



Kono District Development Association

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

Email: kddanewsletter@hotmail.com Website: www.kdda.co.uk

30TH NOVEMBER 2012

MINUTES OF KDDA GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 2012

VENUE: Actra Tenant Hall, 375 Old Kent Road, London SE1 5JQ
Nearest bus routes: 21, 53, 63, 78, 168, 172, 368, & 453.

AGENDA

1. Prayers 5 minutes
2. Introductions 5 minutes
3. Minutes and matters arising from the General Meeting held on Saturday 11th August 2012 10 minutes
4. Chairman's address by Dr. Kai Ngegba 10 minutes
5. Report on the Fund Raising Dinner & Cultural Dance held on Saturday 18th August 2012 by the Social Secretary Mr. Aiah Bondowa Tondoneh 10 minutes
6. Constitutional Review Process 50 Minutes
7. Cultural Awareness Classes 10 minutes
8. The court case Opel vs. KDDA 5 minutes
9. Rapprochement of Konos in the Diaspora 5 Minutes
10. A.O.B 10 Minutes

PRAYERS & MINUTES

The meeting started with a muslim prayer by Mr. Mackie Sheik at 1848 hours, followed by a Christian prayer by Pastor Juliet Samura. Members introduced themselves starting with the Chairman Dr. Kai Ngegba. The minutes of KDDA General Meeting held on Saturday 11th August 2012 was then read by the Secretary General Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe.

On matters arising from the minutes, Mr. Sahr Otto Fasuluku reminded members that it was agreed that two further meetings be scheduled to discuss the draft constitution. The Secretary General then stated that meetings for constitutional discussion can not be capped though it is in the interest of the association for the constitution to be thoroughly discussed and adopted as soon as possible. Mr. Sahr Changati Kamanda then suggested we progress,

being a constitutional review process. In the absence of any other matter, Mr. Aiah Bondowa Tondoneh moved that the minutes be accepted. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Sia Evelyn Nyandemo.

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Chairman Dr. Kai Ngegba warmly welcomed all at the meeting and thanked members for their various contributions to the success of the KDDA Dinner and Cultural Dance held on 18th August 2012. He expressed special thanks to Mrs. Sia Evelyn Nyandemo for organising classes for the cultural dance and thanked the parents who made their children available for a wonderful performance.

He urged members to participate fully in the constitutional review process and the cultural classes being organised. He informed members that Mrs. Gladys Boahene has donated mattresses to us and efforts are being made to get other necessary items for onward shipment to Kono District.

The Chairman appealed to all Kono organisations to attend meetings to discuss the challenges and enormous tasks ahead. He also urged members to dream about good and strong infrastructure in Kono. He stressed that we can not do without peace if we want to succeed.

REPORT ON THE FUND RAISING DINNER & CULTURAL DANCE.

The Social Secretary Mr. Aiah Bondowa Tondoneh firstly distributed his prepared report to members before his presentation. The KDDA Dinner and Cultural Dance were held on 18th August 2012.

In his report, he thanked all those who contributed financially and morally to the success of the venture. Special thanks expressed to the KDDA cultural dancers, and the special performers; Junior Mafinda and Tyrone. He also appeal to members to support the Disc Jockey (DJ) DJ Deek (Mr. Sidikie Mafinda), being a KDDA youth.

At this point, Mr. Septimus Lebbie who did not attend the event informed the audience that he will issue a cheque for thirty pounds to cover the cost of one entry ticket. The Secretary General Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe thanked Mr. Lebbie for his generosity and continued support.

The Social Secretary informed members that despite problems such as lack of adequate funds in the KDDA account, was pleased to announce that KDDA made a profit of One thousand five hundred and four pounds and sixty three pence (1504.63 pounds) plus assets. Out of three hundred tickets printed, eighty eight were sold. This included both adults and kids' tickets. KDDA can now boast of the following assets;

1. Two hundred (200) spandex premium stretchable chair covers
2. Flower vases
3. Artificial flowers

In addition to the assets, we can also boast of some left-over drinks currently stored at the Chairman's residence.

Mr. Sahr Dingiswayo Nyandemo suggested enquiries should be made to fix hire cost on our chair covers. Mr. Mackie Sheik suggested there should be incentive to regular members. The Social Secretary then confirmed that he would do some market research and details to be made available.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW PROCESS

The Secretary General thanked the Constitutional Review Committee for an excellent achievement in assembling a draft constitution and bylaws for the association. He commended the Chairman of the committee Mr. Sahr Otto Fasuluku for his devotion to the end product of the process. The Chairman of KDDA Dr. Kai Ngegba urged members to be active in the review process and their contributions were essential for the future of the association. Mr. Sahr Otto Fasuluku was then invited to brief the audience about the status of the process. Mr. Fasuluku urged members to perused the draft constitution and bylaws and put forward their comments for deliberation. He read out the Name, Objects and Membership of the draft KDDA constitution, which were discussed systematically. The following amendments were agreed;

1. The association's name is: The Kono District Development Association United Kingdom.
2. To promote under 18s (Youth) civil society participation, inclusion and citizenship and establish youth projects in the United Kingdom and Sierra Leone. No parallel youth organisation must be formed. (Part 1:3 refers)
3. Membership must be demonstrated.

The Secretary General informed the audience that detail of the Cultural Awareness Classes to be circulated with further information on the KDDA website www.kdda.co.uk

Members were urged to attend Lambeth County Court for the scheduled hearing of the case Opel v KDDA on 16th & 17th October 2012.

Mr. Sahr Dingiswayo Nyandemo was invited by the Secretary General to comment on the topic; Rapprochement of Konos in the Diaspora. He reiterated the need for Konos to start addressing their problems by drawing up a blueprint for Kono District. He asked the audience "What happened to the Diamonds?" There was no response to his question. Mr. Nyandemo then informed the audience that plans are ongoing to provide a platform for Konos all over the world to discuss issues affecting the progress of Kono District. He suggested a conference in summer 2013 for deliberation.

Under AOB, Mr. Sahr Stephen Kabba notified members of the presence of Mr. David Tumoe Saffa in London for treatment. Sympathies were expressed by members. At 2144 hours, Mr. Feias Gbondo Saaquee moved that the meeting be closed. This was seconded by Mr. Septimus Lebbie and the closing prayer was conducted by Mr. Tom Fasuluku.

There were thirty (30) people in attendance.

Thanks for your attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aiah Yornie Sodengbe', is centered on a light green rectangular background.

Mr. Aiah Yornie Sodengbe
Secretary General
KDDA United Kingdom
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