

FIRST DRAFT

[ms-0-23.001.017.00]

THE BLACK INTERNATIONAL

An Organization to promote unity and co-operation among all peoples of African origin and ancestry throughout the world in the common struggle for freedom, human dignity and peace.

THE GENERAL OBJECT:

The peoples of African origin and ancestry of the Americas and the Island of the Caribbean and elsewhere recognizing their common ancestry and heritage with the peoples of Africa and the necessity to further in unison the common struggle for freedom, human dignity and peace, join with their brothers and sisters on the African continent and hereby establishes in the name of all African people as a symbol of our unity the organization known as the THE BLACK INTERNATIONAL, hereinafter called the organization; and for the better carrying out of the objects herein before stated. The organization will:

- A. Actively aid and assist in the struggle of African people against the racist policy of apartheid, and to remove the remaining vestiges of oppression, colonialism and the neo-colonialism from the African continent.
- B. Participate fully in the struggle of black Americans against white racism and white oppression.
- C. Promote mutual aid and understanding among people of African origin and ancestry throughout the world.

STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION:

Provisional Council:

There shall be a Provisional Council of the organization which shall consist of the Pioneers of the organization.

The Pioneers of the organization shall be all persons of African origin or ancestry who shall on or before the 30th day of September, 1968 have subscribed their names as direct members of the organization and have made a monetary contribution to the organization.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

The members of the Provisional Council shall by majority vote as soon as is convenient after the 30th day of September, 1968 elect a Chairman of the Council who shall preside over all meetings of the Council. The Chairman of the Council shall not have an original vote but in case of an equality of votes on an issue, the Chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL:

The Council shall be the official policy making body of the organization. Its decisions shall be conveyed to the Executive Secretary by the Chairman.

Not later than one year after the 30th day of September, 1968. the Chairman shall convene a meeting of the Council and the Council shall draw up a constitution for the organization which shall supercede this provisional constitution.

The decisions of the Council shall be by majority vote.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

There shall be an Executive Secretary of the organization who shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions and programmes of the Council, and who shall be assisted by such officers as the Council may from time to time determine. The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the members of the Council.

PROVISIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

Until such time as an Executive Secretary is appointed by the Council in accordance with the provisions of this provisional constitution , the Provisional Executive Secretary of the organization shall be Harold K. Brown.

The Provisional Executive Secretary is hereby charged with the responsibility of giving effect to the provisions of this provisional constitution, and until such time as the Council approves the projects of the organization he shall promote with the assistance of the Pioneers, the projects described in the schedule hereto.

The Provisional Executive Secretary shall convene the first meeting of the Provisional Council for the purpose of electing a Chairman of the Council. He shall preside over such election. In this election, the Provisional Executive Secretary shall not have an original vote, but in case of an equality of votes, he shall cast the deciding vote.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Financial support of the organization shall be derived from:-

- A. Contributions from the Pioneers.
- B. Contributions from such organizations and bodies as endorse or support the objects of the organization.

Until such time as the constitution provides otherwise, all contributions shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary, who shall deposit the same into an account on behalf of and in the name of the organization. The Executive Secretary shall hold such funds in trust until such time as the Council shall decide the disposal of such funds, providing that the Provisional Executive Secretary is authorised to spend an amount not exceeding 1000 U.S. dollars from contributions received in promoting the activities of the organization until such time as the

Central Council makes other provisions.

THE SCHEDULE:

Projects of the organization:

1. The organization shall in consultation with the independent African States promote a scheme to recruit persons of African descent with professional or technical skills to assist in the development programmes of the African States.
2. The organization shall in consultation with the independent Black States recruit volunteer corpsmen from among peoples of african origin or ancestry to provide middle level skills to the developing countries, and to identify themselves with the black people of the world.
3. The organization shall actively assist and support the present struggle to liberate the black people of Southern Africa.