

CONSTITUTION

OF

THE GHANA INDEPENDENT

BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

GIBA

PREAMBLE

Authorised and operational non-state owned, private and independent broadcasting organisations have formed a body to promote their common interest.

ARTICLE 1

NAME

The name of the body shall be:

Ghana Independent Broadcasters Association (GIBA)

ARTICLE 2

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- i. To provide advocacy for the orderly and dynamic development of the broadcasting sector.
- ii. To advocate the interest and concerns of the Association and the independent broadcasting sector.
- iii. To maintain the independence of the broadcasting sector from all vested interest.
- iv. To engage the government and other regulatory bodies in dialogue to promote the interest of the Association.
- v. To encourage the continual upgrading of the performance of the broadcasting sector.
- vi. To provide services (e. g. legal, educational, technical, etc) to enhance the operational capacity of members.
- vii. To develop and sustain a vibrant communication network among members.
- viii. To establish and maintain broadcasting standards, criteria and ethics.

- ix. To enhance the utilization of the resources of the Association and its members to make a positive contribution to Ghanaian society.
- x. To project and enhance the image of the Association.

ARTICLE 3

MEMBERSHIP

- i. Membership is on institutional basis only.
- ii. Membership of the Association is open to all authorised and operational non-state owned private and independent broadcasting organisations, i.e. radio, TV, web casting and other forms of broadcasting; They may be commercial (profit) or community (non-profit) stations.
- iii. Companies or organizations operating more than one station shall be limited to a single membership.
- iv. Membership shall be by application and registration upon a payment of appropriate fees.
- v. Members shall be subject to payment of annual subscription fees to be determined by members at Annual General Meetings.

ARTICLE 4

1. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- i. The affairs of GIBA shall be managed by an Executive Council. The membership of the Executive Council shall comprise the following.
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Three Executive Members
 - Four Sectoral Representatives, representing the following sub-sectors:
 - Community Radio
 - Commercial Radio
 - TV (Cable, MMDS, Paid TV, Free-On-Air)

- Webcasting

Ten Regional Representatives

Executive Secretary

- ii. The President, the Vice President and the Executive Members shall be elected by the members at Annual General Meetings from among the official nominees of member institutions.
Such nominees shall be senior executive officers of their institutions who have held such positions in the independent broadcasting sector for at least three years.
- iii. The Sectoral Representatives shall be elected or appointed by their respective sub-sectors from among the official nominees of member institutions in the relevant sub-sector. Such nominees shall be senior executive officers of their institutions who have held such positions in the relevant sub-sector for at least three years.
- iv. The Regional Representatives shall be elected or appointed by the regional members at the Annual General Meeting of their region from among the official nominees of member institutions. Such nominees shall be senior executive officers of their institutions.
- v. The Executive Council shall appoint the Executive Secretary and inform the members accordingly.
- vi. Elected Officers of the Association and persons desiring to serve on the Executive Council shall offer themselves to be elected or re-elected every two (2) years.
- vii. The number of Executive Members may be increased upon the recommendation of the Executive Council and subsequent ratification by an Annual General Meeting in response to the emergence of other independent broadcasting sub-sectors.

2. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- i. The Executive Council shall provide leadership and be responsible for the general administration of the Association.
- ii. The Executive Council shall organize such activities and programmes as are necessary for the attainment of the objectives of

the Association or as may be decided by General Meetings.

- iii. The Executive Council shall be responsible for the collection of all fees, dues and any other levies imposed by the Association.
- iv. The Executive Council shall lead advocacy in matters affecting the interests of the independent broadcasting sector, the Association and its members.
- v. The Executive Council shall keep proper books of accounts and submit audited annual accounts to General Meetings on all financial matters of the Association.
- vi. The Executive Council shall convene General Meetings of all members.

ARTICLE 5

FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS

- i. PRESIDENT The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association and shall preside at all General and Executive Council Meetings of the Association.
- ii. VICE PRESIDENT The Vice President shall assist in the discharge of the President's duties and also act in the President's absence.
- iii. EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: They shall assist the Executive Council with the leadership and general administration of the Association.
- iv. SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES They shall assist the Executive Council with the leadership and general administration of the Association as well as articulate the interest of their sub-sectors.

v. REGIONAL
REPRESENTATIVES

They shall assist the Executive Council of the Association as well as articulate the interest of their regional members.

vi. THE EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY

Shall be an employee of the Association.

- Shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the permanent secretariat and shall take and keep minutes of all meetings of the Executive Council and the Association.
- Shall be responsible for the proper management of the finances of the Association. Shall collect dues and other contributions from members and lodge same in the Association's bank accounts and disburse same as directed by the Executive Council or General meetings of the Association.
- Shall keep proper books of the accounts and shall submit monthly accounts to the Executive Council.
- Shall perform any other duties as may be directed by the President.

ARTICLE 6

1. ELECTION AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

- i. Filing of nomination papers and election of officers shall take place on the same day at an Annual General Meeting.
- ii. Each member shall be entitled to one vote.
- iii. Proxy vote shall be admissible provided the form is duly stamped and signed by an officer of the member organization authorised to do so.
- iv. All officers of the Association shall be elected by simple majority of members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting.
- v. Any officer of the Association may be removed from office for stated misbehaviour including theft, incompetence or behaviour incompatible with the status of an Officer of the Association by simple majority vote at an Annual General Meeting.

- vi. All elected officers of the Association shall hold office for two (2) years per term.

2. ELECTIONS

- i. The Association shall organise all elections under the auspices of the Electoral Commission.

ARTICLE 7

COMMITTEES

- i. The Association may on the recommendation of the Executive Council at General Meetings appoint such standing or ad-hoc Committees for such stated purposes and with such terms of reference as shall be decided by the General Meeting.
- ii. The Executive Council may appoint such standing or ad-hoc Committees for such terms of reference as shall be decided by the General Meeting.

ARTICLE 8

THE GENERAL MEETINGS / QUORUM

- i. The Executive Council shall convene an Annual General Meeting of the Association
- ii. Any ten members of the Association may by written notice cause the Executive Council to convene an Extraordinary General Meeting within 21 days upon receipt of the notification.
- iii. A General Meeting shall elect or remove any/all Officer(s) of the Association in accordance with the provisions of the constitution.
- iv. A General Meeting shall appoint an Audit Committee to audit the financial statement submitted by the Executive Council Members.
- v. The quorum for the General Meeting shall be twenty one members including the President and at least three Executive Council members.
- vi. Only paid up members shall exercise voting rights at General Meetings.

ARTICLE 9

REGIONAL MEETINGS

- i. Members in the currently ten regions of the country shall exercise the right to have a Regional Executive Council with the same officers as enshrined in the constitution.
- ii. The head of the Regional Executive Council shall be known and referred to as Regional Coordinator who shall also represent the regions at the Executive Council as Regional Representatives.
- iii. Any local levies and charges raised at the regional level by the members outside such payments authorised at the General Meetings shall be for the use of such regional body.

ARTICLE 10

1. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

- i. Each member shall pay non-refundable fees to be recommended by the Executive Council and endorsed at General Meetings.
- ii. Each member shall pay such levies and charges as may be determined at General Meetings.
- iii. General Meetings may impose levies for purposes as members may decide by vote of simple majority.
- iv. The Association shall keep not more than one current account and not more than one savings account in which shall lodge all monies collected for and on behalf of the Association. The Executive Council may recommend such banks with which to keep accounts and cannot move the accounts to any other bank or banks without the approval of the General Meeting on simple majority vote.

2. SIGNATORIES TO THE ACCOUNT

- i. Signatories to the bank account of the Association shall the President, and either of the following:
 - Vice President
 - Executive Secretary

ARTICLE 11

FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year of GIBA shall be from 1st January to 31st December of each year. The final audited accounts of the Association shall be prepared by at least three months after the end of the year.

ARTICLE 12

NOTICE FOR MEETINGS

i. The Executive Council shall organise Annual General Meetings for the Association members to receive and consider the accounts of the Association.

ii. Any member of the Association may call for an Extraordinary General Meeting by written request addressed to the Executive Secretary showing cause for the meeting. The Executive Secretary should within ten days after receipt of the request circulate a Notice to members convening the meeting within 21 days from the date of Notice.

**ARTICLE 13
AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by two-thirds majority of members present and voting at a General Meeting called for that purpose of which notice is given.

**ARTICLE 15
DISSOLUTION**

The G.I.B.A. may be dissolved by members at Annual General Meeting / Extraordinary General Meeting or by written resolution of members who should not be less than 75% of all members of the Association.