

MINUTES OF THE 5TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF NNEWI USA And KEYNOTE SPEECH

DATE: JULY 29, 2000. VENUE: NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

The convention was called to order by Isaac Emefo, VP NUSA, who after a spirited welcome chant of "Anaedo Kwenu, Anaedo Kwenu, Odinma Anaedo, asked Mrs. Pamela Ulasi to say opening prayers. Following the prayers, he introduced the moderators for the convention, Dr. Chris Ulasi and Mr. Sylvan Odobulu.

The President's Opening Remark:

There was no official presidential opening remark. The President Dr. Michael Obiora did not make it to the venue of the convention on the opening day, but able to make it on the subsequent days.

SCHOOL REHABILITATION COMMITTEE REPORT Report was presented by Mr. Nnaerika Okonkwo, Chairman, Rehabilitation Committee

The Committee report was distributed to the assembly members He presented a summary of the report and called for those who have not yet come through with their outstanding dues, pledges and donation to do so. He announced that IRS tax-exempt status for NUSA has been secured. He therefore encourage

1st Distinguished Speaker: DR. DOZIE IKEDIFE - Dr. Chris Ulasi introduced Dr. Dozie Ikedife.

Dr. Ikedife began by thanking NUSA for inviting him as a special speaker. He paid respect to Igwe Nnewi who missed the meeting for circumstances not of his own making. He greeted Dr. Nlogha Okeke, Dr. Okey Chidolue, former President of NUSA.

He paid tribute to the academic brilliance of Chike Momah and the likes in the assembly. In a speech punctuated by delightful proverbs, Dr. Ikedife touched on issues of importance to Nnewi. He talked about rededication, commitment, sacrifice and civic responsibility. On the Igwe, he noted that the title of OBI Nnewi became a bone of contention. The celebration of OKAM, a title research and agreed upon by the Igwe's Royal Cabinet. Under the leadership of Chief Z. C. Obi (Chairman of the Royal Cabinet) and Professor Ndolue Egbuonu.

NNEWI UNITY

Nnewi is one town and is recognized as such by the Constitution of Nigeria. There is no good reason to kill a good thing. "United We Stand, Divided We Fall. On Nnewi development, he noted that proper urban planning is essential for Nnewi growth. A master plan for Nnewi development. Cooperation within Nnewi and neighbors is paramount.

NUSA's role: LUNCH – Dr. Nlogha Okeke Address

Dr. Okeke gave an impassioned address, albeit unplanned (substitute) in addressed the issue of respect, integrity, cooperation and development. He suggested involving the state and federal government in the various capital projects because of the amount involved. He admonished NUSA to avoid over emphasis on the four village structure, thereby creating division. Nnewi must participate in the civil service sector, participate in the political system. Nnewi should produce and support a get one of her's elected governor of Anambra.

Q & A: What is role of Industrialist in Nnewi?

Industries contribute to Nnewi's progress and tax base. But corruption is rampant. Civil servants, police officer request transfer to Nnewi because of the high prospect of enriching themselves through corrupt practices. Lack of infrastructure adds to the cost of manufacturing and ultimately to the cost of consumer goods.

How can we help ourselves?

We must emulate the practice of helping ourselves through cooperative and self-help endeavors. We learn to conduct

President's State of NUSA Report:

Dr. Obiora gave his annual report and used the opportunity to thank his predecessors for their pioneering effort. He extended appreciation to other individuals in Nnewi and outside whose commitment and personal sacrifice and effort has contributed to the take off and progress made so far.

A board of Trustee, made of Chief Ajulu Uzodike, Professor Obienu, Chief D.V.C. Obi, Mrs. Ngozi Agbasi and Chief xxxxxxxxxx was constituted to handle specific projects, such as the ongoing Nnewi School Rehabilitation project. NUSA has established a Website: www.nnewiusa.org. He urged every member to contribute to the development of the site so as to make it very exciting, interactive, inclusive and educational. He will propose the formation of the Organization of Nnewi citizens out of Nigeria –specifically in Europe, United States, and Latin America.

Organize Nnewi to achieve its rightful place in Nigeria.

He quickly went through the Nnewi School Rehabilitation project and have opened a bankaccount
GENERAL ASSEMBLY Chapter Resolution & Report: 15 minutes

1. Washington, D.C. Presented by Akabudu Egwuatu and 2. Los Angeles: Ofili Uba 3. Dallas 4. Boston 5. New York TriState 6. Atlanta 7. Houston 8. North Carolina 9. Chicago: 10. Austin: Emeka Emenike

OPEN FORUM:

Mrs. Ifeoma Okeke on Abiriba self-help effort. Response by Ikenga Nnewi on the cultural differences between Nnewi and Abiriba. Mr. Tony Ndum comments. Mr. Ike Mbelu on the fate of the standing committees. Dr. Mike Obiora responded by suggesting that the standing committees have become moribund because members have become inactive. However, presentation by Okey Chidolue and Nnaerika Okonkwo are variations on same sort of work the sub-committee. The activities of the Bakassi vigilante group is a desperate reaction to solve or contain situation.

PROPOSAL FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS:

1. Los Angeles: Ofili Uba (refer to proposed submission) The proposal submitted by Los Angeles and New York raised issue of procedure and time needed to address this. In the interest of time Los Angeles and New York deferred their request till next year.

LEO ENENDU Mr. Enendu admonished the Executive to make sure that in future conventions, we must endeavor to include a plan to entertain and take care of the children.

FINANCIAL REPORT Mr. Henry Mbonu and Ogo Orizu presented the annual financial statement and budget for NUSA.

Questions regarding the rising cost of the teleconference could be reduced by employing alternative means of conducting the teleconference. Dr. Ulasi will explore such alternatives. The budget was brought up for vote and passed unanimously.

Keynote Address

by

Dr. Dozie Ikedife

Dr. Chris Ulas, NUSA General secretary, introduced Dr. Dozie Ikedife, he began by thanking NUSA for inviting him as a special speaker. He paid respect to Igwe Nnewi who missed the meeting for circumstances not of his own making. He greeted Dr. Nlogha Okeke, Dr. Okey Chidolue, and former President of NUSA. He paid tribute to the academic brilliance of Chike Momah and the likes in the assembly. In a speech punctuated by delightful proverbs, Dr. Ikedife touched on issues of importance to Nnewi. He talked about rededication, commitment, sacrifice and civic responsibility.

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