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1. **NAME:**

The name of the company is Abelaphi Bendabuko Base Africa.
The abbreviation is: **ABBA**

2. **Preamble**

- 2.1. **Abelaphi beNdabuko baseAfrica (ABBA)** aim to provide culturally relevant healthcare encompassing physical, spiritual and social well-being and to serve as custodians of traditional knowledge and culture also functioning, counsellors, mediators within our community. We diagnose common illnesses, sell and dispensing remedies for medical complaints and divining cause and providing solutions to spirituality.
- 2.2. **ABBA** recognize the profound importance of indigenous traditional healers as custodians of ancient knowledge and healers of our communities. This constitution seeks to formally recognize and regulate these practices while upholding the values of cultural preservation, community well-being, ethical conduct, and respect for diversity, ensuring a sustainable future for traditional healing and holistic health.

3. **Vision**

- 3.1. It is to create a system that acknowledges their valuable role in the healthcare system, promotes and protects their knowledge and practices, and ultimately improves the health and well-being of their communities.
- 3.2. "To preserve, promote and protect the traditional healing practices of Indigenous communities, honoring the wisdom and knowledge of our Ancestors while providing holistic and culturally, sensitive care to our people".

4. **Structure:**

4.1. **Executive committee:**

ABBA shall consist of executive committee that will be responsible for the administration, policy making and implementation of decisions in accordance with this Constitution.

4.2 **ABBA Committee Structure**

I. Chairperson:

- ❖ Leads and presides over meetings and represents the company in official matters.

II. Vice-Chairperson:

- ❖ Assumes the Chairperson's duties in their absence or inability to act.

III. The Secretary:

- ❖ Focuses on administrative and organizational tasks. This includes keeping records of members, managing finances, and ensuring smooth operation of the council or association.
- ❖ Specifically, the Secretary acts as the accounting officer, manages registers of practitioners and students, and carries out other duties assigned by the council or constitution

IV. Deputy Secretary:

- ❖ Assumes the secretary's duties in their absence or inability to act.

V. The Treasurer:

- ❖ Responsible for managing the **ABBA** finances, including budgeting, financial reporting, and overseeing funds.
- ❖ Ensure fiscal responsibility and transparency in all financial transactions. This role is crucial for **ABBA** sustainability and financial health.

VI. Additional members:

- ❖ Roles focus on supporting the governing body, potentially including advisory roles, specialized expertise, or representation of specific constituencies within the traditional healing community.
- ❖ Plays a valuable role in supporting the governance, development, and overall well-being of the traditional healing community. Their specific roles and responsibilities would depend on **ABBA** constitution or framework in place.

5. Mission / Purpose:

- 5.1. “To preserve, promote and protect the traditional healing practices of Indigenous communities, honoring the wisdom and knowledge of our Ancestors while providing holistic and culturally, sensitive care to our people”
- 5.2. To ensure that indigenous knowledge systems, cultural practices, and traditional health approaches are recognized and protected within the legal and constitutional framework. This includes advocating for the integration of traditional medicine into the healthcare system, establishing regulatory frameworks for practitioners, and preserving cultural rights related to healing practices.
- 5.3. To include the preservation and promotion of indigenous knowledge systems related to healing and well-being. This may involve documenting traditional knowledge, supporting research on traditional medicines, and ensuring that traditional healing practices are passed down to future generations.
- 5.4. To advocate for the inclusion of traditional healing practices in addressing social issues such as mental health, substance abuse, and community well-being. They may also work to address the social determinants of health and promote culturally appropriate approaches to healthcare.

6. Core Values

6.1. Culture Preservation:

Preserve and promote indigenous culture heritage and traditional healing practices.

6.2. Community-Based Care:

Provide care that is centered on the needs and values of Indigenous communities

6.3. Holistic Approach:

Address the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual aspects of health and wellness.

6.4. **Respect for Traditional Knowledge:**

Honor the wisdom and knowledge of Indigenous ancestors and traditional healers.

6.5. **Self Determination:**

Support Indigenous self-determination and autonomy in healthcare decision-making.

This mission statement and core value prioritize the preservation and promotion of the Indigenous healing practices, while also emphasizing the importance of community-based care, holistic approaches and respect for traditional knowledge.

7. **Objectives:**

- 7.1. To enhance our knowledge of traditional and indigenous medicine
- 7.2. To highlight the roles of practitioners and the responsibilities of each individual.
- 7.3. To improve and professionalize healing practices.
- 7.4. To encourage learning and teaching each other about healing, respect, tolerance and admitting on what we do not know.
- 7.5. To motivate for collaboration with other African Countries.
- 7.6. To promote research, development and documentation of indigenous practices, medicine and healing methods.
- 7.7. To be a voice for all **ABBA** members and provide awareness programs for them to be empowered.
- 7.8. To educate and support the effectiveness of traditional healing alone in improving mental health status and biomedical care services.
- 7.9. To address issues like training, accreditation, and the safeguarding of traditional knowledge.
- 7.10. To promote responsible use of traditional medicines and remedies, ensuring their safety and efficacy.

8. **Goals:**

- 8.1 To promote Cultural Awareness, educate healthcare providers and the broader community about Indigenous healing practices and their benefits.
- 8.2 To provide resources and support for Indigenous healers to practice their craft and pass on their knowledge to future generations.
- 8.3 To establish a framework for recognizing traditional health practitioners'
- 8.4 To uphold roles, by protecting their rights, promoting ethical practices, and fostering collaboration with modern healthcare systems.
- 8.5 To promote collaboration between traditional and modern medicine
- 8.6 To Improve health outcomes for Indigenous communities by providing culturally sensitive and holistic care.
- 8.7 To engage with indigenous communities to develop and implement healthcare programs that meet their unique needs.

9. Governance Structure:

ABBA constitution for indigenous traditional health practitioners should establish transparent and accountable governance structures, incorporating checks and balances to ensure ethical practice and community well-being. This includes defining roles, responsibilities, and mechanisms for resolving disputes, as well as mechanisms for community participation and feedback.

ABBA shall consist of a structure of the Board of Directors.

9.1. Powers:

- (i) To be responsible for overseeing the amendment process.
- (ii) To oversee the company activities and make strategic decisions.
- (iii) To manage the affairs of the company in accordance with the resolution of the members in general meetings.
- (iv) To review, discuss, and offer feedback on the proposed amendments.
- (v) To ensure the organization complies with relevant laws, regulations, and standards.

- (vi) To ensure that the process is fair, transparent, and compliant with the constitution.

9.2. **Number in Portfolio:**

- (i) To ensure that the minimum number of five members will serve on the Governing Board, which will include the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Vice-Secretary.

9.3. **Elections:**

- (i) To ensure that all members of the Governing Board are affiliated with the company and are in good standing.

10. **Code of Ethics:**

ABBA shall emphasize patient confidentiality, respect for human dignity, and the avoidance of harmful practices ensure that traditional healers provide ethical and responsible care to their clients.

10.1. **Confidentiality:**

Respecting the privacy and confidentiality of clients' information and conditions.

10.2. **Informed Consent:**

Ensuring that clients understand the treatments or rituals being performed and obtaining their consent.

10.3. **Non-maleficence:**

Not causing harm to clients and prioritizing their well-being.

10.4. **Beneficence:**

Acting in the best interest of the clients and providing treatments that are likely to benefit them.

10.5. **Cultural Sensitivity:**

Respecting the cultural beliefs, practices, and traditions of clients.

10.6. **Professionalism:**

Conducting oneself in a professional manner, maintaining boundaries, and upholding the reputation of traditional healing practices.

10.7. **Continuous Learning:**

Engaging in ongoing education and training to improve skills and stay updated on best practices.

11. **Code of Conduct**

ABBA shall help traditional practitioners to maintain ethical standards, promote professionalism, and ensure quality care for their clients.

11.1. **Professionalism:**

Traditional practitioners should always behave in a professional manner, maintaining respect and dignity in their interactions with clients and colleagues.

11.2. **Integrity:**

Upholding honesty and integrity in their practice, avoiding false claims or promises of guaranteed results.

11.3. **Respect:**

Showing respect for clients, their beliefs, privacy, and autonomy throughout the healing process.

11.4. **Confidentiality:**

Protecting clients' confidentiality by not disclosing sensitive information without consent.

11.5. **Competence:**

Providing services within the scope of their training and expertise, seeking help or referring clients to other professionals when necessary.

11.6. **Informed Consent:**

Ensuring that clients understand the proposed treatments, possible risks, benefits, and alternatives before proceeding.

11.7. **Cultural Sensitivity:**

Respecting and honoring the diversity of cultural backgrounds and beliefs among clients.

11.8. **Non-discrimination:**

Treating all clients with fairness and without discrimination based on factors such as race, gender, religion, or socioeconomic status.

11.9. **Self-care:**

Taking care of their own physical, emotional, and mental well-being to ensure they can provide the best care for their clients.

11.10. **Continuous Improvement:**

Engaging in ongoing learning, professional development, and self-reflection to enhance their skills and knowledge.

Section B

1. Income and property of the company

a. Financial Matters:

- I. **ABBA** funds shall be made up of all income received by means of subscriptions, levies, donations, and interest or from any other source.
- II. Grants from foundations, corporations, or government agencies.
- III. Organized fundraising efforts, such as charity events or online campaigns, that can generate significant income.

b. Property of the company:

- I. To buy, attain, maintain, manage, lease, sell, or in any way deal with property and assets of the Association,
- II. To donate and transfer the property and assets of the company to public benefit organizations with similar objectives.

- III. To borrow and to use the property or assets of the company as security for borrowing.

2. Taxation:

- I. **ABBA** shall apply for Income Tax Exemption with completion of the EI1 form as their programs are of public benefit rather than generating profit for shareholders.
- II. Section 18A: Provided that a donor (other than a donor which is an approved public benefit organization or an institution, board or body which is exempt from tax in terms of section 10(1)(CA) (i), which has as its sole or principal object the carrying on of any public benefit activity may not impose any conditions which could enable such donor or any connected person in relation to such donor to derive some direct or indirect benefit from the application of such donation.

3. Powers of the company:

- I. **ABBA** shall implement company act as it gives powers that include:
 - I. To exercise all the management and executive powers ordinarily vested in the Board of Director of a Company.
 - II. To institute disciplinary proceedings against any member and temporally suspend the membership of any member as and when required.
 - III. To supervise and direct the work of the organization.
 - IV. To carry out all the powers and authority of the Association in South Africa and in any other part of the world.
 - V. To buy, hire or exchange for any property that it needs to fulfill its mandate.
 - VI. To issue documents, and formulate other policy directives as and when it deems fits.

- VII. To institute disciplinary proceedings against any member and temporally suspend the membership of any member as and when required.
- VIII. To terminate any Board of Directors who do not comply with the constitution after he/she has been given an opportunity to make written or verbal representations at a meeting of the Governing Board.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- I. **ABBA** shall establish clear and enforceable membership criteria, ensuring a high standard of practice and promoting the ethical and responsible use of traditional healing methods across Africa.
- II. Membership categories may include full members, associate members (non-practitioners who support the objectives of **ABBA**), and honorary members (individuals recognized for their significant contributions to traditional medicine).

I. Registration and Renewal Process:

I. Application Form:

- ❖ A standardized application form will be developed to gather relevant information from potential members, including personal details, training history, and any relevant certifications.

II. Verification of Credentials:

ABBA shall have a system for verifying the authenticity of training and experience claims, potentially through documentation or interviews with qualified mentors.

III. Fees:

Membership fees should be clearly outlined, along with the process for renewal.

- (i) Registration fee will be **R500**
- (ii) Renewal fee will be **R300**

IV. Registration Records:

- (i) A centralized system will be established to maintain accurate records of all registered members, including their category, training, and contact information.

5. Membership Meeting:

- I. All Annual General Meetings [AMGs] must be held within six months of the company financial year end.
- II. AGM, or a Special General Meeting, all members of the company must be informed of the meeting no less than fourteen (14) days before such a meeting.
- III. All meetings of the organization shall be a simple majority (50% + 1) of relevant members who are expected to attend.
- IV. At least 21 days' written notice must be given to all members stating the date, time, place and business of the AGM, which business must include, Chairperson's report, the presentation of the company and annual financial statements.
- V. The election of Governing Board members,
- VI. The appointment of Auditors, and
- VII. Other appropriate matters.

6. Notice of Meetings:

- I. Notices for all meetings provided for in this constitution must be given to relevant members in writing, either personally, by post or electronic communication or whichever manner it is convenient, to the address or other similar particulars provided by the members
- II. The notices for all meetings must indicate the reasons for the meeting and the matters that will be discussed in the meeting.

7. Finance and Report:

FINANCE:

- I. **ABBA** shall finance its activities through membership dues, donations, grants, and other lawful means.
- II. The Treasurer shall keep accurate financial records and prepare an annual budget for approval by the Executive Committee.
- III. Financial records shall be made available to members upon request, and an independent audit shall be conducted annually.

7.2. Bank Account:

- (i) The Board must open a bank account in the name of the company with a registered Bank

7.3. Signing:

- (i) Cheques and other documents requiring signature on behalf of the company shall be signed by at least two people authorized by the Board. Whenever funds are taken out of the bank account, any two (2) of the following must approve the withdrawal or sign the cheque:
 - (a) **Chairperson**
 - (b) **Secretary**
 - (c) **Treasurer (Finance Official)**

7.4. Financial Year

- (i) Financial year end of the company shall be at the end of February.

7.5 Financial Report:

- (i) The Governing Board must ensure that proper records and books of account which fairly reflect the affairs of the company are kept, and within six months of its financial year report is compiled by an independent practicing auditor registered in terms of Auditing Profession Act stating whether or not the financial statements of the Association are consistent with its accounting records, the accounting policies are appropriate and have been appropriately applied in preparing the financial statements and the Association has complied with the financial provisions of this constitution.

8. Amendments and Dissolution

1.Amendments

- (i) Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by any member of **ABBA** and shall require two-thirds of the members present to be approved and be adopted.
- (ii) At least twenty-one days' notice of the Meeting stating the nature of the resolution to be proposed must be given to all the members of the Association.
- (iii) Proposed amendments shall be circulated to members at least a month prior to a vote.

9. Dissolution

- 2.1. In the event of dissolution of **ABBA**, any remaining assets after settlement of liabilities shall be distributed to Founding Members or their immediate beneficiaries as determined by the members at the time of dissolution.
- 2.2. Any similar public benefit organization which has been approved in terms of section e30 of the income Tax Act
- 2.3. Any institution, board or body which is exempt from tax under the provisions of section 10(1)(CA)(i) of the Income Tax Act, which has its sole or principal object the carrying on of any public benefit activity.
- 2.4. Any department of state or administration in the national or provincial or local sphere of government of the Republic

10. Indemnity

- I. Subject to the provisions of any relevant law, members, office-bearers or appointed delegates of the association shall be indemnified by the Association for all acts done by them in good faith on its behalf.
- II. Subject to the provisions of any relevant law, no member of the Association or appointed delegates of any other member of office bearer, or for any loss, damage or expense suffered by the Association, which occurs in the execution of the duties of his or her office, unless it arises as a result of his or her dishonesty, or failure to exercise the degree of care, diligence and skill required by law.

11. Adoption of the constitution

This constitution was approved and accepted by members of **Abelaphi Bendabuko BaseAfrika (ABBA)**

At a special (general) meeting held on

Day/Month/Year

Chairperson

Secretary