



H.M. Rukirabasaija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I,
The Forty-ninth Omukama of The Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara

**Royal Charter and Statutes of
The Royal Order of the Engabu (Shield) of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom
(2010)**

**It pleases His Majesty Rukirabasaija Agutamba Solomon Gafabusa Iguru I, The Forty-ninth Omukama of The Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara By the Grace of God
By This Royal Decree do DECLARE AND ORDAIN as follows:**

CHARTER

Clause 1.—Exclusive Charter—

I ordain that this Royal Charter is and shall be the sole Charter of this institution, hereby replacing the previous Charter of the Order of the Crown of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom dated the 1st of January, 2010.

Clause 2.—Title—

I hereby further ordain that the name, designation and title of the institution is “The Royal Order of the Engabu of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom”. It may also be addressed as “The Royal Order of the Shield of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom”. I further Declare that the same usually shall be styled and designated for brevity “The Order of the Engabu” or “The Order of the Shield”.

Clause 3.—Rights and Privileges—

I hereby further ordain that The Order of the Engabu shall have a Common Seal and have perpetual succession, and that it may by and in the said name and style be competent to do all other acts, matters and things incidental or appertaining to a body politic and corporate and to enjoy all rights and privileges lawfully appertaining to bodies politic and corporate. This honour is junior to the Order of the Omujwaara Kondo of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom.

In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my Name and Title and affix the Royal Seal

Solomon

Act Number 10 of The Royal Order of the Crown (now Engabu) of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom
Performed at the Royal Palace Karuziika, Hoima on the 18th of June, 2010

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**THE STATUTES OF THE ROYAL ORDER OF THE ENGABU (SHIELD) OF
BUNYORO-KITARA KINGDOM**

1. Short title

These Statutes may be cited as “The Order of the Engabu Statutes 2010”. It may also be cited as “The Order of the Shield Statutes 2010”.

2. Motto of the Order

The Motto of the Order shall be “Cum Alus Pro Alus” – With Others, For Others.

3. Objects and Purposes of the Order

The Order of the Engabu shall be an award for acts in demonstration of





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- (a) The encouragement of all that makes for the spiritual and moral strengthening of Mankind and Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom in particular;
- (b) The encouragement and promotion of all work of humanity and charity for the relief of persons in sickness, distress, suffering or danger, without distinction of race, class or creed as embodied in the Motto “Cum Alus Pro Alus”;

4. The Head

- (a) His Majesty the Omukama was, is, and continues to be the Head of The Order of the Engabu. The head of the royal family of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom will perpetually serve as the Head of the Order.
- (b) The Head shall make such appointments to and within the Order of the Engabu as He in His absolute discretion shall think fit.

5. Grades of The Order of the Engabu

- (a) The Order of the Engabu shall consist of a single Grade:
Member of The Order of the Engabu;

Recipients of the award – called collectively Abakungu okusemera omu Engabu (roughly chiefs worthy to be in Shield) – are entitled to a breast star.

- (b) Persons who receive the award are entitled to the style of “The Most Honourable”. They are also entitled to use the title of Omukungu as a prefix to his or her name and the post-nominal of “OEBKK”, which stands for (O)rders of the (E)ngabu of (B)unyoro-(K)itara (K)ingdom. If the recipient is a subject or citizen of a country which prohibits the use of titles either in general or titles from other countries, the title may be considered as honorary in nature. An honorary title under this definition is afforded the same precedence as a non-honorary title of the same within The Order of the Engabu.

The generation number of the honour may also be displayed as part of the formal post-nominal per provisions in this Statute. The original recipient of the Order will always be the 1st generation of the honour. Thus, the formal name and style for an original grantee Member who receives the award is The Most Honourable Omukungu First Name Surname, 1st OEBKK. An informal acceptable variant is The Most Honourable First Name Surname, Omukungu of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara, 1st OEBKK. Additionally, a Member may also use the official equivalency translation to English; if the Member is male, this equivalency is The Most Honourable Knight First Name Surname, 1st OEBKK. If the Member is female, the Member may use the official equivalency translation to English of The Most Honourable Dame First Name Surname, 1st OEBKK.

6. Qualifications for Membership in the Order

- (a) No person shall be qualified for membership in The Order of the Engabu unless he or she:
 - (1) makes a declaration to comply with the provisions of the Royal Charter, the Statutes, and the Regulations and Rules of The Order of the Engabu. This requirement may be waived by His Majesty the Omukama;
 - (2) agrees to attend an Empango ceremony in Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom within five years of receipt of the award for the original grantee. This requirement may be waived by His Majesty the Omukama;
 - (3) has performed or is prepared to perform good service for The Order of the Engabu and its objects and purposes in accordance with the Motto of the organization; or
 - (4) has acted conspicuously in a manner which furthers such objects and purposes; and



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(b) no person shall be admitted to The Order of the Engabu unless he or she has attained the age of 25. Exceptions may be made for the Royal Family of Bunyoro-Kitara. This does not mean that persons less than 25 years of age cannot inherit the honour.

7. Declaration before Admission to the Order

Subject to the provisions of Statute 6, before the honour is granted, a Declaration in the following terms shall be signed by prospective Members:

“I do solemnly declare that I will be faithful and obedient to The Royal Order of the Engabu of Bunyoro-Kitara and its Head as far as it is consistent with my duty [to my Sovereign/President]* and to my country; that I will do everything in my power to uphold its dignity and support its charitable works; and that I will endeavor always to uphold the aims of this organization and to conduct myself as a person of honour. I further agree to attend an Empango ceremony in Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom within five years of entry unless waived by His Majesty the Omukama.”

*The words in brackets to be adapted according to the circumstances of the declarant.

The Head of The Order of Engabu may waive or amend this requirement for heads of state, other royal persons, or any other persons at his discretion.

8. Protocol for Members

The Order of the Engabu is a hereditary honour of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara in accordance with the ancient traditions of the same. As such, provided the Member does not terminate his or her membership under Statute 11 or have his or her membership revoked by His Majesty the Omukama under Statute 11, the honour will last throughout the original recipient's lifetime. At the death of the original recipient, the honour will pass to the first-born child of the original recipient of the same gender, provided that the first-born child is alive at the time of passage. That is, a male Omukungu who is the original recipient will pass the honour to his first-born son at his death. The son must have been born male as registered by a birth certificate or equivalent. His first-born son, who is the exclusive and sole recipient of the honour provided the son is alive at the original grantee's death, will become The Most Honourable Omukungu First Name Surname, 2nd OEBKK. Similarly, a female Omukungu who is the original recipient will pass the honour to her first-born daughter at her death provided the daughter is alive at the original grantee's death. The daughter must have been born female as registered by a birth certificate or equivalent. Her daughter thereby becomes The Most Honourable Omukungu First Name Surname, 2nd OEBKK. The third generation will continue as the same, with the first-born child of the same sex of the second generation recipient passing the honour to the third generation at the death of the second generation, and so forth in perpetuity under primogeniture. The second generation and all subsequent generations retain all the rights and privileges within The Order of the Engabu as the original recipient. Each new recipient adds one to the number of the previous holder. For example, say a male recipient is the 26th holder of the honour. He would be The Most Honourable Omukungu First Name Surname, 26th OEBKK. At his death, the next holder of the honour would be The Most Honourable Omukungu First Name Surname, 27th OEBKK. Note that primogeniture flows from the original grantee of the honour unless stated differently in the Letters Patent. For example, if the original recipient is female, and one family line dies off without female heir, provided that another female line still exists that originates from the original female grantee, the honour will pass under primogeniture to the next rightful



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inheritor. For male recipients of the award, the above intergenerational transfer is called patrilineal primogeniture. For female recipients of the award, the above intergenerational transfer is called matrilineal primogeniture.

A subsequent generation recipient of the honour need not be a bloodline descendent unless the original grantee requests so and accommodation is made in the Letters Patent. Thus, adopted children may serve to inherit the honour, notwithstanding any evidence to the contrary in the Letters Patent. The Letters Patent for a specific recipient will always triumph over these general Statutes.

Although the transfer of the honour unofficially occurs at the death of the previous generation, formal recognition of the transfer is requested by the Head of The Order of the Engabu. Written notice of the death of the previous generation, including a death certificate or equivalent asserting the same, is requested to be given to His Majesty the Omukama or his designee prior to formal recognition of the transfer of the Honour.

In the event the original grantee does not have children or does not foresee having children, the original grantee may request a modification of the original Letters Patent to have the honour pass in other reasonable ways. For example, if the original grantee is male and requests collateral passage to his brother and his brother's heirs in the event he does not have children, upon his death the honour will pass as such provided the Letters Patent reflect this accommodation. Once the Letters Patent are signed by His Majesty the Omukama, they are irrevocable.

In the event the inheritor of the title and honour resides in a domicile/jurisdiction/state/country of residence that prohibits the use of titles or the honour at the time of receiving the honour, or the current Member moves into such a domicile/jurisdiction/state/country of residence, the title becomes honorary until the current Member moves into either another domicile/jurisdiction/state/country of residence which recognizes titles and honours, the domicile/jurisdiction/state/country of residence changes its stance on titles and honours, or a new inheritor, residing in another domicile/jurisdiction/state/country of residence, lays claim to the honour. Under no circumstances is the honour considered extinct unless all possible heirs to it as determined by the Letters Patent have died out, as a foreign government cannot extinguish a Letters Patent of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara.

The next inheritor of the honour is responsible for the safekeeping of the original Letters Patent, breast star, or other physical manifestations of the honour, which in turn will pass to subsequent generations in accordance with the Letters Patent. Furthermore, unlike the original grantee of the honour, any inheritor of the honour is not required to attend an Empango ceremony in Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom – although it is recommended by His Majesty the Omukama as it serves to reinforce the cultural traditions of the honour and its ties to the Kingdom.

9. Composition of the Order

- (a) There is no maximum number of Members of The Order of the Engabu.
- (b) In determining whether to grant a candidate the award, the Head shall strive for, though he is not formally bound to, a ratio of members of The Order of the Engabu to reflect at least 20% of all honorees as subjects of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara, 33% of all honorees as



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citizens of the Republic of Uganda, and 50% of all honorees as subjects or citizens of Commonwealth countries.

10. Precedence within the Order

Precedence within The Order of the Engabu shall be as follows: 1. His Majesty the Omukama 2. Members of the Royal Family of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara 3. Ugandan Head of State 4. Kings of Buganda, Ankole, Rwenzururu, and Toro or any future Kingdoms recognized by the government of Uganda 5. Members of the Royal Families of the Kingdoms of Buganda, Ankole, Rwenzururu, and Toro or any future Kingdoms recognized by the government of Uganda 6. Commonwealth Heads of State 7. Members of Commonwealth Royal Families 8. Foreign Heads of State 9. Members of Foreign Royal Families 10. Any office holders within the Order appointed by His Majesty the Omukama with the senior determined by the oldest original date of appointment 11. Members, as determined by the original date of appointment of the original grantee of the award.

11. Termination of Membership

Membership in The Order of the Engabu may be renounced by a Member at any time and for any cause. The renunciation must be in writing, signed by the Member, and witnessed by two individuals not related to the current Member. Both witnesses should sign and date the renunciation along with the Member and deliver a written copy to His Majesty the Omukama. Upon signing, the title and honour of the Member will pass by the rules of Statute 8 as if the renouncing Member immediately died. Thus, a renunciation of the title does not dissolve the title and honour – it merely passes to the next party. As stated in Statute 8, only an extinction of the title and honour by having no one left entitled to inherit it, subject to the below provision, can effectively end its existence.

However, the Head of The Order of the Engabu may terminate the Membership of any person in receipt of the honour. Such actions should be rare such that expulsion from The Order of the Engabu is due to the Member being found guilty of a felony-class offense in a competent court of jurisdiction. However, the failure of an original grantee Member to attend an Empango ceremony in Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom within five years of entry is grounds for expulsion provided His Majesty the Omukama does not waive the requirement. However, the expulsion of a Member – either from not attending the Empango ceremony -- if required -- or being found guilty of a felony-class offense in a competent court of jurisdiction, does not bar his or her children from the title and honour. To this end, the expulsion of a Member by His Majesty the Omukama causes the honour to pass to the next generation at the moment of expulsion as if the Member had spontaneously died.

12. Arms of the Order

The armorial achievement of the Order will be a Bantu escutcheon Azure charged with the ancient crown of the Omukama. Behind the escutcheon two spears in saltire and mantling of the first doubled Or. Above the escutcheon set for crest a modern crown of the Omukama. Supporters: Gules lions rampant. Below the escutcheon the motto "Cum Alus Pro Alus"

13. Insignia of the Order

An eight-pointed Argent star trimmed with stylized lilies with every other lily bearing a strip of lozenges radiating from the center of the insignia. In the circular center, the royal arms of the Kingdom of Bunyoro-Kitara surrounded by a circle trimmed in lozenges. The breast star shall contain Argent and Or.



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14. Seal of the Order

The Seal of The Order of the Engabu shall contain the official arms, as laid down in Statute 12, the whole surrounded by the legend: "Official Seal of The Royal Order of the Engabu of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom". His Majesty the Omukama shall make Regulations providing for the custody and use of the Seal of The Order of the Engabu.

15. Medals

The Order of the Engabu may award Medals, Certificates of Honour, and the like in accordance with such provision as may from time to time be made by Regulations. The award of Medals or the like shall be made by His Majesty the Omukama or his designee on behalf of the Omukama. If any person to whom a Medal or the like has been awarded shall be deemed by his or her subsequent conduct to have become unworthy of it, his or her name may be erased by His Majesty the Omukama from a register of those entitled to display the award.

16. Alterations prohibited

No addition to, nor alteration nor modification of the unofficial arms, official insignia, nor of any other item in these Statutes may be made except as through the processes laid out herein.

17. Investiture Ceremony of the Order

The custom of the Order shall be for a Member to be awarded the honour with the shaking of the hand of the Member by His Majesty the Omukama or his designee and a welcome into the Order during the Empango ceremonies. But the Member may request additional pageantry if desired if His Majesty the Omukama or his designee consents. Any arrangements must be made prior to the investiture ceremony. However, whatever the pageantry, the date of the Letters Patent signature is the true entry certification for the Member, and an investiture ceremony is not mandatory.

18. Heraldry of Members

Heraldry has historically been limited in Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, with the exception of the Kingdom having an armorial achievement in the ensign of its historical flag and His Majesty the Omukama having similar heraldry. However, to honor some Members whose ancestors maintained heraldic customs, by authorization of His Majesty the Omukama, all Members of the Order who desire to have heraldry are entitled to display supporters and top their helm with a basic coronet if they desire to signify their status as Members.

