

THE

CONSTITUTION AND LAWS
OF
GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA





NATIONAL ANTHEM

**Arise, O compatriots
Nigeria's call obey
To serve our fatherland
With love and strenght and faith
The labour of our heroes past
Shall never be in vain
To serve with heart and might
One nation bound in freedom
Peace and unity.**

**Oh God of creation
Direct our noble cause
Guide our leaders right
Help our youth the truth to know
In love and honesty to grow
And living just and true
Great lofty heights attain
To build a nation where peace
and justice shall reign**

NATIONAL PLEDGE

**I pledge to Nigeria my country
To be faithful, loyal and honest,
To serve Nigeria with all my strength
To defend her unity,
And uphold her honour and glory.
So help me God.**

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Preface

The foundation of Freemasonry rests upon the belief in the Almighty God. Its paramount ideal is the bringing to mankind of a full comprehension of the Brotherhood of all men under the Fatherhood of one ever-living God.

Freemasonry is a charitable, benevolent, educational and religious society. Its principles are proclaimed as widely as men will hear. Its only secrets are in the methods of recognition and of symbolic instructions. Duties and work are supervised, regulated and controlled through laws, written and unwritten, expressed through officers vested with power and authority.

Freemasonry is certainly not a religion, but is vitally religious. Its entire philosophy, and teachings, are predicated upon the existence of God, the God in whom men can place their trust and from whom strength and wisdom flow in response to prayer. It is religious in that the Volume of the Sacred Law (Bible for Christians, Quran for the Moslems, Vida for the Hindus, Torah for the Jews) are open upon its ceremonials, and to its brethren are constantly addressed lessons of morality. Yet it is not sectarian or theological, freemasonry recognizes that its Volume of the Sacred Law, in any faith, is the symbol of man's acknowledgement of and his relations to the Deity. No one religion has exclusive rights within the Fraternity.

Freemasonry is charitable, in that it is not organized for profit, but is devoted to the promotion of the welfare and happiness of mankind. It is benevolent in that it teaches and exemplifies altruism as a duty. It is educational in that it teaches by prescribed ceremonials, a system of morality and brotherhood based upon the Sacred Law.

The Principal tenets of Freemasonry are **Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth**. Its principles are self-evident, realistic and not visionary ideals. By the exercise of **Brotherly Love**, Freemasons are taught to regard the whole human species as one family and **Truth** is regarded as a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue. **Relief** is one of the forms of Charity.

Through the improvement and strengthening of the character of the individual man, Freemasonry seeks to improve the community. Thus, it impresses on its members the principles of personal righteousness and personal responsibility, enlightens them with that feeling of charity or goodwill, towards all mankind, which will move them to translate principle and conviction into action.

To that end it teaches and stands for the Worship of God, truth and justice, fraternity and philanthropy, and enlightenment and orderly liberty, civil, religious and intellectual. It charges its members to be true and loyal to the government of the country to which they owe allegiance and to be obedient to the Laws of any State in which they may be.

Masonic Meetings are held in special places known as **Lodges** where brethren work in harmony with zeal and ardour in accordance with **Rituals** of the **Craft** and where none but mature, honourable, law-abiding men of good repute and discretion worthy of becoming brethren are admitted. Freemasons consider honest **WORK** as an intrinsic duty of man, regarding it as an honorable means of the betterment of human life and as an essential attribute of dignified existence, and underlying the lesson of industry is the great principle of constructive work as opposed to that which is destructive. By the symbolic use of working tools of the **Craft** of Ancient Operative Masons, the most significant lessons in spiritual, ethical and moral applications to the common place every day routine are in their **Lodges**, imparted to Freemasons.

Even though Freemasonry preserves a secret about all its work and throws over its principles and teachings the garment of symbolism and ritual, its Art being a mystery with a great wall separating it from the profane world, nevertheless, its secrets are mere signs of recognition among members and its symbols are used only to demonstrate lessons of practical philosophy.

Freemasonry strictly adheres to its ancient and approved rules, which forbid the discussion in Masonic meetings of creeds, politics or other topics likely to cause personal animosities. It is contrary to the fundamental principle of Freemasonry for Masonic bodies to take action or attempt to exercise pressure or influence for or against any legislation or in any way to attempt severally or collectively to procure the election or appointment of government officials or to influence them, whether or not members of the Fraternity, in the performance of their official duties. The true Freemason will act in civil life according to his individual judgment and the dictates of his conscience.

In conclusion Masonry is a great fellowship of men of all countries and of all ages who are capable of discovering in the religious teachings of all humanity, the fundamental truth common to them all, that God is the father of all mankind and all men are brethren and that he who remains steadfast in the service of this ideal may well hope for and expect immortal life.

Preamble

Whereas from time immemorial, it has been the custom of Freemasons to diffuse the light of Masonic knowledge and instruction to people who desire and deserve same.

And whereas the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland having ascertained the need for such preferment by the peoples of Nigeria did extend to the territory and peoples of Nigeria, the rites and privileges of Ancient Freemasonry by constituting Daughter Lodges under their respective jurisdictions in the years, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-two and one thousand nine hundred and sixteen.

And whereas the **Brethren** thus constituted into these several **Daughter Lodges** have, over the years, demonstrated their proficiency in the tenets and principles of Ancient Freemasonry by adopting the Ancient Landmarks and by practicing the Aims and Relationships of the Craft jointly adopted by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand **Lodge of Scotland** in the year 1938.

And whereas by the consensus of the peoples of Nigeria, who are Freemasons, there is an urgent need for the establishment of a Sovereign Grand Lodge of Nigeria, in order to fulfill their aspirations to continue to practise Freemasonry in accordance with the Aims and Relationships of the Craft without prejudice to the natural tempo of popular demand for the complete autochtonization of all institutions.

In witness therefore that in pursuance of the above, we the **Brethren**, Masters and Warden of the several **Daughter Lodges in Nigeria** being members of **lodges** under the **Irish** and **Scottish Constitutions in Nigeria**, for ourselves and on behalf of all peoples of Nigeria, do hereby declare our support for the establishment of a **Sovereign Grand Lodge of Nigeria** under the name and style of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria and proclaim our perpetual loyalty and commitment to the said **GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA**, jointly and severally, together with our Masonic heirs and successors in office, whereby all hereditaments, corporeal or incorporeal, letters, patent, documents, charters, warrants, books, diplomas, certificates, patchments, papers and all Laws of Masonic clothing, Jewels, furniture's, fittings and paraphernalia, which shall now or at any future time be vested in the **Brethren and Lodge** (who are founders of the **GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA**) under the Irish and Scottish Constitutions shall, as from the operatives date held by them under the **GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA**. For these several purposes, we, the peoples of Nigeria who are **FREEMASONS, DO HEREBY**, make, enact, and **GIVE to OURSELVES**, the following Constitution and Laws of the **Grand Lodge of Nigeria**.

LAW 1

The Grand Lodge

The Grand Lodge of Nigeria hereinafter referred to as “the **Grand Lodge**”) is constituted by all Reigning Masters, Past Masters, and Wardens of Daughter Lodges in Nigeria whose lodges have signified their adhesion to the Grand Lodge in accordance with the **Concordat of 1905** jointly signed by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

The governance of Freemasonry in Nigeria shall be placed in the hands of the Grand Lodge which shall be composed of:

- (i) All Grand Officers and all Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge.
- (ii) All Provincial Grand Masters and Past Provincial Grand Masters recognized by the Grand Lodge.
- (iii) All Provincial Grand Officers recognized by the Grand Lodge.
- (iv) All Past Provincial Grand Officers recognized by the Grand Lodge.
- (v) All Reigning Masters and Wardens of Daughter Lodges recognized by the Grand Lodge.
- (vi) All Past Masters of Lodges in Nigeria recognized by the Grand Lodge.

LAW 2

Powers of the Grand Lodge

The Grand Lodge possesses the supreme superintending authority, and alone has the inherent power of enacting laws and regulations for the government of the Craft, and of altering, repealing and abrogating them, always taking care that the Ancient Landmarks of the Order be preserved.

The Grand Lodge has also the power of investigating regulating and deciding all matters relative to the Craft, or to particular Daughter Lodges, or to individual brethren, which power it may exercise either of itself or by such delegated authority, as in its wisdom and discretion it may appoint, but the Grand Lodge alone has the power of erasing Lodges and expelling brethren from the Craft, a power which it does not delegate to any subordinate authority.

LAW 3

Grand Officers

The Officers of the Grand Lodge shall be the following:-

- The Grand Master
- The Immediate Past Grand Master
- Past Grand Masters
- The Deputy Grand Master
- Past Deputy Grand Masters

The Asst. Grand Masters (I & II)
Past Asst. Grand Masters
Senior Grand Warden
Junior Grand Warden
Grand Secretary
Grand Treasurer
Grand Director of Ceremonies
Grand Almoner
Grand Chaplain
Grand Imam
Grand Curator
Senior Grand Deacon
Junior Grand Deacon
Grand Organist
Grand Librarian
Grand Architect
Grand Jeweler
Grand Bible Bearer
Grand Quran Bearer
Grand Sword Bearer
Asst. Grand Secretary
Asst. Grand Treasurer
Asst. Grand Secretary
Asst. Grand Treasurer
Asst. Grand Director of Ceremonies
Asst. Grand Chaplain I & II
Asst. Grand Organist
Grand Marshal
Grand Standard Bearer I
Grand Standard Bearer II
Grand Inner Guard
President of the Board of Stewards
Grand Stewards
Grand Tyler

LAW 4

Styles and Titles

- (i) The style and title of “Most Worshipful” belong only to the Grand Master and Past Grand Masters.
- (ii) All Grand Lodge Officers from the rank of Deputy Grand Master to Grand Almoner shall be addressed as “Right Worshipful”. All Grand Lodge Officers from the rank of Grand Chaplain to Grand Quran Bearer shall be addressed “Very Worshipful” and all other Officers from Grand Sword Bearer to Grand Tyler shall be addressed as “Worshipful”.
- (iii) All Past Grand Officers shall take the style and title relating to their counterparts holding substantive Offices.

- (iv) The Title shall be attached to the Officers as Rt. Wor. Bro. AB, the Deputy Grand Master.

LAW 5

Qualification of Grand Officers

All Officers of the Grand Lodge must be qualified members of the Grand Lodge.

LAW 6

Nomination, Election and Installation of Grand Master

- (i) The **Grand Master**, who shall be the Head of the Grand Lodge, shall be elected at the **Grand Lodge** Communication in May of the third year of his predecessor's reign, by simple majority. The **Grand Master** so elected shall be installed at the Annual Communication of the **Grand Lodge** in November of the same year.
- (ii) The **Grand Master** shall be nominated by **Grand Lodge** on the recommendation of the **Grand Committee**. To qualify for nomination, a brother must be a **Past Master** of not less than 15 years standing who has held at least the office of **Junior Warden** in his **Provincial Grand Lodge**. Merit, ability and willingness to serve shall constitute the criteria for nomination, and age shall not be a barrier.
- (iii) All voting for the nomination and election of a **Grand Master** shall be by secret ballot.

LAW 7

Election and Appointment of other Officers

- (i) At the meeting of **Grand Committee**, recommendations shall be made by **Grand Committee** to fill Elective Offices in **Grand Lodge**. Such recommendations shall be placed before **Grand Lodge** for ratification or otherwise at the Election Meeting in May.
- (ii) All elective Officers shall be elected by simple majority of qualified members of the **Grand Lodge** present at the election meeting.
- (iii) Voting shall be by secret ballot, provided that the election meeting may decide that voting shall be by show of hands.
- (iv) Every candidate for an elective Office shall be nominated by a qualified member of the **Grand Lodge** and seconded by another qualified member of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (v) The **Deputy Grand Master, Asst. Grand Masters, Grand Secretary, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Chaplain, Grand Imam** and **Grand Curator** shall be appointed by the **Grand Master** from qualified members of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (vi) Officers shall be elected annually at the election meeting.
- (vii) Appointment of Officers shall be made at the Annual Meeting with the exception of **Grand Secretary, Asst. Grand Secretary** and **Asst. Grand Treasurer**.
- (viii) It shall not be competent to nominate a Brother for office in **Grand**

Lodge unless his consent has previously been obtained.

LAW 8

Tenure of Office of the Grand Master

- (i) The **Grand Master** shall hold office for a period of three years at the end of which he shall be deemed to have vacated the office for the purpose of installing his successor, provided that no brother shall be entitled to be considered for another term of office.
- (ii) If an elected officer dies prior to his installation, the incumbent in that position would continue in office till the next regular period of election and installation

LAW 9

Tenure of Office of Appointed Officers

Appointed Officers shall hold their respective offices at the pleasure of the **Grand Master**, provided that they shall cease to hold their respective offices at the expiration of the term of office of the **Grand Master** who appointed them. This LAW shall not apply to **Grand Secretary, Asst. Grand Secretary and Asst. Grand Treasurer**.

LAW 10

Duration of Elective Offices

All holders of elective office (the Grand Master excepted) shall not hold the same office consecutively for more than two years.

LAW 11

Date of Installation

The brethren elected or appointed as Grand Officers shall be installed on the first Saturday of November.

LAW 12

Filling of Vacancies

On the death, resignation or disqualification of any Officer, a qualified Brother shall as soon as possible be elected or appointed to fill the vacancy.

LAW 13

Commissioned and Elective Offices

- (a) The following offices shall be held by Commissioned Officers, viz: Deputy Grand Master, Asst. Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Chaplain, Grand Imam, Grand Curator,

- Asst. Grand Secretary and Asst. Grand Treasurer.
(b) All other offices shall be elective.

LAW 14

Certificate of Past Service

Any **Past Grand Officer**, **Past Provincial Grand Officer**, member of **Grand Committee** and **Grand Steward** shall be entitled to receive from **Grand Secretary**, a Certificate of his having held such office or appointment on payment of the prescribed fee.

LAW 15

Grand Secretary

The **Grand Secretary** shall have charge and superintendence of all the affairs of the **Grand Lodge** and shall have control and direction of the staff of **Grand Lodge**. All communications shall be addressed to him. He shall be the custodian of all the Records, Deeds, Seals and other moveable properties of **Grand Lodge**. He shall attend all Communications of **Grand Lodge** and meetings of **Grand Committee**, prepare minutes, keep the roll of members, enroll the names of entrants, affiliates and founder members, keep registers of Installed Masters and Mark Masters, prepare and discharge all Charters, Commissions and Diplomas issued by **Grand Lodge** and shall furnish, every four months, a printed copy of the minutes of all meetings of **Grand Lodge**, **Grand Committee** and other meetings held under the jurisdiction of the **Grand Lodge** at which he is expected to act substantially. He shall produce statements of all sums received by him on behalf of **Grand Lodge**, and shall furnish annually an abstract of **Grand Lodge** accounts duly certified by the Auditor. He shall send proceedings of the **Grand Lodge** to *the Grand Secretaries of England, Ireland and Scotland*. He shall also send copies to any Freemason in good standing under the jurisdiction of **Grand Lodge** on payment of the prescribed fee. It shall be the duty of **Grand Secretary** to summon Officers and members of the **Grand Lodge** to its Communications and shall call all meetings of **Grand Committee** by summons containing the business to be transacted. He shall be ex-officio Secretary to all Committees. He shall cause stock books of Diplomas, Charters, demits, volumes of the Constitution and Laws and such like property to be kept and balanced annually. He shall also carry out all instructions of the Grand Committee. He shall also keep regular and current accounts according to forms approved by Grand Committee, of all monies received and disbursed by him in connection with the funds of Grand Lodge. Remittances shall be made payable to the **Grand Lodge** of Nigeria and Grand Secretary shall receive all remittances and shall check the entries of same in a Remittances Book. He shall transmit without delay, to the persons sending remittances, the proper receipts given by him for dues payable to **Grand Lodge** by or in respect of entrant and others so paid for. He shall, at no time retain in his hands more than twenty thousand naira of the **Grand Lodge** funds. Any sums in excess thereof shall be paid into the

appropriate Banking Account of **Grand Lodge**. No payments shall be made by him for and on behalf of **Grand Lodge** except such as have been previously authorized by the Finance Committee and then only by cheque. At the end of each financial year (31st December), he shall prepare a complete abstract of the Accounts to be submitted along with the Books and Vouchers to the Auditor. He shall keep in a separate Book, all other items of accounting relating to funds and properties of **Grand Lodge** which may at any future time become part of his duties and responsibilities.

LAW 16

Nature of Grand Secretary's Office

The **Grand Secretary** shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office and shall be paid such salary as shall from time to time be fixed by **Grand Lodge**. He shall provide security for his intromission in the sum of fifty thousand naira, the premium on the guarantee policy being paid by the **Grand Lodge**.

LAW 17

Grand Treasurer

The **Grand Treasurer** shall be in charge of all funds of Grand Lodge, and shall deposit all such funds in the designated Grand Lodge Accounts at the Banks. He shall keep regular and correct accounts of all disbursements on the approval of the **Grand Committee**. All disbursements shall be supported by relevant vouchers. At the end of each financial year (31st December) **Grand Treasurer** shall prepare a complete statement for submission along with the Books and vouchers to the Auditors. He shall also be a signatory to the accounts.

LAW 18

Asst. Grand Secretary and Asst. Grand Treasurer

- i. The **Asst. Grand Secretary** shall deputize for **Grand Secretary** in his absence. The **Asst. Grand Secretary** shall be authorized to sign cheques in the absence of Grand Secretary. The **Asst. Grand Secretary** shall be entirely responsible to **Grand Secretary** in the discharge of the duties of his office.
- ii. The **Asst. Grand Treasurer** shall deputize for Grand Lodge Treasurer in his absence. The Assistant Grand Treasurer shall be authorized to sign cheques in the absence of the Grand Treasurer.
- iii. The **Asst. Grand Secretary** and **Asst. Grand Treasurer** shall be full time employees of Grand Lodge and shall be responsible to Grand Secretary in the daily discharge of the duties of their respective offices and shall provide security for their intromissions to the extent of N50,000.00 each, the premium on the guarantee policies being paid by Grand Lodge. They shall be paid such salaries as shall from time to time

be fixed by Grand Lodge.

LAW 19

Grand Almoner

The **Grand Almoner** shall promote the interests of the Benevolent Funds of **Grand Lodge** and shall see that **Daughter Lodges** fulfill their obligations and shall make such appeals to Lodges and brethren as the circumstances of the Fund may from time to time demand.

LAW 20

Grand Chaplain and Grand Imam

The **Grand Chaplain** and the **Grand Imam** shall attend all Communications and shall offer prayers suitable to the occasion according to ancient usage among Freemasons.

LAW 21

Grand Curator

The **Grand Curator** shall be the custodian of all elements of tradition peculiar to the territorial jurisdiction of **Grand Lodge** and the Masonic Museum.

LAW 22

Grand Director of Ceremonies

The **Grand Director** of Ceremonies shall take sole charge of arranging the Officers and other members of **Grand Lodge** according to precedence and superintend the details of all Ceremonies of **Grand Lodge** within any building where it may meet.

LAW 23

Grand Librarian

The **Grand Librarian** shall take care of all contents of the Library of **Grand Lodge**. He shall see that these are properly catalogued and periodically checked and maintained in good condition.

LAW 24

Grand Marshal

The **Grand Marshal** shall form and superintend out-door processions of **Grand Lodge**, **Daughter Lodges** and others forming part of the procession shall be under the direction of the **Grand Marshal**.

LAW 25

Competent Members of Grand Master's Procession

Grand Bible Bearer, Grand Quran Bearer, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Standard Bearer, shall while bearing the elements relevant to their offices, be competent members of the **Grand Master's** Procession.

LAW 26

Grand Tyler

The **Grand Tyler** shall attend all Communications, assist in the arrangements and see that only qualified brethren obtain admission. He shall be paid such salary as would from time to time be fixed by Grand Lodge. He shall have no vote in the **Grand Lodge**.

LAW 27

Auditor

At the Annual Meeting, the **Grand Lodge** shall appoint an Auditor for the ensuing year who shall be a duly registered professional Accountant and a qualified member of a **Daughter Lodge** in good standing. The Auditor shall examine the accounts of all the funds of the **Grand Lodge** for the previous year ending and report thereon at the Half Yearly Communication and also report thereon annually in writing. He shall also furnish such interim reports and other information regarding the funds as may be desired by the **Grand Lodge** and its Committees. For his services, the Auditor shall be paid such remuneration as shall from time to time be fixed by **Grand Lodge**. In the event of the office becoming vacant from any cause during a financial year, **Grand Committee** may appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the year.

LAW 28

Board of Grand Stewards

- (i) The **Grand Lodge** shall appoint annually at the Annual Meeting, not more than 20 qualified members of **Daughter Lodges** from all Provinces within the jurisdiction of **Grand Lodge** to act as a Board of **Grand Stewards** to which, under the direction of **Grand Committee**, shall be entrusted the management of the National Day Festival. **Grand Stewards** in their proper clothing with their rods of office shall accompany all processions of **Grand Lodge**. Every brother shall be required to pay the prescribed fee before assuming the duties of the office of **Grand Steward**.
- (ii) It shall be incumbent on the Board of **Grand Stewards** to elect from among its members a Vice-President within 7 days of the appointment of the **Board of Grand Stewards**. The Vice-President shall not assume the duties of his office until he has paid the prescribed fee.

LAW 29

Communications

The **Grand Lodge** shall hold two Communications on the first Saturday of the months of May and November at 12:00noon or at such other hour as **Grand Committee** may hereafter appoint. Twenty-one qualified members shall form a quorum. Any Communication may be postponed to a future date. The business of **Grand Lodge** shall be transacted in the 3rd Degree.

LAW 30

Special Communications

A Special Communication may be called on the order of the **Grand Master** or **Grand Committee**. In addition twenty-one qualified members of **Grand Lodge** may present a requisition in writing signed by them, requiring a Special Communication of **Grand Lodge** be called for purposes to be clearly stated in the letter of requisition. On receipt of an order of requisition, **Grand Secretary** shall within 14 days, summon a Special Communication. No other business shall be discussed except the one stated in the order of requisition. A Special Communication may be adjourned to a future date.

LAW 31

Membership Cards

- (a) The Grand Secretary shall issue membership cards to all members of the **Grand Lodge** annually on payment of their respective dues. Such cards shall be shown before admission to the **Grand Lodge** and shall not be transferable.
- (b) Members of **Grand Lodge** on resigning or becoming disqualified during the year, for which their dues have been paid, shall return to Grand Secretary their membership cards.

LAW 32

Absence of the Grand Master

In the absence of the **Grand Master**, the Grand Lodge shall be presided over by the immediate Past Grand Master and in his absence, by one of the following in order of precedence Deputy Grand Master, a Past Deputy Grand Master, an Asst. Grand Master, a Past Asst. Grand Master or a Provincial Grand Master.

LAW 33

Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of minutes of **Grand Lodge** implies that the Proceedings of a previous Communication have been correctly recorded. No business or question disposed of at such former meeting can be raised or discussed when

the minutes have been confirmed.

LAW 34

Notice of Motion

- (i) Every notice of motion must be in writing and signed by the proposer and seconder, who must be qualified members of **Grand Lodge**. It must be delivered to the Grand Secretary who shall pass same to Grand Committee for clearance.
- (ii) Where in the opinion of Grand Committee, the notice of motion is frivolous or subversive of the Order or amounts to a deviation from established usage and custom or is contrary to the ancient landmarks, the Grand Committee shall thereupon disallow the notice (which in this context includes the motion), **PROVIDED** that the proposer and seconder may amend the notice of motion.
- (iii) Where a notice of motion has been accepted by Grand Committee, Grand Secretary shall cause it to be inserted in the business for the next Communication and this shall be deemed sufficient notice to every member of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (.iv) A notice of motion thus advertised becomes *ipso facto* a motion for consideration at the Communication immediately following and shall be made part of the business at the meeting for the purpose of being considered.
- (v) The proposer and seconder must be present at the meeting at which the motion is to be considered otherwise the motion shall lapse.
- (vi) Only qualified members of the **Grand Lodge** may speak and vote upon any question. No member shall be permitted to speak more than once except on a point of order which he may not raise more than once and only the proposer of a motion shall have the right to reply. Voting shall be by show of hands.
- (vii) A motion or proposal is deemed to have been accepted by the **Grand Lodge** if, on the votes being taken, the majority of those present had voted for it. In the case of an equality of votes, the presiding officer shall have a casting vote.
- (viii) Where a motion has been moved and seconded it shall be incumbent on the presiding officer to put it to the **Grand Lodge** for determination. He shall have no power to refuse to do so.
- (ix) A motion for the alteration or abrogation of the Laws of the **Grand Lodge** shall not qualify for consideration until after the Communication next following after the date on which it has been circulated and advertised as a motion.
- (x) A motion, the substance of which the **Grand Lodge** has already decided upon, shall not be brought forward again for discussion without leave of **Grand Committee**.
- (xi) Qualified members of the **Grand Lodge** shall give their votes on any matter brought before **Grand Lodge** in accordance with what they conceive to be the best interest of the Order. It is not in the power of a

Provincial Grand Lodge or a Daughter Lodge to instruct their representatives to vote in a particular manner, but they may inform their representatives of their views.

LAW 35

Interpretation of Laws

- (i) If any doubt shall arise as to the interpretation of a Law the power of deciding the same shall be vested in the **Grand Lodge** and not in the Presiding Officer.
- (ii) Every member of **Grand Lodge**, every member of **Provincial Grand Lodge** and every member of a Daughter Lodge shall provide himself with a 'copy' of these Laws.
- (iii) "**Bye-Laws:** Bye-Laws means the General bye-laws set forth in the seventh schedule to these laws and all bye-laws enacted, revised and approved as provided by Law 93.

LAW 36

Suspension of Standing Orders

The **Grand Lodge** may, on cause being shown, suspend Standing Orders, provided at least two-thirds of the qualified members present vote in favour.

LAW 37

Visitors

A visiting brother shall not be admitted to any Communication of **Grand Lodge** until he has been examined by **Grand Director of Ceremonies** or has been duly vouched for.

LAW 38

Permission to Leave

A brother shall not leave a Communication of **Grand Lodge** until the same shall have been closed, provided that the **Grand Master** or the Presiding Officer, in his discretion, may grant permission to any brother to leave before the close of the meeting.

LAW 39

Time for Holding of Communications

- (a) All Communications of **Grand Lodge** shall commence at 12:00noon. Nothing in this LAW shall prevent the **Grand Lodge** from postponing the commencement of any Communication beyond 12:00noon.
- (b) No brother (official visitors excepted) shall be admitted to any Communication of **Grand Lodge** after the **Grand Master** or the

Presiding Officer had assumed his seat.

LAW 40

Grand Visitations

- (i) When the **Grand Master** or any Officer of **Grand Lodge**, not below the rank of Asst. or Past Asst. Grand Master, visits any **Provincial Grand Lodge** or a **Daughter Lodge**, the Presiding Officer shall offer to vacate his chair in favour of the visitor, who, where the visit is unofficial, may decline the offer. Where however, the visit is official, he shall occupy the chair with members of his deputation occupying their corresponding positions in the Lodge room. The Presiding Officer shall occupy a seat at the right hand of the visitor from the **Grand Lodge**.
- (ii) No official visitation shall be undertaken for and on behalf of **Grand Lodge** without previous notice being given by Grand Secretary and acknowledged by the **Provincial Grand Lodge** or **Daughter Lodge** concerned. Provided that nothing in this LAW shall limit the power of the **Grand Master** or any Officer not below the rank of Past Asst. Grand Master to visit a **Provincial Grand Lodge** or a **Daughter Lodge**.

LAW 41

Foundation Stones

Foundation Stones shall be laid by the **Grand Master** or any Officer not below the rank of **Provincial Grand Master** duly authorized by him.

LAW 42

Precedence in Grand Lodge

(A) Precedence in **Grand Lodge** shall be regulated as follows:

- (i) The Most Worshipful Grand Master
- (ii) Past Grand Masters, the Immediate Past Grand Master coming first.
- (iii) Deputy Grand Master and Past Deputy Grand Masters.
- (iv) Asst. Grand Masters.
- (v) Past Asst. Grand Masters.
- (vi) Provincial Grand Masters
- (vii) Past Provincial Grand Masters
- (viii) Senior Grand Warden, Past Senior Grand Wardens.
- (vii) Junior Grand Warden and Past Junior Grand Wardens.
- (viii) Grand Secretary and Past Grand Secretaries
- (ix) Grand Treasurer and Past Grand Treasurers
- (x) Grand Almoner and Past Grand Almoners
- (xi) Grand Chaplain, Grand Imam, Past Grand Chaplains and Past Grand Imams.
- (xii) Other Officers and Past Officers take their rank and precedence

in accordance with their status as stated in LAW 3

(B) The other members of the **Grand Lodge** shall be entitled to rank immediately after the **Grand Officers**, Past Grand Officers and **Provincial Grand Masters** according to seniority in their respective Lodges.

LAW 43

Precedence of Daughter Lodges

- (i) **Daughter Lodges** shall take precedence according to their seniority on the roll of **Grand Lodge** and the Officers thereof shall take precedence according to their respective offices.
- (ii) Other Daughter Lodges shall have their seniority determined as in LAW 43(i) and given the numbers 2,3,4, etc, as the case may.

LAW 44

Processions

Processions or other public appearances of Freemasons in Regalia are prohibited unless by permission of the **Grand Master** or of a **Provincial Grand Master**.

LAW 45

Representation of Lodges in Grand Lodge

- (a) A Daughter Lodge shall be entitled to appoint one of her members not below the rank of Warden as her representative in **Grand Lodge**, failing which the **Grand Lodge** reserves the right to appoint a proxy for the Daughter Lodge.
- (b) A Daughter Lodge for whom a proxy has been appointed by **Grand Lodge** shall not be entitled to appoint a representative until the proxy appointment is recalled.

LAW 46

Annual Dues

- (i) As a test of membership, every qualified member of **Grand Lodge** shall pay a prescribed fee annually to Grand Secretary before the election meeting. A member who has failed to pay his annual dues when due shall not be entitled to vote or be voted for either as an Officer or a member of grand Committee.
- (ii) All fees payable to **Grand Lodge** shall be such sum or sums calculated as determined at the **Grand Lodge Communication** in the preceding May.

LAW 47

Roll of Members

The Roll of Members constituting **Grand Lodge** shall be made up on 31st

October of every year and shall consist of all brethren who are qualified members of **Grand Lodge** on that day and only the members on the roll so made up shall be qualified to vote at any Communication of **Grand Lodge** or **Grand Committee** for the particular year; provided that the roll could be amended during a particular year to include the names which have been substituted for those who have resigned, died or have been disqualified during the year.

LAW 48

Annual Certificate

- (a) All **Daughter Lodges** under the **Grand Lodge** shall receive, on payment of the prescribed fee not later than 31st December, an Annual Certificate which entitles them to meet and act in strict conformity with the Constitution and Laws of the **Grand Lodge**, the Aims and Relationships of the Craft and never to engage in any activity that may have the tendency to subvert the Laws of the Federation of Nigeria and the good order of society.
- (b) A Lodge under the **Grand Lodge** which has not received its Annual Certificate cannot meet.

LAW 49

Associate Membership

Where there are Lodges in Nigeria recognized by the **Grand Lodge** which are not members of **Grand Lodge**, such Lodges shall be deemed to be associate members of **Grand Lodge** and their members shall receive the protection of the **Grand Lodge**. Provided that where a Lodge ceases to function in Nigeria, by reason of its opting out of the scheme for a Sovereign **Grand Lodge**, such a Lodge shall be entitled to withdraw its Warrant or Charter for use outside Nigeria without prejudice to the right of any brother of such Lodge who is resident in Nigeria to enjoy the privileges of Freemasonry under the protection of the **Grand Lodge** as an Associate Member of **Grand Lodge**. Associate Members have no vote.

LAW 50

Conferment of Honorary Grand Rank

- (i) By virtue of these Constitution and Laws, the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Ireland, the Most Worshipful Grand Master Mason of Scotland, the Past Grand Masters of Ireland and Scotland, who are alive at the coming into operation of these Constitution and Laws, shall be HONORARY MEMBERS of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (ii) **The Grand Lodge** reserves the right to confer on any brother of a **Daughter Lodge** under its jurisdiction an Honorary Grand Rank, except the rank of Honorary **Grand Master**, commensurable with his status and experience in Freemasonry.

- (iii) A brother on whom an honour has been conferred under this LAW, shall have no vote in the **Grand Lodge** on account of that Honorary Rank.

LAW 51

Degrees of Freemasonry

The degrees of Freemasonry authorized and governed by **Grand Lodge** are those of the Entered Apprentice, Fellow of Craft, Master Mason and the ceremony of Installed Master.

LAW 52

Installed Master

An Installed Master shall be issued with an Installed Master's Diploma from the **Grand Lodge**, provided that no such Diploma shall be issued to any brother until the following Certificates shall have been sent to the Grand Secretary:

- (i) A Certificate signed by three Installed Masters registered as such in **Grand Lodge** that the brother named therein has passed through the Ceremony of Installed Master;
and
- (ii) A Certificate signed by the Secretary of the Lodge that the brother has filled the Chair of the Lodge for one year as Master.

For such Diploma and for registration, there shall be payable to Grand Lodge a prescribed fee.

LAW 53

Dispensation by Grand Master

The **Grand Master** or his Deputy or Assistant in his name and on his behalf has power to grant such dispensations as may be expedient. Dispensation for subject matters provided for in these Laws shall be granted only on advice of the **Grand Committee**. For each dispensation granted there shall be payable to **Grand Lodge** a prescribed fee.

LAW 54

Irregular Grand Lodges

Members of Daughter Lodges under the jurisdiction of the **Grand Lodge** are prohibited from participating in any irregular **Grand Lodge** or any Lodge not recognized by or in amity with the **Grand Lodge**.

LAW 55

Grand Committee

Grand Committee shall be composed of the Grand Master, Past Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master, Assistant Grand Master, Past

Assistant Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, Grand Almoner, Grand Director of Ceremonies, Grand Deacons, Grand Chaplain, Grand Imam, Grand Curator, Provincial Grand Masters, Two (2) Representatives from each Provisional Grand Lodge, a Legal Adviser (ex officio). Chairmen of Standing Committees of **Grand Lodge**, and all not below the rank of Honourary Provincial Grand Master.

LAW 56

Operation of Grand Committee

- (a) Grand Committee shall function by means of the following Standing Committees whose members shall be elected at the election meeting.
- (b) Standing Committees shall be constituted under the following headings viz; Finance, Buildings, Bye-Laws, External Affairs, Petitions, Complaints and Appeals, Museum and Library, Laws and Rulings, Benevolent Fund, Masonic Hospital, Returns, Special Purposes, whose duties shall be to take up such matters as may be remitted to them by Grand Committee.
- (c) Standing Committees shall deliberate and report to Grand Committee on all matters referred to them by Grand Committee.
- (d) The Chairman and members of Standing Committees shall be appointed by Grand Committee. Where however a vacancy occurs in the position of the Chairman, the next senior member shall act as Chairman of the time being.
- (e) The membership (including Chairman) of a Standing Committees shall not exceed 7. Three shall form a quorum.

LAW 57

Powers and Duties of Grand Committee

- (i) Administration and control of the property of the **Grand Lodge** and the regulation of all affairs of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (ii) Control of the finance of the **Grand Lodge** including Benevolent Fund matters
- (iii) Power to adjudicate- the committee has authority to hear and determine all subjects of Masonic complaint or irregularity respecting Lodges or individual Masons, when regularly brought before it.
- (iv) Disciplinary powers- the committee may admonish or suspend, according to the Laws, and its decision shall be final unless an appeal be made to the **Grand Lodge**. If, in the opinion of the committee, a Lodge ought to be erased or a Brother expelled, the Committee shall make a report to that effect to the **Grand Lodge**.
- (v) To nominate Grand Officers and Trustees for appointment and also the paid officers of **Grand Lodge** including the Auditor, such nominations to be subject in every case to the approval of the **Grand Lodge**.
- (vi) To define the duties of the paid officers of the **Grand Lodge**.

- (vii) All transactions of Grand Committee shall, after the Minutes thereof shall have been approved by Grand Committee, be submitted for the consideration of **Grand Lodge** at its next Communication. The decision of **Grand Lodge** on any transactions of Grand Committee shall be binding on Grand Committee.

LAW 58

Special Meetings

Special meetings of Grand Committee may be called by Grand Secretary at any time for the purpose of taking a decision on the special item or items placed before it.

LAW 59

Regular Meetings of Grand Committee

- (a) Regular meetings of the Grand Committee shall be held annually in the first weekends of the months of May (Half Yearly Communication) and November (Annual Communication).
- (b) Grand Secretary shall be required to give 21 days of notice for all Regular Meetings of Grand Committee and 14 days notice for all special meetings of Grand Committee.
- (c) At all meetings of the Grand Committee, seven members shall form a quorum.
- (d) All questions shall be decided by a majority of votes, the presiding Brother, in case of equality of votes, having a second vote.
- (e) The Grand Master is ex-officio Chairman of Grand Committee. In his absence the following shall preside:- Past Grand Masters in their order; Deputy Grand Master; Past Deputy Grand Masters; Senior Grand Warden; Junior Grand Warden. In the absence of all these the meeting shall appoint its own Chairman.

LAW 60

Trustees

- (i) All moveable and immoveable properties, corporeal and incorporeal hereditaments, and investments belong to Grand Lodge shall be vested in the following Officers of Grand Lodge as trustees ex-officio and their successors from time to time in these offices, viz:-
- The Grand Master
 - Immediate Past Grand Master
 - Deputy Grand Master
 - Asst. Grand Master
 - Senior Grand Warden
 - Grand Secretary and
 - Grand Treasurer
- (ii) No property or investment shall be purchased or sold and no funds shall be disposed of without the consent of Grand Committee.

LAW 61

Seal of Grand Lodge

Deeds and documents purportedly executed under the Seal of **Grand Lodge** shall be held to be validly executed if they are sealed with the said Seal and signed on behalf of **Grand Lodge**, by any two of the following Grand Officers, viz:- The Grand Master, Immediate Past Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Asst. Grand Master, Grand Secretary.

The signatures on behalf of Grand Lodge shall be valid whether attested by witnesses or not.

LAW 62

Fiduciary Relations of Members of Grand Committee

Except by special permission of Grand Committee, members of **Grand Committee**, their servants or agents shall not undertake to execute any work or contract under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge for any remuneration. This prohibition shall not affect the Legal Adviser.

LAW 63

Procedure for Hearing and Determining Complaints

A member of a Daughter Lodge of the **Grand Lodge** who has committed a breach of any of the provisions of these Laws relating to discipline, or who has committed a Masonic offence or offences shall be dealt with in the following manner.

- (a) A written complaint shall be delivered to him stating the offence or offences alleged and calling upon him to appear before the Petitions and Complaints Committee. He may so appear with a brother of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of **Grand Lodge** who is a legal practitioner and who is not a member of Grand Committee. The presiding officer for the purpose of the trial shall be the Legal Adviser who shall be ex-officio member of the Complaints Committee. At the hearing, the charges shall be read out and plea taken. Where the brother pleads not guilty the prosecuting brother shall call evidence after opening his case succinctly. The brother charged shall be entitled to cross-examine either by himself (where his counsel is absent) or by his counsel. The prosecuting brother may re-examine after which the defendant may give and call evidence. The prosecuting brother shall be entitled to cross-examine the defendant and his witnesses. The defendant shall have the right to re-examine his witnesses and to address the committee after which the prosecuting brother may address the committee. At the close of hearing, the presiding brother shall sum up the case for both sides and call for the verdict of the committee, which shall be given by members of the Complaints Committee present, by show of hands determinable by simple majority. Where the defendant has been found guilty, the

presiding brother shall explain to the meeting that it is competent to pass a sentence of admonition, suspension or expulsion by simple majority obtained by show of hands.

- (b) The presiding officer shall thereupon pronounce the sentence of the meeting to the hearing of the defendant while at the same time he explains to the defendant that he has a right of appeal to Grand Committee within 21 days.
- (c) A sentence of expulsion shall be treated as a recommendation to **Grand Lodge** for expulsion since the power of expulsion is vested in **Grand Lodge**.
- (d) Where the defendant intends to exercise his right of appeal he shall lodge a notice and grounds of appeal with Grand Secretary, within 21 days.
- (e) On receipt of the notice and grounds of appeal by Grand Secretary, he shall call for a report from the Complaints Committee and a written submission from the appellant, which must be delivered in either case to the Grand Secretary not later than 42 days after either party shall have received by personal service the Grand Secretary's request for the report and written submission. On receipt of the report and written submission, the Grand Secretary shall place them before the Appeals Committee presided over by a senior member of the Bar who is a member of a Daughter Lodge under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge who has been co-opted for that purpose. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be communicated to Grand Committee whose decision shall be final unless reversed by Grand Lodge. Provided that where the appellant desires to be heard by the Grand Committee and Grand Lodge, he shall notify the Grand Secretary as soon as the decision of the Appeals Committee has been communicated to him by Grand Secretary. A defendant has 14 days from the date of notification of the decision of the Appeals Committee to give notice of his intention to challenge any adverse decision of the Appeals Committee before Grand Committee and the decision of Grand Committee before Grand Lodge at its Communication. Provided that a notice given in respect of the decision of the Appeals Committee shall be sufficient notice that appellant intends to challenge an adverse verdict before the Grand Lodge assembled.
- (f) In all proceedings before Grand Committee and Grand Lodge no evidence shall be required, but appellant shall be permitted to address the Grand Lodge either in person or by his counsel who must be a qualified member of a Daughter Lodge in good standing under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.
- (g) The decision of Grand Lodge shall be final and conclusive.
- (h) Any complaints, the proceedings of which are already in a court of Law shall not be entertained.

LAW 64

Adoption of Procedure

The procedure for hearing and determining complaints contained in LAW 63 shall be adopted *mutatis mutandis* by Provincial Grand Lodges and Daughter Lodges, under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, provided that where the defendant intends to exercise his right of appeal, he shall, in the case of an appeal against the decision of a Provincial Grand Lodge, lodge his appeal papers through the Provincial Grand Secretary, and shall receive notification of judgment through the Provincial Grand Secretary, who shall be his agent for all purposes connected with the compliance with the provisions for these Laws regarding time and service. Where the appeal is against the decision of a Daughter Lodges, the provisions relating to appeals from decision of a Provincial Grand Lodge shall apply and he shall be required to lodge his appeals papers with the Provincial Grand Secretary, who will follow the procedure laid down for Grand Lodge until the rights of the appellant are exhausted under these Laws.

LAW 65

Judgment on Appeals, etc

Judgment on appeals must be communicated to the appellant in writing by Grand Secretary by registered letter to the parties to the petition, complaint or appeal.

- i. Where during a hearing the defendant has pleaded guilty, the presiding brother shall adjourn the hearing *sine die* and refer the matter to Grand Committee for a ruling.
- ii. A suspension order which has not stated the duration of the suspension shall be deemed to operate for six months after which the brother shall be entitled to resume his normal Masonic activities.
- iii. A suspended brother shall not be entitled to attend any meeting of any Daughter Lodge during the period for which he has been suspended.
- iv. A sentence of expulsion amounts to absolute disqualification from all Masonic privileges. A brother expelled shall have his name removed from the record of the Grand Lodge.

LAW 66

Validity of Final Judgments

Any party who challenges the final judgment of Grand Lodge shall be liable to expulsion.

LAW 67

Provincial Grand Lodges

- (1) For the more efficient government, supervision and control of Daughter Lodges and members of the Nigeria Masonic jurisdiction, Grand Lodge hereby divides Nigeria into the following Masonic Provinces, namely:-

- (i) Lagos Province: Comprising Lagos State.
- (ii) Western Province: Comprising Ogun, Oyo, Ondo, Ekiti, Osun and Kwara States.
- (iii) Mid-West Province: Comprising Edo and Delta States.
- (iv) Eastern Province: Comprising Anambra, Imo, Enugu, Abia and Ebonyi States.
- (v) Southern Province: Comprising Rivers, Cross River, Bayelsa and Akwa-Ibom States.
- (vi) Northern Province: Comprising Sokoto, Kebbi, Niger, Zamfara, Kaduna, Katsina, Kogi, Nasarawa, Jigawa, Kano, Borno, Yobe, Bauchi, Gombe, Benue, Plateau, Adamawa and Taraba States and Abuja the Federal Capital Territory.

Provided that the Provinces may be re-configured and/or re-designated as circumstances may in future warrant.

(2) ZONES

It shall be permissible to establish one or more Masonic Zones within the Masonic Provinces. Masonic Zones shall be supervised by Assistant Provincial Grand Masters as may be appointed from time to time for each Provincial Grand Lodge.

Without prejudice to already created and existing Masonic Zones, the minimum number of Lodges to constitute a Masonic Zone shall be five (5).

LAW 68

Boundaries of Provinces

Nothing in these Laws shall limit the power of Grand Lodge to enlarge, combine, divide or otherwise redefine the boundaries of any Province or Provinces.

LAW 69

Precedence of Province

The precedence of Provincial Grand Lodges shall be regulated by the dates of their Erection and Consecration in their original formation under the Grand Lodge.

LAW 70

Appointment of Provincial Grand Masters

- (i) Each Province shall have a Provincial Grand Master appointed by the Grand Master on the recommendation of the Grand Committee based on simple majority votes; PROVIDED that such recommendation by the Grand Committee shall be based on the list of candidates submitted by

the outgoing Provisional Grand Master to the Grand Lodge through the Grand Secretary.

- (ii) A Provisional Grand Master shall hold his commission for five (5) years after which he shall be deemed to have vacated the office for the purpose of installing his successor; PROVIDED that no Provincial Grand Master shall be entitled to be considered for another term of office, which is renewable at the discretion of the Grand Master and Grand Committee.

LAW 71

Procedure for Nomination and Election of a Provincial Grand Master

- (i) The outgoing Provincial Grand Master shall in consultation with the Provincial Grand Committee, nominate not more than three qualified members of his Province of good repute, ability and eminence, as prospective candidates for appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Master.
- (ii) The outgoing Provisional Grand Master shall submit the prioritized list of his nominees in writing to the Grand Lodge through the Grand Secretary, giving his reasons for nominating each candidate.
- (iii) A candidate for the office of Provincial Grand Master shall be a Past Master of a Daughter Lodge within the Province in good standing with at least 10 years post installation.
- (iv) The outgoing Provisional Grand Master may, with the prior consent of the Grand Master, look beyond his Province to source for suitable candidates that may succeed him as Provisional Grand Master if, in his opinion no existing member of his own Province meets the set criteria for appointment to the office of Provincial Grand Master.
- (v) The Provincial Grand Secretary shall communicate the result of the voting to the Grand Lodge.

LAW 72

Composition of a Provincial Grand Lodge

A Provincial Grand Lodge shall be composed of the following brethren:

- (i) The Provincial Grand Master
- (ii) Past Provincial Grand Masters
- (iii) The Deputy Provincial Grand Master
- (iv) Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters
- (v) The Assistant Provincial Grand Masters
- (vi) Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters
- (vii) All Provincial Grand Officers and Past Provincial Grand Officers (except the Provincial Grand Tyler)
- (viii) All Masters, Past Masters and Wardens of Daughter Lodges who are qualified members of the Province

LAW 73

Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge

- (i) Each Provincial Grand Master shall be entitled to appoint by Commission from time to time, a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, Assistant Provincial Grand Masters, a Provincial Grand Secretary, a Provincial Grand Chaplain, a Provincial Grand Imam, a Provincial Grand Curator and a Provincial Grand Director of Ceremonies. Other Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge shall be elected annually by Provincial Grand Lodge, provided that the designation of such Officers shall not deviate from the provisions of LAW 3 hereof
- (ii) Each Provincial Grand Master shall in the exercise of his entitlement to appoint a Deputy Provincial Grand Master and Assistant Provincial Grand Master, consult with the Grand Master.

LAW 74

Duties of Provincial Grand Secretary

In addition to any other duties laid upon him by these Laws or by the Bye-Laws of the Provincial Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Provincial Grand Secretary to issue any notices required for convening meetings of the Provincial Grand Lodge and committees thereof, attend all meetings, record the proceedings thereof in the minutes book and make due returns to Grand Lodge, and to the Provincial Grand Lodge. He shall be the custodian of all books and documents except the Treasurer's books and vouchers, and charter which is the responsibility of the Provincial Grand Master. He shall keep an inventory of the records, furnishings and paraphernalia.

LAW 75

Duties of Provincial Grand Treasurer

The Provincial Grand Treasurer shall collect and be the custodian of all moneys belonging to the Provincial Grand Lodge. He shall keep a proper account of his intromissions with the funds of the Provincial Grand Lodge. He shall pay all accounts which has been sanctioned by the Provincial Grand Lodge or, if the Bye-Laws so provide, by the committee, and initialled by the brother presiding. He shall pay all dues to Grand Lodge. At the end of each financial year, he shall close his books and prepare an Abstract of Accounts and Balance Sheet. An Assistant Provincial Grand Treasurer or Treasurers if appointed, shall be responsible to the Treasurer and under his authority.

LAW 76

Provincial Grand Committee

A Provincial Grand Lodge shall constitute a Provincial Grand Committee the details of which shall follow *mutatis mutandis* the provisions of these Laws relating to Grand Committee.

LAW 77

Special Bye-Laws

A Provincial Grand Lodge shall enact its own special Bye-Laws provided that where any of the provisions of a Special Bye-Laws is inconsistent with the provisions, spirit and intendment of the Constitution and Laws of Grand Lodge, such a Special Bye-Laws shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, be null and void.

LAW 78

Conferment of Provincial Grand Rank

A Provincial Grand Master may confer Honorary Provincial Grand Ranks on deserving brethren of his Province provided that such conferment shall not exceed four in one year. No Provincial Grand Master shall confer any rank above Honorary Provincial Grand Senior Warden without the consent of the Grand Committee.

LAW 79

Title and style of Provincial Grand Masters

- (i) A Provincial Grand Master, Deputy & Assistant shall be styled "Right Worshipful" whilst other Officers (the Tyler excepted) shall be styled "Worshipful"
- (ii) Elective Officers - Duration of Office: An elective Officer of a Province shall not hold the same office consecutively for more than two years.

LAW 80

Absence of the Provincial Grand Master

In the absence of the Provincial Grand Master, the Immediate Past Provincial Grand Master shall preside, and in his absence the chair shall be taken by any Past Provincial Grand Master or other Provincial Grand Officers according to seniority.

LAW 81

Precedence in the Province

Precedence in the Provincial Grand Lodge shall be regulated in accordance with the practice in the Grand Lodge.

LAW 82

Visitation by Provincial Grand Master

A Provincial Grand Master shall visit every Daughter Lodge in his Province annually, call special meetings of Provincial Grand Lodge at such places and times as he shall think fit; examine into the State of Freemasonry in his Province; correct all faults or omissions or wrongful acts; give such directions as he may think necessary; pronounce any admonition which in his opinion may have been incurred and report from time to time to Grand Lodge Official visitations shall

follow the practice in Grand Lodge mutatis mutandis.

LAW 83

Consecration of New Lodges

The Grand Master shall consecrate all new Daughter Lodges chartered under his jurisdiction provided that the Grand Master may delegate his powers to a Past Grand Master or to any brother not below the rank of Provincial Grand Master. A Lodge must be consecrated before it can act under its charter.

LAW 84

Disputes

A Provincial Grand Lodge shall have power to investigate and determine all disputes in the Province and to pronounce a decision which shall be valid unless reversed by Grand Lodge.

LAW 85

Powers of Provincial Grand Masters

- (i) A Provincial Grand Master shall have the inherent jurisdiction to investigate all matters within his Province affecting Daughter Lodges and brethren and may pronounce the verdict of admonition, and suspension for a period not exceeding six months without prejudice to the right of appeal to Grand Lodge.
- (ii) The power conferred on the Provincial Grand Master in LAW 85(i) may be exercised by him personally or by a Committee appointed by him for that purpose.

LAW 86

Irregular Organizations

- (i) Provincial Grand Masters are forbidden to recognize any organization purporting to be Masonic which does not hold of the Grand Lodge or another Masonic jurisdiction with which it is in amity.
- (ii) No brother owing allegiance to the Grand Lodge shall fraternize with or otherwise countenance the existence of such unrecognized organizations and shall not permit any member of such organizations to attend any Masonic meeting or ceremonial held under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

LAW 87

Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge

- (i) Each Provincial Grand Lodge shall hold Two Half Yearly Communications on such convenient days as shall be fixed by the Provincial Grand Master or in his absence the Deputy Provincial Grand

Master or Assistant Provincial Grand Master, provided that no Provincial Grand Lodge Communication shall hold on any day reserved for the Communication of the Grand Lodge.

- (ii) A Special Communication may be called at any time by the Provincial Grand Master or, in his absence by the Deputy or the Assistant Provincial Grand Master. It shall also be competent for a number of qualified members not less than 15 to present a requisition signed by them requiring that a Special Communication be called, the purpose of which must be clearly stated in the requisition. On receipt of an order or requisition in due form, the Provincial Grand Secretary shall immediately call a Communication to be held within 21 days of the date on which he received the order or requisition. The circular shall state the purpose for which the Communication is called and no other business shall be discussed thereat. The place, date and time of any Special Communication shall be fixed by the Provincial Grand Master or, his Deputy or Assistant.
- (lii) All business shall be transacted in the 3rd Degree.
- (iv) All summonses of Provincial Grand Lodge must be forwarded to the Grand Secretary before the date of the meeting.

LAW 88

Dormancy

- (i) A Daughter Lodge which has not assembled for two (2) years shall be regarded as dormant and shall have no power to meet until authorized by the Grand Lodge.
- (ii) A Dormant Daughter Lodge shall come under the immediate superintendence of Grand Lodge and its properties shall vest in Grand Lodge until further notice.

LAW 89

Convening of Provincial Grand Lodge

- (i) A Provincial Grand Lodge may be convened by the Grand Lodge, independently of the Provincial Grand Master who shall be notified.
- (ii) A Provincial Grand Master shall on appointment, convene Provincial Grand Lodge and place before it his commission within 6 months of its date otherwise it shall be null and void unless sufficient cause is shown to the satisfaction of the Grand Committee.

LAW 90

Effect of Provincial Grand Master's Appointment

A Provincial Grand Master's appointment takes effect from the date of his appointment: however, all other Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge shall not be entitled to act until they are installed.

LAW 91

Fees and Levies

- (i) A Provincial Grand Lodge shall be liable to pay to the Grand Lodge all such fees and levies as may be prescribed by Grand Lodge.
- (ii) A Provincial Grand Lodge in arrears of dues shall have no right to be represented in Grand Lodge.
- (iii) A Lodge in arrears of contributions to Provincial Grand Lodge shall have no right to be represented in Provincial Lodge.
- (iv) A Provincial Grand Lodge shall be entitled to levy any sum by way of honour dues and may impose a special levy for the purposes of the Grand Lodge.

LAW 92

Representatives and Proxies

A Daughter Lodge shall be entitled to be represented in Provincial Grand Lodge by a brother of her choice, failing which Provincial Grand Lodge reserves the right to appoint a proxy for the Daughter Lodge. Provided that the right to send representatives to Provincial Grand Lodge cannot be exercised until the proxy is recalled.

LAW 93

Daughter Lodges

- (i) For the time being and until further notice, all regulations contained in the Constitutions and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland shall, where the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria is silent, apply mutatis mutandis to all the Daughter Lodges under the territorial jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria in so far as such regulations relate to the rules that govern Daughter Lodges and the practice of Freemasonry in force in Nigeria immediately before the coming into operation of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria.
- (ii) Without prejudice to the sovereignty of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria, the rules and practices of Freemasonry referred to in LAW 93 (i) above shall take effect as if enacted in these Laws.

LAW 94

Officers of Daughter Lodges

Each Daughter Lodge shall be entitled to nominate, elect and appoint annually a Master, Immediate Past Master, Deputy Master, Assistant Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Secretary, Treasurer, Director Of Ceremonies, Almoner, Chaplain, Imam, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Organist, Librarian, Architect, Jeweler, Bible Bearer, Quran Bearer, Sword Bearer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Director of Ceremonies, Assistant

Organist, Marshall, Inner Guard, President Board of Stewards, Stewards and Tyler as may be required by the Lodge.

LAW 95

Charters and Warrants of Existing Daughter Lodges

Until further notice all Daughter Lodges operating in Nigeria under the Irish and Scottish Constitutions shall continue to hold their respective Charters, Warrants, diplomas, paraphernalia and the accoutrements and furniture issued and held under the afore-mentioned Masonic Constitutions.

- (i) PROVIDED that those Daughter Lodges which have subscribed to the formation of the Grand Lodge shall be required to change their numbers to the legal equivalent under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.
- (ii) Brethren who have opted for membership of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to retain the Masonic Ranks they previously held in their respective Sister Constitutions of the Irish and Scottish with which the Grand Lodge is in amity.

LAW 96

Bye-Laws

For the time being the extant Bye-Laws under the Constitutions and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland shall be part of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria and shall take effect as if enacted in these Laws.

LAW 97

Clothing and Regalia

- (i) Until further notice the regulations relating to clothing in the Irish and Scottish Constitutions shall as far as Daughter Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges are concerned, apply mutatis mutandis to Daughter Lodges and Provincial Grand Lodges under the Grand Lodge and shall take effect as if enacted in these Laws.
- (ii) The Grand Lodge hereby adopts for its paraphernalia, the colours of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and where there are Daughter Lodges in the Province vested with the right to use such colours by the the Grand Lodge of Ireland or the Grand Lodge of Scotland, it shall be incumbent on such a Daughter Lodge to adopt another set of colours without prejudice to the right of those who have been in possession of clothing in the colours of Nigeria before the coming into operation of these Laws to retain same as the colours of a Daughter Lodge under the Grand Lodge.
- (iii) When attending Communications of Grand Lodge, meetings of Provincial Grand Lodges and Daughter Lodges, brethren shall adhere strictly to the type of clothing prescribed for the occasions.
- (iv) At the celebration of the National Day festival, brethren shall comply with

the directives issued by Grand Lodge and a brother may be refused admission who has failed to adhere to the rules as to clothing.

- (v) At the Communications of Grand Lodge, Grand Officers, members of Grand Committee and Grand Stewards shall adhere to the type of clothing prescribed by Grand Committee.

LAW 98

Wearing of Chains of Office

- (i) The following members of Grand Lodge shall be entitled to wear chains appertaining to their respective offices, viz:-
- The Grand Master,
 - Past Grand Masters,
 - Deputy Grand Master,
 - Past Deputy Grand Masters,
 - Assistant Grand Masters and
 - Past Assistant Grand Masters.
- (ii) The following members of Provincial Grand Lodge shall be entitled to wear chains appertaining to their respective offices, viz:-
- The Provincial Grand Master,
 - Past Provincial Grand Masters,
 - Deputy Provincial Grand Master,
 - Past Deputy Provincial Grand Masters,
 - Assistant Provincial Grand Masters and
 - Past Assistant Provincial Grand Masters.

LAW 99

Discipline

- (i) Daughter Lodges and brethren are forbidden collectively and individually from permitting Masonic emblems to be used for business purposes and any Lodge or brother found guilty under this law, shall in the case of a Daughter Lodge be liable to forfeiture of its Charter and in the case of a brother to expulsion from the Craft.
- (ii) Daughter Lodges and members of Daughter Lodges acting under the disrespectful manner towards the Grand Master or Provincial Grand Lodge or any one acting on behalf of any them or towards Grand Lodge or Grand Committee or Provincial Grand Lodge or disobeying their instructions or judgements or failing to observe the provisions of the Laws shall be liable in the case of Lodges, to suspension or forfeiture of their Charters and in the case of individuals to suspension or expulsion.
- (iii) A brother who commits a Masonic offence shall be liable to admonition, suspension or expulsion.
- (iv) A brother of a Lodge who has been suspended or has had the Charter of his Lodge forfeited shall not be eligible as a member of Grand Lodge or of a Provincial Grand Lodge or of another Daughter Lodge until he shall have expressed, in writing, his disapprobation of the conduct which has led to such suspension or forfeiture and his disclaimer has been

accepted by Grand Committee.

LAW 100

Declaration of Amity

The Grand Lodge is in amity with the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland and all Sovereign Grand Lodges with which the aforesaid Grand Lodges are in amity all over the world and hereby enjoins all Freemasons under her jurisdiction to give effect to this declaration by word and by deed.

LAWS 101

Adoption of Ancient Landmarks

The Grand Lodge hereby adopts the Ancient Landmarks of the Order of Freemasonry set out in the Second Schedule and hereby enacts that these Landmarks cannot be repealed or abrogated.

LAW 102

Masonic Offences

The Grand Lodge hereby adopts the list of Masonic Offences set out in the Third Schedule and holds them as binding on every Freemason in Nigeria.

LAW 103

Adoption of the Aims and Relationships of the Craft

The Grand Lodge hereby adopts the Aims and Relationships of the Craft jointly subscribed to by the United Grand Lodge of England, the Grand Lodge of Ireland and the Grand Lodge of Scotland in 1938 and duly confirmed in 1949 and it is hereby enacted that these Aims and Relationships aforesaid which are set out in the Fourth Schedule to these Laws shall take effect as if enacted in these Laws.

LAW 104

Declaration of Status and Allegiance

The Grand Lodge hereby adopts the declaration of status and allegiance set out in the Fifth Schedule to these Laws.

LAW 105

Alteration or Amendment

A motion for the alteration, amendment or abrogation of any of the provisions of these Laws shall not be approved unless two-thirds of the qualified members present had voted for it, provided that where there is a doubt as to what amounts

to two-thirds of those present, mathematical approximation shall apply.

LAW 106

National Festival

The Grand Lodge shall celebrate yearly the National Festival as defined in LAW 107

LAW 107

Interpretation

In construing the provisions of these Laws, the following words and expressions shall have the meanings herein assigned to them. That is to say:

“Admonition” includes censure.

“Annual Meeting” means the Communication of the Grand Lodge held on the first Saturday of November.

'Benevolent Fund' means:

- (1) As regards Grand Lodge the Fund constituted for the purpose under Law.
- (2) As regards Provincial Grand Lodges any Fund so designated for the Benevolent Schemes of Grand Lodge and Provincial Grand Lodges.
- (3) As regards Daughter Lodges, any Fund so designated for the Benevolent Schemes of Grand Lodge, Provincial Grand Lodges and the Daughter Lodges.

“Bye-Laws” has the meaning attached to it under LAW 96.

“Charter” includes Warrant.

“Daughter Lodge” means any Lodge now or hereinafter holding of the Grand Lodge.

“Election Meeting” means the May meeting of the Grand Lodge.

“Good Standing” means both as regards Lodges and members clear of all dues and fees payable to the Grand Lodge, Grand Committee, Provincial Grand Lodges and Daughter Lodges as the case may be and free from Masonic sentence.

“Grand Committee” means the Committee constituted under LAW 55 and charged with the duties delegated to it by Grand Lodge.

“Grand Lodge” means the Grand Lodge of Nigeria.

“Judgement” includes verdict, finding, decision, admonition and sentence.

“Masonic Sentence” includes suspension, expulsion and recall or forfeiture of Charter.

“Lodge” includes a Masonic Body recognized by the Grand Lodge but which is not necessarily a member of Grand Lodge.

“National Festival” means the festival of Grand Lodge in honour of the National Day and shall be celebrated immediately on the Saturday following the National Day celebration of the 1st day of October each year.

“Operative Date” means the date of establishment of the Grand Lodge.

“Qualified Brother or Qualified Member” means

1. As regards a Daughter Lodge, a Master Mason of such Lodge or a

Master Mason affiliated thereto for at least fourteen days, in good standing, and who has been registered as a Master Mason in the Books of Grand Lodge.

2. As regards a Provincial Grand Lodge, a member thereof as constituted by LAW 72 who is a qualified member of a Daughter Lodge in good standing with such Provincial Grand Lodge.
3. As regards Grand Lodge, a member thereof as constituted by LAW 1 who is qualified member of a Daughter Lodge in good standing with Grand Lodge (and if a Provincial Grand Master or a Past Provincial Grand Master is also a qualified member of his Provincial Grand Lodge) and who is in good standing with Grand Lodge.
4. "Special Bye-Laws" means any Bye-Laws of a Provincial Grand Lodge or a Daughter Lodge containing items not provided for in the Bye-Laws under schedule 7.

"Standing Orders" means such of these Laws and such Bye-Laws as relate to the manner in which business is to be conducted.

"These Laws" means the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, its Schedules and Appendices.

Words used in the singular include the plural and vice versa.

LAW 108

Ancient Charges

The Grand Lodge hereby adopts the Ancient Charges as mentioned in the Sixth Schedule.

LAW 109

Citation

These Laws shall be known as **THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA** and may be cited as LAW 1 or LAW 57(i) of the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge.

LAW 110

Adoption of Ceremonials

For the time being and until further notice, the Grand Lodge hereby adopts all the rites and ceremonies together with the rituals and ceremonies in use in Nigeria immediately before the coming into operation of these Laws under the District/Provincial Grand Lodge of Nigeria, Irish and Scottish Constitutions, in relation to the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow of Craft, the Master Mason and the Ceremony of Installed Master.

LAW 111

Masonic Charities

The Grand Lodge and all Provincial Grand Lodges and Daughter Lodges under her jurisdiction shall devote their Benevolent Funds to charities including the following:

- (1) Old People's Homes
- (2) Charity Homes
- (3) Homes for Motherless Babies
- (4) Homes for Orphans
- (5) Institutions for the disabled
- (6) Institutions for the handicapped
- (7) Nigerian Society for the Blind
- (8) Leprosy Cure Institute

Any other Institutions to which Masonic Charities could be applied.

LAW 112

Exclusion/Re-admission

No brother shall be suspended for non-payment of dues to his Lodge, but the Lodge shall have the power of striking off its roll any member more than twelve months in arrear of dues, provided that one month previously, demand in writing for such arrears shall have been sent by registered letter or recorded delivery to the member, directed to his last-known address, together with an intimation that in the event on non-payment, his name will be removed from the roll of members of the Lodge, and the removal reported to the Grand Secretary's office.

A Brother removed by his Lodge from membership for non-payment of dues shall not be affiliated by, nor shall he continue a member of any other Lodge, nor shall he be permitted to become a member of the Grand Lodge, or to visit any Lodge at labour or refreshment, until it shall have been ascertained from the Lodge from which the Brother was removed, that such arrears of dues has been discharged.

1st Schedule

LIST OF LODGES OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA

CONST. No.	LODGE	LOCATION	WARRANT DATE	GLN NO
IC 197	MACDONALD	CALABAR	NOV. 1896	1
SC 1156	LODGE HOPE	CALABAR	MAY 1916	2
SC 1271	LODGE FAITH	LAGOS	MAY 1921	3
SC 1357	LODGE WARRI HIGHLAND	WARRI	FEB. 1927	4
IC 643	EXCELSIOR LODGE	LAGOS	NOV. 1930	5
SC 1396	LODGE AGGREY	KANO	AUG. 1936	6
SC 1546	LODGE ST. ANDREW	SAPELE	OCT. 1958	7
SC 1593	LODGE ENDEAVOUR	ABA	MAY 1962	8
SC 1598	LODGE PROSPERITY	ONITSHA	FEB. 1963	9
SC 1615	LODGE LIBERTY	BENIN	MAY 1965	10
IC 828	SANCTITY LODGE	PORT HARCOURT	NOV. 1965	11
IC 838	UNITY LODGE	IBADAN	NOV. 1969	12
SC 1663	LODGE RIVERS	PORT HARCOURT	AUG. 1971	13
SC 1665	LODGE EKWULU	ENUGU	AUG. 1971	14
SC 1670	LODGE NIGER	KANO	NOV. 1972	15
IC 847	HARMONY LODGE	LAGOS	NOV. 1972	16
SC 1674	LODGE TRINITY	LAGOS	FEB. 1973	17
SC 1686	LODGE UNIVERSAL PEACE	ABUJA	MAY. 1974	18
IC 857	EDO LODGE	BENIN	MAR. 1975	19
SC 1693	LODGE OWERRE	OWERRI	MAY, 1975	20
SC 1694	LODGE SEVEN HILLS	NSUKKA	MAY. 1975	21
SC 1695	LODGE DELTA	UGHELI	MAY. 1975	22
SC 1696	LODGE BONNY ISLAND	BONNY	MAY. 1975	23
SC 1701	LODGE AWORILAND	IKEJA	AUG. 1975	24
IC 864	SURULERE LODGE	EBUTE METTA	DEC. 1975	25
SC 1716	LODGE PRUDENCE	CALABAR	MAY. 1977	26
SC 1717	LODGE LAGOS ISLAND	LAGOS ISLAND	MAY 1977	27
SC 1720	LODGE UNITY	AWKA	AUG. 1977	28
IC 869	NYEMONI LODGE	ABONNEMA	DEC. 1977	29
IC 875	TRANQUILITY LODGE	LAGOS	DEC. 1978	30
SC 1731	LODGE SUBLIME	ELELENWO	FEB. 1980	31
SC 1732	LODGE TRIUMPHANT	BUGUMA	FEB. 1980	32
SC 1735	LODGE OSHIMILI	ASABA	AUG. 1981	33
SC 1742	LODGE MERIDIAN	UMUAHIA	NOV. 1981	34
IC 884	PRUDENCE LODGE	LAGOS	MAR. 1982	35
IC 885	ONITSHA LODGE	ONITSHA	APR. 1982	36
IC 886	ORON LODGE	ORON	MAY 1982	37
SC 1761	LODGE OPOBO	OPOBO	FEB. 1986	38
SC 1762	LODGE IKWERRELAND	RUMUOKORO	FEB. 1986	39
IC 892	TEMPERANCE LODGE	UYO	MAR. 1986	40
SC 1765	LODGE NGWALAND	OBIOMA ABA	MAY 1986	41
SC 1766	LODGE IDEMILI	ONITSHA	MAY 1986	42
SC 1769	LODGE FORTITUDE	NEMBE	NOV 1987	43
SC 1770	LODGE UYO	UYO	NOV 1987	44
IC 893	LOLIA LODGE	OKRIKA	MAY 1989	45
SC 1782	LODGE UVWIELAND	EFFURUN	AUG. 1989	46
SC 1783	LODGE ST. ANTHONY	ODE-ITSEKIRI	NOV. 1989	47
SC 1784	LODGE ST. MICHAEL	OLEH	NOV. 1989	48
SC 1785	LODGE OKUGBE	AGENEBODE	NOV. 1989	49
IC 902	KONO LODGE	KONO	DEC. 1989	50
IC 904	SAPELE LODGE	SAPELE	MAR. 1990	51

IC 908	ABA URBAN LODGE	ABA	MAR. 1991	52
IC 1010	AMITY LODGE	LAGOS	MAR. 1991	53
SC 1798	LODGE ANAMBRA	ANAMBRA	AUG. 1992	54
IC 919	UGHELLI LODGE	UGHELLI	MAY 1996	55
IC 922	OSOSI IWOYE LODGE	IJEBU-ODE	JUNE 1996	56

2nd Schedule

Ancient Landmarks

The following are some of the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry:

1. The modes of recognition
2. The division of symbolic Masonry into three Degrees.
3. The legend of the Third Degree.
4. The government of the Fraternity by a presiding officer called a Grand Master.
The Prerogative of the Grand Master to preside over every assembly of the Craft, wheresoever held
5. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensation for conferring degrees at irregular times.
6. The prerogative of the Grand Master to grant dispensations for opening and holding Lodges.
7. The necessity of Masons to congregate in Lodge.
8. The government of every Lodge by a Master and two Wardens.
9. The necessity that every Lodge, when congregated, should be duly tyled.
10. The right of every mason to be heard before the order of suspension or expulsion is made by his brethren.
11. The right of every Mason in good standing to visit and sit in every Regular Lodge.
12. That no visitor, not known to some brothers present as a Mason, can enter a Lodge with out undergoing an examination.
13. That no Lodge can interfere in the business or labour of another Lodge.
14. That every Freemason is amendable to the Laws and Regulations of the Masonic Jurisdiction in which he resides.
15. That every candidate for initiation must be a man, free and of Masonic age.
16. That every Freemason must believe in the existence of God
17. That every Freemason must believe in the super-physical life which is a constitution of his physical existence.
18. That the Volume of the Sacred Law is an indispensable part of the furniture of every Freemason's Lodge.
19. That on the floor of a Lodge, all Masons are on the level without detriment to their stations in life and the observance of Masonic protocol.
20. That Freemasonry is not a secret society as by Law defined.
21. That Freemasonry is a peculiar system of morality veiled in allegory and

- illustrated by symbols.
22. That a lewis is a man aged between 18 and 21 years who is the son of Freemason.
 23. That the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry cannot be changed.
 24. That the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry are the Laws and Customs of Freemasons which have existed from time immemorial and which have not been fully listed anywhere.
 25. That one of the Cardinal Principles of Freemasonry is the practice of Universal Beneficence and Charity.

3rd Schedule

Masonic Offences

- (1) The violation of an oath lawfully taken is a Masonic offence.
- (2) An intent to defraud duly proved is a Masonic offence
- (3) Shameful violation of domestic responsibilities by a Freemason is a Masonic offence.
- (4) To engage in politics in the Lodge is a Masonic offence.
- (5) To make scurrilous remarks about religion at Masonic Meetings is a Masonic offence.
- (6) Atheism is a Masonic offence.
- (7) An agnostic who becomes so after initiation commits a Masonic offence by failing to resign his membership.
- (8) Drunkenness is a Masonic offence.
- (9) Assault by a Freemason on another Mason in and out of the Lodge is a Masonic offence.
- (10) Adultery by a Freemason is a Masonic offence whether the woman involved is the wife of a Freemason or not.
- (11) Falsehood of any kind is a Masonic Offence.
- (12) Intemperate and scandalous behaviour in public is a Masonic offence.
- (13) Habitual use of profane language is a Masonic offence.
- (14) Mendacity is a Masonic offence.
- (15) To inform the profane directly or indirectly of the business transactions of a Lodge or what is spoken at any meeting of Freemasons, is a Masonic offence.
- (16) Irregular revelation of the results of ballot or election is a Masonic offence.
- (17) To exhibit Masonic regalia without dispensation is a Masonic offence.
- (18) It is a Masonic offence to recognize as a Freemason, one who has been suspended or expelled.
- (19) It is a Masonic offence for a Mason to be convicted of a crime which involves moral turpitude.
- (20) Where a Masonic offence also amounts to a criminal or civil wrong, the Grand Lodge shall abide by the ruling of the courts established by the laws of the country; the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge shall extend only to the ratification of decisions of the courts, and cannot exercise any

- original jurisdiction in such cases.
- (21) Soliciting the profane to become a Freemason is a Masonic offence.
 - (22) Giving bribe is a Masonic offence.
 - (23) Receiving bribe is a Masonic offence.
 - (24) Influencing a Masonic election by a member seeking election is a Masonic offence.
 - (25) Rigging the result of ballot is a Masonic offence.
 - (26) Conspiracy to defeat a lawful candidate in a Masonic election for reasons unconnected with his Masonic obligations is a Masonic offence.
 - (27) Publication of tendentious materials in the press under the canopy of Freemasonry is a Masonic offence.
 - (28) The practice of strange and unauthorized rite is a Masonic offence.
 - (29) Lacking respect for authority (Contumacy) is a Masonic offence.
 - (30) Irreverent behaviour at meetings is a Masonic offence
 - (31) Noise making at Masonic meetings and gatherings is a Masonic offence.
 - (32) Offering material inducements to brethren to win their votes is a Masonic offence.
 - (33) Deserting the Grand Master without permission at Festive Board is a Masonic offence.
 - (34) Deserting the Provincial Grand Master at harmony or festive board without permission is a Masonic offence.
 - (35) Deserting the Master or presiding officer at harmony or festive board without permission is a Masonic offence.
 - (36) Unilateral declaration of independence by Daughter Lodges in the Province is a Masonic offence.
 - (37) Rebellious activity by brethren against the Grand Lodge, the Province or Daughter Lodges of the Province is a Masonic offence.
 - (38) Violation of the Ancient Landmarks of Freemasonry is a Masonic offence.
 - (39) Canvassing for votes in open Lodge or openly among brethren is a Masonic offence.

4th Schedule

Aims and Relationships of the Craft

- (1) The first condition of admission into and membership of the Order is a belief in the Supreme Being. This is essential and admits of no compromise.
- (2.) The Bible, the Quran or other book of faith referred to by Freemasons as the Volume of the Sacred Law, is always open in the Lodge. Every candidate is required to take his obligation on that Book, or on the Volume which is held by his particular Creed to impart sanctity to an oath or promise taken upon it.
- (3) Everyone who enters Freemasonry is at the outset, strictly forbidden to

countenance any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society, he must pay due obedience to the Law of any state in which he resides or which may afford him protection, and he must never be remiss in the allegiance due to the Sovereign of his native land.

- (4) While Nigerian Freemasonry thus inculcates in each of its members the duties of loyalty and citizenship, it reserves to the individual the right to hold his own opinion with regard to public affairs. But neither in any Lodge nor at any time in his capacity as a Freemason is he permitted to discuss or to advance his views on theological or political questions.
- (5) The Grand Lodge of Nigeria shall always consistently refuse to express any opinion on questions of foreign or domestic state policy, either at home or abroad, and it will not allow its name to be associated with any action, however humanitarian it may appear to be, which infringes its unalterable policy of standing aloof from every question affecting the relations between one government and another, or between political parties, or questions as to rival theories of government.
- (6) The Grand Lodge of Nigeria is aware that there do exist bodies styling themselves Freemasons, which do not adhere to these principles, and while that attitude exists the Grand Lodge of Nigeria refuses absolutely to have any relations with such bodies or to regard them as Freemasons.
- (7) The Grand Lodge of Nigeria is a sovereign and independent body practicing Freemasonry only within the three Degrees and only within the limits defined in its Constitution. It does not recognize or admit the existence of any superior Masonic authority however styled.
- (8) The Grand Lodge of Nigeria will always refuse to participate in conference with so called International Associations claiming to represent Freemasonry, which admit to their membership bodies failing to conform strictly to the principles upon which the Grand Lodge of Nigeria is founded. The Grand Lodge of Nigeria will not admit any such claim, nor can its views be represented by any such Association.
- (9) There is no secret with regard to any of the basic principles of Freemasonry, some of which have been stated above. The Grand Lodge of Nigeria will always consider the recognition of those Grand Lodges which profess and practice, and can show that they have consistently professed and practiced, those established and unaltered principles, but in no circumstances will it enter into discussion with a view to any new or varied interpretation of them. They must be accepted and practiced wholeheartedly and in their entirety by those who desire to be recognized as Freemasons by the Grand Lodge of Nigeria.

5th Schedule

Declaration of Status and Allegiance

The Grand Lodge of Nigeria being a sovereign independent Masonic

Organization devoted to the pursuit of benevolence, relief and truth, hereby declares its loyalty and allegiance to the Government and people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and affirms its status as a non-political, and non-sectarian philosophical organization whose aims and objects include kindness to all, the offer of assistance to widows, orphans, old people, the handicapped and the disabled, and the diffusion of the principle of universal beneficence and charity. The Order does not hold its meetings in secret in that:

- (a) All meetings are held in buildings to which members of the public have access.
- (b) Meetings are convened by means of circulars printed by non-members
- (c) The transactions of all meetings are recorded in minutes books which are available for inspection.
- (d) That the Order does not engage in any activities save those contained in its Constitution, which include community work (by tending to the needs of charitable institutions) and relief work (by devoting its funds to the alleviation of the sufferings of victims of natural disasters).
- (e) That no person has ever been or will ever be coerced, threatened or otherwise intimidated by oath or obligation to promote the interest of the Order or its members or to aid one another under all circumstances without due regard to merit, fair play or justice.
- (f) And it is hereby further declared that there has never been any complaint at the bar of the Nation, that at any time during its long existence, the Order has been known to engage in activities calculated to be detrimental to the legitimate expectations of those who are not members in that:
 - (i) The lofty tenets of the Order are intended to promote the fundamental objectives of the Constitution of Nigeria.
 - (ii) It is ultra vires for the members to engage in activities which contradict the tenets of the Order.

6th Schedule

Ancient Charges

The following Ancient Charges have been approved by the Grand Lodge for use in Daughter Lodge under its jurisdiction:

- (i) Concerning God and Religion
- (ii) Of the Civil Magistrate, Supreme and Subordinate
- (iii) Of Lodges
- (iv) Of Masters, Wardens, Fellows and Apprentices.
- (v) Of Behaviour.
- (vi) Of the Management of the Craft in Working.

**Bye-Laws
of**

The Provincial Grand Lodge of

Holding of

The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nigeria.

Introduction

1. **T h e P r o v i n c i a l G r a n d L o d g e o f
..... (hereinafter referred to as “Provincial
Grand Lodge”) shall be governed by the Constitution and Laws of
the Grand Lodge of Nigeria and by these Bye-Laws.**

Membership

2. **The membership of Provincial Grand Lodge shall be as defined in
Laws 71 & 72.** If the Provincial Grand Lodge considers it necessary to
have a Bye-law relating to membership no wording other than this is
permissible.

3. All Communications shall be held within..... or such other venue
as Provincial Grand Lodge at a previous Communication shall decide or
as determined from time to time by the Provincial/Grand Master.
The Bye-Law should name, where possible, the building, not merely the
town. It is permissible to have more than one meeting place and, if this
is the case, the Bye-Laws should determine which Communications are
to be held in each.
This Bye-Law relates to all Communications. No attempt should be
made to combine it with the next Bye-Law which deals with Regular
Communications only.

4. The Regular Communications shall be held at least twice annually -----

as Provincial Grand Lodge at a previous Communication may appoint or
as determined from time to time by the Provincial Grand Master.

5. The Annual Communication shall be the Regular Communication -----
----- At that Communication the Abstract
of Accounts and Balance Sheet shall be considered; the Nomination
and Appointment of members of the Board of Provincial Grand
Stewards shall take place, together with the Installation of Officers who
had been elected at the previous Communication.

The procedure to be adopted for such Nominations, Elections, and

Appointments shall be left entirely to the discretion of the Provincial Grand Committee which shall prepare a list of Brethren who are recommended for election. Provincial Grand Secretary shall circulate this list with the Notice calling the Communication. Should more than one candidate be nominated for any office, the voting shall be by secret ballot and the Brother receiving most votes shall be elected.

The Second paragraph of this Bye-Law is optional and need not be included. It is possible where Communications are convened other than by circular for the list of Brethren recommended for office to be distributed to Qualified members attending the Communication.

The Nomination, Election, and/or Installation of Officers may take place at separate Communications if desired, in which case more than one Bye-Law may be required. It is permissible to include provision for Nominations to be posted to the Provincial Grand Secretary a stated number of days before the Election; this should be soon enough for the list to be included in the circular calling the Election Communication.

6. **At all Communications fifteen qualified members shall form a quorum.**
7. **Any requisition for a Special Communication in terms of Law 87 (ii) must be signed by not less than fifteen qualified members.**
8. **All Communications shall be convened by circular delivered or posted to every Qualified Member at least ten days prior to the Communication.** This specimen Bye-law illustrates one permissible method of convening Communications of Provincial Grand Lodge. Whilst “ten days” is the minimum, it is open to a Provincial Grand Lodge to specify a longer period. Communications may be convened by advertisement or intimation at a previous Communication; however the method to be used must be specified within the Bye-Laws.

Officers

9. A. Provincial Grand Master shall be entitled to choose and appoint by Commission, from time to time, a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, an Assistant Provincial Grand Master, a Provincial Grand Secretary and a Provincial Grand Chaplain or Chaplains / Provincial grand Imam or Imams.
(If more than one, the number of Assistant Provincial Grand Masters should be inserted.)
10. The Elective Officers of Provincial Grand Lodge shall be the Provincial Senior Grand Warden, Provincial Junior Grand Warden -----

and Provincial Grand Tyler.

The Bye-Laws must state what Elective Officers there shall be. The list must comply with Law 73 and must be in the same order as the corresponding Grand Officers in Law 3. Stewards (other than the President) are not Officers and must not be listed as such.

- 11. An elected Provincial Grand Officer (the Provincial Grand Treasurer, ----- and Provincial Grand Tyler excepted) shall not hold the same office for longer than two years consecutively.

Law 10 which prohibits the holding of the same office in Grand Lodge for more than two consecutive years also applies by virtue of Law 79(ii) to the elected Officers of Provincial Grand Lodges, with the same exceptions.

12. In addition to those duties required of him in terms of Laws 74 & 75, Provincial Grand Secretary shall

.....
(The duties of the Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Treasurer are laid down in Laws 74 and 75 respectively. These should not be repeated but additional duties may be specified for them and similarly for other Officers if desired.)

- 13. **Provincial Grand Secretary, Provincial Grand Treasurer and Provincial Grand Tyler shall receive such remuneration or honorarium as Provincial Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication may decide.**

(It is a frequent practice to remunerate or give an honorarium to the Officers named. This may be done only if the Bye-Laws so provide. It is for Provincial Grand Lodge to decide which, if any, of the Officers shall be remunerated or given an honorarium. Reimbursement of expenses incurred may be authorized at any Communication.

Stewards

- 14. **There shall be a Board of Provincial Grand Stewards consisting of----- members including the President.**

A Provincial Grand Lodge need not have a Board of Stewards; though it must have a President of Stewards.

Committees

- 15. **Provincial Grand Committee shall consist of the Provincial Grand**

Master,all *ex-officiis*, together with-----
- elected members.

16. Provincial Grand Committee is responsible for the administration of the affairs of Provincial Grand Lodge. It may consider any matter relating to the government of the Craft within the -----
----- Province and make recommendations thereon to Provincial Grand Lodge.

All transactions of Provincial Grand Committee shall be reported for the consideration of Provincial Grand Lodge at the next Regular Communication.

17. Meetings of Provincial Grand Committee shall be held on -----
----- within ----- or, at such other venue or time as Provincial Grand Committee at a previous meeting shall decide or as determined by the Provincial Grand Master.

Additional meetings may be held as required. At all meetings of Provincial Grand Committee five shall form a quorum.

(If there is to be a Provincial Grand Committee the Bye-Laws shall specify the powers and duties thereof, stating also which Officers are members *ex-officiis*, how many members are to be elected, the quorum and days of stated meetings.)

18. Provincial Grand Committee, at its meeting in -----, may appoint from its own number the following Standing Committees and the Chairmen thereof:-

- (a) A Finance Committee, which shall consist of the Provincial Grand Master, Provincial Grand Secretary and Provincial Grand Treasurer, all *ex-officiis*, together with -----other members. This Standing Committee shall supervise all of the funds of Provincial Grand Lodge (other than the Benevolent fund).

Three shall form a quorum at meetings of the Finance Committee.

- (B) A Bye-Laws Committee, which shall consist of the Provincial Grand Master and Provincial Grand Secretary, both *ex-officio*, together with ----- other members. In terms of Law 76, this Standing Committee shall have full powers to revise and approve the Bye-Laws of Daughter Lodges in the Province and alterations or additions thereto. Three shall form a quorum at meetings of the Bye-Laws Committee.

- (c) A Petitions, Complaints and Appeals Committee, which shall consist of the Provincial Grand Master, all Past Provincial Grand Masters and Provincial Grand Secretary, all *ex-officiis*, together with ----- other members. This Standing Committee shall investigate and consider all matters of Masonic complaint or irregularity within the Province.

In particular any Appeals submitted to Provincial Grand Lodge immediately shall be considered by this Committee on behalf of Provincial Grand Lodge without requiring formally to be remitted to it and the Committee after investigation shall report on such matters directly to Provincial Grand Lodge. Three shall form a quorum at meetings of the Petitions, Complaints and Appeals Committee.

- (d) A Benevolent Committee, which shall consist of the Provincial Grand Master, ----- Provincial Grand Secretary, Provincial Grand Treasurer and Provincial Grand Almoner, all *ex-officiis*, together with.. ----- other members. This Standing Committee shall consider all applications for benevolence and report and additionally shall have power to authorize grants from the Benevolent Fund in cases of emergency, but in no case shall the sum thereby given to any individual exceed N000 Three shall form a quorum at meetings of the Benevolent Committee.

(The Bye-Laws must specify which Standing Committee (if any) there shall be, their numbers, quorum and duties and how the Chairman is to be appointed. It should be noted, that, whereas Grand Committee is the Judicial Tribunal for Grand Lodge, the Judicial Tribunal of a Province is not the Provincial Grand Committee, but the Provincial Grand Lodge as such.)

19. Each Standing Committee shall meet as required and shall report the result of its deliberations to Provincial Grand Committee or to the next Communication of Provincial Grand Lodge as may be appropriate.

Fees

20. The Fees exigible by Provincial Grand Lodge shall be as follows:--

- (A) From Daughter Lodges:--
(i) Annual Fee payable in advance on or before 23rd January : N-----
(ii) In respect of each candidate Initiated or Affiliated : N-----

Fees due under Items (ii) should be paid when submitting the Return required by Bye-Law 30.

- (B) From members:
Annual Membership Fee payable in advance on or before.....N00.00 provided that-----**
- (a) Qualified Members who have paid their Annual Membership Fee for Thirty-five consecutive years shall be exempt from further contributions.**
- (b). Qualified Members who have reached the age of Seventy-five years and have paid their Annual Membership Fee for twenty consecutive years shall pay a reduced Annual Membership Fee of N00.00.**
- (c) Any Qualified Member may commute his Annual Membership Fee by a payment of -----
N00.00**

All Fees shall be credited to the General Fund.

(The list of Fees should show separately those payable by members of Provincial Grand Lodge and those payable by the Daughter Lodges and must state how such are to be allocated between the General Fund and the Benevolent Fund.

Provisions (B) (a), (B) (b) and (B) (c) are optional and should only be included if applicable. No other provisions with regard to Members' Fees, other than Fees of Honour if desired, are permitted.

A Provincial Grand Lodge also may have provision for the payment of Fees in respect of administrative acts.)

Commutation Fees Fund

- 21. The sum to be withdrawn from the Commutation Fees Fund shall be ...% of the amount of the Fund at the close of the Financial Year.**

(This Clause must be included if provision is made for a Commutation Fee. The proportion withdrawn must not exceed that specified in the Bye-Law No.20.)

Benevolent Fund

- 22. In terms of Law 76, Provincial Grand Committee shall supervise the Benevolent Fund.**
- 23. All applications for relief must be made in writing on a form to be**

obtained from Provincial Grand Secretary.

- 24.** The Provincial Grand Master may give casual relief at his discretion but in no case shall the sum thereby given to any individual exceed **N000.00**

(If the Provincial Grand Lodge has funds other than those listed in Law 91, such must be set forth in the Bye-Laws.)

Accounts

- 25.** **The Financial Year shall end on ----- annually.**

(The end of the Financial Year and the date of the Annual Communication should be so fixed as to allow adequate time for the Provincial Grand Treasurer to balance his books, prepare the Abstract and Balance Sheet and have them audited and ready for distribution to members the requisite number of days before the meeting. The interval between the end of the Financial Year and the completion of the audit should be no more than two months. The interval between the end of the Financial Year and the date of the Annual Meeting must be no more than four months.)

- 26.** **An Auditor having** the qualifications specified in the Fifth Schedule of the Laws shall be appointed at the Regular Communication in ----- annually. He shall complete his audit and report by ----- . The time of reporting must be related to the date when the Accounts require to be circulated or available to members according to the next following Bye-Law. The time of reporting so fixed must be not later than two months after the end of the Financial Year.

- 27.** **Copies of the Abstract of Accounts and Balance Sheet with the Auditor's Certificate shall be delivered or posted to every Qualified Member not later than ten days prior to the Annual Communication.**

OR

- 27.** **Copies of the Abstract of Accounts and Balance Sheet with the Auditor's Certificate shall be available for distribution to Qualified Members attending the Annual Communication and additionally shall be supplied forthwith on their request to Qualified Members during the ten days preceding that Communication.**

(A Province must specify the manner in which its accounts are to be made available and must use one or either, but not both, of these styles of Bye-Law.)

Trustees

28. The Trustees, their duties and responsibilities shall be as defined and applied *mutatis mutandis* by virtue of Law 60.

(The foregoing Bye-law is obligatory and may not be varied.)

Annual Visitations

29. Provincial Grand Secretary shall send written notice to the Master of each Daughter Lodge, via the Lodge Secretary concerned, at least twenty eight days in advance of an official visit to be made in terms of Law 82. He also shall call in the Bye-Laws, Petition Book, Minutes Book, Roll Book, Attendance Book, Treasurer's Books, Certified Accounts and vouchers of the Lodge for examination prior to such a visit.

Returns

30. Lodge Secretaries shall send Quarterly Returns of Initiates and Affiliates admitted during the year to..... to the Provincial Grand Secretary not later thanannually.

8th Schedule

Executive Committee and Committee of Grand Master and Provincial Grand Master

Notwithstanding the Standing Committees of Grand Lodge, there shall be the Executive Committee and the Committee of Grand Master and Provincial Grand Masters.

Executive Committee shall comprise:

- Grand Master
- Past Grand Master
- Deputy Grand Master
- Assist Grand Masters
- Senior Grand Warden
- Junior Grand Warden
- Grand Secretary
- Grand Treasurer

Committee of Grand Master and Provincial Grand Masters shall comprise:

- Grand Master
- Deputy Grand Master
- The Provincial Grand Masters
- Grand Secretary

(The decisions reached by these two committees shall be presented to Grand Committee for ratification.)

9th Schedule

Signature page

Given under our hands and seals, this.....day of
.....2012

For and on behalf of Freemasons in Nigeria

.....
Right Worshipful His Majesty Igwe Nnaemeka Achebe, CFR, mni, Obi of Onitsha
Past Grand Deacon of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nigeria (I.C)
The Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand lodge of Nigeria
Irish Constitution

.....
Bro. Chief Adonye Anye Ibiama JP, FineCountry VI
Hon Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of Scotland
Right Worshipful the Provincial Grand Master of the Provincial Grand Lodge of
Nigeria, Scottish Constitution

Annexure 1

ELECTION OF THE FIRST GRAND MASTER ETC.

The First Grand Master and the First Deputy Grand Master, who shall be nominated from amongst the Irish and Scottish Constitutions in Nigeria, shall be elected at a Special meeting of an Electoral College convened for the purpose before the Consecration of the Proposed Grand Lodge.

The Deputy Grand Master shall be the Head of the other Constitution who was not elected as the First Grand Master.

The First Assistant Grand Master shall be nominated amongst Provincial Deputy/Depute District Grand Master and Past holders of the aforesaid offices.

The persons elected to these offices shall serve a term of one year each. It being understood that the first Deputy Grand Master will at the end of the first year, be deemed as having been elected as the Grand Master.

The Electoral College shall be drawn from the Irish and Scottish Constitutions in Nigeria and shall be constituted by 50 members from each Constitution.

The 50 members from each Constitutions shall be selected by each Constitution from amongst the: Provincial Grand Master, District Grand Master, Past Provincial Grand Masters/District Grand Masters, Deputy Provincial Grand Masters/Depute District Grand Masters, Provincial Assistant Grand Masters/Substitute District Grand Masters, Present and Past, Installed Masters, Present and Past.

Every member of the Electoral College shall have one vote irrespective of the category under which he may qualify as a voter.

All Past Provincial/District Grand Masters shall automatically be regarded as Hon Grand Masters.

The concordant with the Grand Lodge of Scotland

**CONCORDAT BETWEEN
THE GRAND LODGE OF ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF SCOTLAND
AND
THE GRAND LODGE OF NIGERIA**


In furtherance of the maintenance of a harmonious working relationship between the Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Nigeria it is considered now appropriate to consolidate and confirm that relationship by formalising an Agreement of Friendship and Understanding between the two Grand Lodges. Whereas:

1. The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland recognises The Grand Lodge of Nigeria as an independent Sovereign Masonic body having jurisdiction in Nigeria.
2. The Grand Lodge of Nigeria recognises that those Lodges in Nigeria holding a charter from the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland, as Detailed in Appendix 1 to this agreement, shall be entitled to adhere to their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Scotland and that they will coexist in harmony and amity with the Brethren in Lodges holding of the Grand Lodge of Nigeria. The Grand Lodge of Nigeria agrees that the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland have sole responsibility for the management of the affairs of the Craft Lodges holding their Charter from Scotland.
3. The Grand Lodge of Scotland agrees that if at any future time any of the Lodges holding a Charter from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, and listed in the Appendix, wish to transfer their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Nigeria, and this request is agreed by a majority of Brethren of the Lodge or Lodges concerned at a regular meeting called to discuss such a resolution, then provided all other administrative requirements that the

Grand Lodge of Scotland may require the Lodge (s) to fulfil have been complied with then the Grand Lodge of Scotland will use its best endeavours to facilitate such a transfer of allegiance.


4. The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland agrees that they will not grant a Charter to any further Lodge or other Lodges in Nigeria.
5. All Brethren who are members of Lodges under the Scottish Constitution shall be recognised as such by the Grand Lodge of Nigeria and no Brother or Lodge shall incur any Masonic censure or disability by reason of his or its adherence to either allegiance.
6. The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Nigeria shall each respect the other's disciplinary procedures and give effect to the sentences pronounced by either on offending members by way of suspension or expulsion or otherwise.
7. The Grand Lodge of Nigeria and Grand Lodge of Scotland will permit their Brethren to hold joint membership of each Constitution and shall not place any restrictions on reason of their membership to either Constitution.
8. This Concordat between the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland and the Grand Lodge of Nigeria is to be kept and observed as binding and obligatory on these bodies in th future to the extent of the several obligations affecting each of them respectively; and the respective grand Masters of each Grand Lodge have subscribed these presents as ratifying and confirming the same for themselves and their successors and seals of the respective grand lodges have been affixed hereto.

Signed in Witness thereof this 3rd day of November 2012.



Grand Master Mason
Grand Lodge of

Free and Accepted Masons of Scotland



Grand Master
Grand Lodge of Nigeria

APPENDIX

Lodges remaining in the District Grand Lodge of Nigeria, Scottish Constitution:

1. Lodge Scotia No 1166
2. Lodge Remo No 1682
3. Lodge Classic No 1678
4. Lodge Oriwu No 1691
5. Lodge Omo-Alare No 1755
6. Lodge Obanta No 1487
7. Lodge Lisabi No 1618
8. Lodge Perseverance No 1370
9. Lodge Academic No 1150
10. Lodge Eko No 1703
11. Lodge St. David No 1356
12. Lodge Alaro No 1757
13. Lodge Itebite No 1619
14. Lodge Ethiope No 1780



**ALL CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO
THE GRAND SECRETARY**

**NO 7 OKWURUOLA STREET, OFF STADIUM ROAD (BY CHARLIES FITNESS CENTRE)
PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA**

**+234 (0) 803 309 5785, (0) 805 730 7356
grandlodgeofnigeria@yahoo.com, grandlodgeofnigeria2@gmail.com**