

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE IMO STATE CONGRESS OF AMERICA, INC.
HELD AUGUST 29-31, 2007 IN DETROIT MICHIGAN, USA**

Nearly three years ago, in a city in New Jersey the idea for a Diaspora Imo State Organization was born at the World Igbo Congress Imo caucus. The aim was to formalize the Imo caucus as a bona-fide standing organization whose aim is to serve the people of Imo State in Diaspora. Subsequently, a virtual interim organization was formed headed by a team of interim officers led by Mazi Eddy Ukaegbu of Detroit, Michigan. This team worked tirelessly to constitute an internet forum for virtual debate of the nature and form of this Imo organization. The name Imo State Congress of America (ISCA) was chosen to emphasize the desire for a representative organization that is all-inclusive, with service to the people as its primary focus. With Dr. Christian Nwamba as interim general secretary, Mazi Tony Egbe as PRO, Nze John Igbokwe as Treasurer and a financial secretary, several teleconferences were held to set the direction and format for ISCA. A constitution drafting committee was inaugurated to formalize the congress for debate and adoption.

On the 29th of August, 2007, many illustrious sons and daughters of Imo State citizens in the Diaspora converged in Detroit, Michigan for their Maiden Convention with the dual agenda of debating the reviewed draft constitution for adoption and holding the first elections. Both objectives were successfully and peacefully attained, thereby setting a record of being the first ever Igbo Diaspora Convention in which these dual hot objectives were accomplished at a two-day National Convention. Thanks to the tenacity and focused leadership of the Constitution Review Chairman and debate moderator, Chief/Dr. Obinna Duruji. Following this debate that lasted for a day and a half, the Constitution was formally adopted and the officers of ISCA were elected in what was considered the most peaceful of such feat so far by any national level Diaspora Igbo organization.

Highlights of the Constitution:

The Constitution highlighted the name and legal status of the Imo State Congress of America, Inc. with a supremacy clause that named it "the Supreme Law of ISCA, which made any rule, regulations, by-law or any other enactment of ISCA or any of its organs that is inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution, shall be null and void and of no effect, and ISCA Constitution shall prevail." The adopted Motto for the congress is: Love, Peace, Unity, Justice, and Progress. Principal focus of the Constitution is to sculpt a service organization that is an umbrella organization, transparent and democratic in culture, all inclusive and provides opportunity for all Diaspora Imo State indigenes to participate in numerous ways at many levels of interest. The membership is primarily on an individual basis and is open to all Imo State indigenes resident outside Nigeria; meaning that those resident in all other parts of the world, including Africa are eligible for membership through registration and payment of a stipulated fee. Provisions were also made for membership by registered Unions, LGAs or Zonal Organizations of Imo State in the United States or elsewhere. Individual registration fee is \$50 while unions and organizations shall register with \$500. There are also provisions for honorary membership to be granted to individuals within and outside Nigeria who are not eligible to register as regular members, who can be cited as having distinguished themselves in the service of or contribution to Imo State.

The constitution provides for a National Executive Committee (NEC), an Advisory Board of Directors with one member from each of the 27 local government areas of Imo state of Nigeria, a Board of Trustees as external ambassadors and 19 Standing Committees that designed to parallel the service commissions in the Imo State government. The NEC consists of a national president who is the principal authority of the congress as the chief executive officer, three vice presidents, one from each of the three senatorial zones of Imo State, a national secretary who is the custodian

of the national secretariat and the chief operating officer of the congress, an assistance national secretary, a national public relations officer who is the principal image maker and information manager for the congress, an assistant national public relations officer, a national treasurer, a national financial secretary who is the chief financial officer for the congress, and a national provost who is the protocols manager for the congress.

Leadership of The Imo State Congress of America:

Election Results and Advisory Board Appointments:

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1 National President (CEO) — Mazi Edwin Ukegbu
- 2 1st. V.P. Imo East (Old Owerri) — Chief Charles Ugo Eke
- 3 2nd. V.P. Imo North (Old Orlu) — Chief Bob Nwozu
- 4 3rd. V.P. Imo West (Old Orlu) -- Dr. Chris Nwamba

- 5 National Secretary (COO) — Dr. Herbert C. Nwanwo
- 6 Asst. National Secretary — Engr. Charles Anaele

- 7 National PRO — Atty. Azuoma Anugom
- 8 Asst. National PRO — Ma. Stella Onuche

- 9 National Financial Secretary (CFO) -- Mazi Ikachi Nnaji
- 10 National Treasurer — Mazi Felix Nnaji
- 11 National Provost -- Mazi Oliver O. Oduj

NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEES **

- 1 Education
- 2 Youth & Sports
- 3 Agriculture & Food Technology

- 4 Commerce & Industry
- 5 Environment and Public Utility
- 6 Art & Culture

- 7 Human Rights & Justice
- 8 Finance & Fiscal Affairs
- 9 Health & Medical Sciences

- 10 Membership & Mobilization
- 11 Public Relations & Strategy
- 12 Operations Affairs & Grants

- 13 State & National Legislation
- 14 Security & Intelligence
- 15 Information & Computer Technology
- 16 Harassment Commission

** Appointees To Be Declared Ined Soon

ADVISORY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DECA REPRESENTATIVES TO LEGAL

- 1 Ideato South LGA -- Mazi Tony Egbo
- 2 Ideato North LGA — Dr. Paul Akarmonu
- 3 Njaba LGA — Chief Tony Okpara

- 4 Nnangele LGA — Mazi Phad Ormwuzurika
- 5 Nkwere LGA — Ordy Victor Nwachukwu
- 6 Orlu LGA -- Engr. Emmanuel Iheanacho

- 7 Oru East LGA — Dr. Richard O. Nwachukwu
- 8 Oru West -- Ugo Oryemaobi
- 9 Isu LGA — Nze Eddy Unegbu

- 10 Otuogu-Egbo LGA — ----Vicent
- 11 Otuogu LGA — ----Vicent
- 12 Orsu LGA -- Mazi Izunobi

- 13 Obasua LGA — Dr. Stephen Uche
- 14 Onime LGA — Dr. Charity Lebeanya (Canada)
- 15 Isiala-Nibano LGA — Mazi Clement Eze

- 16 Ehime-Nibano LGA — Chief George Nze
- 17 Ihiala-Uboma LGA — Prof. Samuel Oseke
- 18 Ohigwe LGA — Chief Austin Egwurwu

- 19 Owerri Municipal LGA — Chief Mike Anikan
- 20 Owerri West LGA — Dr. Kennedy Okere
- 21 Owerri North LGA — Prof. Alex Acholoru

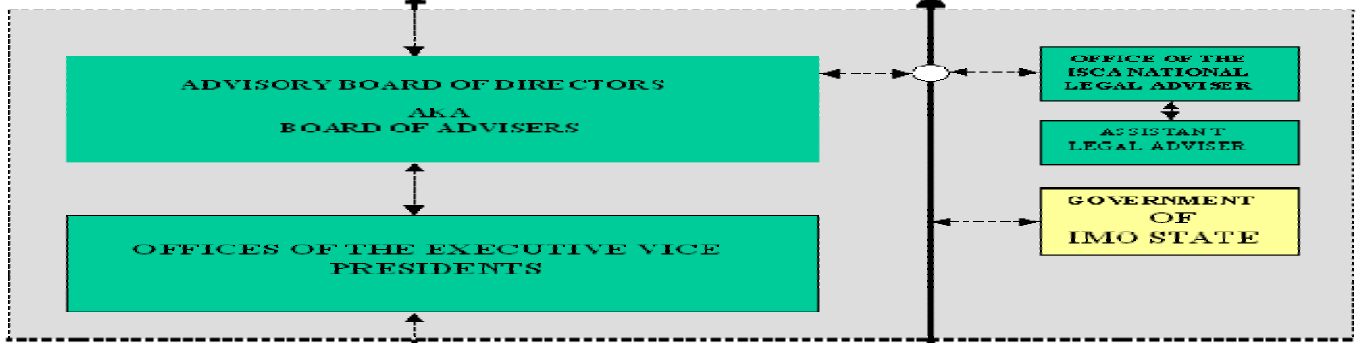
- 22 Ngor-Okpata LGA -- Mazi Ambrose Odenibo
- 23 Nkwere LGA — Dr. Cyprien Oaucha
- 24 Iheakuru LGA — Nze John Igbokwe

- 25 Ezimashi LGA — Dr. Stan Onye
- 26 Aho-Elumelu LGA — Mrs. Blessing Chimezie
- 27 Aninwa LGA -- ----Vicent

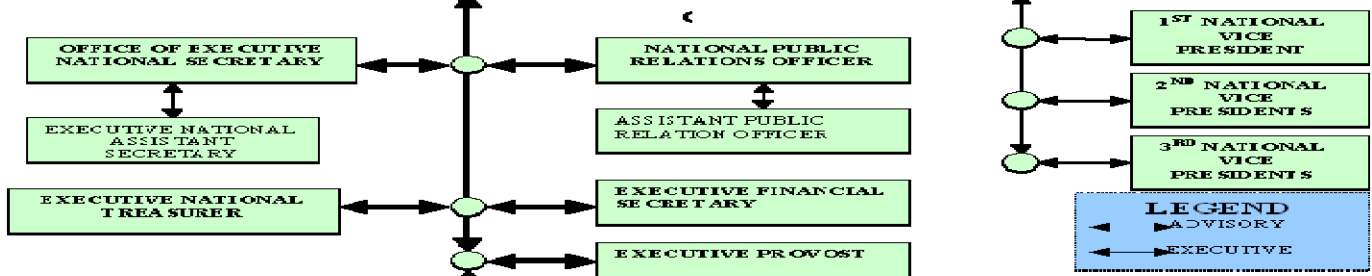
LEGAL ADVISER. — Chief Of Obinna Duruji
 ASST LEGAL ADVISER — Atty. Fidel Nwecozuzu

INFORMATION-FLOW STRUCTURE
 OF
 THE IMO STATE CONGRESS OF AMERICA (ISCA) AS APPROVED AT THE
 INAUGURAL ISCA CONVENTION OF AUGUST 31, 2007, DETROIT MICHIGAN, USA
MOTTO : LOVE, PEACE, UNITY, JUSTICE & PROGRESS

DIASPORA IMO STATE CITIZENS IN THE AMERICAS AND OUTSIDE NIGERIA

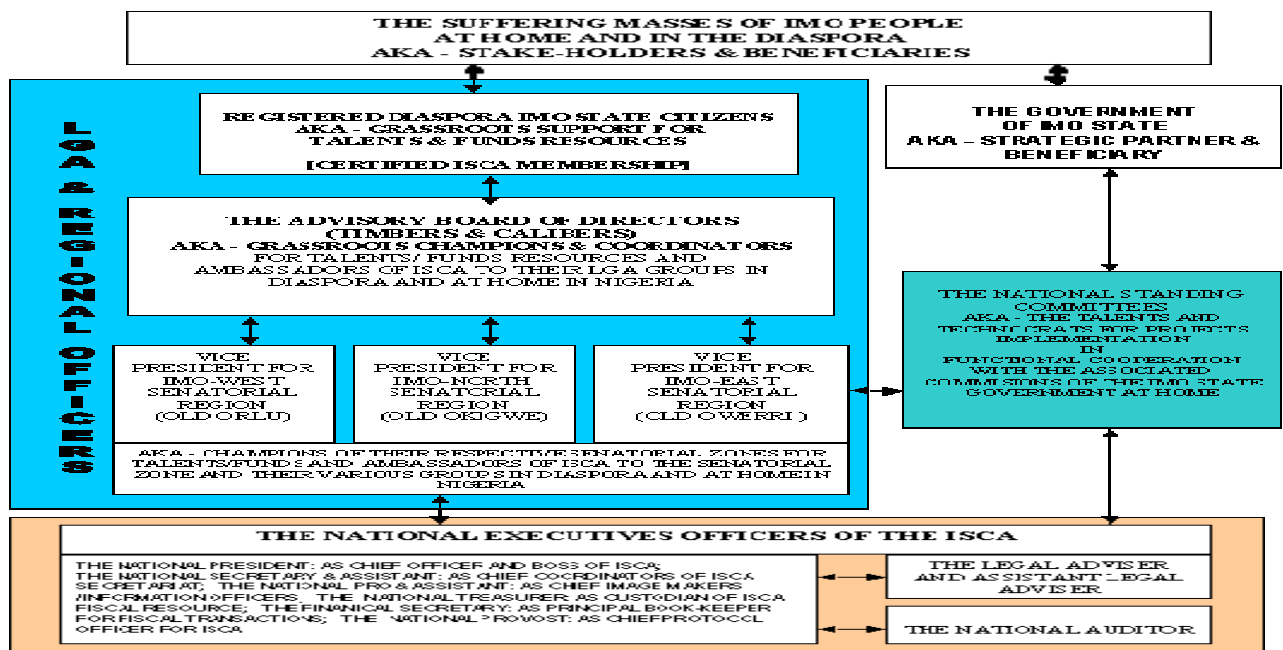


OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE NATIONAL PRESIDENT



EXECUTIVE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEES OF THE IMOSTATE CONGRESS OF AMERICA

**THE FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE
 IMO STATE CONGRESS OF AMERICA
 [DUTIES & WORK RELATIONSHIP]**



Interim Administrative Protocols:

An administrative innovation adopted by the NEC at its inaugural meeting of September 1, 2007, that aims to keep the congress as one contagious and harmonious body with consistent intents and interest is that the advisory board must focus on its role as the advisor, as well as serve as the ambassadorial link between the NEC and their respective LGA groups and governments. And that, administratively, at this formative stage in the life of the congress, the national president and national secretary or their designee shall serve as the president of the board /moderator and secretary of the board /recorder at all board meetings respectively, for the purpose of running one harmonious organization. The NEC legal adviser or his/her designee shall also serve as the legal advice to all Board members in the execution of their duties to their respective LGAs.

Each Senatorial Zone can also hold a caucus that shall be chaired by their respective vice president or his/her designee. This will allow each board member to concentrate on monitoring and advising the NEC on matters affecting his/her LGA that he/she represents. When any session of an ISCA LGA member group is convened, such session shall be chaired by the member of advisory board from that LGA. This is to enable smooth, effective, efficient and consistent flow of information between the NEC, which is the primary authority of ISCA and the Imo Diaspora from each LGA. Each board member shall serve as chair of any NEC-empowered adhoc LGA oversight committee aimed to work with the officials of the respective LGAs at home, to engender efficiency, accountability, productivity, and effectiveness in the use of local resources/federal allocations to the people of their respective LGA. The tasks of this LGA-citizen-group committee, which shall be assessed and evaluated annually, shall be more of a fact-finding and training-support effort to ensure that the people are adequately served, than it is a fault-finding effort. Their job is to ensure there is a pool of available talent from Diaspora to help each LGA succeed in its quest for how to best deliver effective, efficient and productive service to the people.

As for the ISCA standing committees, the NEC resolved at this first meeting to commence appointment of members as soon as the administrative materials for such appointments are in place. This will be an ongoing effort until the right skills and personalities appropriate to the tasks involved are in place. These committees are the main implementation outlet for ISCA and have been designed either as internal service organs as well as functional sister agencies to the Commissions in the Imo State government. The aim is for the ISCA Committees to have direct link and maybe some kind of oversight function in sourcing talents and ideas for related Government Commissions.

Another landmark of the Constitution is the provision for an ISCA Homeland Convention in Owerri every two years to interact and interface with the people and government of the State to engender harmony, cooperation and progress of Imo State. During the Imo caucus meeting held as part of the WIC Convention on Saturday September 1, 2007, which the current governor of Imo State, Chief Ohakim, physically attended, he promised to cooperate with Imo Diaspora to ensure a transparent, service-oriented, productive government. The governor called for ISCA leadership and members to work with his administration for this purpose. Responding to his request, the president of ISCA, Mazi Edwin Ukaegbu, intimated him on the plans of the new ISCA, which are consistent with the proposal made by the governor for talent support and ideas to make the state transparent, democratic, and productive in governance. Behold ISCA. Behold Imo State. To God be all the Glory!

SIGNED: *Dr. Herbert E. Nwankwo – National Secretary*

Mazi Edwin Ukaegbu – National President