

**THE CONSTITUTION  
OF  
AGUOBU-IWOLLO  
AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY  
EZEAGU NORTH LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AREA OF ENUGU  
STATE**

THE  
CONSTITUTION  
OF  
AGUOBU- IWOLLO AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY

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## THE CONSTITUTION OF AGUOBU IWOLLO AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY

### 1. Preamble:

We, the Sons of Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community comprising five Villages of Ezconyia, Ndibunagu, Amagu, Ohunagu and Owolloti in Ezeagu Local Government Area of Enugu State having firmly and solemnly resolved to live in Unity and harmony as an indivisible entity under God, dedicated to the social solidarity, co-operation and understanding, and for the purposes of common objective, directed towards the progress, advancement, development, peace, education, unity, justice and welfare of Aguobu Iwollo People DO HEREBY make and give to ourselves the following Constitution.

### 2. Name:

The Organization, which personifies the aspirations of Aguobu Iwollo People as summarized in the preamble shall be known and called 'Aguobu-Iwollo Town Union' hereinafter called the Union'.

### 3. Supremacy of the Constitution and the Union:

- (i) This Constitution shall be superior to the constitutions of age grades, clubs, societies, villages, associations and any other groups in Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community.
- (ii) This Constitution shall have force of law throughout the whole territory known and called Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community in Ezeagu North Local Government Area and shall apply to all citizens of Aguobu Iwollo both at home and outside Aguobu

Iwollo.

- (iii) Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall be the highest authority in Aguobu Iwollo and its decision in all matters affecting Aguobu Iwollo and /or its people is final.

### 4. Main Organs of the Union:

The main organs of Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall be:

- (a) The Monthly General Meeting
- (b) The Executive Committee and
- (c) The General Assembly

### 5. Monthly General Meeting:

- (1) There shall be a monthly general meeting of the Union;
- (2) The monthly general meeting shall be open to all male adults of Aguobu Iwollo;
- (3) Attendance at the monthly general meeting shall be mandatory for:
  - (a) The elected officers of the Union in Sec 8;
  - (b) Ten (10) representatives from each villages which must include the ward Leader;
- (4) Any person representing Aguobu at any level of government, Chairman and Secretary of a Branch Union, and Igwe of the town are Ex-officio members;
- (d) (5) There shall be at least (1/3) majority of members mentioned in this section 5(3a,b) to form quorum for the general meeting.

### 6. Powers and Functions of The Town Union

Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall have powers to:

- (a) Take decisions on all matters affecting the people of Aguobu Iwollo;
- (b) Decide all matters affecting Aguobu Iwollo people which may be referred to it by individuals and groups in Aguobu Iwollo or outside Aguobu Iwollo;
- (c) Make laws in the interest of the people;
- (d) Give directives and co-ordinate the activities of other groups in Aguobu namely: villages, Age Grades, the Youths, Association, Women Organization, Social Clubs,

- Cultural Organizations, and Committees or groups;
- (c) Decide all cases of indiscipline, abuse of office or trust, conduct or acts considered detrimental to the welfare of Aguobu people as a corporate body, and call to order such individuals or group;
- (d) Create ad-hoc committees to handle specific assignments when the need arises;
- (g) Supervise the work of other committees in Aguobu Iwollo;
- (h) Assemble the entire people of Aguobu Iwollo for the purpose of screening out questionable characters for interrogation and adequate sanctions when it deems it necessary to do so;
- (i) Consider for approval proposals and recommendations brought to it by the various committees;
- (j) Impose levies for community development and service;
- (k) Maintain an up-to-date register of taxable adults in Aguobu and keep accurate records of all monies collected or spent on behalf of the community;
- (l) Operate a bank account for keeping community funds;
- (m) Co-opt members into any of its committees when it considers co-option necessary;
- (n) Initiate policies for good governance and development of Aguobu Iwollo;
- (o) Select and screen candidates for conferment of chieftaincy titles or other such titles and/or representation of Aguobu Iwollo at IGWE'S cabinet or other such bodies where representation on village bases is required;
- (p) Nominate councillor for Aguobu into the Local Government council;
- (q) Acquire land for Development Projects;
- (r) Enforce and defend the Provisions of this Constitution.
- (s) Maintain security of life and property in the community.

**7. Life of the Union:**

- (a) Election into the Executive shall be conducted on three-year basis after the president's end of the year Christmas General Assembly report;
- (b) Election into the Executive shall be conducted on that same day;
- (c) The house will be deemed dissolved by January of the following year, where for any reason election could not be held;
- (c) A caretaker committee should be setup to run the affairs of the town union for three months within which an election is conducted and a new executive elected.

**8. Officers of the Union:**

The Executive officers of Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall consist of the following officers and other co-opted members:

- (a) President, who shall have a minimum of WAEC or its equivalent;
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Assistant Secretary
- (e) Financial Secretary
- (f) Treasurer
- (g) Provost
- (h) Publicity Secretary/PRO
- (i) Town crier
- (j) Legal Adviser

**9. Functions of Officers:**

**(1) The President shall:**

- a. Preside over the meetings of the Town Union;
- b. Supervise and co-ordinate the activities of ad-hoc Committees that the Union may set up from time to time.
- c. Represent the Union in all external meetings to which the Union may be invited;
- d. Have a casting vote in a motion raised in the meeting in case of a tie;
- e. Instruct the Secretary to summon a meeting of the Union whenever necessary; and
- f. Approve and counter sign all payments.
- g. To enforce and defend the Provisions of this Constitution

**(2) The Vice-President shall:**

- (a) In the absence of the President preside over the meetings of the Union; and
- (b) Perform all other duties as may be assigned to him by the President.
- (3) **The Secretary shall:**
  - (a) Keep records of all the activities of the Union;
  - (b) Convene all ordinary and emergency meetings of the Union when directed to do so by the President;
  - (c) Handle external and internal correspondence of the Union;
  - (d) Prepare annual report of the Union's activities;
  - (e) Record all monies realized in every meeting in his report
- (4) **The Assistant Secretary shall:**
  - (a) Assist the Secretary in the performance of his duties; and
  - (b) Act in the absence of the Secretary.
- (5) **The Financial Secretary shall:**
  - (a) Collect all monies due to the Union and deposit such monies with the treasurer within 72 hours;
  - (b) Keep up-to-date records of the Union finances; and
  - (c) Prepare comprehensive financial report at the end of every year.
- (6) **The Treasurer shall:**
  - (a) Receive all monies belonging to the Union from financial secretary and keep or deposit such monies with the Union's banks within 72 hours.
  - (a) Keep records of all monies withdrawn from him on behalf of the Union; and
- (7) **The Provost shall:**
  - (a) Keep order during meetings;
  - (b) Keep an imprest account of one thousand naira only (#1,000.00);
  - (c) Collect fines for various offences as shall be determined by the Union; and
  - (d) Perform other duties as the President may from time to time assign to him.
- (8) **The Publicity Secretary/PRO:**
  - (a) Dissemination of information;
  - (b) Organization of social functions.
- (9) **The Legal Adviser:**
  - (a) Handling of legal matters;
  - (b) Advising the union on legal issues.
- (10) **Town Crier:**

Using local instrument to disseminate of information at the grass root level.

#### 10. **Tenure of Members and Executive Officers of the Union:**

- (a) The members of the Union shall function for a term of three years. However, a member can be re-appointed to serve the Union by his village.
- (b) The Executive Officers of the Union shall hold office for three years, and can be re-elected/re-appointed subject to a maximum of two consecutive terms of three years each.

#### **11. Functions and Powers of the Executive Committee:**

The Executive Committee shall have powers to:

- (a) Execute all development projects in Aguobu Iwollo;
- (b) Organize revenue drive for development projects
- (c) Maintain all public properties and places such as schools, markets, social centres etc.
- (d) Implement all the decisions of the Union;
- (e) Make rules governing the operations of hotels, restaurants, drinking houses, sales of substances hazardous to health, disco dances etc.
- (f) Impound stray animals and take all necessary steps to prevent damage to or destruction of farm crops by stray animals of all kinds.
- (g) Execute other activities as may be directed by the Union from time to time;
- (h) Enforce the provisions of this constitution; and
- (i) Perform any of its functions through an ad-hoc or a sub-committee;

#### **12 Meeting of the Executive Committee:**

- (a) The Executive Committee shall meet every month at a venue and date chosen by the members; and
- (b) It shall also have emergency meetings when the need arises.

#### **13. General Meeting of the Union:**

- (a) The Union shall hold its General Meeting on Saturday Uka-Eke.
- (b) The time shall be 12 Noon.
- (c) The Union shall have emergency meetings when the need arises.
- (d) The quorum for the general meeting shall be 1/3 of the 10-man village representatives

#### **14. General Assembly of Aguobu Iwollo People:**

- (a) The Union shall convene annually at least two General Assemblies of Aguobu Iwollo people namely at Easter and Christmas periods.
- (b) The purpose of the Assembly shall be for the Union to report to the people of Aguobu Iwollo on its activities and all other matters affecting the welfare and development of the community.
- (c) The Union shall also render financial account of the Community's finances to the people

of Aguobu, at a General Assembly.

**15 Election Into Aguobu Iwollo Town Union**

- (1) An adhoc electoral committee comprising of two persons from each village shall be constituted in the meeting preceding the Christmas general assembly;
- (2) **Functions of adhoc electoral committee:**
  - (a) Shall conduct election into Aguobu Iwollo Town Union executive;
  - (b) Declare the result of each election before the ATU general Assembly;
  - (c) Announcement of the time, date, venue of election etc. shall be made at least 21 days before the commencement of the election.
  - (d) Receive nominations from the villages.

**(3) Mode of Election:**

- (a) The voting shall be by secret ballot;
- (b) The five villages shall be eligible to contest for all the posts mentioned in Sec. 8.
- \* (c) Only ten (10) representatives each, from each of the five villages are eligible to vote and be voted for during the election 7 7

**16. Nomination of councilor for Aguobu into the Local Government**

- (a) The Town Union shall nominate councilor for Aguobu into the Local Government from the village whose turn it is to bring out a candidate;
- (b) The councillorship shall rotate among the five villages.

**17. Vote of No Confidence / Impeachment of officer of the Union:**

- (a) Any village representative in the ATU can move a motion for impeachment of an officer;
- (b) The motion shall be seconded by another member;
- (c) There shall be at least two third (2/3) majority of the village representatives in Sec.5 (3a,b), present and voting at the meeting;
- (d) A member shall be appointed to conduct a vote for or against the motion, the result of which shall be the fate of the officer.
- (e) Any vacant post either created by resignation, transfer, abuse of office i.e. impeachment or death of the incumbent officer shall be filled up at the next general meeting of the town union by either the assistant or where there is none, by election;
- (f) During the election the returning officer who shall be appointed by the house, must ensure that the election is free and fair;

- (g) The returning officer is empowered by this constitution to be the final arbiter at the election;
- (h) An officer shall be removed from office for the following reasons:
  - (i) Gross misconduct as determined by the ATU;
  - (ii) Gross indiscipline including unjustifiable absenteeism at 3 consecutive meetings;
  - (iii) Conviction for criminal offence by a court of competent jurisdiction;
  - (iv) Embezzlement of public fund.
  - (v) Other actions detrimental to the interest of the community.

**18 Sources Of Revenue for Community Service and Development:**

The sources of revenue for Community services and development shall include:

- (a) Levies and contributions
- (b) Fines of various types
- (c) Donations
- (d) Sales of community-owned property; and
- (e) Market tolls and rates

**19. Liability for Levies and Contributions:**

- (1) (a) All healthy male adult and married female shall pay all levies and contributions for welfare and community development projects.
- (b) An adult male in this constitution is any male person who is earning a living either from a trade or from a paid employment his age notwithstanding. However, exemptions can be granted under one of the conditions below;

**(2) Permanent Exemption:**

- (a) This shall be granted by the Town Union to the oldest age grade still paying levies, when the Union considers such exemption desirable.
- (b) The Town union shall have power to grant permanent exemption to a person on the ground of special service or permanent incapacitation. This however, shall be on the recommendation of his age grade:

**(3) Temporal Exemption:**

Temporal exemption shall be granted by the Union to the following categories of persons.

- (a) Adult in institution of higher learning who is not in any paid job.



- (b) Persons in apprenticeship
- (c) Persons undergoing in-service training without pay.
- (4) **Suspended Exemption:**  
Suspended exemption shall be granted by the Union to a person who is ordinarily sick, when a particular levy is being collected. Such person shall be required to pay the levy after recovery.
- (5) **Period of Grace:**
  - (a) A period of six months shall be granted to a person from the month he completed his apprenticeship, after which he shall begin to pay levies.
  - (b) A period of six months shall be granted to school leavers of all types, from the month they secure employment after which they shall be liable to pay levies.
  - (c) It shall be an offence punishable under this constitution for any of the persons referred to in 19(5a,b) above to fail to report to the Union within six (6) months from the date of completing their apprenticeship, or securing a paid employment.

## 20. Committees Under The Town Union:

The Town Union shall constitute the following Committees, which shall function under it:

### (1) The Vigilante Committee or Task-Force,

Functions of the Vigilante Committee or Task-Force:

- (a) To check and arrest all strayed animals likely to spoil farm crops;
- (b) React to emergency cases pending the intervention of the town union, e.g. theft, rape and other atrocities.
- (c) Perform other functions assigned to it by the Union.
- (d) The Vigilante Committee or Task Force shall be registered with the police by the president, as the security outfit of Aguoba.

### (2) The Market Committee; and

Functions of the Market Committee:

- (a) Allocate space/stalls to individuals;
- (b) Settle all disputes arising from market procedures and operations;
- (c) Collect market toll, rate and rent as may apply from time to time;
- (d) Be responsible for general maintenance and cleanliness of the market;

- (e) Determine toll, rate and rent to be paid by the sellers;
- (f) Render accounts of the market to Aguobu Iwollo Town Union.

**(3) The Public Utilities Committees.**

Functions of the Public Utility Committee:

- (a) Have powers to make rules and regulations concerning the maintenance and use of all public utilities in the Community.
- (b) Impose fines on people making wrong use or breaking the rules for the use of public utilities.  
e.g. water, road, schools, electricity, etc.

**(4) Mode of selection:**

- (a) In 20(1,2, and 3), each village shall forward the required number of candidates as may be requested by the town union.
- (b) The president of the town union shall swear each of these committees in.

**21. Registration of new Age Grades:**

- (a) Eligible indigenes shall sponsor or father new age grade to join Ndi Ogba Tozulu (mature ages), every two years;
- (b) It shall be an offence for a person to fail to register with an age grade;
- (c) In addition to recovering all arrears of levies paid by members of his age grade, such defaulter shall be liable to a fine, which shall be determined by Aguobu Iwollo Town Union for development purposes;
- (d) Any intending sponsor or father of a new age grade shall apply to the Aguobu Iwollo Town Union for screening;
- (e) Any intending sponsor or father of a new age grade shall be a married person of good reputation.

**22 Associations:**

Old and new associations or groups shall be required to inform the town union in writing of their existence, stating their aims and objectives.

**23. Acquisition of Land for Community Development:**

- (a) Land belongs to the Community; individuals hold land on trust for the Community.
- (b) Aguobu Iwollo Town union shall have power to acquire land anywhere within the Community for development purposes or over-riding public interest.
- (c) The defense of the community lands is the duty of the whole community.

(d) Any encroachment on Community land/property by outsiders should be reported to Aguobu Iwollo Town union promptly.

(e) The Community shall give special consideration to families donating land in sharing benefits derivable from the projects on the donated land or any other projects as it deems fit.

**24. Procedure for Acquiring Land:**

(1) The Community shall approach the family/land owners with the following:

(a) 5 Kola nuts;

(b) Two jars of palm wine;

(c) 3 Cartons of star; and

(d) One head of tobacco with potash.

**(2) Refusal or Resistance from any family or individual:**

(a) In case of any resistance from any family or individual, the Community shall have power to call them to order and acquire the land;

(b) That is to say, that no family or group of families can refuse to donate land for development projects.

(3) This constitution empowers Aguobu Iwollo Town to acquire the survey plans of all known lands maintained by missions and schools.

**25. Trustees to any land agreement:**

The President, the Secretary and one representative each from the five villages of Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community shall be trustees to any land agreement.

**26. Conducts regarded as offences against Aguobu Iwollo Community:**

The following acts either by individuals or groups shall be regarded as serious offences against the corporate interest of Aguobu Iwollo people:

(a) Theft or Robbery in any form;

(b) Indigenes are encouraged to exhaust available local process of justice in the town before taking the people of Aguobu Iwollo, Age Grades, Women Organizations or any other groups representing the interest of Aguobu Iwollo people to the police, law court or "Alusi".

(c) Sabotage, corruption and bribery;

(d) Embezzlement of Community funds;

(e) Hiding, conspiring or aiding a robber or other persons regarded as an enemy of Aguobu Iwollo people;

(f) Flouting, contravening or failing to carry out the legitimate regulations or instructions as may be passed by Aguobu Iwollo Town Union; and

(g) Assaulting or insulting a persons on community assignment,

- (h) The Town Union shall notify in writing any person, association or group, which violates the provisions of any sections of the constitution, before proceeding on necessary sanctions.

**27. Punishments and Sanctions:**

- (1) The Union shall have the power to set in motion legal action or ostracism or any other form of punishment against anybody whose conduct is viewed/confirmed to be a serious offence against the community.
- (2) Thereafter reconciliation with the Community by any offender shall be based on his/her undertaking to remain of good conduct and presentation of:
- (a) 5 Cartons of Beer;
  - (b) 5 pods of Kola nuts;
  - (c) 5 jars of palm-wine;
  - (d) 5 Heads of tobacco and potash.
- (3) The seriousness of "Bribery" "Corruption" and "Sabotage" shall be determined by Aguobu Iwollo Town Union.
- (4) The penalty for embezzlement shall include the refund of the money misappropriated.
- (5) A person found guilty of offences under section 26(f) shall pay a minimum fine of #500 (five hundred naira) and maximum of N1000.00 ( one thousand naira).
- (6) A person found guilty of offences under section 26(a) (b) (c), (d) and (e) shall be liable for legal action and/or a minimum fine of N2000.00 (two thousand naira ) and a maximum of N3000.00 (three thousand naira ) in addition to recovery of the stolen item.
- (7) A person found guilty of embarrassing, or assaulting a constituted authority or taking laws into his hands by threatening (Imanye Ibube) to person/persons on community assignment or engaging activities capable of disrupting the good governance of the community shall pay a minimum fine of N500 (five hundred naira) and a maximum of N1000.00 (one thousand naira).

**28. Emergency situation:**

- (1) Emergency situation do arise occasionally in Aguobu Iwollo. The people shall continue to be alerted of such situation by the sound of the village wooden gong "Ekwe Ikoro";
- (2) The sounding of the said gong (Ekwe-Ikoro) shall have priority over any other activities by either groups or individuals. This is to say that every male adult must stop whatever

he is doing and assemble at the second sound of the Ekwe Ikofo without delay.

- (3) Failure to appear in the emergency assembly on time shall attract an on-the-spot fine of ₦100.00 (one hundred naira).

**29. Persons on Community Assignment:**

If any person or group of persons who are on assignment for the Community, gets into unprovoked trouble or case in the course of carrying out the assignment, the people of Aguobu Iwollo will take over the case at no cost financial to the person or group of persons on assignment.

**30. Cases of Theft:**

If any citizen of Aguobu Iwollo gets into trouble because he/she caught or helped to catch a thief, Aguobu Iwollo people shall takeover the case at no cost financial to the citizen.

**31. Appointments:**

- (a) Appointment to Political, Chieftaincy or Traditional Ruler ship shall be rotational subject to qualifications and competence of the individual nominated.
- (c) Where competitively high qualifications and experiences are required (especially for outside appointments), and the village whose turn it is cannot to provide a person, Aguobu shall source for the most qualified and send.

**32. Marriage and other Custom Rites:**

Igwe in consultation with Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall have power to review at intervals, marriage customs and other customs in Aguobu Iwollo with a view to making them more beneficial and less cumbersome to the people.

**33. Freedom of Religion**

In Aguobu Iwollo Community, individuals shall be free to worship their God in the way they like subject to the rights of other people.

**34. The Village Crier:**

- (1) The People of Aguobu Iwollo shall continue to have a Village Crier;
- (2) The Village Crier shall continue to be agent for dissemination of information.
- (3) The Village Crier shall enjoy exemption from payment of levies as long as he discharges his

responsibility effectively.

**35. Administrative Levy:**

- (1) Administrative levy shall be paid by citizens of Aguobu Iwollo for general administration of the community.
- (2) The levy shall be ₦500.00 per male adult and ₦200.00 per female adult annually
- (3) The levy is without prejudice to any other development or other levies that might be imposed by Aguobu Iwollo Town Union.

**(4a) Enforcement:**

The Chairman and Secretary of each clan (Ebete) have the mandates to collect and submit the levy to the Town Union, during the December 28<sup>th</sup> and Ester Monday General Assembly meetings, or at other general meetings of the union.

- (4b) Sequel to section 35(4a), the Chairman and Secretary of each clan shall submit updated list of all taxable adults to the ATU annually. The list of payees shall accompany all payments always.
- (5) The Aguobu Iwollo Town Union shall be responsible for the management of the money so collected from the administrative levy; and
- (6) The Aguobu Iwollo Town union shall give account of the money collected from the said or any other levies during December General Assembly of Aguobu Iwollo people.

**36. Acceptance of Chieftaincy Title**

- (a) A person from Aguobu Iwollo can accept chieftaincy title from outside Aguobu Iwollo. But such title is personal to the recipient and gives him no special status in the community.
- (b) Chieftaincy titles conferred on Aguobu Iwollo indigenes prior to the creation of Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community from Iwollo shall be recognized.
- (c) Those chiefs recognized under this section shall not be senior to the chiefs conferred by the incumbent Igwe of Aguobu Iwollo.
- (d) The recognition in Sec.36 (b) shall be included in the sharing of chieftaincy titles to the villages, to ensure equity.

**37. Chieftaincy and igweship Installation In Aguobu Iwollo**

**(1). Preamble**

Aguobu Iwollo community shall have an Igwe and shall also confer chieftaincy title to deserving citizens of the community..

**(2) Definition of Igwe:**

- (a) Igwe is the Traditional Ruler of Aguobu Iwollo community. He is the custodian of customs and tradition.

**\* (b) Methods of Nomination: For Igweship Position or Other Appointments**

- (1) (i) In Aguobu Iwollo Town Community Igweship shall be rotated among the five villages:
  - (a) Ezconyia,
  - (b) Ndibunagu,

- © Amaga,
- (d) Obunagu and
- (e) Owolloti
- (ii) However, if any village whose turn it is according to the order above to nominate a candidate for Igwe but could not find a suitable candidate, the next village takes over the position;
- (iii) Any village that misses its turn, shall wait until the next round of rotation. Nomination of Igwe will take place provided that the 'seat' is declared vacant, though :
  - (a) Death,
  - (b) Incapacitation,
  - © Retirement,
  - (d) Removal from office
  - (e) Dethronement as a result of 'vote of no Confidence' on the Igwe by the community, or
  - (f) Voluntary resignation.
- (2) Nomination by Merit:
  - (i) Rotation shall not be the only method for selection/ nomination of an Igwe or a chief or other appointments.
  - (ii) Nomination to Igweship or Chieftaincy Position or other Appointments shall in appropriate cases be made purely on merit as a recognition for contribution of an individual or group or village to the development and welfare of the community.
  - (iii) Thereafter the order of rotation shall be continued. The principle of merit is to motivate individuals, group or villages to make special sacrifices and positive contributions towards the developments of the community.
- (3) Method of Selection of an Igwe:
  - (i) It shall be the duty of Aguobu Iwollo Town Union to select an Igwe for the community through the 10-man delegate from each village;
  - (ii) In carrying out this duty, the ATU shall:
    - (a) Invite memoranda from all the villages in Aguobu Iwollo;
    - (b) Each village shall in its memo state which village should give Aguobu an Igwe.
    - (c) Each memo should contain reasons for the nomination or suggestions it has made;
    - (d) The ATU shall go through the memo and prepare a report for the people of Aguobu based on its findings from the memos.
    - (e) The ATU's report shall specifically state the majority opinion on the subject matter; and
    - (f) The ATU shall finally state its opinion / recommendation to the people of Aguobu Iwollo.
    - (g) The ATU shall constitute an Ad-hoc committee from its members to handle the above assignment.
- (4) Qualification for Igweship:
 

A person nominated for Igweship shall:

  - (a) Have a minimum of WAEC or its equivalent;
  - (b) Be a person of unquestionable character,
  - © Shall have contributed in a special way to the development of the community;
  - (d) Not have behaved or acted in a manner detrimental to the peace and development of the community;
  - (e) Have participated actively in the life of the community, and
  - (f) Not be an ex- convict.
- (5) Duties/Responsibilities Of An Igwe: The Igwe shall:
  - (1) (a) Be the custodian of all the customs and traditions ;
  - (b) Confer chieftaincy titles on deserving persons approved by the Aguobu Iwollo town union;
  - © Settle disputes among his subjects;
  - (d) Have power to discipline any member of his cabinet;
  - (e) Hosting of August visitors to the community;
  - (f) Shall represent the community in outside meetings/functions where he/community is invited.
  - (2) Igwe's Festival (Igba Ofala):
    - (f) The Igwe of the community shall celebrate Igwe's Festival (Igba Ofala) once in a while, if possible every five years.
    - (g). The community shall support Igwe in financing the festival.

- (6) **Installation of Igwe:**
- The ATU shall organize the installation of the Igwe and his cabinet
  - The installation shall be done by an Igwe supported by the eldest man in the village.
- (7) **Appointment Of Igwe's Cabinet**
- The right to appoint the Igwe's Cabinet is conferred exclusively on the Aguobu Iwollo Town Union.
  - The members of Igwe's cabinet shall be addressed as 'cabinet members.'
  - The Igwe's cabinet will be reshuffled every five years.
  - The honorable title of cabinet member can be conferred to any good citizen of the town that is of proven character and patriotic.
  - The post of Igwe's secretary or cabinet secretary shall be reserved to the village which is the third in succession, to the one holding the Igweship.
  - The college of king makers shall be members of Igwe's Cabinet.
  - Two elders shall be drawn from each village to make up the council of elders.
  - Both the cabinet members and council of elders shall be advisers to Igwe.
- (8) **Duties Of Cabinet members and Advisers:**
- To attend all meetings of the Igwe-in-council;
  - Assist and co-operate with the Igwe in the execution of his functions relating to the good governance of the community in respect of matters relating to the customs and traditions of the community.
  - Settlement of disputes, between individuals, clans, villages etc.
  - All resolutions and decisions of Igwe-in-council shall be based on a consensus opinion of the council or on a simple majority vote.
  - Where there is a tie or stalemate in reaching a resolution, the Igwe shall be entitled to a casting vote.
- (9) **Chieftaincy Title**
- Chieftaincy title shall be conferred on worthy indigenes every five years.
  - Accordingly, an ad-hoc planning Committee shall be constituted by the town union to screen the nominated candidates.
  - The town union shall thereafter bring the names of the screened candidates to the joint sitting of Igwe's cabinet and the town union for final confirmation.
- (10) **Method Of Selection:**
- The persons to be conferred with chieftaincy title shall be nominated by an indigene or indigenes of community
  - The names of such nominated persons shall be sent to the town union for confirmation and ratification.
  - For take off, however, each of the existing five villages shall nominate two candidates to be conferred with chieftaincy titles.
  - The Igwe shall be allowed to nominate two candidates for the chieftaincy title taking.
  - The Igwe shall not sell chieftaincy title by collecting monies from would be aspirants.
- (11) **Qualification:**
- Any citizen irrespective of gender resident in or outside Aguobu is qualified to be considered for chieftaincy title provided that:
- Such a persons(s) is not of questionable character.
  - He/She is not an ex-convict.
  - His/Her nomination is approved by the Town Union and confirmed by the joint sitting of Igwe's cabinet and the town union.
  - Has in the past contributed significantly to the development of the community
  - Has not behaved or acted in a manner detrimental to the peace and development of the community;
  - No educational qualification is attached.
- (12) **Financial Requirements:**
- Any person to be conferred with a chieftaincy title in Aguobu shall pay to the Town Union a non-refundable fee of ten thousand naira (N10,000.00).
  - Such aspirant shall also purchase a form to be prepared by the Town Union for chieftaincy title taking with the sum of one thousand naira (N1,000.00), only.
  - On the day of the conferment of chieftaincy, the beneficiary shall give to community, through the Town union:



- (i) Four (4) cartons of star beer;
- (ii) One (1) carton of small stout;
- (iii) One (1) Carton of Malt, and
- (iv) One (1) jar of palm wine including
- (v) Three kolanuts.

**(13) Age Limit:**

Any aspirant to the prestigious title of 'Chief' in Aguobu shall not be less than 30 years and not more than ninety (90) years of age.

**(14) Marital Status:**

A person to be conferred with chieftaincy title in Aguobu must be married to one or more wives, and if a woman to one man only.

**38 Rights to rotation of posts amongst villages:**

In the past, different regimes in Nigeria had given different names to some the posts mentioned in this constitution, e.g. Councilor, Igwe, etc. Since new regimes will continue to come and go, this constitution recognizes it as a mark of honesty and integrity for villages which had acted in these capacities in the past to allow others to take their turn as and when due in the interest of peace, justice and fair play. Posts, like the ones mentioned in Sec. 8 and 15(3b) which are to be filled in by election from every village are not included.

**39. Amendment:**

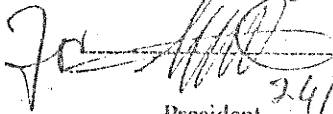
- (1) Any provision of this constitution shall be subject to amendment when the people deem such amendment necessary;
- (2) For a proposal to become law, it must be approved by at least two thirds (2/3) of the general meeting of Aguobu Iwollo Town Union ;
- (3) Any group or individuals in Aguobu Iwollo can put forward proposal for a new law or an amendment of an existing one.

**40. Citation:**

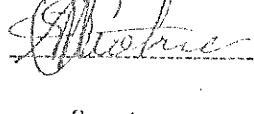
This constitution shall be cited as the "Constitution of Aguobu Iwollo Autonomous Community"

and shall come into force from the 24<sup>th</sup> ---day of --- April,---2005.

MADE at Aguobu Iwollo this ---24<sup>th</sup>---day of April, 2005

  
President 24/4/05

Aguobu Iwollo Town Union

 24/4/2005  
Secretary

Aguobu Iwollo Town Union

For and on behalf of Aguobu Iwollo people

# MEMBER OF THE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT COMMITTEE

1.	Engr. Edwin U.	Ikwueze	Chairman
2.	Ernest	Chiaba	Secretary
3.	Godwin	Oguama	Member
4.	Emmanuel	Nzekwe	"
5.	Sylvanus	Ohagwu	"
6.	Tony	Esim	"
7.	Raphael.	Okpoko	"
8.	Peter	Obiekwe	"
9.	Augustine	Ude	"
10.	Christopher	Aniako	"
11.	Felix	Okonkwo	"
12.	Anselem	Mgbo	"
13.	Crescent	Amadi	"
14.	Lawrence	Ndubisi	"
15.	Francis	Oduwankpa	"