

## **SUGGESTED METHODS OF REGISTERING WITH DEC OR PLEDGING TO DEF**

Many Dengramites have often wondered about the difference between DMGS Endowment Fund (DEF) and DMGS Endowment Club (DEC). Is it possible to join DEC and delay pledging to DEF? The answer is “**Yes**”. Please read on.

Below are the key differences between the two related organizations; DEF and DEC:

**DEC is a membership organization** whose single and sole purpose is to raise funds for DMGS Endowment Fund. It has no role to play in the affairs of DMGS, DOBA, DOBANA, or the like. Anything beyond fundraising is outside the scope of the job description of DEC. One can be a member of DEC without donating to DEF - meaning that a person can join DEC, pay an annual membership fee, and decide later whether to donate to DEF. Membership in DEC does not compel anyone to pledge or donate to DEF. However, membership in DEC entitles such member to participate in all activities of DEC and DEF, including running for an office at DEF. Membership in DEC requires one to register and pay an annual membership fee of \$150.00 per year.

**DEF, on the other hand, is not a membership organization**. Instead, it is a savings account, a fund, a Trust, or an endowment which was established to provide financial support to its named beneficiary – DMGS. As a result, it is not feasible to be a member of DEF. This avoids the possibility that members may be taxed on the income of DEF. DEF is actually owned by DMGS, but managed by DEF’s Trustees which include members of DEC and representatives of DMGS, DOBA, and the DMGS School Management Board, with the DMGS Proprietor as its Patron. There is no membership fee for DEF because it is not a membership organization. However, a minimum pledge and donation of \$5,000.00 and above, or its Naira equivalent (Alumni Band) to DEF will entitle such donor to an automatic **Lifetime Membership** in DEC.

### **What are the options for joining DEC or pledging to DEF?**

#### **Option 1 – Join DEC now, but decide later if you wish to pledge to DEF.**

**This option is for Dengramites who wish to obtain more information before pledging to DEF, or who wish to assess their level of financial commitment before making a pledge.** One can join DEC by registering and paying \$150.00 per year as a member. Such person will then have time to obtain additional information and decide later whether to donate to DEF.

**Benefits:-** Additional time to decide. Joining DEC immediately enables such member to run for office at DEF and DEC (election is in 2017). Such person will be added to the mailing list for all communications of DEF and DEC. Another benefit is full participation in all activities.

**Option 2 – Pledge to DEF now, but delay membership in DEC.**

**This is for Donors who are seasoned in DMGS affairs and need no further convincing of the purpose of DEF and the need to assist DMGS.**

Select a donation band and pledge to DEF immediately. However, to receive automatic membership in DEC, one must donate at the Alumni Band level and above (refer to donation bands in previously circulated literature).

**Benefits:** - A pledge to DEF entitles one to all the benefits of membership in DEC. The donor will be recognized as one of the benefactors of DEF at the appropriate Donation Band. A pledge at the Alumni Band \$5,000.00 for 10 years or at its Naira Band equivalent will entitle such donor to a Lifetime Membership in DEC.

**Option #3 – Do Nothing (For uncommitted Dengramites)**

One can just elect to stand on the sidelines. It is your option, but don't forget the saying which goes as follows:

**“There are three kinds of people in the world; those who make things happen; those who watch things happen; and those who wonder what happened” – Unknown.**

We happen to think that Dengramites make things happen. If you agree, pledge. If not, think again.

MLK had it right when he said the following:

**“In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.”**

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**Direct all questions about this Educational Series to:**

Green E. Dim  
Executive Director and Chief Fundraiser  
DMGS Endowment Fund  
Tel: 1-856-366-3000,  
E-mail: Etisiobi@hotmail.com