



ICOPA EUROPE
200 Bullhead Road Borehamwood Hertfordshire WD6 1RJ

Minutes of ICOPA Annual General Meeting (AGM) held remotely using GoToMeeting platform on 11th July 2020

Attendance:-

Dr Deji Okubadejo-(79/81 set) Freeman House -Chairman (DO)

Tunde Joseph – (78/80 set) Oluwole House Vice Chairman (TJ)

Fola Ajanlekoko - (78/80 set) Aggrey House - Director of Organisation (FA)

Segun Ifaturoti - (79/81 set) Parker House Welfare Secretary (SI)

Kunle Adeniji – (84/86 set) Freeman House Social Secretary (KA)

Otunba Bolaji Falase - (71/73 set) - Ex Chairman Oluwole House

Dr Sola Odemuyiwa - Ex Chairman (DSO)

Jeremy Coker - (79/81 set) Freeman House Treasurer (JC)

Reverend Bunmi Fagbemi - (69/75 set) - Chaplain (RBF)

Rev Tade Agbesanwa - Chaplain (RTA)

Bamofin Dele Osinuga - 85/87 Aggrey House - set Assistant Secretary General (BDO)

Seye Oyediran - (79/81 set) Freeman House-Secretary General (SO)

Dr Olumide Ogundahunsi (77/79 set) Freeman House, Akin Coker, Kunle Oshilaja (77/79 set) Aggrey House, Damola Aboaba (76/78 set) Aggrey House, Femi Awotesu (77/79 Set) Freeman House, Kolawole Akinlade 75/77 set Freeman House, Femi Ogidan (83/85 set) Parker House, Adebayo Adeokun, Dr Olanrewaju Okunribido (77/79 set) Freeman House, Wole Osifeso, Oyekunle Aderemi, Kola Akinlade, Babatunde Ogunlade (85/87 set) Oluwole House, Adebayo Adeokun, Gbemi Okunribido, Ladi Okunribido, Gbenga Segun (77/79 set), Obayomi Akinyode 84/86 set, Deji Anibaba 76/81 set Aggrey House, Dr Senu Hundeyin (77/79 set) Parker House, Adewale Onabanjo (81/83 set) Aggrey House, and Tolu Soyomokun (84/86 set) Aggrey House



Apologies:

Gary Kuti and Oke Eleyae

Opening Prayer: -Femi Awotesu

Adoption of Last Minutes

The minutes of 11th May 2019 was unanimously approved on a motion moved by Mr Femi Awotesu and seconded by Dr Senu Hundeyin

Opening

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone in attendance to our first AGM to be held remotely because of the National pandemic caused by Covid-19.

The Chairman laid the ground rules for the meeting and invited members to introduce themselves individually by name, set and house.

A. 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Chairman formally presented the 2019 Annual Report which had been previously circulated by email, WhatsApp platforms and on our website.

The quality of the report was highly commended by members and also received favourable comments online.

The Chairman appreciated the former Director of Organisation Mr Gbenga Segun for his consistent excellent work with our Annual Report that has set a high standard in ICoba family world-wide.

After some deliberation the Chairman proposed the adoption of 2019 Annual Report.

The 2019 Annual Report was unanimously adopted on a motion moved by SI and seconded by Mr Femi Awotesu.



B. UPDATE ON REGISTRATION OF CHARITY ARM OF ICoba EUROPE

The Secretary General presented an update on the registration exercise: -

We have a proposed name, which is OBIC Limited and OBIC stands for Old Boys of Igbobi College. We have confirmed that the name is available with Companies House UK.

We also have proposed trustees who are: -

- a. Dr Deji Okubadejo;
- b. Gary Kuti; and
- c. Dele Osinuga.

Other members of the proposed board

- d. Jeremy Coker -Treasurer
- e. Seye Oyediran -Secretary

The governing document is at final stages and will be sent to the consultant after its approval by Exco.

The Secretary General concluded his presentation by assuring members that our objective is to complete the registration by the end of the year.

The Chairman commended the work done so far and that we are on course to meet the deadline.

Action: - SO & BDO

C. EDUCATION QUALITY MASTER PLAN

The Chairman presented a background to the project. ICoba Europe resolved to put in place a plan to improve the quality of education in the school in response to the fallen standard of education.

The initial groundwork was carried out by Mr Oke Eleyae 78/80 set who visited the school in the course of preparing his report.

After Mr Eleyae completed the report, it was adopted by ICoba Europe Exco and by members at the AGM 2019



The Chairman thereafter had to engage with ICOPA National and had to travel to Nigeria to meet with the President of ICOPA National and the Board of Governors of the school. The plan was eventually adopted by ICOPA National and subsequently by the Board of Governors of Igbobi College.

The consultant recommended by Mr Eleyae, Dr Dolapo Ogunbawo of The Teaching Network Foundation (TTNF), started work in August 2019. There were initial challenges because it was a new experience for the teachers and they also have the additional task to develop a school improvement plan.

The good news was that the teachers have settled down with the training and feedback was favourable.

The Chairman reported that work was progressing on the plan.

The total cost of the 2 years plan is £20,000. We have paid £12,000 and the balance to settle is £8,000.

The project has been commended as a legacy project.

We have received 2 terms reports, and these had been shared

The chairman thereafter invited feedback

The Secretary General commended the work of the consulting company and used the opportunity to appreciate the Chairman who at his own cost had to travel to Nigeria for meetings with the national Exco and the Board of Governors.

Mr Oke Eleyae was also commended for his ground-breaking work and continued support for the project.

Every member of ICOPA Europe should be proud of this project and should give their financial support to the project.

Mr Awotesu commended Exco for a job well done and said he wasn't aware that donation could be made by individuals.

The Treasurer reminded members that contribution can be made by making lump sum payments or setting up a monthly standing order with reference EQM.



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The Chairman added that donation can also be made in Naira to ICoba National account with reference EQM and confirmation sent to the Treasurer.

Finally, the Chairman appreciated ICoba 68/70 set for their donation of 1.5m naira.

Action: DO

D. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer presented the financial account for the year ended 31st December 2019 by taking us through his report from pages 16-19 of the 2019 Annual report.

There was only one additional contribution from last year and observed that it was the same people making contribution over the years.

He went on to observe that the EQM was the biggest project embarked upon by the association and he appealed to every member to be a part of the project either through lump sum payment or by setting up standing order.

The Treasurer assured members of our continued accountability and transparency.

Mr Awotesu said he was pleased with the sound manner our account was being managed. He went on to assure Exco that even though there were some sets that are not as active as others but that in the course of the year more sets and members would make their contributions.

The Chairman went on to commend the Treasurer for his commitment and hard work in maintaining our account astutely.

Action: JC

E. Constitution Review Committee (CRC)

The Chairman gave a background for setting up the CRC: -

- a. Keep our constitution up to date. Our current constitution was published in 2012.
- b. Address gaps in the constitution.
- c. Amend conflicting and controversial provisions



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The Secretary General thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to serve as the Chairman of the CRC and also appreciated members of the committee for their commitment to the success of the assignment. In fact we are privileged to have RBF, OBF, BDO and Kayode Osinowo on the committee.

The work of the committee is already yielding fruit by addressing some controversial issues such as the admission of female students that attended the school between the years of 1982 to 1990. The committee was able to deal with it and recommended the admission of the former female into the association. This recommendation has been adopted by Exco.

The Assistant Secretary General presented the work done so far by the committee based on its terms of reference.

The committee invited memoranda from sets represented in Europe and members of the association.

We only got responses from SI and RTA.

The committee is still open to receive representations from sets and members by email.

We are optimistic that we should be able to submit a draft, amended constitution in the next 2 months.

RBF went on to thank the Chairman for the opportunity to serve the association and also SO the Chairman of the committee and everyone serving on the committee for their dedication to the assignment. RBF went on to encourage members to take advantage of the opportunity presented by the review of our constitution.

OBF also expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the committee as a layman amongst lawyers. OBF went on to say it has been an invaluable experience that helped to change his view on the controversial issue of admission of females into our association.

Mr Kunle Oshilaja suggested that the decision to admit females into our association should be shared with the Exco of our National Association.

Mr Femi Awotesu and Prof Olatunbosun indicated that they would be submitting papers for the consideration of the committee.



12:15 RBF apologised and excused himself to attend to parish issues.

Action: SO & BDO

F. ADMISSION OF OLD GIRLS OF THE SCHOOL INTO ICoba EUROPE

The Chairman reported that the concern about whether or not to admit old girls who attended the school between the years of 1982 to 1990 as members of ICoba Europe was brought to the attention of Exco. Exco deliberated on it and thereafter referred the matter to the CRC.

The CRC have robustly deliberated on this issue and made its recommendation for their admission into the association based on the following grounds:-

- a. The old girls having been admitted to the school and fully registered as students of the school and their registration if not revoked are entitled to be members of ICoba Europe. This is the equitable and sensible thing to do.
- b. We could be liable for gender discrimination if we exclude the former female students because of their gender.
- c. We are aware that old girls are already registered with the National Association in Nigeria and they pay dues and have voted at various elections.

The Chairman confirmed that he had raised the issue with the National Chairman Mr Kinoshi and he had no objections about them being registered as members of ICoba Europe.

The Chairman thereafter invited comments from members.

Dr Hundeyin observed that he is aware that St Gregory's had a similar experience of admission of females for advanced level classes and the old girls of St Gregory's are part of their rich heritage.



Mr Kunle Oshilaja observed that it was expected that older students would find this shocking and that this is understandable because they had no experience of female students at the school.

After some more deliberation it was agreed the history of having female old students is part of our heritage and we should be proud of it.

Action: SO & BDO

G. REPORT OF SOCIALS GROUP AND UPDATE ON SOCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2020

The Social Secretary reported that all social activities have been suspended because of Covid-19 pandemic but there have been social activities on line.

The Social Secretary attended the meeting of all social secretaries organised by NSF and CMS 160th founder's day.

We deployed technology for the first time at the 2019 NSF Quiz event and have been approached to give technical support for future events. We are grateful to Mr Gbenga Segun our former Director of Organisation for his technical input and his service to the association.

We also attended MG's Old Girls' Association 2019 event. We were runners up in debate and came 1st in fashion parade.

The socials Group are exploring an online fund raising event for our EQM.

We are looking forward to the 3rd Dr Olumide Memorial lecture in 2021.

The Socials Group have been able to engage with younger generation sets and have successfully engaged with 90s set.

Action: KA

H. WELFARE GROUP'S REPORT /MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT DRIVE



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The Chairman opened deliberation that the Welfare Group has been fantastic and innovative during the lock down. We have been able to support 2 members during the lock down.

The Welfare Group have led in membership engagement by attending set meetings and updated members about the association our activities.

The Chairman also reported that we have set up WhatsApp platform of set Chairmen and Secretaries and had our first meeting of set Chairmen and Secretaries on 28th June 2020. The meeting was quite engaging and fruitful.

The plan is to make this an annual event before our AGM.

The Welfare Secretary reported that he constituted a welfare sub group during the lock down consisting of Exco and Non Exco members for the purpose of reaching out to every member of the association on our data list.

The Welfare Secretary shared favourable experiences from the exercise and particularly with the older set members.

The group is also working on setting up a brotherhood scheme of representatives in all the regions in UK so as to get closer to our members particularly the older and younger members.

The Social Secretary thereafter requested for members to volunteer to join and support the welfare group.

The Chairman also encouraged members to support the group and invited comments from members.

Mr Femi Awotesu thanked the group for the check up call on 12th April 2020 from Alaba Banjo 80/82 set.

Mr Awotesu also shared his experience with Pa Sodeke an older member he used to pick up to attend our events.

The Chairman reported that we admitted 2 old boys resident in the Middle East because we are the nearest home branch to them.

We are targeting the younger generation of old boys in order to provide support and mentoring to them.



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The Chairman rounded up by intimating members of the plan to set up a branch of ICoba Europe in Ireland.

I. AOB

- a. The email address to send memoranda to the constitution review committee is icobauropebranch@gmail.com.
- b. The Chairman thanked every member for their continued support and wished everyone well during the lock down.

J. CLOSING

In the absence of any other business the meeting was adjourned by a motion moved by Mr Femi Awotesu and seconded by Dr Senu Hundeyin.

The meeting closed at 15:02 with school song and prayers by Reverend Tade Agbesanwa.



K. Constitution Review Committee

The 31st December 2018 account was re made:-circulated in the absence of the treasurer who had duly sent his apology for not been able to make the meeting.

The following observations we

1. The paid up subscription for the year in the sum of £3,080 was concerning as it is meant to keep the association running.
2. Suggestions were made to improve payment of subscription e.g. get set representatives to chase up their set members.
3. It was observed that the account should have come in the annual report.
4. The account should have presented analysis of previous years' performance as for comparison.
5. It will help if payments are acknowledged.

After some deliberation it was agreed that we should set a finance committee to assist the Treasurer in chasing payment of subscriptions and other duties that might be assigned to them.



The following members volunteered to work in the Finance Committee:-

1. Soji Fagade
2. Dele Osinuga
3. Bola Ogunlana
4. Olamide Olagbaju (subject to confirmation)

Action:-Treasurer

L. Chairman's Report

Education Master Plan

The Chairman reported that the Education Quality Master Plan (EQMP) was initiated by Dr Olumide Awe 6 years ago and he was happy to report that the preparatory work on the implementation will start in June 2019.

The estimated budget for the plan is £10,000 a year for the initial 2 years turn around.

The following observations were made:-

1. Gary Kuti the Chairman of 78/80 Set assured Exco of their support for the implementation of EQMP.
2. Chief Onabolu commended Exco for the work done so far and encouraged members to support the plan as we get to the implementation stage.
3. Oke Eleyae gave an over view of the fallen standard of education in Nigeria generally supported with statistics. He also assured members of his continued support towards the implementation of the EQMP.

The Chairman rounded up by thanking every member of the association for their support and that he counts on their financial support for the successful implementation of the EQMP.

M. Dr Olumide Awe Memorial Lecture and Annual Dinner 2019



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The Director of Organisation announced the date for this year's event on 9th November 2019 and that planning was in top gear.

We are looking forward to another successful event as it would be recalled last year's event was sold out.

Action: Director of Organisation

N. Report and update on calendar of activities for 2019

The highlights of the Social Secretary's report are as follows:-

- We had a well attended Founders' day hosted by Rev Fagbemi on 2nd February 2019 at Holy Trinity Church followed by a reception.
- We also successfully hosted 2019 NSF Quiz event with a record attendance and for the first deployed a technology based Quiz event.
- Our main event of the year is the Dr Olumide Awe Memorial Lecture and Annual Dinner 2019 on 9th November 2019 and every member of the association is expected to attend.

Action: Social Secretary

ICOBANA 2019 June 27-June 30th in Calgary Canada

- There was confirmation that the Chairman will be leading ICoba Europe delegation to Calgary.



O. OTHER MATTERS

1. Femi Awotesu raised concerns about our relationship with the Nigerian Chaplaincy and also the Methodist and Anglican Missions in general. He said he was of the opinion that approach had been adversarial.

The Chairman assured Mr Awotesu that ICoba Europe does not have any issues with the Nigerian Chaplaincy and as far as he is aware ICoba international were well engaged with the Bishops of the 2 Missions.

The Chairman promised to engage with Mr Awotesu to further allay his concerns.

SDF

2. The sum of £145 was collected as SDF.

School Song and Close of meeting

3. The meeting closed at 17:40 with the school song

Seye Oyediran
Secretary General