

N99000002189

Mr. Basse Thompson Ikpeinyang
18270 SW 142 Place
Miami, Florida 33177
305-284-0915

Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
Division of Corporations
P.O. Box 6237
Tallahassee, Florida 32314

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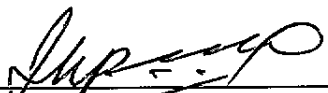
RE: Incorporation

Please find enclosed the Articles of Incorporation of **AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (U.S.A.), INC., MIAMI CHAPTER**, and a Check in the amount of One Hundred Twenty Two Dollars and Fifty cents (\$122.50); being the incorporation fees.

Should you have any questions, you can reach me at 305-284-0915 (Day) or 305-256-1165 (Evening).

Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Basse Thompson Ikpeinyang
(Incorporator)

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

**AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (U.S.A.), INC.
MIAMI CHAPTER
(A Florida Non-Profit Corporation)**

Articles Of Incorporation

ARTICLE 1: NAME OF CORPORATION

The name of this corporation is **AKWA IBOM STATE ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (U.S.A.), INC., MIAMI CHAPTER.**

ARTICLE 2: DURATION OF CORPORATION

The duration of this Corporation is perpetual.

ARTICLE 3: LOCATION OF CORPORATION

Its registered office in the State of Florida is to be located at 18270 SW 142 Place, in the city of Miami, County of Miami-Dade. The registered agent in charge thereof is Mr. Bassey Thompson Ikpeinyang at same address.

ARTICLE 4: PURPOSE OF CORPORATION

The purpose for which the Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter, is organized are:

1. Exclusively charitable, educational, scientific, and cultural, within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law; including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code.
2. To promote and encourage the fostering of unity among the citizens of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria, both at home and abroad.
3. To promote and address the economic, educational, cultural, and social needs, and encourage the well-being of the citizens of Akwa Ibom State of Nigeria in Miami, Florida in particular, and world-wide in general.

4. To cooperate with, and support the efforts of other organizations that share, promote, and subscribe to the views and interest of Akwa Ibom people both at home and abroad; including the Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.) – National, and other such organizations that fit the category as described above.
5. No part of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officials, or any private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensations for services rendered, and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this Article.
6. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
7. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this organization shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.
8. Upon the dissolution of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future Federal Tax Code, or shall be distributed to the Federal Government, or to a State or Local Government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of, shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes, or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

ARTICLE 5:

The corporation shall not have any capital stock.

ARTICLE 6: INCORPORATOR

Section 6.1:

The name and mailing address of the incorporator is as follows: Mr. Bassey Thompson Ikpeinyang of 18270 SW 142 Place, Miami, Florida 33177.

Section 6.2:

The powers of the incorporator are to terminate upon filing of the certificate of incorporation.

**ARTICLE 7:
MEMBERSHIP**

Section 7.1:

Membership shall be open to all Nigerians of Akwa Ibom State origin in the United States of America in general, and South Florida in particular; including other groups and organizations of persons who share and subscribe to the views, interests, beliefs and concerns of the Akwa Ibom people, regardless of race, color, creed, religion, or national origin.

Section 7.2:

Classes of membership shall include:

- a. Organizational;
- b. Honorary; and
- c. Corporate (non-member groups & organizations)

Section 7.3:

An Honorary or Corporate member shall constitute a person, group of persons, and/or organizations of persons, who share and subscribe to the views and interests of Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter. An Honorary or Corporate member can be chosen by the Board of Directors to act on behalf of Akwa Ibom State Association, to further its goals and objectives.

**ARTICLE 8:
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Section 8.1:

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body of Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter, having full power to set policies and procedures, and ensure implementation of all such policies and procedures, including regular business.

Section 8.2:

The Board of Directors shall consist of the current Executive Committee (Officers), and the Patrons of the organization. The names and addresses of the current Board of Directors are as follows:

Mr. Basse Thompson Ikpeinyang, 18270 SW 142 PL., Miami, FL 33177.
Mrs. Philomina Ekwere, 2648 Bahama Dr., Miramar, FL 33023.
Dr. Mike Akpan, 10887 SW 88 Street #430, Miami, FL 33176.
Mrs. Nse Essiet, 19821 NE 13 Ct., N. Miami Beach, FL 33179.
Mr. Buffer Eyo, P.O. Box 970728, Miami, FL 33197.
Mr. Basse Okon, 1190 N. State Road 7 #215, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312.
Dr. Nsidibe N. Ikpe; 13551 S.W. 62 Avenue, Miami, FL 33156
Mr. Inyang John Umoh, 331 SW 195 Street, Pembroke Pines, FL 33029

Section 8.3:

Other members shall be appointed to the Board on an as-need-be basis as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE 9:
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 9.1:

The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers of the organization and the appointed committee chair persons.

Section 9.2:

The Executive Committee shall implement the policies and procedures of Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter as set by the Board of Directors, and shall execute the projects and activities of the Association, consistent with such set policies and procedures.

**ARTICLE 10:
OFFICERS AND ELECTION**

Section 10.1:

Officers:

The officers of the Association shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Public Relations Officer, and such other officers as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine.

Section 10.2:

Election:

The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Public Relations Officer, shall be elected by the general meeting by simple majority.

Section 10.3:

Other Officers:

The President shall appoint other officers as needed, subject to confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Section 10.4:

The following are the names and addresses of the current officers of Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter;


President:	Mr. Bassey Thompson Ikpeinyang, 18270 SW 142 PL., Miami, FL 33177.
V/President:	Mrs. Philomina Ekwere, 2648 Bahama Dr., Miramar, FL 33023.
Secretary:	Dr. Mike Akpan, 10887 SW 88 Street #430, Miami, FL 33176.
Treasurer:	Mrs. Nse Essiet, 19821 NE 13 Ct., N. Miami Beach, FL 33179.
Fin. Secretary:	Mr. Buffer Eyo, P.O. Box 970728, Miami, FL 33197.
Pub. Rel. Officer:	Mr. Bassey Okon, 1190 N. State Road 7 #215, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312.


**ARTICLE 11:
AMENDMENTS**


Section 11.1:


Any part of these Articles of Incorporation may be amended at any scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee at which a quorum is present, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that notice of such amendment has been given to all members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

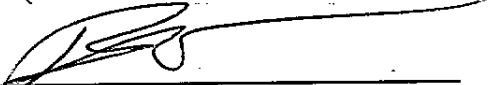
Adopted by the Board of Directors this 20th day of March, 1999.

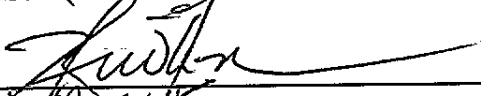
Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Mr. Bassey Thompson Ikpeinyang
President (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Mrs. Philomina Ekwere
V/Pres. (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Dr. Mike Akpan
Secretary (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Mrs. Nse Essiet
Treasurer (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Mr. Buffer Eyo
Fin. Sec. (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

Signed:  Date: 3/20/99
Mr. Bassey Okon
P.R.O. (Akwa Ibom State Association of Nigeria (U.S.A.), Inc., Miami Chapter)

**STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE**

BEFORE ME, a Notary Public authorized to take acknowledgements in the State and County set forth above, personally appeared Bassey T. Ikpeinyang, known by me the person who executed the foregoing Articles of Incorporation, and acknowledged before me that he executed those Articles of Incorporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal in the State and County aforesaid this 17 day of March, 1999.



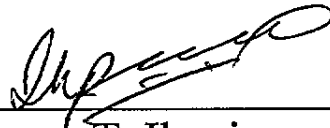
HELEN R. IKPE
My Comm Exp. 6/07/99
Bonded By Service Ins
No. CC469947
 Formerly Notary Other L.D.

Helen R. Ikpe

Notary Public

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named Registered Agent for the above-stated corporation, at the place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, I hereby accept to act in this capacity, and agree to comply with the provisions of said Law, relative to keeping open said office.



Bassey T. Ikpeinyang
(Incorporator)

FILED
99 APR -5 AM 8:15
SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA