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THE CONSTITUTION

OF THE

“SIMBU ADVENTIST STUDENTS ASSOCIATION”

(SASA)



Revised and Amended Thursday, Nov 25, 2010

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PREAMBLE

ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

We, the members of the Association, united as Seventh - Day Adventist students of Simbuan origin and association hereby:

- pay homage to God and acknowledge Him as the only true creator and God;
- recognize and accept Him as the Divine Source and Strength of our very existence and Sustainer of all life;
- believe and accept the Bible as the inspired Word of God;
- recognize the writings of Mrs. Ellen G. White as sacredly inspired and relevant teachings which expound upon the Holy Scriptures;
- recognize the Seventh-Day Adventist Church as the true and the last day remnant Church of God;
- acknowledge and accept the “Twenty-Eight Fundamental Beliefs” and all other biblical teachings and practices of the Church;
- Pledge respect for the authority and leadership of the Church;
- Recognize and accept the Great Gospel Commission to preach about the love of Jesus Christ and of His imminent Second Coming to all people;
- Respond to God’s call and accept the challenge to be true witnesses of Jesus Christ to all the people in villages, streets, settlements, towns, cities, suburbs, offices, organizations and institutions;
- Give thanks and praise to God for the rugged and mountainous beauty and the rich natural and uniquely pleasant cultural heritage of Simbu, which gives us an identity as people, and especially for our civility and friendly hospitality.

HEREBY ESTABLISH, ADOPT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS REVISED CONSTITUTION WHICH REPEALS AND REPLACES ANY OTHER SUCH DOCUMENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND COMES INTO EFFECT ON **24th December, 2010** AT THE 22ND NONDUGUL SASA CONVENTION.

ARRANGEMENTS OF SECTIONS

SECTIONS:

1. INTERPRETATION

In this Constitution, unless the contrary intention appears-

“absolute majority vote” means seventy five (75) percent total vote of all voting members present or their representative basis;

“AGM” means the Annual General Meeting at the convention or representative meeting of 75 percent of the total financial members.

“alter” includes repeal, amend, modify, suspend or add to the words or effect of a section or sub-section;

“ASA” or “ASAs” means the Adventist Students Associations in respective institutions

“Association” means the Simbu Adventist Students Association (SASA)

“ATSA” means the Adventist Tertiary Students Association

“Chaplain” refers to the ordained pastor and counselor based in Kundiawa and selected by the EHSM to cater for the spiritual needs of SASA.

“Church” means the Seventh-Day Adventist Church; and includes a local Church or Mission and the Papua New Guinea Union Mission or the official leadership of Mission or any local churches and missions;

“Church Leaders” or “Church Officers” includes Local Mission Leaders, District Directors, Church Pastors, Ministers, Elders, Deacons, or any other Church officers having administrative and or ordained authority of the Church;

“convention” or “conventions” means the annual year end meeting for SASA;

“Committee” means the Executive Committee of the Association.

“EHSM” means the Eastern Highlands Simbu Local Mission of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church;

“Executive Committee” refers to the committee composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary General, Treasurer and other Office Bearers of SASA;

“executive meetings” refers to the meeting between the executive committee members;

“Great Gospel Commission” means the divine commission from Mt. 24: 14 to go out and preach the word of God with Love to the people of Simbu and in our respective institutions of studies;

“Ingu Ombuno” is the name for the Association’s official newsletter;

“Ingu Ombuno Foundation” (IOF) is the independent business arm of the Association;

“member” or “members” includes student members, pioneers, other financial members as well as those expressing interests to join and ardent supporters of the Association whose names appear on the register of members;

“MTP” means the Medium Term Plan of the Association operated by the IOF.

“National Executives” means the President, Vice-President, Secretary General, and Treasurer of the Association.

“PNG” means the sovereign country of Papua New Guinea

“PNGATSA” means the Papua New Guinea Adventist Tertiary Students Association of which this Association (SASA) affiliates to;

“PNGSASA” means the members of SASA all over Papua New Guinea;

“Simbu” means the Simbu Province of Papua New Guinea;

“Simbuan” means to belong to Simbu Province;

“SASA” means the Simbu Adventist Students Association;

“SDA” means the Christian Denomination of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church;

“Spirit of the Constitution” means whatever good and appropriate that this Constitution stands for aligned with the Associations’ Objects and Purposes;

“sub-associations” includes the institutional SASA members from the respective primary, high school, secondary and tertiary institutions of the Simbu Province and around PNG;

“societies” includes institutional SASA members along with pioneers and other ardent supporters in a larger demographic (city or town) that support the work of the institutional SASA in their area;

“Truth” means the Three Angels Message of Revelation 14 and other present biblical truths as believed and taught by the Seventh-Day Adventist Church;

“year” means the period between one academic year to another academic year;

“website” means the official website for the Association

2. NAME

The Name of the Association shall be the “Simbu Adventist Students Association” (SASA).

3. OBJECTS/PURPOSES

Bearing in mind the Teachings, Doctrines and the Fundamental Beliefs of the Church and as a civilized responsible citizen of Simbu sharing a rich cultural heritage, the Objects and Purposes for which the Simbu Adventist Students Association (SASA) is established are as follows:-

- (a) to share CHRIST and the ADVENTIST FAITH or the Great Gospel Commission by co-ordination effort whenever and wherever practicable in the respective institution of studies and in varied places of the geographically rugged Simbu Province, while collectively promote and safeguard the Doctrine of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church; and,
- (b) to develop a competitive human resource base for Simbu and PNG by providing opportunities and training grounds for members to develop skills such as leadership, entrepreneurship, organizational skills, musical talents, and other useful skills; and,
- (c) to provide a friendly and supportive family-like environment for members to identify their unique talents, gifts, and maximize their God-given potentials or pursue their achievable dreams; and,
- (d) to provide opportunities for members to learn and appreciate the beautiful and diverse cultural heritage of Simbu, through translation and composition of songs, books, and preaching; and,

- (e) to provide a sense of belongingness and security for members whilst they actively pursue their academic goals away from home at their respective institutions of learning nationwide and abroad; and,
- (f) to afford a recognized means of communication between the SDA students of Simbu Province collectively, or individually or between the respective groups of each educational institution; and,
- (g) to collectively promote a sense of fellowship and belonging amongst Adventist students of Education Institutions in PNG; and,
- (h) to collectively pursue in acquiring and maintaining, otherwise, due service, care and attention from the church and its capacity as an Association of Church's future leaders; and,
- (i) to afford a medium to convert, participate and promote the development of a total human person; and,
- (j) to provide opportunities for the members to develop a dynamic Christian character as taught by the Church and to afford a medium of identifying and involving in or otherwise refraining from activities that is in the interest of, or otherwise not in the interest of the Adventist Student; or that it is in contravention to or not in contravention to the Doctrine of the SDA Church, as the case may be; and,
- (k) to build in the members a lifelong Simbuan Adventist Church identity and commitment in service to God and humanity; and,
- (l) to assist the provincial and local level governments of Simbu where necessary in addressing social, law and order, health, basic economic issues, and other necessary issues affecting the practical lives of the people of Simbu Province; and,
- (m) to develop independent business arms and short term projects to support and enhance its future growth, objectives, and challenges; and,
- (n) to achieve (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i) (j) (k), (l) and (m) through conventions, seminars, integrative discussions, forums, newsletters, circulars, website, blogs, retreats, member contributions, independent business arms, and through rendering practical missionary and Christian service to others through personal support, visitations and prayers, bible studies, evangelistic meetings, literature evangelism, participation in church programs, community services and projects; and,

to use available resources, means, gifts and talents, wherever possible, to be of loving service and help to other people who may be less fortunate in terms of:-

- (o) spiritual development, material possessions and/or in other necessities of life; and,
- (p) to carry out proper activities for the sole purpose of achieving or incidental to achieving the above Objects and purposes; and,
- (q) to engage students in community projects, charity, and disaster relief work in support of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and other familiar agencies when needs arise; and,
- (r) to use or apply available funds (if any), either from donations or from members' contributions and fundraisings, solely for the purpose of achieving or promoting the above Objects and Purposes; and,
- (s) to co-operate fully with the Church and Church leaders or affiliated bodies like PNGATSA in promoting and achieving all of the above Objectives.

4. GENERAL POWERS

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, proper advice legal or otherwise and if necessary, direction and advice of the Church and Church leaders, the powers of the Association shall include the following:

1. Exercise such powers, functions, duties and responsibilities in its endeavor to achieve the Objectives herein set forth in this constitution and so as in the case of the executive committee or that is incidental to the good administration of the Association unless such power is expressly or impliedly excluded by the provision (s) of this Constitution or the Spirit of it thereof, as modified from time to time at the annual convention AGM.
2. For the purposes of exercising its powers, functions, duties, and responsibilities and in attaining its objectives, the Association may do all acts or things that are incidental, conclusive or consequential to the attainment of the Objectives of the Association as set forth in Section 3 of this Constitution.
3. Adopt and apply in all respect the Twenty Eight (28) Fundamental Doctrines of the SDA Church as voted by the General Conference in session from time to time.
4. Where any contrary view is taken may be pursued in one or more of the following manner (s) by:-
 - 4.1. making representation by delegated persons to church leadership, or
 - 4.2. make representation by writing to relevant church authorities, or

- 4.3. taking necessary measures as directed by the Executives of the Association as seen fit, proper or appropriate in the light of the prevailing circumstances in relations to the particular subject matter.
5. Accept and hold or manage monies, gifts and donations, monetary or otherwise, promissory notes and other transferrable instrument, both real and personal at LIU and in Equity.
6. Should need be, actively or passively promote, represent, or uphold the rights and views and involvement of persons other than members of the Association.
7. Reserve the right to be informed of the progress of the IOF activities from time to time as deemed necessary and in light of the Spirit of this Constitution.

5. FUNDAMENTALS

The fundamentals of the Association are as expressed and provided for in the Preamble.

6. AIM AND GOAL

The Aim of the Simbu Adventist Students Association (SASA) is to encourage its members to be faithful Seventh-Day Adventist Christians and to co-operate with the Church in bringing the end time message of salvation to others and to work towards attaining its Objects as set forth in this Constitution.

While the Goal is seeking to develop competitive well-rounded human resources of Simbu and PNG with high moral and ethical standards that stand true to Godly principles, the Association must refrain from any activities which may bring to question or discredit the long standing reputation and credibility of the Association or the Church.

7. MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Association shall comprise of:-

- 7.1. all Simbu Adventist students, sub-associations, groups, or societies in any secular or mission institutions (primary to tertiary) in PNG and abroad subject to terms and conditions governing affiliation of membership; and,
- 7.2. in pursuant to Sub-section 7.1, all members of sub-associations by virtue of their membership to their respective sub-associations must pay affiliation fees to SASA; and,

- 7.3. member of other Provincial Adventist Student Associations by virtue of their membership to their respective Association and subject to terms and conditions governing affiliations to this Association; and,
- 7.4. any other sub-associations, youth groups, path-finder clubs, societies, or church groups as the case may be, as approved by the Executive of the Association in accordance with qualifications for membership and rules governing affiliation fees; and,
- 7.5. all pioneers of this Association, former students, honorary life members, and ardent supporters upon full payment of their individual or family affiliation fees determined by the Association from time to time.

8. QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

To qualify for membership, a person must:-

- 8.1. Believe and accept Governing Principles as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution; and,
- 8.2. Believe and accept that the Seventh-Day Adventist Church is the true and remnant Church of God in the Last Days; and,
- 8.3. Believe, accept and practice all the teachings and doctrines of the Church including the Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment as the true Day-of Worship; and,
- 8.4. Pledge to support and promote the Objects and Purposes of the Association and the mission of the Church in the work of evangelizing and in all areas deemed necessary to facilitate the work of evangelizing.

9. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

A member shall:-

- 9.1. Have the right to cast vote in all meetings where necessary.
- 9.2. Have the right to stand as a candidate for any executive post or an office within the association so long as it is not inconsistent with Sub-section 12.4 of this Constitution.

- 9.3. Have the right to enjoy the benefits brought forth or incidental to the operation of the Association.
- 9.4. Have the right to raise their concerns about the Association through appropriate channels like the SASA website, SASA forum, or AGM as the case may be.
- 9.5. Have the right to represent the Association in any meetings, programs church or otherwise, community projects, seminars or conventions as the case may where necessary.
- 9.6. By virtue of Sub-section 9.4., for certain special meetings, conventions, or seminars as the case may be, a member shall have the right to attend if/when appointed by the Association.

10. OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 10.1. The Officers of the Association shall be elected at the AGM at the convention and shall, subject to this Constitution, hold office until the next AGM except for the Chaplain's Office, which is a two (2) year term of appointment by the Church.
- 10.2. At each AGM, the Chairman or president elected for that meeting shall declare all offices vacant.
- 10.3. Each retiring officer shall be eligible for re-election provided that he or she is nominated in accordance with this Constitution.
- 10.4. Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee. The Committee may not necessarily meet in person to facilitate that appointment.
- 10.5. All Office bearers, student or otherwise, must be in good standing with the Church, their community, in their conducts and spiritual lives.

11. TITLES AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

11.1. Patron and Matron

- 11.1.1. There shall be one Patron and one Matron appointed by the Association from time to time. If necessary, one of those so appointed shall be an ordained Minister or Pastor or a Church leader of the SDA Church.
- 11.1.2. They may not always be present in all executive meetings of the Association. In the event of their absence, the Secretary General must notify them of any meeting minutes and updates of their meetings.
- 11.1.3. By virtue of this Section, the Patron and Matron may provide counseling, advice, support moral or otherwise, and any other such services where necessary and appropriate from time to time to the SASA members.
- 11.1.4. If those appointed at AGM declined to accept their responsibilities, the Executive Committee must meet and decide on the next viable candidate. Any such changes must be communicated through the Association's established channels of communication.

11.2. President and Vice President

- 11.2.1. There shall be one President and one Vice-President
- 11.2.2. The President shall be the senior executive officer (CEO) of the Association and shall be responsible for the overall running and achieving the Aims and/or Objectives of the Association.
- 11.2.3. The President shall communicate and maintain an effective connection with other Officers, respective Church officers, the IOF President, the MTP Chairman, the PNGATSA President, and other government, corporate, and Church bodies as deemed necessary from time to time.
- 11.2.4. The President chairs all Executive Meetings, Extraordinary Meetings, and AGMs.
- 11.2.5. The Vice President shall assist the President in the administration and running of the Association and shall act in the absence of the President.
- 11.2.6. By virtue of Sub-section 10.2.5, in the event of the absence or resignation of the President, the Vice-President assumes all the responsibilities of the President as described in this Section.

11.2.7. By virtue of this Section, the President and Vice President shall hold office for a term of one (1) year, but can be subject to re-election for a second term by the AGM.

11.3. Secretary General

11.3.1. There shall be one Secretary General who shall:-

- (a) Keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings of the Association.
- (b) Keep a record of the meetings of the Executive Committee and all regular and special committees including the extraordinary meetings.
- (c) Conduct all correspondence relating to and/or on behalf of the Association after consultation with a majority of the Committee or the Office Bearers, and as directed by the President from time to time.
- (d) Step in to chair meetings and make necessary decisions in absence of the President and Vice President.
- (e) Hold office for a term of one (1) year, but can be subject to re-election for a second term by the AGM.
- (f) Be a member, ex-officio, of the Committee and all other regular or special committees.
- (g) Keep the membership register of the Association in accordance with this Constitution.

11.4. Treasurer

11.4.1. There shall be one Treasurer who shall:-

- (a) Make all payments on behalf of the Association provided however that no withdrawal shall be made nor any payment made without the Authority of the President and/or other National Executive members.
- (b) Shall collect monies from members' contributions and general donations, fundraisings, corporate sponsorships, IOF, and any other legal sources of funds.
- (c) Within seven (7) business days of collection, deposit all proceeds into a bank account approved by the Committee.

- (d) Record in books of accounts the receipts and expenditures of all monetary transactions and usages connected with the Association.
- (e) Produce each year to the Auditor of the Association (if any) the books of accounts, if called upon to do so by the Committee.
- (f) At the AGM, present to the Association members a full detailed financial report for the financial year immediately following the balance brought forward from the last AGM.
- (g) Present a detailed financial report of the convention spending to major individual donors, corporate sponsors, IOF, and other stake holders as deemed necessary to maintain the credibility of the Association.
- (h) Step in to chair meetings and make necessary decisions in the absence of the President, Vice-President, and the Secretary General.
- (i) Hold office for a term of one (1) year, but can be subject to re-election for a second term by the AGM.
- (j) Be a member, ex-officio, of all regular and special committees.

11.5. Representative of the EHSM Church Committee

11.5.1. There shall be one representative of SASA to the EHSM Church Committee who shall be either a former or current member of the EHSM Executive Committee, or a district director, or an active layperson with good standing, or an ordained pastor serving in the EHSM.

11.5.2. The Church Committee Representative shall:-

- (a) Obtain permission for the release of individuals and groups from outside of EHSM or abroad, through the normal channels of the Church communication, or church protocol for their service in SASA programs and activities.
- (b) Obtain permission for the use of EHSM equipment such as camp meeting tents, projectors, films, generators, and other such assets where deemed necessary for the Association's program from time to time.
- (c) Keep the EHSM informed of the Association's activities.
- (d) Advise the Association and its Executives from time to time of the EHSM directives.

- (e) Present to the EHSM Officers the Annual Report of the Association's activities following the AGM.
- (f) Not always be present at all the Executive Meetings of the Association.
- (g) In pursuant to Sub-section 11.5.2 (f) of this Section, in the absence of the EHSM Representative at an Executive Meeting, the Secretary General must notify him or her of any meeting minutes and updates of their meetings.

11.6. Newsletter Editor

11.6.1. The Association shall have an official publication and it shall be known as the *Ingu Ombuno*. The purpose of the publication shall be to keep the members and the Association's stakeholders informed of its activities and plans to promote the Association's Objectives.

11.6.2. There shall be one editor who shall:

- (a) Be responsible for editing and producing quarterly issues of the publication annually.
- (b) Collect news items, journals, testimonials, and other necessary publishable information from members nationwide and abroad, the IOF, and the Church, and give equal coverage to contributors and institutions as much as possible.
- (c) Reserve the right to refuse publication of any material considered detrimental to the Association's image and interest.
- (d) Reserve the right to revise and change from time to time if/where necessary the creativity, design, and layout as to the content of the newsletter.
- (e) Accept responsibility through formal apologies or other such appropriate actions on any published material that the Association deemed inappropriate after its publication.

11.6.3. Notwithstanding Sub-section 11.6.2 (d), more than one third of the Executive Committee must sight and approve the content of the newsletter before its release.

11.6.4. By virtue of this Section, any infringements on copy write materials of published *Ingu Ombuno* must be immediately reported to the Executive Committee for appropriate actions either legal or otherwise.

11.7. Convenor

11.7.1. An annual convention shall be convened by the Association.

11.7.2. There shall be one convenor who is an Adventist from the area chosen as convention venue who shall:

- (a) Prepare the campsite and convention venue to receive the students.
- (b) Prepare and inform the local community and the local churches and organizations to receive the students.
- (c) Form and be the Chairman of the Convention Committee meetings, which shall be comprised of: the local church pastor nearest to the convention site, local church elder, the district director, active lay persons, women's ministry groups, the community and district leaders, SASA president of the closest local institution, and all available Executive members of the Association.
- (d) Advise the National Executives regarding special needs and requirements either financial or otherwise of the chosen venue.

11.7.3. In the event that there is unavailability of an Adventist convenor, or the one appointed at the AGM declines the position, the Executive Committee shall and with considerable advise from other respectable Church and local authorities appoint a non-Adventist convenor who duly understands and commits to fulfill his roles for the convention faithfully in light of the Spirit of this Constitution.

11.8. Chaplain

11.8.1. There shall be one chaplain who shall:-

- (a) Advise members and Executives on spiritual matters.
- (b) Prepare reading materials for use by students during the annual week of prayer and fasting and provide hard copies or soft copies for any such material for publication in the *Ingu Ombuno* or SASA website.
- (c) Make frequent visits to sub-associations of SASA for Sabbaths and other special programs when needed by them.
- (d) Maintain effective communication with the sub-associations and societies if distance would be a barrier for frequent visits.

- (e) Conduct revival meetings, evangelistic meetings, and baptisms at various institutions upon invitation by sub-associations of SASA.
- (f) Lead out in outreach programs and work with SASA spiritual leaders to oversee worship program and prayer sessions during the convention.
- (g) Correspond and report to the Secretary General of SASA the results and highlights of spiritual activities conducted in respective institutions in Simbu Province so that the report be documented into the annual SASA report for the EHSM, PNGATSA and other Association's stakeholders.
- (h) Must have an office base in Kundiawa Town and being able to be funded by the EHSM.
- (i) Must keep and maintain a prayer list and requests from members nationwide.
- (j) The term of a Chaplain will be two (2) years as appointed by the EHSM.
- (k) Any lack of performance or misdemeanor by the Chaplain should be reported to the EHSM church authorities in a responsible and appropriate manner by the National Executives of the Association.
- (l) By virtue of Sub-section (h), the Association may vote during the AGM to keep the Chaplain for periods longer than 2 years where necessary or if deemed appropriate from time to time and notify the EHSM of such decisions.

12. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12.1. The Executive Committee of the Association shall consist of:

12.1.1. The President; and,

12.1.2. The Vice-President; and,

12.1.3. The Secretary General; and,

12.1.4. The Treasurer; and,

12.1.5. The Chaplain; and,

12.1.6. The Patron; and,

12.1.7. The Matron.

12.1.8. Representative of the EHSM Church Committee

12.2. The Committee, in addition to the powers herein before or herein after specifically conferred upon them, shall have the ultimate control of finances of the Association and all such administrative powers as may be necessary for the proper carrying out and promoting of the Objectives of the Association in accordance with this Constitution.

12.3. Each Executive Committee member must be of good standing with the Church.

12.4. Each National Executive member must maintain a current student status at a recognized tertiary institution in PNG or abroad.

12.5. By virtue of Sub-section 12.4, in the event that an Executive member flunks out of school, got excluded or expelled from studies due to some extenuating circumstances, the Executive Committee should:-

- (a) convene a meeting virtually (by phone or e-mail) or in person within fourteen (14) business days to address the situation; and,
- (b) consult with other Office Bearers for appropriate directions; and,
- (c) seek to replace the opening position allowing sufficient notice (2 weeks) to members nationwide regarding the vacancy; and,
- (d) may seek to retain the member concerned for his or her position if the member agrees and the Executive members deemed such as necessary or appropriate under the prevailing circumstances, as long as it doesn't violate the Spirit of this Constitution.

13. ELECTIONS

13.1. The election of Officers shall be held at the convention AGM except for the Chaplain.

13.2. All elections shall be by a show of hands with heads down for the candidate members prefer. The candidate with the highest vote at first-cast-a-vote shall be pronounced elect for the position he or she vies for.

13.3. The Chairman shall have the casting vote in cases where voting is equal.

13.4. No member should be forced to cast his or her vote for an Office bearer. An individual must exercise his or her fundamental Democratic and Constitutional Right to vote according to his/her own judgments.

13.5. The Chairman should pronounce clearly the roles of each Office bearers before voting to ensure clarity from the members present at the AGM.

14. NOMINATIONS

14.1. Any financial or any other member who assents to stand for election as an officer of the Association may be nominated at the AGM.

14.2. All nominations shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing for him to announce or shall be announced by the nominating member during the AGM, whichever is deemed appropriate by the Chairman of the AGM from time to time.

14.3. A person or persons nominated to stand for election as an Officer of the Association may be asked to, or in their own initiative, speak in respect of the nomination and the election before voting by the Association's members present at the AGM.

15. AFFILIATION FEES

15.1. The Executive Committee may meet to determine the amount of affiliation fees for respective institutions, societies, clubs, pioneers, groups, and sub-associations as the case may be from time to time.

15.2. Notwithstanding Sub-section 15.1, the Committee may waive the requirement to pay the annual affiliation fees of a particular group or institution in respect of certain qualified circumstances that caused the group's inability to meet their affiliation dues to the Association.

16. COVENTIONS

16.1. The Association will host annual conventions at the end of each academic year in targeted areas of the Simbu Mission Territory or outside where there's need to advance the Word of God and Truth.

16.2. The convention is a preferred weeklong meeting, sharing, participation and discourse of creative, stimulating, and integrative programs that focus on the development of the total human person (spiritual, mental, physical, social, and emotional).

16.3. In accordance with Sub-section 16.2, the AGM may decide to have more than the preferable weeklong convention whenever deemed necessary and appropriate from time to time.

- 16.4. The Executive Committee and Officers may think of creative and innovative programs to implement during the convention so long as it effectively meets the Objects of the Association as enshrined in this Constitution.
- 16.5. All Convention Reports presented at the AGM by the sub-associations, societies, and other such affiliated groups present during the AGM including the convention highlights must be properly compiled in written form by the Executive Committee.
- 16.6. By Virtue of Sub-section 16.5, such annual reports of SASA must be sent to the EHSM, PNGATSA, and other organizations that SASA affiliates to, major sponsors of the convention, churches, and other stakeholders and individuals with interests on the governance and Objects of the Association.
- 16.7. Non-members, new interests, or person (s) of other Christian denominations upon invitation by an affiliated sub-association or society of SASA or a member of such sub-association or society can attend the convention in accordance with the rules governing affiliation and convention.

17. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS (AGM)

- 17.1. The AGM shall be held during the Convention week.
- 17.2. All financial members shall be given not less than twenty one (21) days notice of the AGM minutes or reflection of such thereof via the established communication mediums of SASA.
- 17.3. Not less than one third of the financial members shall form quorum.
- 17.4. In accordance with Sub-section 17.3, a non-member who attends the convention by invitation is not allowed to participate in voting during the AGM.
- 17.5. In pursuant to Sub-section 17.4, direct participation in any AGM agendas through voting should be exclusively done by currently enrolled Simbu Adventist Students members of the Association.
- 17.6. Non-members, pioneers, ardent supporters, Church officers, and other such person(s) present at SASAs AGM only play an Observer Status. They do not reserve the right to vote, nor influence the votes of the student members.
- 17.7. Notwithstanding Sub-section 17.6, pioneers and ardent supporters of SASA can participate in discussions, suggest directives, guide students' thoughts, and can be called in to lead on a controversial or important discussion regarding SASA's future if and when deemed necessary by the Chairman during the AGM.
- 17.8. The agenda for the AGM shall be:-

- 17.8.1. Worship and Sing Along
- 17.8.2. Chairman's Welcome and Opening
- 17.8.3. Apologies (if any);
- 17.8.4. Minutes of the previous AGM (last convention)
- 17.8.5. President's Report
- 17.8.6. Treasurer's Report
- 17.8.7. Election of Office Bearers;
- 17.8.8. General Business (Important Issues are raised here);
- 17.8.9. Patron's address and/ or remarks.
- 17.8.10. Closing Remarks and Prayer

17.9. The Chairman should allow a recess in between the agendas discussed if and when appropriate.

17.10. Where necessary, the AGM should take a whole day or a whole day and a half, if matters vital to the Association's Objects and future challenges need to be addressed properly and amply.

17.11. Meeting minutes of the AGM must be properly written, recorded, or typed and kept in file for the official use and governing of the Association.

17.12. By virtue of this Section, the IOF President or Executive Representative may be invited if/when needed from time to time by the SASA Executives to present, participate, and lead in the discussions of IOF's developments and progress.

18. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

18.1. The Executive Committee may at any time for any special purpose call an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association.

18.2. Not less than one (1) full day's notice shall be given to the members of the Committee.

18.3. Not less than three (3) members of the Executive Committee shall form a quorum.

18.4. By virtue of this Section, other Office Bearers can participate if/ when necessary upon invitation by the President.

18.5. In pursuant to Sub-section 18.3, if all members are geographically separated for an actual physical meeting, a virtual meeting via e-mail, teleconference, or such must be established to fulfill the purpose of the meeting.

19. BANK ACCOUNTS

19.1. The Executive Committee shall maintain up to no more than 2 bank accounts and hold deposits with any commercial bank in PNG at any given academic year; unless where necessary, a third account may be opened.

19.2. The withdrawal of moneys from the Association's bank account shall be signed by the President and Treasurer of the Association.

19.3. In pursuant to Sub-section 19.2, in the absence of either one of the signatories, the General Secretary should sign in place of the absentee signatory.

20. INSPECTION AND AUDITING OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

20.1. The President shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the administration of the Association.

20.2. The Treasurer shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all financial records, books and other documents related to all the financial transactions of the Association's funds.

20.3. The Secretary General shall keep in his or her records all the meeting minutes and correspondence trivial to the running of the Association.

20.4. The financial records, books and other documents of the Association shall be opened to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the Association at any appropriate time when need arises.

20.5. If alleged claims of mismanagement of funds are reported by a member or members or an executive member of the Association, the association must arrange for an open audit of its financial records by an independent or reliable agent to proof or dismiss the claim.

20.6. In pursuant to Sub-section 20.5, if proofs of such alleged claims are established, the non-implicated members of the Association must take appropriate actions against the implicated members like: removal from office, requesting immediate reimbursement, and other such actions deemed necessary under the prevailing circumstances.

20.7. By virtue of this Section, in the event of gross financial misuses and liquidation, the Local Mission or the IOF Board will be the caretaker of all the remaining assets and finances of the Association until all parties involved are legally sued in the court of law or value of such lost assets are fully recovered.

21. EXECUTIVE RESIGNATION

21.1. If due to extenuating circumstances that an Executive Member should resign before the annual term in office, a resignation notice stating such intent must be served to the President not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of resignation.

21.2. The Chairman or the Vice-President would then in accordance with Section 18.1 of this Constitution call for an Extraordinary Meeting to address the situation.

21.3. A special memorandum should be served via e-mail, circular, and posted on SASA website to notify all members, pioneers, and Officers of the Association about the situation.

21.4. The remaining Executive members should then nominate qualified names and call on the names nominated. The first positive response from a nominee would be the one to act in the interim until the annual convention.

21.5. By virtue of this Sub-section 11.2.6, in the event that the President resigns, the Vice-President automatically becomes the President.

21.6. By virtue of this Section, if the Treasurer or the Secretary General resigns, the Executive Committee should find a new qualified member to fill the vacancy in accordance with Sub-section 21.4.

22. SUB-ASSOCIATIONS AND SOCIETIES

22.1. The sub-associations and societies would convene whenever necessary to elect their executive leaders in a general meeting at the beginning of their academic year and at the end of their academic year in their respective institutions.

22.2. They should organize creative and integrative programs where necessary to keep their members active and spiritually strong hence enhancing the Objects of the Association as enshrined in this Constitution.

22.3. They should fundraise to meet their affiliation fees due to SASA and adequately prepare their members for the Association's annual convention in December.

22.4. The sub-associations must implement programs set out by the Executive Committee in their national annual planner for PNGSASA and other such requests as sent out via the Presidential Circular and *Ingu Ombuno* from time to time.

22.5. The members of the sub-associations of SASA must actively participate and support where necessary the activities of ATSA and other institutional ASAs that they affiliate to during their term of studies.

23. INGU OMBUNO FOUNDATION (IOF)

23.1. The IOF will be the independently registered business arm of the Association with a focus on meeting the long term challenges facing the future of SASA and in ensuring that SASA is equipped to face the challenges of the 21st century, while continuing to meet its Objectives effectively.

23.2. In pursuant to Section 3-“Objects” of the IOF Constitution, SASA and its members should be able to benefit directly or indirectly from the operation and success of the IOF.

23.3. In pursuant to Section 3- “Objects” of the IOF Constitution, the IOF is generally there to develop, maintain and implement programs and services beneficial to IOF’s and SASA’s interests and goals; and will continue to assist SASA in achieving its goals and Objectives through education, funding, and other such creative ways where deemed necessary.

23.4. By virtue of Sub-sections 7.02.2 and 7.02.3 of the IOF Constitution., the Board of IOF shall also include representatives from SASA pioneers and the current President of SASA as elected from time to time.

23.5. The Association, by virtue of this Constitution hereby acknowledges and appreciates the Objects of IOF and thereby mandates and declares the establishment, registration, governance, constitution, and operations of the IOF as an independent business entity of SASA with its own management team.

23.6. In an event of gross financial misuse by the IOF directors and liquidation, the IOF Board will be the caretaker of all remaining assets and finances until all parties involved are legally sued in the court of law or the value of such lost assets are fully recovered.

24. LOGO

24.1. The Association should have an official logo.

24.2. By virtue of Sub-section 24.1., the design of the logo must depict the Objects and Purposes of the Association as enshrined in this Constitution.

24.3. The logo can be altered from time to time where necessary at the convention AGM so long as it doesn't defeat the Objects and Purposes of the Association as enshrined in this Constitution.

24.4. The official logo must be saved, documented, and used in all of the Association's business correspondence either legal or otherwise.

24.5. All recognized and affiliated sub-associations and societies of SASA including PNGSASA must use the officially accepted logo of the Association for work pertaining to the running of the Association as long as such promotes the Objects of the Association as stipulated in this Constitution.

24.6. By virtue of this Section, the logo shall not be used or misused for one's personal gain or advantage.

25. WEBSITE

- 15.1. The Association reserves the right to create, launch, and fund its official website.
- 15.2. The website should have a webmaster to administer the inputs and outputs of data on the site.
- 15.3. The website by virtue of its content and design must strive to reflect fully the Objects and Purposes of the Association.
- 15.4. The webmaster reserves the right to reject online publication of articles, photos, or any such information supplied by the Association's members for publication on the site if such is considered detrimental to the Association's interest or likely to demean the credibility of the Association.
- 15.5. The webmaster shall accept responsibility through formal apologies or other such appropriate actions on any published material that the Association deemed inappropriate after its publication on the site.

26. ALTERATION OF RULES AND OBJECTS

26.1. Any provision or provisions of this Constitution including the Objects may be altered, amended, rescinded, added to or in any way changed when necessary from time to time through a resolution by the absolute majority members present at the convention AGM.

26.2. In pursuant to Sub-section 26.1, a motion to alter this Constitution shall thoughtfully and prayerfully be considered.

26.3. In accordance with the Sub-sections 26.1 and 26.2, any such motion by a member and the purpose thereof must be clearly stated and communicated to the members present at the AGM before the voting process.

26.4. By virtue of Sub-section 26.1, if the subject of motion to alter or add is considered to have a significant impact on the Objects of this Association or deemed inconsistent with the Objects of this Association, additional number of pioneers, ministers, and Church officers, and other such person (s) of authority and insight may be present for directions and discussions at the discretion of the Chairman and the Executive Committee members.

26.5. By virtue of this Section 26, any such alterations or additions to the provisions of this Constitution if in effect must be documented in the AGM minutes and reflected on this Constitution from time to time.

Appendix I: POM Resolution 6/11/2010

VK,

Greetings from SASA POM Society.

The much anticipated combine IOF and MTP Committee meeting took place on the eve of **6/11/2010**.

Steven Wemin, Joe Kunda, Dorcas Kunda, Dorcas Wai, Miami Benson, Steven Aaron and I attended. We resolved the following:

- MTP is an idea run by students and its intentions are noble.
- IOF is a registered organization and will continue to operate under SASA.
- We resolved that MTP is now officially the first project IOF will take on and ensure its completion, hopefully in 2012.
- MTP can continue to use its current BSP account, as it is a Trust Account for the Office Project in Kundiawa
- SASA Constitution to be amended to allow existence of IOF. IOF can then embark on projects such as MTP, run business and perform other activities according to its constitution.
- MTP can collect donations, registrations, and affiliations etc... under the legal auspices of IOF. All properties acquired under the MTP Projects to be naturally owned/registered under IOF.
- Joe Kunda resigned as CEO of IOF. He has got all books for IOF and will handover to new CEO after the IOF Board appoints new person.
- Steven Wemin remains Chairman of IOF.
- Further discussions on MTP & IOF will take place at the Nondugul Convention at the AGM on Dec 24.

These are what we basically discussed and approve. We hope as many pioneers as possible attend the Nondugul AGM so that we can discuss further, and approve the amendments to the SASA Constitution.

Cheers

Simeon Wai

Appendix II: NOTES

The following are few things to discuss at the Nondugul AGM if deemed appropriate and necessary:

Part 1: Specific Provisions of the Constitution:

1. **SASA Website**- An Official Name to be adopted and perhaps funding to maintain the site, the official colours of the website, including webmaster should be discussed. Furthermore, the AGM should acknowledge Mr. John Kama for what he's done for SASA as the webmaster behind the www.sasaleva.com and for his voluntary services, time, and other resources invested into the creation and hosting of the website thus far. Great work, JK! Thank you very much from me.
2. **MTP**- According to the POM Resolution in **Appendix I**, now that MTP is officially the first short term project for IOF, I therefore ensured that the SASA Constitution only made provisions for IOF and not MTP.
3. **SASA Chaplain**- We (SASA) don't have one now, but we definitely should. The Enga Adventist Students Association (EASA) does. As a matter of fact, during my last visit to PNG, I travelled with him (EASA Chaplain) in the bus from Mt. Hagen to Kundiawa and he got off at Minj. Our provincial high schools, secondary schools, and other institutions are growing quick. At the same time, our Adventist students' spiritual need is heightened. Therefore, I made a provision for it in this Constitution.

SASA should make an official request from the EHSM for a Chaplain to be based out of Kundiawa Town and funded by the Mission. They are aware and very well informed of Student Ministry like PNGATSA, SASA and EHASA etc. If we make a good and proper case at the Local Mission Headquarter, they will assist. The church has money and will allocate a full-time chaplain for SASA and EHASA. The Tertiary Institutions are well taken care of by PNGATSA Chaplaincy Services with directions from the Union Mission. The Local Mission should consider the needs of our high schools, secondary schools and other provincial institutions. With that said, a strategy for that would be to get together with the Executive Committee appointed by SASA AGM. Sit down, think, pray, and write a 3-6 page document outlining the pros and cons of having a SASA Chaplain. Attach a cover letter, the SASA Constitution, and make an appointment with the Local Mission Executives, and meet with them. If you need to, get a letter of recommendation from the PNGATSA President and work along with the EHASA Executives so that they too will hop into the loop with SASA. Right now, both sister associations do not have a Chaplain

to take care of the needs of our Adventist students in these two Provinces. I bet you, if that position is open, many will run for it coz it's fun to work with students!!! Do not be afraid. If God be for you, who shall be against you? When I served as the PNGATSA President, we fight (in a professional and responsible manner) like this all the time with the PNGUM President and Executives to have effective Chaplaincy Services for our students nationwide in all major tertiary institutions. Now I look back, it's a good fight and we all win for God's cause. Therefore, I include and maintain such provision in the SASA Constitution. **I will leave it to the AGM to decide on that provision either to alter or otherwise.**

4. **EHSM Rep-** We don't have one now, but we should. I think it's good to have a REP of SASA or EHASA for that matter at the EHSM Church Committee. EASA's have theirs. There are many benefits for that- most importantly, to keep the church effectively informed and involved in the affairs of Student Ministry from time to time when needed with ease and understanding, which will help dissolve any differences between us and garner support and cooperation from them. After all, we are all doing the same thing- to preach the word of God and Truth, so lets' support each other when we can in winning souls into the Church and the Kingdom. **Church Protocols are established, and by working with the Church, the Association will go far, believe me. This is no JOKE!** You don't need to tell them that you are producing the future human resource base for the Local Mission and the Church in PNG, they already knew that. Thank them for their past support and just request their help stating that the Association thinks it's important to have their strong support. Admit, you need to work more closely with them in enhancing your Objectives. It's about time; we see a more tangible hand of the Church in our ministry. Therefore, I include and maintain such provision in the SASA Constitution. **I will leave it to the AGM to decide on that provision either to alter or otherwise.**
5. **Matron-** SASA should have a Matron, which should be a female. Traditionally, we only have PATRONS (although a generic term to include both male and female, we however, tend to have only male patrons) who happened to be only or pre-dominantly males. Now remember, SASA's constituents are made up of both male and female members' students or otherwise. Female members will find it more comfortable to speak to a Matron for counseling, console and other personal issues pertaining to their specific gender or gender related needs/questions/struggles. By definition, Matrons are non exclusive to the wardens of the boarding school system. A Matron can be a married or windowed woman, a mother of dignity, mature age, and established social position. Therefore, it is important that the Association should have a Matron, which is a female.

When I served as the PNGATSA President, we have both the Matron (Mrs. Jennifer Litau) and the Patron (Dr. Lohi Matainaho). And I admit, both are equally good and they provide diverse insights, views, advise, counsel, and help into the running of the Association. Therefore, I include and maintain such provision in the SASA Constitution. **I will leave it to the AGM to decide on that provision either to alter or otherwise.**

- 6. CONVENTIONS-** My opinion is that SASA Conventions must be hosted only in December (either the third and/or fourth week). Why? Because December is the best time and let me explain this. First, December is when a lot of people (including working professionals) are on holidays. Therefore, many pioneers and ardent supporters might attend. High school and secondary students start their classes in January and they need to get ready for this. Moreover, while most tertiary schools might be on break by November, most primary-secondary schools are still in class until the middle or late November (if I remember correctly from my high school days). Thus, the December seems appropriate for them. Second, university and college students are also on holidays during December, even if they are doing an internship etc...they can always ask to get a week leave from work to attend the convention during the Christmas period. It won't be practically possible to host conventions in June as PNGATSA traditionally host its conventions in June during the mid-semester breaks for most tertiary students nationwide. Besides, the June break from studies is not standard all across the country from tertiary to primary schools, therefore, it would be practically impossible to mobilize all SASA students, plus, it's very short a break to prepare well and host a successful convention (logistics wise). Sometimes, due to extenuating circumstances, PNGATSA hosts conventions during the month of December and if they do, it's usually the first week of the month to give adequate time to the students attending to get back to their respective Provinces for their provincial ASA conventions.

Therefore, I still think December is the best time to host SASA Conventions.

On that note, the Association should thank, acknowledge the pioneers who have drafted the Original SASA Constitution. They must record in the Report the names of the pioneers who drafted the first Constitution, the place of draft, the Convention venue where it was voted into adoption, and also keep and maintain a copy of the original Constitution in their files for years to come. And while voting this revised Constitution into adoption, they must also keep a copy of the Constitution in their file for years to come. For these are important documents and it shows how much we've grown thus far as an Association and where we are heading into in the future.

Part 2: THE NONDUGL ACCORD (just a suggested name):

7. An **ACCORD** should be **Named** and **Drafted** e.g. **NONDUGL ACCORD** to address contemporary pending issues/areas such as:
 - 7.1. **Dress codes** at the convention site
 - 7.2. **Types of music at the convention site**
 - 7.3. **Behaviors of relationships at campsites** e.g., sleeping in the same tent without being properly or legally married
 - 7.4. **Accidents and Deaths while participating at a SASA Convention**
 - 7.5. **Convention Programs:** e.g. style, substance, the mix, professionalism, children's programs, etc...
 - 7.6. **SASA and Politics** (e.g. the executive positions must not be used for Political interests)
 - 7.7. **SASA's Equipments-** inventory, where to store, who is in charge, and what's missing or needed to be purchased for future use.
 - 7.8. **SASA and its relationship to Simbu Students Society at the Tertiary Institutions-** e.g. participation, support, what are the boundaries? etc..
 - 7.9. **SASA and its relationship to the Church** (EHSM, Local Churches) and other organizations like PNGATSA
 - 7.10. **SASA's relationship to the Simbu Provincial Government-** what can we do to make our province better apart from just conventions? For example, IOF to be successful and host successful business seminars in Kundiawa, SASA to volunteer to clean-up Kundiawa Town and solicit funding from the Provincial Govt and local businesses in a professional way, or get our medical students to run free health checks to the Kundiawa Community or Districts and present reports to the Kundiawa General Hospital or local clinics...etc...just thoughts??
 - 7.11. **Church Protocols to place service calls for convention guest speakers and seminar speakers-** must be established for the future executives of the Association.
Hint. Maintain good contact with PNGATSA, if international speakers are needed for

future SASA conventions. The PNGATSA President is the person to endorse such request through the PNGUM to place service calls directly for SASA. We don't need EHSM's intervention on that. Such was established by PNGATSA already in 2004 and PNGUM knows. They can only be notified through the EHSM Rep and can support perhaps in logistics wise etc... Now, the other question is, "what about speakers outside of our Local Mission (EHSM)?" That needs to be discussed and established too. That's why we need a EHSM Rep for this and other tangible and intangible, but all good reasons.

7.12. **SASA and the Preservation of Simbu Culture.** How do we maintain our cultural heritage overtime or are some of cultures inconsistent with our SDA beliefs? Those need to be identified, stated clearly, and established.

7.13. **Fundraisings-** The types of fundraisings that SASA should involve in should also be defined and established clearly. Distinguish between sub-association fundraisings and national SASA fundraisings. Ensure no conflict of interests there.

7.14. **Mission Territory of SASA-** needs to be clearly **Established** as our mission boundary reaches as far as Jimi, Dumpu, Yakumbu, Bundi, Karamui, Waterbung, Nondugul, etc... Such will give us a realistic sense of where really have we not set foot yet in our Mission boundary. The tradition of convention lobbying at AGM should be an obsolete practice by now. We should have a fair and systemic set up that enables us to identify areas of needs where SASA really needs to set foot in order to achieve its Objects adequately as set forth in this Constitution.

7.15. **Professional Seminars in Kundiawa-** SASA along with the Simbu Provincial Government could arrange a weeklong professional seminar in Kundiawa where all the successful professionals and former members of SASA could present something substantive through a weeklong conference in Kundiawa for the Simbuans. Proceeds and sponsorships from the seminar can go towards SASAs project in Simbu and at the same time, SASA maintains recognition in Simbu, whilst staying clear from Politics.

7.16. **SASA AND IOF-** Members at the AGM must be clearly educated on the functions of IOF and MTP projects and the where lies the future of SASA in that regard.

AND ANY OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES OR AREAS OF CONCERN THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED TO MAKE THE ASSOCIATION PERFORM EFFECTIVELY IN MEETING ITS OBJECTS/PURPOSES.

ONCE THE ACCORD IS GIVEN NAME TO, DRAFTED, AND DOCUMENTED, THE ACCORD MUST ALWAYS BE INCLUDED WITH THE CONSTITUTION (if necessary) AT THE END OF EVERY ANNUAL-CONVENTION SONGBOOKS (This is a helpful suggestion).

Thank you very much.

Vincent P. Kumura

(Los Angeles, California)

Thursday, Nov 25, 2010 (Thanksgiving Day for Americans. While they are on holiday feasting with turkey, stuffing, gravy and pumpkin pie with families, I was busy on drafting the SASA Constitution. May this go down in the history of this God-loved Association that I once actively served and will continue to serve and support in whatever capacity I can until my last breath on this earth).

GOD has blessed SASA and will continue to bless His Association for many more years to come until His Second Coming.

My Christmas Seasonal Greetings to all the SASA members present at the Convention and wish you all a prosperous New Year, 2012 with many happy years to come.