**NIGERIAN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE STUDENT’S ASSOCIATION, SOUTHWEST REGION.**

**(NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST)**

**CONSTITUTION**

2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART 1

ARTICLE 1 : GENERAL PROVISION

Sub-article 1: Supremacy of the constitution and the name of the Association …………

Sub-article 2 : Name of the Association…………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Motto Language of the Association …………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : colour/logo of the Association ………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Seat of the Association ………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 6 : Objectives of the Association …………………………………………………………

Sub-article 7 : Basis of the Operation ……………………………………………………………

PART II

ARTICLE 2 : MEMBERSHIP

Sub-article 1 : Active Member …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Special Member …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Honorary Member …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : Legal Advisers …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Patrons/Patronesses …………………………………………………………………………

PART III

ARTICLE 3 : ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Sub-article 1 : Organization …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : The General Assembly / Congress ……………………………

PART IV

ARTICLE 4 : STANDING ORDERS OF THE ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS

Sub-article 1 : Motions …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Point of Order …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Point of Order …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : Point of Information …………………………………………………………………………

PART V

ARTICLE 5 : THE SOUTHWEST EXECUTIVE COUNCIL / RULING COUNCIL

Sub-article 1 : Proceedings of the Executive Council………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Power and Functions of the Executive ……………………………

Sub-article 3 : The Secretariat officers ………………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : The Non-Secretariat Officers …………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Duties of Officers …………………………………………………………………………

PART VI

ARTICLE 6 : PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Sub-article 1 : Proceedings of the Provisional Executive council ……………………………

Sub-article 2 : Duties of the Chapter Presidents ……………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Formation of new Chapters ……………………………………………………………

PART VII

ARTICLE 7 : CONVENTION/ NIMELSSA WEEK CELEBRATION

Sub-article 1 : Convention ……………………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Eligibility to host the Convention/ NIMELSSA ……………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Hosting of the Convention /NIMELSSA……………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : Period of Convention …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Activities at the Convention …………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 6 : NIMELSSA Week Celebration …………………………………………………………………

PART VIII

ARTICLE 8 : ELECTIONS

Sub-article 1 : Period of election …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Electoral Committee {EC} …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Duties and powers of the Electoral Committee………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : Rules of Elections …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Eligibility to hold office …………………………………………………………………………

PART IX

ARTICLE 9 : ELECTION TRIBUNAL

Sub-article 1 : Powers and duties of the Election Tribunal………………………..

Sub-article 2 : Matters arising from Election/petitions ……………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : inauguration Ceremony …………………………………………………………………………

PART X

ARTICLE 1O : AMENDMENT/ADDENDA/REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

Sub-article 1 : Amendments …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Addendum/ Addenda …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Revision of the Constitution ……………………………………………………………

PART XI

ARTICLE 11 : FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION / COMMITTEES

Sub-article 1 : Audit Committee …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : caretaker Committee …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Editorial Board Committee …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : AD-HOC Committee/ Task Forces …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Electoral Committee …………………………………………………………………………

PART XII

ARTICLE 12 : MISCELLANEOUS

Sub-article 1 : Discipline/Control …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 2 : Impeachment …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 3 : Cessation of Membership/Resignation ………………………………………………

Sub-article 4 : Vacancy …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 5 : Certificate of Merit …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 6 : Patrimony …………………………………………………………………………

Sub-article 7 : Other Dispositions …………………………………………………………………………

**PART I**

ARTICLE 1 : GENERAL PROVISION

1.1 SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION

i. This constitution shall be the supreme code of the Association and shall be binding on all her members and organs.

ii. If any action, order, or directive shall be rendered null and void to the extent of the inconsistency.

iiia. Where there is a conflict between the NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST constitution and the Chapters by-law chapter by law shallot the extent of their inconsistency be null and void.

b. The Association reserves the right to enact by laws in any matter not covered by this constitution.

1.2 Name of the Association

1. The Association shall be called and addressed as NIGERIAN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCES STUDENT ASSOCIATION known with the acronym NIMELSSA
2. NIMELSSA shall remain a political non-denominational and non-profit oriented Association

1.3 Motto Language of the Association

1. The motto of the Association shall be :

The bedrock of modern medicine

1. English language shall be the official language of NIMELSSA.

1.4 colour/logo of the Association

1. The Colour of the NIMELSSA shall be GREEN, RED, and YELLOW.

The green symbolizes the life-saving nature of the profession; THE RED symbolizes pathological state of patients. THE YELLOW symbolizes the golden and the precious nature of the profession

1. Logo

* The logo of the Association shall consist of an open book on which is inscribed the acronym NIMELSSA, a Microscope, a snake wound on to a stick and test large rock. The logo of the Association shall be inscribed Nigeria Medical laboratory Sciences Students Association.
* The wound onto a stick represents the universal symbol of healing.
* The open book the microscope and the test tube above lighted Bunsen burner signify that knowledge of the practice is diligently acquired during the course of academic training
* The circle signifies that all the activities of the association are within the limit of professional practice.
* The rock signifies the solid base upon which the profession is built.

1. Colour of the logo

The open book shall have a white background and designed with black margin. The inscription on it shall be in red and black margin.

* The microscope shall be in black
* The snake shall be in red and wound onto a black stick.
* The Bunsen burner shall have a red flame and designated in black with a white background.
* The inner circle with yellow background shall have a green margin with the name of the association inscribed around it on a white background and enclosed by the margin at the outer cycle which shall also be in green.
* The large rock shall be given black contour and the motto of the association inscribed on it shall be black.

1. Emblem

The Emblem of the association shall be a plaque on which is carved and the LOGO of the association.

1.5 Seat of the Association

The Seat of the association shall be the National Secretariat, (determined via an electoral process).

1.6 Objectives of the Association

The Association shall seek to:

1. Maintain a cordial relationship with Association Medical Laboratory Scientists of Nigeria (AMLSN) chapters in SOUTHWESTERN States
2. Promote Public awareness of Laboratory Medicine within members.
3. Develop and Promote standard/ethics in the Medical Laboratory profession
4. Maintain good relationship and harmony with other allied students associations and Professional bodies in promoting health care and extracurricular development of members.

1.7 Basis of operation

Members of NIMELSSA shall enjoy equal rights and privileges, perform their duties and fulfill their obligations to the constitution by:

ai. Observing the resolutions and shall all decisions regularly adopted by NIMELSSA

SOUTHWEST

ii. Participating effectively in the activities of NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST.

iii. Paying regularly their annual convention fee as provided by the constitution

b Any Chapter which fails to perform any of her obligations to NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST shall be suspended for such a time as NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST Executive Council may deem adequate for such punishment as may be deemed fit. Such Chapter shall be free to appeal to NIMELSSA SOUTHWESTERN Congress which can by two-third majority votes of members present be reverse the action of the Executive Council.

PART II

ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP

NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST Forum shall comprise of five categories of membership

* Active Members
* Special Members
* Honorary Members
* Legal adviser(s)
* Patrons/Patronesses

* 1. Active Member:

Active membership shall be obtained to all students that have registered with the Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria and are bonafide members in any of the registered Chapters under NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST Forum.

* 1. Special Member:

Special Member shall be anybody who has been an active member or registered with the Medical laboratory science Council of Nigeria and who has completed his training and shall be nominated by the Regional Executive Council. Nominated candidates shall indicate their acceptance in a written form.

1. The REC reserves the right to accept or reject such nomination and number of Special member.
2. Special member shall have the same privileges and rights with active member except that they are denied of the right to vote and be voted for.
3. Special Membership shall be veiled for one year.
4. Special membership shall stand as advisers to the SOUTHWEST Executive Council.
   1. Honorary Member:
5. Honorary member shall be appointed whenever necessary amongst non-students.
6. Such members shall be of proven moral uprightness and must have made outstanding acts that justify their appointment.
7. They shall abide by the laws governing the association and indicate acceptance of the appointment in a written form.
8. The duration of the appointment is for a maximum of five (5) years renewable once.
9. However the disposition of sub article 2.3 of this section shall be implemented on approval by two-third (2/3) of a registered members present during a convention, following submission of the proposal to the general assembly by SOUTHWEST Executive Council.
10. Honorary members shall neither vote non be voted for however, their advisers shall be sought when it relates to the affairs of the association.
    1. Legal adviser(s)
11. The association shall have a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) legal advisers.
12. Legal Adviser(s) shall be a legal Practitioner registered with Nigeria Bar Association.
13. They shall be appointed by the SOUTHWEST Executive Council for a period of 3 years renewable indefinitely.
14. They shall indicate acceptance of the appointment in a written form.
15. Legal advisers shall provide legal guidance to the association and shall serve as oath commissioner during the Swearing in Ceremony of the newly elected executive members. They shall also represent/defend the association whenever and wherever the interpretation and application of the law is required.
    1. Patrons/Patronesses
16. The SOUTHWEST Executive Council shall recommend to the PEC patrons/patronesses for appointment.
17. Such recommendation shall be approved by the Provisional Executive Council (PEC).
18. Removal of Such Patrons/patronesses shall be on the recommendation of the Executive Council to the PEC who shall approve same by 2/3 majority votes.

PART III

ARTICLE 3.0: ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

3.1 Organization

NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST Forum shall comprise the following organs/governing bodies

a. The General Assembly/SOUTHWEST Congress

b. The REGIONAL Executive Council (REC)

c. The Provisional Executive Council (PEC)

Functions

1. The Association shall operate within the five (6) states in the SOUTHWEST geopolitical zone.

3.2 The General Assembly/National Congress

i. The General Assembly is the Supreme organ of the Association and it is formed by full members that meet during a convention or in responsible to the call of an emergency meeting.

ii. The General Assembly can be ordinary as in convention or extraordinary (Emergency) in Special circumstances.

iii. Ordinary General Assembly shall be held once in tenure.

1. Extraordinary Emergency General Assembly shall be called when there exist an important matter to be discussed whenever there is a petition signed by two-third (2/3) of the members of the Provisional Executive Council (PEC).
2. Minute of each General Assembly shall be signed by the REGIONAL President and the REGIONAL General Secretary.
3. The Communiqué of the General Assembly meeting shall be at the disposition of each chapter within two (2) months after the General Assembly.
4. The General Assembly shall be held at the seat of the Association.
5. The Extra ordinary General Assembly shall be called by the best efficient means at least sixty (60) days thereto.

3.3 Proceedings of the General Assembly/Congress

i. No business shall be transacted at any General Assembly unless a quorum is reached.

ii. Half the number of an accredited members present at the opening of the first Annual General meeting (AGM), shall form a quorum at all plenary sessions.

iii. If within an hour from the time appointed for holding of a General Assembly, a quorum is not present, it shall stand adjourned to a maximum of one (1) hour and if as such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within thirty (30) minutes from the time appointed for holding the meeting, the members present shall be the quorum.

iv. The General Assembly shall be presided over by the SOUTHWEST President who shall be assisted by the General Secretary.

v. The President shall have the power to fine or expel any member from a meeting for a determined period of time if his/her conduct is detrimental to the interest of the Association after one or two warnings.

vi. With the consent of the congress the President may adjourn a meeting from time to time and place to place within the convention ground as the meeting shall determine.

vii. At General Assembly, a resolution put to vote shall be decided by a show of hand of simple majority of the members present and entitled to vote. A declaration by the President that a resolution has been carried out or has seen carried out by a particular majority or not carried out by a particular majority shall be conclusive evidence thereof without proof of the member or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution.

viii. a. In case of a tie, the President shall be entitled to a casting vote.

b. All members may attend the General Assembly but only fully registered members shall have voice and voting right.

c. Decisions legally taken by the majority of the General Assembly oblige all the members even the absentees and dissenters.

d. In the event of an extraordinary (Emergency) General Assembly summoned by the Provisional Executive Council either the President or Chairman appointed by the council shall have power to preside.

PART IV

ARTICLE 4: STANDING ORDERS OF THE ASSEMBLY/CONGRESS

4.1 Motions

i. All Motions shall be moved verbally

ii. Only one amendment may be made to a motion at time if any amendment is carried, the motion as amended shall become the substantive motion to which further amendments may be made.

iii. A motion shall be adopted if it gets a consensus of a simple majority of members present.

iv. In the event of a counter motion, which is then seconded, the matter at stake shall be subjected to vote without delay.

4.2 Point of Order

A point of order when raised shall supersede any other discussion(s) in the house and shall be taken first and must deal with the conduct of the meeting in the following areas;

a. To point out a provision of the Constitution which is being or about to be violated.

b. To pint out a digression from the issue at stance.

c. Anyone making point of order shall in no way attempt to discuss the issue at stake.

4.3 Point of Information

i. A point of information on any issue will be heard at the instance of the President provided that such point of information is made before issues are put to vote.

ii. Point of Information can arise from

a. When there is a proven fact which would have been missing in bringing about the good conclusion of the issue at stake.

b. Where there is a clarification or addition or modification of an issue at stake.

c. Where there is an imminent condition which warrants the sudden recession or adjustment of the meeting.

4.4 Precedence

i. Whenever the presiding officer rises to address the house, he shall be heard in silence and any other member who may be speaking shall at once sit down.

ii. If two (2) or more members rise to address the house at the same time precedence shall be given to him/her who first raised the hand.

iii. If an Executive member or a Chapter President rises to address the house at the same time with another member, precedence shall be given to the executive member before chapter President and the Chapter President before member.

PART V

ARTICLE 5.0: THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL/RULING COUNCIL

ai. The REGIONAL Executive Council shall operate as a governing body within its tenure of office.

ii. The REGIONAL Executive council shall meet whenever deemed necessary during their tenure.

iii. The tenure of office for an executive council runs between two conventions.

iv. The President shall be addressed as Mr. President or your Excellency, while other executives as honorable(s).

b. Members of the SOUTHWEST executive council shall comprise

* The SOUTHWEST Secretariat Officer’s post and
* The Non secretariat offices post

5.1 Proceedings of the SOUTHWEST Executive Council

a. The SOUTHWEST Executive Council shall

i. Sit at least three (3) times in a year in addition to any other meeting that may be called by the President whenever necessary.

ii. The Quorum of the meeting shall be found when two-third (2/3) of the members is present.

iii. Summon meetings through its Secretary or Public Relations Officer

b.i The President in collaboration with the General Secretary shall fix a suitable venue and agenda for all executive council meetings.

ii. The President shall also convene a meeting of the council on a request signed by two-third (2/3) of the members of the Council.

c.i The Executive council reserves the right to decide the manner in which deliberations shall be conducted.

ii. The President shall have the right to cast his/her vote in the event of a tie

iii. Decision at executive council meeting shall be on a simple majority of votes.

5.2 Power and Functions of the SOUTHWEST Executive Council

The following shall be the functions and powers of the Executive Council unless otherwise determined by the General Congress.

i. To act and represent the association In all matters

ii. To transact any other business this may be brought forward by General assembly or the Provisional Executive council (PEC).

iii. To Prepare and manage in conjunction with hosting chapter; the activities of the Convention.

iv. To appoint from members such committees for any special purpose as may be necessary.

v. To keep all member chapters informed of her activities.

vii. The executive council after election shall plan the program; make arrangement in the Association for its upkeep welfare and developments.

viii. To suspend a member found wanting.

ix. Shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Constitution.

5.3 The SOUTHWEST Secretariat officers

* The President
* The Secretary General
* The Public Relation Officer
* The Treasurer
* The Financial Secretary

i. The five officers of the Secretariat shall come from the same Chapter

ii. Officers of the Secretariat shall all function as spelt out in this Constitution

iii. The SOUTHWEST Executive Council shall empower the SOUTHWEST secretariat to carry out its executive functions as it is required by the Constitution.

5.4 The Non-Secretariat Officers

* Vice President
* The Director Of Social
* The Director of Welfare
* Director of Sports
* Director of Health
* The assistant General secretary

5.5 Duties of Officers

5.5a The President shall

i. Represent the association in all matters.

ii. Preside at all meetings of the Executive Council, the Provisional Executive Council, the General Assembly and extraordinary meetings.

iii. Endorse and approve all Correspondences as regards association

iv. Be a Principal Signatory to all monetary, executive and policy papers including the Association bank Account, SOUTHWEST Convention account and any other account.

v. Exercise supervisory powers over all the associations’ property.

vi. Present an annual report to the association at the close of the executive tenure of office.

vii. Swear-in members of the election tribunal.

vii. Be answerable to the general assembly and PEC

ix. Be empowered to finalize on the decision taken by simple 2/3 majority vote cast by either the SEC or PEC.

x. In general perform all duties incident to the office of the President and shall have such other powers to perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution.

xi. In the event of a vote being deadlock, the President shall exercise his veto power in resolving the issue.

5.5b. Vice President shall:

i. Assist the President in all his duties

iii. Assume the chairmanship of the provisional executive council and the general assembly in case of death, resignation or absence of the President.

iv. In general perform all duties incident to the office of vice President and shall have other powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by this constitution.

5.5c. The Secretary General shall:

i. Be responsible for the general secretariat duties of NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST including the taking and Preparation of minutes in executive meetings, NIMELSSA convention.

ii. Summon all meetings at instance of the President except otherwise spell out by other clause(s) of this constitution.

Iii. Be responsible for the receipt and dispatch of all correspondence on behalf of the Association.

iv. Be the executive head of administration.

v. Keep comprehensive lists of all members taking part in the association’s activities.

vi. See to the proper organization and arrangement of the annual convention in collaboration with the respective local organizing committee.

vii. Be a signatory to all Associations releases.

viii. Coordinates the activities of the SOUTHWEST Secretariat In the case of death or resignation of the President however the secretary in this case is answerable to the vice President.

ix. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary general and shall have other powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5d. Assistant Secretary General shall:

i. Assist the secretary general in the performance of his/her duties.

ii. Deputize for the secretary general in his/her absence.

iii. In general perform all duties incident to the office of Assistant General Secretary and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5e. The Financial Secretary shall:

i. Keep satisfactory books and document of accounts.

ii. Be a signatory to the association’s bank account.

iii. Ensure that all collection of NIMELSSA dues.

Dispatch all monies so collected to the treasurer within forty-eight (48) hours of collection.

iv. Be assisted by the treasurer in drafting and keeping an updated statement of account of the associations to be presented during NIMELSSA week and Convention.

v. In general perform all duties incident to the office of financial secretary and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5f. The Treasurer shall:

i. Keep proper record of all in-take and disbursement of funds with banking documents.

ii. Keep with him/her a maximum amount of three thousand naira (3,000.00) for the execution of emergency duties.

iii. Be a signatory to the Associations bank account.

iv. Ensure the collection of the NIMELSSA dues and dispatch all money he/she collected to the bank account within forty–eight (48) hours of collection.

v. Disburse funds on joint authority of the President and financial secretary.

vi. In general perform all duties incident to the office of the treasurer and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5g. The Public Relation Officer shall:

i. Be the general information officer of the association

ii. Be the Chairman/Editor-in chief of the editorial board and shall be responsible for the publication of NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST annual magazine and other periodicals.

iii. Actively publicize the activities of the Association as well as take note of external publications affecting the Association directly and indirectly.

v. In conjunction with the executive council be responsible for the internal and external publicity of the association’s activities either by release or other means as the case may be.

vi. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of Public relation officer and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5h. The Director of Social shall:

i. Promote, organize and co-ordinate all social activities of NIMELSSA as directed by the Executive Council.

ii. Collaborate with other executive member to see to the successful implementation of social activities.

iii. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of Director of Socials and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

5.5i. The Director of Sports shall:

i. Promote, Organize and Co-ordinate all sporting activities of the association.

ii. Be assisted by the Director of Social and the Director of welfare.

iii. In general, perform all duties incident to the office of the Director of Sports and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5j. The Director of Welfare shall:

i. Be responsible for the general welfare of all members.

ii. See to the proper maintenance of the association properties that may be entrusted to him/her.

iii. In general, perform all duties incident to the office or welfare office and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

5.5k. The Director of Health

i. Be responsible for public health broadcasts and commensuration of world health days.

ii. Be the chairman of all medical awareness programs and outreaches as will be organized by the association.

iii. In general, perform all duties incident to the office or welfare office and shall have other powers and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the President.

PART VI

ARTICLE 6: PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

6.1 Proceedings of the Provisional Executive Council

The Provisional executive council shall;

i. Comprise of all Chapter Presidents and Secretaries.

ii. Sit at least twice in a year in addition to any other meeting that may be called by the President whenever necessary.

iii. Summon meetings through the secretary of the council.

iv. The quorum of the meeting shall be formed when two-third (2/3) of members are present.

v. After every deliberation in the PEC meeting, the Chairman and the SOUTHWEST President will be informed about their resolution which is subject to a final decision in the NEC meeting.

vi. (a) The President or the chairman as the case may be shall have the right to cast his/her vote in the event of a tie.

(b) Decision shall be based on a simple majority vote.

6.2 Duties of Chapter Presidents

i. Be the Chief executive officer of his/her chapter.

ii. Represent the chapter at the REGIONAL level.

iii. Forward all charges in leadership to the REGIONAL Executive Council/PEC.

iv. Ensure the annual registration of the chapter with the REGIONAL Secretariat.

6.3 Formation of New Chapters

i. New Chapter shall be created where and when a new training institution of medical laboratory Science is established.

ii. When a new chapter is to be created in an institution where it is non-existent, the proposed chapter shall apply to the REGIONAL Secretariat enclosing the names and signatures of the prospective members, which will then be approved by the NATIONAL EXECUTIVES COUNCIL.

iii. Applicants may attend the annual convention on observer’s status.

iv. In the event of admission into NIMELSSA, the newly constituted Chapter shall submit a copy of her by-laws to the SOUTHWEST Secretariat within the allocated time of six (6) months after the Convention.

PART VII

ARTICLE 7: CONVENTION/ NIMELSSA WEEK CELEBRATION

7.1 Convention

i. There shall be an annual convention/NIMELSSA week. The venue to be chosen during which all Chapters shall be in the annual convention.

ii. All Chapters shall be present at the annual convention.

7.2 Eligibility to host the convention/NIMELSSA week

Chapters intending to host the convention shall;

i. Make the intention known during the NIMELSSA week celebration or at least six (6) months before the convention.

ii. Not financially indebted to the NATIONAL Executive Council

iii. Have good accommodation facilities for delegates.

iv. Be mandatory for every students in the hosting Chapter to register for the SOUTHWEST REGIONAL Convention.

7.3 Hosting of the convention/ NIMELSSA week

i. Hosting of the convention shall be rotational amongst the five (6) states in SOUTHWEST Nigeria

Iia. All arrangement for accommodation and general welfare of delegates at the convention shall be the responsibility of the Hosting Chapter.

b. The hosting Chapter shall set up a convention Organizing Committee.

Iiia. The Convention organizing committee shall draw up a program of activities to cover the entire period of the Convention and Present it to the executive Council at least sixty days (60) days to the commencement of the Convention.

b. The convention organizing committee is answerable to the hosting Chapter.

c. The hosting chapter shall from time to time report to the SOUTHWEST REGIONAL Secretariat.

d. Hosting right shall be taken from the hosting chapter if the entire students are not secured or in a case where the hosting chapter violates any of the eligibility right and such right shall be given to the most appropriate chapter based on the resolution of the PEC.

Iva. Every Chapter hosting the convention is entitled to forty percent (40%) of the total outcome of the Convention why the remaining sixty percent (60%) goes to the SOUTHWEST Executive Council.

b. The Provision of Sub-article (iva) of this article is also applicable to all other gathering of NIMELSSA SOUTHWEST Forum.

7.4 Period of Convention

i. The Convention shall be organized annually except if there is any alteration of academic activities and it duration shall be one week.

ii. The Executive Council shall inform the hosting Chapter at least three (3) months to the commencement of the Convention.

7.5 Activities at the Convention

The Activities at the convention shall Include: Annual General meetings, Excursions, Courtesy calls, Lectures, Workshop, Talks and Social gatherings.

7.6 NIMELSSA week Celebration

i. There shall be a NIMELSSA week Celebration each year which shall be on a date decided by the Executive Council.

ii. Eligibility to host NIMELSSA week celebration shall be the same as for Sub section 7.2 ii, iii of this constitution. Intention to host the NIMELSSA week shall be made known during the Convention.

iii. The period of NIMELSSA week Celebration shall be one (1) week.

Iva. Activities making NIMELSSA week celebration shall focus mostly on community development programs such as;

i. Vaccination/ Immunization campaigns.

ii. Mass Illiteracy campaigns.

iii. Lectures, workshops, Seminars and Talks.

b. Each Chapter must carry out such activities in line with the Convention directives.

c. There shall be a penalty imposed on any chapter that fails to observe the Celebration.

PART VIII

ARTICLE 8: ELECTIONS

Period of Election

i. Election shall be held during the REGIONAL Convention

ii. Election shall take place at least within (24) hours before the end of the convention.

8.2 Electoral Committee (EC)

a The Electoral Committee shall:

i. Be formed during the first plenary session of the convention.

ii. Comprise one representative of each chapter represented at the Convention whose chairman shall be from the SOUTHWEST REGIONAL Secretariat who in turn will approve his/her secretary.

bi. Members of the Electoral Committee shall neither vote nor be voted for during their tenure except in case of tie.

ii. No member of the Executive Council shall be a member of the electoral committee.

8.3 Duties and Powers of the Electoral Committee

The Electoral Committee shall

i. Have the Power to Screen all contestants.

ii. Set up electoral guidelines in accordance with the Provisions of this Constitution

iii. Submit a report of its activities to the incoming Executive Council

iv. On inauguration of newly elected officers, a motion for dissolution of the electoral committee shall be moved and such a motion must be duly seconded.

v. To be sponsored by the Out-going Executive and answerable to the Incoming Excos.

8.4 Rules of Elections

ai. Electoral campaigns shall be officially banned by the President or the Electoral committee chairman at the end of manifestoes Presentations.

ii. The ban on electoral campaign shall be officially lifted at the end of the first Plenary Session.

iii. All applicants shall reach the electoral committee at most twelve (12) hours after its formation.

iv. Each Chapter must be represented by an electoral college of four (4) members who will vote on behalf of the Chapter.

v. All out-going Executive members shall be allowed to vote

vi. Each Contestant shall be allowed to vote.

bi. Election shall be by a secret ballot system and the winner must obtain a simple majority of vote cast.

ii. When there is only one (1) contestant for a particular post, he/she must score at least forty percent of the total vote cast in his favour.

iii. Election shall be by list system for the Secretariat Officers; such a list must comply with the provision of Sub-article (5.3) of article 5.

iv. Members of the Secretariat officers shall come from the same Chapter.

ci. Other officers of the association shall be vote for individually.

ii. No member shall contest for more than one (1) post at a time.

iii. Where there is a tie, the electoral committee members shall cast their own vote and when there is still a tie the chairman or the outgoing President shall cast the deciding vote.

iv. Vote by Proxy shall not be allowed.

v. Non-medical laboratory science students are not allowed to vote, any chapter found in Association with such contestant stand disqualified by the Electoral Committee.

di. There shall be a manifesto session at a time decided by the election committee during which each contestant shall be given a limited time to present his/her manifesto.

ii. A specific number of questions, as will be decided by the electoral committee and the Excos shall be asked each contestant.

iii. Each contestant shall appoint a scrutinizer during the vote count.

iv. The Counting of ballot shall follow the Election.

v. Results of the election shall be announced by the Chairman of the electoral committee immediately after the vote count.

ei. When there are no candidates for a post, nomination shall be made on the Election day to fill the gap.

* A candidate may nominate him/herself.
* A candidate may be nominated by any member and if such a nomination is duly seconded, the candidate is eligible.

ii. Nominated Candidates shall be screened by the Electoral Committee.

iii. By-elections shall be organized by open ballot system to fill the gap. These elections shall be under the supervision of the electoral Committee.

* When only one candidate is nominated for a post, he/she must receive the support of the simple majority of members present.
* When only one candidate is nominated for a post, the winner is he who receives the support of a simple majority of members present.
* For a post, the winner is he who receives the support of a simple majority of members present.

iv. The electoral committee shall deem it necessary to invite and interview all the candidates.

v. The Electoral Committee reserves the right to disqualify any candidate who does not satisfy its requirement in accordance with the provisions of this constitution.

8.5 ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE

i. Qualification to contest election into an executive post is active membership for at least one academic session; such a member must be of proven moral uprightness.

ii. The Secretariat post shall be contested for by candidates who must have spent a semester in 300 or is in 400 levels or have a minimum of twelve (12) months to graduate.

iii. Other members having less than twelve months to graduate shall not be eligible for election into any post.

iv. No Contestant shall in any form be indebted to the Association.

v. Each applicant shall fill in application form and submit it to the electoral committee with a non-refundable amount of money, depending on individual post as may be decided by the committee.

vi. Each applicant shall purchase an application form from the electoral committee with a non refundable amount of money depending on individual post as may be decided by the committee.

vii. Each applicant shall attach photocopies of his/her student identity card or his/her admission letter from his training institution, nomination letter from the Chapter of origin and a copy of the Constitution.

Viiia. Shall be made open to all chapters to contest.

b. The candidate contesting for the post of the President must have a cumulative G.P of not less than 3.5.

c. While Candidates contesting for other posts must have cumulative G.P of not less than 2.5

PART IX

ARTICLE 9: ELECTION TRIBUNAL

i. An election tribunal shall be set up along with the electoral committee during the first Annual general meeting.

ii. The Election tribunal shall be constituted by a minimum of three and maximum of five (5) chapter Presidents selected by ballot amongst chapter Presidents present at the Convention.

iii. Members of the Election tribunal shall take judicial oath before the President during the First Annual General Meeting.

9.1 Powers and duties of the Election Tribunal

The Election tribunal shall:

i. Adjudicate on all matters arising from elections after the electoral committee has given its provisional position statements.

ii. However, a dispensation from subsection (9ii) of this article may be granted if the plantiff request a direct proceeding from the election tribunal in which case the election tribunal shall deliberate in the absence of the electoral committees position statement.

iii. Sit and deliberate on all matters brought to its instance and promulgate the decision within an allotted time of five (5) hours.

iv. (a) The decision of the Election tribunal stands to be without appeal.

(b) The Election tribunal is answerable to the out-going executive Council.

(c) The Election tribunal shall stand dissolved at the Conclusion of its assignment.

9.2 Matters arising from Election/Petitions

i. Any member not satisfied with the screening of contestants, conduct/results of elections may appeal in a written plaint addressed to the electoral committee copied to the out-going President.

ii. Any such plaint must reach the electoral committee at most two (2) hours after the Proclamation of results.

iii. The Electoral committee within two (2) hours of reception of a plaint should deliberate and make a provisional position statement.

iv. If the plaintiff is still not satisfied with the provisional position statement made by the electoral committee, he/she may appeal to the election tribunal.

9.3 Inauguration Ceremony

i. The Inauguration ceremony shall take place within the period of one month after the convention.

ii. The out-going executive council, in collaboration with the in-coming executive council shall arrange a befitting inauguration ceremony for the newly elected officers.

iii. The inauguration ceremony shall be presided over by a person not less than the head of department of college of College of Medical laboratory Sciences.

PART X

ARTICLE 10: AMENDMENT / ADDENDA/ REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION

10.1 Amendments

i. An amendment may be proposed by the general assembly if supported by two-third (2/3) majority of member present.

ii. An amendment may be proposed by a chapter if supported by two (2) other Chapters.

iii. All proposal for amendments shall be referred to the Provisional Executive Council (PEC) and after deliberation be forwarded to SOUTHWEST executive council for ascertaining that the proposed amendment does not conflict with any provisions of the constitution and for casting it in appropriate language so as to avoid reconcile potential conflict with other provision of the constitution.

Iv(a) The Provisional Executive Council (PEC) may appoint an ad-hoc committee o critically study the terms of the Proposed amendment(s).

(b) The committee shall submit its report to the Executive Council and shall be decided during its formation.

(c) The Executive council shall send a copy of such proposed amendment(s) to each Chapter.

(d) Amendment shall be adopted by two-third (2/3) majority vote of member present at a general meeting (A.G.M).

10.2 Addendum/Addenda

i. Addendum or addenda shall be made in any matter not covered by this constitution.

ii. Protocol for effecting addendum shall be same as for amendment.

10.3 Revision of the Constitution

a. The revision of the constitution may be proposed by chapter if supported by two (2) other chapters.

b. The Provisional Executive Council may also propose the revision of the constitution.

c. All proposals for revision of the constitution shall be referred to as the Provisional Executive Council for ascertaining their similarity as regards sub-section 10.1(iii) of this Constitution.

d. A proposal for this revision of the Constitution shall be considered suitable if it contains at least five (5) articles of this constitution which are inconsistent with the good conduct or good governance of the affairs of Association.

e. When a Proposal is considered acceptable a constitution review committee shall be determined accordance with the provision of sub-article 10.1(ii) and (iii).

PART XI

ARTICLE 11: FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION/ COMMITTEES

11.1 AUDIT Committee shall:

i. Once, at least (tenure),the account of the association shall be audited and correctness sheet ascertained by the audit committee.

The Audit shall:

* Consist of five (5) members from PEC
* Have powers to check the Financial Secretary and treasurer’s book, the association’s bank statements. Payment Voucher and receipt booklets.

11.2 Caretaker Committee

(a) Caretaker committee shall be set up b PEC following the impeachment of the entire Executive Council members which shall be in line with sub-article 12.2.

(b) Be made up of five (5) members from different chapters

However, the Chairman and the Secretary shall come from the same chapters.

ii. Assume powers and functions of the Executive Council

iii. Organize a convention within four (4) months to put in place new Executive Council.

iv. Perform such duties as may be prescribed by this Constitution or as from time to time may be assigned by the General Assembly.

v. The Caretaker committee shall stand dissolved after the completion of its assignment.

11.3 Editorial Board Committee

There shall be establishment of NIMELSSA Press, The Chairman shall be the head and functionaries as may be deemed fit.

i. The Editorial Board shall comprise of the following:

* The Editor-in-Chief (PRO)
* The Editor
* The Assistant Editor
* The Research Editor
* Art manager
* Advert Manager
* Chief Press Secretary
* Columnist
* Current Affairs Editor
* Sports Editor

ii. The Editorial Board shall be called the Diagnoscope ’’.

iii. Interested Candidates must apply for the office they wish to hold to the PRO.

iv. Post not applied for will be filled though appointment by the Editor-in-chief after the inauguration of the board.

v. The Editorial Board shall be located at the SOUTHWEST Secretariat

vi. Functions and Power

a. Publish the Association Magazine and other publication.

b. Strive to raise funds for the Association by way of advertisement and sales of Magazines.

c. The Editor-in-chief shall draw up the Functions of functionaries in the Editorial board and Submit a copy Executive Council.

d. The Editorial Board shall be in charge of NIMELSSA press board and shall publish articles in the Board.

e. They shall embark on any other functions delegated to them by the Excos or any part of this constitution.

f. The Association Magazine shall be called ‘’NIMELSSA DIGEST’’.

11.4 AD-HOC Committee/Task Forces

i. Ad-Hoc committee/task… for specific purposes may be set up by the general assembly, the executive council or the Provisional Executive Council.

ii. Their powers and duties shall be determined by the organ that sets them up unless otherwise stated.

iii. They stand dissolved as soon as their assignment is completed.

11.5 Electoral Committee

The Functions and powers of the electoral committee are defined in section (9.3) of this constitution.

11.6 Financial Administration

i. Each Chapter shall pay a yearly registration fee of thirty thousand (20,000.00)

ii. The registration fee may be amended from time to time as shall be decided by the Provisional Executive Council of the General body Assembly.

iii. Payment shall be effected within two (2) months of inauguration of the Executive Council unless otherwise required.

iv. The Executive Council may be on special circumstances levy all members of the Association but such decision must be voted by the provisional Executive Council.

v. The financial Secretary shall have power record account to keep with respect to:

* The assets and liabilities of the Association
* The Sums of money received and expended by the Association in respect which such receipt and expenditure take place.
* All sales and Purchase of good by the Association

vi. The Association shall maintain a bank Account with any reputable Commercial Bank.

PART XII

ARTICLE 12: MISCELLANEOUS

12.1 Discipline/Control

i. Discipline shall be standing virtue in all association activities and meetings.

ii. Any member who infringes any of the provisions of this constitution shall be discipline by the General Assembly on the recommendation of Provisional executive Council.

iii. Such a member shall be required to appear before the provisional executive Council for thorough investigations.

iv. Any affected member shall be given a chance to defend himself/herself before the General Assembly.

12.2 Impeachment

i. A motion for impeachment of an Exco can only be moved from his/her chapter, if ratified by the Chapters General Assembly and this shall be sent to the Provisional Executive Council and copied to other chapters.

ii. Such a motion shall be considered due for deliberation if;

a. Seconded and supported by two other chapters who shall similarly copy to other chapters.

b. Recommended by the Provisional Executive Council.

Iiia. The Provisional Executive Council shall convene an emergency (extraordinary) General Assembly after thirty (30) days of receipt of the second support of the motion for impeachment.

b. The venue for such General Assembly shall be the chapter proposing impeachment motion.

Iv. a Member of the Executive Council shall compulsorily attend the extraordinary General Assembly during which the officer at Proposed impeachment shall be given a chance to constitute a defense.

b. Removal of officer(s) shall be effected by a simple majority vote of the General assembly.

c. During the extraordinary session, a motion for impeachment may also be passed. This considered due if supported by two (2) other Chapters from different regions.

12.3 Cessation of Membership/ Resignation

i. A person shall cease to be a member if he/she have given notice in writing to the Executive Council of his/her intention to resign his/her membership, as from the date on which such a notice shall have been received.

ii. Any officer of the Association shall notify the SOUTHWEST Secretariat of his/her intention to resign at least thirty (30) days in advance.

iii. The SOUTHWEST secretariat, on reception of such a notification shall communicate to all chapters as soon as possible.

Iv.a Any member who shall cease to be a Executive Council Member shall not be received thereby from any liability to the Association in respect of any financial obligation/contract rights, if any which shall have becomes payable by him/her before the date of his/her resignation.

b. Any Exco/ PEC member who is considered to have written his/her final professional exams shall be liable to automatic resignation and such after shall be declared vacant.

c. Any member, who shall cease to be a member of the Association shall not be received thereby from any liability to the Association in respect of any subscription/ financial obligation which shall have become payable by him/her before the date of ceasing to be such a member, unless the Executive Council shall otherwise determine.

12.4 VACANCY

I. A vacancy in any office of the Association due to death, resignation , except otherwise provide shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Executive Council.

ii. The Executive Council may co-opted members(s) if half of the tenure of officers is over, otherwise it shall be filled by the General Assembly.

iii. Any member so co-opted shall retain his officer until the next General Assembly.

iv. Any co-opted member shall fill in Oath of office and submit it to the Executive Council.

12.5 Certificate of Merit

i. Members of the Association who served the Association meritoriously.

ii. Any member honorary member or patron/patroness.

12.6 Patrimony

NIMELSSA patrimony is formed by:

i. Properties and rights owned up to this date as well as those acquired in future.

ii. Properties given by the State Government, Individuals as well as other bodies.

iii. Donations and legates.

iv. Yields, products, rights and any other income due to investment.

v. Chapter registration fees and donation.

vi. Proceeds from social/ scientific activities.

vii. Any other property or right acquired.

12.7 Other Dispositions

i. NIMELSSA week celebration/ Convention shall be held during a tenure.

ii. All members of the Executive Council shall each prepare and submit a hand over during inauguration of the newly elected Executives.

iii. NIMELSSA magazine (NIMELSSA DIGEST) shall be published annually.

iv. Members of the SOUTHWEST Executive Council shall be remunerated.

v. There shall be a NIMELSSA Anthem.

**2022 CONSTITUTION REVIEW COMMITTEE(CRC)**