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## **PREAMBLE**

We the member of United Democratic Party having actualized our dream of being formed into a virile non-tribal, non-religious, national political party and believing in the Unity, Sovereignty, indivisibility and indissolubility of Nigeria under God and in upholding the Constitution and Laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, do hereby firmly and solemnly make, enact and give to ourselves the following Constitution.

## **ARTICLE I**

### **NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY**

- 1.1 The name of the Party shall be UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTY (hereinafter referred to as "The Party")
- 1.2 The Motto of the Party shall be: "JUSTICE. LIBERTY, PROGRESS".
- 1.3 The slogan of the Party shall be "UDP UNITY AND PROGRESS"
- 1.4 The flag of the Party shall be BLUE, RED & GREEN.
- 1.5 The symbol of the Party shall be a House and Hoe.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **SUPREMACY OF THE PARTY CONSTITUTION**

- 2.1 This Constitution is supreme and its provision shall take precedence over and above any other rule and / or regulation of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

- 3.1 The registered Office of the Party shall be at the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja with Branches in every State Capital, Abuja Mayoralty, Local Government Headquarters, the Area Councils in the Federal Capital Territory District and all the Wards in the Federation

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

- 4.1 In consonance with the fundamental objectives and directive principle of state Policy enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal

Republic of Nigeria, the aims and objectives of the United Democratic Party shall be:

- (a) To attain political power through democratic and constitutional means for the purpose of creating socio-economic conditions in which the productive energies of individuals and corporate groups are enhanced and utilized in order to bring about the following:
  - (i) Unity, Welfare and Prosperity of the people of Nigeria;
  - (ii) enlightenment and education of the people for the challenges of political, social and economic development of Nigeria;
  - (iii) a society based on justice, liberty and progress of all Nigerian people;
  - (iv) Tolerance, accommodation, peaceful resolutions of conflicts and spirit of inter-dependence.
  - (v) co-operation and mutual assistance in pursuit of collective Well-being, prosperity and progress;
  - (vi) Selfless services and enkindle in all the inhabitants of Nigeria deep sense of belonging and pride in our value and heritage.
- (b) To sponsor and present candidates for elections into the Local Government Council and similar councils in the Federal Capital Territory, legislative houses, and for the offices of Governor and Deputy Governor, President and Vice President; and
- (c) To undertake other activities which in the opinion of the Party are ancillary, incidental or conducive to the promotion of the aforementioned aims and objectives.

4.2 The UDP holds the following Ideological Principles and resolutions to be fundamental and non-negotiable:-

- (a) That democracy shall be the one and only form of acceptable mode of governance.
- (b) That next to the will of God comes the will of the people, (c) That any other mode of attaining political power other than by constitutional and democratic means shall be an act of rebellion and high treason.

- (c) The equality and value of human life is supreme. (e) Freedom of worship;
- (d) Maximum utilization of talents.
- (e) Commitment to the principle of Power sharing and Rotation of key political offices between the geographical Zones of the Country.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

- 5.1 Membership of the Party shall be open to every citizen of Nigeria irrespective of his religion, ethnic group, place of birth, sex, social or economic status, provided that:
- (a) the person is not below the age of 18 years and is not a member of another political party, or if he was such a member, has resigned such membership;
  - (b) a member accepts the principles, aims and objectives, fundamental values, policies and programmes of the Party; (c) application for membership shall be made on an individual basis;
  - (c) a person shall be registered as a member of the Party at the Ward in which he normally resides; and
  - (d) Each member shall pay the prescribed annual membership fee.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

- 6.1 Qualifications for a membership shall from time to time be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the Party or any other body authorized to do so by the National Executive Committee or the National Convention.
- 6.2 Upon registration, a member shall be deemed to have:-
- (a) Accepted to abide by the provisions of this Constitution as well as the policies, programmes and ideals of the Party.
  - (b) Accepted to abide by all lawful rules, regulations, directives and decisions of the Party or any of its organs; and
  - (c) Accepted to promote the principles, aims and objectives directives of the Party and to refrain from pursuing any cause

of action that may be inconsistent with or inimical to the interest of the Party.

- 6.3 Every member shall have the right to actively participate in the activities and discussions of the Branch of the Party of which he is a member and subject to any qualification, rules and regulations or provisions of this Constitution.
- 6.4 Every member shall have the right to vote and he used for in any election into any office or post of Party during any election provide such member is a current financial member of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **ORGANS OF THE PARTY**

- 7.1 There shall be two major organs of the Party viz; The Executive Committee and the Congress/Convention.
- 7.2 There shall be four levels at which the Party shall operate, viz:
- (a) The Ward Level
  - (b) The Local Government Level
  - (c) The State Level
  - (d) The National Level
- 7.3 Each of these levels of the Party Organisation shall have its own Executive Committee and Congress/Convention but maintenance of functional Party Secretariat at the various levels is important.
- 7.4 The Organisational structure at the State level shall also apply mutatis mutandis to the mayoralty of the Federal Capital Territory.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **WARD EXECUTIVE**

- 8.1 Every ward of the Party shall have an Executive Committee comprising of the following:-
- (a) Chairman
  - (b) Deputy Chairman
  - (c) Secretary
  - (d) Treasurer
  - (e) Financial Secretary
  - (f) Publicity
  - (g) Organising Secretary
  - (h) Assistant Organising Secretary

- (i) Councillor from that Ward if he is a member of the Party
- (j) Two Ex-officio members

## 82 Powers and Functions: -

The Ward Executive Committee shall meet to transact all or any of the followings: -

- (a) Identify main issues (political, economic and social) of concern in the ward;
- (b) Undertake membership drive;
- (c) Draw up strategy for political campaigns;
- (d) Mobilise voters at election;
- (e) Undertake the general administration of the ward
- (f) Implement decisions of ward congress
- (g) Implement disciplinary regulations and the decisions of the Party.

## 8.3 The Ward Congress:

- (a) The Congress shall consist of registered members of the Party in the Ward
- (b) The Congress shall be held as and when necessary.
- (c) The quorum shall be one fifth of the registered members in the (a) Ward.

## 8.4 Powers and Functions:

The Ward Congress shall have power to do any of all of the following:

- (a) Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee (b) elect candidates for councillorship election.
- (b) Approve the budget for the Ward.
- (c) Receive reports of Officers of the Ward.
- (d) Do any other business tabled by a registered member.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### 9.1 The Local Government Executive Committee:-

Every Local Government Area shall have an Executive Committee of the Party which shall comprise of the following:

- (a) The Chairman
- (b) The Deputy Chairman

- (c) Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Local Government Council If produced by the Party
- (d) All councilors of the Local Government Council produced by the party.
- (e) Members of the State House of Assembly produced by the Party,
- (f) Members of the House of Representative produced by the Party.
- (g) Secretary
- (h) Assistant Secretary
- (i) Treasurer
- (j) Financial Secretary
- (k) Auditor
- (l) Publicity Secretary
- (m) Organising Secretary
- (n) Assistant Organising Secretary
- (o) Legal Adviser
- (p) 3 Ex-officio members

## **9.2 MEETINGS**

- (a) The Local Government Executive Committee shall meet at least once in two months.
- (b) It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or if at least one-third of the members in writing request the Chairman to do so and copy the Deputy Chairman and Secretary. If the Chairman fails, refuses or neglects to call such a meeting within 7 days after the delivery of the request to him, the members shall have the right to summon the meeting by sending out circular to all members of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- (c) The quorum shall be two-third of its membership.

## **9.3 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:-**

The powers and functions of the local government executive committee shall include the following:

- (a) Identify main issues, (Political, Economic and Social) that are of importance in the Local Government.
- (b) Receive reports from the Wards on:
  - (i) Membership drive

- (ii) Strategies for political campaigns
- (iii) Mobilization of voters for elections.
- (c) Harmonize report and distribute them to all Wards.
- (d) Undertake the General Administration of the Party in the Local Government
- (e) Implement decisions of the local government congress as well as implement decisions and directives of the National and State Executive Committees.
- (f) Employ and determine the conditions of services (including discipline) of such paid officials.
- (g) Organise congress for elective offices in the Local Government Areas.
- (h) Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Constitution of the Party.

#### **9.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONGRESS:**

The Local Government Congress shall consist of:-

- (a) Members of all the Ward Executive Committees in the Local Government Area.
- (b) All members of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- (c) Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Local Government Council if produced by the Party.
- (d) All Councilors of the Local Government Council if produced by the Party.
- (e) Members of State House of Assembly produced by the Party.
- (f) Members of the House of Representative produced by the Party.

#### **9.5 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The Local Government Area Congress shall have power to do any or all of the following:

- (i) Elect members of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- (ii) Elect Delegates of the Local Government to State and National Convention respectively.
- (iii) Ratify the results of the ward nominations/primaries.
- (iv) Nominate candidate for the chairmanship of the Local Government Council.



- (v) Participate in the organisation of primaries for elective offices in state and National elections.
- (vi) Approve budget for running the local government administrative headquarters of the Party.
- (vii) Receive report of Auditors.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The State Executive Committee shall comprise of:

- (a) The State Chairman
- (b) The Governor and Deputy Governor if produced by the Party.
- (c) Vice Chairman
- (d) Local Government Chairmen
- (e) All State House of Assembly members produced by the Party.
- (f) All Local Government Council Chairmen and Vice Chairmen produced by the Party.
- (g) Secretary
- (h) Assistant Secretary
- (i) Treasurer
- (j) State Financial Secretary
- (k) Assistant State Financial Secretary
- (l) State Auditor
- (m) State Legal Adviser
- (n) Assistant Legal Adviser
- (o) State Publicity Secretary
- (p) Assistant State publicity Secretary
- (q) State Organising Secretary
- (r) Asst. State organising Secretary

#### **10.2 MEETINGS:**

- (a) The State Executive Committee shall meet at least once every two months.
- (b) It shall also meet at any other time at the request of two thirds of the local government chairmen of Party in the State.
- (c) The quorum of the State Executive Committee shall be two-third of its membership.

### **10.3 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

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

- (i) Identify the main issues (political, economic and social) of importance in the State.
- (ii) Undertake general administration of the Party in the State and implement the decisions of the State Congress or directives from the National Executive Committee or National Convention.
- (iii) Prepare annual budget
- (iv) Employ and determine the conditions of service of all Party officials in the State.
- (v) Receive reports from the Local Government Executive Committee in all matters under their jurisdiction,
- (vi) Organise and supervise State Congress.
- (vii) Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Constitution

### **10.4 STATE CONGRESS**

There shall be for every State, a State Congress of the Party which shall consist of the following:

- (a) The State Executive Committee.
- (b) The Chairmen and Secretaries of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- (c) All members of the Federal Executive Council and Special Advisers from the State who are members of the Party.
- (d) All members of the State Executive Committee who are members of the Party.
- (e) All members of the National Executive Committee of the Party who are from the State.
- (f) 3 Delegates from each Ward.

### **10.5 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The State Congress shall have power to transact any or all of the following:

- (a) Elect officers of the State Executive Committee
- (b) Elect Candidate for Gubernatorial Election

- (c) Rectify the result of the Local Government nominations, for State Assembly election
- (d) Approve budget for the administration of the State.
- (e) Organise and supervise primaries for National Assembly elections.
- (f) Receive reports from State Party officials and the Auditors.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **11.1 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

National Executive Committee shall consist of:-

- (a) National Chairman
- (b) National Deputy Chairman
- (c) President and Vice-Presidents if produced by the Party.
- (d) Six Deputy National Chairmen to represent the six Geographical Zones in Nigeria
- (e) Thirty-seven National Vice Chairmen who are Chairmen of State Executive Committees and Chairman of the Federal Capital Territory Executive Committee.
- (f) All officers of the National Assembly produced by the Party, and ministers and/ or other officials of the Federal Executive Council who are members of the Party.
- (g) National Secretary
- (h) Assistant National Secretary
- (i) National Treasurer
- (j) National Financial Secretary
- (k) (k' Assistant National Financial Secretary
- (l) (!) National Publicity Secretary
- (m) Assistant National Publicity Secretary
- (n) National Auditor
- (o) Legal Adviser
- (p) Assistant Legal Adviser
- (q) Six ax-officio members

### **11.2 MEETINGS**

- (a) The National Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly.
- (b) It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or at least, one-third of the National Executive Committee

- (c) The quorum for the meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be two-third of its memberships.

### **11.3 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

- (a) The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for the nation-wide administration of the Party and implementing the decisions of the National Convention.
- (b) Prepare the agenda for the National Convention
- (c) Prepare and submit reports and the budget for consideration for the Convention;
- (d) Initiate policies and programmes for the consideration of the Convention;
- (e) deal with appeals and other problems referred to it by or coming from State of other levels of the Party;
- (f) Make rules for Party discipline and loyalty which shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.
- (g) Make Party electoral regulations to govern the conduct of elections of all Party offices at every level and to govern the procedures for selecting Party candidates for elective offices;
- (h) Employ and determine the conditions of service of officers of the Party;
- (i) Co-opt such persons as it deems necessary, desirable or expedient to attend its meetings and take part in the deliberations provided such person(s) shall have no right to vote.
- (j) have the power to make standing orders;
- (k) deal with any other matter referred to it by the National Convention;
- (l) secure at all elections the return of as many Party candidates as possible, so as to generally have control of the legislative and executive branches of the Governments in the Federation;
- (m) Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Constitution.
- (n) Decisions of the National Executive Committee shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **12.1 THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The National Convention of the Party shall consist of:

- (a) The National Executive Committee
- (b) All Ministers and Special Advisers to the President, who are members of the Party Executive Committee.
- (c) All State Chairmen and Secretaries.
- (d) Three delegates from each Local Government Area throughout the Federation.
- (e) All State Commissioners and Special Advisers to the Governors who are members of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **13.1 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

- (a) Consider and determine policy for the Party
- (b) Demand and receive reports from the National Executive Committee and from any other committees or organs of the Party, and take appropriate decisions on their reports or recommendations.
- (c) Create, elect and appoint any committee(s) it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assigning to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit and proper.
- (d) Examine the policies and programmes pursued 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.
- (e) Examine the actions taken or legislation(s) being proposed or passed by any government council and determine what actions, if any, the Party should take.
- (f) Examine the actions and policies pursued and legislation(s) made in order to ensure that they are in accordance with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party, to make recommendation or take such actions as are necessary.
- (g) Consider reports from Federal, State and Local Government, branches of the Party and take such decisions as are necessary to protect, advance or consolidate the gains and interest of the Party.
- (h) Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party.

- (i) 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.
- (j) Determine the type, nature and membership of standing committees to be set up by the Party's National Executive Committee.
- (k) Delegate any of its powers to the National Executive Committee or any organ of the Party.
- (l) Take any action as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down in this Constitution.
- (m) Exercise such other powers and authority as are vested in it by this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **14.1 POWERS AND FUNCTION OF OFFICERS**

The National Officers of the Party shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) The National Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the Party and shall preside over meetings of the National Convention and the National Executive Committee. He shall oversee the workings of the Party. He shall designate the Deputy Chairman and in his absence any of the six Deputy Chairmen representing the Zones to act for him in his absence.
- (b) The Deputy National Chairman
  - i. He shall act for the national Chairman in his absence.
  - ii. He may be assigned any other specific function concerning any Issue by the National Chairman.
  - iii. He may perform any other function as required by the National Executive Committee.
- (c) Deputy National Chairmen Shall:
  - i. Co-ordinate and report to the National Executive Committee all activities of the Party within their various regions,
  - ii. Perform such duties as may be delegated to them by the National Executive Committee.

(d) National Secretary:

The National Secretary, in addition to the specific functions conferred on him herein shall: -

- (i) Take or cause to be taken and kept, in the proper books provided for the purpose, all minutes of the meetings of the National Executive Committee and the National Convention.
- (ii) Be in touch with and co-ordinate the activities of all the States' Secretariats in the country.
- (iii) Conduct such correspondences as may be required,
- (iv) Prepare the order of business for the meetings of all National organs of the Party with approval of the National Chairman.
- (v) Supervise the day to day activities of the National Secretariat under the general direction of the Chief Executive of the Party.
- (vi) Perform any other function as may be required by the National Chairman or the National Executive Committee.

(e) The National Treasurer:

The National Treasurer shall:

- (i) Receive and promptly pay into the Party's accounts all moneys received for and on behalf of the Party.
- (ii) Keep an impress account as and when authorized by the National Executive Committee.
- (iii) Ensure that proper accounts and records are kept and may cause such books to be produced.

(f) National Financial Secretary:

- (i) Collect all monies due to the Party and pay such monies to National Treasurer not later than three days after collections.
- (ii) Prepare and submit proposals for raising Party funds, for the consideration of the National Executive Committee,
- (iii) Ensure that proper account and records are kept and may cause such books to be produced for inspection at periodic auditing.

(g) National Publicity Secretary: The National Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for the dissemination of information about the Party and other promotional service or activities which shall be consistent with the Constitution, Manifesto and the policies of the Party.

(h) National Legal Adviser

The National Legal Adviser shall:-

- (a) Advise the Party on all legal matters and arrange for legal defense of the Party and its members when necessary.
- (b) Deal effectively with all correspondence pertaining to legal matters affecting the Party or its members.

(i) The National Auditor:

The National Auditor shall audit the books of accounts of the Party and report annually to the Annual Convention and may he called upon by the National Executive Committee to audit such accounts from time to time.

(j) Other Elected Members

The Other elected members of the National Executive Committee shall perform such functions that may be assigned to them by the National Chairman of the Party

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **OFFICERS AT OTHER LEVELS**

15.1 All other officers at the State, Local Government, and Wards shall have the same powers and functions at their respective levels as prescribed for National Officers provided that, legal officers at all level shall as far as practicable be Legal Practitioners within the contemplation of the Legal Practitioners Act 1975.

15.2 At the State level where the State Chairman is absent, he shall designate one of the three Deputy Chairmen to act for him.

15.3 The Executive Committee at Ward, Local Government, State and National level shall have power to create committees, where necessary, desirable and expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as deemed fit and proper as well as appoint members to such committee.

15.4 In the event of his removal or resignation from office a Party Officer shall immediately hand-over to his Chairman or the Chairman's nominee all records, files and other property of the Party in his possession.



## **ARTICLE 16**

### **COMPOSITION OF OFFICERS AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

16.1 The composition of officers of the Executive Committee at each level of the Party shall reflect principle of the Federal Character except that in the case of States, Local Government and Wards which are ethnically homogenous, the composition shall take account of the geographical diversity of the area.

## **ARTICLE 17**

### **DISCIPLINE OF MEMBER**

- (a) Discipline of Party members shall be exercised through respective Disciplinary Committee of the Party at the appropriate level and shall be governed by due process and fair hearing as may be stipulated by ancillary Party Regulations.
- (b) Once a member is accused of misconduct, embezzlement of Party funds, anti or intra-party activities or abuse of office a disciplinary committee shall be set up at the appropriate level to investigate the veracity or otherwise of the allegation. On conclusion of the investigation the committee shall report to the appropriate Executive Committee for necessary action. Any recommendation for expulsion must be confirmed by the Congress or Convention.
- (c) Any member of the Party found guilty of the following offences shall be liable for punishment:-
  - (i) A breach of any provisions of this Constitution, anti-party activities or conducting himself in a manner to embarrass the Party or bring the Party into hatred, contempt, ridicule, or disrepute in whatever manner.
  - (ii) Disobedience or negligence in carrying out lawful directives of the Party or of the officers of the Party.
  - (iii) Flouting the rulings or decisions of the Party, engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding the Party, continuous absence from meetings, anti-party propaganda, or any other activities which would tend to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient organisation of the Party or which may impede the progress of the Party.
  - (iv) Assuming titles not recognised by the Constitution of the Party, giving wrong information to any organ of the Party or unauthorised publicity of the Party, dispute without exhausting all avenues of settlement or redress within the Party.

## **7.2 PUNISHMENT**

Punishment may be imposed by the Party as a disciplinary measure against any of its members and the gravity or punishment shall depend upon the seriousness and circumstances of each offence. Punishment to be imposed may take the form of:-

- (a) Expulsion from the Party, provided, that the Power to expel shall only be exercised by the National Executive Committee, which shall report such expulsion to the next National Convention,
- (b) Suspension for a specified period
- (c) Suspension or removal from office
- (d) Debarring from holding Office.
- (e) Subject to (a) above, The Executive Committee at any level of the Party shall have power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures against any per members as specified in the sub-section above.
- (f) Every member shall have the right of fair-hearing in all matters that him with regard to discipline.
- (g) The National Headquarters shall be notified through the next higher organ of the Party of any or all Disciplinary actions taken against any member of the party and records of such actions shall be kept.

## **17.3 APPEAL**

- (a) (a)Any member aggrieved by the decisions of any of the organs of the arty, in pursuance of article of this Constitution, shall have the right to appeal within 30 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the Party, in that successive order up to the National Convention shall be final.
- (b) Decisions of the organs of the Party in respect of disciplinary matters are subject to the right of appeal to a superior body or organs.
- (c) The National Executive Committee, or National Convention may suspend the implementation of a decision pending the hearing of an appeal against such a decision.
- (d) Before an order of expulsion by any organ of the Party inferior to the National Executive shall be valid, it shall receive approval of the National Executive Committee.
- (e) Pending the determination of an appeal in respect of expulsion, suspension, or other disciplinary measures, the member concerned shall be placed under suspension. No information in respect of the

expulsion shall be made public until the expulsion is ratified by the National Convention.

- (f) Any member placed under suspension by the National Executive Committee shall not take part in Party activities,

## **ARTICLE 18**

### **REGISTRATION**

Registered Members:-

A register of members shall be kept and maintained at every level of the Party Secretariat namely:-

- (a) The Ward
- (b) The Local Government
- (c) The State, and
- (d) The National

Further information is contained in Schedule I of this Constitution.

## **ARTICLE 19**

- (a) All States and National officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of one year and may be re-elected to the same office for not more than a further period of one year.
- (b) All Local Government, Ward officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of one year.
- (c) Delegates to the National Convention who are not Party or Government functionaries shall cease to be delegates once the Convention is over.
- (d) Any officer of the Party elected into the National, State, Local Government or Executive Council shall resign his office by giving notice in writing to the appropriate Executive Committee.
- (e) Should a vacancy occur in any office, the relevant Executive Committees shall appoint a substitute, subject to ratification at the next congress or convention. Officers so appointed shall remain in office for the un-expired period of the term of office.
- (f) Any officer or officers may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence passed by a two third majority of the membership of the appropriate congress or convention.

## **ARTICLE 20**

### **20.1 ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION**

The Party's Administrative Organisation at all levels shall reflect the following organisational structure except at the Ward level where only structure (a) below shall apply:

- (a) Administrative and General Services
- (b) Organisation, Research and Planning
- (c) Finance
- (d) Budget
- (a) Audit
- (e) Publicity

### **21.1 TRUSTEES**

- (i) There shall be nine Trustees of the Party who shall be registered members of the Party and in whom all the movable and immovable properties of the Party shall be vested.
- (ii) The Trustees shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee which shall present them to the National Convention of Party for ratification.
- (iii) The Trustees shall hold office at the pleasure of the National Convention.
- (iv) The Trustee shall be registered under the Companies and Allied Matters Decree 1990.
- (v) The Trustees shall hold all properties of the Party subject to the directives of the National Executive Committee and shall each sign all documents to which the Common Seal of the Party shall be affixed as requested by the Law, which seal shall be at all times in the custody of the National Secretary.
- (vi) The Trustees may be removed from office by the National convention of the Party on the recommendations of the National Executive Committee on grounds of infirmity, insanity, bankruptcy, and, resignation from the Party, expulsion from the Party or any other disciplinary action, absence from Nigeria for an unreasonably long time for any other cause.

- (vii) In the event of death, or resignation, or removal of a trustee from office, the vacancy shall be filled by the National Executive Committee subject to ratification by the next. National Convention,
- (viii) The National Secretary of the Party shall prepare an inventory of all properties, movable and immovable real and personal belonging to the Party and shall deposit a copy of the said inventory with the Trustees.
- (ix) All Party officers and employees at any level or those holding any Executive or Legislative Office are disqualified from holding the post of Trustee of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 22**

### **22.1 MODE OF ELECTION OF PARTY OFFICERS**

- (a) The National Convention, State, Local Government and the Ward Congresses of the Party shall meet to elect the officers of the Party as specified under this Constitution at the various levels of the Party structure.
- (b) Every registered member who has satisfied the requirements for nomination and elections under this Constitution and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria is eligible to contest for Party office, provided that paid officials of the party are not eligible to contest.

## **ARTICLE 24**

### **24.1 OATHS OF OFFICE**

Every officer elected or appointed as an officer of the Party shall subscribe to the Oath of Office as provided in Schedule 5 of this Constitution before a Commissioner for Oaths or a Notary Public.

## **ARTICLE 25**

### **25.1 BANK ACCOUNT**

- (a) The Party shall maintain Bank Accounts in the Headquarters, City or Town of the various levels of organisation, provided that where banking facilities are not available, the service of the nearest bank shall be utilised.
- (b) The Banks for such Accounts shall be decided by the Executive Committee of that level of Organisation.

- (c) Three of the following officers of the Party: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be valid signatories to the Party's Bank Account and other financial transactions:
  - (i) The National Chairman and his counterparts in the State, Local Government or Wards level,
  - (ii) The National Secretary and his counterparts at the State, Local Government or Wards levels,
  - (iii) The National Treasurer and his counterparts at the State, Local Government or Wards level.

The National Executive Committee shall appoint a competent firm of Accountants to audit all the Accounts of the Party annually and present the audited reports before the National Convention for consideration.

## **ARTICLE 26**

### **26.1 PARTY FUNDS**

The funds of the Party shall be derived from:

- (a) Donations, public collections and other means of fund raising.
- (b) Proceeds from investments.
- (c) Gifts and grants by individuals or groups of persons.

## **ARTICLE 27**

### **27.1 AMENDMENTS**

- (a) The Party shall have the power to amend this Constitution schedules thereto provided that no amendments shall made except at the National Convention of the Party.
- (b) Notice of proposed amendment shall be given to the National Secretary at least one month before the date of the National Convention. The notice which shall be in writing shall contain a clear State of the amendment and reasons for same.
- (c) Notice of the amendment shall be served on the members c National Convention at least two weeks before the date of the meet at which the proposed amendment is to be considered,
- (d) This Constitution or any part thereof shall stand amended proposed amendment is supported by at least two-thirds c delegates present and voting, at National Convention.

## **ARTICLE 28**

### **28.1 INTERPRETATION**

- (a) Any question as to the meaning of any section of this Constitution or the Schedule hereto shall be referred to National Executive Committee whose ruling shall be final.
- (b) Where the computation of any figure in this Constitution results in a fraction the figure obtained shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- (c) Where new positions and offices are created as a result amendment of this Constitution, those positions shall be filled but subject to ratification at the next congress or convention.
- (d) In this Constitution, unless it is otherwise expressly provided or the context otherwise requires:-
  - (i) CONVENTION means the highest organ of the Party at the National level.
  - (ii) CONGRESS means the highest organ of the Party at the State, Local Government and Ward levels.

## **ARTICLE 29**

### **29.1 ELECTIONS**

Nomination of candidates for the following elective offices shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 3 of this Constitution.

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Governor
- (d) Deputy Governor
- (e) Senate
- (f) House of Representative
- (g) House of Assembly
- (h) Chairman
- (i) Vice Chairman
- (j) Councilor

## **ARTICLE 30 SCHEDULES**

### **SCHEDULE I**

#### **ADMISSION**

Admission of members shall be in accordance with following procedure.

- (a) Prospective (intending) members of the Party shall register through Ward branches to which they shall have applied subsequently accepted and enrolled Party members.
- (b) Members shall receive membership cards through the Ward branches of the Party.
- (c) Membership of the Party shall be renewed annually.

### **SCHEDULE 2**

#### **Employees**

The employees of the Party shall be governed by the following rules:

- (a) All employees of the Party are subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, State, Local Government and Ward secretaries of the Party and in the case of disciplinary action taken against any employee, after fair hearing or appeal, the final decision lies on the Chairmen at various levels.
- (b) All employees of the Party shall be bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Party and the decisions of the National Convention, National Executive Committees and all other authorised organs of the Party.
- (c) Any employee of the Party who acts or behaves in a manner likely to bring contempt ridicule to the Party or its officers or take part in subversive activities against the Party or its offices shall, if found guilty, be immediately relieved of his post and may in addition be disciplined or prosecuted.
- (d) The remuneration and other conditions of service of party functionaries shall be determined by the highest organ of the party at their various levels.
- (e) All the employees of the Party referred to in of this Constitution are paid officials of the Party employed to manage the various activities of the Party Organisation and do not include the elected officers of the Party.
- (f) No employee of the Party shall seek nomination to enable him contest any election.



## **SCHEDULE 4**

### **CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION**

- (a) A candidate for election must be a registered member of the Party.
- (b) He must satisfy the requirements for elections under the Country's Constitution and Electoral Law.
- (c) Any incumbent office-holder need not resign his or her position in order to run for another elective office.
- (d) The National Executive Committee shall issue guide lines for the holding of nomination into party or as they fall due which may be in line with or in addition to the following.

#### **1. Presidential Nominations:**

- (a) The country shall from one single constituency for the purpose of nominating a presidential candidate of the Party. All aspirants seeking nomination submit themselves to the National Convention specially convened for that purpose, provided that the nomination of each candidate is supported by at least twenty registered members of the Party from each of at least fourteen States of the Federation.
- (b) The candidate that wins more than fifty percent of re votes of the total delegates of the Special Convention shall be considered duly nominated, provided he has not less than one-third of the votes cast at the nomination in each of at least two-thirds of all the States in the Federation.
- (c) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the conditions laid down in (b) above, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two candidates scoring the highest votes in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

#### **2. Gubernatorial Nominations**

- (a) The State shall form one single constituency for the purpose of nominating a gubernatorial candidate of the Party. All aspirant seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the State nomination Congress specially convened for that purpose; provided that each applicant is supported by at least twenty registered members of the

Party from each of at least two-thirds of the Local Government Areas of the State.

- (b) The candidate that wins more than fifty percent of the votes the total delegates of the special Congress shall be considered duly nominated, provided he has not less one-third of the votes cast the nomination in each of at least two thirds of all the Local Government Areas in the State.
- (c) Where in the first ballot no candidate fulfills the condition down in (b) above, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two candidates scoring the highest votes in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

### **3. Nomination of Local Government Chairman:**

- a) The Local Government Area shall form one single constituency for the purpose of nominating a Local Government Council Chairman candidate of the Party. Aspirants seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the Local Government Area Congress specially convened for that purpose, provided that each aspirant is supported by at least twenty registered members of the Party from each of at least two-thirds of the Wards in the Local Government Area.
- b) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (a) above, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two candidates scoring the highest votes in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

### **4. Nomination of Local Government Ward Councilors:**

- (a) Each Ward shall form one Constituency for the purpose of nominating a Local Government Ward Councilor candidate of the Party. All aspirants seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the Congress specially convened for that purpose, provided that each aspirant is supported by at least twenty registered members of the Party from the Ward.

- (b) The candidate that wins more than fifty percent of the votes of the total delegates of the special congress shall be considered duly nominated.
- (c) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (b) above, there shall be a second ballot in which the first candidates scoring the highest votes in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

## **5. Conduct of Nominations**

- (a) The National Executive Council shall appoint a Sub-Committee which shall conduct the nominations for the Presidential and Gubernatorial nominations.
- (b) In the case of Presidential and Gubernatorial nominations, Executive Council may direct the nomination Sub-Committee conduct primary elections within the Party for the purposes trimming down the number of the candidates to such number as r be determined by the National Executive Council for the Nomination Convention or Congress, as the case may be.
- (c) The State Executive Committee shall appoint a Sub-Committee which shall conduct the Nominations for the candidates the Party for the National and State Assemblies.
- (d) The Executive of the Local Government Area Branch shall appoint a Sub-Committee which shall conduct the nominations for the Local Government candidates of the Party including candidates for the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship of the Local Government.
- (e) Each nomination Sub-Committee shall be ad-hoc and shall cease to exist as soon as it has performed it functions and the nominations has been ratified.

6 Criteria for Nomination Clearance - Criteria for Party clearance nomination in the Wards, State Constituencies, Federal Constituencies and Senatorial Zones shall be as follows:-

- (a) A candidate for elections must be a registered member of the Party
- (b) He must satisfy the requirements for elections under the country Constitution and the Electoral Law.

- (c) No incumbent President, Governor, Legislator, Chairman Council and Councilor, can relinquish his or her position midway order to run for another office.

**30.7 SCHEDULE 5**

**RULES OF CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

The proceedings of a Party meeting in Ward, and Local Government shall be in the English Language or in any Nigerian Language understood by the majority of members. In respect of the State and National meetings, the business shall be conducted in English, Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo Languages. When adequate arrangements shall have been made thereof.

**SCHEDULE 6**

**DELEGATION FOR THE PARTY**

**CONGRESS/CONVENTION:**

- (a) Only card carrying members whose names appear in the Party register and who are duly accredited shall be eligible to vote and be voted for during the Congress/Convention.
- (b) The following members shall constitute an Electoral College for each of the first congresses stated hereunder: (i) Ward Congress: All registered members of the Ward constitute an Electoral College for the purposes of the Ward Congress, (ii) Local Government Congress: All members of the Ward Executive Committees and 20 other delegates elected from each ward shall constitute the Electoral College for the purposes of the Congress, (iii) State Congress: All members of the Ward and Local Government Executive Committees in the State and five delegates elected from each Ward shall constitute the Electoral College for the purposes of the Congress. (iv) National Convention: All members of the Local Government Executive Committees and all members of the State Executive Committees and two delegates elected to represent each Local Government Branch of the Party shall constitute the Electoral College for the purposes of the first National Convention.

**Schedule 7**

**Oath of Allegiance**

I, .....do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the United Democratic Party and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that I will preserve, protect

and defend the Constitution of the United Democratic Party and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

So Help Me God.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

I, ..... do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the United Democratic Party, I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the United Democratic Party and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the United Democratic 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 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 or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under 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.

Was signed as the supreme law of the party this .....day of .....1998

DATED THIS ..... DAY OF ..... 1998

.....  
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

.....  
NATIONAL SECRETARY