required under this constitution, when it considers it necessary, or on the decision of the Assembly:
- iii. Appoint the General Secretary and Assistant General Secretary of the Association:
- iv. Consider and approve the annual Budget and Financial Report of the Association and create an Internal Audit Committee,
- v. Perform all such other functions that are not specifically reserved to the Assembly, and act for the Assembly, in cases of emergency.

## **16. ARTICLE: 16 DEPARTMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- (a) Departments of the Association shall be set up by the National Executive Committee to take charge of defined functions of the Association's work as in paragraph (d) below.
- (b) Each Department shall work under a Board or Committee, constituted by the National Executive Committee to direct the Association in the relevant activities. No Department shall commit the Association to any expenditure, other than that approved by the National Executive Committee within the budget. The Head of each Department shall be called a Director.
- (c) Each Department shall keep the National Executive Committee fully informed of all its activities, by means of a report submitted at least once a year through the General Secretary.
- (d) The Association shall have the following Departments or any other as the need arises:
  - i. Ecumenism and Inter-Faith
  - ii. Legal and Public Affairs
  - iii. National Issues and Social Welfare
  - iv. Education, Youth and Women Development
  - v. Planning, Research and Strategy

## **17. ARTICLE: 17 APPOINTMENTS AND TENURE OF WORKERS AND STAFF**

- (a) The General Secretary and The Assistant General Secretary shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee, which shall also prescribe their conditions of service as they shall be on full-time employment for 4 years and renewably for a final term of another 4 years.
- (b) Heads of Departments shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in an honorary capacity and the five positions shared amongst the 5 member-block and shall report to the General Secretary.

- (c) The conditions of service and terms of employment of all employees of the Association shall be laid down by the National Executive Committee.

## **18. ARTICLE: 18 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE ASSOCIATION**

- (a) The Association's financial needs shall be met by the member-Churches of the Association. The proportion of the total revenue to be contributed by the member-Churches shall be determined from time to time by the National Executive Committee. Additional revenue shall be raised from State Branches of CAN, wealthy Christians, institutions and organizations.
- (b) The financial needs of the Association shall be decided upon annually by the National Executive Committee and shown in a Budget prepared sufficiently early for member-Churches to arrange payment by a given date. Financial expenditure shall be only for items agreed upon by the National Executive Committee; provided that no new project shall be embarked upon on behalf of the Association until the National Executive Committee itself shall have studied and passed such projects for execution.
- (c) The President, Treasurer and the General Secretary shall be signatories to all Bank Accounts of the Association. The President and any one of the other two Signatories namely Treasurer or General Secretary shall sign before any withdrawals.

## **19. ARTICLE: 19 ANNUAL AUDIT**

The National Executive Committee shall arrange for annual auditing and presentation of all Association's accounts by an accredited Auditor or Auditors.

## **20. ARTICLE: 20 REGISTERED TRUSTEES**

The Registered Trustees shall be appointed and shall act in accordance with the regulations governing the appointment of Trustees and embodied in the application under the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990 (Appendix A).

## **21. ARTICLE: 21 AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution of the Association may be amended, provided that the proposed amendment shall first come before the National Executive Committee and, if approved, shall be sent through the General Secretary to all member-bodies at least six months before the date of the meeting of the National Assembly at which it is to be considered. A two-third majority of the voting members of the National Assembly shall be necessary to carry out the amendment.

## **22. ARTICLE: 22 RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (APPENDIX A)**

1. The Trustees of the Christian Association of Nigeria (hereinafter referred to as "The Association") for the purpose of the Companies and Allied Matters ACT 1990, shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee of the Association.

2. Such Trustees (hereinafter referred to as "The Trustees") shall be six in number (namely the five heads of the Church Groups and the President) and shall be known as "THE REGISTERED TRUSTEES OF THE CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA".
3. Trustees may hold office for life, but a trustee shall cease to hold office if he:
  - (i) Resigns his office
  - (ii) Ceases to be the Head of any of the Church Group and/or the President of the Association.
  - (iii) Becomes insane.
  - (iv) Is officially declared bankrupt.
  - (v) Is convicted of a criminal offence involving dishonesty by a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - (vi) Is recommended for removal from office by a majority vote of members present at any meeting of the National Executive Committee of the Association.
  - (vii) Ceases to reside in Nigeria.
4. Upon a vacancy occurring in the number of trustees, the National Executive Committee of the Association shall at its next succeeding meeting appoint another eligible person to be one of the Trustees.
5. The Trustees shall have a Common Seal.
6. Such Common Seal shall be kept in the custody of the General Secretary of the Association who shall produce it when required for use by the Trustees.
7. All documents to be executed by the Trustees shall be signed by not fewer than three of them and shall be sealed with the Common Seal.
8. The Trustees shall apply to the Registrar-General of the Corporate Affairs Commission under Section 673 of the Act for a Certificate of Incorporation under the Companies and Allied matters Act 1990.
9. If such Certificate is granted, the Trustees shall have power to accept and hold in trust all land on behalf of the Association, subject to such conditions as the Corporate Affairs Commission may impose.
10. The Trustees shall ensure that true accounts are kept of the received and expended, showing the matters in respect of which such receipt and expenditure take place and of the property, credits and liabilities of the Association. Once at least every year these accounts shall be examined and the correctness of the balance sheet ascertained by Auditors appointed by the National Executive Committee of the Association and the audited statement of accounts, with any report made by the auditors, shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee annually.
11. The Trustees shall act in accordance with the Constitution of the Association and upon the instructions of a meeting of the Association or of its National Executive Committee.

## **23. ARTICLE: 23 SPECIAL CLAUSES**

The income and property of the Christian Association of Nigeria, wherever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set forth in these Rules and Regulations and in its Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the Association.

- (a) Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment, in good faith, of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Association, or to any member of the Association, return for any service actually rendered to the Association, nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding six percent per annum on money lent or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member to the Association, but so that no member of the Association or Management or Governing Body shall be appointed to any salaried officer of the Association or to any office of the Association paid by fees, and that no remuneration or other benefits in money or moneys shall be given from the Association to any member of such Association or Management or Governing Body except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses and reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let to the Association.
- (b) Provided that the provision last aforesaid shall not apply to any payment to any company of which a member of the Association may be a member in which such member shall not hold more than one hundredth part of the capital and such member shall not be bound to account for any share of profits he may receive in respect of any such payment.
- (c) No addition, alteration, or amendment shall be made to the RULES AND REGULATIONS/CONSTITUTION for the time being in force, unless the same have been previously submitted to and approved by the Corporate Affairs Commission.
- (d) If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Christian Association of Nigeria, there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or disturbed among the members of the Association, but shall be given or transferred to some other Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of the Association, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property amongst its or their members to an extent at least or as great as is imposed on the Association, under or by virtue of the Special Clause hereof, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to the aforesaid provision, then to some charitable objects.

**EFFECTIVE DATE: This Constitution was unanimously passed at an Extra-Ordinary Meeting of the National Assembly of the Association holding at the National Ecumenical Centre, Abuja, this Thursday, the Seventeenth day of June in the year of our Lord, Two thousand and four (17-06-2004).**

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**The Most Rev. Dr. Peter J. Akinola DD. CON**

**President 17/06/04**