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**THE
CONSTITUTION
OF
THE AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS**

PREAMBLE

The aim of the founders of this Organization is to evolve a truly grass root based political institution in Nigeria that would be relevant at all times. Therefore our organization will remain closest to and for the people and will always work to essentially be the vehicle of the masses, the average Nigerians, the working class people, the artisans, the poor and all others who appreciate our cause within our society. While the party is open to everyone, we will specially seek the involvement of the less privileged, disabled and disadvantaged members of our society. At all times, we must have deliberate and elaborate strategies in place to carry along and empower our women, and people of all persuasions. Our party must be wholly associated with the cause of the family and family values, elimination of poverty and enthronement of a modern and decent egalitarian society.

Africa is a continent that holds a great promise but has failed to assert itself, Nigeria is the largest and most populous country in Africa; as the most endowed country, with abundant human and material resources, she remains the fulcrum and heartbeat of the continent. However, in our opinion, Nigerian leaders have failed to exhibit the inspirational and qualitative leadership needed to drive the development of Nigeria and in turn Africa thus making the entire continent the laggard or sick baby of the world. Painfully too, Africa and Nigeria story equivalent to the story of the black race, It is from this background that the founders of ADC are inspired to take measures, make whatever sacrifices that are necessary while leaving no stone unturned to break the jinx that is keeping the continent from taking footsteps to assert itself as a responsible and capable member of the community of nations. Therefore our organization is on a mission not only for Nigeria but Africa, Blackman and the entire world community.

With the aforementioned as our guiding light, and following what we considered to be strong deficiencies in our nascent democracy and the unimaginable attitude of our fellow Nigerians towards democratic governance after the disengagement of the military from political governance on May 29, 1999, as concerned Nigerians and enlightened partakers in the political process we decided to come together to give a

proper direction to our national politics and democracy. The group's initial concept and inaugural meetings were held at the instance of Chief Ralphs Okey Nwosu who equally hosted and sponsored the occasions.

In our country, Nigeria, the third tier of government, which is closest to the people and the centre-piece for grass root development, is almost moribund because the present political parties or government of the day pay lip service to issues concerning the ordinary people. The present political parties and their various governments as a result of their parochialism, power-drunkenness, ineptitude and inertia have deliberately emasculated the local government thus halting real development of our nation and inhibiting the dynamic flow and growth of the democratic systems. However, this truncation, and irresponsible and ridiculous stampede, negligence, and obfuscation can only succeed and become the permanent fate of the people if they allow it to be so. Recognizing that democracy is government of the people by the people and for the benefit of the people and that it is one man one vote, the people therefore have a great role to play, and ADC is conceived to provide that vehicle for our collective emancipation and development, Political organizations and the institutions of government should exist only for the interest of the people and the nation, this ADC holds very dear, therefore through our enlightenment campaign the people shall be educated to ward-off all the anachronisms that conspire to hold the Nigerian state backwards.

We set forth to bring people together to work to form a truly democratic party as a veritable entity to address the collective needs of the people for the benefit of the generality and the glorious emergence of a new Nigeria nation and a great African continent. As of duty of committed patriots, our members started to transverse the different communities in all the states of the federation to create awareness and solicit membership. In October, 2005 we met and reviewed our activities, we had raised 755,000 members and supporters and we decided to form a party by the name ADO, a truly people focused political organization to work for the interest of the generality of Nigerians and not just for a class or region. Our platform is an open organization and members are welcome with open arms so long as they truly believe in equality of all men and women and also committed to the welfare and well being of the citizens of Nigeria and the Nigerian nation and share our vision of the African continent and the world.

The platform ADO is the result of dedicated effort of noble Nigerian men and women. The result of our selfless effort and focus is a membership

as at January 10th 2006 of 1,350,000, and presence of our infant organization in all 36 states of the federation and FCT. The founders of this organization expect the same effort and sacrifice from all members new or old at all times.

**ARTICLE I
NAME OF PARTY**

The name of the Party shall be AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS; the acronym is ADC which shall herein be referred to as the party.

**ARTICLE 2
SUPREMACY OF THE PARTY CONSTITUTION**

This constitution is only subject to the constitution of the Federal Republic of and shall govern all the affairs of the party, and in the event of any conflict bet this constitution and any other rules, regulations or enactment of this party other organization recognized herein or hereunder, this constitution shall prevail.

**ARTICLE 3
MOTTO AND SLOGAN**

The MOTTO of the Party shall be “In Pursuit of the Welfare of our People and N while the SLOGAN shall be” Democracy It is our rights to choose; Progress It choice to make; Elections No more imposition. ADO-Change! ADO-Change!! AD&C-Change for a better Nigeria!!! This line/change aspect must be used while conducting any party meetings or occasions and shall be followed by raising the clenched right or left hand to synchronize.

ARTICLE 4

FLAG AND EMBLEM

Party's FLAG shall be in the colours of GREEN, YELLOW and RED in equal horizontal stripes hoisted on a standard flag pole at all offices of the Party. The EMBLEM of the Party shall be hand shake with ADO bold written on top.

ARTICLE 5

REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the Party shall be in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, and shall be referred as the headquarters.

ARTICLE 6

CORE VALUES OF THE PARTY

Transparency. Truthfulness. Integrity. Diligence. Leadership. Accountability. Fidelity, Prudence. Selflessness, Compassion. Open-mindedness. Patriotism, Due process. Tenacity. Humility. Detribalized. Fearlessness,

ARTICLE 7

PURPOSE, AIMS AND PRINCIPLES

6.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this constitution is to provide procedures and practices which are democratic and efficient to the end that all members may participate truthfully, meaningfully, and effectively in the deliberations, activities and programmes of the party. To fulfill this purpose, resolutions passed at a policy session held in conjunction general meeting will be adopted as policies of the party until the next general meetings.

6.2 AIMS

The aim and principles of the party are as follows:

- (i) We believe that the state should be the servant of the people and that democracy will lead to the progress and well being of our people and nation.
- (ii) We believe in free and fair elections and completely abhor imposition and other high handedness and antidemocratic tendencies of any government.
- (iii) The unity of Nigeria
- (iv) The rule of law, equity and justice
- (v) Good governance and equality of opportunity for ALL.
- (vi) Respect for fundamental human rights
- (vii) Integrity and transparency

- (viii) True federalism and equitable revenue sharing formula.
- (ix) Full and productive employment with security of life, family and property
- (x) Self respect self-reliance and human dignity.
- (xi) Sound education, basic health care, abundant food production, rapid industrial growth, good housing, full employment, provision and improvement of infrastructure and basic services.

6.3 PRINCIPLES

To achieve these aims, the Party shall with trust, discipline, and faithful leadership endeavour to:-

- (i) maintain and preserve the integrity, unity and sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as one indivisible political entity;
- (ii) ensure genuine restoration, permanent entrenchment and practice of democracy, the rule of law, equity and social justice;
- (iii) promote national integration and harmonious co-existence of the diverse communities of our society;
- (iv) build an egalitarian society founded on the principles of freedom, equality and justice;
- (v) uphold the independence of the judiciary, a free press, as well as uphold the freedom of speech and of association;
- (vi) ensure that only competent, dedicated, patriotic and credible candidates are sponsored for elective offices at all levels of governance;
- (vii) ensure that the programmes of the Party at all levels conform at all times with the fundamental objectives, and directive principles of state policy, as contained in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as conform at all times with the Ethic, Aim and Objectives of the Constitution of the Party;
- (viii) Promote mutual respect for and understanding of the religious, traditional and Cultural heritage of the various communities of our nation.
- (ix) eradicate illiteracy in our society and to promote learning and research, science and technology;
- (x) build, promote, sustain and consolidate political, economic and social independence and self-respect for all Nigerians;
- (xi) co-operate with Africans and other Nationalist movements and organizations working for the eradication of imperialism, neo-colonialism, racism and to strive relentlessly towards African Unity, as well as greater understanding and cohesion among all peoples of African descent;

- (xii) Co-operate with all member nations in promoting the course of Economic Community of West African States. (ECO WAS) the Organization of African Unity (OAU), The Commonwealth, and United Nations Organization (UNO) and other International and regional groupings that shall be in the best interest of Nigeria and Africa; and help to find just and peaceful solutions for international disputes.
- (xiii) build a political culture in which all Nigerians are equal members, where contributes according to his ability, where no one person dominates and no political party belongs to one individual;

ARTICLE 8 MEMBERSHIP

A. Eligibility

Membership of the Party shall be open to every citizen of Nigeria irrespective religion, ethnic group, place of birth, sex, social or economic status, pro that the person seeking to be a member shall:

- i. Not be below the age of 18 years.
- ii. Not belong to any other political party. If he was such a member, he must have resigned such membership.
- iii. Not be a serving public officer, a member of the Armed Force Nigeria and the police or a Traditional Ruler.

B. Membership Admission:

A prospective member shall;

- i. Register at the Ward where he ordinary resides or his Ward of origin
- ii. Pay the prescribed registered fee and other dues.
- iii. Accept to be bound by the Constitution, rules and regulations Party.

ARTICLE 9

RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

- i. A member shall pay such fees, levies and dues as may be prescribed from time to time by the National Convention or by any other organ of the Party authorized to do so.
- ii. Every member is entitled to participate actively in the affairs and activities of the Party including standing for and being elected into Party offices or any other office(s) subject to any qualification, rules or regulations relating to such office as may be prescribed under any law or this constitution.
- iii. Every member is eligible to vote and be voted for at Party meetings, provided that such member is not barred by the provisions of this

constitution and provided that such a member is a current financial member of the party.

- iv. Every member shall be loyal to the Party and shall not do anything that is inconsistent with the Constitution and Manifesto of the Party.

ARTICLE 10

LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 7 of this Constitution, any member who fails to renew his membership by payment of the annual subscription fees within the period of 6 months after the due date, shall cease to enjoy the rights and privileges of membership as prescribed by this Constitution and if in default for upwards of 12 months, ceases to be a member.
2. Any member to whom (i) above applies shall resume membership on the payment of all outstanding dues.

ARTICLE 11
PARTY ORGANIZATION

1. The Party shall be organized and run at the following levels namely:
 - i. Ward
 - ii. Local Government Area (LGA)
 - iii. State
 - iv. Zonal
 - v. National

2. There shall be informal units for mobilization to wit:-
 - i. State Constituency
 - ii. Federal Constituency
 - iii. Senatorial District

3. Each of the levels mentioned in 1(i) (v) above shall have a Party Secretariat.

4. The organizational structure at the State level shall also apply to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

ARTICLE 12
PARTY ORGANS

1. The following shall constitute the organs of the Party:-
 - i. Ward Executive Committee.
 - ii. Ward Congress.
 - iii. Local Government Executive Committee.
 - iv. Local Government Area Congress.
 - v. Senatorial District Working Committee.
 - vi. State Caucus.
 - vii. State Working Committee.
 - viii. State Executive.
 - ix. State Congress.
 - x. Zonal Working Committee.
 - xi. National Caucus.
 - xii. National Working Committee.
 - xiii. National Executive Committee.
 - xiv. Board of Patrons
 - xv. Board of Trustees.
 - xvi. National Convention.

2. Ward Executive Committee
- A. The Ward Executive Committee shall comprise:

- i. Chairman
- ii. Councilor of the Ward if produced by the Party
- iii. Deputy Chairman
- iv. Secretary
- v. Assistant Secretary
- vi. Treasurer
- vii. Financial Secretary
- viii. Organizing Secretary
- ix. Publicity Secretary
- x. Ward Woman Leader
- xi. Ward Youth Leader
- xii. Five other members elected at the Ward Congress, two of whom must be women
- xiii. Members of National & State Exco from the Ward,
- xiv. Local Government Officers of the Party from the Ward.
- xv. Council Chairman and Deputy, if produced by the Party, from the ward.
- xvi. Members of the National and State Assemblies produced By the Party from the Ward.
- xvii. Political Office holders from the ward.
- xviii. Members of the National Board of Trustees, who shall, however, have no voting rights.

B. The Ward Executive Committee shall meet at least twice in a month.

C. The Ward Executive Committee meeting shall be summoned Ward Chairman or upon an application by two third (2/3) of the Executive members or upon application by one third registered members in the Ward.

D. The Quorum shall be one fifth (1/5) of the members present and voting.

3. Ward Congress

A. The Ward Congress shall comprise of all Officers and registered members of the Party in the Ward. The Ward Congress s summoned by the Ward Executive at least once in a year.

B. The Quorum shall be one fifth (1/5) of the registered members in the Ward.

C. A special Ward Congress may hold at the request of two third the members of the Congress in the Ward.

4. The Local Government Executive Committee

A. The Local Government Executive Committee shall comprise the following:-

- i. Chairman
- ii. Local Government Council chairman and Deputy Chairman if produced by the Party.
- iii. Deputy Chairman
- iv. All Ward Chairman in the Local Government Area
- v. Secretary
- vi. Assistant Secretary
- vii. Treasurer
- viii. Financial Secretary
- ix. Publicity Secretary
- x. Assistant Publicity Secretary
- xi. Organizing Secretary
- xii. Auditor
- xiii. Legal Adviser
- xiv. Assistant Legal Adviser
- xv. Four (4) other members at least two of whom shall be women
- xvi. Women Leader
- xvii. Youth Leader
- xviii. Members of the national and State Exco from the Local Government Area.
- xix. Members of the State of National Assemblies from the LGA, Produced by the Party.
- xx. All Political office holders from the LGA produced from the Party
- xxi. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall, however, have no voting rights.

B. Quorum shall be one fifth of its Membership.

C. It shall meet at least once in a month

5. Local Government Area Congress

A. The Local Government Congress shall comprise.

- i. The Local Government Party Chair man and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee,
- ii. All National and State Executive Committee members of the Party from the Local Government
- iii. Local Government Council Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Supervisors and Councillors who are members of the Party.
- iv. All members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area, who are members of the Party.
- v. All commissioners and Special Advisers to the Governor who are members of the Party from the Local Government Area

- vi. All members of the Ward executive Committees in the Local Government Area.
- vii. All political office holders produced by the Party.
- viii. Ten (10) delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Area elected at the Ward Congress who shall cease functional after Local Government Congress for which were elected.
- ix. Members of the national Board of Trustees who shall however, have no voting rights.

- B. i. The Local Government Area Congress shall be held at least once in one year.
- ii. The quorum shall be one-fifth (1/5) of delegates, provided that not less than two thirds of all Wards are represented.
- iii. The Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be responsible for summoning Local Government congress

6. Senatorial District Working Committee

A. The Senatorial District Working Committee shall comprise:-

- i. State Vice Chairman who shall be the Chairman of the District Working Committee.
- ii. State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the party from that Senatorial District.
- iii. Members of the State Executive Committees who are from that District.
- iv. Members of the National and State Assemblies who are member of the party from the District.
- v. National Executive Committee members from the District.
- vi. Local Government Council Area Party Chairman and Secretaries from the District
- vii. Local Government Council Chairman and Deputy Chairman from the District who are members of the Party.
- viii. Senatorial Women Leader who shall be appointed by the Senatorial District.
- ix. Senatorial Youth Leader who shall be appointed by the Senatorial District.
- x. Assistant State Secretary from the Senatorial District.
- xi. State Assistant Organising Secretary from the Senatorial District.
- xii. Five (5) persons who shall be appointed by the Senatorial Working Committee of whom two must be women.
- xiii. All elected Councilors from the Senatorial Districts
- xiv. Members of the National Board of Trustees, who shall, however, have no voting rights.

- B. The Senatorial Working Committee shall meet monthly and report to the State Working Committee prior to the State Exco meeting.
- C. In the event of a conflict between the State Exco and the Senatorial Working Committee the decision of the State Exco meeting.
- D. The District Working Committee shall have the Assistant State Secretary from the district as the Senatorial Secretary, while the Assistant State organizing Secretary from the zone shall be district Organizing Secretary.
- E. The Quorum shall be one third (1/3) of the members.

7. State Caucus

- A. The party shall have a State Caucus with the following members:
 - i. State Chairman as chairman.
 - ii. Governor and Deputy Governor, if produced by the party.
 - iii. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, leader (majority or minority) in the State House of Assembly, who are members of the party and where the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are not from the Party, the whip of the Party shall be member.
 - iv. State Deputy Chairman.
 - v. National Executive committee members from the state.
 - vi. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however, have no voting rights.
 - vii. State Secretary.
 - viii. Minister(s), Ambassadors and Advisers and Political Special Assistants if produced by the Party.
 - ix. Members of the National Assembly who are from the State.
- B. The State Caucus shall meet at least once in a month.
- C. The Caucus has the power of co-option.

8. State Working Committee

- A. There shall be a State Working Committee with the following officers as members:
 - i. State Chairman
 - ii. State Deputy Chairman
 - iii. State Secretary
 - iv. State Treasurer

- v. State Legal Adviser
 - vi. State Financial Secretary
 - vii. State Publicity Secretary
 - viii. State Auditor
 - ix. State Organizing Secretary
 - x. State Women Leader
 - xi. State Youth Leader
 - xii. Members of the National Board of Trustees provided that they shall have no voting rights.
- B. They shall meet once in a week.
- C. The Quorum shall be one half (1/2) of the members.
9. State Executive Committee
- A. A State Executive Committee shall comprise:-
- i. State Chairman.
 - ii. All National Executive Committee members of the party from the State.
 - iii. Governor and Deputy Governor if produced by the Party.
 - iv. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Majority or Minority leader and Whip of the Party in the State House of Assembly, Whichever is applicable.
 - v. State Deputy Chairman
 - vi. State Vice-chairman (3) one from each Senatorial District.
 - vii. All Local Government Area Party Chairman.
 - viii. State Secretary
 - ix. Three (3) State Assistant Secretaries one (1) per Senatorial District
 - x. State Treasurer.
 - xi. All elected council chairman and their Deputies if produced by the Party.
 - xii. State Financial Secretary
 - xiii. State Assistant Financial Secretary
 - xiv. State Publicity Secretary
 - xv. State Assistant Publicity Secretary
 - xvi. State Organizing Secretary.
 - xvii. Three (3) State Assistant Organizing Secretaries one (1) per Senatorial District,
 - xviii. State Legal Adviser
 - xix. State Assistant Legal Adviser
 - xx. State Auditor
 - xxi. Six (6) other members (3 male, 3 female) elected by the State Congress on the basis of 2 per Senatorial District

- xxii. State Women Leader
- xxiii. State Youth Leader
- xxiv. Members of the national Board of trustees who shall, however, have no voting rights.

B. the State Executive Committee shall meet at least once in three months provided that the Chairman or 2/3 members of the Executive shall have power to call an extra-ordinary meeting.

C. The Quorum of the State Executive Committee meeting shall be one fourth (1/4) of the entire membership of the Committee.

10. State Congress

A. The State Congress shall comprise:-

- i. The State Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee;
- ii. All members of the National Executive Committee from the State;
- iii. All members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party;
- iv. All Commissioners and Special Advisers to the Governors who are members of the Party;
- v. All Local Government Council Chairman and Deputy Chairman who are members of the Party;
- vi. Three (3) delegates per Local Government elected at the Local Government Congresses who shall cease to function after the conclusion of the State Congress for which they were elected.
- vii. Ministers, Ambassadors, and Presidential Advisers and Presidential Political Special Assistants produced by the party.
- viii. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall, however, have no voting rights.

11. Zonal Working Committee

A. There shall be Zonal Working Committee for each of the Six (6) geo-political Zones with the following officers:-

- i. National Vice chairman of the Zone who shall be the Chairman of the Committee.
- ii. State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the Party.
- iii. National Executive Committee members who are from the Zone.
- iv. Members of the National Assembly from the zone who are members of the party.
- v. State Chairmen and State Secretaries of the Party from the Zone

- vi. Speakers, Deputy Speakers, Party Leaders and Whips of the State House of Assembly from the Zone who are members of the Party.
- vii. A Zonal Woman Leader and Zonal Youth Leader to be appointed by the Zonal Working Committee,
- viii. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall, however, have no voting rights.

B. The Zonal Working Committee shall have the Assistant National Secretary from the Zone as its Secretary while the Assistant National organizing Secretary from the Zone as its Zonal Organizing Secretary.

C. The Quorum is one-fifth of the membership of the Committee.

D. The Zonal Working Committee shall have the power of co-option.

12. National Caucus

A. The party shall have National Caucus to be composed of 19 members:-

- i. National Chairman of the Party shall be the Chairman of the Caucus,
- ii. President and Vice President, if produced by the Party.
- iii. Three leadership members from the senate
- iv. Five leadership members
- v. The Two Deputy National Chairman;
- vi. Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees and the Registered Trustees;
- vii. National Secretary, who shall be the Secretary of the Caucus;
- viii. Two cabinet nominees made by the president if produced by the party.

B. The Caucus has the power of co-option.

C. The Quorum shall behalf of its members.

D. The National Caucus shall, at the behest of the National Chairman, in consultation with the President, meet from time to time to consider critical issues affecting the party and Nation,

13. National Working Committee

A. National Working Committee shall comprise:

- i. National Chairman;
- ii. Two Deputy National Chairman;
- iii. National Vice Chairman;

- iv. National Secretary;
- v. V. Deputy National Secretary;
- vi. Organizing Secretary;
- vii. National Treasurer;
- viii. National Financial Secretary;
- ix. National Publicity Secretary;
- x. National Auditors;
- xi. National Legal Adviser;
- xii. National Women Leader; and
- xiii. National Youth Leader.

B. The Quorum for its meeting shall be one-half (1/2) of its members

C. The meeting of the National Working Committee shall be once a month or as may be considered necessary by the National Chairman.

14. National Executive Committee

A. The Party shall have the National Executive Committee comprising of the following:

- i. National Chairman
- ii. President and Vice-President, if produced by the Party;
- iii. Senate President and other principal officers of the Senate who are members of the Party.
- iv. Speaker and other principal officers of the House of representatives who are members of the Party;
- v. All State Governors who are members of the Party;
- vi. The two Deputy National Chairman (North and South);
- vii. The six National Vice Chairman;
- viii. All State Chairmen (including that of the FCT, Abuja)
- ix. National Secretary
- x. Deputy National Secretary
- xi. Six (6) Assistant National Organizing Secretaries, one per zone.
- xii. National Organizing Secretary
- xiii. Six (6) Assistant National Organizing Secretaries (one per zone).
- xiv. National Treasurer
- xv. Assistant National treasurer
- xvi. National Financial Secretary
- xvii. Assistant National Financial Secretary
- xviii. National Publicity Secretary
- xix. xix, Assistant National Publicity Secretary
- xx. National Legal Adviser; (who shall be a legal Practitioner of at east ten years standing).

- xxi. National Deputy Legal Adviser;
- xxii. Six (6) Assistant legal Advisers (one per zone), (who shall be Legal Practitioners of at least ten years standing).
- xxiii. National Auditors;
- xxiv. Assistant National Auditors
- xxv. Eighteen (18) other elected members three per each zone (at least one from each zone must be a woman).
- xxvi. National Women Leader'
- xxvii. Deputy National Women Leader;
- xxviii. National Youth Leader; and
- xxix. Deputy National Youth Leader
- xxx. Chairman and Secretary of the national Board of Trustees.
- xxxi. Other Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall, however, not have any voting rights.

- B. The national Executive committee shall meet at least once in a quarter
- C. It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or two third (2/3) of its membership.
- D. The Quorum for the meeting of the National Executive Committee shall one third (1/3) of the members of the Committee.

15. Board of Patrons (BOP)

There shall be Board of Patrons which shall include:

- i. All the National Chairman and all the national Secretaries of the party, both serving and past.
- ii. All the Presidents and the Vice presidents of the Republic, both serving and past, produced by the party and who held the respective posts as members of the Party.
- iii. All the Presidents of the Nigerian Senate and all the Speakers of the House of Representatives, both serving and past, produced by the Party and who held the respective posts as members of the Party.
- iv. Any such members of the Party as may from time to time be added by the Board itself subject to the guidelines drawn by the Board itself, bearing in mind the Federal Character principle of the Country and subject to ratification by the party's Convention.
- v. All Governors, Deputy Governors, Speakers of House of Assembly both serving and past.

BOP are members who represent the political and social conscience of the party having held appointments within the party and/or government and will meet at stipulated time to draw up positions of the party and give direction and needed advice. They will advice on campaign manifestoes for national and regional campaigns, and to ensure that the party maintains its rhythm and focus.

16. The Board of Trustees

- A. There shall be a 39 member Board of Trustees of the party to be nominated one each from each of the states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and FCT and ratified by the National Executive Committee of the party. The 2 other members shall be the Founding National Chairman and Secretary.
 - i. Any BOT member shall not seek further elective office within the Party.
 - ii. To play advisory role and monitoring.
 - iii. For intra and intermediation within and outside the party. iv, Conflict and peace agents within and outside the party.
- B.
 - i. The Trustees shall be registered under the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990
 - ii. Six of the Trustees, reflecting the Federal Character of the Country, shall be registered along with the Board and shall be known as the registered Trustees.

- iii. The Board shall have and shall elect their own Chairman and Secretary to serve for 5 years.
- iv. A Trustee shall hold office for a period of five years and shall be eligible for renewal for similar five years terms thereafter:
- v. The Board shall regulate its own proceedings and shall draw up a code of Conduct for its members for observance both on the Board and in the Party and Country at large.
- vi. The Board shall meet at the instance of its Chairman or at the request of half of the members of the Board or following a resolution of the national Executive Committee requesting for such a meeting.

17. National Convention

A. The National Convention shall comprise:

- i. The National Chairman and other members of the National Executive Committee;
- ii. Members of the Board of Trustees; (BOT)
- iii. Members of the Board of Trustees Patrons (BOP)
- iv. Secretary to the Government of the Federation (if formed by the Party);
- v. All Members of the national and State assemblies who are members of the Party;
- vi. All State Party Secretaries (including that of the FCT);
- vii. All Party Chairman of the Local Government Areas;
- viii. One (1) delegate from each Local Government Areas elected at the Local Government Area Congresses.
- ix. All Local Government Council Chairmen produced by the Party;

B. The Quorum shall be one-third of the members.

C. The national Convention shall meet annually.

D. A special National Convention may be held at any time at the request of the national Executive Committee or of two-thirds of all State Executive Committees. This special national Convention shall meet only to discuss special matters which shall be special in the notice summoning the Convention.

ARTICLE 13

POWERS AND FUNCTION OF PARTY ORGANS

1. Ward Executive Committee

- A. The Ward Executive committee shall meet and transact any or all of the following business.

- i. Day to day running of the Party
- ii. Raise funds for the day to day running of the Party and other functions.
- iii. Membership drive
- iv. Draw up strategies for political campaigns
- v. Mobilization of voters
- vi. Putting into effect decisions of Ward congresses and other organs of the Party.
- vii. To perform such other functions as well be in the interest of the Party.

2. The Ward Congress

A. The Ward Congress shall meet and transact any or all of the following business:

- i. Approve the budget for the Ward;
- ii. Conduct primaries for Wards elections;
- iii. Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee;
- iv. Receive Ward delegates to party Congresses;
- v. Receive report of officers of the Ward;
- vi. Receive Auditors Report; and
- vii. Any other business as will be in the interest of the Party.

3. Local Government Executive Committee

A. The Local Government executive Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following businesses:-

- i. identifying main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern in the local government;
- ii. Receiving reports from the constituent wards on:
 - a. Membership drive
 - b. Fund raising activities
 - c. Strategies for political campaigns and electoral successes
 - d. successes
 - e. Mobilization of voters
- iii. Harmonizing reports and distributing same to all Wards and ensure their implementation.
- iv. Providing strategies for effective communication between the Wards and the Local Government.
- v. General administration of the Party in the Local Government.
- vi. Putting into effect decisions of Local Government Congress and other organs of the Party.
- vii. Employing and determining the conditions of service (including discipline) of all secretariat staff of the Party in the Local Government Area.

B. The Local Government Executive Committee meeting shall be summoned by the Local Government Area Chairman or upon an application by two-third (2/3) of members of the Local Government Executive Committee.

4. Local Government Area Congress

The Local Government Area congress of the party shall meet to transact any or all of the following business:-

- i. Electing members to the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party.
- ii. Organizing primaries for elective offices in the State and national elections.
- iii. Electing Local Government Party delegates to State Congress and National Conventions.
- iv. Approving budget for running of the party at the Local Government level.
- v. Receiving Auditors report.

5. Senatorial District Working Committee

The Senatorial District Working Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following business:-

- i. Co-ordination of policies, programmes and operations of the Party within the Senatorial District;
- ii. To liaise with the Local Government Areas within the District and State Head quarters;

6. State Working Committee

- i. Shall be responsible for the day-to-day Administration of the Party at the State level and shall be responsible to the State Executive Committee.
- ii. Shall perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the State Executive Committee.
- iii. Shall meet once in a week and
- iv. Shall be summoned by the State Chairman

7. State Caucus

- i. Shall meet from time to time to consider urgent and critical issues affecting the Party and the State,

8. State Executive Committee

The State Executive Committees shall meet to transact any or all of the following business:

- i. Identifying main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern to the State.
- ii. General administration of the Party in the State and putting into effect the decisions of the State Congress or Directives from the National Executive Committee or National Convention,
- iii. Preparation of Annual Budgets
- iv. Preparing the Agenda of the State Congress

9. State Congress

A. The State Congress shall meet to transact any or all of the following business:

- i. Approve budget of the Party in the State.
- ii. Elect Officers of the State executive Committee
- iii. a) Organize Primaries for Gubernatorial and Presidential Elections
b) Receive reports of Officers of the party
c) Receive Auditor's Report

B. The State Congress shall meet once every year on a date and venue to be determined by the State executive Committee, provided that the date chosen shall at least be one month earlier than that of the National Convention.

10. Zonal Working Committee

The Zonal Working Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following:

- i. Co-ordination of policies and operations of the party within the Zone
- ii. Liaising with the State and national headquarters
- iii. The Zonal meeting shall be summoned by the Zonal Chairman

11. National Working Committee

The National Working Committee shall:

- i. Be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Party and shall be responsible to the national Executive Committee,
- ii. Perform any other function assigned to it by the National Executive Committee

12. National Caucus

The National Caucus:-

- i. Shall meet from time to time to consider urgent and critical issues affecting the party

- ii. Co-ordinate and harmonize the relations among, and the activities of, the executive and Legislative arms of the Government, and the party.

13. National Executive Committee

- i. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the Party and putting into effect the decisions of the National Convention. To that end, the national Executive Committee shall carry out the activities listed under (ii).
- ii.
 - a. Summon and prepare the agenda for the National Convention
 - b. Prepare and submit reports and budget for the consideration of the Convention
 - c. Provide financial guidelines for the approval of the National Convention
 - d. Initiate policies and programmes for the consideration of the National Convention
 - e. Deal with appeals and other problems referred to it by, or coming from the Zones, and States of the Federation.
 - f. Make rules for party discipline and loyalty which rules shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.
 - g. Make Party electoral regulations, to govern the conduct of elections to all Party offices at every level and to govern the procedure for selecting party candidates for elective offices.
 - h. Ratify conditions of service of the Secretariat Staff of the party
 - i. Co-opt such persons as it deems necessary, desirable or expedient to attend its meeting and take part in its deliberations provided that such co-opted person shall have no voting right.
 - j. Have the power to make standing orders for the approval of the convention.
 - k. Deal with any other matters referred to it by the National Convention or the Board of Trustees.
 - l. Establish ad-hoc and or standing committee of the party and appoint members to such committees.
 - m. Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Convention.
 - n. Shall, in consultation with the Board of trustees, eminent and outstanding party leaders the position or patriarch or member emeritus who shall have the right of attendance at all meetings of all Party organs.
- iii. The National Executive Committee shall examine the actions, policies and programmes pursued and legislation made by Governments in the Federation from time to time in order to

determine whether or not they are in accord with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party, and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and if not, to make recommendation to the National Convention for its action or take such action as may be necessary.

- iv. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party
- v. Recommend the minimum rates of annual Subscription payable by members
- vi. Recommend the proposition of income from subscription each Ward, Local Government, and State shall remit to the National Secretariat.
- vii. Decisions of the National Executive Committee shall be binding on all organs and all members.

14. National Board of Patron

- i. The Board of Patrons shall be the conscience of the party, to ensure that highest standards of morality in all activities of the party, and call to order any officer(s) of the party whose conduct falls below the norms.
- ii. The Board of Patrons shall be responsible for feeling the pulse of the party to ensure high morale of members and a favourable image in the eyes of the Nigeria populace.
- iii. The Board of Patrons shall harmonize, co-ordinate, review nationwide and advice, as when necessary, on policies, programmes and activities of the party.
- iv. The Board shall co-ordinate the sourcing of the Party funds.
- v. The Board of Patrons shall give to the National Executive Committee of the party, general advice or relating also to particular matters and it shall be the duty of the National Executive Committee to consider the advice.
- vi. Notwithstanding the above, the Board shall not take part in the day-to-day activities of running the party, at any level.
- vii. Members of the Board of Patrons can attend any meeting of any organ of the party, except the National Caucus, but shall have no voting rights at any meeting of any of these bodies except the Board of Patrons meeting and the National Convention.
- viii. The Chairman and Secretary of the Board are full members of the National Executive Committee.

- ix. A Patron may be removed from office by a resolution at the annual Convention on the recommendation of the Board of Patrons, on the grounds of infirmity or misconduct.
- x. A Patron may resign his membership of the Board by tendering a letter to that effect to the Chairman.
- xi. In the event of the occurrence of a vacancy on the Board, it shall be filled by the Board of Patrons subject to ratification by the National Convention.
- xii. The Board of Patrons shall regulate its own proceedings and shall draw up a Code of Conduct under which members of the Board are each supposed to live.

15. National Board of Trustees

- i. The Board of Trustees shall play advisory role to the party
- ii. The Board of Trustees shall act as mentor to the party
- iii. The Assets of the party shall be vested on the Board who shall serve as custodian of such Assets.
- iv. The Board shall mediate in the event of disputes across the arms of the party, Executive and Legislative
- v. The Board shall carry out all such activities as may be referred to it by the National Convention.

16. National Convention

The final authority of the Party shall rest with the National Convention which shall have the power to:

- a. Formulate policies and programmes of the Party
- b. Elect or remove the National Officers of the Party.
- c. receive, debate and ratify reports from the Electoral Nomination Committee of the Party, elect the presidential candidate of the Party.
- d. Demand and receive reports from the National Executive Committee and from any other Committees and or organs of the Party, and take appropriate decisions on the reports and or recommendations.
- e. Create, elect and appoint any committees it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit and proper.
- f. Examine the actions taken or legislation being proposed or passed by any government, legislative house, or Local Government Council and determine what further actions the Party should take.
- g. Secure at all elections the return of as many Party candidates as possible, so as to generally have control of the Legislative and executive arms of Governments in the Federation.

- h. Consider reports from National, State and Local Government branches of the Party and take such decisions as are necessary to protect, advance, and consolidate the gains and interests of the Party.
- i. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party.
- j. Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs, officers and members of the Party and determine appeals brought before it by any member or organ of the Party.
- k. Ratify the type, nature and membership of standing committees to be set up by the National Executive Committee.
- l. Review, or amend the Constitution of the Party from time to time as the need arises.
- m. Delegate any of its powers to the National Executive Committee or to any other organ of the Party.
- n. Take any action as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down in this Constitution.
- o. Appoint External Auditors to audit the Party's Account for its consideration,
- p. Exercise such other powers and authority as re vested in it by this Constitution.
- q. Ratify the minimum rate of annual subscription to be paid by members and proportion of income from subscription to be remitted to the National Secretariat.

ARTICLE 14

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS

A. National Officers

1. National Chairman

The National Chairman of the Party shall be the Chief Executive of the Party he shall:

- i. Summon and preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee of the Party.
- ii. Provide good, effective leadership and direction to the Party;
- iii. Promote and defend the name, policies and programmes of the Party;
- iv. Exercise all powers vested in him by this Constitution as well as ensuring, through supervision, strict compliance with the provisions of this Constitution.
- v. Shall assign specific functions to any member or officer of the Party.

- vi. Shall have power to delegate his powers to the Deputy National Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen.
- vii. Shall have a casting vote if and when necessary.

2. Deputy National Chairman

- i. In the absence of the National Chairman, the Deputy national Chairman from the Chairman's zone shall preside at the meetings and, in the absence of the later, the other Deputy Chairman shall preside.
- ii. Each Deputy National Chairman shall be assigned specific Party functions and shall also perform such other Party functions as may be assigned to him by the National Convention, the National Executive Committee; and the National Chairman.

3. National Vice-Chairman

- i. Each of the National Vice-chairman shall be responsible for the general coordination of the Party within his geo-political zone and shall also perform such other Party duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the National executive Committee or the National Chairman.

4. National Secretary

Shall:

- i. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the Party
- ii. Cause to be issued notices of meetings of the National Convention, the National executive Committee, National Caucus and the National Working Committees.
- iii. Cause to be kept all records and books of proceedings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee the National Caucus and the National Working Committee.
- iv. Render a written annual report of the activities of the Party;
- v. Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, National Caucus and the National Working Committee;
- vi. Direct the conduct of correspondence as maybe required;
- vii. Carry out any other duty as may be assigned to him from time-to-time by the National Convention, the National Caucus, the National Executive Committee and the National Chairman.
- viii. Shall consult the National Chairman in the discharge of the functions of his office.
- ix. Shall be the Chief Accounting Officer of the Party.

5. Deputy National Secretary

- i. The Deputy National Secretary shall assist the National Secretary in the discharge of his duties;
- ii. In the absence of the National Secretary, the Deputy National Secretary shall act as the National Secretary
- iii. The Deputy National Secretary shall be assigned such other functions as may be deemed necessary by the National Secretary

6. Assistant National Secretaries

- i. The Six (6) Assistant National Secretaries shall be the Secretaries of their Zonal Working Committees.
- ii. They shall perform such function as may be assigned to their National secretary.

7. National Treasurer

Shall:-

- i. Receive and promptly pay into the Party's account all monies for and on behalf of the Party;
- ii. Ensure prudent management of party fund.
- iii. Ensure that all funds received by the Party are duly receipted into the Party's account within 48 hours of collection;
- iv. Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account to the Executive committee.

8. Assistant National Treasurer

- i. Shall assist and deputize for the national Treasurer.

9. National Financial Secretary

Shall:

- i. Keep records of all dues, levies, subscriptions and donations paid to the Party;
- ii. Prepare and submit proposal for raising funds for the party for consideration of the National Executive Committee;

10. Assistant National Financial Secretary

- i. Shall assist and deputize for the National Financial Secretaries in their absence.

11. National Publicity Secretary

Shall:

- i. Co-ordinate Party information and public relations;
- ii. Be the chief image maker of the Party;
- iii. Cause to be publicized the policies and programmes of the Party in line with the aims and objectives of the Party.

- iv. To ensure popular, credible, and acceptable image of the party to the

12. Assistant National Publicity Secretary

- i. Shall assist and deputize for the National Publicity Secretary in his absence.

13. National Organizing Secretary

Shall:-

- i. Initiate programmes for the general mobilization of the Party faithful and recruitment of new members.
- ii. Prepare problem appraisals and identification of courses of actions to address the problem.
- iii. Harmonize all information and device appropriate strategy for winning elections.
- iv. Implement and co-ordinate all field activities of the Party.
- v. Organize seminars, workshops, rallies and campaigns programmes for the attainment of the Party objectives.
- vi. Liaise with the National Women and Youth Leaders for harmonization of Programmes for the attainment of Party victories at all elections.

14. Assistant National Organizing Secretaries

Shall:-

- i. Act as Zonal Organizing Secretary
- ii. Assist the National Organizing Secretary
- iii. Report regularly the activities in the zones to the National Organizing Secretary.
- iv. Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the National Organizing Secretary.

15. National Auditor

Shall:

- i. Audit the books of account of the Party bi-yearly and shall ret accordingly to the National Executive Committee.
- ii. Present the audited account of the Party to the National Convention annually;
- iii. Be called upon by the National Executive Committee to a accounts of the Party from time to time;

16. National Legal Adviser

Shall:

- i. Advise the party on Legal Matters;

- ii. Arrange for the conduct of litigation and defence on behalf of Party, including its organs, officers and officials in so far as subject of litigation pertains to the Party interest.
- iii. To interpret all laws, regulations and Constitution of the Parts the event of ambiguities

17. Assistant Legal Advisers

- i. Shall perform such duties and functions as may be assigned to him by the National Legal Adviser.
- ii. Shall be the Chief Legal Officer for their respective Zones.

18. The National Women Leader

The National Women Leader

Shall:-

- i. Be responsible for women mobilization and organization.
- ii. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies would endear the party to Nigerian Women.

19. The National Youth Leader

A. The National Youth Leader

Shall:-

- i. Be responsible for mobilization of youths for the attainment of party objectives.
- ii. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies that would endear the party to Nigeria Nigerian.

B. Officers at Other Levels

- i. Subject to the express provision(s) of this Constitution all other officers at the zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels shall also have the same powers and functions at their respective levels as prescribed for National Officers Provided that legal advisers at all levels shall as far as practicable be legal practitioners within the contemplation of the Legal Practitioner Act 1975.
- ii. The Executive Committee at levels (Ward, Local Government, State and National) shall have power to set up Committees, where necessary, desirable and expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as may be deemed fit and proper as well as appoint members into such Committees.

C. Principles of Federal Character

Without prejudice to the provision of this Constitution, the principle and concept of Federal Character shall be observed in the

Composition of offices of the Executive Committee at each level of the Party to reflect the principle of Federal Character, taking into cognizance the diversity of the people within the area and the need to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty among all the peoples of the Federation.

D. Removal or Resignation

In the event of this removal or resignation from office, a Party Officer shall immediately handover to his Chairman or the Chairman's Nominees, all records, files and all properties of the Party in his Possession. Where it is the Chairman, he shall hand over to the Secretary at the appropriate level.

ARTICLE 15 DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Party shall have power to discipline its members as hereafter provided

A. Offences:

- i. Breach of the Party Constitution
- ii. Act(s) conduct or utterances likely to bring the Party into hatred, contempt or ridicule;
- iii. Disobedience or neglect to carry out lawful directives of the Party or any organ or officer of the Party;
- iv. Engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding the Party, its members or officials;
- v. Persistent absenteeism from meetings and in the case of an elected Party official, absenteeism also from duty;
- vi. Engaging in anti-party activities
- vii. Disorderly conduct at meetings, rallies etc
- viii. Engaging in any other activities likely to cause disaffection among Party members or likely to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient conduct of party business, party meetings and party organization.
- ix. Unauthorized publicity of Party dispute or factionalization or creating parallel Party organ(s) at any level.
- x. Belonging to any group(s) within the Party under whatever name(s) other than as provided for in the Constitution.
- xi. It shall not be lawful for the Party or any member thereof to organize, retain, train, or equip or encourage the organizing, retention, training, equipping of any member or group of members for the purpose of employing the use of display of physical force or coercion or any format intimidation howsoever.

xii. It shall be an act of misconduct for any member of the Party to resort to Court action or litigation on any conflict disputes or on any matter whatsoever concerning rights, obligations and duties of any member(s) without first availing him/herself of the provisions of Article 14 (B, C and D) of this Constitution.

B. Disciplinary Procedure

- a) Subject to the provisions of the Article and principle of natural justice there shall be a Disciplinary Committee of seven members at every level of the Party appointed by the appropriate executive Committee of the Party at the level.
- b) Where there is a complaint of misconduct against any Party member(s), the appropriate Executive Committee shall send same to the appropriate Disciplinary Committee to deliberate and make recommendations thereto.
- ii. The Disciplinary Committee shall inform the member(s) in writing concerning the allegations and the place and time of hearing the case against him/them.
- iii. Parties before a Disciplinary Committee shall be given opportunity to present their case orally or in writing either in person or through a counsel of his choice and call witnesses.
- iv. The Executive Committee at the appropriate level shall stipulate a time limit, within which the Disciplinary Committee shall complete its work which shall in any case not be more than 14 days.

C. Punishment

1. Any member of the Party found guilty of any of the offences disclosed under Article 14 (A) shall be liable to any of or combination of the following punishment.
 - i. Reprimand
 - ii. Censure
 - iii. Fine
 - iv. Debarment from holding any office
 - v. Removal from office
 - vi. Suspension from the Party
 - vii. Expulsion from the Party

Any person found guilty of the offence disclosed under Article 14A (xi) shall be Punished in accordance with Article 140 (vii)

2. The Executive Committee at any level may suspend a member from the Party for a period not exceeding three months, pending the determination of his case.

3. Subject to the provision of this article the executive Committee at any level of the Party shall have power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures against any member.
 4. Where it is proposed to expel or remove a member of the National executive committee, Public Officer holder, Ministers, Ambassadors, Special Advisers, Deputy Governors, or member of any of the legislatures houses, such a proposal shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee whereupon the National Executive Committee shall refer the same to its Disciplinary committee. For other categories of Executive Committee members, Public office holders, and other Party members the appropriate Executive Committee shall initiate and take necessary action.
 5. The National Executive Committee shall, on receipt of the report of the Disciplinary Committee, make a decision on the matter within fourteen days.
 6. A decision to expel a member of the Party whether office holder or not, taken or confirmed by the National Executive Committee shall become effective upon ratification by the National Convention.
- D. Appeal
- a) Any Party member aggrieved by the decision of any of the organs of the Party shall have the right of appeal within 14 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the party.
 - b) An appeal shall be determined by the appropriate appeal body within 21 days from the date of receipt of the appeal by the Executive Committee concerned.

ARTICLE 16 REGISTRATION

1. Register of Members

A register of members shall be kept and maintained at the Ward Secretariat of the Party

ARTICLE 17 TENURE OF OFFICE

1. (a.) All National and State Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of four (4) years at the first instance and thereafter be eligible for re-election for a second term of 4 years.
(b.) An officer shall not be eligible for re-election after serving two terms as provided under subsection
(c.) All elections into the national and state offices shall be done at the appropriate convention and congresses of the party.
2. All Local Government Area and Ward officers of the party shall hold office for a period of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election by the appropriate Congress for a second term only.
3. Any officer elected into the Executive Committee at any level may resign his office by giving a 30-day notice in writing to the appropriate Executive Committee, except resignations for the purpose of running for an elective office which must be effective within the period stipulated in the guidelines issued for such elective office by the National Executive Committee of the Party.
4. Should a vacancy occur in any of the Party offices, the appropriate Executive Committee shall appoint a substitute from the zone where the former office holder comes pending the conduct of election at the next Congress or Convention,
5. Except for the office of the founding National Chairman, National Secretary and Treasurer who must serve for the 1st full term to assist in stabilizing and maintaining the focus of the party; Any officer may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence against him passed by two-thirds of the members present and voting at the appropriate Congress or Convention.

ARTICLE 18

MODE OF ELECTIONS INTO PARTY OFFICES

For stability and focus, the Founding Executives will serve for up to their full term of the years and subsequently the underlisted conditions will apply.

- i. The National Convention, State Congress, Local Government Congress and Ward Congress shall meet to elect the officers of the Party as specified under this Constitution at the various levels of the Party structure.

- ii. Every registered and financially up-to-date member 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 and regulations is eligible to contest for a Party office, provided that officials of the Party are also eligible to re-contest for any office so long as may be stipulated in the Party guidelines.
- iii. Guidelines for Elections to Party offices shall be approved by the National executive Committee of the Party in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 19
NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO PUBLIC OFFICES

- i. The nomination of candidates for elections into public offices shall be through elections by members of the party.
- ii. The National Executive Committee shall issue guideline/regulations in accordance with this constitution for the nomination of candidates for elections into public office.
- iii. The National Executive Committee of the party shall be the final authority for confirmation of name(s) or list of party nominations for election into public office.

ARTICLE 20
PARTY FINANCE

The Party shall derive its funds from:-

- i. Fees, and Levies on members
- ii. Proceeds from investments
- iii. Subventions, Donations, and fund raising
- iv. Borrowing as approved by the National Executive Committee.
- v. Any other lawful means in accordance with the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

ARTICLE 21
BANK ACCOUNT

- i. The Party shall maintain Bank Accounts in the Headquarters, city or town of its various levels of Organization, provided that where banking facilities are not available, the services of the bank nearest to the city or town shall be utilized.
- ii. The Banks for such Accounts shall be decided by the Executive committee of that level of the Party.

- iii. The following officers of the party, as the case may be, shall be valid signatories to the Party's Bank Accounts and other financial transactions:
 - a. The National Chairman and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward level; and one of the listed executive members as bellow (b and c).
 - b. The National Secretary and his counterpart at State, Local Government and Ward levels.
 - c. The National Treasurer and his counterparts at the State, Local Government and Ward levels.
 - d. In the absence of the chairman, the secretary will sign together with the treasurer and 2 other Executive Officers one of which must be the Legal Adviser of the party.
 - e. If the secretary and treasurer are unavailable the chairman will sign with any other 2 executives one of which must be Legal Adviser.
- Provided that the withdrawals from or debit instructions on the account shall be valid if authorized by the Chairman and any of the other two signatories (i.e. secretaries and Treasurer.)

ARTICLE 22 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

The National Executive Committee shall appoint a competent firm of Accounts to audit the Accounts of the party annually and present the report of the audited accounts at the National Convention.

The Executive Committee at State and Local Government Exco shall similarly appoint competent firms of Accountant to audit the Accounts of the Party annually and present the reports of the audited accounts at their respective Congresses.

ARTICLE 23 AMENDMENTS

- (A) No amendment to this Constitution shall be valid except made at the National Convention
- (B)
 - i. The Party shall have the power to amend this Constitution provided that no Amendment of this Constitution shall be made except at the National Convention of the Party, and only by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of members present and voting at the Convention.
 - ii. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to the National Secretary at least two months before the date of the

National Convention, The notice which shall be in writing, shall contain a clear statement of the amendment and reasons for same.

- iii. Notice of the amendment shall be given to the National Secretary who shall cause same to be circulated to the State branches of the Party for production at least a month before the date of the Convention

ARTICLE 24 COMMON SEAL

There shall be a Common Seal of the Party that shall be in the custody of the Secretary of the National Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE 25 CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY

Only National Officers shall have the liability to bind the party or to create any legal relationship. Any other person purporting to bind the party shall produce a written authorization from one of the National Officers which shall indicate the extent of that national Officer's authority.

The Party shall have perpetual succession and power, apart from his individual members, to acquire, hold and alienate property, enter into agreements and do all things necessary to carry out its aims and objectives and defends its members, its property and its reputation.

ARTICLE 26 OATH OF OFFICE

Every officer elected or appointed as an officer of the Party shall subscribe to the Oath of Office as provided in Schedule 1 & 2 to this Constitution before a Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public.

ARTICLE 27 INTERPRETATION

In this Constitution:

- a. Any question as to the meaning of any section of this Constitution or Schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Executive Committee whose interpretation of the same shall be final.
- b. Funds include valuable properties.
- c. Masculine shall include feminine gender
- d. Party means AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS
- e. "Month" means "Calendar Month"

- f. Where computation of any figure in This Constitution results in a fraction, the figure obtained shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number,
- g. "Youth" means a member between the age of 18-40 years

SCHEDULES
SCHEDULE I OATHS

I. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Ido solemnly, swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and I will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Party and that of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so help me, God.

II. OATHS OF OFFICE

Ido solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS. I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the Party and law 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 implement the aims and objectives of the Party as contained in its Constitution and Manifesto; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my Official decisions; that in all circumstances I will do right to all the members and organs of the Party and to all manner of people, according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; that I will not directly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under my consideration or 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 will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria. So help me God.

SCHEDULE 2 STAFF RULES

- (i) Employees of the party are subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, State, Local Government Area and Ward Secretariat of the Party. Appeal on matters of discipline and routine administrative matters shall lie with the Chairman at the various levels.
- (ii) All employees of the Party shall be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Party and decisions of the National Executive Committee and other authorized organs of the Party.
- (iii) All employees of the party who acts in a manner likely to bring contempt or ridicule to the party or its officers or takes part in subversive activity against the party or its officers shall, if found guilty, be immediately relieved of his post and may, in addition, be prosecuted. Erring employees will be afforded ample opportunity to defend themselves before disciplinary action is taken against them.
- (iv) The remuneration and other conditions of service of Party employees shall be determined as follows:

 - a. For National Officers (employees) be the National Convention on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee.
 - b. For the State Officers (employees) by the State Congress on the recommendation of the State Executive Committee
 - c. For the Local Government Area and Ward Officers (employees) by the Local Government Area Congress on the recommendation of the Local Government Executive Committees.
 - d. No employee of the party shall seek nomination to enable him contest any election unless he resigns his appointment one month to the date of elections.

SCHEDULE 3

RULES OF CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. Language to be used in meetings

The proceedings of a party meeting at all levels of the party shall be in English Language or any Nigerian Language understood by a majority of members at the respective level.

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

3. Rules and Regulations governing the conduct of any meeting shall be approved from time to time by the National Executive Committee.