



THE CONSTITUTION OF GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA

NOVEMBER, 2017

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TABLE OF CONTENT

PREAMBLE	1
ARTICLE 1.0 NAME	2
ARTICLE 1.1 CORPORATE HEADQUARTER	2
ARTICLE 1.2 DEFINITIONS	2
ARTICLE 1.3 VISION	2
ARTICLE 1.4 MISSION	2
ARTICLE 2.0 OBJECTIVES	3
ARTICLE 3.0 MEMBERSHIP	4
ARTICLE 3.1 STUDENT MEMBERS	5
ARTICLE 3.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	5
ARTICLE 3.3 FULL MEMBERS	5
ARTICLE 3.4 CORPORATE MEMBERS	5
ARTICLE 3.5 SUSTAINING MEMBER	5
ARTICLE 3.6 HONORARY MEMBERS	6
ARTICLE 3.7 FELLOWS	6
ARTICLE 3.8 ENROLMENTS INTO MEMBERSHIP	6
ARTICLE 3.9 CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP	6
ARTICLE 3.10 REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS	7
ARTICLE 3.10.1 STUDENT MEMBERS	7
ARTICLE 3.10.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	7
ARTICLE 3.10.3 FULL MEMBERS	7
ARTICLE 3.10.4 CORPORATE MEMBERS	8
ARTICLE 3.10.5 SUSTAINING MEMBER	8
ARTICLE 3.10.6 HONORARY MEMBERS	8
ARTICLE 3.10.7 FELLOWS	8

ARTICLE 3.11 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP	8
ARTICLE 4.0 ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION	9
ARTICLE 4.1 GENERAL ASSEMBLY	9
ARTICLE 4.1.1 COMPOSITION OF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY	9
ARTICLE 4.1.2 TIME OF HOLDING ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY	9
ARTICLE 4.1.3 FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	10
ARTICLE 4.1.4 QUORUMS	10
ARTICLE 4.1.5 POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	10
ARTICLE 4.2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES	10
ARTICLE 4.3 THE COUNCIL	11
ARTICLE 4.3.1 GEOSON COUNCIL	11
ARTICLE 4.3.2 COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL	11
ARTICLE 4.3.3 FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL	11
ARTICLE 4.3.4 MEETINGS OF COUNCIL	12
ARTICLE 4.4 THE EXECUTIVES	12
ARTICLE 4.4.1 FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVES	12
ARTICLE 4.4.2 OFFICES OF THE EXECUTIVES	13
ARTICLE 4.5 STATE BRANCHES	18
ARTICLE 4.6 The GEOSON Students	18
ARTICLE 5.0 ELECTION & ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS	18
ARTICLE 5.1 OBJECTION TO NOMINATIONS	19
ARTICLE 5.2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS	19
ARTICLE 5.3 RETURNING OFFICERS	19
ARTICLE 5.4 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE	20
ARTICLE 6.0 SUBSIDIARY BODIES	20
ARTICLE 7.0 STANDING COMMITTEES	20
ARTICLE 7.1 MEMBERSHIP OF STANDING COMMITTEES	21

ARTICLE 7.1.1 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	21
ARTICLE 7.1.2 EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE	21
ARTICLE 7.1.3 PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE	21
ARTICLE 7.1.4 WELFARE COMMITTEE.....	21
ARTICLE 7.1.5 PUBLICATION COMMITTEE	22
ARTICLE 7.1.6 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE.....	22
ARTICLE 7.1.7 NOMINATION / ELECTION COMMITTEE	22
ARTICLE 7.1.8 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE	23
ARTICLE 7.1.9 Editorial Committee	24
ARTICLE 7.2 TENURE	24
ARTICLE 7.3 AD-HOC COMMITTEE	24
ARTICLE 8.0 FINANCES.....	24
ARTICLE 8.1 FISCAL YEAR.....	24
ARTICLE 8.2 SOURCES OF REVENUE	24
ARTICLE 8.2.1 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND LEVIES.....	25
ARTICLE 8.3 ANNUAL BUDGET	25
ARTICLE 8.4 BANK ACCOUNTS	26
ARTICLE 8.5 EXTERNAL AUDITING	26
ARTICLE 8.6 INCOME & PROPERTY	26
ARTICLE 9.0 RESOLUTION AND DIRECTION.....	27
ARTICLE 10.0 ETHICS AND DISCIPLINE	27
ARTICLE 11.0 PERSONNEL	28
ARTICLE 12.0 REPRESENTATION ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES.....	28
ARTICLE 13.0 COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES	28
ARTICLE 14.0 COMMON SEAL.....	29
ARTICLE 15.0 AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION	29

ARTICLE 16.0 DISSOLUTION30
ARTICLE 17.0 CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT.....30

PREAMBLE

The advances in geoinformation have opened many areas of applications of geospatial information for research, development and frontiers of intellectual development. There has been increasing awareness of the use of geospatial information for effective decision-making over the years, coupled with increase availability of both primary and secondary datasets from the practitioners in the country. This has led to the realization for the need to establish a society to promote the multi-disciplinary nature of geospatial information and technology.

In addition, there is an urgent need to adopt policies for promoting greater awareness and public access to standards and coordinated geospatial data production, usage, management and dissemination.

The aim of this Society is therefore to ensure that geospatial information and its services permeate every aspect of the society for accelerated socio-economic development of Nigeria in particular and the World in general.

WHEREAS, Nigerians engaged in the generation and application of Geoinformation whether as scientists, geographers, land surveyors, engineers, geologists, planners, academics and other professionals and students of related disciplines have agreed to come together to form a non-profit, and non-partisan National Body for the development, advancement and applications of Geoinformation technologies:

WHEREAS, there is a need for such body to speak with one voice and offer its advice on national issues related to Geoinformation and to set and maintain standards applicable to Geoinformation as well as enforcement of compliance to the standards.

WE THEREFORE in acknowledgement of the onerous task of pursuing and attaining our under listed aims and objectives in a unified and disciplined manner, do HEREBY MAKE AND GIVE ourselves this Constitution.

ARTICLE 1.0 NAME

The name and short title of this Society shall be "GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA" and the acronym "GEOSON" shall be used in the official language of the Society and on flags, logos, stationeries, etc. of the Society.

ARTICLE 1.1 CORPORATE HEADQUARTER

The National Secretariat/Headquarters of the Society shall be located in Abuja, or any other convenient location within the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria.

ARTICLE 1.2 DEFINITION

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria is incorporated for the development, advancement and applications of Geoinformation in Nigeria. To this end, "Geoinformation" is directly or indirectly spatially referenced to a location on the earth surface; such information includes the attributes of objects above or beneath the earth surface.

ARTICLE 1.3 VISION

To promote and facilitate geospatial information Integration, Knowledge and Innovation sharing among members and institutions in Nigeria and beyond.

ARTICLE 1.4 MISSION

As we recognize that Geoinformation is multidisciplinary in nature, our ethical responsibilities extend to the public, to our clients and to our peers. Accordingly, we acknowledge and identify the basic values of integrity, competence, equality and social awareness and hereafter uphold and advance these values by;

- (i) Supporting and participating in the continuing development of *Geoinformation*;
- (ii) Giving service to mankind in honesty and forthrightness within the ambits of *Geoinformation*;
- (iii) Recognizing the inalienable rights of our members and indeed the rights of other professionals in the quest to develop the course of science and humanity in Nigeria in particular and world at large;
- (iv) Using our expertise for enhancement of human welfare and for the stewardship of national resources via the applications of *Geoinformation*; and
- (v) Advancement of *Geoinformation* through encouragement and promotion of cutting edge, technologies, research, applications, and development.

ARTICLE 2.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* are as follows:

- (a) To initiate, coordinate and advance scientific knowledge and research in the various disciplines where *Geoinformation* is applicable in Nigeria and beyond.
- (b) To provide avenue for free exchange of ideas between members of *GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA* in Nigeria and other countries of the world.
- (c) To promote public awareness for the applications of *Geoinformation* and the related sciences.
- (d) To promote and encourage research, training and education in *Geoinformation*.
- (e) To establish, maintain and enforce standards for competence and

Performance for the various disciplines in *Geoinformation* management and the related Sciences.

- (f) To encourage the publishing, circulation and exchange of scientific papers, journals, dealing with *Geoinformation* and other related sciences.
- (g) To hold conferences, seminars, workshops, exhibitions, lectures, discussions, technical tours and social events concerned with particular aspects of *Geoinformation* and related disciplines.
- (h) To further and foster the national and international recognition and understanding of *Geoinformation* and its various applications.
- (i) To recognize and honour achievers in any areas of *Geoinformation* by administering varieties of awards to honour the achievements of individuals, groups or institutions.

ARTICLE 3.0 MEMBERSHIP

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

The categories of membership in *GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA* shall be classified thus:

- i. *Student Members*
- ii. *Associate Members*
- iii. *Full Members*
- iv. *Corporate Members*
- v. *Sustaining Members*
- vi. *Honorary Members*
- vii. *Fellows*

ARTICLE 3.1 STUDENT MEMBERS

A Student Member shall be a person pursuing full time undergraduate course in a recognized university, College or Polytechnic in the production, management, analysis and application of Geoinformation, and other related fields.

ARTICLE 3.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

An associate member shall be a person who is undergoing training in the production, management, and application of Geoinformation in a recognized Tertiary institution.

ARTICLE 3.3 FULL MEMBERS

A member shall be an individual who is a graduate of recognized tertiary institution offering training programme in the production, management, analysis and application of Geoinformation. He/she shall be entitled to all right to vote, the right to hold office.

ARTICLE 3.4 CORPORATE MEMBERS

A Corporate Member shall be an organization registered under **Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2004** who has fulfilled the requirements for enrolment as a Member under **Article 3.8** of this Constitution. The corporate member shall pay annual due to be determined by the Council.

ARTICLE 3.5 SUSTAINING MEMBER

A sustaining Member shall be an individual or organization with an interest in the objectives of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria or who supports the objectives of the society, wishing to provide financial supports to the work of the Society. A sustaining member shall not be a voting member of the society. A sustaining member shall enjoy privileges and benefits as the Council shall determine.

ARTICLE 3.6 HONORARY MEMBERS

The Society shall confer honorary membership on any eminent scientist in any discipline of Geoinformation or on any person considered and distinguished as having contributed immensely to the growth, sustenance or development of the Society. An honorary member shall not be a voting member of the society. An honorary member shall enjoy privileges and benefits as the Council shall determine.

ARTICLE 3.7 FELLOWS

A Fellow shall be an individual who is an active member of the Society and has contributed immensely to the development of Geoinformation for at least ten years of full membership status. Nominees must have made outstanding contributions in areas of production, application, research, development, administration or education related to Geoinformation, to qualify for the award of Fellow of the Society. The fellow shall pay an annual due to be determined by the Council.

ARTICLE 3.8 ENROLMENTS INTO MEMBERSHIP

An application for enrolment for membership of the Society shall be addressed to the General Secretary and accompanied by curriculum vitae of the applicant's training and experience. The Council shall be responsible for taking decisions on applications for membership.

ARTICLE 3.9 CERTIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 3.9.1 Every person that has been duly accepted as a member or is elevated from one category of membership to another shall be informed in writing without delay enclosing an acceptance form.

ARTICLE 3.9.2 The person accepted/elevated shall sign and return a form of acceptance to the General Secretary with the enrolment/elevation fee and every other subscription or levy for the current year within 3

months after the date of election or elevation, otherwise, such membership or elevation shall be void.

ARTICLE 3.9.3 Every corporate member or associate who has complied with the provision of Article 3.9.2 above and made the appropriate payments shall receive a membership certificate. The certificate shall remain the property of GEOSON and in event of loss of membership other than death, shall be returned to the Society on request.

ARTICLE 3.10 REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

The names and addresses of all members of GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA shall be entered in a register which shall be kept in the office of the General Secretary, and every member shall from time to time notify the secretariat of any change thereof and any other information as may be necessary to update the register.

ARTICLE 3.10.1 STUDENT MEMBERS

A Student Member shall provide a reference letter from the Head of Department or Dean of Faculties/Studies alongside with their student identity card.

ARTICLE 3.10.2 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

An associate member shall be a person with a degree/diploma in unrelated discipline and at the present undergoing a postgraduate training in an accredited/recognized tertiary institution.

ARTICLE 3.10.3 FULL MEMBERS

A full member shall be an individual who is a graduate of an accredited/recognized tertiary institution.

ARTICLE 3.10.4 CORPORATE MEMBERS

A Corporate Member shall be an organization registered under **Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2004** with at least a fully employed / non - contract GEOSON registered member of staff.

ARTICLE 3.10.5 SUSTAINING MEMBER

A sustaining Member shall be an individual or organization with an interest in the objectives of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria or who supports the objectives of the society.

ARTICLE 3.10.6 HONORARY MEMBERS

Any person considered and distinguished, as having contributed immensely to the growth, sustenance or development of the Society.

He/She shall be nominated by any member to the secretariat for consideration and ratification by the Council.

ARTICLE 3.10.7 FELLOWS

A fellowship candidate must be nominated by at least two (2) members. A nominee must have made outstanding contributions in areas of production, application, research, development, administration or education related to Geoinformation for at least ten years of full active membership status.

A nominee shall not be less than 45 years of age at the time of nomination.

ARTICLE 3.11 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

A person shall cease to be a member of the Society subject to the approval of the council if he/she is:

- i. Found guilty by the society of a professional misconduct of such a nature as may downgrade the Society or necessitate the suspension and cancellation of his membership certificate.

- ii. Convicted by a court of law of a criminal offence.
- iii. In arrears of subscription and levies for a period of more than twenty-four months provided that at any time, if he shall give to the council sufficient reason to do so, he may be readmitted into membership upon payment of all arrears.

ARTICLE 4.0 ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION

For the purpose of organizing and administering of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*, the governing bodies are as follows:

- i. The *General Assembly*
- ii. The *Board of Trustees*,
- iii. The *Council*
- iv. The *Executives*
- v. The *State Branches*
- vi. The *GEOSON Student*

ARTICLE 4.1 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 4.1.1 COMPOSITION OF ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

All categories of membership of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall have a right of attendance and participation at the *Annual General Assembly* after fulfilling all necessary requirements.

ARTICLE 4.1.2 TIME OF HOLDING ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

There shall be an *Annual General Assembly* of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* to be held in the last quarter of the year and it shall be called the *Annual General Assembly (AGA)*.

ARTICLE 4.1.3 FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a. Approves the minutes of the proceedings and discuss matters arising thereof.
- b. Nominates and elects membership of Standing Committee
- c. Receives and considers officers report.
- d. Approves the annual budget and programme of action prepared by the General Secretary for the ensuing year.
- e. Appoints the Society's External Auditor and discuss its remuneration thereto.
- f. Conducts election of officers for the election year.

ARTICLE 4.1.4 QUORUMS

The quorum for the Annual General Meeting shall be one-third of registered members at the time of commencement of meeting.

ARTICLE 4.1.5 POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- i. The general assembly shall have the power to dissolve and reconstitute any organ of the society.
- ii. The General assembly shall have power to consider, review, accept or otherwise override reports, decisions of other arms of the society.

ARTICLE 4.2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ARTICLE 4.2.1 Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall, for the purpose of Part 'C' of Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2004, elect trustees at the Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 4.2.2 Such trustees shall not be less than two or more than seven in number but must include where possible two founding

members of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* and they shall be called "The Registered Trustees of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*".

ARTICLE 4.2.3 An honorary member of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall NOT be elected a trustee.

ARTICLE 4.2.4 An elected trustee shall hold office for a term of 5 years renewable but may be advised to leave/withdraw on grounds of ill health or other considerations.

ARTICLE 4.3 THE COUNCIL

ARTICLE 4.3.1 GEOSON COUNCIL

The Council shall be called the **GEOSON COUNCIL**

ARTICLE 4.3.2 COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall be governed by a Council whose composition shall be

- (a) The chairman of the Board of Trustees
- (b) The past President(s).
- (c) The elected president and the *General Secretary of GEOSON*.
- (d) Chairman of the State branches plus Federal Capital Territory.
- (e) Two elected members of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* from the tertiary institutions.
- (f) Two student representatives.

ARTICLE 4.3.3 FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

The Council shall perform the following functions:

- i. Membership registration and elevation.
- ii. Conduct membership examination and assessment

- iii. Advance frontiers of *Geoinformation* in Nigeria through regional, national and international collaboration for research, conference, workshop etc.
- iv. To review and approve the annual budget presented by the executive.
- v. To ratify disciplinary action against erring members based on the recommendations from the executive.

ARTICLE 4.3.4 MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

- i. There shall be a minimum of 2 council meetings and a maximum of 4 council meetings to be held in any one year being evenly spaced.
- ii. Emergency Council meetings can be convened as and when necessary.
- iii. The Council may at any time and whenever requested in writing by at least one-third of the members thereto, summon an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting with a minimum notice of twenty one days before the holding of such meeting.

ARTICLE 4.4 THE EXECUTIVES

ARTICLE 4.4.1 FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVES

- (a) To initiate policies and plans for consideration and approval by the Council/AGA.
- (b) To make rules and regulations in pursuance of the aims and objectives of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.
- (c) To execute all resolutions and decisions taken at the Annual General Assembly and other meetings.
- (d) To report all activities of committees to the Annual General Assembly and other meetings.
- (e) To appoint, supervise and guide standing committees, special committees and ad-hoc/working groups to carry out their tasks.

- (f) Maintain register of professionally registered membership of GEOSON.

ARTICLE 4.4.2 OFFICES OF THE EXECUTIVES

The Officers of Geoinformation Society shall be members elected at Annual General Assembly to wit:

- (a) The President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) The General Secretary
- (d) The Assistant General Secretary
- (e) The Public Relations Secretary
- (f) The Financial Secretary
- (g) The Treasurer
- (h) The Internal Auditor
- (i) And such other officers as the Annual General Assembly may from time to time approve which shall include, but not be limited to the Assistant Public Relations Secretary /Chairpersons of Standing Committees.
- (j) Chairpersons and Secretaries of the State Branches of the Society, who shall be elected by their respective State Congresses.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.1 THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY

The president of the Society shall be the principal elective officer of the Society; he shall preside at Annual and Special Meetings of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria. He shall be the secretary of the council.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.1.1 DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

The president shall perform the following functions and duties:

- a. According to the decisions and intensions of the *General Assembly* and the *Council*.
- b. Represent *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* or delegate a member or members in its dealings with national or international institutions or organizations whose activities are of interest to *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.
- c. Cooperate with other international organizations concerned with the production and application of *Geoinformation*, and other similar disciplines
- d. Direct the *General Secretary* to inform and communicate to members date, place, and agenda of the next *Annual General Assembly* and also communicate to members' decisions taken at extraordinary meetings of the *General Assembly*.
- e. Provide guidance for promoting the welfare and effectiveness of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* and perform all such other duties incidental to the office of *President* or as may be prescribed by the *Council*.
- f. Be a signatory to the Bank accounts of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.2 VICE PRESIDENT

- a. The *Vice President* shall assist the *President* in the duties of his /her office when called upon by the president to do so.
- b. Where circumstances make it impossible for the *President* to act in his office, the *Vice President* shall act on his/her behalf.

- c. The Vice President is elected by a plurality of the voting membership at *General Assembly* by simple majority.
- d. Coordinate and Supervise activities relating to *International Commitments of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.
- e. Coordinate and Supervise activities of State branches.
- f. Perform any duty the President may assign from time to time

ARTICLE 4.4.2.3 GENERAL SECRETARY

The *General Secretary* of the Society shall:

- (i) Write and dispatch all letters and correspondences of the *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.
- (ii) Collate and keep records and distribute and circulate information of the *Standing and Ad hoc Committees, Education and Training Committee* and any other committee report generated within and without the *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*
- (iii) Perform the duties of *Secretary of the General Assembly* and of the *Council*.
- (iv) Prepare for the approval of the President, the annual expenditure profile of the *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*
- (v) Keep the *Register of Members of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.
- (vi) Ensure the regular publication of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria Annual Report* and the *Bulletin* or any other periodical or electronic communication.

- (vii) Prepare annual budget and work programme of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria for Annual General Assembly.
- (viii) Perform any other duty, which the President may assign to him/her.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.4 ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY

- i. The Assistant General Secretary of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall support and assist the General Secretary in the effective administration of the Secretariat of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.
- ii. He shall also perform such other functions as shall be specifically directed by the Council to be the duties of the office of the Assistant General Secretary.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.5 PUBLIC RELATIONS SECRETARY

- i. The office of the Public Relations Secretary shall work for the effective enhancement of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria through improved public awareness.
- ii. He/She shall carry out any Publicity duties which the president or Secretary- General shall assign to him.
- iii. Be the Chairman of the Editorial Board of Newsletters and the *GEOINFORMATION SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (GEOSON) JOURNAL*.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.6 FINANCIAL SECRETARY

The duties of Financial Secretary shall include the following:

- i. To receive monies (registration fees, subscription, Participation fees or any other levy) from members of Geoinformation Society

of Nigeria and shall remit such monies to the treasurer within 48 hours after receipt of such monies.

- ii. Prepare and present at meetings the report of the financial status of members.
- iii. The Vice President shall preside as chairman of the Financial Committee; and coordinate resolutions for consideration by General Assembly.
- iv. Perform any other duty/duties the President or Council shall assign to him/her.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.7 TREASURER

The duties of the Treasurer shall be as follows:

- a. To receive from the financial secretary and safe keep all monies collected for Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.
- b. To deposit such monies in the appropriate bank(s) of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.
- c. To settle all bills as may be authorized by the President or the Council.
- d. To make a comprehensive accounting report of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria to the Annual General Assembly.
- e. To be a signatory to the bank account(s) of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.

ARTICLE 4.4.2.8 INTERNAL AUDITOR

The internal Auditor shall examine all books of account to ensure the correctness or otherwise, of the income and expenditure account for each quarter of the year and prepare a report to Council.

ARTICLE 4.5 STATE BRANCHES

- 4.5.1** There shall be state Branches of the Society in the thirty-six (36) states and the Federal Capital Territory of the federation.
- 4.5.2** Chairpersons, Secretaries and other Officers of State Branches shall be elected at a *General Meeting of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* at State level.
- 4.5.3** The State Branches shall form its own Standing or Ad-hoc Committees to carry out specific tasks from time to time. The tenure of a State Branch Officer terminates at the end of **two fiscal years** of the Society and renewable for another (1) term.
- 4.5.4** Chairpersons of State Branches must submit periodical reports to the Secretariat for insertion in the newsletter and shall present annual reports to the Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 4.6 The GEOSON Students

- 4.5.1** There shall be the national student body of the Society from all the tertiary institutions in the federation.
- 4.5.2** Chairpersons, Secretaries and other Officers of each tertiary institution Branches shall be elected at their institutional level.
- 4.5.3** The Student body shall form its own Standing or Ad-hoc Committees to carry out specific tasks from time to time. The tenure of a Student Body Officer terminates at the end of **each academic year** of the institution.

ARTICLE 5.0 ELECTION & ELIGIBILITY OF OFFICERS

For purpose of eligibility of a member of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria to stand for election, the following prerequisites shall mandatorily be complied with:

- (a) Persons wishing to stand for election into any of the Elective offices must be active and be in good standing financially.
- (b) Nominations of such active and financial members shall be made to the Nominating Committee.
- (c) Nomination of proposed elective officers shall be carried out by filling and returning to the Nominating Committee, the appropriate nomination form obtainable from State Branch Nomination Chairperson or the General Secretary of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.
- (d) The final list of Nominees shall be announced to the members of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria 60 clear days before the Annual General Assembly through the following medium:
 - (i) Attached to Notice and Agenda of Annual General Assembly
 - (ii) Published by the Nominating Committee and sent to the Secretariat.

ARTICLE 5.1 OBJECTION TO NOMINATIONS

Objections to a nominee's eligibility shall be sent in writing to reach the Secretariat 7 clear days before the Annual General Assembly. Such objection shall state the full names of the petitioner, home and office addresses, and the reason(s) for objecting and must be signed by the petitioner.

ARTICLE 5.2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of elective officers shall be done at the Annual General Assembly by a simple majority of members present.

ARTICLE 5.3 RETURNING OFFICERS

Election shall be by Secret Ballot with a certifying Returning Officer elected at Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 5.4 REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

An elected officer of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* can be removed from office on a vote of no confidence passed by two-thirds majority of members present at an *Annual General Assembly* where the officer fails to discharge his duties or is adjudged guilty of misconduct by the *Disciplinary Committee* and ratified by the *Council*.

ARTICLE 6.0 SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall promote the establishment of subsidiary bodies such as *Geoinformatics Lecturers' Society of Nigeria* and *Geoinformation Students Society of Nigeria*.

ARTICLE 7.0 STANDING COMMITTEES

The standing *Committees of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall be appointed by the *Council*. All *Committees* shall report to the *Council* through the *President*.

There shall be the following *Standing Committees of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*:

- (i) *Membership Committee*
- (ii) *Education & Training Committee*
- (iii) *Publicity/Public Relation Committee*
- (iv) *Disciplinary Committee*
- (v) *Nomination / Election Committee*
- (v) *Financial Committee*
- (vi) *Editorial Committee*

ARTICLE 7.1 MEMBERSHIP OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The membership of a Committee shall consist of a Chairman and a Secretary nominated by the Council.

ARTICLE 7.1.1 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Committee shall consist of a Chairman and Secretary. The committee shall establish an aggressive and strategic membership drive and programme at the beginning of every calendar year. The committee shall liaise with education, Publicity, welfare and financial committees to achieve its goal.

ARTICLE 7.1.2 EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

This Committee shall consist of a Chairman and Secretary. The committee shall arrange and effect educational, scientific and technical workshops, seminars, Conferences, exhibitions and lectures. It shall liaise with other organizations both national and international for the purpose of carrying out its work.

ARTICLE 7.1.3 PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATION COMMITTEE

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall maintain good public relations with other organizations, society's institutions and the general public. The Publicity and Public Relation Committee shall ensure that this aim is carried out effectively.

ARTICLE 7.1.4 WELFARE COMMITTEE

The welfare Committee shall cater for the special interest and welfare of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria, members and other organizations under it.

ARTICLE 7.1.5 PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall have an active publication programme to foster and promote the exchange of knowledge, ideas and information about sciences, technology and operations in Geoinformation, and other related disciplines.

ARTICLE 7.1.6 DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist if possible of at least two past presidents of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria when applicable, and five other members who have served as officers of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria. The Chairman and Secretary shall be elected by the Annual General Assembly while the rest of the members shall be nominated by the council.

ARTICLE 7.1.7 NOMINATION / ELECTION COMMITTEE

This Committee shall be responsible for carrying out all the functions referred to in Article 5 and other relevant sections of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 7.1.7.1 VOTING

ARTICLE 7.1.7.1.1 All members of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria except honorary, corporate and sustaining members have the right to personally or by proxy vote at meetings.

ARTICLE 7.1.7.1.2 Only members who have paid their membership dues and levies or such other levies shall be entitled to vote or be voted for.

ARTICLE 7.1.7.1.3 One third of the registered members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting. The presiding officer shall check that a quorum is formed otherwise, he/she may order adjournment until a quorum is formed.

ARTICLE 7.1.7.1.4 A simple majority vote constitute approval at any motion in issue.

ARTICLE 7.1.8 FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

The General assembly shall nominate at the Annual General Assembly seven members of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria from each of 6 geopolitical Zones of Nigeria plus one member from the Federal Capital Territory to serve as members of the financial Committee.

ARTICLE 7.1.8.1 The Financial Committee shall

- (i) Advise the council on all financial matters at any time upon the request of the Council.
- (ii) Ensure that the out-going Treasurer hands over the accounts and funds of the Society to the new Treasurer. The new financial committee shall replace the out-going financial committee at the same time as the changeover of Treasurers, and shall report to the Council that the change-over has been satisfactorily accomplished.
- (iii) Examine the report of internal and external Auditors and submit its recommendations to the Council and Annual General Meeting.
- (iv) Advise Council on the amount of annual membership subscription and whatever levies Geoinformation Society of Nigeria may impose on members but the Council is not bound by its advice.

ARTICLE 7.1.8.2 In the event that a member of the financial Committees is unable to continue in office on the advice of the remaining members of the Committee, the Council may approve a replacement.

ARTICLE 7.1.9 Editorial Committee

ARTICLE 7.2 TENURE

The tenure of a Committee shall coincide with the term of the Council. The Council shall provide to Committee Chairpersons, guidance on the topics to be considered by the Committee. The Chairperson of a Committee shall prepare a report on the Committee's activities for presentation to each regular meeting of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 7.3 AD-HOC COMMITTEE

Ad-hoc Committees may be appointed by the Council to report on special duties or undertake a single task and are automatically terminated upon completion of that task. Assignment of tasks to working groups or Ad-hoc committees shall be in the form of a written letter from the President to the Chairperson with copies to Council members.

ARTICLE 8.0 FINANCES

ARTICLE 8.1 FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the society shall be January to December.

ARTICLE 8.2 SOURCES OF REVENUE

The sources of revenue of the Geoinformation Society shall inter alia be as follows:

- Annual subscription and levies
- Endowment funds.
- Annual General Assembly Calendars and Diaries.
- Workshops
- Exhibitions and Demonstrations.

- Sales of Plaques, Seals, etc.
- Corporate fees by corporate bodies.
- Enrolment Fee.

ARTICLE 8.2.1 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND LEVIES

- a. Membership dues and other levies shall be determined annually by the Council after considering the recommendations of the Financial Committee.
- b. All members excluding honorary members shall pay annual subscriptions and levies upon enrolment of member, he/she shall pay an enrolment fee to the Geoinformation Society.
- c. Payments of enrolment fee, annual subscription (membership fee) or any other levy may be paid at the Annual General Assembly at the beginning of the financial year of the Geoinformation Society.

ARTICLE 8.3 ANNUAL BUDGET

ARTICLE 8.3.1 The detailed budgetary proposal for the next fiscal year of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall be prepared and presented by the General Secretary to President-in-Council and deliberated upon by the Council for onward presentation during the Annual General Assembly and the proposal shall be debated and approved by the House for it to be implemented by the council.

ARTICLE 8.3.2 Operating expenses of Committee shall be included in Geoinformation Society of Nigeria budget process. Committee Chairpersons shall provide estimates and reports of expenses as required by the Council.

ARTICLE 8.4 BANK ACCOUNTS

Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall open and keep bank accounts with reputable banks in the location of the Corporate Headquarters of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria. The signatories to the bank accounts shall be the President, the Treasurer and the General Secretary, out of which two shall be able to cash a Cheque.

ARTICLE 8.5 EXTERNAL AUDITING

The accounts of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall be audited for correctness: the income/expenditure account and balance sheet ascertained, once in every year and reports presented to the Annual General Assembly. One or more Auditors appointed at the preceding Annual General Assembly of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall do the auditing.

ARTICLE 8.6 INCOME & PROPERTY

ARTICLE 8.6.1 *The income and property of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria whenever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria as set forth in this constitution: and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria.*

ARTICLE 8.6.2 *Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officer or servant of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria in return of any service actually rendered to Geoinformation Society of Nigeria but so that no member of the Council or members of the State Branches shall be appointed to any salaried office*

or no other remuneration or profit in money except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses.

ARTICLE 9.0 RESOLUTION AND DIRECTION

ARTICLE 9.1 Resolution taken and passed by the *General Assembly* or the *Council* or any meeting of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall be communicated to members by the *General Secretary*.

ARTICLE 9.2 During the *Annual General Assembly*, *General Assembly* meetings, or any other meetings, at conferences, workshops, symposia of committees, the language in use shall be English except as the *Council* may decide and offer to translate to the language of the attendees.

ARTICLE 9.3 Regulations and directions of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall be established by the *Council* and shall not prejudice the provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE 10.0 ETHICS AND DISCIPLINE

ARTICLE 10.1 Members of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* shall observe and conduct themselves by the highest standards of profession and uphold the honor and integrity of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.

ARTICLE 10.2 Members shall abide by the rules and regulations pertaining to the *Producers and Users of Geoinformation*, refrain from conducts that are detrimental to the public: develop and communicate a professional analysis and opinion without bias or personal interest.

ARTICLE 10.3 The *Council* shall through the *Disciplinary Committee of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* ensure that appropriate sanctions

are handed out to erring members found guilty of misconduct and breaches of the ethics and good name of the profession.

ARTICLE 10.4 The Council shall through the Disciplinary Committee of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria ensure that appropriate sanctions ranging from fines as determined by the committee adjudged by the prevailing dues to the society to suspension where necessary or both and at the highest expulsion.

ARTICLE 11.0 PERSONNEL

ARTICLE 11.1 Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall maintain paid staff at its National Secretariat headed by an Administrative Secretary who shall be responsible to the Executives.

ARTICLE 12.0 REPRESENTATION ON NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES.

ARTICLE 12.1 Representatives of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria on the Boards/Councils of Public and Non-Public Bodies shall be the President or his/her representative. In an emergency meeting the Council may appoint representatives to any Board and seek ratification at the subsequent Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 12.2 All Representatives on External Bodies shall submit reports of proceedings and activities of such bodies to the executives for onward report to the Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 13.0 COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES

ARTICLE 13.1 Geoinformation Society of Nigeria shall cooperate with National and International Institutions or Organizations concerned with Geoinformation and its application.

ARTICLE 14.0 COMMON SEAL

There shall be a common Seal of Geoinformation Society of Nigeria, which shall be in the custody of the General Secretary at the National Secretariat, and he/she shall produce it when required for use by the Trustees. All documents to be executed by the Trustees shall be signed by at least two-third of the trustees and appropriately sealed with the common seal.

ARTICLE 15.0 AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 15.1 Where Geoinformation Society of Nigeria in its Annual General Assembly, or the Council, finds that any provision of this Constitution requires amendment, a Review Panel shall be constituted by the Annual General Assembly, or the Council and shall collate, study and make recommendations on such proposed amendment(s) to the Council. The review panel shall collate suggested amendments from members and shall produce and submit to the General Secretary, motion(s) of Amendments to the Constitution at least sixty days before the Annual General Assembly. This is without prejudice to motion(s) for amendment sent directly to the Annual General Assembly through the Secretary- General.

ARTICLE 15.2 All motions for amendment shall be signed and dated by the member(s) proposing the amendment and forwarded to the General Secretary at least 60 days before the date of the Annual General Assembly.

ARTICLE 15.3 The General Secretary shall make notice of such a motion for amendment and circulate same to members at least 21

days before the date of the Annual General Assembly at which the motion for amendment shall be considered.

ARTICLE 15.4 Amendment(s) can only be made by the voting approval of two-thirds of the members present at the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 16.0 DISSOLUTION

ARTICLE 16.1 In the instances of dissolution of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*, the residual assets of the Society will be turned to one or more organizations incorporated under Part C of Companies and Allied Matters Act 2004, selected by the joint resolution of the Council, the Board of Trustees and the Financial Committee of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria*.

ARTICLE 16.2 Such recipient organizations or institutions shall have objectives similar to that of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* and the organization or institution shall be prohibited from distributing such bequeathed income and assets amongst its members or any other person or organization.

ARTICLE 17.0 CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT

ARTICLE 17.1 This Constitution may be cited as the Constitution of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria, 2017* and shall come into force on such day as the Annual General Assembly of *Geoinformation Society of Nigeria* may by a resolution specify.