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**Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies, Inc.**

**The 2012 Constitution and By-Laws**

**THE PREAMBLE**

We, the members of the Mindanao Federation of Economics Society, bestowed by the Almighty God with the ideals of extending and spreading life and development throughout Mindanao. The Federation shall serve as the center nerve to the needs of the students, who choose to specialize in Economics. To promote harmonious relationship among economics societies; to develop in every individual economic awareness, social conscience, professionalism, dedicated leadership and nationalism; to study and inculcate the essence, function and significance of economics in our contemporary society, do ordain and promulgate this Constitution and By-Laws.

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME AND DOMICILE OF THE FEDERATION**

**Section 1.** The name of the federation shall be the Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies, Inc., herein referred to as MINFECOS.

**Section 2.** The acronym MINFECOS shall be used to officially represent any involvement of the federation in all its official documents, minutes and communications.

**Section 3:** The Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies shall have its MINFECOS logo having the following symbolisms: The official seal federation is shaped as square, the symbol of stability and equality. The scripture within the square is the name of the federation “Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies” and on the lower part, “MINFECOS”, the official acronym of the Federation. The year inscribed, “2009”, is the year when MINFECOS was restructured from its former name, “DAFECOS” which was established in 1999. The dominant colors of the seal are beige and powder blue, symbolizing the Federation’s clear intentions of alliance towards other economics federations of other universities. They shall also be the official colors of the federation. Inside the square is the island of Mindanao and a shield comprising three more symbols, the students, buildings, graduation cap and diploma. The Mindanao, as the topmost symbol, signifies the extent and scope of the federation covering the territory of the island Mindanao. The shield represents the economic foundation of the island relative to federational alliances. The students’ signifies the prime movers of economics for the development of the community. The buildings are the evidence of economic development of the island Mindanao. Lastly, the graduation cap and diploma signifies the excellence requirement of the prime movers of economics in the island.

**Section 4.** The Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies, Inc. shall hold office at the School of Applied Economics within the vicinity of the University of Southeastern Philippines, Obrero Campus, Davao City.

**ARTICLE II**

**DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES**

**Section 1**. The Constitution and By- Laws is the main reference of the Federation to carry out its principles, policies and objectives and in its governance.

**Section 2.** The federation shall pursue the following principles for the development and advancement of the economic condition of Mindanao.

* 1. **Academic Excellence**, which requires intensive flow of relevant

economic information in theory, policies and advancement in

economic modeling.

* 1. **People Empowerment,** which believes that development for all is attainable by giving the people the necessary tools and resources to improve their own lives and the means to participate actively and meaningfully in economic events in the society.
	2. **Sustainable Development,** to ensure maximization of benefits of the scarce resources of the federation and of Mindanao for the current generation and without sacrificing the utility of the future generations.
	3. **Solidarity,** which upholds the unity of the federation and its member societies in pursuit of the common good which shall at all times be superior to individual interest.
	4. **Professionalism**, which shall be observed in all transactions and dealings of the federation and shall be observed by all members at all times.

**Section 3.** The federation believes that every economics student has a goal to contribute to the economic development of Mindanao and the country in general, thus, the federation will ensure flow of relevant economic information throughout its member societies.

**Section 4.** The MINFECOS shall uphold the principles of unity, solidarity, peace, equality, justice, freedom and cooperation, which shall be reflective of the interest, benefits and welfare of the members.

**Section 5.** The MINFECOS shall assist in attaining the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the economic societies throughout Mindanao.

**Section 6.** All activities initiated by the MINFECOS shall be monitored and assessed by the governing body of the Federation.

**Section 7.** The MINFECOS shall inform its member societies and stakeholders of this Constitution and By- Laws.

**ARTICLE III**

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FEDERATION**

**Section 1.** Implement programs that will help for the development and enhancement of the skills, capabilities and potentials of the students in the field of Economics.

**Section 2.** Promote activities that will assist and motivate students taking Economics to deeper meaning and value.

**Section 3.** Provide venue for information sharing through festival, forum and convention of papers in economics and knowledge on modifications and innovations of methodologies for economic measurements.

**Section 4.** Provide a forum for the consideration and analysis of problems and issues in economics and overall economic development.

**Section 5.** Help promote general welfare of the Mindanao society through the formulation of development policies and strategies.

**Section 6.** Develop and sustain camaraderie and harmonious relationship among all members and make this cohesive and effective through social activities.

**Section 7.** Act as a training ground for responsibility and reliability of student leaders as well as members of the society.

**Section 8.** Support any activity designed to promote social, civic and educational function.

**ARTICLE IV**

 **BILL OF RIGHTS**

**Section 1.** The members of the Federation shall enjoy freedom of speech and press to the right to self federation, and the right to join peaceful concentrated activities in accordance with law, rules, regulations, and policies of the Federation.

**Section 2.** Every member shall have the right to be informed of all programs and activities.

**Section 3**. Every member shall be respected by his fellow with regards to differences between their religion, political, and cultural beliefs.

**Section 4.** Every member of the Federation shall have the right to present his/ her demands, views, grievances and suggestions to the appropriate body of the Federation.

**Section 6.** Every member shall enjoy the right to participate in policy and decision- making process affecting his/ her rights and benefits in the federation.

**Section 7**. To be entitled to a membership identification card and certificate as well as other documents which will attest to his/her bona fide membership to the Federation.

**ARTICLE V**

 **MEMBERSHIP TO THE FEDERATION**

**Section 1**. The federation will have two (2) major bodies, the MINFECOS Students and the MINFECOS Professionals.

**Section 2.** The MINFECOS Students will be open to all student federation in schools / universities/colleges which offer the following degree courses in Mindanao.

1. Bachelor of Science in Economics
2. Bachelor of Arts in Economics
3. Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Economics
4. Bachelor of Science in Agribusiness Economics

**Section 3.** The MINFECOS Professionals will be open to all professionals who have earned a degree in economics as specified in the membership and students enrolled in a graduate program of the following degrees:

1. Master of Science in Economics
2. Master of Science in Econometrics
3. Master of Arts in Economics
4. Masters of Science in Agricultural Economics
5. PhD in Economics
6. PhD in Econometrics
7. PhD in Agricultural Economics

**Section 4.** The individual member of each society should be a bona fide student of the University where the society resides and should be enrolled in the following degree specified in the membership.

**Section 5.** Member society of the MINFECOS Students shall renew their membership annually upon payment of the PhP 1,000.00 membership fee.

**Section 6.** Individual member of the MINFECOS Professionals shall renew their memberships every other two (2) years, upon payment of PhP 500.00 renewal fee and MINFECOS Professional Shirt.

**Section 7.** Graduated members of MINFECOS Students shall be automatically qualified for membership to the MINFECOS Professionals.

**Section 8.** Membership of individual who shifted to another course not identified in the membership shall automatically be terminated.

**Section 9.** Granting of Membership to new applicants both Individuals and Society shall be evaluated by the Administrative Committee upon submission of the following documents.

 a. Application form

 b. Organizational Profile

**Section 10**. Signing of Contract to the federation shall be done after the approval of the MINFECOS Board and upon payment of the membership fee.

**ARTICLE VI**

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

These shall be the duties and responsibilities of every member:

**Section 1.** To abide and defend the constitution and by-laws, and follow agreed policies formulated and passed by the federation.

**Section 2.** To attend the regular meetings and special meetings called by the pertinent authority of the federation.

**Section 3.** To attend and support annual festival and other activities organized or sponsored by the federation like Economic Conventions and Forums.

**Section 4.** To preserve and enhance the integrity of the federation at all times.

**Section 5.** The member federation must observe at all times the laws and principles of the Federation.

**ARTICLE VII**

**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

The Federation shall have two (2) major decision making bodies, the MINFECOS board and the MINFECOS Administrative Committee.

**MINFECOS BOARD**

**Section 1.** The federation shall have a MINFECOS Board consisting of the Official Faculty Advisers of the recognized member societies and the elected president and chairman of MINFECOS Students and MINFECOS Professionals respectively.

**Section 2**. Recognized Economic Society of the Federation shall inform all members of the board for any changes/replacement of their Faculty Adviser.

**Section 3**. The Chairman of the Board shall be the adviser of Applied Economics Society of the School of Applied Economics as the founding society of the federation.

**Section 4**. Member of the board shall enjoy equal power and privileges.

**Section 5**. Only crucial matters and concerns shall be tackled deliberately en bank by the board, all decision shall be made in quorum (50%+1 of the total member of the board).

**Section 6**. The Administrative committee shall inform the board of all matters and issues of the federation for approval and recommendations.

**Section 7**. All official communication of the federation shall be noted by the Chairman of the Board.

 **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 8.**  The Administrative Council shall be composed of the following:

1. President
2. Vice President
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Auditor
6. Business Manager
7. Public Information Officer (P. I. O)
8. Administrative Members
9. Professional Representatives

**ARTICLE VIII**

**MEMBERS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** All Members of the Administrative Committee should be a bona fide member of a recognized economic society and individuals in the case of the MINFECOS Professionals.

**Section 2**. Recognized Economic Society of the MINFECOS Students should submit authorization to represent the society in the Administrative Committee during the election of officers (refer to Art. XII).

**Section 3.** Each Societyshall have the authority to select representative/s to the Administrative Committee, the number of members shall determine the number of seat/s to the Administrative committee (refer to Art. XII, Sec. 1).

**Section 4.** The MINFECOS Professionals shall have the authority to select their representative to the Committee.

**Section 5.** MINFECOS professional shall have five (5) seats in the Administrative committee that forms the Professional Administratives. The list shall be forwarded to the MINFECOS board for approval before the scheduled date of Elections of Officers of the Administrative Committee.

**ARTICLE IX**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

 All members of the Administrative Committee shall have equal rights, and voting power in any decision and transaction of the federation.

 The following officers in their respective position shall have the following duties and power:

**Section 1.**  President

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Shall call the meeting (both regular and special).
3. Shall represent the federation unless he/she has appointed any other member.
4. Shall represent the MINFECOS students to the MINFECOS board.
5. Shall be the signatory for all the papers and other important documents concerning the federation.
6. Shall take charge and supervise all meetings and affairs of the federation.
7. Shall implement programs and projects in conforming to the needs of the federation with the approval of the Administrative committee and the board.
8. In case of emergency, can create a special committee and appoint the chairman thereof.

**Section 2.** Vice-President

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. In case of absence, incapacity, resignation or removal of the president from the office, he/she will assume the responsibilities and duties inherent in the office of the President.
3. Shall preside in the sessions and meetings of the Administrative Committee.
4. Shall assist and coordinate with the President and other officers for the management of the federation.
5. Shall perform other duties and powers inherent in his officer and/or as directing by the Chairman or President.

**Section 4.** Secretary

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Must have the basic knowledge in the office procedures, communication skills or letter writing.
3. Shall call the roll.
4. Shall record the minutes of the meeting, take care of all the correspondence and keep pertinent record of the federation.
5. Shall keep all the recorded resolutions and deliberations of the federation and prepare the same for the signature of the President and chairman of the board
6. Shall be responsible in informing all members of any regular or emergency meeting called by the President.
7. Shall prepare the items in the agenda and minutes thereof.
8. Shall furnish copies of all communications to the office concern.
9. With voting power in the federation in case of a tie.
10. Shall submit to the MINFECOS headquarter archive all the minutes and records of the federation upon termination of his/her office.

**Section 5.** Treasurer

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Shall head the finance Committee.
3. Shall be responsible to collect the membership fee, monthly due and other collections for the members.
4. Shall have the custody and shall be accountable for the funds and other financial concern.
5. Shall inform the Administrative committee of the federation’s financial status and present monthly financial statement during monthly meetings.
6. Shall disburse money only in the manner agreed upon the assembly.
7. Shall act on the donations, contributions and grants approved by the board.

 **Section 6.**  Auditor

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Shall make monthly auditing and present his/her findings to the assembly.
3. Shall post auditing results on materials purchased by the federation and see to it that all the liabilities shall be liquidated.

**Section 7.** Business Manager

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Shall take the lead in any business transactions that the federation is involved.
3. Acts as the social manager makes proclamation, officiate tournament as she/he serves as the director of the games and amusements.
4. Acts as chairman in any federation’s fund raising.

**Section 8.**  P.I.O./P.R.O.

1. Shall assume office for a term of one (1) year which commences after his /her Oath of Office.
2. Shall be the official informed of the federation.
3. Shall perform other duties and power inherent in his/her office as directed by the President.

**Section 9**. Members of the board and the Professional Representatives

1. Shall participate in all the discussion and decision making of the administrative committee.
2. Shall make sure that all activities and plans of the federation will be in line to the goals and objectives of the federation.

**Section 11.**  All officers shall prioritize the federational activities.

**Section 12.**  All officers are obliged to be punctual in every meeting call upon by the President.

**ARTICLE X**

**ELECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The number of representatives per member society in the Administrative committee shall be determined by the following criteria:

1. Each member society shall have 1 seat in the Administrative Committee as baseline.
2. For every excess of at least 50 members per society, there shall be 1 additional seat in the administrative committee.
3. The MINFECOS Professionals shall have five (3) seats in the Administrative Committee.

**Section 2.** The number of seat/s per society will determine the voting power during the election of Administrative Officers.

**Section 3.** Determination of representative per society shall be determined by the Constitution and bylaws of the economic society.

**Section 4.** The selected representative of economic societies shall present an authorization letter signed by their respective advisers that presents him/her as the official representative to the Administrative committee of their economic society.

**Section 5.** The election shall be done in any Saturdays of June and shall be held at the federations’ headquarter. Unless an unavoidable circumstance happens, the body should settle the date for the elections.

**Section 6.** The elections shall be presided by a Member of Professional Representatives who shall serve as the election officers.

**Section 7.** Nomination

1. The duties of the different positions shall be read and made clear before the assembly before the nominations commence. The table for nominations for every position shall be kept open until a motion for its closure has been moved and seconded
2. All authorized representative of each recognized societies could nominate and can be nominated to any position in the Administrative committee, except for the representative of the MINFECOS Professionals.
3. Nominees must express their full consent before the casting of votes may be started. If a nominee refuses to be nominated or is absent during the nominations, the nomination is considered invalid.
4. Any member of the Administrative committee may nominate responsibly to a certain position if the body is in quorum (50%+ 1 of the total number of seats in the Administrative committee)
5. Members may vote for their choice nominees.

**Section** **8.** Elections will be done through secret balloting.

**Section 9.** Unelected members of the Administrative committee shall be the Administrative members.

**Section 10.**  In case of unexpected vacancy or when a certain officer ceased to be an officer, the board shall have the right to appoint.

**ARTICLE XI**

**IMPEACHMENT**

**Section 1.**  Any member and officers of this federation will be suspended for any of the following grounds:

1. 5 absences during any regular meetings without valid reasons/ excuse
2. Any willful violation of this CBL.

**Section 2.**  Any officer of this federation will be removed from the office in accordance with the following grounds:

1. Negligence of duties, responsibilities and abuse of power.
2. Dishonesty (graft and corruption)
3. Serious misconduct.

Section 3. Impeachment shall be deliberately tackled en banc by the administrative committee; decision on impeachment shall be done by majority votes of the administrative committee.

**ARTICLE XII**

**FUNDING**

**Section 1.** The funding of the MINFECOS shall emanate from the following:

1. The Membership fee of every society in the MINFECOS Students and Membership of Individuals from the MINFECOS Professionals.
2. Annual renewal fee of every society in MINFECOS Students and biennial renewal for members of the MINFECOS Professionals.
3. Proceeds from any event of the federation like fund raisings, forums and conventions.
4. Sponsorships from institutions and partners of the federation.

**Section 2.** Other fees during festival, forums and conventions shall be determine by the Administrative Committee, and shall be collected by the Federation Treasurer.

**Section 3.** The collected funds as stated in Section1 of Article XII shall be deposited in a local bank, any withdrawal should have the consent of the Chairman of the Board.

**Section 4.** The name of account shall be the Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies, Inc. The signatories of the said account shall be the Chairman’s of the MINFECOS Professionals and MINFECOS Board.

**Section 5.** Money shall be withdrawn by the MINFECOS Treasurer, pursuant to the budget prepared by or only upon resolutions and referendum passed by the Administrative Body and approved by the MINFECOS Board.

**ARTICLE XIII**

**AMENDMENTS OR REVISIONS**

**Section 1.** Any amendment to, or revision of, the Constitution and By-Laws maybe proposed by the Administrative Committee, upon a vote of three-fourths of all its members.

**Section 2.** Amendments to this Constitution and By-Laws may likewise be directly proposed by any member of recognized societies through the initiative upon a petition of at least thirty percent of the total member of the MINFECOS Students. Likewise, of the MINFECOS Professionals amendment under this section shall be authorized within five years following the ratification of this Constitution and By-Laws.

**Section 3.** Any amendment to, or revision of, this Constitution and By-Laws shall be valid beyond ratify of the majority during plenary sessions in festivals, forums and conventions.

**ARTICLE XVI**

**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1.** The first election of the MINFECOS under this Constitution and By- Laws shall be held on any Saturdays of June.

**Section 2.** As for the case in Section 1 of Article XVI, There shall be interim officers that shall hold office on the Administrative Committee, and shall be decided when the member societies convene. However, the number of seats in the Administrative Committee for the interim officers as stated in Section 1 of Article X shall take effect.

**Section 3.** All MINFECOS officials first elected under the Constitution and By-Laws shall serve after their Oath of Office after the election and results.

**Section 4.** Funds shall be for official purposes with the approval of the officers.

**Section 5.** The name of the federation shall not be used in any unjust, unlawful and immoral ends.

**Section 6.** The federation may collect fees intended for the activities approved by the Administrative Committee and MINFECOS Board.

**Section 7.** The officers may come up with other sources of funds as approved by the MINFECOS Board.

**Section 8.** No money is to be disbursed without the consent of the Administrative Committee and MINFECOS Board.

**Section 9.** This Constitution and By-Laws shall take effect immediately upon its ratification by a majority of the votes cast by the member of the administrative committee and approved by the MINFECOS board and shall supersede all previous constitutions.

The Foregoing proposed 2012 Constitution and By-Laws of the Mindanao Federation of Economics Societies, Inc. was approved by the Administrative Committee and MINFECOS Board on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and accordingly signed on t he same date at the MINFECOS Headquarter, School of Applied Economics, University of Southeastern Philippines, Iñigo Street, Davao City, by the members of the Administrative Committee and MINFECOS Board whose signatures are hereunder affixed.

**Members of the Administrative Committee:**

**MR. DENNIS VON ANGAS**

Applied Economics Society (AECONS)

University of Southeastern Philippines-Obrero

**MS. SHEILA MAE CABINGATAN**

Applied Economics Society (AECONS)

University of Southeastern Philippines-Obrero

**MR. RUSSEL SAB**

Applied Economics Society (AECONS)

University of Southeastern Philippines-Obrero

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Agribusiness Economics Society (ABE)

University of the Philippines-Mindanao

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Agribusiness Economics Society (ABE)

University of the Philippines-Mindanao

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Ateneo Economics Society (AES)

Ateneo de Davao University

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Agricultural Economics Society

University of Southeastern Philippines-Mintal Campus

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Philippine Agricultural Economics Development Association (PAEDA-USM)

University of Southern Mindanao-Kabacan

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Philippine Agricultural Economics Development Association (PAEDA-USM)

University of Southern Mindanao-Kabacan

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Holy Cross Economics Society (CROSECOS)

Holy Cross of Davao College

**MS. JENNIFER ERAZO-HINLO**

MINFECOS Professionals

USEP-School of Applied Economics

**MS. ROXANNE AGUINALDO**

MINFECOS Professionals

UP Mindanao

**MS. REYNALIE NEYRA**

MINFECOS Professionals

USM-Kabacan

**MINFECOS BOARD:**

**MR. ROPERTO S. DELUNA JR MR. NIKKO LAORDEN**

USEP-School of Applied Economics UP-Mindanao, ABE

**MR. JOETEDDY BUGARIN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

USEP-Mintal Ateneo de Davao University

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USM-Kabacak Holy Cross of Davao College

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President, MINFECOS Students Chairman, MINFECOS Professionals

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )

CITY OF DAVAO ) S.S.

 **WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL** this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2012 in Davao City, Philippines.

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