



NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.
(ABN: 11 886 467 757)
(www.nigeriansociety.org.au)

**THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, INC.
CONSTITUTION**



NSV

...we are better together!

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THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, INC.

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE:

ACTING IN THE SPIRIT of the CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA, the preamble of which resolved to provide a constitution for the purpose of:

“promoting the good government and welfare of all persons in our country on the principles of Freedom, Equality and Justice, and for the purpose of consolidating the Unity of our people”

AND TO LIVE in unity and harmony as one indivisible and indissoluble Sovereign Nation under God dedicated to the promotion of inter-African solidarity, and world peace, international co-operation and understanding”;

WITHOUT PREJUDICE to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, NOTING that Nigeria is a country of diverse ethnic groupings striving to continue to live together in perfect harmony and understanding both within Nigeria and outside it;

RECOGNISING the need to uphold the unity in diversity of the peoples of Nigeria through an Association of all Nigerians from all parts of the World who come to Australia;

MINDFUL of the differences in the cultural backgrounds of Nigerians or Africans and Australians which in turn creates the need and or necessity to support each other individually and in groups for the purpose of facilitating the realization of individual and group aspirations of Nigerians in particular and Africans in general;

DESIRING to foster greater co-operation amongst all Nigerians in Australia with all other African nationalities in Australia on the one hand and between all Nigerians and all Australians on the other hand jointly and severally;

DESIRING FURTHER to bring into Australia and integrate therein the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Nigeria for the benefit of all Nigerians, all other Africans and all Australians of different background and nationalities;

WE, the members of THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA do hereby adopt this constitution for ourselves in the following terms:

ARTICLE ONE

1A. NAME

1. This Association shall be called and known as : THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA, INC.
2. The Society shall have its headquarters in Melbourne, Victoria and its address shall be that of the President of the Society or the General Secretary or any other venue that the assembly may appoint.
3. The Society shall be registered in accordance with all the relevant laws, rules and regulations for the time being in force in Australia.

ARTICLE TWO

2A. OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

The Society shall:

1. Promote unity, equal opportunity and friendship among all Nigerians without discrimination by reason of circumstances of birth, race, cultural heritage, ethnicity, sex, religion or political opinion.
2. Promote unity between Nigerians, Africans and Australians and to encourage goodwill and understanding between Nigerians and the wider African and Australian communities in Victoria and Australia by actively participating in educational, social and cultural programs with these communities.
3. Assist each other individually and as a society at all times.
4. Encourage all Nigerians to participate and/or contribute in the task of nation building both in Nigeria and in Australia.
5. Encourage disciplined existence and lifestyle both in Nigeria and in Australia.
6. Foster a good relationship and understanding between the Nigerian government and the Australian government.
7. Promote Nigerian Arts and culture.
8. Assist in providing and disseminating useful information on Nigeria for the purpose of educating and enlightening the Australian Public and also providing useful information about Australia to Nigerians for the same purpose.
9. Protect, improve and uphold the good name of Nigeria by being good and law-abiding residents of Victoria and Australia.

10. To promote an awareness and knowledge of the Nigerian culture among Nigerian children and youths and to engender respect and friendship among each other.
11. To work in cooperation with national and ethnic organizations in Victoria and Australia whose aims and interests are in accordance with our constitution;
12. Strive to be actively involved with Nigerian associations in other states, African associations and Multicultural Victoria in promoting the Nigerian Society of Victoria.
13. To eschew and denounce bigotry, racism, nepotism and corruption.
14. Explore and utilize all available opportunities that would enable the Society achieve its objectives.
15. Encourage and support Nigerians who are non-members to join the society and those who are members to participate in the affairs of the society.

ARTICLE THREE

3A. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

1. Any Nigerian from any part of the world or the spouse of any Nigerian, or any person living in a de facto relationship with any Nigerian, or any children under the age of eighteen, born or adopted in these relationships, are eligible to be a member of the Society.
2. However, any member below eighteen years of age shall remain a general member of the Society, until they attain the voting of eighteen years, when they shall be eligible to apply for full membership.
3. Categories of Membership: The following categories of membership are hereby established:
 - (i) **Full or financial membership:** A person is said to be a full or financial member if such a person has fully discharged his financial commitments to the society as regards the full payment of all subscription fees, dues and any other levies to which the Society is entitled in accordance with this constitution or any other rules and regulations including any valid decisions of the Assembly. In particular, provided that a fixed annual membership dues of \$50 for family and \$25 for single members are paid in full.
 - (ii) **Youth Membership:** A person is said to be a youth member if such a person has fulfilled provision 3A(i) above, but has not attained eighteen years of age as at the time of formally joining the Society. Provided that such a person shall remain a

youth member of the Society until attainment of the voting age of eighteen years, when he/she shall be eligible to become full or financial member, by making full annual subscription fees, dues and any other levies to which the Society is entitled in accordance with this Constitution or other rules and regulations including any valid decisions of the Assembly.

- (iii) **Nominal Membership:** A person shall be a Nominal member if such a person, by virtue of being a Nigerian formally joined the Society subject to provisions 3A(i) or 3A(ii) above, but falls behind to discharge his/her financial obligations to the Society as regards the full payment of all subscription fees, dues and any other levies as contained in 3.(i) above.

Provided that by virtue of being a member of the Society as in Provision 3.(i) above, a nominal member shall have the right to take part in ordinary decisions of the Assembly as contained in other relevant Sections of this Constitution. However, he/she shall be excluded from voting or being voted for in General Elections, and shall not be a member of any sub-committees which the Executive Committee may appoint, until all outstanding subscription fees, dues , and other levies to which the Society is entitled has been paid in full.

- (iv) **Honorary Membership:** A person is said to be an honorary member if such a person, not being a Nigerian, but for good cause, is conferred with the membership of the Society in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. Provided that an honorary member shall have no financial obligation to the Society.

ARTICLE FOUR

4. THE ORGANS OF THE SOCIETY

4A. THE ASSEMBLY

1. This is the Principal organ of the society. It is made up of all the various categories of members of the society, Financial, Nominal and Honorary.
2. The Assembly shall hold bi-annual general meetings within every twelve calendar months at a maximum interval of six months on dates to be specified by the Executive Committee.
3. The Assembly shall elect once within every 24 months or two calendar years the members of the Executive Committee as specified in Paragraph B of this Article.
4. It shall receive and approve Bi-annual the Financial Report from the Executive Committee

5. A General Meeting other than the one specified under provision 4A.2 above, may be convened on the request of at least one-third of the current financial members of the Society, on giving due notice addressed to all the members of the Society.

Provided that a list containing the names, contact details, and signatures of the 1/3 of the consenting financial members conveying such a general meeting shall be ratified by the Legal Officer in accordance with Provision B of this Article and give due notice to the members of the Society.

6. It shall receive and approve the Minutes of the last General Meeting.
7. It shall perform any other duty which in the opinion of the majority of the members voting shall further the objectives of the Society
8. The President with the concurrence of the General Secretary may for good reason and for the purpose of discussing other matters not specified in provision 4A.2 above, convene a General meeting of the Assembly at any time on giving due notice; the President or the General Secretary may seek the advice of the Legal Adviser.

4B. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Functions and Powers of the Executive Committee

- (i) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the day to day running of the affairs of the Society in such manner as may be prescribed from time to time by the Assembly in accordance with this constitution;

Provided that it shall be lawful for the committee to delegate some of its duties to a sub committee whenever it deems necessary;
Provided further that no constitutional duty may be delegated by the Committee under any circumstances.

- (ii) It shall be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to convene the bi
- annual general meeting;

Provided that the Executive Committee may when it deems it necessary and expedient, convene a general meeting at any time on giving due notice to the members of the Society.

- (iii) Subject to the approval of the Assembly in the general meeting, the Executive Committee may confer an Honourary Membership of the Society upon any deserving person, irrespective of the nationality of such a person, upon the Executive Committee being satisfied that such a person is willing to uphold the objectives of the Society and is likely to contribute or has already contributed to the

advancement of the objectives of the Society or to the welfare of the African Community in general.

2. Officers of the Executive Committee:

There shall be an Executive Committee of the Society which shall be made up of the following officers:

- (i) President
- (ii) Vice-President
- (iii) General Secretary & Assistant General Secretary
- (iv) Treasurer
- (v) Financial Secretary
- (vi) Social and Welfare Secretary
- (vii) Legal Adviser/Public Officer
- (viii) Youth Affairs Coordinator

2(i) The President:

- (a) The president shall preside over all general meetings, all executive committee meetings and any other meetings that may be convened under this constitution or any other relevant laws applicable to the Constitution.
- (b) The President acts as the official representative of the Society and may with the approval of the Executive Committee appoint other members to represent the Society.
- (c) The President and/or his/her delegate(s) is/are empowered to act on behalf of the Society.
- (d) The President may appoint committees and assign duties as appropriate to advance the activities and objectives of the Society.
- (e) The President, or in the absence of the President, the Vice-President, or in the absence of the Vice-President, another Executive Member shall preside as Chair of a General Meeting;

2(ii) The Vice president:

- a) The Vice-President assists the President in the performance of his/her duties. In the event that the President is absent or is unable to remain in office for any reason, the Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President.

2(iii) The General Secretary/Assistant General Secretary:

The General secretary or in his absence, the Assistant General Secretary shall be responsible to the Society for:

- a) Coordinating meeting times and venues and ensuring appropriate notice of meetings is given to the Executives and members.
- b) Sending out the Agenda and notices of Meetings and receiving and including into the Agenda all requests by members for the inclusion of items into the Agenda.

- c) The taking and keeping of minutes at the General Meetings, Executive Committee meetings and any other meetings that may be held pursuant to this constitution and ensuring that proper records of all decisions taken are properly maintained.
- d) Ensuring that office bearers and Standing committees report on their activities to the Executive committee according to the society's procedures.
- e) Ensuring that decisions are communicated to other parts of the society, to external bodies in consultation with the President, and to the Association membership.
- f) Keeping the Register of Membership of the Society and the Attendance Record;
- g) In order to fulfill these responsibilities, the General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary must have a knowledge of the Society's structure and Constitution. They (or at least one of them) MUST also have a background knowledge in Information Technology for the purpose of successfully maintaining the society's website and database of members and records.

Provided that all Records kept by the General Secretary or the Assistant General Secretary shall be regarded as Public records relative to the members of the Society and all such records shall be available for inspection at a reasonable moments notice.

2(iv) The Treasurer/Financial Secretary:

- a) Receive and collect all subscriptions, dues and all other money which the Society is entitled to collect from members or any other person(s), natural or legal and other authority.
- b) Make payments when so authorized by either the Executive Committee or the Assembly for specifically authorized purposes of the Society.
- c) Keep up to date and correct accounts and books showing the financial affairs of the Society with full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Society.
- d) Make all records, accounts and books kept pursuant to this paragraph, available for inspection by any full or financial member at a reasonable moment's notice;

Provided that all such records, accounts and books shall be produced ready for inspection at every General Meeting of the Society.

2(v) The Social / Welfare Secretary:

- a) It shall be the responsibility of the Social and Welfare Secretary to generate and to mobilize ideas for social and cultural activities in the society and to supervise and implement ideas of the same activities in accordance with the directives of the Executive Committee.

Provided that the Assembly or the Executive Committee may from time to time, direct that the Social and Welfare Secretary perform other functions on their behalf.

2(vi) The Legal Adviser/Public Officer:

- a) The Legal Adviser/Public Officer shall advise the Assembly and the Executive Committee on all legal matters concerning the Society including the interpretation and the application of the constitution.

2(vii) Youth Affairs Coordinator:

In concurrence with other members of the Executive Committee, the Youth Affairs Coordinator shall

- a) Identify and plan youth programs for the Society.
- b) Co-ordinate all affairs and activities towards implementation in furtherance to (a) above.
- c) In furtherance to (a) and (b) above, activities and responsibilities of the Youth Affairs Coordinator shall be to organize activities with a youth centered focus.
- d) Educate and inspire our youth to reach their full potential; develop a community minded spirit amongst youths so they are conscious about contributing to Nigeria, Africa and Australia.
- e) Inspire confidence in youth about their heritage; mentor youths and link them with mentors within the community.
- f) Instill civic responsibility in the youths, teach respect, understanding and awareness about Nigerian cultures and the cultures of others; and educate youths on Nigeria and her role in the world.

4C. VACANCY:

In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall appoint a financial member of the Society to hold the vacant office. This appointment shall not be voided provided that such an appointment is made with approval of the Electoral Committee and duly communicated to members of the Society and provided there is no objection from other financial members of the Society within a period of 14 days.

In case of any objection, the Electoral Committee shall call for an election within the next one month to be held at a General Meeting to fill the vacancy. Subject to the provisions of this constitution, the person initially appointed shall be eligible to contest for the vacant post.

4D. TENURE OF OFFICE:

Each of the members of the Executive committee shall be elected in accordance with the procedure laid down by this constitution, for a tenure of twenty four calendar months or two years and each member shall be eligible for re-election for a similar tenure and no more.

For the avoidance of doubt, it is hereby reiterated that any member of the Executive committee can re-contest for any post for another term of 24months making it possible

for the officer to stay in the Executive committee for a concurrent Maximum term of 48 months or (4 Years). After the expiration of the 4 Years, the officer MUST wait for a minimum of 12months (or 1 Year) before he/she can fill or contest for any post in the Executive committee.

4E. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE:

1. Any member of the Executive Committee shall be removed from office on:
 - (i) Proven gross misconduct;
 - (ii) A vote of no confidence carried by a two-thirds majority of full members present and voting at the assembly.
 - (iii) Failure to attend four consecutive meetings of the Assembly or Executive Committee without any reasonable cause or explanations.
2. Subject to the provisions of this constitution, the Executive Committee shall act notwithstanding any vacancy on the committee. Provided that there shall be a quorum at every meeting of the committee.

4F PATRON

1. The Assembly may on the recommendation of the Executive Committee appoint a Patron who shall hold office for three years in the first instance after which the Assembly having been satisfied with the performance of the said Patron during the preceding period, may reappoint the patron for a final term of two years.
2. A person shall be eligible to appointment as a patron if the Assembly is satisfied that such a person is:
 - (i) a person of proven good character.
 - (ii) a person of distinction in his professional standing.
 - (iii) likely to contribute immensely to the attainment of the objectives of the Society;
3. The Patron shall advise the society on matters of mutual interest to both the patron and the society and on any other matters that the society may from time to time deem appropriate to refer to the Patron.

Provided that any advice given by the Patron shall carry significant weight but shall not be binding on the Assembly.

4G. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a disciplinary committee to be composed of a minimum number of three and a maximum number of nine Full Members of the Society. The composition shall be in odd numbers only
2. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, in particular Article Four, the Legal Adviser shall be the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee or in his absence any full member nominated by the Executive Committee to Act in that behalf.

Provided that no person may act as chairman or member of the Disciplinary Committee if such a person has a personal interest at stake in addition to the interest of the Society in the matter to be considered by the Disciplinary Committee.

3. A Disciplinary Committee shall be set up by the Assembly at General Meetings whenever it becomes necessary for the purpose of investigating and determining the liability or culpability of any member or members for any gross misconduct or the suspicion thereof affecting the interests of a member or members in his or their standing in the Society or whenever there is a misconduct that in any way affects the interests of members generally or the society in particular.
4. A Disciplinary Committee shall be set up either on the recommendation of the Executive Committee or on a complaint lodged by a member supported by two other members of the Society.
5. The Disciplinary Committee may after having found a person brought before it guilty of the gross misconduct, or any misconduct, recommend to the Assembly one or a combination of any of the following disciplinary measures;
 - i. a discharge of the person because of the triviality of the misconduct proved
 - ii. a demand that the person makes a verbal or written apology;
 - iii. a fine or compensation of a specified amount - the fine going into the coffers of the Society and the compensation paid to the injured member or members;
 - iv. the suspension of membership indefinitely or for a specified period;
 - v. a dismissal
6. Subject to the provision of this constitution, the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee shall not be overturned except by a two-third majority of the Full members present and voting in the Assembly.

4H. ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

1. There shall be an Electoral Committee to be composed of a minimum of Three and a maximum of Five Financial members of the Society. The composition shall be odd numbers only.
2. The Electoral Committee shall be responsible to the General Assembly.
3. Members of the Electoral Committee shall be appointed by unanimity of financial members present on the same day and venue of General Elections, failing which a vote shall be cast by a simple majority of the members present on the same day and venue of General Elections or at the swearing in of every newly elected Executive Committee.

4. A person may act in a capacity of a member of the Electoral Committee for a term of Twenty-four months or Two calendar years, provided that no member of the Electoral Committee shall serve in that capacity for more than two consecutive terms.

5. The Electoral Committee shall be responsible for calling for, approval of candidates for, and conduct of General Elections into the Executive Committee.

6. The Electoral Committee members shall appoint a Chief Electoral Officer (Chairman) and a Secretary among themselves while the remaining members shall serve as Returning Officers.

7. Provided that no person may act in a capacity of a member of the Electoral Committee if such a person has a personal interest in a candidate for an elected post in the Executive Committee.

8. A member of the Electoral Committee shall be deemed to have personal interest if at a General Meeting preceding a General Election, a complaint is brought to the notice of the Assembly by at least one-third of the members eligible to vote in accordance with Article Five of this constitution;

Subject to the relevant provisions of this constitution, the incumbent President, with the concurrence of the Legal Adviser, or any member of the Executive Committee not seeking another term of office in the General Elections, shall call for a vote of no confidence to be passed on the said member(s) of the Electoral Committee;

9. Furtherance to 4H.7 above, a vote of no confidence shall be deemed to have been passed by unanimity of financial members present at the meeting, failing which a vote shall be cast by a simple majority of the members present;

Subject to provisions above, provided that a vote of no confidence is passed on a member of the Electoral Committee, the affected member shall be excluded from the decisions of the Electoral Committee in accordance with 4H.3 above in that particular election. The Electoral Committee member shall not be excluded in decisions of the Electoral Committee in subsequent General Elections, subject to 4E.1 above.

10. Subject to 4H.3 of this Article:

The Electoral Committee shall call for a General Election at a date not earlier than two months to the expiration of the term of office of the present Executive Committee;

Subject to the provisions of this constitution, the Electoral Committee shall provide Electoral Guidelines to be duly communicated to all members of the Society not later than one month to the date of a General Election. The Electoral Committee can amend the Guidelines if such amendment is thought to be in the interest of smooth conduct of the elections;

11. The Electoral Committee shall approve candidates seeking elected positions provided that such candidates are deemed to have met the criteria set by the Electoral Committee;

The Electoral Committee shall provide a list of all approved and non-approved candidates duly communicated to all members of the Society at least 14 days to the date of General Election. Reason(s) for non-approval shall be stated in the list to be communicated to all members of the Society.

12. Non-approved candidates shall be given five days immediately following 4H.7 above during which they can appeal decision of the Electoral Committee.

Subject to the provisions of this constitution, such an appeal shall be heard by a three-financial member review panel to be chaired by the Legal Adviser. The two remaining members shall be appointed by the chairman of the Electoral Committee. The three-man panel shall make recommendations to the Electoral Committee within Five days of the review.

13. The Electoral Committee shall collate and announce the results of General Elections on the day and venue of the elections;

14. The Electoral Committee shall keep records of election results for a period of Two years or Twenty-four calendar months following the particular General Election;

Subject to the relevant provisions of this constitution, the Electoral Committee may seek external security at the venue of elections if such is considered to be in the interest of safety of all members of Society present at the elections venue.

15. Any member of the Electoral Committee seeking an elected position into the Executive Committee shall resign his/her position as a member of the Electoral Committee not later than 60 days or two calendar months preceding the General Elections; provided that the resignation is duly communicated to the Chief Electoral Officer (Chairman), with concurrence of the incumbent President or the General Secretary.

Subject to the provisions of this constitution, in particular Article Four, new member(s) shall be appointed to fill the vacancy created by a resigning member.

ARTICLE FIVE

5. CONDUCTING THE AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIETY

5A. MEETINGS:

1. All meetings shall be convened by the General Secretary and each meeting shall be preceded by the circulation of the Agenda and the notice of meeting and whenever possible, the minutes of the last meeting, all of which would be sent by

post in such a manner that all shall reach all members, at least two weeks before the date specified in the Notice of meeting;

Provided that a meeting shall not be void by virtue only of its having been convened not in accordance with this paragraph.

2. An Agenda shall state the matters to be considered at the meeting for which it is being sent including the minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising therefrom, and an updated List of Current Financial members.
3. Any member may make a request in writing by e-mail to the Executive Committee for an item to be included in the Agenda of a meeting. Such a request must be forwarded to the Executive Committee at least two weeks before the General Secretary shall send out the Agenda and the notice of meeting for which the item is intended to be discussed.
4. The General Secretary shall include in the Agenda, an item submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 above unless the executive committee directs otherwise.
5. The notice of meeting shall invite members to a designated meeting of the Society and it shall state clearly the date, time and the designated venue of the meeting.
6. No decision taken at any meeting conducted under this Constitution shall be valid, unless a quorum is properly formed at the time such a decision was taken.
7. If on a day set for a meeting, two hours elapses after the time set for the commencement of the meeting, a quorum is not formed, such a meeting shall stand adjourned until it is rescheduled.
8. A quorum is formed in relation to:
 - i. a General meeting when one-third of the total financial membership or 30 financial members are present
 - ii. an executive committee meeting, at least three members of the Executive Committee are present
 - iii. the Board for Disciplinary Action, two out of a three membership board. Three out of a five membership board and five out of a nine membership board.
 - iv. Any other meeting not specified in this constitution, one third of the membership of the number of members holding the meeting or two out of a three members designated to hold the meeting.
 - v. The Electoral Committee meeting: a quorum is formed when 3 out of 5 members are present.

9. Voting:

- (i) Subject to the provisions of this constitution, all issues shall be determined by the unanimity of the members present failing which a vote shall be cast to determine it by a simple majority of the full or financial members present and voting.
- (ii) Only full or financial members, not being below the age of eighteen are eligible to vote or to be voted for at any meeting convened and conducted under this constitution for whatever purpose including holding any office created for members.
- (iii) Every member shall be entitled to only one vote to be cast in a manner to be decided by the Electoral Committee.
- (iv) The President or the Vice President, or any person acting in that capacity and presiding over a meeting shall have a casting vote at any meeting and in any voting that takes place under this constitution.
- (v) Members of the Electoral Committee conducting General Elections shall have a casting vote as any other eligible member of the Society.

ARTICLE SIX

6A. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

Subject to provisions of this constitution, this constitution shall not be reviewed or amended except on the recommendations of the Executive Committee where such recommendation is approved by two-thirds majority of the financial members present and voting as a General Meeting in accordance with the relevant provisions of this constitution, in particular relevant sections under Article Five.

ARTICLE SEVEN

7A INTERPRETATION

In this constitution, unless it is otherwise expressly provided or the context otherwise requires:

“Assembly” means all the members of the Society in a General Meeting

“Society” means The Nigerian Society of Victoria

“Board” means the Board of Disciplinary Action of the Society

“Committee” means the Executive Committee of the Society

“Due Notice” means a notice sent out to members of the Society in pursuant to Article five of this constitution

“ Member” means a person who satisfies the requirements for being a member of this Society in accordance with this Constitution and who in fact has been registered in the Register of Membership of the Society.

“Date of Independence” means the date in which Nigeria became Independent ie. The first day of October 1960.

“Nigerian” means (a) any person born in Nigeria on or before the date of Independence of Nigeria either of whose parents or any of whose grand parents belongs or belonged to a community indigenous to Nigeria.

ARTICLE EIGHT

8A SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution shall be supreme as amongst members and between members and the Society; this constitution is hereby subordinated to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia and all laws, rules and regulations deriving validity therefrom.

Any inconsistencies between this constitution and the constitution of the commonwealth of Australia shall be resolved in favour of the latter against the former and this constitution shall be void to the extent of the inconsistency and the constitution of the commonwealth of Australia and any laws, rules and regulations deriving validity therefrom , shall prevail.

This Constitution was adopted, pursuant to Article six of the Constitution on 24th February 2007 at a General Meeting of the Society held At Melbourne review and amendments having been recommended by a duly constituted Constitutional Review Committee. This Constitution replaced in full the Nigerian Society of Victoria Inc. Constitution dated 4 December 1989 and all other Constitutions of the Society before it.

This Constitution shall become operative from and after the 24th day of February 2007.

Dated this 24th Day of February 2007.