

**THE**

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS  
(DPC)**

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S CONGRESS (DPC)  
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# **CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES' CONGRESS (DPC)**

## **PREAMBLE:**

Conscious of the Need.

1. To preserve and promote the sovereignty, unity and progress of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
2. To promote a national polity based on social justice, freedom, equality, peace and progress of all our people.
3. To ensure a developed system of government based on the principles of devolution of power to the existing geo-political zones and states.
4. To promote a society that guarantees equality of opportunity for all Nigerians free from any form of discrimination.
5. To establish and ensure that polities are put in place guaranteeing the protection and safety of all the citizens of Nigeria and their property at all times throughout Nigeria.
6. To encourage the culture of service to nation as the *raison d'être* for participation in politics and to reinvent the polity by promoting the sense of patriotism unity in diversity and nationalism amongst Nigerians.

**WE, THE TIME TESTED PROGRESSIVES ACROSS THE NATION, DO HEREBY AND SOLEMNLY RESOLVE** to constitute ourselves into a political party, enact and give to ourselves the following Constitution, having duly accepted that in all our conduct and deliberations we shall be bound and directed by its provisions.

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the provision of the constitution shall be supreme and any other rules or regulations of the party, which are inconsistent, shall to the extent of the inconsistency be null and void.

## **ARTICLE 2**

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

2.1 The name of the political party shall be DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE CONGRESS (DPC) hereinafter referred to as the party.

#### **MOTTO:**

2.2 The motto of the party shall be: Moving forward with the people.

#### **SLOGAN**

2.3 The slogan of the party shall be: moving forward

2.4 The flag of the party consists of three equal sized vertical-curved stripes. The right and left stripes are Gold and the middle stripe is Blue

2.5 The logo of the party shall be a map of Nigeria vertically coloured GOLD, WHITE and GOLD with eight stars forming a circle surrounding a star on both sides of GOLD and a picture of a crowd representing Nigerians at the middle of the white coloured part of the map.

#### **SECRETARIAT:**

2.6 The registered office of the party shall be located at Abuja, the Federal Capital of Nigeria, with offices in every state and local government headquarters.

## **ARTICLES 3**

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the party shall include the following:

1. The attainment of political power through legitimate, democratic and constitutional means for the purpose of evolving an egalitarian society where there is equality of opportunity in the production of wealth and distribution based on the principles of equity, freedom and social justice.
2. To uphold and defend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and other laws in the Federation until the same is amended.
3. To promote the Unity and Political stability of Nigeria by instituting the principles of power sharing, derivation and rotation for key public offices among the six geo-political zones and states of the country.
4. To establish conditions and structures that shall guarantee social justice, equality of opportunity, economic, and political freedom, and the general welfare of all people of Nigeria.
5. To defend the sovereignty of the people and the observance of an open democratic process in all organs of the party, government and state.
6. To eliminate poverty, want, ignorance, discrimination, of all kinds, corruption, and exploitation in our society.
7. To maintain and promote the secularity of the Nigerian Nation, religious tolerance and harmony among all Nigerians.
8. To encourage the development of agriculture, commerce and industry.
9. To ensure purposeful mobilization of the creativity and resources of the people of Nigeria for the establishment of an economic environment for the fulfillment of peaceful enjoyment of life and the pursuit of happiness and equitable distribution of the wealth of the nation.
10. To promote active public and private participation, in the strategic sectors of the economy.
11. To ensure full and gainful employment as an abiding objective of National policy.



12. To provide the basic necessities of life, i.e. education, primary health care, housing, food and water, roads, security, etc for all Nigerians.
13. To embark upon industrial and technological transformation of Nigeria.
14. To protect the interest of the fanners, workers and peasants of Nigeria and to strive to obtain for them the greatest possible returns for their labour.
15. To embark on integrated rural development aimed at enhancing the quality of life of rural dwellers.
16. To cooperate with trade union organizations and co-operative movements in Nigeria for the development and maintenance of the economic progress of Nigeria.
17. To encourage the investment of private capital in the distribution and production of wealth and to ensure the formulation of legislation to entrench Anti-trust laws and discourage private monopolies.
18. To create conditions for the purposeful development of the talents of the Youths of this country; and the development of leadership capable of managing national institutions and resources effectively as systems and to imbibe the notion of selfless service amongst functionaries in government and party.
19. The development of the Nigerian Youth through the establishment and sustenance of social, cultural, sporting and students' union activities.
20. Creation of opportunities for, and encouragement of the full development of the political, social, cultural and economic potentials of the Nigerian woman.
21. Pursuit of a dynamic foreign policy aimed at:
  - a. Mutual friendly and reciprocal relations with all states;
  - b. Total decolonization and self-determination of peoples of African descent in particular and all oppressed in the world in general;

- c. Promotion of the cultural values of black peoples all over the world; and
  - d. Maintenance of international peace, harmony and cooperation.
22. To organize branches throughout the Federation, sponsor candidates and canvass for votes for their election into all elective offices at all tiers of Government.
  23. To foster and defend the freedom of the Press through the freedom of Information Act and the fundamental freedom and human rights of all Nigerians.
  24. To co-operate with any institution, group or association for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the party.
  25. To ensure that the policies and programmes of the party shall be in conformity with the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and that, accordingly, the party shall at all times pursue the political, economic, social, educational and other objectives as well as the directive principles of state policy provided for in the said constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, provided always that the party shall seek to put in place the process that shall ensure the amendment of the said constitution to reflect devolution of power to the federating units to ensure true federalism.
  26. To promote the development of science and technology.
  27. To undertake any activities and adopt measures for policies which shall be aimed at improving the general condition and well-being of all Nigerians.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### **ADMISSION INTO MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1 Membership of the party shall be open to citizens of Nigeria not below the age of 18 years, and who undertake to abide by the provisions of this constitution.

- 4.2 Prospective member shall register at his or her ward of origin or where he or she ordinarily resides or carries on business.
- 4.3 Application for membership shall be considered by the Ward Executive Committee upon payment of a prescribe fee.
- 4.4 A membership card shall be issued to a registered member of the party which shall bear the photograph of the member.
- 4.5 It shall be the duty of the national Headquarters of the party to produce membership cards which shall be endorsed by the National Chairman and the national Secretary.
- 4.6 Upon enrolment, a member shall;
- a. Pay all such fees and levies as may be prescribed from time to time by any of the national, state local government and ward organs of the party.
  - b. Be deemed to have accept to abide by the provisions of the party's Constitution as well as its policies and programmes;
  - c. Be deemed to have accepted to abide by all lawful directives and decisions of the party or any of its organs;
  - d. Be deemed to have accepted to refrain from acts capable of undermining the aims and objectives of the party.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

- 5.1 The party shall maintain at its Secretariat at every level a register of members.
- 5.2 The register of members shall contain the name of every member of the party, this address and registration number.
- 5.3 The members name in the register of members shall be the prima face evidence of valid registration as a member.
- 5.4 The membership register shall continuously be updated to accommodate new members provided that the register so update can only be relevant for Congresses and 90days before such Congress or Convention.

## **ARTICLE 6**

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

6.1 Membership shall confer on the individual the following rights and privileges:

- (a) Right to contest elections on the platform of the party without any discrimination whatsoever.
- (b) Right to Democratic process and to free and fair election
- (c) Right and fair hearing
- (d) Right to good governance and accountability.
- (e) Any other right or privileges conferred on members by the Nigeria Constitution, this Constitution and by other regulations of the party.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

7.1 The Party shall be organization and administered at the following levels:

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

7.2 The organizational structure at the state level shall also apply mutatis mutandis to the Federal Capital Territory of Abuja.

7.3 Without prejudice to article 7.1.1. of this Constitution, any level of the party may put in place such zonal political arrangement that may serve its own peculiar political circumstances.

## **PARTY ORGANS**

7.4 Constitution of Party Organs

The following shall constitute the organs of the party:

- a. The National Convention
- b. The Board Trustees

- c. The National Executive Committee
- d. National Working Committee
- e. The State Congress
- f. The State Elders Forum
- g. The State Executive Committee
- h. The State Working Committee
- i. The Local Government Area Congress
- j. The Local Government Area Executive Committee
- k. The Ward Congress
- l. The Ward Executive Committee

### **COMPOSITION OF PARTY ORGANS:**

7.5 There shall be a Ward Executive Committee which shall consist of

- i. Chairman
- ii. Deputy Chairman
- iii. Secretary
- iv. Assistant Secretary
- v. Treasurer
- vi. Assistant Treasurer
- vii. Financial Secretary
- viii. Assistant Financial Secretary
- ix. Organizing Secretary
- x. Assistant Organizing Secretary
- xi. Publicity Secretary
- xii. Assistant Publicity Secretary
- xiii. Legal Adviser
- xiv. Assistant Legal Adviser
- xv. Welfare Officer
- xvi. Assistant Welfare Officer
- xvii. Auditor
- xviii. Assistant Auditor
- xix. Youth leader
- xx. Women leader
- xxi. 2 Ex-officio Members
- xxii. Members of the National Convention from the ward
- xxiii. Councilor

7.6 (i) The Ward Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month.

### **POWER AND FUNCTIONS**

7.7 Ward Executive Committee:

The Ward Executive Committee of the party shall be the principal Executive organ of the Ward and shall exercise the following powers:

- (a) Convene the Ward Congress and prepare its agenda; Make recommendations on policies and programmes to the Ward Congress
- (b) Pursuant to article 9 discipline its members
- (c) Implement the decision of the local Government Congress
- (d) Handle all other matters that may be referred to it by the Local Government Executive.

## **7.8 THE WARD CONGRESS**

The ward Congress shall consist of all registered members of the party in the ward.

## **7.9 WARD CONGRESS: POWER AND FUNCTIONS**

The powers and functions of the Congress in each Ward shall include the following:

- (a) Evolving policies and programmes for the fulfillment of the aims and objectives of the party in the Ward;
- (b) Exercising all other powers, authority and functions similar to those of the L.GA Congress in the area of its jurisdiction,
- (c) Nominating Councillorship candidates for the Local Government Council elections in accordance with the guidelines of the party
- (d) Acting as electoral unit for the purpose of nominating candidates for the local government, State and National Assembly elections in its Constituency
- (e) Implementing directives from the Local Government Congress.

## **7.10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

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

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) Deputy Chairman
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Assistant Secretary
- (v) Treasurer
- (vi) Assistant Treasurer
- (vii) Financial Secretary
- (viii) Assistant Financial Secretary
- (ix) Organizing Secretary

- (x) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- (xi) Publicity Secretary
- (xii) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- (xiii) Welfare Officer
- (xiv) Assistant Welfare Officer
- (xv) (xvii) Legal Adviser
- (xvi) (xviii) Assistant Legal Adviser
- (xvii) (xix) Auditor
- (xviii) (xx) Assistant Auditor
- (xix) (xxi) Youth leader
- (xx) (xxii) Women Leader
- (xxi) Ward Chairmen of the party
- (xxii) The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Local government Council who are members of the party.
- (xxiii) 1 Ex-officio Member from each Ward of the LGA.

7.11 The Local Government Committee shall meet at least once in a month.

#### 7.12 Local Government Executive Committee: Power and Functions

The Local Government Area Executive Committee of the party shall be the principal executive organ of the Local Government Area Congress and in this capacity shall:

- (a) Convene the Local Government Congress on the recommendation of the Local 24th - 26th July, 2010 Government Area Executive Committee or in exceptional circumstances on directives from the National, or State Executive Committee.
- (b) Make recommendations on policies and programmes to the Local Government Congress.
- (c) Implement the decision of Congress

#### 7.13 Local Government Area Congress:

The Local Government Area Congress shall consist of:

- (i) Chairman of the Local Government Area
- (ii) Deputy Chairman
- (iii) Local Government Area Executive Committee Members of the party
- (iv) National and State Congress members of the party from the local government area

- (v) Councilors who are members of the party or Councillorship candidates nominated by the party
- (vi) Ward Chairmen and Ward Executive members of the party within the local Government Area.
- (vii) Five Local Government Delegates elected from each Ward in the area.

#### 7.14 Local Government Area Congress: Powers and Functions

The powers and functions of the Congress in each Local Government Area shall include the following:

- (a) Evolving policies and programmes for the fulfillment of the aims and objectives of the party in the Local Government Area;
- (b) In area of its jurisdiction, exercising all other powers, authority and functions similar to those of the State Congress provided that State functions shall be replaced by the Local functions;
- (c) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, ratifying candidates in accordance with the guidelines approved by the National Executive committee of the party at a special congress convened for that purpose.
- (d) In cases where the Local Government constitutes State and Federal Constituency, the Local Government Constituency shall be responsible for the nomination of candidates into those houses
- (e) To take and ensure the implementation of directives from the State Congress.

#### 7.15 State Executive Committee

The State Executive committee shall comprise

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) Deputy Chairman
- (iii) Three Vice-Chairmen, one from each senatorial district
- (iv) State Secretary
- (v) State Assistant Secretary
- (vi) Treasurer
- (vii) Assistant Treasurer
- (viii) Financial Secretary
- (ix) Assistant State Financial Secretary
- (x) State Publicity Secretary
- (xi) Assistant State Publicity Secretary
- (xii) State Legal Adviser



- (xiii) Assistant State Legal Adviser
- (xiv) State Welfare Officer
- (xv) Assistant State Welfare Officer
- (xvi) State Organizing Secretary
- (xvii) Assistant State Organizing Secretary
- (xviii) State Auditor
- (xix) Assistant State Auditor
- (xx) Youth Leader
- (xxi) Women Leader
- (xxii) National Executive Committee members of the party from the State
- (xxiii) The State Governor and the Deputy Governor who are members of the party.
- (xxiv) The Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Majority Leader, Party Whip and their Deputies in the State House of Assembly who are members of the party.
- (xxv) The Chairman and Secretary of the party in each Local Government Area of the State.
- (xxvi) Local Council Chairmen and their Deputies who are members of the party.
- (xxvii) One Ex-Officio member from each LGA of the State.

7.16 The State Executive Committee shall meet at least once every three months

7.17 The State Executive Committee: Powers and Functions: The State Executive Committee of the party shall be the principal executive organ of the State Congress and in this capacity shall;

- (a) Convene the State Congress on the recommendation of the State Executive committee or in exceptional circumstances by the National Executive Committee.
- (b) Organize and supervise nomination of candidates for Local Government Council, State and National Assembly elections in accordance with the guidelines approved by the National Executive of the party.
- (c) Organize, manage and supervise the elections of Party Chairmen and members of the Party Executive Committees in the Local Governments within the State in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

- (d) Make recommendations on policies and programmes to the State Congress;
- (e) Implement the decisions of the State Congress;
- (f) Where the party is in power, guide and advise the government and generally assist
  - (a) in the faithful implementation of the party's programmes.
- (g) Generate funds for the achievement of the party's objectives;
- (h) Pursuant article 9, discipline any member of the party;
- (i) The States Executive Committee may appoint subcommittee(s) and ad hoc committees to carry out any of its function from time to time as occasion demands.

#### 7.18 The State Working Committee: Composition.

- (i) State Chairman who shall be Chairman
- (ii) State Deputy Chairman
- (iii) Three Vice Chairmen, one from each Senatorial District
- (iv) State Secretary who shall serve as Secretary to the Committee.
- (v) State Deputy Secretary
- (vi) State Treasurer
- (vii) State Deputy Treasurer
- (viii) State Financial Secretary
- (ix) State Deputy Financial Secretary
- (x) State Publicity Secretary
- (xi) State Deputy Publicity Secretary
- (xii) State Organizing Secretary
- (xiii) State Deputy Organizing Secretary
- (xiv) State Welfare Officer
- (xv) State Deputy Welfare Officer
- (xvi) State Legal Adviser
- (xvii) State Deputy Legal Adviser
- (xviii) State Auditor
- (xix) State Deputy Auditor
- (xx) State Youth Leader
- (xxi) State Women Leader

#### 7.19 State Working Committee.

The functions of the National Working Committee shall be carried out Mutatis Mutandis by the State Working Committee.

#### 7.20 The State Working Committee shall meet at least once a month.

## 7.21 State Congress The state congress shall

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) Deputy Chairman
- (iii) Three State Vice Chairmen, one from each Senatorial District
- (iv) The Governor and Deputy governor who are members of the party
- (v) Members of the National Assembly who are members of the party
- (vi) Members of the National Executive committee of the party from the State.
- (vii) Members of the National Convention of the party within the State.
- (viii) Members of the-State Executive Committee of the party.
- (ix) Members of the State House Assembly who are members of the party
- (x) Chairman and Secretary of the party in the Local Government Area
- (xi) Local Government Council chairmen and their Deputies who are members of the party.
- (xii) All Ward Chairmen
- (xiii) 5 delegates from each Ward of the State elected for that purpose at least one of whom must be a woman.
- (xiv) The local government Youth Leader and Women Leader from each of the local government areas of the state.

## 7.22 State Congress: Powers and Functions

The State Congress shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Electing officers of the party that will constitute the State Executive of the party
- (b) Electing members of the party as candidates for gubernatorial elections.
- (c) Exercising all other powers, authority and junctions similar to those of the National Convention in its area of jurisdiction
- (d) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, ratifying candidates in accordance with the guidelines approved by the National Executive Committee of the party at a Special Congress convened for that purpose.
- (e) Ensuring the implementation of directives from the National Convention.

7.23 The provision/references in this Constitution relating to Ward, Local Government and State levels of organization of the party shall

apply mutates mutandis to Ward, Area Council and Federal Territory levels of the Party Organization.

#### 7.24 National Executive Committee

The National Executive Committee shall comprise of:

- (i) National Chairman who shall be the chairman
- (ii) Deputy National Chairman
- (iii) National Secretary
- (iv) National Vice Chairman (six) each of whom shall represent one geopolitical zone in the Country
- (v) Deputy National Secretary
- (vi) National Treasurer
- (vii) Deputy National Treasurer
- (viii) National Financial Secretary
- (ix) Deputy National Financial Secretary
- (x) National Organizing Secretary
- (xi) Deputy National Organizing Secretary
- (xii) National Publicity Secretary
- (xiii) Deputy National Publicity Secretary
- (xiv) National Legal Adviser
- (xv) Deputy National Legal Adviser
- (xvi) National welfare Officer
- (xvii) Deputy National Welfare Officer
- (xviii) The National Auditor
- (xix) Deputy National Auditor
- (xx) National Women Leader
- (xxi) National Youth Leader
- (xxii) State Chairmen of the Party
- (xxiii) The Chairman of the party in Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory
- (xxiv) The President and Vice-President of the country who are members of the party.
- (xxv) State Governors who are members of the party.
- (xxvi) President and Deputy President of the Senate, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker in House of the Representatives who are members of the party.
- (xxvii) Majority or Minority Leader, Party whip and their Deputies in the National Assembly who are members of the party.
- (xxviii) Ex-officio members (six), each representing one geopolitical zone in the Country.

7.25 National Executive Committee: Powers and Functions: The National Executive Committee of the party shall be the principal Executive organ of the National Convention and in this capacity shall:

- (a) Convene the National Convention if necessary; may at any time appoint a Committee to organize and summon Congresses of the party.
- (b) Prescribe guidelines and modalities for the election of candidates for elective positions I offices at all levels.
- (c) Implement the decisions of the National Convention.
- (d) Where the party is in power, guide and advise the government and generally assist in the faithful implementation of the party's programmes.
- (e) Where the party is not in power at any level of government, critically examine government policies and programmes and advise or criticize the government as appropriate in order to ensure good governance at the level of government in the interest of the nation.
- (f) Generate funds towards the achievement of the party's aims and objectives.
- (g) Decide on the final appeal on all matters of discipline for any member of the party.
- (h) Approve the annual budget of the party and recommend the adoption of the audit report to the Convention.

7.26 National working Committee

National Working Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) National Chairman who shall be the chairman
  - (i) (ii) Deputy National chairman
  - (ii) National Secretary
  - (iii) National Vice Chairman, (six) each of whom shall represent one geopolitical zone in the Country
  - (iv) Deputy National Secretary
  - (v) National Treasurer
  - (vi) Deputy National Treasurer
  - (vii) National Financial Secretary
  - (viii) Deputy National Financial Secretary
  - (ix) National Organizing Secretary
  - (x) Deputy National Organizing Secretary
  - (xi) National Publicity Secretary
  - (xii) Deputy National Publicity Secretary
  - (xiii) National Welfare Officer

- (xiv) Deputy National Welfare Officer
- (xv) National Legal Adviser
- (xvi) Deputy National Legal Adviser
- (xvii) National Auditor
- (xviii) Deputy National Auditor
- (xix) National Youth Leader
- (xx) National Women Leader.

7.27 National Working Committee shall:

- (a) Be the caucus of the party and in the exercise of its responsibilities be responsible to the National Executive Committee of the party.
- (b) Intervene in disputes and ensure justice and equity in the resolution of the matter.
- (c) Monitor party activities nationally for conformity with the party's norms and standards.
- (d) Consider and make recommendations on disciplinary action against any member, officer, and organ of the party to the National Executive Committee of the party pursuant to article 9 of this Constitution.

7.28 National Convention

The National Convention shall comprise of:

- (i) The National Chairman
- (ii) The Deputy National Chairman.
- (iii) All members of the National Executive Committee of the party
- (iv) State Chairmen of the party.
- (v) The State Secretaries of the party.
- (vi) The State Treasurers of the party
- (vii) The President and Vice President who are members of the party
- (viii) Governors and Deputy Governors who are members of the party
- (ix) Members of the National Assembly who are members of the party
- (x) Party Chairmen of the Local Government Areas.
- (xi) Party Secretaries of the Local Government Areas.
- (xii) Party Treasurers of the Local Government Areas.
- (xiii) All State Legislators who are members of the party.
- (xiv) Local Government Council Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen who are members of the party.
- (xv) Five National delegates elected for that purpose from each Local government Area.

- (xvi) Members of The Board of Trustee.
- (xvii) Members of Federal and State Executive Councils who are members of the party.

#### 7.29 National Convention: powers and Functions

The National Convention shall be the party's supreme authority and shall:

- (a) Elect the National Officers of the party.
- (b) Consider and approve all recommendations for review and amendment of the Constitution of the party:
- (c) Receive, consider and take decisions on reports from other subordinate organs of the party.
- (d) Consider and approve recommendations on the party's programmes and manifestoes'
- (e) Take all necessary and legitimate actions to protect and promote the corporate interest of the party in all parts of the country;
- (f) Nominate the presidential and vice presidential candidate of the party in accordance with the part's laid down guidelines.
- (g) Take any other action which, in its opinion, is in the best interest of the party in particular and the nation in general.

#### 7.30 Powers and Functions of Officers

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

#### 7.31 National Chairman shall:

- (a) be the head of the party, providing good, effective leadership and direction to the party;
- (b) Promote and implement the policies of the party;
- (c) Appoint and inaugurate members Standing and Ad-hoc Committee with the approval of National Executive Committee and National Working Committee respectively.
- (d) Authorize expenditures;
- (e) Delegate duties; give lawful directives to all officers, organs, members. and officials at all levels of the party; and exercise a casting vote where necessary;
- (f) Ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the party's Constitution;

- (g) Exercise all powers and functions vested in him by this Constitution, the National Convention, National Executive and National Working Committees.

7.32 Deputy National Chairman shall:

- (a) Perform the functions of the Chairman in his absence.
- (b) Carry out any other duties that may be assigned to him by the Chairman, Convention or Executive Committee.

7.33 National Secretary shall:

- (a) Supervise the party's day-to-day administration;
- (b) Supervise and direct all officials of the party.
- (c) Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee;
- (d) Issue notice of, and make effective arrangements for meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee and National Working Committee on the directive of the National Working Committee.
- (e) Keep accurate records of all the proceedings at the National Convention, the National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee;
- (f) Render a written annual report on the activities of the party;
- (g) Be the custodian of all party documents and materials.
- (h) Carry out all other duties that may be assigned to him from time to time by the party.

7.34 Deputy National Secretary shall:

- (a) Assist the National Secretary in the performance of his duties
- (b) Perform the functions of the National Secretary in his absence
- (c) Perform all such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Secretary.

7.35 National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Ensure that all revenues and expenses of the party are properly accounted for;
- (b) Advise the National Executive committee and National Working Committee in Financial matters;
- (c) Ensure that all monies paid to the party are duly receipted for and paid into the approved bank accounts of the party not later



than 24 hours after collection except during weekends when 48 hours is allowed;

- (d) Keep a general imprest account the limit, of which shall be determined by the National Executive committee;
- (e) Pay monies duly approved by the National Chairman;
- (f) Prepare and submit to the National Executive Committee a quarterly Statement of accounts of the party.
- (g) Be the custodian of all financial and security documents of the party

7.36 Deputy National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Assist the Treasurer in the performance of his duties.
- (b) Acts as treasurer in his absence.
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Treasurer

7.37 National Financial Secretary shall:

- (a) Collect and record all duties, levies, subscriptions and such other monies made to the parties.
- (b) Pay all such monies to the party treasurer within 24 hours of the collection.
- (c) Preparation and submit proposals for raising party funds for the consideration of the National Executives Committee or National Working Committee as the case may be.

7.38 National Financial Secretary shall:

- (a) Assist the National Financial Secretary in the performance of his duties.
- (b) Act for him in his absence.
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Secretary.

7.39 National Organizing Secretary shall:

- (a) Liaise with the State chairman and members of the State Executives Committee or the purposes of mobilizing members of the party towards winning elections at all levels.
- (b) Initiate strategies including budget for the purpose of winning elections.
- (c) Take any other direction from the National Chairman or National Committee.

- (d) Arrange and prepare venues for party functions including the National Convention.

7.40 Deputy National Organizing Secretary

- (a) Assist the National Organizing Secretary in the performances of his Duties.
- (b) Act for him in his absence
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Organizing Secretary

7.41 National Publicity Secretary shall:

- (a) Be responsible for the public relation and publicity of the party.
- (b) Be the principal image maker of the party;
- (c) Advise the party on media relations
- (d) Publicize the policies and programmes of the party.

7.42 Deputy National Publicity Secretary shall:

- (a) Assist the National Publicity Secretary in the performance of his duties
- (b) Act for him in his absence.
- (c) Perform such other functions as may be assigned to him by the National Publicity Secretary.

7.43 National Welfare Officer shall:

Be responsible for the general welfare of the members of the party.

7.44 Deputy Welfare Officer shall:

- (a) Assist the National Welfare Officer in the Performance of his duties
- (b) Act for him in his absence
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Welfare Officer.

7.45 National Auditor shall:

- (a) Audit the account books of the party quarterly and submit reports there on to the Executive Committee;
- (b) Conduct other checks on the finances and assets of the party as may be directed from time to time by the Chairman, National Executive Committee or the National Convention.

7.46 Deputy National Auditor shall:

- (a) Assist the National auditor in the performance of his duties
- (b) Act for him in his absence.
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National auditor.

7.47 National Legal Adviser who being of the legal profession shall:

- (a) Be responsible for giving legal advice to the party
- (b) Interpret the Constitution of the party and other relevant legal documents
- (c) Arrange for the conduct of litigation and defense on behalf of the party including its organs, officers and officials where the subject of litigation pertains to the party's interest.

7.48 Deputy Legal Adviser who being of the legal profession shall:

- (a) Assist the National Legal Adviser in the performance of his duties
- (b) Act for him in his absence
- (c) Perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Legal Adviser

7.49 NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER

- (a) Be responsible for the sensitization of the youth through seminars, workshops, and other forms of public enlightenment
- (b) Be responsible for the mobilization of the youth to effectively participate in the affairs of the party
- (c) Be responsible for the promotion and protection of youth issues in the party.

7.50 NATIONAL WOMEN LEADER

- (a) Be responsible for the sensitization of the Women through seminars, workshops, and other forms of public enlightenment
- (b) Be responsible for the mobilization of the women to effectively participate in the affairs of the party
- (c) Be responsible for the promotion and protection of women issues in the party.

## ARTICLE 8

8.1 Conventions and Congresses:

- (a) The Convention and Congresses of the party at the National, State and other levels shall be held at least once a year at a date,

venue and time to be approved by the relevant Executive committee.

- (b) Special Conventions may be convened to consider special issues of paramount importance to the party

## 8.2 EMERGENCY MEETING:

- (a) The Executive committee may summon an emergency meeting of the National Convention or Congress at any time, provided that at least seven days' notice of the meeting is given to all those entitled to attend.
- (b) The Chairman of the Executive committee of the party at any level shall direct the Secretary of the organ to summon a meeting of the Executive committee as the case may be on joint application made in writing by at least one third of the members of that organ.
- (c) Where the Chairman and Secretary fail to convene the meeting within 7 days of the receipt of the application, a meeting may be convened by a publication in a National newspaper made by the signatories to the joint application and in case of the local government and Wards by a notice pasted in the relevant party secretariat.

## 8.3 QUORUM:

One half of the members of any organ of the party shall constitute the quorum for the purpose of a valid meeting of that organ

## 8.4 MODE OF CALLING MEETINGS

All meetings shall be summoned in writing and or/through the mass media.

## 8.5 Rules for the Conduct of Meetings:

- (a) All meetings of the various organs of the party shall follow the same or similar procedure as prescribed hereunder. Irregular conduct of meetings shall be unconstitutional and shall accordingly render null and void decisions reached at such meetings.
- (b) The Chairman of any organ of the party shall preside over the meetings of the organ except in the case of a subcommittee

- where the presiding person may be appointed by the Executive committee of the parent organ or from among themselves.
- (c) All meetings of the party shall be conducted and recorded in the English language. However, the Chairman of the meeting may use his discretion to allow the use of a local language if in his Judgment communication and the peace of the meeting would be there by facilitated.
  - (d) With the exception of the following listed motions, no motion and amendment shall be entertained at a meeting unless at least seven days' notice of such motion had been given in writing to the Secretary or the Chairman.
    - i. A motion that any subject matter be approved deferred or referred to a committee or some appropriate body;
    - ii. A motion for adjournment;
    - iii. A motion proposing an amendment to some opinion already presented at the same meeting.
  - (e) Every motion and amendments shall be seconded before discussion.
  - (f) A motion for amendment may be withdrawn at any time at the request of the mover.
  - (g) Without prejudice to article 8.S.d in urgent or emergency situations, the Chairman of a meeting shall have the discretion to dispense with the requirement to give notice of motion.
  - (h) Deliberations at a meeting shall be strictly on the subject matters listed on the agenda of the meeting, provided that general issues may be presented or discussed at the end of the main agenda.
  - (i) Except upon a duly notified motion, a fresh deliberation or debate on a matter already concluded shall not be permitted.
  - (j) A member shall indicate a desire to speak by show of hand, sitting and shall rise to speak only when called upon to do so by the Chairman.
  - (k) Any member deviating from these rules or from the agenda of a meeting shall be immediately called to order by the Chairman or by another member raising a point of order.
  - (l) The Chairman of a meeting shall have power to ask anyone who in his opinion is manifestly obstructing the conduct and peace of the meeting to leave the meeting.
  - (m) No member shall leave a meeting without the leave of the Chairman.
  - (n) Putting the question' shall follow normal parliamentary procedure:

- (o) Voting on any subject at a meeting shall be by a show of hands or by secret ballot.
- (p) Except otherwise provided in this Constitution, decisions of any organ of the party shall be taken by a simple majority of votes of members present.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS**

9.1 The party shall be a disciplined organization and all members of the party shall be disciplined, honest and of good conduct and shall always be loyal to the party.

9.2 The following shall constitute acts of indiscipline in the context of the party; disloyalty, disorderly behavior at meetings, thefts, fraud, disrespect of the party, immoral conduct, failure to fulfill financial obligations and other obligations of membership and conviction for criminal offence.

9.3 All acts of indiscipline shall be sanctioned. Such sanction shall vary according to the gravity of the offence committed.

9.4 The Executive Committee at every level shall have power to decide on disciplinary measures against an offending member provided that only the National Convention shall have to expel a member.

9.5 Notwithstanding any provisions of this Article, the party may, where necessary invoke its rights to seek legal redress against any offending member.

9.6 The Executive Committee at every level shall have power to suspend a member for act of indiscipline.

9.7 A suspended member shall lose the privileges or membership for the period of suspension and may be required to fulfill certain conditions before the suspension is lifted.

9.8 A suspended member shall have the right of appeal to the Local Government Elders Forum in the case of suspension by the Local Government or Ward Executive Committees, to State Elders Forum in the case of suspension by the State Executive Committee, to the Board

of Trustees in the case of suspension by the National Executive Committee.

9.9 Only the National Convention shall have power to expel a member from the party.

9.10 In all matters of discipline, every member of the party shall enjoy the right to a fair hearing.

## **ARTICE10**

### **TENURE OF OFFICE**

10.1 Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, all officers of the party elected or appointed into the party's organs shall serve in such organs for a period of four years and shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment for another period of four years only; provided that an officer elected or appointed to fill a vacancy arising from death, resignation or otherwise shall notwithstanding be eligible for election to the same office for two terms.

10.2 No member shall serve in the same office for more than eight years continuously, except a member of the Board of Trustees or a person who first came to the office by filling a vacancy as provided in article 11.1

10.3 An Officer at the National and State levels of the party shall not hold another office at state or National organ of the party concurrently, other than being an ex-officio member of that organ.

10.4 Subject to ratification by Convention or Congress, an officer shall be relieved of his post at any time if a vote of "No confidence" is passed on him by two-thirds of members of the relevant party organ.

10.5 Pursuant to article 11.4 of this Constitution, where a vote of "No Confidence" has been passed on an officer, the relevant party organ shall appoint another person to act in his place pending ratification by the Convention or Congress.

10.6 Any officer at any level of the party who wishes to contest an elective office into government shall resign his party position at least 90 days before the party nominations for the election, provided that in all

general elections the party shall, 120 days before the elections, issue and publish dates for the Convention and Congress at which candidates for election shall be nominated.

10.7 The pioneer promoter of the Democratic People's Congress Rev. Olusegun Obaje Peters shall be the National Leader of the party's NEC and the chairman of Board of Trustees until such a time he decide otherwise

## **ARTICLE 11 ADMINISTRATION**

11.1 There shall be administrative officers at all levels of the party who shall be responsible for the day to day administration and report to the relevant Executive Committee through the Secretary

11.2 Subject to Article 12.1 above the Directorate in the party's administration shall include:

- (a) The Directorate of Organization, which shall be headed by the Director of Organization and shall be responsible for the organization of the party at all levels.
- (b) The Directorate of Administration and Training, which shall be headed by a Director of Administration and shall attend to personnel and other administrative matters.
- (c) The Directorate of Finance, which shall be headed by a Director of finance and shall attend to all financial matters
- (d) The Directorate of Media and Publicity, which shall be headed by Director of Media and Publicity and shall administer public relations matters.
- (e) Directorate of Research, Planning and Programme, which shall be headed by a Director of Research, Planning and Programme and shall deal with research, planning, programme and policy matters.
- (f) Directorate of Social Welfare and Protocol, which shall be headed by a Director of Social Welfare and protocol, and shall be responsible for welfare and protocol matters.
- (g) Directorate of Security and Intelligence shall be headed by a Director of Security and Intelligence and shall be responsible for Security and Intelligence matters.
- (h) Directorate of Legal Services shall be headed by Director of Legal services and shall be responsible for legal matters.



11.2 All officials of the party shall be appointed by the relevant Executive Committee.

11.3 The salaries and other conditions of service of officials shall be decided by the appropriate Executive Committee which shall have power to employ and dismiss any official.

## **ARTICLE 12 COMMITTEES**

12.1 There shall be standing committees as follows:

- (a) Ways and Means Committee: which shall be headed by the Treasurer as Chairman, shall comprise a minimum of seven members, including the Financial Secretary and shall advise the party on ways and means of generating funds and property and investing these for the party in accordance with the provisions of Article 17 of this Constitution.
- (b) Media and Publicity Committee: shall have as Chairman the Publicity Secretary and six others. The Media and Publicity committee shall advise the party on management of information, communication, publication, Public Relations; Education, Mass Media matters and community affairs.
- (c) Disciplinary and Arbitration Committee: Which shall have the Legal adviser as Chairman and six members and shall receive, examine, investigate, initiate and propose disciplinary and arbitration matters affecting members or groups of members and submit findings to the appropriate executive committee for consideration and necessary actions.
- (d) Election Committee: shall have the National Organizing Secretary as Chairman and six members, and shall advise the party on legitimate strategies, logistics, and modalities for conduct of campaigns to ensure total success at elections.
- (e) Establishment Committee: shall have the party secretary as chairman at relevant levels of the party and shall advise the elected Chief Executive on appointments.

12.2 Without prejudice to the provision of article 13.1 of this Constitution, the National Executive Committee shall have power to set up Ad hoc Committees whenever the need for such committees arises.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **13.1 TRUSTEES**

- (i) There shall be a Board of Trustees of the party which shall be appointed by the National Convention on the recommendation of the State Congress passed through the National Executive Committee and shall hold office for 5 years.
- (ii) The Board of Trustees shall consist of 3 members from each State of the federation at least one of whom shall be a woman and one member from the Federal Capital territory, Abuja. A chairman shall be appointed] by them from their number.
- (iii) The President, Vice president, Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representative shall be members of Board c Trustee if they are members of the party.
- (iv) Qualification for appointment as Trustee shall be the same as that of a Senator in the National Assembly.

### **13.2 POWERAND FUNCTIONS OF TRUSTEES:**

- (a) The board of trustees shall be the conscience of the party and shall; ensure that high moral standards are observed in the conduct of the party activities.
- (b) Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, the Board of Trustee shall not take part in the day-to-day activities of running the party at any level.
- (c) The Board of Trustee members can attend any meeting organized by any organ of the party but shall have no voting rights at any of those meetings except at the National Convention and that of the Board of Trustees.
- (d) The Chairman and Secretary of the Board are full members of the National Executive Committee.
- (e) A Trustee may be removed from office by a resolution at the annual convention on the recommendation of the Board on the grounds of infirmity or misconduct.
- (f) A Trustee may resign his/her membership of the Board by tendering a letter to that effect to the Chairman.
- (g) The board of Trustees shall mediate in the event of disputes across the arms of the party, Executive and Legislative.

- (h) The Board of Trustees shall co-ordinate, harmonize, review and advise when necessary on policies, programmes and activities of the party.
- (i) The Board of Trustees shall co-ordinate the funding activities of the party.
- (j) The Board of Trustees shall be custodians of party assets.
- (k) The Board of Trustees shall carry out other functions as may be referred to it by the National Convention.
- (l) The Board of Trustees shall give to the National Executive Committee of the party general advice, which the National Executive Committee of the Party shall consider appropriately.

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **STATE ELDERS FORUM**

14.1 There shall be a State Elders forum of the party which shall be appointed by the State Congress on the recommendation of the Local Executive Committee through the State Executive committee and shall hold office for 3 years.

14.2 The State Elders forum shall have at least one member from each LGA of the State and shall elect their Chairman from amongst themselves.

14.3 The Governor, Deputy Governor and the Speaker of the State House of Assembly who are members of the party shall be members of the forum. 14.4 The State Elders Forum shall at its level exercise the powers of the Board of Trustees.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

15.1 All party posts prescribed by this Constitution shall be filled by democratically conducted elections and in accordance with the guidelines that may be approved by the National Executive Committee of the party.

15.2 In the event of nomination, elections or appointment for the formation of, or participation in government, the National Executive Committee shall make rules and regulations for the selection of candidates in consultation with the State Executive Committees. All such rules and regulations shall take into consideration and uphold;

- (a) Aims and objectives of the party in article 5
- (b) The Federal character principle and the principle of geographical spread.
- (c) Equitable representation for women and youths.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **OATHS OF OFFICE**

Every officer elected or appointed as an officer of the party shall subscribe to the Oath of Office as provided in the schedule 2B of this Constitution before the commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public.

## **ARTICLE 17**

### **FINANCE, BANKING AND AUDIT**

#### **17.1 FINANCE**

The funds of the party at all levels shall be derived from all or any of the following sources:

- (a) Membership fees;
- (b) Income generated by property owned by the party.
- (c) Profit from the income of enterprises owned by the party.
- (d) Public funding i.e. grants from the state and contributions from legal entities and natural persons.
- (e) Levies, donation and grants

17.2 The National Executive Committee shall have the power to make special grants and donations or grant loans without interest to any organ of the party, subject to guidelines and regulations approved by the National Convention.

17.3 The budget of the party at any level shall be approved by the appropriate Executive Committee and authorization of all expenditures herein shall be vested in the relevant Chairman.

17.4 A fee, to be known as the membership fee, shall be paid to the party by every member. The fee, which shall be the same amount throughout the country, shall be determined from time to time by the National Executive Committee of the party.

17.5 A financial member of the party shall be a member who has paid all approved dues, fees and levies payable by him under this Constitution.

### **17.6 BANKING:**

The party at all levels shall operate banks approved by the relevant Executive Committee. Withdrawal from such accounts shall be effected jointly by the appropriate Chairman as principal signatory and either the Secretary or the Treasurer as co-signatory.

### **17.7 AUDIT:**

- (a) A firm of accountants shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee to audit all the accounts of the party and submit the audited Accounts and Report thereon to the National Executive Committee which will consider the report and authorize its publication.
- (b) A Statement of the party's assets and liabilities shall be published in accordance with the prevailing laws of the Federation, on the authority of the National Executive Committee.
- (c) Without prejudice to article 1 8.7a of this Constitution, there shall be an Internal Auditor who shall be responsible for the internal auditing of the party's finances.

## **ARTICLE 18**

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

#### **18.1 RESIGNATION:**

- (a) A member of the party shall be free to resign his membership at any time.
- (b) Upon resignation, a member shall surrender all property of the party in his possession to the relevant party office and obtain clearance to the effect.

#### **18.2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- (a) Election of Officers of the party at every level shall be held not later than one month before the expiration of tenure of the incumbent Executive Committee.
- (b) Voting shall be by open ballot at the Ward and Local Government levels but by secret ballot at State Congresses and National Conventions.

- (c) The winner of election shall be determined by a simple majority of the total votes cast.
- (d) In the event of a tie in any ballot, the election for that particular office shall be repeated for tying candidates until a winner emerges.

### **18.3 ELIGIBILITY**

No member shall be eligible to contest any election as an officer or candidate of the party unless that member had been a financial member of the party for at least 6 months before the date of such party elections. This clause shall not apply during the transition/formative period.

### **18.4 RULES AND REGULATIONS**

All organs of the party shall have powers to make rules and regulations for the smooth running of the party provided that such rules and regulations are not in conflict with the provisions of this Constitution.

### **18.5 FOREIGN CHAPTERS**

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, there shall be foreign chapters of the party provided that such chapters meet the following conditions;

- (a) If they exist to serve the purpose of the party
- (b) Approval for the establishment of a foreign chapter shall be sought by a minimum of fifty members of the party exposed to the special situation after a resolution to that effect has been taken by them.
- (c) The National Executive Committee shall examine the circumstances of all such applications and shall have the power to approve or reject the formation of any such chapter.

## **ARTICLE 19**

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

#### **19.1 PARTY PRIMARIES**

#### **19.2 Presidential Primaries**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a presidential candidate of the party, the whole country shall form one constituency.
- (b) An Aspirant seeking nomination as presidential candidate shall submit himself to election at the National Convention of the party specially convened for that purpose, provided that the nomination of each aspirant is supported by one registered

member of the party from each senatorial district in the federation.

- (c) For a presidential aspirant to qualify as a candidate at the National Convention of the party (s)/he shall have scored in his or her State Congress of the party simple majority of the votes cast by the total number of delegates participating at the Congress.
- (d) Where no aspirant wins majority of the votes cast in his state congress, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two aspirants with the highest. Number of votes in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest. The aspirant with highest number of votes cast shall be considered the winner and therefore qualify as candidate at the National Convention.
- (e) For the purpose of article 20.1 b, c and d of this Constitution the FCT Abuja shall be treated as if it were a state.
- (f) Where no aspirant wins majority of the votes cast at the National Convention, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two aspirants with the highest number of votes cast in the first ballot shall be; eligible to contest and, the aspirants with the highest number of the votes cast in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the aspirant with the highest number of the votes cast shall be considered the winner and therefore duly nominated.

## **ARTICLE 20**

### **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND STATE OFFICES PRIMARIES**

20.1 The National Executive committee shall provide guidelines for the conduct and management of ward congresses convened specially for the purpose of Gubernatorial Primaries, National Assembly, State Assembly, Local Government and Councillorship Primaries.

### **20.2 GUBERNATORIAL PRIMARIES**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a gubernatorial candidate of the party, the state shall form one constituency while the Ward Congress shall be the Electoral College.
- (b) An aspirant seeking nomination as gubernatorial candidate shall submit himself to election at the Ward Congresses in the state convened specially for that purpose. Any aspirant who scores simple majority of the total votes cast in more than half of wards

within the state shall be considered winner and therefore duly nominated.

- (c) If at the end of the first ballot no. winner emerges, there shall be a second ballot in which the two aspirants with the highest number of votes cast in the highest number of wards shall be eligible to contest and the aspirant with a simple majority of the votes cast in the second ballot shall be considered the winner and therefore duly nominated.

### **20.3 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRIMARIES**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a member of the National Assembly of the party, the relevant National Assembly constituency shall form one constituency while the Ward Congress shall be the Electoral College,
- (b) An aspirant seeking nomination as a National Assembly candidate shall submit himself to election at the Ward Congresses within his constituency specially convened for that purpose. Any aspirant who scores simple majority of the total votes cast in more than half of the wards within the constituency shall be considered winner and therefore duly nominated.
- (c) Where no. winner emerges in the first ballot, there shall be a second ballot in which the two aspirants with the highest number of votes cast in the highest number of wards in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the aspirant with a simple majority of the votes cast in the second ballot shall be considered the winner and therefore duly nominated.

### **20.4 STATE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY PRIMARIES**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a candidate to the State House of Assembly the area so. Designated as State House of Assembly Constituency shall be one constituency.
- (b) An aspirant seeking nomination as State of House Assembly candidate shall submit himself to election at Ward Congresses within his Constituency specially convened for the purpose. Any aspirant who scores a simple majority of the total votes cast in more than half the wards within the constituency shall be considered winner and therefore duly nominated.
- (c) Where no winner emerges in the first ballot, there shall be a second ballot in which the two aspirants with the highest number of votes cast in the highest number of wards in the first ballot shall



be eligible to contest and the aspirant with the simply majority of the votes cast in the second ballot shall be considered the winner and duly nominated.

#### **20.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAIRMAN PRIMARIES**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a Local Government Council Chairman of the party, the Local Government Area shall form one constituency.
- (b) An aspirant seeking nomination as L.G.A chairmanship candidate shall submit himself to election at Ward Congresses specially convened for that purpose. Any aspirant who scores a simple majority of the total votes cast in more than half of the wards within the constituency shall be considered winner and therefore duly nominated.
- (c) Where no winner emerges in the first ballot, there shall be a second ballot in which the two aspirants with the highest number of votes cast in the highest number of wards in the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the aspirant with the simple majority of the votes cast in the second ballot shall be considered the winner and duly nominated

#### **20.6 COUNCILLORSHIP PRIMARIES**

- (a) For the purpose of the nomination of a Councilor of the party, each ward shall form one constituency
- (b) An aspirant seeking nomination as Councillorship candidate shall submit himself to election at the Ward Congress specially convened for that purpose, provided that his nomination is support by twenty registered members of the party from the Ward.
- (c) The candidate that wins the highest number of votes cast at the Ward Congress shall be considered winner.
- (d) Where in the first ballot, no candidate wins up to fifty percent of the votes, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two candidates having 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.

## **ARTICLE 21**

### **ELECTION PANEL**

21.1 There shall be election panels to adjudicate on complaints of any candidate.

21.2 The election panel at the National level shall be constituted by the National Executive Committee and shall constitute party members of proven integrity and reflect National geographical spread.

21.3 The election panel at the State level shall be constituted by the State Executive Committee and shall consist of 7 party members of proven integrity and shall reflect the State geographical spread.

## **ARTICLE 22**

### **AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION:**

The provisions of the Constitution shall be subject to amendment, if it is so decided by a minimum of two-thirds of the financial members of the party present and voting at a National Convention, provided that notice of such amendment shall have been filed with the National Secretariat not less than 30 days before the date of the National Convention and circulated not less than 14 days before the date of Convention.

## **SCHEDULE 1**

### **INTERPRETATION OF TERMS:**

For the purpose of this party and in the context of this Constitution, the following terms are here defined.

- (a) At all levels: means at the National, State, Local Government area and Council Ward levels.
- (b) Egalitarian society means society in which members of that society are treated as equals legally, socially, morally and politically and exposed to equal opportunities to develop their inherent potential as individuals without prejudice to ethnic origin, religion or circumstances of birth or sex.
- (c) Officer means elected official
- (d) Official means a person employed and paid by the party.
- (e) Primary health care means comprehensive health care, including basic medical immunization, health education, essential drug supply to health institutions designated for the purpose, environmental sanitation, nutrition, maternal and child health.

- (f) Principal Executive Organs mean the National Executive Committee at the nation level, the State Executive Committee, Local Government Area Level, and Ward Executive Committee at the Ward Level.
- (g) Transition period means the time between the formation of the party and when it becomes established.

**SCHEDULE 2**

**A. OATHS OF** Constitution I ..... do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that I will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS and the Constitution of Federal Republic of Nigeria.  
So help me God.

**B. OATHS OF OFFICE**

I ..... do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS and the law and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS and of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I will strive to pursue enhance implement the aims and objectives of the party as contained in its Constitution and Manifestoes; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my official decisions; that in all circumstances, I will do right to all members and organs of the party and to all manner of people. According to the law without fear or favor, affection or ill-will that I will not directly or indirectly 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.