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 25, 2022

We the members of the age grade constitution amendment committee have resolved to amending 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 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.

* + - Age grade shall attend the traditional marriage ceremony and present the following:
* **Present fourteen gallons of palm wine (14).**
* **Present fifty thousand naira (N50, 000).**
* **And one (1) bottle of hot drinks to his member.**
  + **The Age Grade shall convene with the bride and bridegroom on the night of the traditional marriage/wedding; “Marriage Night Party”. And the bride and bridegroom shall present to the age grade, three (3) crates of beer of any brand, one (1) crate of malt drink of any brand, and a cooler of food of any type.**
  + **The bride / bridegroom shall be allowed to use the age grades properties without charges and to return it undamaged after use.**

**NB: A Bride/bridegroom 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 update.**
* **He/she shall guarantee for damages and pay for repairs when such occurs.**

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