



Kono District Development Association

Mouth Piece of the Kono People in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland

MINUTES OF KONO DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (KDDA) GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2010

VENUE: Actra Tenant Hall, 375 Old Kent Road, London SE1 5JQ

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Juliet Samura at 1745 hours, with the Interim Social Secretary Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh acting as the Secretary General. Due to the late start, the meeting proceeded to the opening address by the Chairman Dr Kai Ngegba.

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS

The Chairman Dr Kai Ngegba updated members with recent activities undertaken by the association. He told members that the affairs of KDDA are moving forward. He stated that the Thanksgiving Service at the Eagle Christian Church, the very first for our association was a success. There was a reasonable attendance including the Chairman of the Kono Tribal Administration in Freetown Chief Sahr Orlando Gbekie who addressed the congregation. He apologized to members who did not receive the Thanksgiving Service invitations. Pastor Juliet Samura's sermon; Restoration, for the sake of winning was inspiring. He also confirmed to the audience that change of signatories at our bank has been completed and that KDDA now has a website. He told members that KDDA needs money and activities are being funded by the interim executive. He appealed to members to pay their monthly contribution of ten pounds. The Interim Chairman also reminded members that efforts are still being made to collect KDDA properties from the former Chairman Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana. Members were also informed about a letter received from James Solicitors regarding a defamatory publication written by Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana purporting to be Chairman of KDDA. He then deferred the matter to AOB for further discussion.

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The next item on the agenda was the minutes of our last meeting which was read by the Interim Secretary General Mr. Aiah Sodengbe, who expressed his apology for coming late. Some copies of the minutes were randomly distributed before being read by the Interim Secretary General. The minutes of the KDDA meeting held on the 14th August 2010 were then reviewed; Mr. Tamba D Sam Sumana corrected the Interim Secretary General not to address him as Tamba D Sumana. Mr. David Morsay asked about the response from Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana regarding properties of the association. In response to his question, the Chairman opined that there are laws that govern institutions in UK and the process to retrieve our properties are ongoing. In the absence of any other amendments and comments, Mr. Tamba D Sam Sumana moved that the minutes be adopted. This was seconded by Mr. Sahr Stephen Kabba.

UPDATE FROM KDDA SECRETARIAT

The Interim Secretary General then gave an overview and update of the KDDA secretariat to the audience. He informed members that the KDDA website was up and running and the address is www.kdda.co.uk. He urged members to access news and vital information from the site. He thanked Mr Sahr Stephen Kabba who was pivotal for the success of the project. The discounted cost for the design and one year operation is 290 pounds. The success of this website was started with voluntary contributions from the following members;

Dr Kai Ngegba 20 pounds	Mr. Feias Gbondo Saquee 20 pounds
Mr. Aiah Y Sodengbe 20 pounds	Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh 20 pounds
Mr. Sahr Stephen Kabba 20 pounds	Mr. Kai Kpakima 10 pounds

The Interim Secretary General also stressed that suggestions and constructive criticisms are always welcome and believes they would serve as a driving force in improving our service.

KDDA FINANCIAL STATEMENT: OCTOBER 2002 TO OCTOBER 2010

The Interim financial secretary Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa gave a brief synopsis of the KDDA financial statement covering the period October 2002 to October 2010. Mr. Samuel Torto informed the meeting that Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana has sent letters purporting to be the Chairman of the KDDA and describing KDDA members as deceitful. He suggested we need a response to this communication. He further stated that Mr. Tamba Opel Sam Sumana is using the KDDA emblem and distributed 500 copies. In his words "I would be supporting moral and legal proceedings". The Chairman responded "The house must decide what next". Mr. Gbanga Bona indicated we focus on the suffering and anxiety of our people and move on.

Mr. David Tumoe Saffa who was the campaign manager for Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana then stood up and apologized to members for supporting him. He said he never knew him in Sierra Leone and only supported him at the time because he thought he was the right person to lead. He said he fell out with him when he refused to conduct elections after his term of office had expired. He then stated that the association must seek an injunction order to stop him using our emblem.

Mrs. Agnes Macauley thanked the Interim executive for their effort and reminded the membership not to lose focus on why we meet. She suggested we seek the help of some elders to talk to Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana about his conduct.

At this point, Chief Saa Y O Lebbie reminded the house that so many elders including Sierra Leone's Deputy Ambassador to UK His Excellency Tamba Mansa Ngegba had spoken to him but no effect. He suggested a medical solution.

The Interim Secretary General informed the audience that Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana organized so many functions but does not reflect on the association's bank statement and that it is a matter of serious concern. The functions are as follows;

1. Last Saturday in July 2003.....Seaside outing to Brighton
2. 3rd January 2004.....Annual Dance Brixton Recreation
3. 31st July 2004.....Seaside outing to Eastbourne
4. 8th January 2005.....Annual Dance
5. July 2005 Outing flopped
6. 5th August 2006.....Seaside outing to Margate
7. 13th January 2007.....Dance at Lambeth Town Hall (Kanda Bongoman)
8. Sales of 2000 copies of KDDA Directories at five pounds per copy .

The Interim Chairman then decided to defer the decision on the financial matter and the membership to be updated as soon as possible.

AOB

The Interim Chairman informed members that he has received a letter from James Solicitors threatening legal action in relation to a defamatory letter written by Mr. Tamba Opel Sam Sumana and claiming to be the KDDA Chairman. He then asked the membership to decide on the course of action. Mr. David Tumoe Saffa then suggested we seek a solicitor to write an injunction to Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana and emphasized that people have to be liable for their actions. Mr. Alex Wuseini suggested we use our experience to solve the problem. Mrs. Agnes Macauley suggested Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana be approached once more with the help of elders like Chief Sahr Orlando Gbekie. There were two motions on the floor. Mr. Tamba Augustine Kpakima then stated he would not hesitate to take any draconian measure against Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana, and that the association must pursue an injunction. The Chairman informed members that legal action goes with cost and the association is short of money. Mr. Samuel Torto then said he was not impressed with the sentiment shown by some members and informed the house that there is a 200 pounds legal fund to be collected from Mr. Augustine Tutu and the money would be channeled to the association. At this point it was decided to put the two motions into vote.

MOTION 1: To seek an injunction order against Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana to desist from using our letter head or emblem for any communication purposes whatsoever, and to stop claiming to be the Chairman of KDDA United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

MOTION 2: To seek the help of KDDA elders to talk to Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana to stop using KDDA letter head or emblem for any communication purposes whatsoever, and to stop claiming to be the Chairman of KDDA United Kingdom and Northern Ireland.

Twenty one (21) members voted for motion one.

There was no vote for motion two.

There were fourteen (14) abstentions.

The total number of votes was thirty five (35)

Mr. David Moiforay then moved that motion one be adopted by the house. This was seconded by Mr. David Morsay.

A legal fund was set up and the following contributions were made;

1. Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa.....20 Pounds
2. Mr. David Tumoe Saffa.....20 Pounds
3. Mr. & Mrs. Elizabeth Nganga Tondoneh.....30 Pounds
4. Mr. Alex Wuseini.....10 Pounds
5. Mr. Sahr C Kamanda.....10 Pounds
6. Mr. Tamba Augustine Kpakima.....20 Pounds
7. Mr. & Mrs. Finda Ngegba.....20 Pounds
8. Mr. & Mrs. Christiana Sodengbe.....10 Pounds

Mr. David Morsay suggested a body be set up to look into the KDDA account following revelations in the KDDA financial statement covering the period October 2002 to October 2010.

Mr. Tamba Gborie commented that he was not sure whether the Interim executive was within their mandate. He however suggested Mr. Gbanga Bona and Mrs. Agnes Macauley should be selected to look into the matter. There was another suggestion from Chief Saa Y O Lebbie that an elected body deals with the enquiries. The Chairman then informed

the house that they would be updated on the issue later. The Interim Chairman and the Interim Financial Secretary both appealed to members to pay their monthly subscription of ten pounds. Some members paid and others promised to pay later. The date for the next General Meeting was agreed as Saturday 04th December 2010 at the same venue. KDDA bank details available on the website.

Mrs. Agnes Macauley commented on the five thousand pounds that was sent to Mrs. Musa in Kono. She suggested the executive contact her and ensure the money is use for the intended purpose. Chief Sahr Orlando Gbokie updated the house that Mrs. Musa had plans to hand over the money to KONDU but could not confirm whether KONDU had received the money. The Interim Chairman would look into the matter.

The Interim Social Secretary Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh appealed to members to forward their details to the executive as soon as possible to update our record.

Chief Sahr Orlando Gbokie stated that he hope KDDA would be represented at Sierra Leone's 50th year celebrations next year.

There were forty four (44) people in attendance.

Mr. Feias Gbondo Saquee proposed a closure of the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh at 2044 hours.

Thanks for your attention.

Aiah Y Sodengbe
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