

# The Constitution



Orisagamu-ewa

## Sagamu Union

(Great Britain)

*Motto: Love & Unity*

## THE TOWN SAGAMU - A Brief History

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**Sagamu** is the capital town of Remo Division in Ogun State of Nigeria since 1917. Earlier, during the amalgamation of 1914, Remo had been merged with Ijebu to form a division by the British colonial government for administrative purpose and made Ijebu Ode the Headquarter.

The town **Sagamu** is located in the middle of Lagos and Ibadan, Abeokuta and Ijebu Ode. **Sagamu** along with other towns that formed Remo division migrated from Remo quarters in Ille-Ife -*the ancestral home of all Yorubas*.

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According to history, the Remos, on leaving Ille-Ife first settled at Odo Esa -*the present heart of Ijebu Ode*- before they moved on to settle at Okun Owa. Having been in constant consultation with Ifa Oracle, the Remos moved on to Orile Oko before they finally reached and settled on the area called Orile Ofin where they found a miraculously seated pot with water running out of its mouth whilst went hunting in the north of the settlement. -*now Makun*. In fact, the name **Sagamu** was a grand modification of the original name coined with reference to the beauty of the miraculously found pot -*Orisa Gu Amu Ewu*.

The group later scattered and settled on different locations numbering 33. This is why they are fondly referred to -*tadap*- as Remo Metalegbon. Out of these 33 towns that formed the Remo Empire *today*, **Sagamu** is a composition of more than 10 towns. The towns all have their respective rulers, but the **Akarigbo** emerged as paramount on not only **Sagamu** as a unit, but on **Remoland** as a whole:

**Sagamu** is a town with its geographical land ending in the middle of the Lagoon in Lagos.

In the South, **Sagamu** is the biggest concentration of the Hausas from the Northern Nigeria -*trading in Kolanuts*. In Sabo-Sagamu, the Hausas have their own respective ruler.

Before the mid 1970s **the town** served as a major link between the former capital -*Lagos*- and the rest part of Nigeria except for the Egbas and Egbados.

In fact, the geographical location, the commercial potentiality and the social status of **Sagamu** were what convinced the Irakefe State Creation Panel in 1976 to recommend **Sagamu** as the most viable and suitable capital city for the proposed creation Ogun State before it was overturned by the then Ruling Military Council of Murtala-Obasanjo Government.

Today, **Sagamu** is assumed to be the 3rd largest town in Ogun State -*although some believe it is the second largest*. The town **Sagamu** stand the chance of becoming the 3rd biggest commercial town in the Yoruba enclave only if the community still realise and embrace the importance and advantages of being united and give no room for unnecessary and baseless internal feuding that should not be allowed to thrive in the interest of the generations yet unborn.

## THE UNION

**Sagamu Union** is a congregation -*of Sagamu sons and daughters living in the United Kingdom*- formed to project good image of Sagamu and promote it's interest and that of all Sagamites -*home and abroad*- in all aspects of life at all levels.

Though the Union was first launched in 1961, it was revived on January 30th 2000 with its first meeting sponsored by Alhaji Bashir Dauda -*Agbegile*.

The primary aim of the Union is to contribute -*by whatever appropriate means within it's capacity*- to the development of Sagamu and it's people -*socially, economically and politically*.

The secondary purpose which is very important and vital to the realisation of the primary aim, shall be as entrenched in this constitution:

- \* love
- \* oneness -*Unity*
- \* good relations and
- \* sense of duty towards one another, ensuring that all Sagamites living abroad -*UK most particularly*- are secured, happy and prosperous in whatever they do.

The Union is intended to be sectionalised into three main **inner circles**. Alongside the usual Executive Committee -*The Supremo*, these functional genera -*which shall comprise of committee members and those in the Union who shares interest and wishes to ally with the committees*- shall be referred to as:

- \* Social Committee and its group -*The Elites*
- \* Economic Committee and its group -*The Corporates*
- \* Political Committee and its group -*The Reformers*

They shall be responsible -*in all their functions*- to the Executive Committee -*the Supremo*- and more importantly, interact on various and interrelated issues.

Lastly, while the Executive committee co-ordinates the functions and activities of these special groups on all matters regarding the Union, it shall be responsible to the general house of the Union.

**Note:**  
*For the benefit of development and accuracy, the brief history is open to constructive criticism, omission, or addition. Whatever your view, opinion or contribution, therefore, they are most candidly, sincerely and wholeheartedly welcomed before the next review.*  
*Please send them to:*

***The Secretariat***

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### Preamble:

We, whereas, like minded sons and daughters of Sagamu do hereby desire to come together to form/found this Union to foster good and effective relations amongst all Sagamites to sponsor, promote and organise charitable and other good social and philanthropic causes amongst Ourselves.

It is, however, hereby desirous of providing ourselves with a constitution for the purposes of regulating our activities and the promotion of the aims, mission and objectives of the Union. Therefore, we hereby make, enact and give ourselves the following rules and regulations which shall be binding on each and every member of the Union.

The above mentioned three (3) arms of this constitution -social, economic and political- shall be carried out by the setting up of three (3) principal committees to look into and maintain those functions and to make recommendations -via the NEC or Executive Committee- to the General Meeting of members which shall have a final authority on the decision on how to approach or implement such issues as may affect the Union.

*However, the Union does not have any political affiliation to any political parties/formations in neither Nigeria nor Great Britain.*

All members MUST remember in their minds that what we are setting out in the Constitution are herculean tasks and we must live up to the aims and objectives of such tasks

#### ARTICLE 4:

##### *Officers or Executive Committee:*

The Constitution recognise and recommend the under-listed officers for the Union:

##### **Elective Officers:**

###### **1. The President**

The Vice President

###### **2. General Secretary**

Assistant General Secretary

###### **3. Financial Secretary**

Assistant Financial Secretary

###### **4. Social Secretary**

Assistant Social Secretary.

###### **5. Publicity Secretary**

Assistant Publicity Secretary

###### **6. Welfare Secretary**

Assistant Welfare Secretary.

###### **7. Treasurer**

Assistant Treasurer

###### **8. Chief Whip.**

##### **Officers by Appointment:**

###### **9. Legal Adviser**

*who is to be appointed or a qualified and competent person or member.*

###### **10. Protocol Monourary Adviser.**

###### **11. Auditors.**

#### Officers by Recommendation:

##### 12. Ex- Officio Members (*2 members to be recommended*)

#### ARTICLE 5:

##### **Patrons:**

(a) His Royal Majesty, The Akarigho of Remoland shall be the Late Grand Patron of the Union.

(b) Other Patrons:- All other traditional OBAs in Sagamu shall be Patrons of the Union.

(c) Any other Patrons/Matrons: may be recommended by members or chosen by NEC amongst some distinguished and influential personalities of Sagamu origin who may contribute to the pursuit of the aims and objectives of the Union.

#### Youth Forum:

To promote youth forum of the Union and hold carnivals, fun fares and recreational activities for them and hold photo session in their honour. The age shall be below 18 year old.

#### ARTICLE 6:

##### **Tenure of Officer:**

All Officers of the Union shall be elected and shall serve a period or term of 2 years at the helm of affairs of the Union. Such incumbent officers shall have the privilege of standing for re-election for a last second term of another 2 years due to his outstanding and effective leadership and performance.

##### **(a) Dissolution of Executive Committee:**

The Executive Committee shall be dissolved if two thirds majority of members present at a general meeting or emergency general meeting pass a vote of no confidence on it.

##### **(c) Caretaker Committee**

Where the Executive Committee is dissolved as provided for above, a Caretaker Committee of seven (7) members shall be set up to take charge of the affairs until the next AGM.

*These shall consist of: The Chairman, General Secretary and all first Secretaries.*

## ARTICLE 7:

### Powers, Duties and Responsibilities of Officers:

#### (a) The President

- (i) shall be the Chief Executive of the Union.
- (ii) shall preside at all General/Executive Committee Meetings of the Union as well as AGM.
- (iii) shall have the power to direct the Gen. Sec. to summon a meeting if and when necessary.
- (iv) shall have a casting vote whenever there is a tie in elections.
- (v) shall hand over properties of the Union in his/her possession to the General Secretary within seven days of resignation, loss of office, or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (b) Vice President

- (i) shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties and deputise for him/her in the latter's absence.
- (ii) shall perform other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the President or the Executive Committee.
- (iii) shall hand over to the General Secretary within seven days, the properties of the Union in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office, or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (c) The General Secretary

- (i) shall in consultation with the President co-ordinate the work of all other officers of the Union.
- (ii) shall have responsibilities of running the secretariat of the Union.
- (iii) shall issue circulars and agendas for meetings as well as prepare and keep minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee, the General meetings and AGM.
- (iv) shall keep up to date, register of members and issue membership certificates/cards.
- (v) shall hand over to the President within seven days, the properties of the Union in his/her possession on registration, or loss of office or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (g) Social Secretary:

- (i) shall be responsible for the arrangements and supervision of all social ceremonies and engagements of the Union.
- (ii) shall be responsible for organising the social and catering services for the AGM or general meetings.
- (iii) shall be the chairperson of the Social/Welfare ad-hoc Committee of the Union
- (iv) shall hand-over to the General Secretary within seven days, the properties of the Union in his/her possession and shall account for any moneys, i.e. cash or cheques collected or left over after an engagement(s)/activities/events, fanfares, carnivals etc. in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office, or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (d) Assistant General Secretary:

- (i) shall assist the General Secretary in the performance of his/her duties.
- (ii) shall deputise for the Gen. Secretary in the latter's absence
- (iii) shall perform other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the President, the General Secretary or the Executive committee.
- (iv) shall hand over to General Secretary within seven days, the properties of the Union in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office, or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (e) The Financial Secretary:

- (i) shall collect all moneys (i.e. Membership fees, Subscription, Levies, etc.) due to the Union and issue receipts for monies so collected.
- (ii) shall hand all the moneys so collected to the Treasurer within seven days of collection and notify the General Secretary of all collections.

- (iii) shall be responsible for the sale and/or distribution of Union's souvenirs, publications etc.
- (iv) shall keep all receipts received from the Treasurer for moneys handed over to him/her.
- (v) shall make available within seven days, the financial records and books of the Union on demand by the Auditor.
- (vi) shall hand over the General Secretary within seven days the properties of the Union in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office or at the end of his/her term of office.

#### (f) The Treasurer:

- (i) shall acknowledge receipts of all moneys handed over to him/her by the Financial Secretary or any other person for and on behalf of the Union.
- (ii) shall keep a true and accurate account of all incomes and expenditures.
- (iii) shall make available to the Auditor within seven days of demand, all records, accounts, and receipts for the purpose of auditing.
- (iv) shall deposit within seven days, all moneys of the Union in his/her possession into the Union's bank account in his/her charge as decided by the Union, and/or approved by the Executive Committee
- (v) shall settle all financial claims duly authorised by the Executive Committee and/or approved by the President.
- (vi) shall keep an imprest account of not more than £100.00 (one hundred pounds only)
- (vii) shall present an annual report including the audited statement of account to the Union.
- (viii) shall hand over to the General Secretary within seven days, all properties of the Union as well as any money, imprest in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office or at the end of his/her term of office.

**(i) Welfare Secretary:**

- (i) shall seek for the welfare of the Union members at all times.
- (ii) shall ascertain reasons for absence from meeting and arrange if and when necessary, welfare visits to incapacitated members of the Union.
- (iii) shall, through the welfare committee, recommend or arrange relieve for incapacitated members of the Union if need be.
- (iv) shall handover to the General Secretary within seven days, the properties of the Union in his/her possession and shall account for any valuables of the Union in his/her possession on resignation, loss of office, or at the end of his/her term of office.

**(j) Chief Whip:**

- (i) shall be responsible for the maintenance of discipline and orderliness during meetings.
- (ii) shall be responsible for the grant of permission for temporary absence during meetings.
- (iii) shall pursue/ensure that all fines due to unacceptable behaviours during meetings are paid.

**(k) All Other Assistant Secretaries:**

- (i) shall assist the Secretaries in the performance of their respective duties, deputise for them in their absence and perform other duties as assigned by their first Secretaries respectively or by the General Secretary or by the Executive Committee.
- (ii) shall hand-over to the General Secretary within seven days, the properties of the Union in their respective possessions while they account for any valuables of the Union in their possessions on resignation, loss of office, or at the end of their respective term of office.

**(l) Auditor:**

- (i) shall make regular checks on the financial records of the Union as deemed necessary and liaise with external auditors whenever the need arises.
- (ii) shall be responsible for the audit of the Union's accounts, submitting such audited annual financial report to the Union not later than one calendar month after the dissolution of the house.

**(m) Legal Adviser:**

- (i) shall be responsible for expertise advise and representation to the Union on all legal matters and political issues.

**ARTICLE 8:**

**Election of Officers:**

- (a) Unless and until otherwise determined by the Union at the AGM, the number of officers to be elected shall be as stated in article 4

- (b) The age of any member who shall be elected the President, Vice President, shall not fall below the age of 40 years. All other officers of the Union of shall not be affected by this rule or provision of the Constitution.

- (c) **Electoral Committee:** There shall be an ad-hoc electoral committee consisting of five (5) members who are not interested in or sponsoring of any candidate for any office. The Chairperson of the electoral committee shall be elected at the general meeting preceding the AGM.

**(d) The Electoral Committee shall:**

- (i) receive and scrutinise all nomination papers filed by candidates,
- (ii) confirm the eligibility of candidates to the AGM,
- (iii) conduct elections at the AGM and have the results announced by the Returning Officer immediately the elections are concluded.

- (e) Two (2) ex-officio members of the Executive Committee shall be nominated and elected at the AGM.

**ARTICLE 9:**

**Election Procedures:**

- (a) The officers of the Union and members of the Executive Committee shall be elected/appointed at every 2 years. Annual General Meeting.

- (b) No member that is of less than one year's continuous membership of the union shall be eligible for election as an officer or member of the Executive Committee.
- (c) All those who are in arrears in their financial obligation for three months or more and/or who did not record up to 1/3 attendance at meetings during the outgoing year shall not be eligible to be voted for as officers of the Union.

- (d) Any vacancy shall be filled by a bye-election at a general meeting of the Union in accordance with Election Procedure.

- (e) Nomination forms shall be available to candidates seeking elective posts at least two (2) months to the AGM, for a fee to be decided by the Union, if applicable.

- (f) The candidates shall return the completed nomination forms to the Electoral Committee not later than three (3) weeks before AGM.

(g) Each nomination shall be sponsored by a member and seconded by at least one other financial member who shall not be eligible to sponsor any other candidate for the same post.

(h) At the appropriate time and in accordance with the agenda for the AGM a resolution for dissolution of the Executive committee to declare all office vacant in readiness for elections shall be made.

(i) The chairperson of the electoral committee takes over from the Union President immediately the Executive committee is dissolved for the purpose of conducting elections.

(j) All voting shall be by secret ballot.

(k) During the elections the candidate that obtains a simple majority of votes cast shall be declared duly elected.

(l) All petitions relating to the elections shall get or reach the electoral committee not later than (2) weeks from date of elections.

(m) Decision on all such petition(s) shall be taken at the general meeting succeeding the AGM (at which the election was conducted), based on the recommendations of the Electoral Committee.

## ARTICLE 10:

### Vacation of Office/Disqualification of officers:

The office of any officer shall be vacant if:-

- (a) He/she resigns his/her office in writing to the General Secretary. The Executive Committee may withhold acceptance of any resignation/withdrawal until all issues are resolved. On acceptance of resignation, all the Unions funds and properties have to be returned and all rights to the use of the Union office, emblem and other insignia have to be surrendered.
- (b) He/she absents himself from three consecutive statutory meetings of the Executive Committee, after due notices have been received by him/her and without the Chairperson's prior approval.
- (c) If the officer is suspended or expelled from The Union for reasons of fraud or gross misconduct, or if a vote of no confidence is passed on him/her. He/she shall settle all indebtedness and all properties of the Union shall be returned.

## ARTICLE 11:

### Quorum:

At meetings of Executive Committee, more than one-third (1/3) of members, including the President or the Vice, and General Secretary or the Assistant, shall form a quorum.

(b) At the AGM or General Meetings of the Union, more than 1/3 of expected members including three (3) officers (i.e. President or the Vice, General Secretary or the assistant and any other officer) shall form a quorum.

(c) At an Emergency or an Extraordinary general meeting of the Union, more than 1/3 of expected members shall form a quorum.

(d) All decisions shall be taken by a show of hands, unless the majority of members desire a ballot.

(e) If an Executive meeting, AGM, General or Emergency general meeting is adjourned to such other date for want of quorum, the meeting shall stand adjourned to such other convenient day or time as the President or members present may determine by simple majority, and at such other adjourned date, the meeting shall hold regardless, provided of course, that the notices for such meetings were properly and adequately circulated.

## ARTICLE 12:

### Administration:

The functional organs of the Union shall be:-

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Union -AGM.
- (b) The General Meeting of the Union.
- (c) Emergency or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Union.
- (d) The Executive Committee of the Union.
- (e) The Sagamu Development Fund Committee
- (f) Such other Committees as may be appointed by the Union.
- (g) The Supreme Authority of the Union shall be vested in the AGM and General Meeting of the Union.

### (A) The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Union:-

- (i) shall be held at the end of each year or any other date as determined by the Union.
- (ii) Procedure of the AGM:-

- (a) AGM shall be convened by the Gen. Secretary (in consultation with the Union), by giving not less than fourteen (14) days notice in writing to all members. A copy each of the audited statement of account and balance sheet shall accompany the notice of AGM.

(b) the President or in his absence, the Vice President shall preside at every AGM.  
If neither the President nor the Vice President is present, the meeting shall elect  
a member to act as Chairperson.

(c) Every member present at the AGM shall have full voting rights.

(d) Decisions at the AGM shall be taken by simple majority votes of members who  
are present.

(e) Proper minutes shall be recorded of all resolutions and proceedings of the meeting  
and every minute adopted at a subsequent meeting and shall be signed by President  
and Gen. Secretary, while there shall be sufficient evidence of the facts stated  
therein.

**(iii) Business of the AGM:-** The Annual General Meeting shall be to:

(a) Consider the annual reports submitted by Executive for the preceding year.

(b) Consider the state of Finances of the Union together with the audited accounts of the  
preceding year for acceptance.

(c) Debate and pass resolution on matters relating to the Union aims and objectives.

(d) Elect a new Executive Committee and Officers to the Union, as well as the board  
of trustees if applicable.

(e) Appoint Auditors for the Union, or extend the period of appointment of Auditors,  
or otherwise terminate their appointment if applicable.

(f) Empower the Executive Committee to act on matters affecting the aims and  
objectives of the Union and shall be ratified by the members at any future meeting.

(g) Consider matters referred to it by the Executive Committee, and any other sub  
committee of the Union.

(h) Review the Constitution as and when considered necessary by the Union.

(i) Transact any other business according to the stated agenda for the AGM.

**(B) The General Meeting of the Union:**

(i) shall be held monthly or as frequently determined by the Executive Committee of  
the Union.

**(ii) Procedures of the General Meetings:**

(a) Circulars of all general meetings shall be forwarded to all members by the General  
Secretary or his Assistance.

(b) The President or in his absence, the Vice President shall preside at every general  
meeting.

(c) Every member shall be represented at all general meetings, who shall have full  
voting rights.

(d) Decisions at any general meeting shall be taken by a simple majority of votes.

**(iii) Business of the General Meeting:** The General Meeting shall:-

(a) Debate and pass resolutions on matters relating to the union aims and objectives.

(b) Consider matters that may be referred to it by the Executive Committee of the union.

**(C) Emergency or Extraordinary General Meeting of the Union:**

(i) An Emergency or Extraordinary general meeting of the union shall be summoned by  
the President, or by a resolution of the Executive Committee, or through a request to  
the General Secretary by a member supported by at least (10) other members of the  
Union.

(ii) In the event of officers responsible for summoning any Meetings of The Union  
(including the AGM) failing to do so within three months of such meeting becoming  
due, a minimum of five (5) member shall reserve the right thereafter, to convene such  
a meeting in writing. The circular for the meeting shall be jointly signed by the  
Chairperson or General Secretary of the (10) members and such a meeting shall be  
held under the Chairperson or a Patron or Matron of the Union. All decisions taken  
at such a meeting shall be valid and binding on all members.

(iii) Decisions at such a meeting shall be by simple majority votes of members present.

(iv) At least seven (7) days notice in writing shall be given to all members for such a  
meeting.

**(D) The Executive Committee:**

(i) The Executive Committee of the Union shall consist of the following officers, duly  
elected at the AGM:-

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) General Secretary
- (d) Assistant General Secretary
- (e) Legal Adviser
- (f) Financial Secretary,
- (g) Asst. Financial Secretary
- (h) Treasurer,
- (i) Publicity Secretary
- (j) Asst. Publicity Secretary
- (k) Welfare Secretary
- (l) Asst. Welfare Secretary.

- (m) Social Secretary.
- (n) Asst. Social Secretary.
- (o) Chief Whip.
- (p) Protocol Honourary Advisor
- (q) Auditors
- (r) Ex-Officio Members (2 members to be recommended).

The officers elected into the Executive Committee shall hold office for a term of two years, except if re-elected for another term. No member of the Executive Committee shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms of 2 years.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in a month.

#### **(ii) Procedures/Functions of the Executive Committee:-**

The Executive Committee shall:

- (a) be the principal organ of the Union for the purpose of regulating and managing the affairs of the Union generally;

- (b) formulate policies of the Union for the approval of members at a general meeting and/or AGM, and execute same on approval.

- (c) make rules and regulation for the proper running and functioning of the Union, on matters not provided for in this constitution. Such rules and regulation shall come into effect after they have been approved at the general meeting or AGM of the Union.

- (d) pursue the aims and the objectives of the Union, based on decisions taken by The Union members at general meetings.

- (e) take decisions on urgent matters affecting the Union on its behalf and report such decisions to the next general meeting for review and/or ratification.

- (f) the Executive Committee may set up standing or ad-hoc committee(s) as considered necessary from time to time. The decision(s) of any such committee shall only constitute recommendation(s), which shall be subject to the ratification of the Executive Committee and/or the Union at general meetings.

### **ARTICLE 13:**

#### **Finance:**

- (a) The funds of the Union shall be raised from the following sources:-  
 (1) Membership Fee.  
 (2) Monthly contribution of £10 per member.  
 (3) Annual development levy by members  
 (4) Any other general or special levy as may be decided from time to time by the Executive Committee, General Meeting or AGM.  
 (5) Donations from members and other organisations and individuals.

13.

- (6) Proceeds from fines, social functions and other fund-raising activities organised by the Union

- (b) Should any member fail to pay his or her dues, the Financial Secretary shall report accordingly to the Executive Committee and such defaulting member shall be notified.
- (c) Any member who is expelled under section D above may re-apply to join the Union as a new member and if admitted, in addition to whatever condition which might be imposed by the Executive committee, shall pay the prescribed membership fee.

Any removal of a member by the Union shall be notified to the affected member and other members of the Union.

### **ARTICLE 14:**

#### **Bank Accounts:**

The Union Bank Accounts shall be:-

- (a) The Union main Bank Account.

- (b) Any other Bank Accounts that may be approved by the Union on the recommendation of the committee

- (c) Apart from the petty cash which the Treasurer is authorised to keep of £50 or £100. All Union funds shall be kept in an account (or accounts) with any reputable bank(s) approved by the Union.

- (d) The treasurer shall deposit all Union monies into designated account(s) within seven (7) day from the date of receipt of such monies.

- (e) Authorised withdrawals from the bank accounts shall be made through cheques jointly signed by the President, the General Secretary and the Financial Secretary.

Any 2 of them are enough to sign for any money on behalf of the Union. Signatories are subject to change and this change shall be notified to the Bank by the General Secretary accordingly.

### **ARTICLE 15:**

#### **Discipline and Attendance at Meetings:**

- (a) Any member of the executive committee who without reasonable cause acceptable to the committee/Union, absent from three consecutive meeting of the committee shall be deemed to have vacated his seat and shall be reported to the general meeting for replacement or any other appropriate decision.
- (b) If in the opinion of the Executive committee the conduct of any member is such as to be detrimental to the interests of the Union. Such that can tarnish the reputation or name of the Union, or is so grave and weighty in any other manner or respect as to be obvious from the estimation of members that such a member should not be associated with.

14.

The Union may suspend or expel the member after due inquiry which shall be set up by the general meeting and this inquiry shall observe the rules of natural justice and fair play.

- (c) The inquiry committee shall report and make recommendations to a subsequent General meeting for any appropriate disciplinary action against the member and such General meeting may decide the matter as it deems fit.

- (d) Any member expelled or called upon to resign or willingly resigns shall forfeit any subscriptions, donations or membership fee paid by him or her.

- (e) If any member does not attend two consecutive General meetings, a letter shall immediately be written by the Secretariat to the member to bring the fact of such absence to his/her notice.

**(f) Membership of the Union shall be cease:-**

- (i) When a member withdraws his/her membership by writing to the secretary of the Union
- (ii) When he or she ceases to discharge his or her financial and moral obligations to the Union without any reasonable cause.

Therefore it is hereby a condition of this constitution that all Sagamites are to be good ambassadors of Sagamu in order to strengthen ourselves educationally, socially, culturally and politically, all aspirations of all Sagamites in all spectrum of life and propound good ethical guidelines to all Sagamites. It is therefore, very vital to this constitution, that all Sagamites **MUST**

- (a) be honest in dealing with each other and/or the general public in Great Britain
- (b) make friends amongst each other and not enemies.
- (c) not engage in activities that will jeopardise the interest of members and must desist from any form of fraudulent activities/inclinations towards each other.

It is pertinent to the Union that all or any member of this Union must REPORT such person/manner to the NEC through the medium of petition and such mentor(s) will be expelled from the Union after thorough investigations into the disputes by an Ad. Hoc Committee set up by NEC.

## **ARTICLE 16:**

### **Financial Year:**

The financial year of the Union shall be from 1st January to the 31st December.

## **ARTICLE 17:**

### **Board of Trustees:**

- (a) (i) There shall be ten-member Board of Trustees appointed at the AGM and they shall be known as the Registered Trustees of the Union.
- (ii) The Trustees shall comprise of the Grand Patron, two (2) Patrons, three (3) eminent indigenes of Sagamu who may not be members of the Union.

(b) Function of the Trustees:- all properties or properties acquired by the Union in realisation of promotion of its Motto, Purpose, Aims and Objectives, shall be vested in the Trustees and shall invest its proceeds for the benefit of the Union.

- (c) The Trustees may hold office for life, but a Trustee shall cease to hold office if he/she:-

- (i) Resigns his/her office.
- (ii) Become incapacitated.
- (iii) Is legally declared bankrupt.
- (iv) Is convicted of a criminal offense involving dishonesty by a court of competent jurisdiction.

- (v) Is recommended for removal from office by a Board of Trustees' majority vote of members present at the AGM

- (d) Upon a vacancy occurring in the Board of Trustees, another eligible member of the registered Trustees of the Union shall be appointed at the next AGM.

- (e) The Trustees shall have common seal. The seal can be metal or wood and will be kept in the custody of the Gen. Secretary who shall produce it when required for use by the Trustees.

- (f) All document to be executed by the Trustees shall be signed by not less than six (6) members and sealed with the common seal.

## **ARTICLE 18:**

### **Sub-Committees:**

- (a) The Union and/or the Executive Committee may from time to time appoint from among its members such sub-committees as it may deem fit.
- (b) The Union and/or the Executive Committee may refer matters or delegates specific powers and duties as it may deem fit to such sub-committees from time to time.
- (c) The President and the Gen. Secretary may attend meetings of any sub-committee in advisory capacity only.  
The sub-committee shall report its investigation to the Union's Executive and its final decisions shall be taken by Union at General meeting

## **ARTICLE 19:**

### **Executive Committee's Power To Make Regulations:**

- (a) The Executive Committee shall have power from time to time to make regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution for the management of the Union.
- (b) Any such regulations proposed by the Executive Committee shall be binding on any member of the Union unless they have not been circulated to members at least 14 days prior to the general meeting where it will be ratified.

(c) All such regulations recommended by the Executive Committee during it's tenure shall be reported by the general secretary at the following general meeting when they may be confirmed or amended or repealed by simple majority of the members present at the meeting.

## ARTICLE 20:

### Interpretation of the Constitution:

- (a) The decision of the general meeting and/or AGM shall be final on issues not covered by the Constitution.

(b) Where there are ambiguities/unclear clauses in this Constitution or it's application, clarification and decision shall be by consensus of the members at general meeting of members and/or AGM.

(c) Any dispute that cannot be resolved at the general meeting or AGM, it shall be referred to the Patrons and/or Board of Trustees for a final decision which shall be binding on all parties concerned.

## ARTICLE 21:

### Amendment to the Constitution:

No alteration, addition or amendment to this constitution shall be made except by a resolution carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present at any General meetings. The Notice of a motion for amendment of any of the provisions of this constitution shall have particulars of the proposed alteration, addition or amendment. At least thirty (30) days notice of any motion for addition, alteration or amendment shall be given before the Annual General Meeting.

Such additions, alteration or amendment shall not take effect unless the same have been previously submitted to and approved by the general meeting of members.

## ARTICLE 22:

Birth  
Marriage  
Death and Funeral Ceremonies of a member  
Or any Special Occasions.

The Union shall play a prominent role in such event or events.

## ARTICLE 23:

### Honours Register and Photographs:

- (a) Recognition should be accorded to the founding fathers of the Union led by the Grand Patron and the former Presidents for their selfless service in founding the Union.

- (b) They shall be maintained at the Headquarter of the Union.

A Register to be called "SAGAMU UNION (GB) REGISTER OF HONOURABLE MEMBERS" and that of blacklisted members be created if necessary.  
The names in the Honour Register shall be engraved in marble on a conspicuous part of a wall at the Union's Headquarters.  
Photographs of specially honoured members as well as those of blacklisted members of the Union will be allowed to be displayed at the Union's Headquarters.

## ARTICLE 24:

### Standing Orders:

#### (a) Procedures for Induction Ceremony and Procession:

(i) Before the induction ceremony starts, all old members and those to be admitted and all guests should remain seated.

(ii) The President, Executive Officers, Grand Patron, Patrons and Trustees, Natural Rulers, Elders and Medalists shall walk in solemn procession to the Table prepared for them.

(iii) All the rest of members and invitees will remain standing until the National Officers etc. have walked in and taken seats.

(iv) A popular tune of the Sagamu Union as may be designed, shall be sung by everyone after which all the members will then sit down.

(v) The Union Secretary shall introduce the National Officers, Trustees, Patrons, Elders and Natural Rulers present at the occasion.

(vi) At branch induction ceremonies, the Chairman of the branch shall lead the procession in case of an existing branch without prejudice to subsection (ii) and (vii) above. But the procession shall be led by the President in the case of a new branch induction ceremony.

(vii) The order of sitting at all engagements of the Union shall be:

- (i) The President
- (ii) The Vice President
- (iii) The Grand Patron and the Registered Trustees
- (iv) The Patrons
- (v) The General Secretary
- (vi) The Union Legal Adviser

Speeches: The Union Chairman or in the case of new branches, the President will present a short address in the form of opening speech before the induction ceremony. All formal speeches will be completed before entertainment.

With the exception of the members of the National Executive Committee and the branch Committee who will take precedence over all other members at the National and branch levels respectively. General Meeting. Such addition, alteration or amendment shall not take effect unless the same shall have been previously submitted to and approved by the members at the meeting.

(b) The wives shall accompany their husbands. It shall be the responsibility of Protocol Officers to ensure that the order is strictly maintained.

(c) A person holding two offices or more shall be given a position which is higher or the highest in the order of protocol.

## ARTICLE 25:

### Induction Ceremony:

(a) Reading of the Aims and Objectives of the Union and the swearing-in shall be done by the National Legal Adviser (in case of New Branch Induction Ceremony) or by the branch Legal Adviser in case of old branch induction ceremony. Where there is no Legal Adviser present any Legal Practitioner present who is a member shall be appointed to act for and on behalf of the Legal Adviser.

(b) Questions to be put to new members:

- (i) Do you believe in the aims and objectives of the Union - Yes.
- (ii) Will you abide by the rules and regulations of Sagamu Union -Yes.
- (iii) Do you wish to be admitted as a member of Sagamu Union -Yes.

(c) Solemn declaration by New Members with right hand raised up and palm facing the President or the Chairman. The Wife should place her right hand with palm stretched on the right shoulder of the husband. The following words shall be repeated by the New Members after Legal Adviser.

“I, ..... Who on today the ...../ ..... 20.....

(Name of Inductee)

Day of ..... Year ....., admitted as

a member of Sagamu Union do hereby solemnly declare and affirm that as long as I remain a member of Sagamu Union, I shall abide by its constitution, rules and regulations.

“So help me God”.

(d) Admission Ceremony: The President or the Chairman of the Union, while shaking the new member says: “Chief, Mr/Mrs ..... I confer on you the

membership of the Sagamu Union (Great Britain) and present to you your membership certificate.

“I wish you good health, long life and prosperity”.

(e) Toast of New Members: To be proposed by a nominated member, after which the old members will drink to the toast of the new members who will remain seated.

## ARTICLE 26:

### Special Clause:

(i) THE INCOME AND PROPERTY of the Union whatsoever derive shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Union as set forth in this constitution.

And no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the members of the Union. (ii) PROVIDED that nothing herein shall prevent the good faith, or reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of the Union or to any member of the Union in return for any services actually rendered to the Union, but so that no member of the Council of Management of Governing Body shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Union, paid by fees; and that no remuneration or other benefit in money shall be given by the Union, to any member of such council of Governing Body except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses or reasonable and proper rent for premises leased, or let to Sagamu Union of Great Britain

## ARTICLE 27:

### The Union's Anthem or Song:

The Union shall have an Anthem or a Song that shall be song or played at all occasions of the Union.

## ARTICLE 28:

### Dissolution of the Union:

(a) A motion for the dissolution of the Union must be filed with the General Secretary and circulated to members not less than three months before the date of the Annual General Meeting at which the motion or resolution is to be taken on the dissolution of the Union.

(b) The Union shall not be dissolved unless the motion or resolution is carried by 78 (seven-eighth) of the total membership of the Union, through a ballot.

(c) For the purpose of this article, this shall follow the amendments of the constitution procedures, and each member shall have one vote only.