

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF RUMUCHORLU COUNCIL OF CHIEFS, ELDERS AND ELITES

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PREAMBLE

We (Eze Chorlu, Chiefs, Elders and Elites) of Rumuchorlu council of Chiefs, Elders and Elites do hereby make for ourselves this constitution as the binding law that will guide our deliberations and activities as a Council to the Glory of God Almighty and to the benefit of ourselves and humanity in Jesus name. Amen. This constitution shall be supreme and its provisions shall be binding on us and all our activities as an institution.

SECTION 1

NAME

The name of The Council shall be, “**Rumuchorlu Council of Chiefs, Elders and Elites**”, herein referred to as, “**The Council**”.

SECTION 2

MOTTO AND LOGO

a. Motto:

Community Development and service.

b. Logo:

The Logo of The Council shall be a Chieftaincy Bola-hat crossed with a walking stick and an eagle feather fixed beside the cap.

SECTION 3

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. To propagate the Development and well-being of our community and service to humanity.
- b. To ensure the unity and progress of Rumuchorlu Community.
- c. To partner with all the levels of Government (Local, State and Federal) to bring about good governance to our community and the society in general.

- d. To have a good relationship with corporate organizations and well-meaning individuals and groups for the benefit of our community and the society in general.

SECTION 4

QUORUM

- a. The quorum for the general/emergency meeting of the council shall be 1/3 of the member of the council.
- b. The quorum for the Executive Committee meeting of the Council shall be least five (5) member of the Executive committee

SECTION 5

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of The Council shall be opened to the following:

- a. All crowned Chiefs by Eze Chorlu and recognized and respected elders of our community.
- b. And any of the Elites from Rumuchorlu community that The Council shall deem fit to be a member.
- c. And any other person that Eze Chorlu shall consider necessary as a member who must be of high impeccable and unquestionable character.

SECTION 6

THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

- (a) The leader of The Council shall be Eze Chorlu-The Paramount Ruler of Rumuchorlu community and Nye-Chiga-Eli-Chorlu at any point in time.
- (b) It shall be the responsibility of the Leader to provide good leadership for the good and wellbeing of The Council and Rumuchorlu Community in general.

- (c) It shall be the responsibility of the Leader of The Council to appoint all the officers of The Council as provided for in this constitution.
- (d) He shall be one of the signatories of the account of The Council. His signature shall be “A” signatory.
- (e) He must sign all withdrawal vouchers with other authorized signatories of The Council.
- (f) He is the head of The Council and the entire Rumuchorlu Community.

SECTION 7
OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

- a. Chairman.
- b. Vice Chairman.
- c. General Secretary.
- d. Assistance General Secretary.
- e. Financial Secretary.
- f. Assistant Financial Secretary.
- g. Treasurer.
- h. Public Relation Officer.
- i. Provost.
- j. Women Leader.

SECTION 8
DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS

a. CHAIRMAN

- I. The chairman shall preside over all meetings of The Council.

- II. He shall provide general administration for The Council and runs the day-to-day activities of The Council in consultation with the Leader of The Council.
- III. He shall sign all withdrawal vouchers with the Leader, Financial Secretary and the Treasurer. And shall be one of the authorized signatories of The Council.
- IV. He shall render annual report to the council.
- V. He shall be responsible to the Leader and to The Council and is the head of the Executive committee.
- VI. And any other duties that his office shall demand.

b. **VICE CHAIRMAN**

- I. the Vice Chairman shall deputize for the chairman in his absence.
- II. And any other duties that the chairman shall assign to him/her.

c. **GENERAL SECRETARY**

- I. The General Secretary shall keep the records of all the activities of The Council.
- II. He/She shall take minutes of meetings during general or emergency meetings of The Council.
- III. And any other duties that The Council and or the Chairman shall assign to him/her.

d. **ASSITANCE GENERAL SECRETARY**

- I. The Assistance General Secretary shall deputize for the General Secretary in his or her absence.
- II. And any other duties that the General Secretary shall assign to him/her.

e. **FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

- I. The Financial Secretary shall keep records of all the financial transactions of The Council.

- II. He/She shall in consultation with the Leader and the chairman sign withdrawal vouchers.
- III. He/She shall render quarterly financial report to The Council and also render annual financial report.
- IV. He/She shall collect all monies and render same with a receipt to the Treasurer.
- V. The Financial Secretary shall submit all financial records in his or her possession to the Audit Committee.

f. **ASSISTANCE FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

- I. the Assistance Financial Secretary shall deputize for the Financial Secretary in his/her absence.
- II. And any other duties that the Financial Secretary shall assign to him/her.

g. **TREASURER**

- I. The Treasurer shall keep all the monies of The Council.
- II. He/She shall pay into The Council account with the bank all monies in excess of the imprest amount within 48 hours.
- III. He/She shall submit all the vouchers/financial documents or records of The Council in his/her possession to the Audit Committee when the need arises.
- IV. He/She shall keep an imprest amount for petty expenses of #20,000.
- V. And any other duties that The Council shall assign to him/her.

h. **PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER**

- I. The Public Relation Officer (PRO) shall be the image maker of The Council.
- II. He/She shall publicize all the activities of The Council including issuing of meeting circulation and notices.

- III. He/She shall be responsible to the well-fair of the members of The Council.
- IV. He/She shall collect all social levies from the members and render same to the Financial Secretary who shall render same to the Treasurer.
- V. He/She shall be responsible to see that members get what is due to them.

i. **PROVOST**

- I. The Provost shall maintain discipline in the general meeting of The Council.
- II. He/She shall be responsible in sharing entertainment items during meetings and social gathering.
- III. And any other duties that the Chairman shall assign to him/her.

j. **WOMEN LEADER**

- I. The women leader of The Council shall be responsible for the needs and relationship of the women of Rumuchorlu with The Council.
- II. And any other duties that the Chairman shall assign to her.
- III. She shall give quarterly report to The Council.

SECTION 9

RESIGNATION OF OFFICERS

- a. All officers of The Council shall resign their position in writing addressed to the General Secretary to The Council except the General Secretary and the Chairman.
- b. The General Secretary shall resign from his/her position by writing to the Chairman.
- c. The Chairman shall resign from his/her position by writing to the Leader through the General Secretary.

SECTION 10

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

- a. Ascension to the offices as provided in this constitution shall be by appointment.
- b. Eze Chorlu who is the Leader of The Council shall have the sole responsibility of appointing all the officers of The Council to their respective offices.
- c. And any officer that does not perform his/her responsibility satisfactorily shall be removed from office by the Leader of The Council before the expiration of the tenure of that office.

SECTION 11

TENURE OF OFFICERS

- a. The tenure of the officers appointed into any of the offices as provided for in this constitution shall be for a period of two consecutive years.
- b. Any officer that performs to the satisfaction of the Leader of The Council may be reappointed for another term of office.

SECTION 12

FINANCIAL MATTERS/POLICIES

- a. The Council shall open an account with any commercial bank in Nigeria.
- b. The Treasurer shall pay into the account of The Council in the bank all monies received from the Financial Secretary within 48 working hours.
- c. The Treasurer shall keep an imprest- amount of not more than #20,000 at any point in time.
- d. The Council shall have four authorized signatories who shall be the Leader, the Chairman, the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer.
- e. The mandate for the withdrawal of money from the bank account shall be any three of the authorized signatories amongst which must be the Leader who is an “A” signatory. The rest signatories are all “B” signatories.
- f. The mandate for withdrawal of money from the Treasurer shall be signed by the Leader, Chairman and the Financial Secretary.

SECTION 13

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE COUNCIL

- a. No member shall make noise when the meeting is in session. A fine of #200 shall be imposed on the defaulter.
- b. The Leader and the Chairman shall always be heard at any point in time. A fine of #200 shall be paid by a defaulter.
- c. No member shall be found to be a drunkard. A fine of #20,000, a goat, 8 tubers of yam and assorted drinks shall be paid by the defaulter. And if it persists, the member shall be dismissed.
- d. No member shall be allowed to fight in the meeting and outside the meeting. Fine as in © above shall be paid by the

offender. If the fight is between a member and an outsider, The Council shall investigate the matter and if the member is found guilty he shall be made to pay the fine as stipulated in © above.

- e. No member shall be a thief. A fine of dismissal shall be imposed on the offender.
- f. Any member who wants to talk while meeting is in session should raise his/her hand and wait for the presiding officer's recognition or the Provost.
- g. Roll call in every meeting shall be #1000.
- h. Lateness in every meeting shall be #200.
- i. Absence in any meeting shall attract a fine of #500.
- j. All members shall pay an annual development levy of at least #10,000.
- k. Using of abusive and offensive words during meeting is highly prohibited. A fine of #500 shall be paid by the offender.
- l. All members must dress in our traditional chieftaincy attire in any of our meetings.
- m. It shall be out of order for any member to withhold The Council property in his/her possession when council demands for it.
- n. A member can raise a point of order if a member authorized to speak is deviating from the matter on the floor of the house.
- o. Any member who takes any matter before the council outside shall be entitled to a fine of #20,000, three cartons of assorted beer and a bottle of hot drink.
- p. The language permissible during meeting proceedings shall be English, Ikwerre and vernacular (pigin).
- q. Any member who wants to invite The Council shall do so with a bottle of good hot drink and must be on a clear financial standing.

- r. When The Council is invited to any occasion or ceremony, adequate sitting arrangements and entertainments shall be provided by the organizer or the bereaved family.
- s. It shall be the responsibility of the Provost to ensure that (r) above is always implemented.
- t. Any member who absents from meeting without approval for six consecutive times and does not pay his/her roll- call shall cease to be a member of The Council.
- u. Any member who takes a case between him and a member outside the meeting without exploring all peaceful opportunities available in the meeting shall pay the fine as stipulated in (o) above.
- v. No member shall take his fellow member or any body whatsoever to a deity for settlement of any dispute. A fine of N100,000 5 cartons of assorted beer, a crate of Malt, good hot drink, 8 tubers of yam and one big goat shall be paid by the offender.

SECTION 14

MEMBERS BENEFITS

- a. If a member invites The Council to any social ceremony, The Council shall honour it by levying the sum of #2000 per member.
- b. If a religious organization invites The Council for any of their activities, The Council shall honour it with an amount to be determined by the house.

- c. The Council shall pay a visit to any member who is sick or whose wife or husband is sick with an item to be determined by the house.

SECTION 15
BEREAVMENT

- a. FAHTER/MOTHER/WIFE/HUSBAND; If a member invites The Council for the burial of his or her mother, father, wife or husband, The Council shall honour it by Levying each member the sum of #5000.
- b. MEMBER
 - I. On the death of a member, The Council shall summon an emergency general meeting.
 - II. The Council shall pay a visit immediately to the bereaved family's house.
 - III. All members shall pay the sum of #10,000 each as burial levy and The Council shall withdraw any amount owed council before handing over his/her entitlement to the bereaved family. It is the balance that should be due to the bereaved family.

SECTION 16
HOSTING OF MEETING

A member hosting The Council meeting shall provide adequate entertainment items befitting of Chiefs.

SECTION 17

(1) COMMITTEES

- a. There shall be for The Council standing and Ad-hoc committees;
- b. The standing committees shall comprise of the following committees;
 - I. Executive committee.
 - II. Welfare committee.
 - III. Audit committee.
- c.
 - I. The Ad-hoc committee shall be set up when the need arises.
 - II. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman of The Council to set up the Welfare and the Ad-hoc committees and that of the Leader to set up the Executive and Audit Committees of The Council.

(2) MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE, AUDIT AND WELFARE COMMITTEES

- I. All appointed officers of The Council who are holding executive positions as stipulated in section 6 of this constitution shall be members of the Executive committee.
- II. Audit committee: the Leader of The Council shall constitute a 3 members Audit committee. Their responsibility shall be to audit the financial transactions of The Council and report same to The Council.
- III. The Chairman shall constitute a three member Welfare committee to ensure that members' interests are always protected. The Council Chairman shall appoint the chairman of the committee.

SECTION 18

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution can only be amended based on the following;

- a. A written motion in writing addressed to The Council through the General Secretary seeking for the amendment of the constitution.
- b. The motion must be supported by at least 3 members who must be on clear financial standing.
- c. The members seeking the amendment of the constitution must be on a clear financial standing.
- d. If the motion is supported by 2/3 of members present in the days meeting which must not be less than 1/3 of the entire members of The Council the constitution can be amended.
- e. The consent of the Leader is required.

SECTION 19

SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION

- I. This constitution shall be supreme and its provisions shall be binding on all members of The Council and The Council.
- II. On no account shall any member or group of members take control of the Executive functions of The Council outside the provisions of this constitution.

OATH OF OFFICE AND ALLEGIANCE

All officers of The Council shall take the following Oath of Office and Allegiance before assuming his/her offices:

I....., HAVING BEEN
APPOINTED AS....., DO
HEREBY, SWEAR TO UPHOLD THE PROVISIONS OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF RUMUCHORLU COUNCIL OF CHIEFS,
ELDERS AND ELITES WITHOUT FEAR, FAVOUR OR
PREJUDICE. SO HELP ME GOD.

SIGNED:.....
HRH EZE (SIR) EGNR. B. A. WORGU (J.P),
EZE CHORLU VII, PARAMOUNT RULER OF RUMUCHORLU
COMMUNITY IN RUMUOKWURUSI,
NYE-CHIGA-ELI-CHORLU.