

**ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
DRAFT CONSTITUTION**

**Article 1**

**THE PARTY CONSTITUTION**

1. This Constitution shall be supreme and its requirements shall have binding force on all members and organs of the party, and its instrumentality hereby makes the party supreme in all issues within the party. The Constitution of Action Democratic Party is subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
2. The Party shall remain supreme at all levels, and its ideals, philosophy and manifesto remains supreme at all levels whether a President or Governor or Senator or Member of the Federal or State House, or Local Government Chairman or Councilor or any other person however so called or named is elected on the platform of the party. Every elected official on the platform of the party whether elected or appointed or elected in another party but defects to the Action Democratic Party, shall be subject to the constitution, manifesto, philosophy, ideals, all organs of the party whether in the National, Zonal, State, Local Government and/or Ward level.
3. In line with the party's supremacy, every executive party meeting involving party officials which includes elected government officials on the Party's platform shall be held in the party's secretariat whether at National, Zonal, State, Local Government, or Ward levels except on special clear circumstances with a written clearance from the National Chairman.
4. Every elected official on the platform of the party reports to the party. A breach of the above paragraphs shall be intolerable and may be termed as anti- party by the party.

**Article 2 PARTY NAME**

**ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY** hereinafter in this constitution

referred as "The Party" and with the shortened phrase "ADP" shall be the name of the party.

**Article 3**

**PARTY LOGO, FLAG AND COLOUR**

The party shall have a hand holding a book as its symbol for Logo, and a Red, Sky Blue, and Navy Blue flag with the logo printed in the center shall be the party flag. The book is a global symbol for knowledge. It symbolizes all things that are positive; including wisdom, honesty, transparency, and accountability. The party shall have a vertical three colors comprising RED, SKY BLUE and NAVY BLUE.



### **Article 3**

#### **MOTTO AND SLOGAN**

Action Forward, shall be the motto of the party, and the slogan of the party shall be “ADP – “ONE DESTINY” provided that the party can use or improve on the slogan as it deems fit in any circumstance.

### **Article 4**

#### **ADP CORE VALUES**

##### **To ENTHRONE**

a true and viable social democratic system; an ALL-inclusive governance style, devoid of tribal, gender or sectional considerations, in order to decisively deal with all socio – economic vices, setting in motion a sequence for a New Nigeria, the Nigeria of our dreams from rhetoric to ACTION

##### **To BUILD**

PEOPLE as the main and prime resource of the Nation. And complement with strong structures and institutions devoid of personal interests and considerations, where the common good is paramount and supreme.

##### **To LEAD**

Sustainable innovations, technological advancements, economic regeneration platforms, industrialization, entrepreneurship, due consideration and premium for education and scientific discoveries.

##### **To APPRECIATE AND STRENGTHEN**

the capacity of the people to take responsibility and be active participants as well as leading roles in the new Nigeria project.

##### **To FOSTER**

Unity, brotherhood and engender patriotism and spirit for service amongst young enterprising patriots, lay solid foundation for a new generation leaders for national rebirth in the next two decades and strengthen our corporate existence within the next 100

years. Entrench Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as against litigations in matters within the party at all levels.

## **OUR DRIVES AND ASPIRATIONS**

1. To institutionalize true democratic governance system and separation of powers
2. To enthrone the Nigerian citizen as the prime natural resource of the Nation and restore self-worth in cases of identity crisis through various means including but not limited to self-discovery policies.
3. To strengthen the three tiers of Government by optimizing their potentials for socio-economic growth for sustainable development.
4. To decentralize power at the center through devolution of powers to the States, Local Governments, and Communities for rapid, sustained and balanced national development.
5. To exploit and harness our rich human and materials resources for scientific and technological development. To discover and maximize in deliberative manner our youth and women with ideas and launch them as great exports for the common good of the federation
6. To protect and defend all Nigerian citizens irrespective of gender both at home and in the Diaspora, as well as its terrestrial space.
7. To diversify the economy through industrialization, agricultural and solid minerals development, innovation and technological development and revitalization of other key sectors of growth such as the services sector.
8. To restore the glory of Nigeria in the committee of nations. To propagate service and patriotism.
9. To proactively engage citizens in development paradigm with bottom up approaches and strategic action plan to address their felt needs.
10. To strengthen all institutions for poverty eradication while bringing many people out of poverty and bring about prosperity to our people
11. To uphold the sanctity of our rule of law and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

## **Article 5 REGISTERED OFFICE**

The party shall have its head office in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, and shall have such other offices in any other States of the country as approved by the FMC for the party.

## **Article 6**

### **ETIQUETTE FORMALITIES**

- 6.1 The party leadership shall be transparent and accountable to the party, and its executive shall determine its policies and agendas subject, however, to its ratification by the FMC
- 6.2 Without prejudice to experience, the party does not believe in continuous recycling of government appointees from one position to the other while in power whereas there are young and fresh minds waiting to be channeled into Nation building. This, the Party shall do. The Party shall continually engage in leadership mentorship programs for the youth in order to regularly prepare and produce successive young enterprising leaders in a new dynamic Nigeria.
- 6.3 The party believes that Power is not an end but a means to cause and effect true changes in the society. The Party shall therefore consider member's eligibility to contest in any election for public office based on his or her verifiable contribution(s) in the development of his or her immediate constituency.
- 6.4 The party shall in nomination of party officers allocate a reasonable minimum of its positions to women and as well as encourage the participation and representation of women at all levels
- 6.5 Regardless of age, ethnicity, creed, gender and race, the party shall be fair in its in-house Organization. The party must ensure that young persons are properly represented in National, Zonal, State, Local Government, and Ward Executive Committees.
- 6.6 To uphold unity among membership, the party shall respect their linguistic, cultural, and religious diversity through freedom of expression, exchange of ideas and information with regards to party authority and veracity
- 6.7 During general elections, the party shall contest in all elections in Nigeria and shall mobilize its supporters from all sections of the society.
- 6.8 Service is one of the core ideals of the party. Every elected member on the platform of the party must therefore act in every manner to reflect this. Any deviation from good service delivery to the people shall be termed as an anti -party activity and disciplinary actions taken.

- 6.9 For reasons of administrative expediency every Organ of the party shall limit itself to its constitutional core mandate.

## **Article 7**

### **PARTY MEMBERSHIP**

Our party membership shall be in the following category-

- 7.0 Card carrying members or as may be determined by the FMC at any time.
- 7.1 Every member shall pay a prescribed registration fee.
- 7.2 Irrespective of religion, ethnicity, gender and social or economic delineation, a member shall be a Nigerian, as defined by the Constitution, who has agreed to abide by the party constitution and is not younger than 18 years of age, and has satisfied other eligibility criteria prescribed by the Party from time to time.
- 7.3 Every member shall be registered and recognized at the party ward secretariat where he/she resides or does business.
- 7.4 Being a classified document as well as party property, the party membership card shall have the member's details; and shall be authenticated and signed by the designated Party Authorities. Its form shall be as prescribed by the Party at any time.
- 7.5 Membership is open to all Nigerians, and any irregular application shall be considered by the Ward Executive Committee, which can be reviewed by higher constituted organ of the party.
- 7.6 Membership card shall be produced by the National Executive Council as approved by the FMC, and shall be authenticated by the National Chairman and National Secretary.
- 7.7 One month to the date of party congresses, membership cards and registers shall be closed and members are required to confirm their names before the registers are closed. Ward Chairmen and Secretaries shall validate and re-certify registers before nomination processes. The NEC may modify its policy for state congresses in so far as justice and transparency is attained.
- 7.8 Every member shall pay a prescribed annual subscription fee
- 7.9 Membership Withdrawal:
- a. Any member who wishes to withdraw his/her membership shall notify his/her Ward Secretary orally or in writing.

- b. Membership withdrawal application shall be considered within 30 days by the Ward Executive Committee, after which the member may be free to leave. For any party, official or elder or any party member holding any office at Federal, State or Local Government level, such membership withdrawal shall only be considered by the National Executive Council.
- c. Any member holding an elective or appointive office who wishes to withdraw his/her membership from the party, shall while notifying the party of his or her withdrawal also tender a letter of resignation of that office.
- d. Any member in defiant to 8.7, shall have his or office declared vacant and shall be treated as a criminal offense.

#### **7.10 Rejoining the Party:**

Any person or persons willing to rejoin the Party after leaving the party shall apply for membership through his/her Ward. The application shall be considered within 30 days for acceptance or refusal by the Ward Executive Committee provided that where no answer is received within the time stipulated above, it is deemed to have been accepted.

- a. He/she may be placed on 6 months' probation and may lose the previous status held in the party and or in a public office before decamping or his exit from the Party by other means except he/she is pardoned by the National Executive Council.
- b. the Party shall, however, issue additional guidelines on procedures for rejoining the Party from time to time which shall be binding on all members.

#### **PARTY CHAPTER ABROAD**

Nigerians resident abroad shall on the approval of the FMC through the National Executive Council establish chapter(s) of the party in their places of residence or other places approved by the FMC, following which they shall be duly registered by the Chapter's Working Executive Committee and shall be accountable to the National Secretariat of the party.

#### **OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTY TO MEMBERS**

- (1) The party shall take on measures that give confidence to volunteer services by creating opportunities for members to serve.

- (2) The party shall strengthen membership cohesion and bonding through organization of town hall meetings, community/ward assemblies and promotion of social activities/interventions for community development.

## **Article 8**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

8.1 A party member shall-

- (i) Actively participate in the community development activities of his/her ward;
- (ii) Endeavor to understand, publicize and implement the aims and objectives of the party;
- (iii) Endeavor to acquaint himself with the social, cultural, political and economic challenges of the country with proffered solutions;
- (iv) Defend the policies and programs of the party;
- (v) Have zero tolerance to ethnicity, religious and political or any other form of discrimination.
- (vi) Behave honestly and carry out with all sense of loyalty all popular decisions of the party and of its organs;
- (vii) Abstain from publishing or distributing to the public, any article which declares to be the view of any aggrieved person or persons within the party without due approval of the National Executive Council;
- (viii) Make sure that he is registered as a voter in the community where he/she resides;
- (ix) Be qualified to vote and be voted for at party meetings or elections supported by the constitutional provisions of the party
- (x) Not do anything that is inconsistent with this constitution.

8.2 Not disclose the proceedings and decisions of the party unless specifically authorized

8.3 All public officers elected or appointed on the platform of the party shall be guided by the manifesto, rules and decisions of the party.

8.4 Not bring to public attention disagreements and variances within the party unless specifically authorized to do so in writing by the National Executive Council.

- 8.5 Not publicly make critical comments about the policies of any government elected on the platform of the party.
- 8.6 Not side with other political parties or groups to undermine the party or any of its elected governments
- 8.7 Not initiate or provoke any cruel behavior or do something capable of provoking violence at any of its gatherings.

## **Article 9**

### **9.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- a. To build a new Nigeria and lasting institutions where good governance, respect for human rights and unity is entrenched in our democracy.
- b. To lead on industrialization, innovation, science and technology within the Nigerian context
- c. To build the Nigerian citizen as the prime resource of the country.
- d. To establish social democracy and reduce power at the Center, thereby giving power to the grassroots to foster growth and justice.
- e. To secure and protect the future for the success of generations to come

Subject to the provisions of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the party shall have a manifesto to be implemented by all organs of the party and governments elected under its platform.

### **9.2 The Party shall strive to:**

- (a) Educate and capacitate the Nigerian as the prime natural resource of the Nigerian state.
- (b) Provide a true and selfless leadership at all levels of governance by promoting federalism and fundamental objectives and directive principles of State Policy enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, while upholding the integrity and sovereignty of Nigeria as one united indivisible political entity. Engineering a sincere belief in Nigeria amongst all citizens notwithstanding the strata.
- (c) Provide a conducive platform that will enhance effective and efficient electoral processes by upholding the independence of the judiciary and all election conducting institutions.



- (d) Encourage and sustain gender equality by creating avenues for fair participation and representations of both genders.
- (e) Harness our natural resources for the development of our local wealth through rapid industrial growth.
- (f) Develop and encourage local and foreign investments in the agricultural sector for the provision of food, full employment and promoting self-reliance.
- (g) Improve on infrastructure and other basic services for effective common deliveries in the transport and power sectors
- (h) Provide an accountable and effective income/revenue generating system at all levels of government and an equitable revenue sharing formula.
- (i) Provide adequate apparatus and effective security system for the protection of life and properties and control of crime.
- (j) Provide a holistic measure in the protection of the sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and her citizens on immigration and International diplomacy.
- (k) Provide a sustainable advancement of the Nation through the specification of sound education, basic health care, adequate housing.
- (l) Ensure effective application of online technologies in the monitoring of Revenue Generation, Allocation and Utilization

## **Article 10**

### **ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION**

10.1 The party shall be organized and administered at the following levels:

- (a) National
- (b) Zonal,
- (c) State;
- (d) Senatorial District;
- (e) Local Government Areas (LGA)
- (f) Ward

10.2 There shall be informal units for mobilization of voters during election campaigns, such as:

- (a) The Zonal Constituency
- (b) The Senatorial Constituency; and
- (c) The Ward Constituency

10.3 The Party shall have secretariat at all levels.

10.4 The Federal Capital Territory, Abuja shall be considered to be a State for the administration of the party.

### **Article 11 PARTY ORGANS**

11.1 The party organs shall consist of the following:

- 11.2 The Founders Council
- 11.3 The National Convention
- 11.4 The Board of Trustees
- 11.5 The National Executive Council
- 11.6 The National Working Committee
- 11.7 The Zonal Working Committee
- 11.8 The Zonal Executive Committee
- 11.9 The Zonal Congress
- 11.10 The State Working Committee
- 11.11 The State Executive Committee
- 11.12 The State Congress
- 11.13 The Senatorial District Working Committee
- 11.14 The Local Government Executive Committee
- 11.15 The Local Government Area Congress
- 11.16 The Ward Executive Committee
- 11.17 The Ward Congress

## **Article 12**

### **PARTY MEMBER INTEREST**

The interest of the party member shall be considered in every decision and policy that will be taken by any organ of the party at any level whether National, Zonal, State, Local Government, or Ward level.

Without prejudice to the interest of any party member, every organ of the party must adhere to the ideology and philosophy of the party at all times.

The FMC shall ensure that in protecting the interest of the party member, the ideology and philosophy of the party particularly as it affects the Nigerian citizen is strictly adhered to, and that the love for country remains unchanged at all times. The party shall ensure that ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) is first and foremost adopted in all disputes within the party at all levels. The FMC shall provide policies on ADR which must be adhered by the party.

## **Article 13 WARD LEVEL**

### **WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

13.1 The party shall have a Ward Executive Committee which consists of:

- (a) The Chairman
- (b) The Deputy Chairman
- (c) The Secretary
- (d) The Assistant Secretary
- (e) The Treasurer
- (f) The Financial Secretary
- (g) The Organizing Secretary
- (h) The Publicity Secretary
- (i) The Woman Leader
- (j) The Youth Leader
- (j) The Ward Legal Adviser, who shall be a legal practitioner
- (k) The Ward Auditor
- (l) The PLWD leader

## **13.2 FUNCTIONS**

The function of the Ward Executive Committee shall be-

- (a) administration of the Party at the ward level;
- (b) raising funds for the party;
- (c) membership drive for the party;
- (d) drawing up strategies for political campaigns;
- (e) mobilizing voters for the party;
- (f) Implement the decisions of the Ward Congress and other organs of the party;
- (g) Receiving the ward auditor's report;
- (h) Submitting reports of activities to LGA party Chairman; and
- (i) Perform such other functions as may be in the interest of the Party, and as may, from time to time, be assigned to it by higher organs of the party.

## **MEETINGS**

13.3 The Ward Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month.

13.4 Meetings shall be summoned by the Ward Chairman

13.5 The quorum at Ward Executive Committee meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of its membership and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 14**

### **WARD CONGRESS**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

14.1 There shall be a party Ward Congress as follows:

- (a) All Ward Executive Council officers
- (b) All registered members from the ward.

## **14.2 FUNCTIONS**

The Ward Congress shall be to-

- (a) Receive reports of officers of the Ward
- (b) Receive Auditors reports
- (c) Approve the budget of the Ward
- (d) Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee
- (f) Conduct primaries for the Ward Councillor elections
- (g) Carry out such other functions as may be in the interest of the party

## **MEETINGS**

14.3 Ward Congress shall be summoned by the Chairman of the Ward Executive committee at least twice a year.

14.4 The quorum of the Ward Congress shall be one-third of the registered members of the Ward and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 15**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **15.1 ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

The party shall have a Local Government Executive Committee which consists of:

- (a) The Chairman
- (b) The Deputy Chairman
- (c) All Ward Chairmen
- (d) The Treasurer
- (e) The Secretary
- (f) The Assistant Secretary
- (g) The Financial Secretary
- (h) The Publicity Secretary
- (i) The Assistant Publicity Secretary

- (j) The Organizing Secretary
- (k) The Auditor
- (l) The Legal Adviser, who shall be a legal Practitioner
- (m) The Woman Leader
- (n) The Youth Leader

## **15.2 FUNCTIONS**

The Local Government Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) identify and resolve political, social and economic issues of concern to the Local Government area;
- (b) Receive and implement reports from the wards on:
  - I. membership
  - ii. Fund raising
  - iii. Strategies for political campaigns and electoral success, and
  - iv. Mobilization of voters;
- (c) Provide strategies for effective communication between the Wards and the local government area;
- (d) Undertake general administration of the Party in the local government area
- (e) Implement the decisions of the Local government Congress and other higher organs of the party; and
- (f) Employ all Secretarial staff for the Local Government branch of the party;
- (g) Perform such other functions as may be in the interest of the Party, and as may, from time to time, be assigned to it by higher organs of the party.

## **MEETINGS**

- 15.3 The Local Government Executive Committee shall meet not less than twice a month.
- 15.4 The meetings shall be summoned by the chairman.

15.5 The quorum of the Local Government Executive Committee shall be one-third of its membership drawn from at least two-third of the Wards in the Local Government Area and a simple majority shall pass a motion.

## **Article 16**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CONGRESS**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

17.1 The party shall have a Local Government Area Congress which consists of:

- (a) The Local Government Chairman of the Party and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee;
- (b) All the National, Zonal and State Executive Committee members of the Party from the Local Government Area;
- (c) The elected public officers who are members of the Party;
- (e) Members of the Board of Trustees from the Local Government Area;
- (f) All Chairmen and Secretaries of the Ward Executive Committees from the Local Government Area;
- (g) All party members from each Ward of the Local Government Area.

#### **FUNCTIONS**

17.2 The Local Government Area Congress shall be to:

- (a) Elect members to the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party;
- (b) Elect Local Government Council Chairmanship and House of Assembly Candidates of the Party;
- (c) Approve the budget of the Party at the Local Government level; and
- (d) Receive the Local Government Auditor's Report.

#### **MEETINGS**

17.3 The meetings of the Local Government Area Congress shall be held at least once a year.

17.4 The Chairman of the Local Government Committee shall summon the Local Government Area Congress.

- 17.5 The quorum for the Local Government Area Congress shall be one-third of the delegates to the Congress; provided that not less than two-third of all the wards in the Local Government Area are represented, and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 18 SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 18.1 The party shall have a Senatorial District Executive Committee which consists of:
- (a) The LGA party Chairmen from the Senatorial District shall elect from among them who shall be the Chairman;
  - (b) The LGA party Secretaries from the Senatorial District shall elect from among them who shall be the Secretary;
  - (c) The LGA party Women Leaders from the Senatorial District shall elect from among them who shall be the Woman Leader
  - (d) The LGA party Youth Leaders from the Senatorial District shall elect from among them who shall be the Youth Leader;
  - (e) The LGA party Treasurers from the Senatorial District shall elect from among them who shall be the Treasurer
  - (g) Five ex-officio members elected by the Senatorial District Executive Committee, at least two of whom shall be women;

### **FUNCTIONS**

- 18.2 The functions of the Senatorial District Executive Committee shall be to:
- (a) Identify and resolve social, political and economic issues of concern to the Senatorial District;
  - (b) Co-ordinate the policies, programs and operations of the Party within the Senatorial District;
  - (c) Liaise with the Local Government Areas within the Senatorial district and State headquarters;
  - (d) Undertake general administration of the party in the Senatorial District and implement the decisions of the Senatorial District Executive Committee;
  - (e) Prepare the annual budget of the Party in the Senatorial District; and
  - (f) Receive the Senatorial District Auditor's report.



- (g) Liaise with all elected political office holders who are our party members from that district to co-ordinate, appraise and encourage good governance.

## **MEETINGS**

- 18.3 The Senatorial District Executive Committee shall meet monthly and report to the State Working Committee prior to the State Executive Committee meeting.
- 18.4 The quorum of the Senatorial District Executive Committee shall be one-third of the members of the Committee drawn from at least two-third of the Local Government Areas in the Senatorial District and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 19**

### **STATE WORKING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 19.1 The party shall have a State Working Committee which consists of:
  - (a) The State Chairman
  - (b) The State Deputy Chairman
  - (c) The State Secretary
  - (d) The State Treasurer
  - (e) The State Legal Adviser who shall be a legal practitioner of not less than 5 years post call
  - (f) The State Financial Secretary
  - (g) The State Publicity Secretary
  - (h) State Auditor
  - (i) The State Organizing Secretary
  - (j) The State Woman Leader
  - (k) The State Youth Leader
  - (l) The State PLWD Leader
  - (m) The Senatorial Chairmen

## **FUNCTIONS**

19.2 The State Working Committee shall:

- (a) Undertake the policies for the day-to-day administration of the Party in the State and shall be responsible to the State Executive Committee; and
- (b) Perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the State Executive Committee.

## **MEETINGS**

19.3 The State Working Committee shall meet not less than twice a month at the instance of the Chairman.

19.4 The quorum of the State Working Committee shall be one-third of the members of the Committee drawn from the three Senatorial Districts in the State and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 20**

### **STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

20.1 The party shall have a State Executive Committee which consists of:

- (a) The State Chairman, who shall be the Chairman;
- (d) The State Deputy Chairman.
- (f) 3 Vice Chairmen from the 3 senatorial districts
- (g) The State Secretary and 3 Assistant State Secretaries;
- (g) The State Treasurer;
- (h) The State Organizing Secretary and 3 Assistant State Organizing Secretaries;
- (i) The State Financial Secretary and Assistant State Financial Secretary;
- (j) The State Publicity Secretary and the Assistant State Publicity Secretary;
- (k) The State Legal Adviser with a minimum of 5 years post call;
- (l) The State Auditor;
- (m) The State Woman Leader and 3 Assistant State woman leaders;
- (n) The State Youth Leader and 3 Assistant State Youth Leaders;

- (o) The State PLWD Leader and 3 Assistants PLWD Leaders
- (p) Six ex-officio members, three of whom shall be women from each of the three Senatorial District elected by Senatorial District Committee;

## **FUNCTIONS**

20.2 The functions of the State Executive Committee shall be to:-

- (a) Identify and resolve political, social and economic issues of concern to the State.
- (b) Undertake the general administration of the party in the state and implement the decisions of the State Congress, and the directives of the National Working Committee, the National Executive Committee and the National Convention; and
- (c) Prepare the annual budget of the State Branch of the party

## **MEETINGS**

20.3 The State Executive Committee shall meet at the instance of the Chairman not less than once every quarter.

20.4 The quorum for the State Executive committee shall be one-third of the members of the Committee drawn from the three Senatorial Districts of the State and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 21**

### **STATE PARTY CONGRESS ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

21.1 The party shall have a State Party Congress which consists of:

- (a) The State Chairman, who shall be the Chairman;
- (b) All registered party members from all the Wards in the State

## **FUNCTIONS**

21.2 The functions of the State Congress shall be to:

- (a) Ratify the budget and expenditure of the State Branch of the party.
- (b) Elect officers of the State Executive Committee.

- (c) Elect governorship candidate of the party.
- (d) Receive reports from officers of the party; and
- (e) Receive the Auditor's report.

Note- All Senatorial and House of Representatives candidates shall be elected during the congresses convened for that purpose.

## **MEETINGS**

- 21.3 The State Congress shall meet every two years on a date and at a venue to be determined by the State Executive Committee provided that the State Congress shall be held before the National Convention.
- 21.4 The quorum of the State Congress shall be two-third of members from the three Senatorial Districts of the State and a simple majority shall pass any motion.
- 21.5 All registered party members from the Wards shall assemble at designated venue at the LGA centre to cast their votes, which are collated and sent to the State Party Headquarters for declaration

## **Article 22 ZONAL LEVEL**

### **ZONAL WORKING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 22.1 The party shall have a Zonal Working Committee which consists of:
  - (a) The National Zonal Chairman
  - (b) The Zonal Secretary;
  - (c) The Zonal Treasurer;
  - (d) The Zonal Financial Secretary;
  - (e) The Zonal Organizing Secretary;
  - (f) The Zonal Legal Adviser; who shall be a legal practitioner of not less than 5 years post call;
  - (g) The Zonal Publicity Secretary;
  - (h) The Zonal Auditor;
  - (i) The Zonal Woman Leader; and

- (j) The Zonal Youth Leader
- (k) The Zonal PLWD Leader

## **FUNCTIONS**

22.2 The Zonal Working Committee shall:

- (a) Undertake the policy for administration of the Party at the Zonal level and shall be responsible to the Zonal Executive Committee
- (b) Liaise with the National Secretariat and the State Chapters in the zone;
- (c) Prepare and submit reports for the consideration of the Zonal Executive Committee; and
- (d) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the National Executive Council.

## **MEETINGS**

22.3 The Zonal Working Committee shall meet not less than once every month and its quorum shall be two-third of its membership drawn from at least two-third of the States in the Zone and a simple majority shall pass a motion of the Zonal Working Committee.

## **Article 23**

### **ZONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

23.1 There shall be a Zonal Executive Committee which shall consist of-

- (a) The National Zonal Chairman;
- (b) The Zonal Secretary,
- (c) The Zonal Treasurer;
- (d) The Zonal Financial Secretary;
- (e) The Zonal Publicity Secretary;
- (f) The Zonal Legal Adviser, who shall be a legal practitioner of not less than 6 Years post call;
- (g) The Zonal Women Leader
- (h) The Zonal Youth Leader;

- (i) The Zonal PLWD Leader
- (l) The Zonal Organizing Secretary
- (j) The Zonal Auditor; and
- (k) One ex-officio member from each of the states in the zone.

Apart from the Zonal Chairman and ex-officio members, every other position shall be elected from among same office holders at the States Executive Council.

## **FUNCTIONS**

23.2 The functions of the Zonal Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) Harmonize, co-ordinate and review all activities of the party within the zone;
- (b) Establish ad-hoc or standing committees of the party within the zone;
- (c) Prepare agenda for and summon meetings of the Zonal Congress;
- (d) Prepare reports and budgets for the consideration of the zonal congress; and
- (e) Carry out any other functions assigned to it by the National Executive Council.

## **MEETINGS**

23.3 The Zonal Executive Committee shall meet not less than once in every quarter at the instance of the National Vice Chairman provided that two-third of the members of the Committee shall have power to summon an extra- ordinary meeting.

23.4 The quorum of the Zonal Executive Committee shall be one-third of the membership of the Committee drawn from at least two-third of the States in the zone and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 24**

### **ZONAL CONGRESS**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

24.1 The party shall have a Zonal Congress to consist of:

- (a) All members of the Zonal Working Committee,
- (b) The Zonal Executive Committee,

- (c) The States Executive Committee,
- (d) All members of the party from all the States in the zone (for election purposes).

## **FUNCTIONS**

24.2 The functions of the Zonal Congress shall be to-

- (a) Approve the budget of the Party in the zone;
- (b) Elect officers of the Zonal Working Committee;
- (c) Receive the reports of officers of the party in the zone; and
- (d) Receive the Zonal Auditor's report

## **MEETINGS**

24.3 The Zonal Congress shall meet yearly at the instance of the Zonal Coordinator from the Zone.

24.4 The quorum of the Zonal Congress Meeting shall be two- third of the members of the States in the Zone and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

## **Article 25 NATIONAL LEVEL**

### **NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

25.1 The party shall have a National Working Committee of the party which consists of:

- (a) National Chairman
- (b) Deputy National Chairman
- (c) National Secretary
- (d) National Treasurer
- (e) National Financial Secretary
- (f) National Organizing Secretary
- (g) National Publicity Secretary
- (h) National Auditor
- (i) National Legal Adviser

- (j) National Woman Leader
- (k) National Youth Leader
- (l) National PLWD Leader

25.2 The National Working Committee shall-

- (a) Be responsible for the day to day policies for the administration of the party and shall be responsible to the National Executive Council; and may set up ad hoc committees in the discharge of their duties.
- (b) In case of emergency, act on behalf of the National Executive Council subject to ratification by the National Executive Council; and
- (c) Perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the National Executive Council.

## **MEETINGS**

25.3 The National Working Committee shall meet not less than once every fortnight at the instance of the Chairman or at the instance of two-third of the members.

25.4 The quorum of the National Working Committee shall be two-third of the membership drawn from at least one - third of the Zones represented in the committee and a simple majority shall pass any motion.

25.5 The National Vice Chairmen shall attend the meetings of the National Working Committee when the need arises to brief it on the operations of the zones.

## **Article 26**

### **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

26.1 The party shall have a National Executive Council comprising:

- (a) The National Chairman, who shall be the chairman;
- (b) The National Deputy Chairman;
- (c) The National Vice Chairmen(North and South);
- (d) The National Secretary and the Deputy National Secretary
- (e) The National Treasurer and Deputy;



- (f) The National Financial Secretary and the Deputy National Financial Secretary;
- (g) The National Organizing Secretary and Vice National Organizing Secretary each for North and South
- (h) The National Publicity Secretary and the Vice National Publicity Secretaries North and South
- (i) The National Legal Adviser, the Deputy National Legal Adviser
- (j) The National Auditor and the Deputy National Auditor
- (k) The National Woman Leader, Deputy National Woman Leader and the Two National Vice Women Leaders (North and South)
- (l) The National Youth Leader and the Two National Vice Youth Leaders (North and South)
- (m) The National PLWD Leader and the Two National Vice PLWD Leaders (North and South)
- (n) The Zonal Coordinators of the six Geo-political zones.
- (o) The Diaspora Advisers 1 and 2.
- (p) The National Welfare Adviser and the Deputy National Welfare Adviser 1 and 2
- (q) The twelve (12) Ex—officio members (1 female and 1 male per Geopolitical zone)

## **FUNCTIONS**

26.2 The National Executive Council shall:

- (a) Carry out the decisions and instructions of the National Convention.
- (b) Supervise and direct the work of the party and all its organs including the National, Zonal, State and Local Government organs.
- (c) Ensure that all the organs of the party function democratically and effectively.
- (d) Where necessary, dissolve a State Executive Committee, a Local Government Executive Committee, a Ward Executive Committee and appoint a Care-Taker Committee to run the Party until another Executive Committee is elected, provided that the period from the dissolution to the

election of the new Executive Committee shall not exceed 3 months all subject to the terms of the constitution.

- (e) Prepare reports and budgets for approval by the National Convention.
- (f) Initiate policies and programs for approval by the National Convention.
- (g) Consider appeals and other matters referred to it by the zones or states of the Federation.
- (h) Subject to the provisions of this constitution, make party electoral regulations to govern the conduct of elections to all party offices at every level and regulate procedure for selecting the party candidates for elective offices subject to approval by the BOT and FMC;
- (i) Ratify the conditions of service of the employees of the party in accordance with the Party Hand Book.
- (j) Make standing orders for approval by the National Convention.
- (k) Deal with any other matters referred to it by the National Convention or the Board of Trustees
- (l) Establish departments such as Organization, Legal Services, Human Resources Management, Finance and Investment, Research and Liaison, Communications, Mobilization and set up ad-hoc or standing committees of the party.
- (m) Manage and control all the assets and property of the party wherever they may be.
- (n) In consultation with the Board of Trustees appoint eminent party leaders to the position of member Emeritus and persons so appointed shall have the right to attend all the meetings of the organs of the party as prescribed by the FMC;
- (o) Examine the actions, policies, programs and legislations proposed by the federal or state governments produced by the party and in conjunction with the BOT and FMC take measures to ensure that they are in accordance with the principles, policies, programs, objectives and manifesto of the party and make necessary recommendations or take any appropriate actions;
- (p) Subject to this constitution, raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the party;
- (q) Approve the minimum rates of annual subscription and other levies payable by members of the party; and
- (r) Confer such honors as may aid the realization of the objectives of the party.

NEC Shall have the exclusive power to dissolve all Executive Committees of the Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward level of the Party, (thirty)30days before the National Convention and appoint a caretaker committee to take over the functions of the office.

Provided members of such caretaker committee shall not be eligible to contest the relevant convention subject to the approval of the BOT.

## **MEETINGS**

- 26.3 The National Executive Council shall meet at least once in every quarter at the instance of the National Chairman, or at the request of two-third of its membership, who shall notify the Chairman at least five days prior to the meeting; and an emergency meeting may be summoned by the National Chairman having regard to all the circumstances of the agenda.
- 26.4 The quorum of the National Executive council shall be two-third of the membership drawn from at least two- third of the zones in the Federation, and a simple majority shall pass any motion provided that the quorum for emergency meetings shall be (50%) fifty percent of its membership, and provided also that at least half of the members of the FMC form part of the said quorum in any emergency meeting.

## **Article 27**

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 27.1 The party shall have a Board of Trustees (BOT) which consists of:
- (a) The members of the FMC as defined in this constitution.;
  - (b) A minimum of Fourteen young persons of good judgment who have shown leadership traits representing all the geo-political zones in the Country.
  - (c) Person(s) who have contributed immensely to the growth of the party and found suitable by the FMC.
  - (d) Every State in Nigeria shall have a minimum of five persons one of which must be a female in the Board.

### **ELECTION AND TENURE OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

- 27.2 The Board of Trustees shall:
- (a) Elect a Chairman and a Secretary from its members

- (b) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, ensure that the person to be elected Chairman and Secretary respectively are of proven integrity and have contributed immensely to the growth of the Party.
- (c) Ensure that the Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall serve a term of four years which may be renewed. The Founders shall set up a five man committee to conduct elections or appointment of members of the Board of Trustees. The Committee shall formulate terms for the elections.

## **QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

27.3 A person shall qualify for membership into the Board of Trustees if he or she:

- (a) Is a registered card carrying member of the Party for not less than four years consecutively except in the first four years of the formation of the party;
- (b) Has been paying his annual subscription fees as when due;
- (c) Has attained the age of twenty five years
- (d) Is a person of integrity

27.4 Without prejudice to the provisions of this constitution, all members of the Board of Trustees except the unofficial members of FMC who are permanent members, shall serve a term of four years and renewable for another term only provided that in any general election any Board of Trustee official who steps down to run for any elective office shall be entitled to return back to his position in the event that official does not win the elective post. But where any member steps down and wins the elective post then the person Acting in his/her capacity shall be properly confirmed and shall continue in that office.

## **FUNCTIONS**

27.5 The Board of Trustees shall subject to the provision of this constitution,

- (a) Ensure highest standards of morality in all the activities of the Party by acting as the conscience of the Party, with power to call to order any officer of the Party whose conduct falls below the norms;
- (b) Ensure high morale of members of the party and that the party enjoys a good image before the Nigerian populace and the International community;

- (c) Advice on policies, programs and activities of the party at the national level;
- (d) Co-ordinate the sourcing of party funds as advised by the FMC;
- (e) Mediate in disputes between the Executive and Legislative arms of Government and shall refer such lingering crises to the FMC;
- (f) Offer advice on party matters to the National Executive Council of the party;
- (g) Attend all conventions of the Party, and shall attend one NEC meeting in a calendar year with such Notice given to the National Chairman of the NEC meeting it intends to attend.
- (h) Undertake all other functions and activities as may be referred to it by the National Executive Council or the National Convention.
- (l) Make rules for party discipline in conjunction with the FMC provided that the BOT can refer any member in default of the said Rules to the Disciplinary Committee for necessary actions.

27.6 The Board of Trustees shall regulate its own proceedings and shall draw up a code of conduct for its members and shall have the power to suspend any National Executive Council (NEC) member who openly causes division in the party or involved in serious party breach of national consequence in so far as its quorum is formed with at least 60% of its members from at least four geo-political zones assenting such suspension. Such suspension which must be ratified by FMC shall not exceed 30 days within which the suspended member shall face the disciplinary committee of the party and if ratified by the committee, the suspended member shall be liable to any or combination of the penalties listed in this constitution all subject to the party's policy on ADR.

## **REMOVAL AND RESIGNATION**

31.6 A member of the Board of Trustees shall

- (a) Be removed from office by a resolution of the FMC on the recommendations of the National Executive Council on grounds of infirmity or misconduct; such infirmity must be in written form from a Public Hospital that must have examined the Trustee; in the case of misconduct such misconduct must be the finding of a court of law or competent tribunal.
- (b) If he resigns his membership of the Board of Trustees by tendering a letter to that effect to the Chairman of Board.

27.7 Without prejudice to the provisions of this constitution, a member of the Board of Trustees shall lose his membership of the Board if:

- i. He is expelled from the party by a combined majority of the FMC, Board of Trustees and the National Executive Council.
- 27.8 Fresh selection shall be made to fill any vacancies in the Board of Trustees where applicable.

## **MEETINGS**

- 27.9 The Board of Trustees shall meet at the instance of the Chairman of the Board and or upon a request for convening BOT meeting made in writing addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Trustees by the Founders.
- 27.10 The quorum of the Board of Trustees shall be two-third of its members. A simple majority shall pass any motion except as otherwise provided

## **ARTICLE 28**

### **NATIONAL CONVENTION**

#### **ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 28.1 There shall be a National Convention of the party which shall consist of-
- (a) The National Chairman of the party who shall be the Administrative Head of the Convention.
  - (b) All members of the FMC , BOT and NEC.
  - (c) All party members across the country shall vote in the selection of the National Executive Council officers, presidential candidate and adoption of party reports and policies via voting process in their respective States or as may be prescribed by the FMC;

#### **FUNCTIONS**

- 28.2 The National Convention shall be the supreme and controlling authority of the party within the limits prescribed in this Constitution and it shall be the principal representative, highest policy making body of the party.
- 28.3 Except in the exercise of the functions granted only to other bodies as specified in this Constitution or in the regulations made pursuant to the provisions of this Constitution, the National convention shall without prejudices to the powers granted the FMC have supremacy in all matters pertaining to the party and all officers of the party shall be bound in the exercise of their functions by the decisions of the National Convention.

28.4 The policies of the party, derived from the resolutions of the National Convention, shall be amended or revoked only by a subsequent resolution of the National Convention. On matters of serious National or Party interest the NEC with the written consent of the FMC may make such intermediary or temporary amendments but must be ratified at the next convention.

28.5 The National Convention shall have and exercise authority to:

- (a) Formulate policies and programs for the party;
- (b) Elect or remove the National Officers of the party;
- (c) Elect the Presidential candidate of the party;
- (d) Demand and receive reports from the National Executive council and from any other committees or organs of the party and take appropriate action on such reports;
- (e) Appoint such committees, as it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit;
- (f) Examine the actions taken or legislation proposed by any government under its control whether federal, state or local government council and ensure that they are in conformity with the policies and programs of the party;
- (g) At all elections, secure the return of as many party candidates as possible in a manner consistent with the laws of the land;
- (h) Consider reports from the states and local government branches of the party and take such decisions and actions as may be necessary to protect, advance and consolidate the gains and interest of the party;
- (i) Through the organs of the party as already contained in this constitution, raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the party;
- (j) Exercise control and take disciplinary action against all officers and members of the party;
- (k) Determine the type and membership of standing committees to be set up by the National Executive Council;
- (l) Review and amend the constitution of the party, from time to time, as the need arises and the power of the National Convention to propose amendments to the Constitution shall not be delegated except as have been delegated in this constitution. ;
- (m) Delegate any of its powers, except the power to amend the Constitution, to the National Executive Council or to any other organ of the party;

- (n) Take such other actions as may aid or facilitate the realization of the objectives of the party;
- (o) Appoint external Auditors to audit the party's accounts;
- (p) Determine the minimum rate of annual subscription to be paid by members and the proportion of income from such subscription to be remitted to the National Secretariat of the party;
- (q) Review, ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by NEC, NWC or BOT of the party.
- (r) Exercise such other powers and authority not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution as shall aid or facilitate the realization of the objectives and the founding ideals and philosophy of the party.

## **MEETINGS**

- 28.6 The quorum of the National convention shall be two- third of its membership and a simple majority shall pass any motion.
- 28.7 The National Convention shall meet every four years provided it must fall within the same month of the last convention or not exceed four months thereafter;
- 28.8 The National Convention shall determine its own procedure as proposed by the FMC in accordance with democratic principles;
- 28.9 Voting on key issues at the National Convention shall be by secret ballot or as provided by the founders.

## **Article 29**

### **FOUNDING MEMBERS COUNCIL**

There shall be a council known as the Founding Members Council (FMC). The FMC shall be made up of all the founding consistent members as stated hereof. The FMC shall exist to ensure that the founding philosophy and ideals of the party are strictly adhered to. The FMC shall have a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and head of Finance. The FMC shall regulate its own proceedings, policy and terms as formulated by the founders.

#### **29.1 MEMBERSHIP:**

1. The members are Founder, co-founders and founding members of the Party. The founders may unanimously appoint any person with exceptional and outstanding



party commitment and sacrifice into its fold as a member, provided that any person appointed by the founders into FMC shall serve for a renewable term not exceeding four (4) years. The National Chairman of the party for the time of being Chairman or any person acting in that capacity at any time shall be an official member of the FMC.

2. Membership shall be as long as the council exists as stated in this constitution except where a member vacates or officially deserts the Party in writing or as contained in the FMC policy.
3. The members of the FMC shall not be restricted to hold any other office in the Party. The members are free to hold offices in the Party or run for political offices without relinquishing their membership in the Council.

## **FUNCTIONS:**

29.2 The FMC shall have the following Functions

1. Shall be the highest body to resolve all crises in the party and mediate in disputes at all levels including disputes referred to it by any organ of the Party.
2. Shall make all good negotiations of any type on behalf of the party at all levels.
3. Together with the BOT be vested with the assets of the Party and shall serve as custodians of such assets;
4. Being statutory members of the Convention Organizing Committee, shall ensure the successful organization of all Conventions of the party. Shall attend the extra ordinary or emergency NEC meetings of the Party. And shall regulate its own proceedings.
5. Must by a simple majority consent in writing to all or any amendment of the Party Constitution without which the amendment becomes a nullity.
6. Shall be permanent members of the Board of trustees of the Party.
7. Shall always impress on the members through any means the Ideology and Philosophy of the Party for the good of the country.
8. Shall always ensure that all the state chapters of the Party adhere and are at par with the founding ideals of the Party
9. Ensure high morale of members of the party and that the ideals and philosophy of the party are portrayed before the Nigerian populace, and that the party is in good political health;

10. Advice on policies, programs and activities of the party at all levels in order to ensure adherence to founding ideals and philosophy of the Party;
11. Advise and guide on the sourcing of party funds which will be referred to the Board of Trustees for coordination and NEC for implementation;
12. Attend any meetings of any other organs of the party; as official supervisors with voting powers in any such meetings
13. Shall ratify all policy decisions and appointments like formation of state executives by any organ of the party.
14. Undertake all other functions and activities as may be referred to it by the National Executive Council or the National Convention
15. The FMC being the highest organ of the Party shall be the sole organ to ratify rules for Party discipline which shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.

29.3 The members shall be the founder, co-founders and other founding members as will be published by the National Leader.

29.4 The FMC as is currently constituted shall cease to exist after a minimum of 25 years and then the Party shall through its NEC and Board of Trustees establish another or an alternative council based on oldest and most committed members of the Party.

29.5 National Leader-

There shall be a National Leader of the Party. The founder of the party shall be the National Leader of the Party.

29.6 Functions

- (a) Shall be the Chief Supervisor of the National Convention
- (b) Shall ensure that the founding ideals and philosophy of the party are maintained by the FMC.
- (c) Shall convene and preside over the meetings of the FMC as chairman.
- (d) Shall convene and preside over a yearly meeting of all party leaders across the Nation for party bonding and other consequential issues.
- (e) Shall maintain unity and decorum across any divide in the party.

- (f) Shall perform any other duty as may be assigned by the NEC, BOT, FMC or National Convention.

## **Article 30**

### **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

30.1 There shall be the National Officers of the Party, who shall be men and women of integrity with demonstrable competence and shall perform the functions assigned to them in this constitution.

### **NATIONAL LEADER**

There shall be the office of National Leader who shall by virtue of his status assume the office of Chairman Founding Members Council (FMC) and shall preside over Founding Members Council(FMC) meeting.

### **THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

30.2 There shall be a National Chairman who shall be the Chief Executive of the party, and his functions shall be to:

- (a) Summon and preside over the meetings of the National Working Committee as convened by the NEC of the party except as already delegated to any other body or person;
- (b) Provide firm and effective leadership and direct the activities of the party under the overall supervision of the National Executive Council;
- (c) Promote and defend the integrity, policies and programs of the party and make pronouncements for and on behalf of the National Executive Council outlining the policies, programs and activities of the party; pronouncements for and on behalf of the National Executive Council outlining the policies, programs and activities of the Party;
- (d) Assign specific functions to any member or officer of the party subject to the provisions of this constitution;
- (e) Delegate his powers to the Deputy National Chairman;
- (f) Cast votes if and when necessary.
- (g) Present to the National Convention a comprehensive statement of the State of the party and the political situation generally;

- (h) Ensure strict compliance with the provisions of this Constitution and do all such other things as shall promote the growth and welfare of the party;

### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

30.3 There shall be a Deputy National Chairman who shall perform the following functions-

- (a) Assist the National Chairman in the discharge of his duties;
- (b) Deputize for the National Chairman in the latter's absence; and
- (c) Performing such other party functions as may be assigned to him.

### **THE VICE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN (ONE PER GEOPOLITICAL ZONE)**

30.4 There shall be 6 Vice National Chairman to assist the National Chairman in the discharge of his duties in the 6 Geopolitical Zones of Nigeria. Their functions shall be-

- (a) Coordinate the activities of the various state chapters of the party in their respective zones
- (b) Mobilizing the people for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (c) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party;

### **THE NATIONAL SECRETARY**

30.5 There shall be a National Secretary who shall be the Chief Administrative and Accounting Officer of the party, whose functions shall be to-

- (a) Supervise the day-to-day activities of the party in the secretariat;
- (b) Conduct or direct the conduct of the correspondences of the party and cause to be issued notices of meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Council, and the National Working Committee;
- (c) Keep or cause to be kept all records of proceedings of the National Convention, the National Executive Council and the National Working Committee, as well as other records of the party;
- (d) Render a written annual report of the activities of the party to NEC, FMC and National Convention;

- (e) Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National Convention, FMC, National Executive Council and the National Working Committee.
- (f) Consult the National Chairman in the discharge of the duties of his or her office;
- (g) Carry out any other duties as may be assigned to him or her, from time-to-time by the FMC, National Convention, National Executive Council, National Working Committee and the National Chairman, and
- (h) The National Secretary of the party shall be the custodian of the common seal of the party.

#### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL SECRETARY**

30.6 A Deputy National Secretary who shall assist the National Secretary in the discharge of his duties and shall act for him in his absence or wherever so directed.

#### **THE NATIONAL TREASURER**

30.7 The National Treasurer who shall be an Accountant with track records of prudence whose functions shall be to:

- (a) Receive and promptly pay into the party's accounts all monies received for and on behalf of the party and keep all cheque books and other banking documents of the party;
- (b) Ensure prudent management of the party's funds;
- (c) Ensure that all funds received by the party are paid into the party's accounts immediately and if for any reason that is not possible, the fund shall be paid within 48 hours after collection; and
- (d) Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account and periodic reports to the National Executive Council.

#### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL TREASURER**

30.8 There shall be a Deputy National Treasurer who shall assist the National Treasurer in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence.

## **THE NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

30.9 There shall be a National Financial Secretary whose functions shall be to-

- (a) Collect and keep records of all dues, levies, subscriptions and donations paid or made to the party;
- (b) Receive the FMC's advice on fund raising and consequently prepare and submit proposals for raising funds for the party for the National Executive Council;
- (c) Undertake strict supervision of budgeting, budgetary control and financial reporting;
- (d) Protect the assets of the party and institute operating procedures through internal control; and
- (e) establish and co-ordinate policies for the investment of funds to generate income for the party.

## **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

30.10 There shall be a Deputy National Financial Secretary who shall assist the National Financial Secretary in the discharge of his or her duties, and deputize for him in his absence.

## **THE NATIONAL ORGANIZING SECRETARY**

30.11 There shall be a National Organizing Secretary whose functions shall be to:

- (a) Initiate programs for the general mobilization of the members of the party and the recruitment of new members;
- (b) Appraise the problems of the party and proffer solutions to such problems;
- (c) Harmonize all information and devise appropriate strategy for winning elections;
- (d) Coordinate all field activities of the party;
- (e) Organize seminars, workshops, rallies and campaign programs for the attainment of the party's objectives; and
- (f) Liaise with the National Woman and Youth Leaders for the harmonization of the programs for the attainment of the party's success at all elections.

### **THE VICE NATIONAL ORGANIZING SECRETARY (NORTH) AND (SOUTH)**

30.12 There shall be a Vice National Organizing Secretary North, who shall deputize for the National Organizing Secretary in the discharge of his or her duties in the Northern Region, and a Vice National Organizing Secretary South who shall deputize for the National Organizing Secretary in the discharge of his or her duties in the Southern Region; either shall deputize for the National Organizing Secretary in his absence as it pertains to their region.

### **THE NATIONAL PUBLICITY SECRETARY**

30.13 There shall be a National Publicity Secretary whose functions shall be to:

- (a) Co-ordinate all information and public relations of the party;
- (b) Be the chief image maker of the party; and
- (c) Cause to be publicized, the policies and programs of the party in line with the aims and objectives of the party.

### **THE VICE NATIONAL PUBLICITY SECRETARY (NORTH) AND (SOUTH)**

30.14 There shall be a Vice National Publicity Secretary North who shall deputize for the National Publicity Secretary in the discharge of his or her duties in the Northern Region, and a Vice National Publicity Secretary South who shall deputize for the National Publicity Secretary in the discharge of his/her duties in the Southern Region; either shall deputize for the National Publicity Secretary in his absence as it pertains to their region.

### **THE NATIONAL AUDITOR**

30.15 There shall be a National Auditor of the party, who shall be an Accountant and whose functions shall be to-

- (a) Audit the books of account of the party annually and report to the National Executive Council;
- (b) Present the audited account of the party to the National Convention; and
- (c) Carry out any other functions as may be directed by the National Executive Council.

### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL AUDITOR**

30.16 There shall be a Deputy National Auditor who shall be an Accountant and who shall assist the National Auditor in the discharge of his or her duties, and shall deputize for him in his absence.

### **THE NATIONAL LEGAL ADVISER**

30.17 There shall be a National Legal Adviser of the Party who shall be a lawyer of not less than 10 years post-call and whose functions shall be to-

- (a) Advise the party on legal matters;
- (b) Conduct, litigation and prosecute and defend actions on behalf of the party including its organs and officials in so far as the subject matter of the litigation affects the interest of the party;
- (c) To handle any other assignment pertaining the activities of the party as would be assigned to him by the NEC, FMC and National Convention.

### **NATIONAL DEPUTY LEGAL ADVISER**

30.18 There shall be a National Deputy Legal Adviser, who shall be a lawyer of not less than 7 years post call shall deputize for the National Legal Adviser in the discharge of his or her duties, and shall deputize for him in his absence.

### **THE NATIONAL WOMAN LEADER**

30.19 There shall be a National Woman Leader, who shall be responsible for:

- (a) Mobilizing and organizing women;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to Nigerian women; and

### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL WOMAN LEADER (North) and (South)**

30.20 There shall be two National Deputy Woman Leaders, one shall assist the National Woman Leader in the discharge of her duties in the Southern Region and one in The Northern Region. One of them shall act for her in her absence or wherever so directed.



### **THE VICE NATIONAL WOMEN LEADER (ONE PER GEOPOLITICAL ZONE) (SIX)**

30.21 There shall be 6 Vice National Woman Leaders to assist the National Woman Leader in the discharge of her duties in the 6 Geopolitical Zones of Nigeria. Their functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the youth for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian women;

### **THE NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER**

30.22 There shall be a National Youth Leader, whose functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the youth for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian youth;

### **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER (North) and (South)**

30.23 There shall be two National Deputy Youth Leaders, one shall assist the National Youth Leader in the discharge of his duties in the Southern Region and one in The Northern Region. One of them shall act in his absence and their functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the youth for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian youth;

### **THE VICE NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER (ONE PER GEOPOLITICAL ZONE) (SIX )**

30.24 There shall be 6 Vice National Youth Leaders to assist the National Youth Leader in the discharge of his duties in the 6 Geopolitical Zones of Nigeria. Their functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the youth for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian youth;

## **THE NATIONAL WELFARE ADVISER**

30.25 There shall be a National Welfare Adviser who shall-

- (a) shall develop welfare programs and proffer systematic avenues for funding and sustaining first class welfare packages for deserving party members, officials, organs and any other persons as may be recommended at any time by the Party.
- (b) Ensure the provision of welfare services for the members of the party during National Convention, National Working Committee Meetings and other official programs/functions of the party at the National Level including campaigns. The National Welfare Adviser shall in conjunction with the National Secretariat set up a welfare department of the party subject to ratification by the NWC.
- (c) do any other duty or duties as may be assigned by the NEC, FMC or National Convention.

## **THE NATIONAL LEADER PLWD**

30.26 There shall be a National Leader PLWD, whose functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the PLWD for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian PLWD;

## **THE DEPUTY NATIONAL LEADER PLWD (North) and (South)**

30.27 There shall be two National Deputy Leader PLWD, one shall assist the National Leader PLWD in the discharge of his duties in the Southern Region and one in The Northern Region. One of them shall act in his absence and their functions shall be-

- (a) Mobilizing the PLWD for the attainment of the objectives of the party;
- (b) Initiating and implementing strategic programs and policies aimed at endearing the party to the Nigerian PLWD ;

## **DEPUTY NATIONAL WELFARE ADVISER 1 AND 2**

30.28 There shall be two offices known as and called Deputy National Welfare Adviser 1 and 2 who shall assist the National Government Liaison Adviser in the discharge of

his or her duties in the areas, designations, programs, states and subjects as directed and shall act for him in his absence or wherever so directed.

## **DIASPORA ADVISER 1 AND 2**

30.29 There shall be a Diaspora Adviser 1 who shall be the senior Adviser and Diaspora Adviser 2. The Diaspora Advisers shall be seized with the party matters in diaspora as it relates with membership, operations and activities. The NWC shall assign relevant duties and countries of management at any time to the Diaspora Advisers with such terms as would be in the best interest of the party.

## **Article 31**

### **RESIGNATION OR REMOVAL OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

31.1 If a National Officer of the Party is removed or resigns from office, he shall immediately hand over to the National Secretary all records, files and other properties of the Party in his or her possession.

31.2 In the case of the National Chairman, he shall hand over to the Deputy National chairman who shall, without prejudice to Article 34(13) of this Constitution, act as the National Chairman pending the election of a replacement.

31.3 In the case of National Secretary, he shall hand over to the Deputy National Secretary.

31.4 But where there is dispute arising from the vacancy then the FMC shall resolve the matter and fill the vacancy or vacancies.

### **POWERS OF OFFICERS AT OTHER LEVELS**

31.5 Except where the provisions of this Constitution state otherwise, all other officers at the Zonal, State, Local Government Area and Ward levels shall, in relation to their respective functions, have the same powers as their corresponding National Officers.

31.6 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, Executive Committee at all levels shall have power to set up committees where necessary, desirable or expedient and shall assign to them such powers and functions as may be deemed appropriate.

31.7 The Executive Committee at all levels shall, in the appointment or election of members of the Executive Committees at respective levels of the Party, observe and apply the principle of Federal Character.

## **TENURE OF OFFICE OF PARTY OFFICERS**

- 31.8 The National working committee, Zonal, State, Local Government Area and Ward Officers of the Party shall hold office for a term of four years and shall be eligible for re-election for another term and no more for that particular position.
- 31.9 The election of National Officers shall be at the National Convention, while that of those at the lower levels shall be at the respective congresses.
- 31.10 A vote of no-confidence may be moved on any member of the Executive Committee of the Party at any level at any National Convention or congress of the Party two years into the tenure of such member of the Executive Committee, and where such a vote is passed, the Executive Committee member shall be replaced at that National convention or congress, as the case may be. Provided that two month's notice of such vote of confidence motion shall be given to the Secretariat in order to circulate it to the relevant chapters one month before the National Convention or Congress, as the case may be.
- 31.11 A vote of no-confidence shall be deemed defeated if not passed by a simple majority of the members of the Party at the Convention or Congress sitting and voting.
- 31.12 Any officer elected into the Executive Committee of the Party at any level may resign his or her office by giving thirty days' notice in writing( unless waived by him)to the appropriate Executive Committee, except in the case of resignation for the purpose of vying for an elective office which shall be effective within the period stipulated in the guideline issued for such elective office by the State Executive Committee in respect of Local Government elections.
- 31.13 Where a vacancy occurs in any of the offices of the Party, the Executive Committee at the appropriate level shall appoint another person from the area or zone where the officer originated from, pending the conduct of election to fill the vacancy.

## **PROHIBITION FROM HOLDING DUAL OFFICES**

- 31.14 Subject to the provisions of this constitution and without prejudice to Article 28, any member holding any office in the party at any level shall be deemed to have resigned that office, if he or she assumes any of the following offices-
- (a) President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
  - (b) Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
  - (c) Member of the National Assembly
  - (d) Governor or Deputy Governor of a state

- (e) Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; or
- (f) Secretary to the Government of the Federation; or
- (g) Special Adviser or Special Assistant to the President or Vice President;
- (h) Ambassador or High Commissioner; or
- (i) Commissioner, Special Adviser or Special Assistant to the Governor or Deputy Governor of a State; or
- (j) Chairman, Vice Chairman or Councilor of a Local Government Council; or
- (k) Any full time employment or appointment in the public service of the federation, state or local government.

## **Article 32**

### **MODE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE PARTY**

- 32.1 The National Convention, the Zonal, State, Local Government Area and Ward Congresses shall meet to elect the officers of the party at the various levels of the party structure as specified in this constitution except in the Federal Capital Territory where officers of the party shall be elected based on geo-political zones.
- 32.2 Every registered member of the party who has satisfied the requirements for nomination and election under this Constitution, the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or any other law, rules or regulations in force shall be eligible to contest for any of the offices of the party.
- 32.3 The guidelines for elections to any office of the party shall be approved by the National Executive Council and founders of the party in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
- 32.4 No member of the party shall be qualified for nomination or election or appointment into any of the offices of the party, unless he or she has been a registered member for at least 3 months, and is of good financial standing in the party, except there is a waiver by the appropriate executive committee.

## **Article 33**

### **NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION INTO PUBLIC OFFICES**

- 33.1 The National Working Committee shall, subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended), the Electoral Act (as amended) and this constitution, formulate guidelines and regulations for the nomination of candidates for election into public offices at all levels as ratified by

the FMC, and shall resolve all disputes relating to the choice of candidates for the party for any election and for conveying to the Independent National Electoral Commission, or any other authority to whom it may concern, confirming the names or list of names of candidates for the party in any elective public office in the federation, provided that NWC will refer lingering disputes to the BOT which shall refer further lingering disputes to the FMC.

- 33.2 In line with the provisions of this Constitution, the National Working Committee shall regulate the procedure for selecting the party's candidates for elective offices in the following manner prescribed below;
- 33.3 In the conduct of primaries for the party's candidate for the post of the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the primary shall be held at the National Convention of the party specially convened for that purpose;
- 33.4 In the conduct of primaries for the party's candidate for the post of Governorship of a state, the primary shall be held at the State Congress of the party specially convened for that purpose;
- 33.5 In the conduct of primaries for the party's candidate for the post of Senator, the primaries shall be held at Senatorial Congress or as may be specified by the NWC.
- 33.6 In the conduct of primaries for the party's candidate for the post of member of the House of Representatives, the primaries shall be held at the Federal Constituency Headquarters;
- 33.7 In the conduct of primaries for the party's candidate for the post of Local Government Council Chairman and House of Assembly, the primaries shall be held at the local government Congress
- 33.8 Congress shall be held by direct primaries in which all card carrying members of the party at all level shall participate; or by indirect primaries as may be specified by the National Working Committee.
- 33.9 There shall be a minimum of one year membership span for a member to be eligible to stand for election into any public office, unless the Board of Trustees gives a waiver or rules to the contrary.
- 33.10 In considering the waiver mentioned in Article 33(9), of this constitution the following shall apply:
  - (a) For members aspiring for nomination for election to the post of Councilors, Local Government Council Chairman, the deciding authority shall be the State Executive Committee; and
  - (b) For members aspiring for Party positions or nomination for State House of Assembly election, National Assembly, posts of Governors or Deputy

Governors, President or Vice President, the deciding authority shall be the National Executive Council, through the National Working Committee.

- 33.11 In respect of any decision, any aggrieved party member shall have recourse to appeal to the National Executive Council.
- 33.12 There shall be a minimum of one year membership span except on special consideration for a member to be eligible to be considered for political appointment, but this is without prejudice to the discretion of the appropriate authority.
- 33.13 Where the appropriate Committee rules to the contrary, the ruling must be approved by the immediate higher executive committee, save for National Executive Council which is final authority.
- 33.14 Candidates for party positions must possess a minimum of secondary school certificate or its equivalent as requisite qualification to be eligible to contest except waived by the National Executive Council. The demand for literacy as a qualification should not be compulsory at the ward level.
- 33.15 In the case of death or withdrawal of any candidate that has a deputy or not during or after elections, but before swearing in, fresh primaries shall be conducted by the party.
- 33.16 Subject to the provisions of this constitution on disputes, the decision of the National Working Committee shall be final in the event of a non-lingering dispute as to who becomes the candidate of the party into any public elective office whatsoever at all levels from the Ward to the National levels.

#### **Article 34 FUNDING**

- 34.1 There shall be established and maintained for the party a fund or funds into which shall be paid all:
  - (a) Subscription, fees, and levies from membership of the party;
  - (b) Proceeds from investments made by the party;
  - (c) Subventions and donations;
  - (d) Gifts and grants by individuals or groups of individuals as authorized by law;
  - (e) Loans approved by the National Executive Council; and
  - (f) Such other moneys as may be lawfully received by the party.

- 34.2 A prescribe annual membership subscription fee per annum, or such amount as the National Executive Council, upon the recommendation of the National Working Committee, may, from time to time, approve shall be paid by all members.
- 34.3 The fee shall be paid as and when due and endorsed on the membership card. The NEC shall determine and fix the different allowances and remunerations of all officers and organs of the party. Provided that the Party shall strictly follow the Party's Financial Policy as regards the maintenance of the Founding Members Council (FMC) and Board of Trustees (BOT).
- 34.4 For the purpose of strengthening the Party's finances, all elected and appointed Party men and women should be made to pay the following additional levies-
- (a) Elected Public Officers in the legislature (at the three tiers of government): 5% of annual basic salary.
  - (b) Appointed public officers (at the three tiers of government) 5% of annual basic salary.
  - (c) Ambassadors: 5% of annual basic salary.
  - (d) Board Chairmen at Federal level: 4% of their basic allowances or remuneration.
- 34.5 The various individuals and friends of the Party that enjoy patronage from the Party at National, State and Local Government levels shall be encouraged to make donations annually to the Party, and these must be consistent with any law in operation at the time of the donation.
- 34.6 Money generated from the sale of nomination forms shall form part of the Party's finances.
- 34.7 The Party shall hold a National Chairman's Annual Fund Raising Dinner at which friends and members of the Party will be charged, in a manner to be recommended by the National Finance Committee of the Party and approved by the National Working Committee, to raise fund for the Party.

## **Article 35**

### **NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT AND COMPOSITION**

- 35.1 There shall be established for the Party, a National Finance Committee (NFC) to consist of the following, that is:
- (a) a Chairman, who shall be a Party member of repute and integrity;
  - (b) 1 member drawn from each of the 6 geopolitical zones of the country;



- (c) The National Treasurer of the Party,
- (d) Financial Secretary of the Party,
- (e) National Auditor of the Party,
- (f) National Welfare Adviser of the party,

35.2 National Financial Secretary shall serve as the Secretary of the Committee.

35.3 Except for the ex-officio members of the Committee, the Chairman and other members are to be appointed by the National Working Committee subject to the approval of the National Executive Council.

## **FUNCTIONS**

35.4 The NFMC shall be responsible for-

- (a) Organizing a National Chairman's Annual Fund Raising Dinner.
- (b) Embarking on other fund raising activities and solicitations for party, provided that such activities and solicitations must be in conformity with the extant laws and this constitution;
- (c) Ensuring that the fund raising policy of the party is maintained.
- (d) Establishing a good and prudent but effective management system for resources and funds.

Provided that there shall be a State Finance Committee, which shall be constituted along the lines of the National Finance Committee and to perform like functions.

## **BORROWING POWER**

35.5 The Party may, with the consent of or in accordance with any general authority given by the National Executive Council, borrow, by way of loan or overdraft, from any source, any money required by the party to meet its obligations and functions under this Constitution.

35.6 Subject to the provisions of this constitution and the conditions of any trust in respect of any property, the party may invest all or any of its funds with the consent or general authority of the National Executive Council.

## **TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PARTY FINANCES**

- 35.7 For the purpose of ensuring transparency and accountability and transparency in the management of finances of the party, the National Executive Council shall design Standard Financial regulations to govern the management of party's finances at all levels.
- 35.8 At the National level, the National Chairman of the Party shall ensure that members of the party comply with the provisions of this constitution as affects membership dues expected from elected public office holders, Federal Political appointees and National Assembly. The National Working Committee led by the National Chairman of the party shall twice in a year brief the FMC of all activities of the party with regards to the constitution, manifesto, ideology, harmony and operations.
- 35.9 At the State level, the State Chairman of the party shall ensure that members of the party comply with the provisions of this constitution as relates to membership dues in respect of all elected public office holders, State political appointees, and in the State House of Assembly.
- 35.10 At the local government level, the local government council party Chairman, shall ensure that members comply with the provisions of this constitution as relates to membership dues in respect of all elected public office holders, local government council political appointees and Local Government Legislative House.

## **BANK ACCOUNTS**

- 35.11 The party shall maintain a Bank Account or Bank Accounts at the city or town where its headquarters is situated and where bank facilities are not available, the services of the bank nearest to the city or town shall be utilised.
- 35.12 There shall be an operational Account to be handled by the FMC Chairman, BOT Chairman and Secretaries of FMC and BOT.
- 35.14 The authorized signatories to the bank account and other financial transactions shall be the following officers, as the case may be:
- (a) The National Chairman or his or her counterparts at Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels;
  - (b) The National Financial Secretary or his or her counterparts at Zonal, State, local Government and ward levels;
  - (c) The National Treasurer or his or her counterpart at Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels, the National Secretary or his or her counterparts at Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels

- (d) The National Secretary or his counterpart at Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels. Provided that for any withdrawal the National Chairman and the National Financial Secretary shall be mandatory signatories, together with any other signatory as specified hereunder. The NEC may expand the scope of accounts and signatories for different organs as it deems necessary, and as the circumstance demands.

35.14 The Executive Committee of the party at any level shall decide the banks to be used in keeping the account.

### **AUDIT OF PARTY ACCOUNTS**

35.15 The National Executive Council of the Party shall appoint a competent firm of accountants to audit the accounts of the party annually and present the report of the audited accounts at the National Convention.

35.16 The Zonal, State and the Local Government Executive Committees shall, similarly, appoint a competent firm of Accountants to audit the accounts of the party annually and present the report of the audited accounts at their respective congresses.

### **35.17 NATIONAL INVESTMENT COMMITTEE**

The National Executive Council shall subject to ratification by the FMC establish a National Investment Committee for the party which shall-

- (a) Ensure the broadening and sustainability of the Party's revenue base, including, subject to the provisions of this constitution, investment of the party funds in to long term viable ventures such as government securities, blue-chip companies and real estates;
- (b) Establish any business ventures that do not violate the provisions of any sections of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Electoral Act and this constitution.
- (c) Any other duty or duties as may be assigned by the NEC.

The membership of the Investment Committee shall be as determined by the NEC and approved by the FMC.

## **Article 36**

### **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

- 36.1 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, there shall be a Disciplinary Committee of the Party at every level consisting of seven members with proven integrity, one of whom shall have a legal background. The Legal Adviser or his/her nominee shall be a member of the committee except where the Legal Adviser is the one facing the committee.
- 36.2 The Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed by the appropriate Executive Committee of the Party.
- 36.3 The Working Committee, at any level of the Party, and the Executive Committee (at the Ward Level) may, after preliminary hearings, suspend a member from the Party for a period not exceeding one month, during which period the member so suspended shall lose his right of contest any election, and shall be referred to the appropriate Disciplinary Committee.
- 36.4 Where an allegation is made against a member of the Party, the Disciplinary Committee shall inform the member in writing of the allegations made against him and the place and time of hearing the case against him or her.
- 36.5 A member who appears before a Disciplinary Committee shall be given opportunity to present his case orally or in writing either in person or through a counsel of his choice and shall be allowed to call witnesses.
- 36.6 Any decision taken against a member who has not been informed of the charges against him or has not been given any opportunity of defending himself shall be null and void.

### **OFFENCES AND SANCTIONS OFFENCES**

- 36.8 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Party shall have power to discipline any member who:
- (a) Commits any breach of the Party's Constitution, and or Manifesto;
  - (b) Says or does anything likely to bring the party into disrepute, hatred or contempt;
  - (c) Disobeys or neglects to carry out lawful directives of the party or any organ or officer of the party;
  - (d) Engages in dishonest practices, defrauds the party, its members or officials;
  - (e) Is persistently absent from meetings or other official duties;

- (f) Engages in anti-party activities;
- (g) Engages in disorderly conduct at meetings or rallies or at any party function;
- (h) Engages in any conduct likely to cause disaffection among members of the party or is likely to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient conduct of the business of the party;
- (i) Engages in unauthorized publicity of disputes within the party or creates a parallel party organ at any level;
- (j) Promotes factions or belongs to any group under the guise of the party and by whatever name called, not being one provided for in this constitution;
- (k) Organizes, retains, trains, equips or encourages the organization, retention, training, equipping of any member or group of members for the purpose of employing violence or coercion or any form of intimidation whatsoever;
- (l) Resorts to court action or litigation on any disputes or on any matter whatsoever concerning rights, obligations and duties of any member of the party without first availing himself or herself of the remedies provided by the party under this constitution; or
- (m) Fails, refuses or neglects to treat a petition, complaints or appeal timeously.
- (n) Any elected public office holder who decamps while in office to another political party, automatically loses his/her seat and shall face disciplinary sanctions.

## **SANCTIONS**

36.9 Any member of the Party who commits any of the offences listed in Section 36.8 of this Constitution shall be liable to any or a combination of the following penalties-

- (a) Reprimand
- (b) Censure
- (c) Fine
- (d) Suspension with a fine;
- (e) Debarment from holding any Party office;
- (f) Removal from office
- (g) Expulsion from the Party

- 36.11 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Executive Committee, at any level of the Party, shall have power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures to be taken against any member at that level.
- 36.12 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution relating to discipline, no Executive Committee at any level except the National Executive Council shall entertain any question of discipline as may relate or concern a member of the National Executive Committee or any elected public Officer of the Party.
- 36.13 The appropriate Executive Committee shall have the power to initiate and take necessary disciplinary action against other categories of Executive Committee members, public Office Holders and other members of the Party.
- 36.14 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the National Executive Council shall have power to expel any member of the Party for serious acts of indiscipline or misconduct or anti party activity which brings, or is likely to bring, the Party into disrepute provided it is ratified by the FMC in writing. Notwithstanding any provision in this constitution, the founders can summon any BOT member for anti-party, misappropriation or unconstitutional behaviors and may unanimously take any such steps that are necessary to save the party's ideology from disrepute.

## **REMEDIES**

- 36.15 If any member of the party is aggrieved, he shall report to the appropriate authority.
- 36.16 If he or she is not satisfied, an appeal shall lie with the next higher party authority.
- 36.17 All appeals must be dealt with timely, expeditiously; in any event not later than 2 weeks after the filing of the appeal.
- 36.18 The committee of the members of the Board of Trustees of the Party as constituted for this purpose by the FMC shall be the final arbiter, provided that failure, refusal or neglect to treat a report, petition, complaint or appeal on the part of the arbiter shall be reported to the FMC. The FMC's decision on any appeal or complaint shall be final.

## **APPEAL**

- 36.19 Any member of the Party who is aggrieved by a decision taken against him by any of the organs or officers of the Party shall have the right of appeal to the immediate higher organ of the Party within fourteen days of the decision.
- 36.20 An appeal shall be determined by the appropriate appeal body within twenty-one days from the date of the receipt of the notice of appeal by the appropriate

Executive Committee. In all matters contained in Article 36 herein, the policy on ADR must be adhered to and complied with.

## **Article 37**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY**

- 37.1 The party shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and can sue or be sued in its corporate name with power to acquire, hold and alienate property, enter into agreements and to do all things necessary to carry out its aims and objectives and defend its members, property and reputation.
- 37.2 Only National Officers of the party and FMC shall have the authority to create any legal relationship binding on the party provided that the founders shall have the powers to revoke any legal relationship made in bad faith and against the interest and philosophy of the party. The founders shall be responsible to the party constitution and its ideals and shall in the case of serious emergency matters call for relevant leaders across the party so as to take such actions that would cater for the emergency as the case may be.
- 37.3 Any conflict or lacuna in this constitution or the party shall be resolved by the FMC in line with the party ideals and founding principles.

### **COMMON SEAL**

- 37.4 There shall be a common seal of the party, which shall be in the custody of the National Secretary of the party.

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

- 37.5 Any person elected or appointed into any office of the party shall subscribe to the Oath of Office as provided in Schedule I to this Constitution, in the language that he or she understands and before a commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public. Where the Oath officer is a member of the executive committee then he shall administer the oath for others and then affirm in the presence of the other members of the executive committee. Provided that for zonal or state or LG or Ward executives, the National shall give directions on the modalities to adopt.

### **AMENDMENTS**

- 37.6 The party shall have the power to amend this constitution, save that no amendment of the constitution shall be valid unless made after 3 years by a motion

passed by two-third majority of members present, consented in writing by the Founding Members Council, and then put to vote at the National Convention provided that the motion seeking the amendment is counter signed by the National Leader, National Chairman and National Secretary respectively at least two months before presentation.

- 37.7 The Notice of the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be given to the National Secretary, at least two months before the date of the National Convention and the notice, which shall be in writing, shall contain a clear statement of the amendment sought and the reasons for the amendment.
- 37.8 The National Secretary upon receipt of the notice shall cause it to be circulated to the State Chapters of the party for publication at least one month before the date of the National Convention.
- 37.9 it is hereby understood that all requirements in this constitution with regards to qualification, tenure of office, election contest and every other requirement, shall not be in force until after three years.

## **INTERPRETATION**

37.10 Except on express words of this constitution, any divided questions as to the meaning of any section of this constitution or the Schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Executive Council whose interpretation of the same shall be final.

37.11 In this constitution:

- (a) ADR “means Alternative Dispute Resolution”
- (b) Constitution “ means CONSTITUTION OF THE ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY.
- (c) “FMC ” means Founding Members Council
- (d) “Founders” mean founder and co-founders only.
- (e) "Funds" include valuable properties;
- (f) “He” or “His” shall include the female gender;
- (g) “The Party" means ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY; and shall include its constituted organs as the case may be.
- (h) "month" means calendar month;
- (i) where computation of any figure in this Constitution results in a fraction, the figure obtained shall be approximated to the nearest whole number;



- (j) " BOT" means Board of Trustees
- (k) "Congress" a large formal meeting or series of meetings where representatives from different party levels discuss ideas, make decisions, pass resolutions and conduct election;
- (l) "National Convention" - The largest meeting of ADP at National level which is the highest authority of the party where decisions are ratified and Presidential candidates and ational Officers are elected;
- (m) "Delegates" - Are elected or nominated representatives of the party at any level of the structure of the party;
- (n) "National" - This refers to Federal level as contained in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- (o) "Zonal" - This refers to each of the geo- political entities viz North East, North Central, North West, South East, South West, South South.
- (p) "State" - This refers to geographical entity as defined in the constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- (q) "Local Government Area" - This refers to the Local Government Area as defined by S.7 and particularly schedule 2 of the constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- (r) "Ward" - This refer to the area delineation of the Local Government Area by the Independent National Electoral Commission.
- (s) "Direct Primaries" – this refers to a Party Executive Congress to be held in each Ward and all registered and financial members of the Party to participate in electing a candidate of the Party for election into public office.
- (t) "NEC" means or refers to the National Executive Council
- (u) " Emergency" means any situation that is capable of negatively affecting the party immediately.

## **SCHEDULE I**

### **OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

I, .....do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Action Democratic Party and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that I will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution and policies of the Action Democratic Party and of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. So help me God.

## **SCHEDULE II OATH OF OFFICE**

I,.....do solemnly swear/affirm that I shall be faithful and bear true allegiance to the ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY, I shall discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the constitution of the party and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the party and the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I will strive to pursue, enhance and achieve the aims and objectives of the party as contained in its Constitution and Manifesto; that I shall be bound by the party's policy on ADR, and shall not allow my personal interest to influence my official decision; that in all circumstances I shall do right to all the members of the party and to all manner of people, according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; that I shall not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any manner which shall be brought to my attention or which shall become known to me as an officer of the party, except as may be required for the due discharge of my duties and that I shall devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria. So help me God.

## **SCHEDULE III**

### **PROCEEDINGS AT MEETINGS**

1. Language to be used at meetings

The proceedings of the meetings of the party at all levels shall be in the English language or any Nigerian language understood by a majority of members of the party at respective levels;

2. All the meetings of the party shall be chaired by the Chairman or in his or her absence, the Deputy Chairman at the relevant level and in the event of the absence of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, members present shall elect a member from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.

3. The rules and regulations governing the conduct of any meetings of the party shall be as approved, from time to time, by the National Executive Council of the party.

### **NOTICES**

The Notices for all meetings at any level shall be a minimum of 7 days for statutory meetings or constitutional meetings, and not less than 24 hours for emergency meetings except where the emergency is of grave consequence then the Notice shall be

immediate, provided that any decision pursuant to an immediate Notice, if not reached by a simple majority, must be ratified by a majority of that particular organ

#### **SCHEDULE IV STAFF RULES**

(1) Employees of the party shall be subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, Zonal, State, Local Government area and ward secretariat of the party and appeals on matters of the discipline and routine administration matters shall lie with the Secretary at the various levels, in compliance with the establishment manual.

All employees of the party shall be bound by the provisions of this constitution, the rules and regulations of the party and the decisions of the National Executive Council and other authorized organs of the party.

(2) A person who seeks and obtains employment in the party shall be deemed to be a member of the party.

(3) Any employee of the party who acts in a manner likely to bring contempt or ridicule to the party or its officers or take part in subversive activities against the party or its officers shall, if found guilty, be immediately relieved of his or her post.

(4) Erring employees shall be afforded ample opportunity to defend themselves before disciplinary action is taken against them.

(5) No employee of the party shall seek nomination to enable him or her contest any election, unless he or she resigns his or her appointment one month to the date of the election.

(6) The remuneration and other conditions of service of employees of the party shall be determined by the National Executive Council for the National and any other, and by the State Working Committees, Local Government Committee and Ward Executive Committee as the case may be.

#### **APPRECIATION**

The Party and indeed all Nigerians particularly the young at heart and by age, are ever grateful to the founding fathers of this Party for birthing this vision and sharing same with fellow nation builders and co-founders

#### **DECLARATION**

We hereby declare that this Constitution of Action Democratic Party was corrected typographically by the party.

## **ACTION DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

### **NATIONAL SECRETARIAT:**

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