

# BATIMBO FOUNDATION FAMILY STATUTES

Committed resolutely to safeguard the national culture in general and the drum as well as the traditional dances in particular while creating and maintaining a spirit of solidarity, determined to play a primordial role in the Burundian community of the diaspora, and as an integral part of this, for the promotion of Burundian culture, convinced of the need for Burundians living abroad to put themselves together in a crucible of reflection and solidarity, fraternity and social dialogue, drummers reside in the United States, Canada and Europe adopt these statutes and regulations and freely decide to create an association in accordance with the provisions of Articles 1 and 2 of these statutes.

# TITLE I: CONSTITUTION, NAME, OBJECTIVE, DURATION AND HEADQUARTERS

#### **Article 1: Constitution**

It is constituted on this day of Monday, October 7th, 2019, in Euless, Texas, in accordance with the 2nd article paragraph 24 of the constitution of the United States of America, relating to the creation and freedom of Association.

#### **Article 2: Name**

The association referred to in Article 1 is called BATIMBO FOUNDATION FAMILY for short BFF.

# **Article 3: Objective**

BATIMBO FOUNDATION FAMILY (BFF) is apolitical and not religious. It prohibits all discrimination, ensures within it freedom of expression, respect for human rights. It is a non-profit organization and aims in particular to:

• Safeguard Burundian culture in general and the drum as well as traditional dances in particular;

- Facilitate the cultural development of its members;
- Facilitate and consolidate the solidarity of all its members;
- Create and maintain friendships with other associations or clubs having the same goals;
- Reinforce the awareness of the youth of the danger which threatens the culture of our ancestors;
- Organize training sessions for young people;
- The association has only one cultural purpose. He refrains from any political practice, denominational or otherwise.
- Contribute to the development as well as the integration into American society of his members;
- Work for the cultural and social promotion of the two peoples;

# Article 4: Lifespan

BATIMBO FOUNDATION FAMILY is established for an unlimited lifespan.

#### **Article 5: Headquarters**

BATIMBO FOUNDATION FAMILY is headquartered in Texas in the United States

#### TITLE II: MEMBERSHIP

The association is made up of:

- Honorary members
- Supporting members
- Members
- Active members

## **Article 6: Members of Honors**

Maybe solicited as honorary members, all-natural or legal persons who, because of their reputation, services rendered to the association or contributions of all kinds, have a particular interest in the objectives of the association.

# **Article 7: Sympathizing Members**

Sympathizing members are any natural or legal person, whatever their origin, who have an interest in the development of the Association.

#### **Article 8: Associate Members**

Associate members are any person residing in the United States, Canada or Europe accepting the laws of the association. They are accepted as a form of membership by the leaders of the Association. However, the Executive Board can decide on a membership request deemed specific.

The new member must send a written request to the Executive Director, which will validate it after careful study.

# **Article 9: Right to vote**

All members of the association are entitled to vote, except sympathetic members.

#### **Article 10: Active Members**

Active members are the associate members involved in the active life of the Association by their participation in activities, up to date with their contributions and who respect the statutory and regulatory provisions of the Association. They benefit from the support of the association when needed.

# **Article 11: Loss of Membership**

Membership is lost by:

- Written resignation,
- Exclusion pronounced by the general assembly for the reasons specified in the rules of procedure.
- Death of the member

# **Article 12: Readmission of Member**

The readmission of a member is decided by the B.E.

# TITLE III: PERMANENT MANAGEMENT BODIES

The association consists of the following bodies:

- Board of Committee (A.G)
- Executive Director (B.E)
- Director of Treasury (C.C)

# **Article 13: General Assembly**

Al-1: Composition and role

The A.G. is the decision-making body of the BFF. It is made up of adherent members. As such, its decisions are binding on all its members present or absent as well as on the other organs of the association.

# **Al-2: Frequency of Meetings**

The A.G. meets only once a year in ordinary session on the dates and times fixed by the Executive Director. In an emergency, the A.G. can meet in extraordinary session on request:

- the president of the B.E
- 2/3 of the board members
- Petition of 2/3 of the members of the A.G.
- members of the statutory auditors

# Al-3: Quorum

The elections are ratified when at least 2/3 of the members present at the GA have voted.

#### Al-4: Vote

Each member of the BFF present at the A.G. has one vote. The decisions of the ordinary or extraordinary A.G must be taken by a majority of the votes present according to the rules of the quorum.

# **Al-5: Presidency of the Sessions**

The sessions of ordinary and extraordinary GAs are chaired by the president of the Executive Bureau or his representative in case of impediment.

#### **Article 14: Executive Bureau**

#### **Al-1: Composition**

The Executive Board is made up of 9 elected at the General Assembly for the following functions:

- Executive Director
- President
- Chairman
- Director of Treasury
- Secretary of Board
- Chief of Regulations
- Chief of Customs
- Chief of Press
- Attorney or Advisor

The attributions of each member of the Executive Board are defined in the internal regulations.

#### Al-2: Powers of the Executive Board

The Executive Director is responsible for the administration and management of the Association. It ensures the execution of the decisions of the General Assembly and is responsible for safeguarding the heritage of Burundian culture. He automatically represents the association in his dealings with third parties and can take legal action on his behalf.

As an executive body, he is jointly responsible for all his actions before the General Assembly. He is responsible for implementing the objectives of the association.

To this end, it enjoys the most extensive powers to:

- Ensure compliance with the provisions of these statutes and internal regulations;
- Manage any resource of the association according to management ethics;
- Preserve and safeguard the interests and material goods of the association;
- Effectively coordinate the commissions;
- Negotiate and maintain peaceful relationships with partners acquired at the achievement of the association's goals.

# Al-3: Eligibility and Method of Voting

The members of the office must be at least 18 years old. Only active members are eligible for positions on the Executive Board by secret ballot in the general assembly for a term of 2 years renewable only once.

except for the president, who cannot run for two successive terms. Voting by proxy duly signed is authorized. The same person cannot hold more than one proxy. Postal voting is not allowed. The mandate of the Executive Bureau expires at the end of the 2 statutory years.

# Al-4: Meetings and Deliberations of the Executive Bureau

The Executive Bureau meets at least once every two months in ordinary session to take stock of the actions carried out, analyze all the problems posed by the various entities of the association and define the appropriate policy for the pursuit of activities. It can also meet in extraordinary session if necessary for specific questions. The channel and mode of communication of said meetings are left to the discretion of the members of the bureau. It can only deliberate if at least five (05) members are present. The decisions of the Executive Board are taken by a majority of the members present or represented. In the event of a tied vote, that of the President is decisive.

#### **Al-5: Position Vacancy**

In the event of a vacancy in a Bureau position, the GA is responsible for choosing the new member who will sit on the Executive Bureau.

If a member of the Executive Board resigns or loses his quality of member before the expiration of his mandate, his vice or his assistant ensures the interim until the next A.G which will take care of his replacement.

In the event that as a result of resignation, revocation or death, the Executive Board is reduced to less than five (05) members, the remaining members are required to convene within (03) months from the day on which this reduction is noted, a member of the board is to designate the replacement (s). The functions of the members of the Management Committee are voluntary and without privilege.

#### **Al-6: Specialized Commissions**

The members of the executive office can be helped in the accomplishment of their mission by specialized commissions which they will set up as needed. In any event, they will be obliged to inform the A.G. of the establishment or closure of the commissions.

# **Article 15: Statutory auditor (C.C)**

It is the control body of the Association and is composed of three (03) members elected from the A.G. for a renewable term of three (03) years.

# Al-1: Composition

The composition of the CC office is as follows:

- President
- Secretary
- Rapporteur

#### Al-2: Powers of the C.C Bureau

The main mission of the CC is to ensure that the association is well managed administratively, financially and fiscally so as not to lose its Association status with the IRS.

To this end, its members must:

- Master and / or appropriate the tax laws that govern associations in TEXAS and in other jurisdictions if necessary.
- Read the financial reports of the B.E and make suggestions for meeting the association's annual tax obligations.
- Be able to assist, orient the B.E in tax matters and ensure that the management of the B.E meets the annual tax obligations required by the State of Texas.
- Ensure the updating of the manuals of the association's procedures and administrative and financial management.
- Present a general report of their follow-up and of the functioning of the BE at the GA. The president of the CC is co-signer of disbursements over \$ 1,000.

## Al-3: Eligibility and Method of Voting

The members of the C.C. office must be at least 18 years of age. Only active members are eligible for CC positions by secret ballot in A.G. for a renewable 3-year term. Voting by proxy duly signed is authorized. The same person cannot hold more than one proxy. Postal voting is not allowed. For reasons of efficiency, two out of three CC members must be from the accounting and / or finance field in Texas.

# Al-4: Meetings and Deliberations of the CC

The organization of meetings of CC members is at their discretion. In any case, they must meet at least 3 times a year to assess the performance of the and make suggestions to the President and Executive Director

# **Al-5: Position Vacancy**

In the event of a vacancy in a CC Bureau, the GA is responsible for choosing the new member who will sit on it.

If a member of the CC resigns or loses his quality of member before the expiration of his mandate, his interim is ensured by one of the remaining members of the CC until the next A.G which will take care of his replacement.

In the event that as a result of resignation, revocation or death, the BE is reduced to a member, the Executive Director is required to convene within 6 weeks from the day on which this reduction is noted, a GA to appoint the (s) ) replacement.

The functions of the members of the CC are voluntary and without privilege.

#### TITLE IV: MEANS AND RESOURCES

#### **Article 16: Means**

The Association can acquire movable and real estate resources as lessor or owner.

#### **Article 17: Resources**

The resources of the association consist of:

- Membership fees;
- Subsidies and donations offered by the State, local communities and any person (physical or moral) wishing to support the actions of the Association;
- Resources paid by other Associations;
- Donations, legacies and various grants;
- Products of events organized by it;
- And in general, from all authorized resources.

## Article 18: Accounting and auditing

Accounts are kept daily according to the rules of use, with the monthly establishment of a balance sheet and an income statement by the B.E.

The A.G. may periodically set up an independent control body to audit the BFF's management accounts.

# **Article 19: Intellectual property**

The BFF enjoys, over these works, an exclusive intangible property right that may be invoked by all. This right includes intellectual and moral attributes, as well as property attributes.

# Al-1 the protected works are:

- Videos captured during events;
- conferences, addresses, sermons;
- choreographic works and numbers
- cinematographic works and other works consisting of animated sequences of images, with or without sound, together called "audiovisual works"

• graphic and typographic works - photographic works and those produced using techniques analogous to photography

#### Al-2:

Any representation or reproduction, in whole or in part, made without the consent of the author or his assigns or assigns is illegal. The same is true for translation, adaptation or transformation, arrangement or reproduction by any art or process.

#### **Al-3**:

Any editing of the videos in whole or in part, in defiance of the laws and regulations relating to the property of the BFF, is a forgery. Any counterfeiting is a crime. Counterfeiting in the United States of works published in the United States or abroad is punished, will be punished by the same penalties debit, import and export of counterfeit works.

## **Al-4:**

It is also a crime of counterfeiting any reproduction, representation, or distribution, by any means whatsoever, of a work of the mind in violation of the rights of the BFF, as they are defined and regulated by law.

#### Al-5:

Any fixation, reproduction, communication or making available to the public, for a fee or free of charge, or any broadcast of service, performed without the authorization, when required, of the BFF is liable to prosecution.

# TITLE V: AFFILIATION AND MODIFICATION

#### **Article 20: Affiliation**

The Association is autonomous and can join any group, organization or association of a regional, continental or global nature pursuing the same goals. It is represented in justice and in all acts of civil and federal life by its President or, failing that, by any other member of the Executive Bureau designated for this purpose by the Bureau or by the Director of Treasury.

#### **Article 21: Modification of the statutes**

The statutes can only be modified by the ordinary or extraordinary on the proposal of the Executive Bureau or by a quarter (1/4) of the members composing the Board of Committee, on a proposal submitted to the Bureau at least 15 days before the meeting.

#### Article 22: Dissolution of the Association

The Extraordinary General Meeting can dissolve the BFF under the same conditions as for a modification of the statutes. In the event of voluntary or judicial dissolution, the Executive Director appoints a liquidator. The net assets, if any, will be transferred in accordance with the laws in force on associations after the Director of Treasury settles all debts.

# **Article 23: Internal regulations**

These statutes will be supplemented by internal rules which will be adopted by the Board of Committee

# Article 24: These statutes come into force upon their adoption.

Made in Texas on / 2020 President's Signature

Thomas mupenzi 03/07/2020

