

**FINAL DRAFT REPORT ON THE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT
PROCEDURES OF THE CONSTITUTION OF IFECHUKWU AGE
GRADE OBIOFU AMOJI NENWE.**

*ON THE BASIS OF COMMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS FROM
MEMBERS OF THE AGE GRADE*

26th June, 2022

We the members of the age grade constitution amendment committee have resolved to amend some key portions of the constitution to meet with the current economic and social realities . These portions of the constitution that we have unanimously agreed to amend includes but not restricted to the following:

- **SECTION ONE: SUBSECTION FOUR - REGISTRATION.**
- **SECTION THREE: SUBSECTION ONE - DEFAULTERS AND PENALTIES.**
- **SECTION FOUR: SUBSECTION ONE - WELFARE.**

In SECTION ONE: SUBSECTION FOUR which is centered on the requirement for registration of new member's , we observed that some of our members who by reason of their faith and believe system do not take alcohol, were not captured by that provision. Any person who wishes to be a member of the Age Grade shall provide the following to the Age Grade:

❖ Others are:

- Kola nuts , garden eggs,
- 2 packets of biscuit,
- 4 gallons of palm wine.
- #beer and malt ; optional.

NB: We also advice that soft Drinks (malt) should be included to any section of our constitution that places priority only on alcohol. This is to ensure inclusiveness.

With respect to SECTION THREE: SUBSECTION ONE which is centered on **defaulters and penalties** and with what is currently happening in our age grade , we have come to the conclusion that the issue of Embezzlement of collective funds of the age grade should be addressed. In view of that we have resolved to take the following stand.

- ❖ Any member , group of members , none members or such , found culpable of any offense related to embezzlement of funds , after due investigation , should be penalized as follows:
 - He/ she is to be given a grace of six months maximum to pay up the embezzled amount. And while paying the same amount he/she is to pay a **fifty percent interest (50%)** which would stand at half of the said total amount embezzled. If by the end of the six months of grace the

- defaulter is yet to pay up, the age grade is empowered by this provision to confiscate and sell any property/properties of the defaulter.
- He/she should present a letter of apology to the age grade and signed by a guarantor stating that he/she would never commit such act.
- He/she would not be allowed to contest or be appointed for any position within the Age Grade for at least a period of **Ten years (10 years)**.

We also identified from comments and contributions, that the area of the constitution that requires much adjustment is **SECTION FOUR: SUBSECTION ONE - WELFARE**

We the members of the constitution amendment committee in consideration of some present time economic indices arrived at the following amendment.

Any member(s) of the Age grade that wish to invite the Age Grade to a celebration/ceremony will present the following items

- ❖ 1 crate of beer of any brand.
- ❖ 1 none alcoholic wine.

On the day of the celebration/ceremony the celebrant will present the following items to the Age Grade:

- ❖ One cooler of Rice and One (1) cooler of any other type of food.
- ❖ Two (2) crate of beer.
- ❖ One (1) crate of malt drink.

The Age Grade will present the following items to member (celebrant)

For marriage:

❖ Age grade shall attend the traditional marriage ceremony and present the following:

- Present fourteen gallons of palm wine (14).
- Present Sixty thousand naira (N60, 000). The said amount shall be realized by levy ; ensuring that every member of the age grade contributes a certain amount of money.
- And one (1) bottle of hot drinks to his member.

❖ Convening with a member (celebrant) on the night of the traditional marriage/wedding; “Marriage Night Party” shall henceforth be optional.

NB. For a Member to be entitled to his/her benefits he/she shall be financially up-to-date with his dues and contributions .

In a situation where a member wishes to have a night party ,the member (celebrant) shall present the following.

- ❖ One (1) cooler of Rice and any other food.
- ❖ Three (3) crates of beer of any brand.
- ❖ One (1) crate of malt drink of any brand.
- ❖ And two (2) gallons of palm wine

DEATH OF A MEMBER:

On the death of any member , the Age grade shall present the following .

- ❖ The sum of fifty thousand naira (#50,000.00).
the said amount shall be realized by levy ; ensuring that every member of the age grade contributes a certain amount of money.

- ❖ Ten thousand naira (#10,000.00) for casket.
- ❖ Two (2) crates of beer for condolence.
- ❖ One (1) crate of beer for those digging grave.
- ❖ During wake-keep, the age grade is shall take care of its refreshments which includes food and drinks.

DEATH OF A MEMBER PARENT:

On the death of a member(s) parent , the age grade present the following.

- ❖ The sum of Twenty Thousand naira (#20,000.00) to be giving to bereaved member.
- ❖ Two (2) crates of beer

NB - A member shall be given his/her entitlement only if he/she was a member of the Age Grade for a period not less than one (1) year.

The bride/bridegroom who wishes to use the Age Grade property without charges shall abide by the following rules:

- ❖ He/she shall be the actual celebrant of the ceremony.
- ❖ He/she shall be financially up-to-date.
- ❖ He/she shall guarantee for damages and pay for repairs when such occurs.

Any member(s) of the Age Grade that wishes to host the Age Grade as act of good will shall fulfill the following:

- ❖ Inform the Age Grade within a period not less than two (2) months
- ❖ Must get Approval from the Age Grade Executive.

NB. In a situation where the Chairman of the Age Grade is not from Obiofu Amoji Nenwe, the properties of the Age Grade should be kept in the care of any member of the Age Grade from Obiofu.

Lastly, from our findings we were able to come to the conclusion that these amended sections of the constitution are ones that requires immediate amendment.

We also recommend that the constitutions should be reviewed every 4 years to ensure that it does not fall out of touch with future realities.

Constitution Amendment Committee Members:

- **Chinka Uchenna** - **Chairman**
- **Ezeokendu Festus Uche** - **Vice Chairman**
- **Kingsley Ilo** - **member**
- **Okoro Stephen** - **member**
- **Okpara Ogechukwu** - **member**

