

TRUE PATRIOTS ENLIGHTENMENT AND EMPOWERMENT ORGANIZATION (TPEE)

PREAMBLE:

We the members of "TRUE PATRIOTS ENLIGHTENMENT AND EMPOWERMENT ORGANIZATION, AFFIRMING our commitment to enlightenment, intellectual empowerment, lectures, rallies, seminars, summits, symposia and physical communal meetings etc. on the need for **HONESTY, TRUSTWORTHINESS SELFLESSNESS, IDEAL SOCIAL, CIVIL AND CIVIC BEHAVIORS** as basics for "TRUE PATRIOTISM" in Africa and entire globe though with Nigeria as pilot country in cooperation with like-minded people and organizations, **DO HEREBY** make, enact and give ourselves the following **CONSTITUTION**

1.0 NAME

- 1.1 The ORGANIZATION should be known and called, TRUE PATRIOTS ENLIGHTENMENT AND EMPOWERMENT ORGANIZATION (TPEE) (hereinafter referred to as "TRUE PATRIOTS" or the ORGANIZATION)

2.0 OUR MISSION:

"THE TRUE PATRIOTS" is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-religious, non-regional, non-tribal, gender neutral, color blind, strongly non-partisan organization devoted to the rebirth of Africa and the entrenchment of true Patriotism. To this end, we shall embark on public awareness, enlightenment, orientation and engagement. Our teachings shall revolve around, **ideal civic** behaviours, civic rights and responsibilities, civilized, selfless, humane, responsible, peaceful social and society friendly behaviours. We aim to give public lectures at centers, market places, churches, mosques, annual award dinners, seminars, conventions, at different gatherings if permitted, on televisions, radios, newspapers, and all social media, (Facebook, WhatsApp groups, u tube, X, TikTok, Instagram, WeChat). These are aimed to develop citizens with **INTEGRITY, SELFLESSNESS, TRUSTWORTHINESS, HONESTY and thus "TRUE PATRIOTIC"** characters for good governance, growth and development of the African Continent when they get to the corridors of African powers.

3.0 OUR VISION:

- 3.1. **The True Patriots** shall seek recognitions from government at all levels (Federal, State & Local Governments), MDAs, Federal & State Police Commands, the Armed Forces, Professional bodies (Bar, Journalism, Medical, Accounting Associations etc), Trade Unions, Religious bodies etc.
- 3.2 We shall use subject field experts or professionals with proven track record in each specific topic or area of interest on patriotism.
- 3.3. Our teachings shall not be antagonistic or insulting but persuasive and thus lead to rejuvenation of the mind.
- 3.4. Our work tools shall include flyers, hand bills, short videos, documentaries, cartoons using the print, electronic and social media.

4.0 NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

- 4.1 The "TRUE PATRIOTS" shall be registered in Nigeria and have its national headquarters situated in Lagos State, Nigeria.
- 4.2 Branches – International, Zones, State may be formed, provided that the national headquarters is informed and approves, and that the fundamental objectives of the branches are in consonance with the objectives of the "TRUE PATRIOTS.

5.0 LEGAL STATUS

- 5.1 The "TRUE PATRIOTS" shall be a body corporate, which can sue or be sued in its own name.

- 5.2 The “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be a NON-PROFIT MAKING, VOLUNTARY BODY, dedicated to preaching, lectures and other enlightenment activities on the need for “TRUE PATRIOTISM” with special focus and honesty, selflessness, trustworthiness, uphold of civil responsibilities and rights in pursuits of integrity as a means to reduce corruption and encourage good governance and better society in Africa and Nigeria in particular.

6.0 THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- 6.1 The “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be managed by a Board of Trustees (hereinafter called “the Board”). The Trustees shall be known collectively as the Board of Trustees for the “TRUE PATRIOTS”
- 6.2 There shall be a Board of Trustees for the “TRUE PATRIOTS” consisting of not more than nine (9) Trustees who are responsible persons
- 6.3 The first Trustees of “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be
- a. DR. ROYS IKEDIONU
 - b. NASIR KABIR
 - c. AMB DR. VICTOR OSADOLOR
 - d. PETER UZUWA
 - e. MR. OZORGWU P. CHINEDU
 - f. DR. JESSE GWANDI
 - g. MUIZZA TARELA OKAFOR
 - h. COMRADE OLUGBENGA TUNDE ADEWALE
- 6.4 The Trustees shall hold and deal with the property of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” (other than cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurer). They shall have powers to receive gifts and donations on behalf of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 6.5 All the properties of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be vested in the Trustees jointly in trust for the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and the Trustees shall deal with the same in the interest and to the benefit of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and as may be directed by the National Executive Committee.
- 6.6 A Trustee may hold office for life, but may be removed from office by the Annual General Meeting on the grounds of prolonged absence or for any other reasons which might make him/her unable to perform the duties of his/her office.

7.0 POWERS AND DUTIES OF TRUSTEES

- 7.1 The Trustees shall have the power to appoint additional Trustees to fill a casual vacancy arising out of the death or resignation of a Trustee, subject to ratification at an Annual General Meeting.

8.0 DISQUALIFICATION OF TRUSTEES

- 8.1 The office of a Trustee shall be vacated:
- a. If he is an infant.
 - b. If he is found lunatic or becomes of unsound mind.
 - c. If he becomes bankrupt or insolvent or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors.
 - d. If he has been convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty within five years of the proposed appointment.
 - e. If by notice in writing to the Organizations he resigns the office of Trustee.

9.0 MEMBERSHIP

The membership is open to any person from any part of the globe that has or shows interest in the growth and development of African leadership systems as regards honesty and integrity of leaders and "TRUE PATRIOTISM" among the citizens.

Membership is in 4 categories

- A. **The PATRONS:-**, this will be by appointment and must be elderly statesmen or women of proven integrity and "TRUE PATRIOTISM" to their countries of origin but can be from any country in the world such as past and current presidents and former employees of international organizations and others that distinguished themselves in "TRUE PATRIOTIC" behaviors.
- B. **HONORARY (AMBASSADORS)** mostly Celebrities (actors, wealthy philanthropists, scholars etc. with the aim of a particular usefulness to the organization in the propagation of our activities.
- C. **THE FINANCIAL MEMBERS (ASSOCIATE)** This is heart beat of the organization, the financial members are the active members of the organization, they contribute money, take decisions, execute them, considered for quorum in meetings, represent the organization in both local and international functions, qualified for international trainee scholarships, the organization's recommendations etc. it is open for every person around the world that enrolls officially with the minimum amount to be agreed by the house and on the organization's PORTAL as included in our Website.
- D. **MEMBERS.** This may form the bulk of the members of the organization. These will include the primary school pupils, secondary school students, university undergraduates, youth NYSC members and artisan that may not be able to contribute financially by paying for their enrollment on the Portal. Much of our teachings are to be concentrated on these people for a future society high in honesty, integrity and "TRUE PATRIOTISM"

10.0 OFFICERS OF THE “TRUE PATRIOTS”

- 10.1 The following officers of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall form the Executive Committee:
 - (i) President
 - (ii) Vice President
 - (iii) Secretary
 - (iv) Assistant Secretary
 - (v) Treasurer
 - (vi) Financial Secretary
 - (vii) Publicity Secretary
 - (viii) Welfare Officer
 - (ix) Organizing Secretary
 - (x) ICT/Media Coordinator
 - (xi) Student / Youth Coordinator

- 10.2 The immediate past President of the Organizations shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee.

11.0 FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 11.1 The Executive Committee shall:
 - (i) Carry out all policy decisions of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and initiate programmes and activities that are in conformity with the objectives of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
 - (ii) Have power to take decisions on behalf of and act for the “TRUE PATRIOTS” in between Annual General Meetings.
 - (iii) Meet at least quarterly and on the day preceding the Annual General Meeting.
 - (iv) Receive gifts and donations on behalf of the Organizations.
 - (v) Decide on the current applicable membership fees.

- 11.2 The Executive Committee shall stand dissolved on the expiration of its four year term or on the passing of a motion of censure carried by two-thirds of the members present and voting at an emergency General Meeting called specially for such purpose.
- 11.3 All decisions of the Executive Committee shall be taken by a simple majority vote. In the event of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.
- 11.4 A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be formed when there are six officers present, including either the President or the Vice President.

12.0 DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- 12.1 The President shall:
- (i) Preside whenever present at the meetings of the Annual General Meeting.
 - (ii) Decide the date, time, place and agenda of meetings in consultation with the Secretary and other members of the Executive.
 - (iii) Be responsible for the general supervision of the activities of all officers of the Organizations.
- 12.2 The **Vice President** shall:
- (i) Act for the President in his absence.
 - (ii) Perform other duties as may be assigned to him by the President.
 - (iii) Be responsible for mobilising support for increased membership for the Organizations.
 - (iv) Assist in the establishment of branches in the States.
- 12.3 The **Secretary** shall:
- (i) Keep proper records of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” membership activities and minutes of its meetings.
 - (ii) Be responsible on the President’s instruction for convening meetings.
 - (iii) Act as the Chief Correspondent of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
 - (iv) Prepare and present an annual report of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” activities to the Annual General Meeting.
 - (v) Hold an imprest to be determined by the Executive Committee and retire such imprest to the Treasurer.
 - (vi) Supervise the Secretariat of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”
 - (vii) Notify members of general meetings of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 12.4 The **Assistant Secretary** shall:
- (i) Assist the Secretary in the execution of his functions and in such other work as may be assigned to him; and
 - (ii) Assist in general mobilisation for increased membership.
- 12.5 The **Treasurer** shall:
- (i) Receive all monies belonging to the “TRUE PATRIOTS” from all sources.
 - (ii) Deposit such monies with the “TRUE PATRIOTS” bankers within three (3) working days of receipt.
 - (iii) Keep records of all monies received, deposited or withdrawn on behalf of the Organizations.
 - (iv) Seek information and advise on the investment of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” funds.
 - (v) Submit an audited statement of account to the Annual General Meeting.
 - (vi) Serve as one of the signatories to the “TRUE PATRIOTS” accounts.
 - (vii) Act on the financial approval of the Executive Committee.
 - (viii) Should send the account details to the executive platform after every withdrawal or deposits as soon as he/she gets the alert

12.6 The Financial Secretary shall:

- (i) Be responsible to the President on financial matters.
- (ii) Collect and keep a record of all dues and donations and hand over all sums collected to the Treasurer immediately.
- (iii) Ensure that the accounts of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” are audited once a year in time for copies of the audited accounts to be distributed to members not later than 2 weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.

12.7 The Publicity Secretary shall:

- (i) Be responsible to the President for the execution of the policies related to social and publicity matters as directed by the Executive Committee.
- (ii) Liaise between the mass media and the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- (iii) Issue press releases and other information on behalf of the Organizations as directed by the Executive Committee.
- (iv) Be responsible for the publicity work of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- (v) Assist in the general mobilisation for membership, and
- (vi) Be responsible for publishing news from the Secretariat on a regular basis.

13.0 COMMITTEES

13.1 The “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall have powers to set up its own standing committees and sub-committees. Initially, there shall be the following committees:-

- (i) Fund Raising
- (ii) Membership Drive
- (iii) Facilities Management
- (iv) Education/Awareness of the Body
- (v) Legal
- (vi) Publicity

Between general meetings of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”, the Executive Committee shall have the power to establish other committees as and when necessary, and appoint members thereto.

14.0 MEETINGS

14.1 An Annual General Meeting shall be held once in every mid year on a date set in the previous year. All members of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be entitled to attend and participate in the business of the Annual General Meeting.

14.2 A quorum shall be formed when there is one-third of the state branches representatives present

14.3 The Annual General Meeting shall have power to:

- (i) Receive and debate the reports of the Secretary (which shall incorporate reports from branches) and the Treasurer’s report which shall incorporate the Auditor’s Certificate.
- (ii) Discuss motions and resolutions submitted to it by or through the Executive Committee not later than 7 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- (iii) Take policy decisions on all matters affecting the welfare of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- (iv) Carry out social activities planned for such Annual General Meeting by the Executive members.
- (v) Elect the national officers of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and the ordinary members of the national Executive Committee.

- 14.4 General Meetings of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” will be held three times a year to follow the meetings of the Executive Committee.
- 14.5 An Emergency Meeting of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” may be called at the written request of one tenth of the paid-up members, but not less than six (6) paid up members, or at the discretion of the President in consultation with the Executive Committee.

15.0 FINANCES

- 15.1 The funds of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be derived from:
- (i) Annual subscriptions
 - (ii) Special contributions
 - (iii) Grants and donations
 - (iv) Sales from publications
 - (v) Loans
 - (vi) Fund raising activities
 - (vii) Investments
- 15.2 The funds may be applied for such purposes and in such manner as the Executive Committee shall in its discretion determine as long as they are consistent with the objectives of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 15.3 All monies received by or on behalf of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall in the first instance, be paid into the “TRUE PATRIOTS” bank.
- 15.4 A bank account shall be opened for the “TRUE PATRIOTS” to be operated by the President, the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer or as the Executive Committee shall from time to time direct. Any two of the signatories shall be competent to operate the “TRUE PATRIOTS” accounts.
- 15.5 No member shall, except for professional services rendered at the request of the Executive Committee, on any pretext or in any manner receive any profit or emoluments from the funds or transactions of the Organizations.
- 15.6 The Treasurer shall present an Annual Statement of Account at the Annual General Meeting.
- 15.7 Full accounts of the financial affairs of the Organizations duly audited shall be delivered to every member together with the notice convening the Annual General Meeting by the Secretary.
- 15.8 The “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall engage an accounting /audit firm which will be responsible for our audit, accounting activities and advice. He shall audit all the Books of Account of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” at least once every year and at such a time as it might be deemed necessary. He shall prepare and submit to the “TRUE PATRIOTS” an Annual Report on the audited Statement of Accounts. He shall have access to all accounts, statements and records of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” for his annual examination.

16.0 BORROWING POWERS

- 16.1 The organisation can only accept interest through loans from members and sympathizers only on the approval of all the BOT members and executive committee members reachable at the time.
- 16.2. Any loan taking without this due process is an impeachable offence for the president of the organisation.

17.0 SEAL

- 17.1 The Board shall provide a corporate seal, which shall have inscribed thereon the name of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and all documents to be executed by the Trustees shall be signed by such of them as is appropriate and sealed with the corporate seal.

18.0 CODE OF CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

- 18.1 Every member shall endeavour to behave in a way that will foster good relationship among members of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 18.2 The Executive Committee reserves the right to suspend the appointment of any officer who is not performing his duties satisfactorily until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 18.3 The decision of the Executive Committee shall be subject to appeal at any General Meeting whose decision shall be final.
- 18.4 On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, a General Meeting of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”, could be called on a minimum of 10 days notice, may by a two thirds majority of members present, vote to withdraw membership from any individual or organisation.

19.0 ELECTION

- 19.1 All officers of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall be elected as officers by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 19.2 The “TRUE PATRIOTS” shall nominate an electoral officer at the commencement of the Annual General Meeting in an election year. All electoral materials shall be made ready by the outgoing National Executive Committee before the election.
- 19.3 All questions for the determination of the Annual General Meeting of the Organizations shall be decided by a simple majority vote of the members present on a show of hands or otherwise as the President may direct, except matters touching on the amendment of the Constitution and the appointment of honorary members of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”, which shall be determined by ballot.
- 19.4 During the election of the national Executive Committee members, the Electoral Officer will have a casting vote in the event of a tie during the Annual General Meeting.
- 19.5 When an office (other than that having a vice or an assistant) becomes vacant before the expiration of the 4 year term, the Executive Committee shall have power to select a replacement who shall be deemed duly elected until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 19.6 Members of the Organizations can vote and be voted for only when they have met all their financial obligations for at least two consecutive years and have attended Annual General Meeting at least once in the last two years. Associate and honorary members shall not be eligible to vote or be voted for.
- 19.7 An officer shall be eligible for election provided that no member shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms of four years each.
- 19.8 In an election year, handover notes shall be prepared by all national officers and the Organizations’s property submitted to their respective successors, with a copy given to the Secretary at the Annual General Meeting.

20.0 ALTERATIONS IN CONSTITUTION

- 20.1 Any provision of this Constitution may be amended at an Annual General Meeting of the Organizations. Notice of such amendment which may be proposed by any member of the

Organizations shall be communicated to the Secretary, to reach him/her not less than sixty (60) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting at which it is proposed to be discussed.

- 20.2 The Secretary shall incorporate such proposed amendment in the notice to members convening the Annual General Meeting. No amendment shall be passed unless approved by at least a two-thirds majority vote or the next whole number greater than two-thirds of the members present and voting at such Annual General Meeting.

21.0 INCOME AND PROPERTY OF THE “TRUE PATRIOTS”

- 21.1 The income of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” whosoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly by way of dividend, bonus or profit to the members of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”.
- 21.2 No member of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” Executive shall be appointed to any salaried office of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” or any office of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” paid by fees and no remuneration or other benefit in money’s worth shall be given by the “TRUE PATRIOTS” to any such member except for out- of-pocket expenses.
- 21.3 If, in the event of a winding up or dissolution of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the “TRUE PATRIOTS” , but shall be given or transferred to some other institution(s) or organisation(s) whose objectives are similar to those of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”, and which are prohibited from distributing its or their income and property amongst its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the “TRUE PATRIOTS” hereunder, such institution(s) or organisation(s) to be determined by the Executive Committee at or before the time of dissolution and, in so far as effect cannot be given to the aforesaid provision, then to some charitable organisation(s).

22.0 INTERPRETATION

- 22.1 The national Executive Committee shall be the authority for the interpretation of these Rules, and Regulations made from time to time by the “TRUE PATRIOTS”

23.0 APPROVAL

- 23.1 This Constitution was approved at the Meeting of the “TRUE PATRIOTS”

SIGNED BY:

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY