



KDDA UK Meeting 21/01/17

Place. Anta Tenant Hall,

Old Kent Road

London.

The meeting started with prayers by Sister Mary Sumana and Mr. David Moiforay Christian and Muslim respectively.

Chairman Tondoneh welcome members to the meeting, he offered a special welcome to PC Sahr Edward Mbawa who attended the meeting. Mr. Tondoneh thanks Chief Mbawa for coming to the meeting. He also welcome members for attending the meeting. Mr., Tondoneh stressed on less talk and more work to move the association forward. He asked the people to be more active and participate because our people need us, he said. He asked people to help projects for the organisation to get funding.

He appealed to the membership to make it known when someone is sick. According to him the Organisation should not only be visiting people when they are bereaved rather they should also visit people when they are sick. Mr Tondoneh wasted no time he handed the floor over to PC Mbawa to furnish KDDA UK members about news in Kono.

Chief Sahr Edward Mbawa 111 of Gbane Kandor Chiefdom. He thanked God he is in London and on behalf of himself and the Chairman of Chief of Councils PC Paul Saquee pass greeting to the association on their behalf.

He spoke lengthily about the war and its impact on the people of Sierra Leone particularly Kono and its people, he thanked KDDA UK members for forming the organisation and looking back home and helping their people. He prayed that members work together in unity and continue to help their people. He also prayed that those who are willing to help the organisation be blessed by God. He explained the difficulty the district is going through and how much they need the KDDA UK to help them. PC Mbawa said Kono is backward, and many youths are drop outs because of poverty and they lack of opportunities. The educational system is terribly bad and most teachers are volunteers.

According to him the Government said the PCs have to do everything to sustain education and life style in the district. He said there are branch colleges in Kono but no fees. The colleges with branches in Kono are the Bo Teachers College and other colleges mostly distance learning Colleges that operates over week ends. He said to get a job now in Sierra Leone and particularly Kono is hard. The road network he said is improving, which has drastically reduce the travelling time from Kono to Freetown from six hours to three hours. He stressed that there

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are still work to be done the light supply in Kono is improving but water is a huge problem. The feeder road network from Koidu town to the Chiefdom headquarter towns are bad.

On transport he said there are no taxis in Kono, Okada are the only means of transporting within the town. The government bus runs once a day from Koidu to the capital city of Freetown said is bad.

He went on to say that as a PC they are not politicians, under the code of ethics they should be prepared to work with any government of the day.

On behalf of himself and his colleagues he appealed for unity and ask that the union should not be politicised. He asked members to be united and love each other in the interest of Kono.

Chief Mbawa stressed on KDDA UK involving the Chiefs in whatever they want to do in Kono. He said the PCs are there to help and monitor anything that is assigned to them.

On doctors travel pack, Chief Mbawa said the Chiefs should be involve in order to monitor and ensure a fair distribution of the drugs.

Mr. Kabba supported the Chiefs to be involve in the distribution of the drugs. Mr. Kanjia was concern about the monitoring of the drugs. Sister Mary Sumana we deal with the PCs to ease the burden on people and minimise problems surrounding distribution. Mrs. Aminata Gborie stressed on the organisation been non-political and therefore people should not be associated with politics in any way or form. Mr. Tondoneh said that KDDA UK demonstrated against the abuse of the land by those who think they should not be questioned. He said Kono did not demonstrate against any particular person but against those who abused our land. He went on to say that if anyone feel offended let them be but KDDA UK will continue in that direction defending the land and the people. KDDA UK he said is a lobbying group to lobby organisations and people to work with KDDA UK to help improve Kono. He also supported the idea that the PCs should get involve in the distribution of the drugs. Since the drug would be a roll on or continuous Chairman Tondoneh want every Chiefdom to benefit from the drug. He added that the medicine supply would be a roll on, that is it would be continuous.

Ms. Theresa Williams asked Chief Mbawa what are some of the agreement about the mining in Kono. According to Chief Mbawa the Kimberlite mining was a long-time agreement signed by NPRC. Mrs. Nyandemo asked the similar question adding that she knows the mining contract was signed long ago, but what are the Chiefs doing about the mining – OCTEA in particular. She went on to say that when the Mayor sue OCTEA no Chief stood by him. She says Konos and their Chiefs are too silent about the mining which is not good enough. Chief Mbawa replied that he does not know why and besides they are not politicians.

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Mrs., Nyandemo stressed on the fact that the Chiefs are custodians of the land, why they have not asked for property tax? Chief Mbawa said yes, the land belongs to them but anything 6feet below the land belongs to the government and concluded by saying he is not a political but a traditional leader and would be inappropriate to answer political questions.

Mr. SYO Lebbie a former Chairman of the KDDA UK buttress the 6feet below the earth in support of Chief Mbawa. Mr. Tamba Gborie asked about the feeder roads and what is been done about them? P/C Mbawa said contracts about feeder roads are done in Freetown without consulting the people and the Chiefs therefore they cannot do much. Mr. Kanga asked how the Council of Chiefs meet and what do they discuss. Mr. Mbawa said they discuss relevant matters; what matters he did not say and why?

Mr Kabba made an observation regarding the calendars and the dinner dance.

Mr. David Moiforay report the death of the organisations former Chairman, Mr. Kai Sumana, Mrs. Jane Sesay – Sodengbe a member of the association. He also inform members about the three year death anniversary celebrations about Mrs. Sally Kpakima which was to be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Mr. Moiforay said the organisation should not be there to visit only when someone died, he said the association should start visiting the sick as well. David announced the burial date of the Late Mr. Sumana to take place at Chigwell on the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Mr. Augustine Kpakima formerly invited KDDA UK members to attend his late wife’s three-year anniversary giving the full address and details about the Church and the hall for reception.

The Radio programmes to promote KDDA UK and educate our people was discussed but not concluded. Suggestions were for the programme to take place monthly, regularly or weekly was not conclude either. The idea is also to discuss specific topics like menstrual, menopause, education and a lot more.

Programme coordination things involve.

Risk assessment of the programme

Continuity

Whether the programme will benefit the people or not. Advice from Cranfield according to the Chairman, KDDA UK should stop the talking and do more work. Since all the members are working, the idea to employ someone to do the work for the organisation was discussed but the funding is the main issue at this point. Members also discussed about how the projects put in place would be funded. Mr. Tondoneh appeal to members to help research for funders for the blind school in Kono. To get funding for projects they funders would need the credit history of

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the organisation. Mr. Augustine Kpakima said we can apply for funding to pay whoever we employ, office rent etc., etc. He said further that the organisations credit record must be good because credit rating is important.

Elections, positions to be filled.

The elections were conducted under Mr. David Nyandemo as the electoral commissioner.

Assistant Welfare 1 and 2.

Assistant Programme Coordinator

Assistant Secretary General

1. Mrs Aminata Gborie nominated Mrs. Salome Kongomanyi for Welfare 1. She was unopposed. Mrs. Salome Kongomanyi was declared duly elected by the electoral Commissioner Mr. Nyandemo.
2. Mr. Tamba Opel Sumana nominated Mr. Wusie Foday for Welfare 2, Mr. Foday turned down the post for personal reasons.
3. Mr. Sahr Kabba nominated Mr. Denise Turner for the position of Assistant Welfare 2. Mr. Turner was declared duly elected by the electoral commissioner.
4. For the position of Assistant Programme Coordinator, Chairman, Mr. Aiah Tondoneh nominated Mr. Opas Jimmy-kay for the post of Assistant Programme Coordinator. Mr. Jimmy-kay went unopposed and was duly declared as the Assistant Programme Coordinator.
5. For the position of Assistant /Deputy Secretary Mr. Sahr Kabba nominated Mr. Samuel Foyoh. He too went unopposed and was duly declared by the electoral commissioner Mr. Nyandemo as the deputy Secretary General for KDDA UK.

After the elections the new electives were formerly introduced to the members. The new Trustees had photo ops and hand shake with the Chairman and the members with the promise to do their work to the best of their abilities to help move the organisation forward.

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## AOB

Kono Conference in the USA.

Mr, Nyandemo the Chairman for the Kono Conference held in London in August 2016 inform members about the coming Kono Conference in the USA is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2017 and all are invited.

Mr. Tondoneh ask that the KDDA UK Conference details and artefacts to be uploaded on the KDDA UK website for the records and historical memory. He also requested that PC Mbawa to inform the other PCs in Kono that KDDA UK is a non-political party, he made it clear that the organisation is stand tall and high in defending Kono against abuse and marginalisation. PC Mbawa said he is willing to take the message to the rest of the PCs but KDDA UK must make it formal by writing a letter signed by the union to the remaining PCs. The KDDA UK membership agreed to write a letter to the effect outlining who we are and what we stand for.

Mrs. Nyandemo call on KDDA UK members to support her Charity the SICKLECELL. She said her charity can now boast of having a doctor working full time to screen the treat patients. The doctor has chosen 120 children to treat them for the first two years. She said the number of children her charity is supporting are about one thousand and over and she is getting a lot of assistant from people around the world. She said recent she received 1,000.00 euros from a lady in Sweden in support of her charity.

Mr. Wusu Foday reported on the sickness of Ms. Sia Komba. Mrs. Nyandemo responded that as it was their duty to visit the sick they made several attempts to visit Ms. Komba but to no avail so they cannot do much. Mrs Ngegba buttress Mrs Nyandemo's statement about Ms. Komba that they did everything possible to meet with Ms. Komba but it appears as if she did not want anyone to visit her so they cannot do much. And this is how it all ended.

The meeting ended with Christian and Muslim prayers by Ms. Mary Sumana and Mr. Amadu Bah.

The end.