

**MAGOROTO MLINGA CONSERVATION AND ECOTOURISM ASSOCIATION  
(MAMCEA)**

**CONSTITUTION OF MAGOROTO MLINGA CONSERVATION AND ECOTOURISM  
ASSOCIATION**

**2009**

**ARTICLE 1**  
**NAME OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association shall be known as “Magoroto Mlinga Conservation and Ecotourism Association” in short (MAMCEA)

**ARTICLE 2**  
**VISION**

The Vision of the Association is “Sustainable biodiversity conservation and ecotourism in Magoroto and Mlinga areas”

**ARTICLE 3**  
**MISSION**

The Mission of this Association is to improve conservation of the Magoroto and Mlinga forests and cultural heritage through ecotourism for the benefit of local and international community, with special focus on conservation of the flagship plant Saintpaulia.

**ARTICLE 4**  
**OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The main objective of the Association is sound integration of forest conservation and community development in Magoroto and Mlinga areas whereby the herein activities shall be undertaken:

- A. Conducting forest conservation activities as stated in Article 6.
- B. Developing community-based ecotourism through activities stated in Article 6.
- C. Or as may be decided by the Association from time to time as the case may be.

**ARTICLE 5**  
**MAIN STAKEHOLDERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The main stakeholders of the Association include and limited to the:

- A. Local communities living adjacent to Magoroto and Mlinga forests,
  - B. Magoroto Estate, Forestry and Beekeeping Division (Tanga Chatchment Forestry Office),
  - C. Muheza District Council,
  - D. Tanzania Tourism Board,
  - E. Tourism service providers,
  - F. Amboni Sisal Properties Limited;
  - G. International development partners (associations, individuals, funding organizations];
- and

- H. Other partners as may be interested and approved by the Association.

## **ARTICLE 6 THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association shall deal with the herein follows activities independently or with technical advice from reliable experts:

### **A. Conservation**

- Raise awareness of the communities in forest and soil conservation;
- Build capacity of the communities in forest and soil conservation techniques
- Forest protection by-law enforcement and monitoring of illegal activities in the forest
- Tree planting activities
- Development of sustainable agriculture
- Monitor the distribution and health of *Saintpaulia* and undertake conservation measures when necessary
- Any other activities pertaining to forest and soil conservation

### **B. Tourism**

- Explore tourism potential of the area
- Improve identified attractions and other tourism facilities
- Build capacity of the forest-adjacent communities in ecotourism development
- Build strategic partnerships with tourism service providers
- Monitoring tourism activities
- Document and preserve cultural heritage as a resource for tourism
- Develop other income generating activities to improve livelihood of the communities (e.g. explore the possibility of selling propagated *Saintpaulia* plants)
- Any other activities pertaining to development of sustainable tourism

## **ARTICLE 7 MEMBERSHIP**

1. The Association will eventually have a total of twenty-five members (five from each village adjacent to Magoroto and Mlinga forests) namely Mwembeni, Magula, Mgambo, Misozwe and Gare.
2. Four members will be elected in Village Assembly for each village and will hold their membership for two years.
3. Village Chairpersons from the respective villages will be Co-opted members.
4. Ward Leaders for the respective wards will play an advisory role to the committee.

5. (1) For the purpose of initializing the association, the Association shall consist of only sixteen members who are currently serving as members of the ecotourism committee and tour guides (pioneers) in Mwembeni and Magula villages.
- (2) The members will be automatically enter as full members for the initial two years, after which they will be elected just like other members.
- (3) The rest three Villages will gradually be included in the Association when the Magoroto Mlinga Community Ecotourism project (MAMCEP) will extend its activities to those Villages.
- (4) Out-going members may be re- elected upon the approval of the Village Assembly of the respective Village.
- (5) The Chairperson, Vice- Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected among the twenty-five members.
- (6) Election shall be conducted after every two years.
- (7) Leaders shall be elected through confidential polling during Annual General Meeting.

## **ARTICLE 8 PRIVILEGES**

Members shall be working on behalf of the whole community adjacent to Magoroto and Mlinga forests in which case all benefits due to the Association undertaking shall be the property of all forest-adjacent villages as stipulated herein Article 7 of this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE 9 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS**

The members of the Association will be responsible for undertaking all activities stipulated herein Article 6 of this Constitution and shall be answerable to the Village Governments of respective villages.

## **ARTICLE 10 TERMINATION OF AND RE-ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP**

If a member fails to attend three consecutive meetings, and/or fail to participate in the undertaking of the activities outlined herein Article 6 of this constitution without any reasonable grounds thereof of which the burden of proof shall lie upon himself/herself, shall be terminated from the Association and the responsible village shall re-elect another members in his/her behalf.

## **ARTICLE 11 OFFICE BEARERS**

1. The Head quarters of the Association shall be located at Mwembeni village, which is also the Magoroto Ward Head quarters.
2. The Association Office bearers shall comprise:
  - (a) The Chairperson,
  - (b) Vice Chairperson
  - (c) Secretary; and
  - (d) Treasurer.
3. The elected leaders shall remain in office for the term of 2 years and may be re-elected after his/her term in the office wherever he/she is reliable.
4. The elected leaders shall be terminated if he/she failed to deliver the services as stated herein Article 6 of this Constitution or for any criminal offence.

## **ARTICLE 12 FUNCTIONS OR DUTIES OF OFFICE BEARERS**

1. Chairperson shall convene all Association meetings in accordance to the Association Constitution.
2. He/she shall collaborate with other leaders on taking care of the Association properties.
3. The Vice Chairperson shall carry out the responsibilities of the Chairperson in absence of the Chairperson
4. The Association Secretary shall be executive person of all Association matters and in particular:
  - a) He/she shall prepare the agenda and invite members to the meetings.
  - b) He/she shall prepare minutes of all Association meetings.
  - c) He/she shall also collaborate with other leaders on taking care of the Association properties as well as assigning duties to tour guides.
  - d) He shall be Signatory under category "B"
5. The Association Treasurer shall keep all financial records, prepare income and expenditure reports, submit reports to responsible authorities, and control all Association expenditures. Association Treasurer shall be Signatory under category "A".

## **ARTICLE 13 PATRON**

1. The Regional Catchment Forestry Manager for Tanga shall be a Patron of the Association.
2. The role of the Patron is to advise the Association.

**ARTICLE 14**  
**MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

1. The Association office bearers will be meeting each after three months (four times a year)
2. The said meeting shall discuss matters pertaining with work performance and shall deal with submission of the quarterly reports.
3. Quarterly and annual reports will be submitted to the Association Patron and to the Muheza District Council.
4. The ward Secretary and /or other leaders will be invited in such meetings when deemed necessary.
5. Other Association meetings shall include and be limited to:-
  - a) Annual General meeting shall be convened once per year and
  - b) Ordinary meeting shall be convened after every two years and shall be responsible for election of leaders.
  - c) The quorum for the meeting shall be three-quarters of the members.
  - d) The special meetings shall be convened whenever needs arise from the office bearers and on approval of the Chairperson.
  - e) The office bearers attending quarterly meetings and members attending annual meetings may be provided with sitting allowance upon the decision by members based on fund availability.
  - f) The Revenue and expenditure and annual work performance shall be one the agenda at any Association meeting.

**ARTICLE 15**  
**INCOME, FUNDS AND PROPERTY**

1. The Committee will set fees payable by the tourists visiting in the area that as may be approved by the Village assemblies of the respective villages and the Muheza District Council.
2. The fees shall be reviewed from time to time where necessary.
3. All income accrued or collected from the activities of the association shall be the property of the whole community and villages adjacent to Magoroto and Mlinga Forests.
4. Other sources of funds for the Association may be Donor support, grants and income generation activities such as tree planting, fish farming, beekeeping etc.
5. The income accrued from activities of the Association shall be strictly used for forest and soil conservation and tourism development as stipulated herein Article 6, and for development activities in the respective villages as may be decided by their village assemblies or as the case may be;

6. Distribution of income shall be as hereunder follows:

- a) Villages shall receive 20% and the rest 80% of income accrued from entry fees shall be directed to the Association, whereas tour guides will receive 70%, villages 15% and Association 15% of income generated from tour guiding.
- b) The Funds shall be saved in the Bank as agreed by members.
- c) The researchers conducting research in the villages shall pay research fees for the Village[s] in which they work.
- d) The income from the research fees shall be used for the development activities in the Village[s].

**ARTICLE 16  
TECHNICAL ADVICE OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Activities will be done under technical support of the Tanga Catchment Forestry Office, Muheza District Natural Resources Office and other development partners (local as well as international associations and individuals).

**ARTICLE 17  
AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

- 1. The Constitution shall be amended whenever deemed necessary or the need to do so arises.
- 2. The Proposals and amendments of the Association shall be transparently discussed by all members during Annual General Meeting

**ARTICLE 18  
SIGNATORIES**

Patron of the Association shall fall under category ‘A’  
Association Secretary shall fall under category “B”  
Association Treasurer shall fall under category “A”

**Approved:**

**1. Chairman– Magoroto Mlinga Conservation and Ecotourism Association (MAMCEA)**

Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....

**2. Secretary Magoroto Mlinga Conservation and Ecotourism Association (MAMCEA)**

Name.....

Signature.....

Date.....