

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE UGANDAN COMMUNITY IN GREATER CHICAGO INC.,
(UCIGC)
A NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANIZATION

JULY 16, 2011

Preamble

To further common purposes, the members agree to organize under this Constitution. The general purposes for which this organization is formed are to operate exclusively for such charitable, civic, social and educational purposes as will qualify it as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provision(s) of any subsequent federal tax laws, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations which qualify as tax-exempt organizations under that code.

This organization shall not, as a substantial part of its activities, carry on any political activities in conflict of its Objectives, as stated in this Constitution.

ARTICLE ONE

NAME

The name of this organization shall be UGANDAN COMMUNITY IN GREATER CHICAGO (UCIGC).

ARTICLE TWO

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

The Principal Office of the organization shall be at 16053 Dobson Ave, South Holland, IL. UCIGC may have such other offices, from time to time, to be designated by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE THREE

OBJECTIVES

The objectives on which this organization is formed are charitable, civic, educational, and social.

A. To create a supportive environment that fosters friendship, brotherhood and sisterhood, and unity amongst the members of the community.

B. To promote Ugandan culture through music, sports, art, and language, as well as to share it with other interested individuals or groups.

C. To encourage education of Ugandan languages to the community.

D. To make available to the community the cultural heritage of the Ugandan people, their history, sports, art, music, folk dance, customs, and traditions.

E. To raise funds through membership, donations, contributions, social functions or other means such as gifts and bequests.

F. To support viable programs and projects as agreed upon for the community.

ARTICLE FOUR

POWERS

In furtherance of the objectives described above, but not limited to these, the organization shall have power, insofar as such power is conferred, or is not limited, by law.

A. To make and perform contracts for any lawful purpose.

B. To solicit donations, bequests and gifts from any legally binding source and to own and use the same consistent with the objectives of this organization.

C. To exercise all rights and powers conferred on non-profit organizations pursuant to the general Non-Profit Organization Law and other laws of the state of Illinois, including, but not limited to, the power to contract, rent, buy, or sell personal or substantial property. However, UCIGC shall not, except to an unsubstantial degree, engage in any activity or exercise any power that is not in furtherance of the primary purposes of the organization.

D. To coordinate with the Ugandan-American community, government agencies, and other social and civic entities in achieving its goals.

E. To engage in various funding and fundraising activities

F. To acquire, own, hold, operate, and maintain such property as to effectuate its purposes.

ARTICLE FIVE MEMBERSHIP

Adults aged 18 and over residing in the greater Chicagoland area regardless of their religion, race, culture and gender who accept the aims and objectives of the organization, as stated in the Constitution are eligible to register and be members of the organization.

A. Types of Membership

1. *Voting Member* - A person of good standing, having paid in full the membership dues, shall be entitled to one vote in the affairs of the organization.

A voting member has the right to hold office after having been a member for at least one year. No more than **two** voting members from the same household can hold office.

2. *Non-Voting Member* - A person of good standing who wishes to support the organization in ways other than the annual membership fee. Non-Voting members are not entitled to the right to vote and the right to hold office.

3. *Honorary Member* - This membership is conferred by the Board of Directors to individuals or groups who are not members of UCIGC, but who have made outstanding contribution(s) to UCIGC. These may include acts, services or donations. They are not entitled to the right to vote and the right to hold office. However, additional classes of membership may be added at the annual general meeting as the need arises.

B. Duration of Membership

Duration of membership is one year, from November 1st to October 31st of each calendar year. Membership is renewable.

C. Dues

The annual dues required for voting members in UCIGC shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Dues may vary annually, but shall be the same for all voting members and can **only** be changed at the start of the fiscal year.

D. Cessation of Membership

Any member of the organization who violates Article 5A ceases their membership. Any donations given or fees paid cannot be returned or refunded to the ceasing member.

E. Suspension and Expulsion

Member(s) of UCIGC may be expelled or suspended due to conduct detrimental to the objectives, interests, and Constitution of UCIGC. To determine said expulsion or suspension, member(s) of UCIGC will forward a petition to the Board of Directors stating the allegations against other member(s). The Board of Directors will review the petition and contact the accused member(s) within thirty (30) days. The accused member(s) will have twenty-one (21) days to respond with a written rebuttal or request a hearing.

After reviewing the rebuttal or conducting a hearing, if member(s) is (are) found liable, the Board of Directors will have the discretion to ask the member(s) to cease their membership, to suspend the member(s), or to expel the member(s).

Upon cessation or expulsion, the member(s) name(s) will be stricken from the membership records.

ARTICLE SIX

GOVERNING BODIES

A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of five members. All five members shall be nominated by the Executive Committee, approved by Voting Members and presented to the community.
2. The President of UCIGC will be an Ex-Officio, non-voting member of the Board of Directors.
3. The fully constituted Board of Directors will elect a Chairman and Secretary from amongst themselves.
4. After a term of six years, a Board member can be re-nominated.

B. DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall:

- Receive all quarterly and annual activity reports and budgets
2. Assist and strategize with the President and the Treasurer to raise funds for UCIGC
3. Subject to Constitution, admit Honorary Members and expel Voting and Non-Voting Members of UCIGC
4. Arbitrate disputes between and amongst UCIGC members
5. Commence and defend legal action by and against UCIGC
6. Hold property on behalf of UCIGC
7. Maintain and keep inventory on UCIGC property
8. Maintain and keep inventory of all UCIGC files, as well as form of custody procedures
9. Appoint the members of the UCIGC Electoral Commission
10. Appoint the members of the Constitutional Review Committee
11. Receive reports from all appointed representatives representing UCIGC to affiliate organizations
12. Suspend or dismiss with cause any member of Electoral Commission and Constitutional Review Committee and any affiliate representative
13. Interpret the Constitution

C. QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible for nomination to be a Board member, the person shall be a Voting Member of good standing for five consecutive years.

D. REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The removal of a Board member shall be initiated by the Executive Committee. The member(s) of the Executive Committee will forward a petition to the Voting Members stating the allegations against member(s) of the Board of Directors. The Voting Members will review the petition. The accused member(s) will have twenty-one (21) days to respond with a written rebuttal or request a hearing.

After reviewing the rebuttal or conducting a hearing, if member(s) is (are) found liable by a vote of all Voting Members, the Executive Committee will have the discretion to ask the concerned Board member(s) to resign or remove the member(s) from office. Upon resignation or removal, the member(s) cannot be re-nominated to the Board of Directors.

E. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is composed of nine elected members:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Publicity Secretary
6. Sports Director
7. Entertainment Director
8. Children's Affairs Director
9. Youth Affairs Director

The Executive Committee shall also have two non-voting representatives from the following committees:

1. Men's Forum Chairperson
2. Women's Forum Chairperson

All elected members of the Executive Committee shall have a term of two (2) years. All elected members shall serve no more than two (2) terms in the same office.

F. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The President shall:

- a. Chair all meetings of the Executive Committee
- b. Table proposals or work plans for discussion at Executive Committee meetings
- c. Forward Executive Committee decisions to the Board of Directors as an ex-officio of the Board of Directors
- d. Present annual and quarterly reports at annual general meetings
- e. Appoint temporary sub-committees as necessary to assist in the implementation of the Objectives as stated in Article 3
- f. Appoint UCIGC representatives to affiliate organizations
- g. Ensure that all resolutions of UCIGC are correctly handled

2. The Vice President shall:

- a. Preside at Executive Committee meetings in the President's absence
- b. Generally deputize and assist the President in performance of his or her duties

3. The Secretary shall:

- a. Record and keep minutes of every Executive Committee and General Assembly meeting
- b. Keep updated registry of members
- c. Maintain all official correspondence

4. The Treasurer shall:

- a. Keep official records and books of accounts
- b. Prepare all financial reports for the President to submit to the Board of Directors
- c. Prepare and submit all audited reports at General Assembly meeting
- d. Devise all fundraising plans to be approved by Executive Committee

5. The Publicity Secretary shall:

- a. Facilitate the flow of information relevant to UCIGC members from both within the organization and outside sources
- b. Publicize activities and objectives of UCIGC to those outside of UCIGC

6. The Sports Director shall:
 - a. Manage and coordinate sports activities that involve UCIGC members and sports activities otherwise supported or sponsored by UCIGC
 - b. Make liaisons with Youth Director, Entertainment Director, and Children's Affairs Director as well as any other relevant office to initiate and stage sports activities for and by UCIGC
7. The Entertainment Director shall:
 - a. Coordinate entertainment activities for UCIGC members and entertainment activities in which UCIGC members are participants
 - b. Make liaisons with Publicity Secretary regarding functions requiring entertainment
8. The Children's Affairs Director shall:
 - a. Initiate and organize programs and activities for children aged 0-17 in line with UCIGC objectives in Article Three.
9. The Youth Affairs Director shall:
 - a. Initiate and organize programs and activities for youth aged 18-29 in line with UCIGC objectives in Article Three.

G. QUALIFICATIONS

To be eligible for election to the Executive Committee, the person shall be a Voting Member of good standing for one year.

ARTICLE SEVEN

MEETINGS

A. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

The Board of Directors shall conduct meetings at least twice a year and as needed to fulfill their duties as stated in this Constitution. A quorum of three members must be present to conduct a meeting.

B. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall conduct meetings at least four times a year. The President of the Executive Committee has the discretion to call additional meetings of the Executive Committee as the need arises. A quorum of five members must be present to conduct a meeting.

C. GENERAL MEETINGS

The President of the Executive Committee will call an annual general meeting with a date, time, and place to be determined by the Executive Committee. All Voting Members shall be notified of said meeting no later than fourteen (14) days before the meeting. At least two general meetings **must** be called. The President and the Treasurer must present annual reports at the general meeting.

ARTICLE EIGHT

ELECTIONS

A. ELECTORAL COMMISSION

The Board of Directors will appoint a temporary commission, the Electoral Commission, at the semi-annual UCIGC general meeting in June. The Electoral Commission will be composed of three members: the Chairperson, the Secretary and a General Member. All members of the Electoral

Commission will hold their positions for four years and two elections. Current members of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors cannot be members of the Electoral Commission.

B. DUTIES OF THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

1. Create and update Election Policies and Procedures
2. Maintain and update Voters' Register
3. Accept nominations from Voting Members
4. Verify nominations and candidates with UCIGC Treasurer
5. Ensure that one candidate elected to one office
6. Manage voting logistics
7. Conduct elections
8. Publish Election Day schedules and all election deadlines
9. Announce election results
10. Submit reports following every election to the Board of Directors

C. ELECTION DAY

Elections for officers shall take place every two years, in the month of October. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Electoral Commission, shall determine the exact date in October for Election Day. All Voting Members can cast their vote at a polling station or by absentee ballot. The Electoral Commission will create procedures for early and absentee voting.

D. TIMELINE OF ELECTORAL PROCESS

After the Electoral Commission is selected, the Executive Committee and the Electoral Commission must agree on time frame of electoral process and date of Election Day to be announced on nomination invitations. However, the electoral process must be at least six (6) weeks and all nominations are accepted until two (2) weeks before Election Day.

E. SPECIAL ELECTIONS

After the vacancy of an elected official from an office, a special election must be called to fill the aforementioned vacancy. The Electoral Commission must hold a special election and a candidate must be elected within 60 days of the occurrence of the vacant office.

F. TRANSITION OF OFFICERS

After the results of the election are announced, immediately after the election, and a winner has been chosen, the Electoral Commission will oversee the transition from the incumbent candidates to the newly elected candidates. All documents pertaining to the incumbent positions **must** be handed over to the newly elected officers. A form of custody **must** be signed by both the incumbent and newly elected officers for indication and verification of exchange and receipt of all files and property.

ARTICLE NINE

UCGIC PROPERTY

The Board of Directors shall maintain and keep inventory of all UCIGC property, including, but not limited to, all files and documents pertaining to the operation of UCIGC. The Board of Directors shall also keep a form of custody for all aforementioned files and documents that is signed during the transition of officers. Any member or person who flees with UCIGC property or refuses to return said property after repeated requests from the Board of Directors will be subject to legal action on the grounds of theft.

ARTICLE TEN
LIABILITIES

UCIGC is not liable for the acts or the failure to act of anyone who falsely represents UCIGC. UCIGC is only liable for the acts or failure to act of anyone legitimately representing UCIGC.

ARTICLE ELEVEN
AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVES

The President of the Executive Committee may appoint, as necessary, members to represent UCIGC to other affiliate organizations. These affiliate representatives must report to the Board of Directors and to the Executive Committee about meetings and/or events that were attended, as needed.

ARTICLE TWELVE
LOGO

The official logo shall appear in all official correspondence and stationery of the organization. It shall not be used for private purposes and shall not be displayed publicly without the consent of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may adopt or change insignias, colors, badges, and flags, at the approval of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE THIRTEEN
AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended or repealed, in whole or in part, only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Voting Members of UCIGC at a meeting of the organization that is called for this purpose. The Board of Directors will appoint an independent Constitutional Review Committee solely to review, and if necessary, amend the Constitution.

ARTICLE FOURTEEN
DISSOLUTION

UCIGC shall be dissolved and its affairs wound up by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the UCIGC's Voting Members on the meeting specifically called for the dissolution of UCIGC.

ARTICLE FIFTEEN
DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution or winding up of this organization, its assets remaining after paying, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the organization, shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or organization that is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and which has established its tax exempt status under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws. The manner of distribution shall be determined by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the UCIGC's Voting Members.

**ARTICLE SIXTEEN
ADOPTION**

We, the undersigned, being representatives of the UCIGC Executive Committee, certify that this Constitution was adopted by a majority of the Voting Members present at the special general meeting held on July 16th, 2011.

[Signature]
President
[Signature]
Secretary
[Signature]
Treasurer
[Signature]
Witness
Margaret Kibaya
Witness
[Signature]
Witness

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

We, the undersigned, being members of the UCIGC Board of Directors, certify that this Constitution was adopted by a majority of the Board of Directors present at the special general meeting held on July 16th, 2011.

[Signature]
Member, Board of Directors
[Signature]
Member, Board of Directors

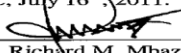
Member, Board of Directors

Member, Board of Directors

Member, Board of Directors

CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

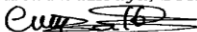
We, the members of the UCIGC Constitutional Review Committee (CRC), do hereby acknowledge and accept the contents of the Constitution of UCIGC presented to the President of UCIGC, July 16th, 2011.



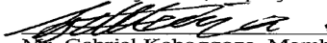
Mr. Richard M. Mbazzi, Chairman



Ms. Mukisa N. Kibaya, Secretary



Mr. Godfrey Batte, Deputy Secretary

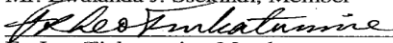


Mr. Gabriel Kaboggoza, Member



Ms. Mary N. Mbazinga, Member

Mr. Lwalanda J. Ssekindi, Member



Fr. Leo Tinkatumire, Member