

**CHURCH NAME  
(ASSEMBLY OF GOD)**

**CONSTITUTION**

We, whose names appear upon the Assembly membership roll, believing ourselves to be members of the General Assembly and church of the first-born, whose names are written in heaven (Heb 12:23) and having fully considered the principles and purposes of the Assemblies of God fellowship as set forth in the constitution and By-laws of the General Council of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia, do hereby adopt the same faith and recognize ourselves as an Assembly of God, Malaysia, by the name "CHURCH NAME".

Furthermore, we declare ourselves to be in co-operative fellowship with the General Council of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia.

As a guide for the proper government of our Assembly life, we adopt the following articles and rules of order in respect to membership, officers and business meetings:

**NAME AND ADDRESS**

1. The name of this organization shall be : CHURCH NAME; hereinafter referred to as the "Church".
2. The registered address of the Church is .....

**CHURCH PROPERTY**

1. Any property acquired by the Church shall be vested in three (3) trustees who holds the office of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the official board or any other officers appointed by the Official Board subject to a trust deed.
2. Properties acquired or purchased by the local church through the assistance of the General Council will be entrusted in the name of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia and the disposal of such properties will be subject to joint consultation and agreement. However if the said assistance has been repaid to the General Council and provided that the church is legally registered with a recognized government body, the church can decide to leave the title deed in the name of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia or transfer it in their own church name.

3. The S&P Agreement and Loan Application will be signed by the local trustees designating the property to the “*The Registered Trustees of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia*”.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **RELATIONSHIP TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL**

1. The Church is requested to co-operate with the total program of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia.
2. The Church shall support faithfully the General Council in finance. It is recommended that such support shall constitute its tithe to be sent to the General Council.
3. The Church shall submit an annual report to the General Council declaring its financial and spiritual position of the Church.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any person born of the Spirit (John 3:5), and baptized in water who is living a consistent Christian life and who is in accord with the fundamental teachings and practices of the Assemblies of God fellowship, and who, purposes to co-operate with other members of the Assembly for the propagation of our distinctive Pentecostal testimony, may become an active member by presenting his or her name to any member of the official board, who shall present the name to the Board for approval. If approval of the application is granted, the secretary shall inscribe the name of the member upon the Assembly membership roll. The member may be then publicly received by the pastor at such time as is convenient.
2. The legal voting membership of the Church shall consist of such persons whose names appear on the membership roll, who are of sufficient maturity to assume their full share of responsibility (not less than 16 years old). There shall be those who are in good standing in the assembly, regular contributors to the support of the Church according to their ability and who have not willfully absented themselves from the regular services for a period of six consecutive months prior to the business meeting.

3. The right of discipline of members shall rest in the hands of the pastor in consultation with the Church board, and the names of those who walk disorderly may be removed from the membership roll.

### **ARTICLE III GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS**

#### **Government**

1. The Official Board shall consist of the Pastor, the Church Secretary and the Church Treasurer, together with not less than 2 deacons, 1 Timothy 3:8-13 (Note: if Scriptural material for deacons is not available, then two others may be chosen to act on the Board, without the title of deacons). Board members should not be less than 21 years old.
2. Standing committees may be appointed for any purpose, but all committees shall be auxiliary and subject to the Pastor.

#### **Duties**

1. Duties of the Pastor
  - a. The Pastor shall be considered as the spiritual overseer of the Assembly and shall direct all church activities. He shall be chairman of the Official Board and ex-officio member of all committees.
  - b. The Pastor shall be responsible for all the spiritual services, and shall be entrusted with plans and arrangements for special services, revival meetings, conventions, etc. No person shall be invited to speak or preach in the assembly unless by an understanding and in full harmony with the Pastor's wishes.
  - c. The Pastor shall have the oversight of all visitation work, and may appoint others to assist him in this and in any other activity of the Church.
2. Duties of the Deacons
  - a. The Deacons shall act in an advisory capacity with the Pastor in all matters pertaining to the Church in its spiritual and temporal functions. They shall assist him when called upon in the administration of

applications for membership and also in the administration of the discipline of the Church.

- b. All matters pertaining to the Church life and government shall be attended to by the official board with the exception of those matters which affect the entire body. The official board members must recognize that they have been appointed to serve the Church, and so all important matters shall be passed on to the assembly as recommendations for ratification.

### 3. Duties of Officers

- a. The Secretary shall keep a true and accurate record of all business meetings of the Church and of the official board. He shall also keep the membership roll of the Church, revising it periodically under the direction of the official board.
- b. The Treasurer shall received and disburse all moneys of the assembly under the supervision and by the direction of the official board.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

#### 1. Election of Pastor

- a. The Pastor may be chosen by the Assembly should the pastorate be vacated at a special business meeting called for that purpose. He shall be elected to office by a two-thirds vote of all members present. The vote shall be taken by secret ballot. The said Pastor shall hold up to date credential with the Assemblies of God.
- b. The term of the Pastor's service will be for an indefinite period.

#### 2. Appointment of Officers

- a. The office of Secretary, Treasurer and board members will be appointed by the Pastor to be presented to the congregation two (2) weeks before the annual general meeting of the Church for endorsement. During which any member of the Church can voice their objection to the Pastor or Church Board members with valid reasons. If there is no objection the Church shall endorse the office bearers during the annual general meeting by a show of hands with a 2/3 majority and to be followed by a prayer of dedication.

3. Vacancies

- a. The office in the pastorate may be declared vacant in the event that the Pastor changes his doctrinal views so that they no longer conform to the doctrinal teachings of the General Council, or falls into sin to the extent that his influence in both the assembly and in the community has been curtailed. In the event of such failures, the board will have the right to call in the General Council officially, lay the matter before him, and then together counsel with the Pastor to leave peaceable for the peace and harmony for the assembly life.
- b. Any office may be declared vacant by the Pastor in consultation with the official board at any special business meeting. Grounds for such action shall be (i) unscriptural conduct, (ii) radical departure from the tenets of faith; (iii) falling into sinful practices; (iv) incompetence in office.

**ARTICLE V**

**BUSINESS MEETINGS**

1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Church, to be called by the Pastor, or in the event the pastorate is vacant, by the Secretary of the Church. At this meeting the Pastor may share his vision and direction of the Church for the following calendar year. The Treasurer will make a report of money handled and recommendations for future budgeting.
2. A majority of registered voting members present for any general or special meeting shall constitute a quorum.

**ARTICLE VI**

**RIGHT OF INTERVENTION**

1. If the Pastor, Board Members or the Church does not comply with the tenets set forth by the General Council of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia herein as well as in the By-laws, the General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia may at the invitation of the majority or minority through the Secretary of the Church, call a

meeting with the Church to protect the rights of either the minority or majority that does desire to adhere to these agreements. Such a meeting may be called any time after one announcement at a Sunday service.

2. In the event that the Church shall not be able to function as a society or local body or in agreement with the tenets of faith and it becomes apparent that the church cannot continue its activities because of internal strife, open rebellion or the repudiation of our stated doctrinal beliefs or any other upon such a decision by a majority vote of voting members present in any business meeting sessions and upon such decision be entered upon the minutes by the Secretary, the said decision shall automatically empower the General Council of the Assemblies of God of Malaysia the title to its Church property and the General Council use the property or its proceeds in the furtherance of the Gospel work provided, however, that the General Council Executive Committee shall consent to receive the same.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **AMENDMENTS**

1. Amendments to this constitution may be made at any regular special meeting of the Church provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing to all voting members of the church one month before the meeting in question. The proposed and accepted amendments will only come to effect after a written approval of the Executive Committee of the General Council has been given. By-laws may be adopted and or amended at any regular or special meeting without prior notice.
2. Amendments shall require the adoption of a two-third majority vote of those members at the meeting. However, such amendments must not alter the meaning of the tenets of faith nor the name (Name of Church).