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ARTICLE 1

PREAMBLE

Gospel Assembly Intercontinental was established by a British missionary to Nigeria called Mama Ruth Elton who had nationalized as a Nigerian.

ARTICLE 2: NAME OF THE CHURCH

The name of the church shall be “GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL” hereinafter referred to as “the CHURCH”.

ARTICLE 3A: THE REGISTERED OFFICE:

The Registered Headquarters of the Church shall be situated at No.23, Ateba Street, Agassa. P.O.Box 37, Okene L.G.A., Kogi State Nigeria. E-Mail: -----
However it could be relocated as the Church may decide at any time.

ARTICLE 3B: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- (1) The purpose of the Church is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all parts of Nigeria and all over the World.
- (2) To establish the Church branches wherever we have convert(s) so that they can be taught the scriptures.
- (3) To print, publish and distribute Christian religious literatures.
- (4) To train Evangelists, church ministers and missionaries.
- (5) To engage in social and community works and children welfare programs whenever possible and to train the youths of the Church.
- (6) The term of its existence is perpetual.
- (7) To establish Educational Institutions and Health care facilities
- (8) All the aforementioned objectives is aimed at bringing men back to God.

ARTICLE 3C: MOTTO:

The motto of the church shall be “MK. 16:15”...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

ARTICLE 4:

BIBLICAL DOCTRINES OF GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL

The following are the doctrines and beliefs of the Gospel Assembly Intercontinental, to which all members shall subscribe:

- (1) The Holy Bible: We believe the Holy Bible as the inspired word of God
2 Tim. 3:15-17. Any other information that is contrary to the teaching of the Bible shall not be accepted by the church.
- (2) Trinity: We believe in the eternal unity of God in three personalities,

namely; God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit co-equal, co-eternal and to whom equal honor is due. (Phil. 2:6 Gen. 2:1-2; John 1:1-2, 14; Col. 1:2).

- (3) Salvation: We believe that a man is saved by confessing the Lordship of Jesus Christ and believing in his heart that God has raised Him from the death. Rom.10:7-10.
- (4) Restitution: We believe in the Biblical kind of restitution- (Lk 19:8).
- (5) Justification: We believe that a man is justified by faith in Jesus Christ alone without the deeds of the law, every justified person that is born of God has new life in Jesus Christ -(Act 13:38-39; Rom. 3:28; Jn 1:12; 2Cor. 5:17).
- (6) Regeneration: We believe that if any one is in Christ he becomes a new creature and his life is devoid of sin (1Jn 3:9).
- (7) Baptism of the Holy Ghost: We believe in the Holy Ghost baptism for the purpose of witnessing for Christ -(Act 1:5; Matt. 3:11; Act 1:8).
- (8) Divine Healing: We believe that divine healing is God's provision for his children (Isaiah 53:5; 3Jn 2; Mk 16:17-18).
- (9) The Birth of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ was conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of Virgin Mary -(Matt. 1:18.)
- (10) The Death of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ died on the Cross and His death was a sacrifice to God and propitiation for the remission of sins, and His righteousness is imputed to all believers in Him - (Rom. 4:22-25; 1Pet. 3:18.)
- (11) The Burial and Resurrection of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ was buried and raised from the dead on the third day according to the scriptures – (Matt. 27:59-60; Matt. 28:1-7.)
- (12) The Ascension of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ ascended to heaven – (Lk. 24:50-51; Act. 1:9-11.)
- (13) The second coming of Jesus Christ: We believe that Jesus Christ is coming again to take his own to Himself and to judge the world (Matt. 24:30; Jn. 14:3; Act. 1:11).
- (14) Tribulation: We believe that a time shall come when the entire universe shall be in tribulation especially the children of God will be more affected because of our faith in Christ but we are charged that this should not stop us from running the heavenly race.
- (15) Christ Millennial reign: We believe in the millennial reign of Christ (Rev. 20:6).
- (16) The New Heaven and the New Earth: We believe that there shall be a

- new heaven and a new earth (Rev. 21:1).
- (17) Eternal Heaven and Eternal Hell: We believe in the eternal heaven and eternal hell (Mk. 9:43-44).
- (18) The great white Throne Judgment: We believe in the great white throne judgment where the Lord Jesus Christ shall judge the whole world (Rev. 20:11-15).
- (19) Marriage: We believe in marriage as a Holy and esteemed institution ordained by God and the following are the marriage principles of the church:
- a No member is allowed to divorce a wife or husband except for the sin of sexual immorality - (Matt. 5:32; Matt. 19:9; Mk. 10:12).
 - b No member is allowed to marry more than one wife after becoming a member of the church.
 - c No polygamist is allowed to hold any post in the Church - 1Tim. 3:1-5; Titus 1:5-9.
 - d The husband and wife are bound as long as both are alive; when one dies the other is free to remarry only in the Lord (Rom.7:2-3;1Cor. 7:39.)
 - e No member of the Church shall marry a man or a woman who has been divorced because he or she shall be guilty of adultery except in a case of restitution (Matt. 5:32).
 - f The church does not believe in any other form of marriage except as permitted by the Bible. (Lev.20:13, Rom.1:27)
 - g Marriage shall be conducted in accordance with the scriptures, rules and regulations of the church and the provisions of the marriage Act of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1990 (*note: the date to be looked into*) .
- (20) Water Baptism: We believe in water baptism by immersion to be ministered to members of the church at conversion (Act. 8:35-38; Rom.10:8-10; Matt.28:19). The church shall accept baptism by immersion from members from other Bible believing churches, *provided that such members shall undergo the church baptismal training upon which they shall be issued the church baptismal certificate.*
- (21). The Lord's Super: We believe in it to be administered frequently at the local church branch by the church Pastor (1 cor. 11:24-26).
- (22) Holiness: *We believe in the biblical Holiness* “ for without holiness no man shall see the Lord” -Heb. 12:14
- (23). Regulations: In addition, Church rules and regulations shall be binding on all members.

ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Church shall be open to:

1. All who have testimony of salvation according to the scriptures.

2. All who have been baptized in water by immersion, according to the scriptures, irrespective of race, colour or sex.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS

The Officers of the Church shall be in two categories namely:

1. Spiritual Officers.
2. Administrative Officers.

1. Spiritual Officers shall include the following:

- a. General Overseer
- b. *Assistant* General Overseers
- c. Zonal Overseers
- d. Assistant Zonal Overseers.
- e. Church Pastors.

FUNCTIONS/DUTIES OF THE SPIRITUAL OFFICERS

(Ai) THE GENERAL OVERSEER Shall:

- (1) Oversee and coordinate all spiritual affairs of the Church.
- (2) Ensure that the doctrines of the church are upheld by every member.
- (3) Organize prayer bands, Bible studies and counseling teams.
- (4) Be responsible for the Ordination of Pastors, appoint/delegate ministers for Conduction of Marriages, naming and death ceremonies.
- (5) Plan with the Programme Committee all annual programmes ahead of the year such as crusades, rallies, baptismal trainings, evangelism and workers training.
- (6) Present spiritual report in General Council meetings.
- (7) Be one of the signatories to the church bank account(s).
- (8) Forward all church needs to the General Council.
- (9) Be the chairman of all spiritual/pastors meetings.
- (10) *He and his team shall in consultation with the Executive Chairman, plan and carryout the recruitment, promotion and transfer of the pastors. The consultation shall be for the purpose of the financial implication of such recruitment, promotion and transfer. He shall, in the exercise of his power of transfer and promotion of pastors/ministers pay attention to seniority, except where it is reasonably and spiritually expedient.*
- (11) Refer all cases of indiscipline among the Pastors to the disciplinary committee for immediate action(s).
- (12) The General Overseer may delegate powder to any of his Pastors *or* Evangelists to perform any of his functions.

- (13) The General Overseer shall be the Spiritual head of the church.
14. *He shall recommend for approval of the Executive chairman, special recognition of Pastors of outstanding labour in the ministry to encourage such Pastors and others to do more.*
15. *He may, where the need arises, make recommendation of non pastoral staff/worker to the Executive Chairman for recruitment.*
16. *He shall send advance notification letter of his retirement to the General Council through the Executive Chairman, at least, one year to his retirement age/date.*
17. *He shall appoint such number of Assistant General Overseers for the purpose of achieving his vision for the Ministry.*

PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL OVERSEER

1. *The Administrative Officers shall, within a period of six(6) months to the Retirement of the sitting General overseer, constitute a seven(7) member Ad hoc committee to be presented to the General Council for approval, which said committee shall be saddled with the responsibility of prayerfully selecting the next General Overseer.*
2. *The seven (7) member Ad hoc Committee shall be guided by the constitution qualification requirements for the office of the General Overseer in the selection of a General Overseer.*

SECTION (1) QUALIFICATIONS OF THE GENERAL OVERSEER

- (a) He must be a holder of First Degree (B.Sc, HND) or its equivalent from a recognized seminary Institution; provided that this provision shall not disqualify any individual who shall emerge as a General Overseer with a lesser qualification (lesser qualification in this context shall not be construed to include a school certificate). However, such individual with a lesser qualification shall within the period of five (5) years obtain his first degree.
- (b) The provision of section (1a) shall not apply to the current occupant of the office of General overseer at the time material to the amendment of this constitution
- (c) He must be a trained Pastor.
- (d) He must be above reproach, sensible, dignified, hospitable, apt to teach, not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome and not lover of money.
- (e) He must manage his own household well... (1Tim.3:2-7; Titus.1:6-9).
- (f) *Be a full time minister and shall reside at the headquarters with his family. However, if in the course of prayer for the selection of a General Overseer, a part-time pastor is chosen as the General Overseer, he shall resign from all other engagements and occupation and be a full-time pastor.*

(g) *He shall maintain his office for as long as he remains in faith and comply with the doctrines and constitution of the Church until at the age of Seventy (70) years when he shall retire. He will thereafter become an elder in the Church.*

- *This requirement of age of retirement of seventy (70) years shall be applicable to every other Pastor of the church (Gospel Assembly Intercontinental). (Num.8:23-26; Ps. 90:10).*

(B) DEPUTY GENERAL OVERSEER

The office of the Deputy General Overseer and his functions shall cease to exist at the retirement of the current occupant of the office or if for any other reason the office becomes vacant.

Functions of Deputy General Overseer

- (i) He shall assist the General overseer in keeping of spiritual standard of the church and her members.
- (ii) He shall assist the General overseer in running the church activities such as prayer for the sick, child naming, conduction of marriage programme, baptismal and burial/funeral services.
- (iii) He shall assist in the planning of the church programme with the programme planning committee.
- (iv) He shall visit the churches on the directive of the General overseer.
- (v) He shall keep the church's statistics such as number of churches, pastors' data, Converts, Baptismal, Birth and Death records etc. and produce them on demand.
- (vi) He may accept religious engagement outside the church after the approval of the General overseer.
- (vii) He shall act for the General overseer in his absence.
- (viii) He shall carry-out other duties that may be assigned to him by the General Overseer/ the General council.
- (ix) His qualifications shall be same as those of the General Overseer.
(1Tim.3:2-7, Titus.1:6-9).

(C) OFFICE OF ASSISTANT GENERAL OVERSEERS (AGOs)

The following portfolio may be considered by the General Overseer when appointing his Assistants.

- i. Assistant General Overseer on Spirituals matters
- ii. Assistant General Overseer on Mission
- iii. Assistant General Overseer on prayer
- iv. Assistant General Overseer on Men ministry
- v. Assistant General Overseer on women ministry

- vi. Assistant General Overseer on Youth Ministry
- vii. Assistant General Overseer on Children ministry
- viii. Assistant General Overseer on Welfare
- ix. Assistant General Overseer on Marriages
- x. Assistant General Overseer on Establishment

FUCNTIONS OF THE AGOs

i. Assistant General Overseer on Spirituals matters:

- He shall organized and execute administrative works regarding the Spiritual programs and activities of the Church. The Pastors files shall be in his custody.
- He shall have the oversight of the spiritual development of the entire Assembly especially on progress and ministerial challenges in all fields of the church operations and give situation report to the General Overseer periodically or in the case of any emergency.
- He shall visit the churches regularly across the nation for onsite assessment.
- He shall check the pastors' monthly report and keep the records in his office.
- He shall plan and organize for constant monitoring of all the spiritual activities of the churches to see that the church is effectively growing in accordance to the tenet of faith of the ministry.

ii. Assistant General Overseer on Mission:

He shall oversee the planning of mission work in line with the vision of the church e.g Evangelism, Mission field, Outreaches, Revival, Indoor programs etc

iii. Assistant General Overseer on prayer:

He shall be oversee all prayer engagement of the church and organize prayer bands in the ministry at various points starting from the H/Qtrs and across all the states, regions and zones or Districts etc. He shall prepare prayer bulletin and circulate as the need arises.

iv. Assistant General Overseer on Men ministry:

He shall oversee the men fellowship of the assembly for effective participation in all the church developmental programs for the progress and spiritual growth of the church. He shall be reporting directly to the General Overseer.

*** *There shall be Men fellowship Co-ordinators at all levels of the Church Administration***

v. Assistant General Overseer on women ministry:

Shall be the wife of the General Overseer and shall appoint the Assembly Women Co-ordinator (this shall apply to all levels of the church Administration).

She shall oversee the affairs of women/ladies in the Assembly for effective running of all women programs of the Church and as well plan for women evangelistic, soul winning outreaches.

vi. Assistant General Overseer on Youth Ministry:

He shall plan and work directly with the National Youth President to get the Youth actively involved and participate in the Church programs/activities.

He shall also double as the Youth Pastor and shall oversee trainings and seminars for youths in various fields that can help develop and fulfill their vision.

vii. Assistant General Overseer on Children ministry

He or she shall be a trained children Teacher and also be responsible for training of children coordinators at all levels in the ministry.

He/She shall oversee the general affairs of the children in conjunction with the Children coordinators at all other levels in the ministry for the spiritual and moral up-bringing of the children to catch them young for the kingdom of God and prepare them for better tomorrow.

viii. Assistant General Overseer on Spiritual Welfare

- *Shall oversee and ensure the general spiritual welfare and development of the church especially on the progress and ministerial challenges in all fields of the church operations and give situation report to the General Overseer periodically or in the case of any emergency.*
- *He shall visit the church branches regularly across the nation for on sight assessment.*
- *He shall check the pastors' monthly reports and keep the records in his office.*

ix. Assistant General Overseer on Marriages

- *Shall oversee all marriage matters in conjunction with the national marriage committee, e.g. counseling, interview, medical tests, resolution of family rancor, marriage legal cases and restitution, where necessary.*
- *He shall be reporting to the General Overseer*

x. Assistant General Overseer on Establishment

Shall oversee the training of new Pastors, Evangelists, Missionaries and the retraining of ministers in the Assembly.

- He shall oversee the ministry's establishment/investments
- He shall be reporting to the General Overseer.

xi. Assistant General Overseer on ICT/Media/Publications.

- Shall oversee the church websites, social media handles, literature and publications
- Shall manage the social media image and reputation of the ministry

(D) STATE OVERSEER

- He will oversee both the spiritual and physical aspects of the regions within his state, plan programs for church growth.
- He shall oversee and coordinate the regional overseers in his state.
- He shall preside over all the spiritual/Pastors meetings in his State.
- He shall ensure that all the regions and officers in his state uphold the doctrines and constitution of the church.
- He shall organize prayer meetings, revival and crusade in his State.
- He shall report all spiritual progress of his State to the State Council (the state council shall be made up of the State Overseer, Regional Overseers and at least (3) representatives from each of the Regions).
- He shall forward any issue beyond him to the General Overseer.
- He shall visit churches in his State regularly.
- He shall be the direct link between his State and the General Overseer.
- He shall attend all meetings as required by his office.
- He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the General Overseer.
- He shall be one of the signatories to the State's bank account and report to the General Overseer

(E) REGIONAL OVERSEER

- He will perform the same duties as the state overseer within his region and report directly to the state overseer
- He shall oversee and coordinate the zonal overseers under his Region
- He shall preside over all the spiritual/Pastors meetings in his Region.
- He shall ensure that all the Zones and officers under his Region uphold the doctrines and constitution of the church.
- He shall organize prayer meetings, revival and crusade in his Region.
- He shall report all spiritual progress of his Region to the Regional Council (the Regional council shall be made up of the Regional Overseer, Zonal Overseers and at least (2) representatives from each of the Zones).
- He shall forward any issue beyond him to the State Overseer.
- He shall visit churches in his Region regularly.
- He shall be the direct link between his Region and the State Overseer.
- He shall attend all meetings as required by his office.
- He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the State Overseer.
- He shall be one of the signatories to the Regional bank account and report to the State Overseer

(F) ZONAL OVERSEER

- He shall preside over all the spiritual/Pastors meetings in his zone.

- He shall ensure that all the churches and officers in his zone uphold the doctrines and constitution of the church.
- He shall organize prayer meetings, revival and crusade in his zone.
- He shall report all spiritual progress of his zone to the Regional Overseer.
- He shall forward any issue beyond him to the Regional Overseer.
- He shall visit churches in his Zone regularly.
- He shall be the direct link between his Zone and the Regional Overseer.
- He shall attend all meetings as required by his office.
- He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the Regional Overseer.
- He shall be one of the signatories to the Zonal bank account and report to the Regional Overseer

(D) ASSISTANT ZONAL OVERSEER

- (i) There shall be an assistant zonal overseer to act for the zonal over seer in his absence.
- (ii) He shall perform other duties as the zonal over seer may assign him to.
- (iii) His qualification shall be as that of the zonal over seer.

(E) CHURCH PASTOR

- (I) He shall conduct and lead the local church services regularly.
- (ii) He shall keep himself in the best spiritual state at all times to be able to minister to the total needs of the people.
- (iii) He shall be the direct link between the zone, Headquarters and the people.
- (iv) He shall be fully acquainted with the people and their problems; treating individual matters confidentially.
- (v) He shall keep all the necessary records as required by the church (i.e. Attendant Register, Account Register, Announcement Book, Project Book etc).
- (vi) He shall supply the zonal overseer/General Overseer any needed information on any member of his church.
- (vii) He shall visit his church members regularly and encourage others for effective visitation.
- (viii) He shall submit monthly written report at the monthly Pastors' meetings.
- (ix) He shall constantly encourage members to attend all church's general meetings.
- (x) He shall ensure that cases are handled properly and promptly. Difficult and serious ones to be passed to the Zonal Overseer.
- (xi) He shall attend all Zonal/General meetings and any other meetings of the church that may require his presence.

- (xii) He shall organize prayer band, evangelical team, choir and Bible study in his church.
- (xiii) He shall be a practical example to the members in all that the church teaches and stands for.
- (xiv) He shall ensure that the people receives all the necessary care they need from him especially in times of illness, persecution, needs, birth, promotion, calamity etc.
- xv) He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the Zonal Overseer/General Overseer/Executive Chairman.

Article

2. Executive/Administrative Officers shall include the following:

- a Executive Chairman
- b Executive Vice Chairman
- c General Secretary
- d Assistant General Secretary
- e Treasurer
- f Financial Secretary
- g Welfare Secretary
- h Auditor General
- i Public Relation Officer (*PRO*)
- j Zonal Chairman
- k *Zonal Vice Chairman*
- l Zonal Auditor
- m. *There shall be Regional Executives and State Executive as applicable at the National level, when and where practicable.*

Article-Sub-

- 2.1 Standing and Ad hoc committees may be appointed by the Executive Chairman with the ratification of the General Council.
- 2.2 All the Administrative Officers shall be elected by vote at the General/State/Regional/Zonal Council meetings (Acts 1:26).

Article-Sub- Tenure of Office of Administrative officers

- 2.3 The Administrative officers shall serve for a single term of four years in respect of an office, provided that they may subsequently be re-elected into ***different offices***.
- 2.4 Where the office of the Executive Chairman becomes vacant for any reason, the Vice Chairman shall assume the office of the Chairman for the remainder of the term of his predecessor. This shall not subsequently foreclose the person of the Vice chairman from standing eligible for nomination for the position of executive chairman.

Article-Sub- Qualifications of Administrative officers

1. *shall possess a minimum of Ordinary National Diploma (OND or its equivalent) while the other administrative officers shall possess a minimum of school certificate.*
2. *The provision in sub section 1 above may be applied at the state, regional and zonal levels.*
3. *The executive Chairman, the Executive Vice Chairman, the general Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary should be able to communicate effectively in English, both verbal and in writing.*
4. *Where the holder of the position of the Executive chairman had been a resident pastor, he shall cease to continue as a resident pastor for the duration of his term of office as an executive Chairman, provided that he shall resume his office as a resident pastor upon the completion of his term of office of an executive chairman.*

Article-Sub- Prohibition on Open/Secret Campaign

1. Open/Secret Campaign for vote or lobbying of any kind shall automatically lead to the disqualification of the candidate(s) who are found to be involved in such campaign.

Article-Sub- The supremacy of the General Council and the hierarchy of administrative authority

1. The General Council shall be the highest decision making body of the Church. (Exo. 28:1; Exo. 32:21-22; 1Sam. 16:1-2; Acts 15:1-19).
2. The Executive Chairman is the head of the administration of the Church as it was operated in the Bible, and as directed by the founder of the church. He is also the Chairman of the Council.
3. Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church.
4. Mama Ruth Ometere Elton is the founder of the church.
5. The General Overseer is the Spiritual head of the church.

Article-Sub- Functions of the Administrative Officers:

- (a) THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN
 - (i) The chairman shall preside at all General/Executive Council Meetings.
 - (ii) He shall issue directives to the secretary on matters affecting the running of the council.
 - (iii) He shall keep all the files and records e.g. inventory as shall be submitted to him by each department of the church.
 - (iv) He shall represent the church in all administrative matters.
 - (v) He shall plan and forward all the annual administrative reports to the General council at the end of the year.
 - (vi) He shall sign all letters of appointments and termination after due process.
 - (vii) He may visit the church branches at any time he desires.

- (viii) He shall be one of the signatories to the Church bank account(s).
- (ix) He shall keep custody of cheque books and other important documents.
- (x) He shall, in collaboration with the Board of Trustees, represent the church in all judicial matters.
- (xi) He shall ensure proper maintenance of all church properties.
- (xii) He shall in collaboration with the Board of Trustees be responsible for the acquisition of land on behalf/for the Church.
- (xiii) He shall be liable for prosecution in the court of law for any misappropriation of church funds entrusted to him.

(B) THE VICE CHAIRMAN

- (I) He shall assist the chairman in performing all his functions effectively.
- (ii) He shall also carry-out any other duty that may be assigned to him either by the chairman or the General Council.

(C) THE GENERAL SECRETARY

- (i) Shall be responsible for summoning/preparing agenda for meetings of the General and Executive council on the instruction of the Executive Chairman.
- (ii) Shall deal with official correspondences
- (iii) He shall carry out any directives he may receive from the Executive chairman from time to time.
- (iv) He shall see to it that a faithful record of the proceedings of the General council is kept in minutes books provided for the purpose and the minutes shall be written in such a manner as to facilitate reference to all resolutions passed or decisions taken from time to time.
- (v) He shall also see to it that such decisions or resolutions are conveyed to those concerned for appropriate action except otherwise decided by the General Council.

(D) THE ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY

- (i) He shall act in the absence of the General Secretary.
- (ii) He shall perform other duties as the secretary may assign to him.

(E) THE TREASURER

- (i) The treasurer shall arrange for the safe keeping and withdrawal of all the funds of the church.
- (ii) He shall keep bank tellers, receipts and payment vouchers passed to him by the financial secretary.

- (iii) He shall keep such books of accounts as will enable him at any time to make statement regarding the financial position of the church.
- (iv) He shall be liable for prosecution in the court of law if he fails to give proper account of the church funds entrusted to him. The same shall also apply to the financial secretary if the two connive to defraud the church.
- (v) He shall be one of the signatories to the church's account(s).

(F) THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

- (I) The financial secretary shall be the chairman of the financial committee and shall preside over its meetings.
- (ii) He shall record or arrange for the recording at the end of every month of all tithes and offerings collected. He shall collect or arrange for the collection of any other funds.
- (iii) He shall originate all payment vouchers concerning regular payments and for all other payments on the approval of the executive Chairman.
- (iv) He shall report and submit financial report of the church at the regular meetings of the General Council.
- (v) He shall prepare and submit such other statistics at such other times or intervals of time at the General Council or as the Executive Council shall direct.
- (vi) He shall present a quarterly report of financial position of the Church.
- (vii) He shall be liable for prosecution in the court of law if he misappropriate or connives with any other officer to defraud the church.

(G) Welfare Secretary:

- He shall be responsible for the welfare of the *Overseers, Pastors, Chairmen and non pastoral staff at all levels.*
- *He shall execute the function of his office as contained in number one(1) above by coordinating the welfare officers at all other levels.*
- *Shall organize seminars, workshops, trainings and teachings to enhance the welfare of the church members.*
- *Shall be involved in disseminating information and sensitization of members on International, National and State social welfare programmes.*
- *He shall organize and educate the ministry (at all levels in conjunction with the welfare officers) on how to give and care for the pastors.*

CREATION OF WELFARE OFFICERS

- *There shall be welfare officers at all levels of the church, who shall be responsible to the welfare secretary.*
- *Each branch church council shall nominate a welfare officer of the church.*

- *Each zone of the church shall elect a zonal welfare officer during the zonal executive council election, who shall oversee the activities of the branch welfare officers in the zone. This provision shall apply at the Regional and State levels.*
- *The welfare officers shall be automatic members of the executive officers at all levels of the church.*

(G) AUDITOR GENERAL

- (I) The Auditor General shall present an annual audited report of the church at the General council.
- (ii) He shall be the chairman of the Audit Committee.
- (iii) He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the General Council.

(H) PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER (P.R.O.)

- (I) The Public Relation Officer shall be the information officer of the church.
- (ii) He shall serve as a link between the church and external bodies when the need arises.
- (iii) He shall be responsible for keeping General Council members/Executives informed of meetings and other matters of interest.

(I) STATE CHAIRMAN

- i. He shall preside over all State Executive/Council meetings.
- (ii) He shall plan and forward all administrative reports of his State to the Executive Chairman.
- (iii) He shall visit the Regional churches in his State at anytime he desires.
- (iv) He shall supervise all projects in his State in conjunction with the State overseer.
- (v) He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the Executive Chairman/General Council.
- (vi) He shall keep custody of State cheque books and other vital documents.
- (vii) He shall be a signatory to the State Bank account(s).

(J) REGIONAL CHAIRMAN

- i. He shall preside over all Regional executive/council meetings.
- (ii) He shall plan and forward all administrative reports of his State Chairman.
- (iii) He shall visit the zone churches in his Region at anytime he desires.
- (iv) He shall supervise all projects in his Region in conjunction with the Regional overseer.

- (v) He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the State Chairman/State Council.
- (vi) He shall keep custody of the Region's cheque books and other vital documents.
- (vii) He shall be a signatory to the Regional Bank account(s).

(I) ZONAL CHAIRMAN

- (i) He shall preside over all zonal executive/council meetings.
- (ii) He shall plan and forward all administrative reports of his zone to the Regional Chairman.
- (iii) He shall visit the branch churches in his zone at anytime he desires.
- (iv) He shall supervise all projects in his zone in conjunction with the zonal overseer.
- (v) He shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the Regional Chairman/ Regional Council.
- (vi) He shall keep custody of cheque books and other vital documents.
- (vii) He shall be a signatory to the Zone Bank account(s).

(J) THE STATE/REGIONAL/ZONAL AUDITORS

- (I) He shall audit the accounts of all churches in the regions under his state, region and zones.
- (ii) State Auditor shall brief the Auditor General of his audited reports. Same applies the regions and zones in hierarchy.
- (iii) He shall forward his audited report to the State Council and he shall perform other duties that may be assigned to him by the State Council. Same applies to the Regions and Zones.

ARTICLE 7: CHURCH COUNCILS

1: THE GENERAL COUNCIL (GOVERNING BODY)

- a. The Council is the highest decision making body of the church (Gospel Assembly Intercontinental)
- b. It has authority to approve scriptural doctrines and conducts and also to disapprove unscriptural doctrines and conducts.
- c. It could hold or revoke any decision, recommendation or discipline made or impose on any church member, pastor, worker, evangelist, officer of the church or any other group or body within the Gospel Assembly Intercontinental.
- d. Any decision reached by the Council is final and binding.
- e. The Council has no right to impose any body on a church.
- f. The Council shall reach a final decision by voting where there are divergent views on a matter.

- g. The Council shall Comprise of all the National Executives, State, Regional, Zonal Overseers and Chairmen, Church pastors, National youth president, National Youth Secretary and two other eligible members of local churches whose pastors are part-time pastors and three eligible members of local churches whose pastor are full-time pastors and the Registered Trustees.

2: THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ITS PROCEEDINGS

- (a) The meeting of the General Council shall be on a quarterly basis.
- (b) The Executive Chairman shall preside in all the Council and Executive meetings. In the absence of the chairman, the vice chairman shall act on his behalf but in the absence of both the chairman and the vice chairman, a chairman for the meeting shall be selected from the members of the national executives present, to preside over the meeting.
- (c) Elections of officers will come up every four (4) years in the month of January.
- (d) 21 days written notice of the Council meeting shall be given to all members eligible to attend the Council meeting.
- (e) Voting shall be by “Balloting” or showing of hands as the Council deems it fit. A simple majority of members present shall be sufficient except as otherwise prescribed in the Constitution.
- (f) In the event of a tie in the vote, the chairman shall have a casting vote.
- (f) However, the Executive Chairman, Vice Chairman, General Overseer, Assistant General Overseers and the General Secretary are expected to meet regularly to harmonize on issues for the smooth running of the church.

3: QUORUM

The quorum shall be by simple majority (one third: 1/3) of the registered members of the General Council Meetings.

4: MODALITIES FOR SELECTING CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

The General Council as the highest decision making body of the church should be constituted by men of reputable character within and outside the church, who shall be able to protect the doctrines and the beliefs of the church at all time as good ambassadors of the Gospel. Therefore the following modalities shall be applied in the cause of selecting council members:

- (1) His/her life should be conformed to the Word of God.
- (2) He/she must be a fully recognized member of the church
- (3) *Two members of a nuclear family shall not constitute members of a church branch Council.*
- (4) He should be a husband of one wife.

- (5) He/she should be someone that manages his/her home well.
- (6) He/she should be a mature Christian, *baptized by immersion*, not a new convert.
- (7) The National Youth President and the Secretary shall be automatic members of the General council. But only the President at all other levels of the church shall be automatic members of the Councils.
- (8) A member of the Council shall not be less than 21 years of age.
- (9) He or she must not be a divorcee.
- (10) He must not be a brawler.
- (11) A matured Christian of not less than 18 years of age shall be qualified to nominate a committee candidate in the church.

5: THE EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

This shall comprise of the following as its members:

- (a) The Executive Chairman.
- (b) The Executive Vice Chairman
- (c) The General overseer
- (d) The Deputy General Overseer.
- (e) The General Secretary
- (f) The Assistant General Secretary
- (g) The Treasurer
- (h) The Financial Secretary
- (i) *The Welfare Secretary*
- (j) The Auditor General
- (k) The Public Religion Officer.
- (l) All State, Regional and Zonal Council Overseers.
- (m) All State, Regional and Zonal Council Chairmen.
- (n) All Standing Committees' Chairmen.

FUNCTIONS OF THE EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

- a. *It shall ensure for the realization of the overall vision and mission of the church.*
- b. *It shall be responsible for the annual budget planning of the church.*
- c. *The executive chairman, the executive vice chairman, the General Secretary and the General Overseer shall meet to deliberate and draw the agenda for the meeting of the Expanded Executive Council.*
- d. *It shall also carry out other special assignments that may be delegated by the General Council and report back to her.*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXPANDED EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

- 1. The Executive Chairman shall preside over the Expanded Executive Council meeting or in his place, the executive vice chairman where occasion reasonably demands, while the General Secretary shall serve as its secretary.*
- 2. The meeting of this Council shall hold twice in a year.*
- 3. The meetings shall hold during budget planning and six months after budget for evaluation of the budget implementation.*

NOTE: detailed modus operandi of the proceedings should be stated such as what the chairman and the G.O. should present to this Council and the right of any member to seek clarification or question any issue.

7. THE ZONAL COUNCIL:

- (a) All the local churches will be represented at this council by maximum of five members including the Pastor subject to the population of a local church.
- (b) The zonal chairman shall preside over the council meeting.
- (c) The council has authority over the local church council.
- (d) She shall review any matter forwarded to her by the local church council.
- (e) She shall see to the smooth-running of all the churches in the zone.
- (f) Has the right to discipline any erring member(s) of a local church, and any other group or body responsible to her.
- (g) She can forward the case of any erring Pastor to the General Overseer.
- (h) The council could make recommendations to the General Council.

8. THE LOCAL CHURCH COUNCIL:

- (a) The council shall consist of 13 members maximum and 7 minimum (subject to the church population and approval) of the church Pastor.
- (b) The local church Pastor shall be the chairman.
- (c) The body has authority over the members of the local church.
- (d) They shall work in full co-operation with the Pastor.
- (e) They shall see to the smooth running of the local church.
- (f) They shall not call or have any meeting without the knowledge and consent of the pastor.
- (g) They could forward recommendation on matters affecting the local church to the Zonal council.
- (h) They have the right to discipline any erring member of the local church.

ARTICLE 8: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1: Appointment of the Board of Trustees.

The trustees of GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL for the purpose of the companies and Allied Matters Act. No 1 of 1990, Part G, shall be appointed at a General Council meeting.

Section 2: Quorum:

1. It shall be 2/3 majority of the members of BOARD OF TRUSTEES.
2. Such Trustees (hereinafter referred) to as “THE TRUSTEES” shall not be less than three (3) nor more than ten (10) in number and shall be known as the Incorporated Trustees of GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL
3. The Trustees shall hold office for life but a Trustee cease to hold office If he/she:
 - (a) Resigns his office.
 - (b) Ceases to be a member of the Incorporated Trustees of the church.
 - (c) Become insane.
 - (d) Is officially declared bankrupt.
 - (e) Is convicted of a criminal offence involving dishonesty by a court of competence jurisdiction or community forum.
 - (f) Is recommended for removal from office by Council of Elders and disciplinary committee and majority vote of members at the General council Meeting of the church.
 - (g) Ceases to reside in Nigeria.
- (5). Upon a vacancy occurring in the numbers of Trustees a General council meeting will be held to elect eligible person as a member in the body of Christ.

Section 3: Functions of the Trustees

1. The Trustees shall apply to the registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission for a certificate of Incorporation under the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.
2. If such certificate is granted. The Trustees shall have power to accept and hold in trust all land belonging to the church. And to acquire land on behalf of the Church subject to such condition as the Corporate Affairs Commission may impose.
3. The Trustees shall meet and elect their chairman after appointment

Section 4: Meetings:

1. There shall be an annual General meeting of the trustee which shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Trustees may decide.
2. The board of Trustees may summon any other meetings as they deem proper in the interest of the church.
3. The Board of Trustees shall give 21 days' notice of the meeting to members in advance.

Section 5: Qualifications Of The Members Of Council Of Elders/board Of Trustees

- (i) Must have demonstrated and maintained a high Moral stand in the society.

- (ii) Must have demonstrated a balanced socio-economic/ financial status that is beyond reproach; {not financially Bankrupt, not a busy Body}.
- (iii) Must be notably humble; {not puffed-up, not arrogant, not pompous, armed with a gentle-teachable disposition, not disrespectful, not high-handed, not heady, not stubborn, not rude, not insolent, not self-willed. Not indifferent or deaf to other opinions but believes in and respects other people's honour and rights}
- (iv) Must be notably disciplined; {a good listener, not wrathful, not unruly, not violent. Not irritable and not easily provoked}.
- (v) Must be notably un-selfish; {not a gold-digger, not a self-glory seeker, not ambitious for sordid-gains or lucre, not a seeker after positions of honour, loving, kind-hearted, compassionate, considerate, hospitable, accommodating, unselfish, taught and well informed Christian}.
- (vi) Must be notably honest and trust worthy; {not deceitful, not manipulative, not cunning or crafty, not shoddy or dubious, never involved in any under-hand dealings}.
- (vii) Must be a diligent student of the Bible.
- (viii) Must be a consistent faithful disciple of Christ by his practical Christian living.
- (ix) Must be an ardent teacher of the scripture.
- (x) Must be a fearless, non-compromising speaker and defender of the truth.
- (xi) Must be an esteemed member of an evangelical Christian church.
- (xii) Must be an out-standing practical Christian in faith and in deed.
- (xiii) Must uphold an evangelical stance on matters of the Christian faith unquestionable.
- (xiv) Must demonstrate a high degree of personal integrity.
- (xv) Must not be an alcoholic or a user of hard drugs or a smoker of cigarettes or weeds.
- (xvi) Must eschew ostentatious or flamboyant life style. {Must adopt the principle of living simply that others might simply live.}
- (xvii) Must be prepared to be single-heartedly, sacrificially and decisively committed to the set Kingdom-goals without distractions. (1Tim. 3:2-7; Tit. 1:6-9)

ARTICLE 9: COMMON SEAL:

1. The church shall have a common seal.
2. Such seal shall be kept in the office of the executive chairman, who shall produce it when required for use by the Trustees.
3. All documents to be executed by the Trustees shall be signed by the executive chairman and the General Overseer and sealed with the common seal.

ARTICLE 10: FINANCE

- (i) The church shall open current and savings bank accounts which shall be operated on signatories of the Executive Chairman, General Overseer and Treasurer.
- (ii) The funds of the church shall be obtained through the following means:
 - (a) By tithes, offerings and harvest.
 - (b) By voluntary gifts
 - (c) Proceeds from investment
 - (d) levies
- (e) unbelievers and government agencies shall not be consulted for any financial help.
- (f) spraying of money in any of the church's programmes is prohibited.
- (g) We shall avoid lunching.
- (iii) The management of the Church funds.
 - (a) 2/3 of monthly tithes and offering from the local branches shall be forwarded to the Headquarters while the remaining 1/3 shall be retained by the church.
 - (b) 90% of Annual Harvest from each local branches shall be forwarded to the Headquarters while 10% will be retained by the church.
 - (c) Special programmes such as marriage and thanksgiving offering should be retained in the local church box as part of the monthly collections after taking care of the Host Pastor and the officiating Ministers' transport fare.
 - (d) Proceed from investment shall be retained by the Headquarters.

ARTICLE 11A: CHURCH COMMITTEES

The following church committees shall be constituted from time to time by the Church.

- (i) Bible Studies Committee
- (ii) Marriage Committee
- (iii) Programme Planning Committee
- (iv) Labour Committee
- (v) Technical Committee
- (vi) Automobile committee
- (vii) Finance Committee
- (viii) Food Committee
- (ix) Education Committee
- (x) Training Committee
- (xi) Disciplinary Committee
- (xii) Welfare Committee
- (xiii) Monitoring/Evaluation Committee
- (xiv) Medical Committee
- (xv) Media Committee
- (xvi) Security Committee

Section 1: BIBLE STUDY COMMITTEE

The Bible study committee shall be set up by the General Overseer. They shall be responsible for the preparation of Bible study outline for the church.

MARRIAGE COMMITTEE:

The marriage committee shall be constituted at the three (3) tiers of the church that is Local, Zonal and the headquarters levels of the church.

- (i) The marriage committee shall comprise of five members at the local church level with the Pastor inclusive who shall be the chairman of the committee.
- (ii) The Zonal marriage committee members shall comprise of the zonal chairman, zonal overseer, the zonal secretary and two other pastors of the zone.
- (iii) The General Overseer shall constitute the members of the marriage committee at the headquarters level as he deems it fit.

FUNCTIONS OF THE MARRIAGE COMMITTEE

- (i) The marriage committee shall be responsible for the conduct of marriage interview/counseling the intending couples.
- (ii) Shall counsel the married couples who have problem.
- (iii) Shall follow up newly married couple(s).

PROGRAMME PLANNING COMMITTEE

The committee shall be constituted by the General Overseer. They shall be responsible for the planning of programmes of the church under the instruction of the General Overseer.

LABOUR COMMITTEE

This committee shall be constituted by the General Council. Their duties shall be to Handle/Supervise all civil works of the church both at the Headquarters and local branch churches.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The technical committee shall be constituted by the General Council and they shall be responsible for the procurement and maintenance of electrical and electronic equipment.

AUTOMOBILE COMMITTEE

The committee shall be constituted by the General Council and they shall be responsible for the procurement and maintenance of automobiles.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- (i) This committee shall comprise of the Financial Secretary as Chairman, Treasurer, General Auditor with two other members of the General Council.
- (ii) They shall be saddled with the responsibility of making sure that due process is followed before any money is released from the church fund. The procedure to be observed in releasing the church fund are as follows:
 - a . Before any money is released there must be an application or request letter from the beneficiary to the Executive Chairman.
 - b. The purpose of the request must be made clear in the request letter.
 - c. If the request is approved by the Executive Chairman, then he shall direct the Financial Secretary to raise payment voucher.
 - d. The financial secretary having raised the payment voucher, will in turn take it back to the office of the Executive Chairman for Control.
 - e. The treasurer will now make payment to the beneficiary(Payee).
 - f. The payee should be made to sign the recipient column of the payment voucher.
- (iii) They also ensure that necessary documents and records are maintained for every money used for the church.

FOOD COMMITTEE

- (a) The leadership of the committee shall be constituted by the General Council, other members shall be nominated by their various zone to represent them at the Headquarters.
- (b) The numbers of representatives from each zone shall be determined from time to time as the needs may arise.
- (c) There shall be medical check up of the members of this committee twice a year.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

It shall be constituted by the General Council. The members of the committee shall be educationists.

- (i) Shall see to the well-being of all our schools.
- (ii) Shall serve as the link between the church and the school management.
- (iii) They shall supervise the schools for the church.
- (iv) They shall be responsible for the recruitment of the school workers/staff.
- (v) They shall give a comprehensive report of the schools at the General Council meetings.

THE TRAINING COMMITTEE.

This body shall consist of the General Overseer, Deputy General Overseer and three other senior Pastors chosen by the General Overseer.

- (i) They shall recommend to the General Council those who are due for training.
- (ii) They shall forward the cost of such course(s) including tuition fee, feeding, accommodation, Learning materials and transportation to the General Council for approval.

DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The disciplinary committee shall handle issues that demand disciplinary measures in the church to make sure the doctrines, Biblical beliefs, constitution, rules and regulations of the church are upheld by members of the church.

The committee shall be constituted at the branch church level, Zonal level and the Headquarters. Issues that cannot be handled at the branch church shall be referred to the Zone and any issue that the Zone cannot handle shall be forwarded to the Headquarters for prompt intervention.

PURPOSE FOR DISCIPLINE

- 1. To correct the wrong doers.
- 2. To prevent further occurrence.
- 3. To serve as a deterrent and lesson to the offenders and others.

DISCIPLINARY MEASURE

Disciplinary committee shall take the appropriate disciplinary measure against any erring member. No member of the church shall be above disciplinary measure for violating the word of God or the constitution of the church.

PROCEDURE FOR DISCIPLINE

- (i) That every dispute between members that cannot be resolved at local or Zonal levels shall be referred to the disciplinary committee at the Headquarter through the General Overseer.
- (ii) Disciplinary cases that cannot be handled at the local and zonal church shall be referred to the Headquarters through the General Overseer.
- (iii) The disciplinary committee shall investigate all matters referred to it giving all parties concerned fair hearing.
- (iv) The disciplinary committee shall report its disciplinary measure meted on the offender to the executive council.

RESTORATION

The church Pastor shall maintain contact with the brethren under discipline with the view to encouraging them not to yield more ground to the enemy. The leadership shall ensure the restoration of the disciplined brethren as soon as there is evidence of genuine repentance.

SANCTIONS

Sanction shall be taken against any branch of the church, group of the church or individual that default in the upholding the constitution of the church. The following disciplinary actions shall be taken against any offender.

- (i) The withdrawal of rights and privileges such as the refusal to admit the representative of the church branch, group or individual defaults as the case may be to meetings of various levels of the church.
- (ii) Excommunication: It shall be taken as a last step of discipline against individuals, groups or branch church within the church who persists in acts of flagrant violation of the constitution, rules and regulations of the church or by holding membership of secret society or cult or persistence in teaching heresy (Titus.3:10-11).

WELFARE COMMITTEE

This is the committee saddled with the responsibility of rendering relevant social services, assistance and support to members of the church.

- (i) The widows and orphan shall be assisted where necessary at the appropriate level of the church. (Deut.14:28-29, Act.6:1-7; James.1:27).
- (ii) They are to arrange and organise for the sentforth programme for the transferred Pastor(s).
- (iii) They make arrangement for the assistance of the needy in the church.
- (iv) Caring and reception for installation of new Pastors.
- (v) Keep track of all supplies necessary for special church event.
- (vi) Recruit and training of church greeters.
- (vii) Design and oversee the collection of church visitors contact information.
- (viii) Care for new members of the church.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

This committee shall comprise of all Chairmen of various committees with the executive Chairman as the head, the committee is to ensure that funds are used for the purpose meant for according to the approved budget.

MEDICAL COMMITTEE :

This committee shall comprise of medical personnel and shall be set up by the General council.

MEDIA COMMITTEE:

The media committee shall be constituted by the general council and they shall be responsible for publications e.g recording of programmes on tapes, videos, literatures, radio and television broadcasts.

SECURITY COMMITTEE:

This committee shall comprise of retired/serving military and para-military personnel. They shall be responsible for security operations of the church.

ARTICLE 11B: BUDGETING PROCEDURE

- (1) The General Overseer, Chairmen of various committees and the unit heads shall forward their budget proposal on annual basis to the office of the Executive chairman for consideration during the church annual budget meeting.
- (2) The Executive chairman in collaboration with the finance committee members shall collate and compile together the budget requests from various units and or departments, to enable the church ascertain her annual budget proposal.
- (3) The Executive chairman shall summon the chairmen of various committees to meet with the church executives to deliberate on the submitted budget proposal for final approval.

ARTICLE 12: COUNCIL OF ELDERS

This council shall consist of elderly members of the church full of the Holy Spirit and well experienced in the Lord. They shall be appointed by the Executive Council to be ratified and approved by the General Council. The number of members shall be decided by the general council as she deemed it fit. Their responsibilities shall be as follows:

- (a) They shall advise the General council on matters affecting the smooth-running of the church.
- (b) Having prayed fervently they shall recommend to/advise the General Council on appropriate person to be appointed as the General Overseer and the Deputy when the need arises.
- (ci) Succession to the office of the General Overseer by the Deputy General Overseer shall not be automatic. However, the Deputy General Overseer shall act until a substantive General Overseer is appointed in case sudden vacation of office by the General Overseer.
- (cii) Successor to the General Overseer shall be made ready before the incumbent leaves office.
- (d) They shall work in full co-operation with the church executives.
- (e) They could forward recommendations on matters affecting the welfare of the church workers to the General Council.
- (f) Sensitive issues that have to do with the top officers of the church shall be handled by the Council of Elders/Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE13: HANDING OVER

(A) An officer in the Church shall upon relinquishing his post shall promptly hand-over all official properties and documents in his custody to his successor or superior officer, for this purpose the officer shall prepare a comprehensive handing over report in triplicate declaring the receipt of the said property and sign, the report which shall also be signed by his successor and/or his superior. The original report duly signed shall be forwarded to the appropriate body. The remaining copies shall be with the outgoing officer and the relieving officer concerned, if the outgoing officer refuse to hand over as required such refusal shall be visited with a disciplinary action such as withholding of entitlement, prohibition from performing official function etc.

(B) VACATION FROM OFFICIAL RESIDENCE

Any Minister of the church that resides in an official residence during the time of his service to the church shall vacate the official resident a month before his official date of exit.

ARTICLE 14: LITIGATION

No member of the church is allowed to arrest, sue the church or member of the church or report to community forum any member of the church over a civil matter 1Cor.6:1-8. No member should oppress a fellow member of the church.

ARTICLE 15: AMENDMENTS

The constitution may be amended, altered or replaced in whole or part by any person(s) deciding to make such amendment, which shall take place at the General council Meeting and with a motion of two-third of the votes entitled to be cast by the member present at a General Meeting called for that purpose and approval by the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja.

ARTICLE 16: RULES AND REGULATIONS GUIDING THE OPERATION OF GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL.

16.1 CODE OF CONDUCT:

All church Workers/Pastors shall observe the following code of conducts:

1. Workers/pastors shall display complete loyalty and sincerity to God and the church.
2. Workers/Pastors will follow the rules and regulations at all time.
3. Workers/Pastors shall adhere to the schedule working period.
4. Workers/Pastor shall respect superiors and follow their instructions with total humility.

5. Workers/Pastor shall observe strict moral and ethical standard as stipulated in scriptures.
6. Workers/Pastors will obey to the letter every law guiding them.
7. Workers/Pastors shall work in such a way as to ensure complete personal integrity.
8. No worker will publish or cause to be published an article on any matter relating to the church in any local or overseas newspaper, journal, public media without the written permission from the (i) General council (ii) Board of trustee (iii) General Overseer unless such publication has no bearing on the church i.e. Gospel Assembly Intercontinental.
9. All members and non-members who desired to worship with us in our Church must be properly and Godly dressed (1Pet. 3:1-7; Phi. 4:5; 1Tim. 2:9).

16.2 MISCONDUCT:

The following act of omissions shall constitute misconduct:

1. Insubordination or disobedience whether or not in combination with others, of any lawful or reasonable order of a superior.
2. Abetting, inciting, instigation or acting in furtherance thereof. The church workers/Pastors cannot strike.
3. Interfering with work performance of another worker/Pastor.
4. Neglect of work or gross habitual negligence.
5. Habitual breach of any rules of instruction for the maintenance and running of any section, or the maintenance of the clearing of church premises and protective fencing of any branch.
6. Willful damage in order to scatter the branch church thereby converting members to oneself.
7. Holding meetings in a place other than the prescribed location by the church.
8. Distributing or exhibiting handbills, pamphlets, posters and such other things at the premises of the headquarters or church without the prior permission of the relevant body.
9. Refusal to accept scriptural order of any official communication served by the relevant body.
10. An act of sexual harassment made either explicit or implicit.
11. Willful damage of church property.
12. Subletting of church provided accommodation.
13. Indifferent when your church branch is dying.
14. Workers or clergies will not normally be dismissed for a first offence but there are certain cases of sufficient gravity where summary dismissal could result after a thorough investigation by the disciplinary committee in place such as follows:

- (a) Misconduct which is incompatible with faithfulness e.g. Insubordination or willful disobedience of scripture.
- (b) Pastor must not drink alcohol or being under influence of drugs or narcotics.
- (c) Theft or fraud; confiscation of church property.
- (d) Dishonesty between clergy and member, clergy and clergy, clergy and the church worker and whoever etc.
- (e) Gross negligence or sabotage.
- (f) Cultism/Secret societies which is an abomination to God.
- (g) Criminal conviction.

16.3 DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE:

The following disciplinary procedure shall be taken against any erring worker:

- (i) WARNING
- (ii) COMPULSORY LEAVE
- (iii) SUSPENSION
- (iv) INTERDICTION
- (v) TERMINATION

16.4 EMPLOYMENT:

Employment of workers into the church shall be handled by the leadership of the church while the Executive Chairman signs the letter.

- a. The procedure for employing a Pastor
 - 1. The applicant shall forward an application to the office of the General Overseer.
 - 2. The office of the General Overseer shall invite the applicant for an interview in verbal and writing.
 - 3. The General Overseer and his panel shall conduct interview for the applicant.
 - 4. If the candidate(s) is found suitable the office of the General Overseer shall recommend him/her to the office of the Executive Chairman for necessary action.
 - 5. The applicant if granted an appointment shall forward an acceptance letter to the office of the Executive Chairman for necessary action.
- b. The procedure for employing Clerical/Admin Staff:
 - 1. The applicant shall forward an application to the office of the Executive Chairman.
 - 2. The office of the Executive Chairman shall invite the applicant for an interview in verbal and writing.
 - 3. The interview panel shall conduct interview for the applicant.
 - 4. If the candidate(s) is found suitable the interview panel shall recommend him/her to the office of the Executive Chairman for necessary action.

5. The applicant if granted an appointment shall forward an acceptance letter to the office of the Executive Chairman for necessary action.
- C. All employment requests shall be approved by the Executive Council prior to the employment procedure.

16.5 PROBATION:

All Workers/Pastors engaged by the church shall be required to undergo a probation period of three months at the expiration of the probation, if the worker/pastor is found unsuitable, the church may extend the probation period by another three months. If after the three added months probation the worker/pastor is still not found suitable, his appointment shall be terminated. All workers/pastors not confirmed shall have their appointment terminated and paid one month allowance as benefit, On successful completion of probation, the worker/pastor shall be informed in writing of his confirmation and shall be deemed to have been employed from the original date of employment.

16.6 DISENGAGEMENT FROM SERVICE

Any worker/pastor is at liberty to disengage his service from the church at any time. When a worker/pastor who is under probation desire to leave, he shall be required to give two weeks notice or pay two weeks basic pay in lieu of notice. However, any worker/pastor with confirmed appointment who desires to withdraw his service from the church shall be required to give two months notice or pay two months allowance Where a gross misconduct is established against any worker/pastor by a committee set up by the church or where the service of any worker/pastor is no longer required, the leadership of the church shall disengage the appointment of the worker/pastor without notice. However, the worker/pastor so disengaged shall be entitled to two months allowance in lieu of notice not later than one week from the date of disengagement. For the purpose of clarity, gross misconduct shall include the following: denying faith, stealing, immorality, incompetence and any other act (s) that may be considered inimical to the body of Christ.

16.7 RETIREMENT: Numb. 8:23-26; Ps.90:10

A Pastor in the service of the church who has attained the age of Seventy(70) years as stated in the church constitution shall retire from the service of the church. Any Pastor who has attained the age of seventy(70) years and still in the service of the church for a period not less than fifteen (15) years and has attained the age of seventy(70) years shall be entitled to pension payment. All non Pastoral staff of the church shall maintain the status quo as the public service. e.g. 35 years in service or sixty years of age. Pastors and other staff of the church while approaching their date of retirement shall be communicated by the church in writing a year ahead before their actual date of retirement to enable them adequately prepare for their benefits and entitlements.

16.8 ABANDONMENT:

Any Pastor and other staff who without prior notice or permission absents himself or herself from work for fifteen (15) consecutive days or more shall be considered to have abandoned his/her employment and shall be dismissed.

16.9 GRATUITY:

Gratuity shall be paid to Pastors in recognition of their long years of service to the church. However, only Full-Time Pastors who have put in a minimum of five (5) years of continuous service to the church shall be qualified for gratuity payment. The rate shall be 70% of monthly basic pay for every year served for Pastors below ten (10) years in service while Pastors who have served for ten years and above shall be paid at a rate of 100% monthly basic pay for every year served. All Pastors who are qualified for gratuity shall be paid full irrespective of the cause of their leaving the services of the church except on dismissal or abscondment. However part-time pastors are not eligible for gratuity but shall be given qualitative gift when leaving the services on retirement. Retired part-time pastor who have not enjoyed gratuity from any establishment shall be paid gratuity and pension having attained the required years of service as stipulated in the constitution.

16.10 PENSION:

Pension shall be paid to all Pastors of the church who have put in at least fifteen (15) years of continuous service to the church and who have attained the age of forty-five (45) years. The payment is in recognition of the long years of dedicated service to the Lord in His vineyard. It is also a payment that shows the appreciation of the church to the Pastor for the rest of his life on earth. Therefore pension shall be a continuous payment to the Pastor until death. The rate shall be thirty percent (30%) of the Pastor's last gross pay before retirement. But those who are already on pension in any other establishment cannot enjoy pension scheme from the church except those who resigned their work as a result of God's call.

16.11 DEATH BENEFIT:

- a. If a Pastor dies while in service, the church shall be responsible for the burial. In addition, three months basic pay shall be given to the next of kin of a deceased pastor who is confirmed to have put in nothing less than five (5) years of service while the next of kin of the deceased Pastor who have put in more than five (5) years shall be paid five months basic pay as a death benefit. Where a Pastor is housed by the church, the family shall retain the accommodation for a period not more than three (3) months from the date the terminal benefit is paid
- b. Six months pension will be paid to next of kin of all retirees that died. The burial expenses shall be taken care of by the church.

16.12 HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT:

The greatest asset of any organization is the human resources available to it. The church as an organization is no exception. Therefore the minimum entry qualification for all those seeking ministerial employment with the church shall be a diploma certificate in theology or related discipline. However, Pastors who join with lower qualification shall be encouraged and given adequate time to update their qualification in any of the recognized theological institutions. This is because an educated and enlightened work force is crucial to the development and growth of the church. It is the policy of the church on a continuing basis to develop, train and retrain all Pastors in her employment.

All training programmes for Pastors of the church shall be justified on the basis of prior NEEDS ANALYSIS. This is to ensure that the church does not waste resources on training programmes that does not yield the desired result.

Therefore, the training policy of the church shall:

- (a) Identify the trainees
- (b) Determine the types of changes desired
- (c) Determine the content of the training
- (d) Determine the degree of improvement desired and
- (e) Evaluate the overall priority placed upon the particular training programme. Entry qualification for other employees shall be determined by the responsibilities assigned to their offices.

16.13 WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES:

Pastor(s) desiring to attend a seminar, workshop or conference shall apply to the church in writing giving adequate notice. Where the church is convinced that such a programme is desirable, full sponsorship shall be granted and the decision conveyed in writing to the Pastor one week before the commencement of the programme. The sponsorship shall include: (a) passage (b) accommodation (c) fees (d) feeding and (e) incidental expenses of N100.00 per day.

A Pastor who attends any of such sponsored programme shall be required to submit a written report to the church through his supervising officer.

16.14 SPONSORED STUDIES:

A Pastor desiring sponsorship to further his studies shall apply to the training committee in writing attaching relevant documents. The committees' decision shall be based on the overall human resources need of the church. If the course is considered relevant and affordable; partial or full sponsorship may be granted as the committee deem it fit.

- (a) Partial sponsorship shall mean that the Pastor will be allowed to proceed for further studies without any form of grant from the church. He shall however continue to receive his monthly allowances throughout the period of his studies.
- (b) Full sponsorship means that the Pastor would receive his monthly allowances and will in addition have his tuition fee paid by the church. The Pastor shall be required to bear all other expenses. While on holidays he shall be required to report for normal duties.
- (c) Where the class period does not conflict with normal working hours and the Pastor still seek sponsorship, he shall be required to apply to the committee and if approved he shall receive a sponsorship grant of 50% of the tuition fees throughout the period of study. In all cases, committee's decision shall be communicated to the Pastor not later than four weeks after receiving his application.
- (d) On the completion of any of the three sponsored programmes above, the pastor shall be required to serve the church for at least a period of two years.
- (e) Whoever absconds shall be prosecuted or be asked to refund the money spent on him.

16.15 STUDY WITHOUT SPONSORSHIP:

A Pastor who desires to go for further studies without any form of sponsorship from the church shall apply to the committee in writing attaching relevant admission and sponsorship details. If the course is relevant and needful to the church the committee may approve. If approved, the Pastor shall proceed for further studies but will not receive any allowances during the period. The period of his studies shall not be considered when computing his terminal benefits. On completion of his studies, he shall notify the committee who will upgrade and redeploy him appropriately. If he desires to resume work for reasons other than the completion of his studies, he shall be redeployed on his last allowance before proceeding on study leave. A Pastor who desires to use his time outside official working hours to further his studies without sponsorship from the church may still inform the committee his desire to further his studies, if approval is granted the Pastor shall on completion of his studies be eligible for appropriate placement. In all cases, committee decision shall be communicated to the Pastor not later than four weeks after receiving his application

16.16 LOANS AND ADVANCES:

The finance committee shall endeavour to grant loan and advances to Pastors/Workers where the need is compelling and resources are available. All loans to be granted to pastors/workers shall be at the discretion of the committee.

16.17 PERSONAL LOAN:

Any Pastor/Worker seeking loan shall apply in writing to the finance committee through his supervising officer. The maximum amount that can be granted as personal loan to any pastor/worker shall be three (3) months basic pay. Repayment shall not exceed twelve monthly installments. Any Pastor/Worker with outstanding personal loan shall not be eligible for fresh loan until the outstanding is cleared.

16.18 ALLOWANCE ADVANCE:

A Pastor/Worker can on compassionate grounds be granted allowance advance. The pastor/worker desiring allowance advance shall apply in writing to the committee through his supervising officer. The maximum amount that can be granted shall be one month's basic pay. Repayment shall not exceed three (3) monthly installments. A pastor/worker with outstanding advance shall not be eligible for fresh advance without clearing the outstanding.

16.19 ANNUAL LEAVE:

All categories of Pastors' shall be qualified for annual leave which shall be classified as follows:

General Overseer -----30 working days
Assistant General Overseer-----30 working days
Senior Pastors-----21 working days
Others-----14 working days

16.20 MARRIAGE POLICY: Reference to the marriage policy manual of the church.

16.21

(A) CHILD NAMING AND DEDICATION:

Every newly born baby into the church shall be brought to the church for naming and dedication at the 8th day of delivery (Luke.2:21-22; John.10:29). However where it is not convenient, the parents opinion as regards the date will be respected.

(B) BURIAL:

The following principles shall be observed in the case of the death of any member of the church.

- (i) Each local church shall buy ten yards of clothe for the burial of any deceased member. If the deceased have no people, the church shall be responsible for the burial.
- (ii) If the family of any deceased chooses to take the corps to the mortuary, the church shall allow it when necessary and not later than one week.
- (iii) The use of coffin for burial is optional depending on the decision of the deceased family.

- (iv) The memorial service of any deceased member of the church after burial shall hold within 40 days of his/her death.

C. GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL YOUTH-WING

C1. NAME OF THE YOUTH BODY

The name of this youth body shall be called Gospel Assembly Intercontinental Youth Wing. This applies to all level of the youth wing i.e. national, zonal and branch levels. Hence, the branch and zonal youth wings shall name themselves after the branch church or zone as the case may be e.g. Gospel Assembly Intercontinental Youth Wing Ogaminana branch or Gospel Assembly Intercontinental Youth Wing Zone Two respectively.

C2. MOTTO:

The motto of the youth wing shall be the same as the motto of the mother church, namely, “Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature” Mark 16:15.

C3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To serve a complementary role to the activities of the church.
2. To participate more vigorously in the evangelism department of the church.
3. To uphold the doctrine of the bible as handed down to them by the church.
4. To propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ without fear or Intimidation
5. To shun all forms of stubbornness and violence among the youth.
6. To minimize, and if possible eradicate, all traces of moral decadence like worldliness, youthful lust and all other social vices that are common among the youth.
7. To maintain absolute discipline in the church especially among the youths.
8. To give the youths sense of belonging in the church by allowing their active participation in the church activities or programmes.
9. To enable the youths use and develop their God-given talents for the general growth and revival of the church.
10. To make them spiritually healthy as vessels of honour prepared for the Master's use for the present and future glory of the church.
11. To give the youths hope of better life in the society and among their colleagues especially in the Christian community.
12. To prepare the youths as true ambassadors of Christ (light) in the dark generation of ours.

D. DUTIES OF THE YOUTHS' PASTOR AND THE EXECUTIVES:

D1. YOUTHS' PASTOR:

1. The youths' Pastor shall be an intermediary between the youths and the church leadership.
2. He shall perform supervisory roles at every meeting of the youths..
3. He shall monitor the operations of the youths to ensure that all their activities are in consonance with the doctrines of the church.
4. He shall be a signatory to the youths' account(s).

D2 PRESIDENT:

1. The president shall preside over all youth executive and general meetings.
2. He shall, in collaboration with his vice, direct the secretary on matters relating to the running of the youths.
3. He shall treat all correspondence.
4. He shall be a signatory to the youths' bank account(s).
5. He shall visit the youths at zonal or branch level in collaboration with the church leadership.
6. He shall mobilize other executive members to organize youths' programmes.

D3. VICE PRESIDENT:

1. The vice president shall assist the president in performing all his functions effectively.
2. In the absence of the president, he shall act in his full capacity.
3. He shall carry out other functions as may be delegated to him by the president.

D4. SECRETARY:

1. The secretary shall serve as the scribe at any youths meeting.
2. He shall be in charge of all correspondence.
3. He shall keep records of every minutes of youth meetings.
4. He shall perform other functions as may be delegated to him by the president.

D5. ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

1. The assistant secretary shall assist the secretary in the discharge of his official duties.
2. He shall act for the secretary in his absence.
3. He shall perform other functions as the secretary may delegate to him.

D6. FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

1. The financial secretary shall be in charge of collection of all financial incomes, and to be handed over to the treasurer within 24 hours.
2. He shall keep records of all financial transactions, that is, income and expenditure.
3. He shall give the financial report of the youths on quarterly basis at the youths general meetings.
4. He shall strategies, in collaboration with the other executive members a way of raising funds to facilitate youths programmes.

D7. TREASURER:

1. The treasurer shall be in custody of the youth's fund to ensure its safekeeping and withdrawal as at when due.
2. He shall keep all relevant financial documents passed to him by the financial secretary.
3. He shall report all financial transactions to the financial secretary for proper documentation and reporting.
4. He shall be liable for prosecution in the court of law if he fails to give proper account of the fund entrusted to him. The same shall also apply to the financial secretary if they both connive to defraud the youths finance
5. He shall be a signatory to the youths account(s).

D8. AUDITOR:

1. The auditor shall present quarterly financial report of the youths at the youth general meetings.
2. He shall audit the financial records of the youths at regular intervals.
3. He shall ensure the proper utilization of the youths fund.
4. He shall perform other functions as he may be directed by the president.

D9. ORGANIZING SECRETARY:

1. The organizing secretary shall ensure that the meeting venue is properly organized and well sanitized before the commencement of the meeting.
2. In the case of a programme, he shall ensure the coordination of the youths towards the success of the programme.

D10. PRAYER SECRETARY:

1. The prayer secretary, in collaboration with the president, shall organize youths' prayer meetings or conferences.
2. He shall coordinate all prayer conferences of the youths.

D11. EVANGELISM SECRETARY:

1. The evangelism secretary, in collaboration with the president, shall organize youths' evangelistic outreaches.
2. He shall take the visibility study of the evangelism venue before the holding of the outreach.
3. He shall coordinate all evangelism activities.

D12. WELFARE SECRETARY:

1. The welfare secretary shall be responsible for organizing enlightenment programmes for the wellbeing of the youths.
2. He shall be in custody of welfare facilities of the youths.
3. He shall be in charge of refreshments at all youths' programmes.
4. He shall lead the welfare team to minister to people with the facilities available.

D13. PUBLICITY SECRETARY:

1. The publicity secretary shall be the information officer of the youths.
2. He shall disseminate every information from the executive meeting to the general youths
3. He shall be a link of mutual connection to the other youths' fellowships.
4. He shall be responsible for keeping the executive members informed of meetings and other matters of interest.

D14. MEDIA SECRETARY:

1. The media secretary shall be in charge of recording of all youths programmes on tapes, videos and literatures.
2. He shall be in charge of sales and distribution of gospel materials like tapes, videos and literatures.

D15. ACADEMIC SECRETARY:

1. The academic secretary shall be in charge of guiding and counseling of the youths in their academic careers.
2. He shall organize educative and academic programmes that have moral and spiritual values, to enhance the youth's academic standard.
3. He shall create academic awareness concerning opportunities such as admission, scholarship etc.

D16. OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES /RULES AND REGULATIONS:

1. All youth activities shall be subject to the scrutiny of the youth pastor and then, the approval of the General Overseer.
2. At branch or zonal levels, the youth wing shall work directly under the supervision of the church pastor or the zonal overseer respectively.
3. There shall be periodical review of youth activities to ascertain their progress.
4. The president, in collaboration with his executives, shall give annual report of their activities at the last general council of every year.
5. The duration of tenure of office of the executives shall be three years, and there is no room for immediate continuity of office.
6. If any executive member is found wanting, he shall be dismissed forthwith and be replaced immediately.
7. All youth shall participate actively in the general programmes of the church at the local and national level (indoor or outdoor).
8. The youth wing of the church shall not operate as an independent ministry or body in the church.
9. Any erring member of youth executives shall be reported to the church authority on time for necessary disciplinary measures to avoid any damage.
10. All forms of discrimination shall be discouraged in all functions of the youth.
11. The youth president shall submit their annual programme proposal and its financial implication (budget) to the office of General Overseer on/before September ending annually. The youth pastor shall be held responsible for any unreported misconduct of any member of the youth or the executives.
12. Unfaithfulness found in the activities of the youth pastor shall lead to his immediate removal and replacement by the General Overseer.
13. The youth pastor shall report directly to the office of the General Overseer the activities of the youth regularly.

E.1 WOMEN WING:

There shall be women wing of the church. It shall be headed by the wife of the General Overseer as the President and assisted by the wife of the Deputy General Overseer as the Vice President at the headquarters level. Each zone shall also have her own women wing headed by the wife of the zonal Overseer and assisted by the wife of the Assistant Zonal Overseer .

The wife of the church pastors shall be the head of the women wing at the local church to be assisted by the wife of the Assistant pastor of the church.

FUNCTIONS OF THE WOMEN WING.

1. To serve a complementary role to the activities of the church.
2. To participate more vigorously in the evangelism department of the church.
3. To uphold the doctrine of the bible as handed down to them by the church.
4. To propagate the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ without fear or Intimidation
5. To minimize, and if possible eradicate, all traces of moral decadence like worldliness and all other social vices that are common among the women.
6. To maintain absolute discipline in the church especially among the women.
7. To give the women sense of belonging in the church by allowing their active participation in the church activities or programmes.
8. To enable the women use and develop their God-given talents for the general growth and revival of the church.
9. To make them spiritually healthy as vessels of honour prepared for the Master's use for the present and future glory of the church.
10. To give the women hope of better life in the society and among their colleagues especially in the Christian community.
11. To prepare the women as true ambassadors of Christ (light) in the dark generation of ours.
12. To operate in accordance with the biblical injunction as stated in Titus 2:3-5.

E1.1 PRESIDENT:

1. The president shall preside over women executive and general meetings.
2. She shall, in collaboration with her vice, direct the secretary on matters relating to the running of the women programmes.
3. She shall be a signatory to the women' bank account(s).
4. She shall visit the women at zonal or branch level
5. She shall mobilize other executive members to organize women programmes.

E1.2 VICE PRESIDENT:

1. The vice president (wife of the assistant General Overseer) shall assist the president in performing all her functions effectively.
2. In the absence of the president, she shall act in her full capacity.
3. She shall carry out other functions as may be delegated to her by the president.

E1.3 SECRETARY:

1. The secretary shall serve as the scribe at any women meeting.
2. She shall be in charge of all correspondence.
3. She shall keep records of every minutes of women meetings.

4. She shall perform other functions as may be delegated to her by the president.

E1.4. FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

1. The financial secretary shall be in charge of collection of all financial incomes, and to be handed over to the treasurer within 24 hours.
2. She shall keep records of all financial transactions, that is, income and expenditure.
3. She shall give the financial report of the Women on quarterly basis at the women general meetings.
4. She shall strategies, in collaboration with the other executive members a way of raising funds to facilitate women programmes.

E1.5 TREASURER:

1. The treasurer shall be in custody of the women fund to ensure its safekeeping and withdrawal as at when due.
2. She shall keep all relevant financial documents passed to her by the financial secretary.
3. She shall report all financial transactions to the financial secretary for proper documentation and reporting.
4. She shall be liable for prosecution in the court of law if she fails to give proper account of the fund entrusted to her. The same shall also apply to the financial secretary if they both connive to defraud the wing.
5. She shall be a signatory to the women account(s).

E.2 CHILDREN WING:

The church shall have a children wing where they would be taught the biblical injunctions. It shall be set up at the local, zonal and National levels.

At each service the children shall be separated and be taken care of Spiritually by the children teachers at the local church level, zonal level and National level.

ARTICLE 17: SPECIAL CLAUSE:

1. THE INCOME AND PROPERTY OF GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL
Whatsoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the church as set forth in this rule and regulations/Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise however by way of profit, to the members of the church.
2. PROVIDED that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith, or reasonable and proper remuneration to an officer or servant of GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL in return for any service actually rendered to the church but so that no member of the council of management or Governing

Body shall be appointed to any salaries office of the church or any office of the church paid for by fees, and that no remuneration or other benefits in money or monies shall be given by the church to any member of such Council or Governing Body except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let to the church. Provided that the provision last aforesaid shall not apply to any payment of any company to a member of the church may be a company in which such member shall not hold more than one-hundredth part of the capital and such member shall not be bound to account for any share of profits he may receive in respect of any such payment.

3. No addition, altered or amendment shall be made to or in the rules and regulations/Constitution for the time being foreseen unless the same have been previously submitted to and approved by the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission.

1. In the event of a winding up or Dissolution of the church, there remains after the satisfaction of all the debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to and distributed among the members of the church but shall be given or transferred to some other institution(s) having objectives similar to that of GOSPEL ASSEMBLY INTERCONTINENTAL; and the body or bodies are prohibited from distributing its or their income and property amongst its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the church under or by virtue of the SPECIAL CLAUSE hereof, such institution(s) to be determined by the members of the church so far effect cannot be given to the aforesaid provision, then to some charitable object.

ARTICLE 18: MARRIAGE AND PROCEDURES

Legal Requirement: in compliance with the law of the land, after the leadership has

interviewed the intending couple, a letter given to them by the Church Pastor shall be submitted to the Marriage Registry. They shall thereafter submit a copy of the Registrar's Certificate to the Church Pastor for filing. All intending couples shall go through the above processes and shall be given the same certificate.

i. If intending couple that are in courtship are caught in pre-marital sex, their marriage shall no longer be conducted by the Church but will follow them up for their Spiritual growth.

ii. That both parents have given their consent to the proposed marriage of their son and daughter. The consent shall be in writing.

k That the brother has fully paid the dowry/bride price and also complied with the demands of his would-be in-law, based on the scriptures except in cases where the parents of the bride to be do not insist on payment of dowry.

L They are believers with Christian testimony.

- M They are convinced of God's leading to marry.*
- N They have not known each other sexually, contrary to the word of God. (Heb 13:4).*
- O Neither of them has promised marriage to another person at the same time.*
- P They have had proper marriage counseling.*
- Q A divorce cannot be made by any member or members of the Church until a careful investigation has been made by the Local church Executive Committee, zonal council and the General Overseer. They have right to sanction it.*

ARTICLE 19: RECRUITMENT OF PASTORS

- 1. He or She shall undergo at least a three (3) months on-the –job intensive training under the supervision of an ordained pastor and a centralized induction training, which period shall be at the discretion of the General Overseer.*

Executive Chairman

Date:.....

General Secretary

Date:.....