



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 14TH AUGUST 2010.*

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

The meeting started with a prayer by Pastor Juliet Samura at 1736 hours. This was followed immediately by the welcome address by the KDDA Interim Chairman Dr Kai Ngegba..

In his welcome address the Interim Chairman Dr Kai Ngegba welcome members to the meeting and gave a brief background information on the formation of the Interim committee at the general meeting on 26/06/2010 and its objective. .He indicated that the lord Jesus Christ was in the forefront of his agenda and that KDDA membership is open to all those interested in furthering the interest of the association. He also informed members of the reconciliatory effort of the Interim team that lead to a special meeting at the residence of the Deputy Commissioner H. E Tamba Mansa Ngegba. At the meeting were Mr. Tamba Opel Sam Sumana and other kono elders. The reconciliatory effort is on- going. He introduced the nine-man Interim committee as follows:

Interim Chairman: Dr Kai Ngegba

Vice Chairman: Pastor Juliet Samura

Interim Secretary General: Aiah Y Sodengbe

Assistant Secretary General: Kai Kpakima

Interim Financial Secretary: Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa

Interim Social Secretary: Aiah B Tondoneh

David Moiforay: Member

Fears Gbondo Saquee: Member

Alex Husseini: Member.

The next item on the agenda was update from the KDDA Secretariat. This was three fold with reports by the Interim Secretary General, the Interim Social Secretary, and the Interim Financial Secretary respectively.

The Interim Secretary General emphasized the need for transparency and quality service to members. He updated members with communication with the former Chairman of KDDA Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana. The letter formally informed Mr. Sumana that the KDDA membership has unanimously passed a vote of no confidence in his entire executive

and instructed to hand over all official documents of KDDA to the Interim Chairman. This is in accordance with our mandate on 26/06/2010. Mr. Sumana verbally acknowledged receipt of the letter to the Interim Chairman but failed to send a response to the Secretariat. The membership was also informed that there had been one public release from the secretariat captioned “Update from KDDA Interim committee”. This document has been sent to members in UK and beyond.

The Interim Social secretary Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh gave a report about the outing to Margate. He said the main objective was to boast the membership drive. It was self sponsored. Two buses made the trip to Margate. For the first time in the history of KDDA, food and drinks were provided free and the music was also provided free courtesy of Mr. Tamba Jimmy Kay. The Social secretary also mentioned plans to reproduce Kono CDs to raise funds for the association..

The Interim Financial Secretary Mrs. Patricia Bondu Saffa urged members to show that they are determined to move forward and “forget about Blackman time”. She informed members that the sum of one thousand and two hundred pounds was raised by the Interim executive to fund the coach hire to Margate. She thanked Mr. Aiah B Tondoneh for initiating the “Sonneh” outing. She thanked Mrs. Yei Wiafi for her contribution to the success of the outing and also thanked all members who made the trip a success. She also informed members of her impending trip to kono during which she would make consultations with the elders.

Under AOB Mr. T D Sumana thanked the Interim executive for their innovations and observed that the KDDA outing was a great success despite the short notice. He then stated that members should subscribe to the association. He also stated that KDDA was admired across Europe. This was further supported by Mrs. Evelyn Nyandemo who reminded members that KDDA was the oldest organization in UK. She urged members to change their attitude and start making monthly contributions. She said you lead by example and informed members about the progress of the Sickle cell organization which she started with her husband and now supporting kids and patients in Kono District.

The Deputy High Commissioner H.E. Tamba Mansa Ngegba cautioned the association not to be political. He was later reminded by the Interim Secretary General that KDDA would always remain a non-political association. The Secretary General stated “ Publication from the secretariat has the consent of the entire Interim executive and it is right to communicate with all political Parties from Sierra Leone. KDDA has members in APC, SLPP, PMDC, and other parties. We must communicate with our members and the Sierra Leone organizations at large.”

Members were also informed of the timely letter of support from the Kono Tribal Authority in the western area which was well received. Copies of the letter were distributed.

Mr. Sahr Sinah urged members to come together and conduct elections. He was informed that that was one of the objectives of the Interim executive but must be done in an organized and transparent manner.

Mr. Sahr Kabba enquired about the next step to get the association’s properties from Mr. Tamba Opel Pessima Sam Sumana. The Interim Chairman informed the membership that efforts are in progress to contact Mr. Sumana. In his words “ It takes time to kill an ant”.

Mr. Tamba Gborie told members to rely on the Interim executive to carry out their duties and we should focus on helping our people in kono district.

Mr. Sahr Kamanda reiterated that the executive should be given time to get a good result.

Chief S Y O Lebbie urge members not to keep reminding the Interim team about their mandate and stated if you meet a shattered society it take time to put together.

In response to a question by Mrs. Siah Jaward, Chief S Y O Lebbie updated the house that because of the cosmopolitan nature of kono, it was agreed that members should feel free to speak in their choice of language.

A monthly contribution of ten pounds was agreed at the meeting for each member starting August. Chief Lebbie also advice the executive that efforts should be made to contact members.

Mr. David Moiforay stated God is with us and suggested we have a thanksgiving service. The date of 05th September was agreed for the thanksgiving service .Further details to be communicated to members.

The date for the next general meeting was also agreed as Saturday 30th October 2010 at the same venue.

Thirty seven members were in attendance.

Meeting concluded at ...2030.....hours.

Thank you.

Aiah Y Sodengbe

KDDA Interim Secretary General

United Kingdom and Northern Ireland

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