



## **Children Movement of Namibia Constitution**

### **Preamble to the constitution**

Half of the Namibian populations are children; so Children are an important part of our country. Also, it is said that children are the future. But this cannot be true if children do not live the lives of children here and now. And for the children the future is now.

Much needs to be done to improve and ensure the quality of life for all children. And to ensure the improved quality of live for all children, children themselves have and can play the part. Children can be involved in making the world a better place.

### **ARTICLE 1. NAME**

The name of the organization shall be the Children's Movement of Namibia, hereafter referred to as CHIMONA.

### **ARTICLE 2. The Value of the Movement**

Respect for oneself  
Respect for one other  
Respect for the environment  
Participatory Democracy  
Critical Thinking  
Self Sustainability  
Accept one another, While having fun

### **ARTICLE 3. MOTTO**

The motto of CHIMONA shall be "We are changing the world".

### **ARTICLE 4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVE**

4.1 To recruit, train, educate, generalize and in all essential and necessary respects, prepare a large group of young children to take up leadership for generations to come.

4.2 To work with all other progressive democratic movements and organizations, with in Namibia and abroad, including the United Nations agencies, whose aims and objectives are compatible with those of CHIMONA and who can assist CHIMONA in establishing international network Children's Movements.

4.3 To Recruit, Train, Educate, In all Essence and Respect to Prepare a large group of young people to take leadership in the 21st Century.

### **ARTICLE 5. HEADQUARTERS**

The Headquarters of CHIMONA shall be in Windhoek.

## **ARTICLE 6. MEMBERSHIP**

### 6.1 Membership

6.1.1. Membership shall be voluntary and any child who reached the age of 11 years and above and who subscribes to the constitution, Aims and Objectives of CHIMONA and who pays a capital contribution fee shall be accepted as a member.

6.1.2 For the purpose of this clause a prospective member may have to documentary evidence of her Date of Birth.

6.1.3 Every member shall be expected to pay a joining fee of N\$ 30.00

6.1.4. Membership shall contribute N\$ 20.00 per term for startup capital.

6.1.5 Members shall receive a Membership Card

### 6.2. Rights of Membership

6.2.1 Every member shall have the right to participate in all the activities of CHIMONA to voice freely his/her own opinion at any time within the organs of CHIMONA.

6.2.2. Every member has the right to elect and to be elected to any of the official posts or committees of the CHIMONA.

6.2.3. The policies of CHIMONA shall be arrived at democratically and every member shall have one (1) vote.

6.2.4. Every member is entitled to protection and remedy in case unjust treatment or victimization.

### 6.3 Obligations and members

6.3.1. Every member is expected to act in a spirit of dedication and loyalty to CHIMONA and to be committed to the Aims and Objectives of CHIMONA.

6.3.2. Every member is expected to attend meetings of CHIMONA and to participate fully and responsibly in the activities of CHIMONA as may be required.

6.3.3. Every member is expected to contribute to the promotion and general well being of CHIMONA in order to foster an awareness of the Aims and Objectives of CHIMONA among the people of Namibia.

6.3.4. Every member is expected to be sincere, honest and truthful and to protect the interest of CHIMONA.

### 6.4. Discipline and Termination of Membership

6.4.1. Any member who violates the constitution of CHIMONA shall be warned after having been given the opportunity to discuss his/her position.

6.4.2. Any member who does not heed such warnings shall be suspended from office and/or membership of CHIMONA.

6.4.3. Any member who has been suspended has the right to appeal to the central committee and the Annual General Meeting of CHIMONA.

6.4.4. Only the Executive board has the power to expel a member of the CHIMONA, when the issue is brought to them. A matter that takes place at the school must be handled at the school with the executive board at their respective schools; if the matter is not addressed only then the board may be involved.

## **ARTICLE 7. FINANCES**

### 7.1 Source of Funds

7.1.1. Funds shall be derived from membership fees.

7.1.2. Funds shall be derived from functions such as parties, concerts, etc, and other legal sources approved by CHIMONA.

### 7.2 Assets

7.2.1. CHIMONA shall have the right to acquire movable as well as immovable property of any kind and shall furthermore have the right to sell, hire, mortgage, bestow, transfer or alienate such property.

7.2.2. Vesting of property. All property of CHIMONA both movable and immovable, shall be vested and registered in the name of the "trustees of CHIMONA" Such Trustees shall not be obliged to file security under any law whatsoever.

7.2.3. Acquisition of property: To acquire by purchase, lease, donation bequest or any other mode of acquisition both movable and immovable property shall be subject to the approval of a majority of members present at a meeting of the central committee.

7.2.4. Alienation of property: To sell, donate, exchange, partition, or dispose of by any mode of alienation, movable and immovable property but the alienation of immovable property shall be to the approval of a majority of members present at a meeting of the Executive Board.

7.2.5. Power to Mortgage: To mortgage the immovable property CHIMONA and mortgage or pledge shall be subject to the approval of a majority of members present at a meeting of the Executive Board.

7.2.6. On disbanding of CHIMONA any assets that remain after CHIMONA debts have been paid shall be donated to one or more recognized charitable organizations, which assist children.

### 7.3 Expenditure

The funds of CHIMONA shall be spent on the following approved items:

7.3.1. Defraying expenses lawfully and properly incurred in the promotion of the activities, aims and objectives of CHIMONA.

#### 7.4 Banking Account

CHIMONA shall operate a Banking Account through a registered commercial bank and cheques drawn on this account shall be signed by the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer and shall be counter signed by the President or Secretary General.

#### 7.5 Financial Reports

A detailed and written Financial Report shall be submitted to every session/meeting of the Executive Committee by the Treasurer.

### **ARTICLE 8. THE NATIONAL CONGRESS**

8.1 The National Congress shall be the highest organ of CHIMONA

8.2 The National Congress shall be convened by the Executive Committee every year.

8.3 Under special circumstances the National Congress may be convened before a year has passed or may be postponed for a period not exceeding four (4) months.

8.4 Invitations to the National Congress and relevant documents, such as Agenda items must be submitted to the various Branches at least one (1) month before the congress.

8.6 The National Congress shall lay down the broad, basic programme and policy of CHIMONA for the ensuing year.

8.8 The National Congress shall elect an Executive Council of five (5) members.

8.8 The National Congress shall elect Regional Representatives or five (5) per region

that will act as the Executive Board in the absence of a board.

8.9 The Regional Representatives and the Executive Board shall be called the Board Of Congress/Executive Board.

8.10 The Regional Representatives shall be voted for at the National Congress together with the Executive Council or exclude the Executive Council elections.

### **ARTICLE 9. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

#### 9.1 Powers of the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall have the power to:

9.1.1. Interpret the broad basic programme and policy of CHIMONA and shall be binding on all Branches and members of CHIMONA.

9.1.2. Examine the Financial Report submitted by the National Treasurer.

9.1.3. Deal with all members affecting CHIMONA.

9.1.4. Appoint, suspend, expel or replace any official or any member of CHIMONA. Such decisions shall be subject to ratification by the National Congress.

9.1.5. Convene the National Congress at least once every year and Extra- Ordinary Conferences whenever Necessary.

9.1.6. Appoint two (2) independent auditors to audit the books of CHIMONA annually.

9.1.7. Administer Control, directly or indirectly through delegation to the Management and Finances Committee, the property and physical assets of CHIMONA.

## 9.2 Meetings of the Executive Board

The Executive Board shall meet approximately every four (4) months.

9.3 Quorum Eleven (11) members of the Executive Board shall form a quorum.

### 10.1 Term of office

Members of the Executive Board shall hold office for two (2) years and shall have the right to stand for re-election.

10.2 The composition of the Executive Board CHIMONA shall have the following office Bearers

10.2.1. The President

10.2.2. The Vice President

10.2.3. The Secretary General

10.2.4. The Deputy Secretary General

10.2.5. The National Treasurer

10.2.6. The Assistant Treasurer

10.2.7. The Media Relations

10.2.8. Two (2) Representatives from each of the (7) (Educational) Regions

## **ARTICLE 11. DUTIES, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITES OF THE OFFICE BEARERS**

### 11.1 The President

11.1.1. The president shall be the chief executive official of CHIMONA.

11.1.2. The president shall, at all times, act in constitution with the members of the Management Committee.

11.1.3. The president shall respect the decisions of the Executive Board and the Management Committee and shall ensure that these decisions are implemented.

11.1.4. The president shall conduct negotiations, hold discussions, grant interviews and issues statements relating to matters affecting CHIMONA.

11.1.5. Media Releases shall be released in consultation with the media officer.

11.1.6. The Vice President shall act in the place of the President in cases of unavoidable circumstances.

## 11.2 The Secretary General

11.2.1. The Secretary General shall be the chief administrative official of CHIMONA and shall be responsible for the planning and the Co-ordination of CHIMONA activities.

11.2.2 All official correspondence to CHIMONA shall be channeled through the Secretary-General.

11.2.3. The Secretary General shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all the official records of CHIMONA.

11.2.4. The Secretary General shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all, CHIMONA official records.

11.2.5. The Deputy Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General and shall act in the place of the Secretary General in case of an unavoidable absence.

## 11.3 The National Treasurer

11.3.1. The National Treasurer shall receive and collect funds on behalf of CHIMONA including the contributions from members.

11.3.2. The National Treasurer shall make payments duly authorized by the Management Committee and Executive Board.

11.3.3. The National Treasurer shall account for all monies received and expended on a monthly basis to the management and to every meeting of the Executive Board.

11.3.4. The Assistant Treasurer shall action behalf of and in the place of the National Treasurer in the case of unavoidable.

## 11.4 The Media Relations Officer

11.4.1. The Media Relations Officer shall issue all the Media Releases and Press statements on behalf of CHIMONA.

11.4.2. The Media Relations Officer shall energetically publicise all the activities of CHIMONA.

11.4.3. The Media Relations Officer shall issue a regular news letter to keep all members informed.

11.4.4. The Media Relations Officer shall hold a Press and Media Conference and shall be accessible to Journalist at all times.

## **ARTICLE 12. THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### 12.1 The Composition of the Management Committee.

The Management Committee shall be composed of the President, the Secretary-General, the National Treasurer, or their deputies, should they not be able to attend and the Media Relations Officer.

### 12.2 The Duties of the Management Committee

12.2.1. The Management Committee shall be responsible for the day to day activities of CHIMONA and should meet on a regular basis and as often as is necessary.

12.2.2. The Management Committee shall also function as a Finance Committee and shall administer or decide on each item of expenditure, assist the National Treasurer in raising funds CHIMONA.

## **THE STRUCTURE OF CHIMONA**

### **1. BRANCES**

- The grass roots level work of CHIMONA shall be carried out through Branches.
- There shall be a Branch of CHIMONA at every school in each of the Regions.
- A Branch of CHIMONA may also be established in any locality where Children are committed to achieving the goals of CHIMONA.
- Each member of the Branch shall enjoy the same rights and privileges as every other member and shall have one (1) vote.

#### **The Branch Executive Committee shall be composed of:**

- The Chairperson
  - The Vice Chairperson
  - The Secretary
  - The Assistant Secretary, and •The Treasurer
- The Branch Chairperson shall chair all meeting of the Branch Executive Committee, all meetings of the Branch and shall represent the Branch at all meetings at Regional or National level.
- The Branch Vice chairperson shall act in the place of the Branch Chairperson when ever he/she is unavailable or asked to do so.
- The Branch Secretary shall be responsible for keeping all Branch Records excluding those dealing with Branch Finances, but including Minutes of Branch Executive Committee meetings and all for the correspondence to and from the Branch.
- The Assistant shall act in the place of the secretary in the place of his/her absence or any other activity which may be delegated to him /her by the executive.
- The Branch Treasurer shall be responsible for handling all the Branch Finances, for fundraising activities and for depositing and withdrawing funds at a local bank or posts office.
- The Branch Executive Committee shall be elected at an Annually General Meeting of the Branch at which every member of the Branch shall have one (1) vote.
- The Branch Executive Committee shall hold office for two (2) years and all members of the Branch shall be eligible for re-election.
- The Branch Executive Committee shall meet once a month and additional meetings shall hold whenever the need arises.

≈ The main functions of the Branch shall be in general to strive to achieve the main objectives of CHIMONA.

## **2. REGIONS**

All the Branches in each region form a Regional Committee

Each Branch shall send two (2) members with voting rights to each meeting of the Regional Committee

The Regional Committee shall meet every two (2) to (3) months and elect a Chairperson and Secretary and any other officials from among the Delegates present who shall act for the duration of the Regional Meeting.

The main purpose of the Regional meetings shall be hear from all Branches in the Region, to discuss regional problems and solutions to assess the progress made by CHIMONA in that Region and to hear and debate Reports from CHIMONA National Executive Committee.

The Regional Meeting shall elect (5) delegates to present the Region at the AGM.

## **ARTICLE 13. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

13.1 The Constitution of the CHIMONA, or any part thereof, may be amended rescinded, altered or additions made thereto by a resolution carried by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present and voting at a National Congress.

13.2 Proposals regarding any amendment of the Constitution must be embroitted to the secretary general for the distributions to the members of the CHIMONA at least one (1) month before the convening of the National Congress.

This constitution shall come into force on the same day that it has been adopted by two-thirds of the delegates, duly authorized to vote, attending the Inaugural Congress f the CHIMONA.