

**Mankon Cultural and Development Association  
Minnesota CONVENTION 2006**

Minutes of Convention Deliberations

**Submitted by:**

Jonathan Tse

*With contribution from:*

*Fru Aza'ah Tabah*

Chapter /Representatives

**MACUDA MINNESOTA  
MACUDA NEW ENGLAND  
MACUDA WASHINGTON DC  
ILLINIOS CHICAGO  
MACUDA TEXAS  
OHIO  
Delaware  
KANSAS  
NORTH CAROLINA  
CALIFORNIA  
CANADA**

**FRIDAY AUGUST 4TH – 6TH 2006**

# General Assembly Meeting:

The General Assembly (GA) meeting was called to order at 12:55pm on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2006 by the branch president of MACUDA Minnesota, Innocent Awasom, with delegates and representatives from the states of DE, MA, MN, CA, NE, IL, OH, TX, MD, NC and Canada with a visitor from Germany (Annex 1).

Inspired by the words from the book of Deuteronomy chapter 28: 1-5, pastor Tabufor Sammy beseeched the almighty God to bless all delegates to the twin cities, and to inculcate in members a spirit of togetherness and family unity. He called on the good Lord to spur the much needed spirit of development that has often escaped the Mankon community and asked for guidance from the good lord to guide every step of the deliberations.

Atanga Marius (secretary general of MN branch) was introduced as the convention secretary, assisted by Jonathan Tse.

The chairperson of the convention Mr. Tawah Che, a diplomatic from the Cameroon embassy in Washington DC, was introduced.

In his opening remarks, the chairman challenged Mankon people in the US to go top tier universities regardless of age. He also advised parents to steer their

children towards a meaningful way of life. On controversies amongst members on the state of affairs in Mankon, the North West province and Cameroon as a whole, the chairman, also a clan head gave a very clear advice:

“Challenge people, challenge institutions (traditional and non traditional), but don’t bring them down”.

The opening keynote speaker Jude Ngu, drilled participants on the benefits of a MACUDA Trust Fund and challenged members to set one up. Citing examples of institutions of learning in the UK and US which are self sufficient financially, he cautioned members against the habit of financial contributions for projects back home. The underlying message was to set up a trust fund that will generate income to sustain future envisaged projects at home and within the Mankon community as in the US.

The main challenge for sitting up the trust fund was acquiring a 501© status for the association. To the effect, Barrister Angwafo Stella was charged with researching and getting the registration process started.

The closing keynote speaker of the convention Dr. Tobias Awasum centered his message on family values and mentality of Mankon people trying to bring others down. He advised members against divorce and stressed that it was financially wise and economically beneficial to agree with a husband or wife. He promised to commit time and resources to the realization of the objectives of the

association. He jumped started the activities of the association and the trust fund with a donation of two thousand dollars.

The chairperson of the convention Mr. Tawah supported the fund with \$500.00. Members took turns to pledge different amounts to the fund on behalf of loved ones (see annex II).

## **Constitution:**

Mr. Ndingwan Pryde presented a draft copy of the constitution to the general assembly for adoption.

Mr. Tawah C. moved a motion seconded by Violet and Fru Nkimbeng from Boston for the draft constitution to be called a working document pending fine tuning by a co-opted legal team.

December 31st was the latest for the co-opted team to finalize the document.

Members of the team include:

Ndingwan Pryde, MN

Fru Nkimbeng, MA/NE

Festus Nde, CA

Stella Angwafo, MA

# **Trust Fund(Endowment Fund):**

Dr. Jude Ngu was given the responsibility on behalf of MACUDA to prepare the bye- laws for the would-beTrust Fund.

## **501 © Status**

Stella Angwafo was charged with registration of the association using the finalized version of the constitution.

Due to the late start (arrival) of delegates, the agenda was not exhausted.

### **Other Activities:**

#### **Soccer:**

MATATAS FC of Mn outplayed a formidable all Cameroonian team from the Midwest.

#### **Gala Night**

The gala was a big success thanks to the efforts of everyone present.

#### **BBQ:**

Fru Marius Atanga and family hosted guest at their house in Blaine.

## **Cultural Night:**

1. Mrs. Muma Erica (DC branch) opened the night with the traditional musical welcome song.
2. Nkah Nikwi group of DC,
3. MA/NE dance group (with the kids leading).
4. MACUDA MN
  - bottle dance
  - Fashion Parade
5. Traditional exhibition; Mr. Ernest Mbangari.
6. The DC Mbagalum dance group carried the day with the first of its kind attraction in MN.
7. The success of the singles night can only be evaluated here in DC by the number of relationships resulting from the MN experience.

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