

**THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE**

**DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES PARTY  
(DPP)**

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S PARTY (DPP)**

## **1. NAME:**

The name of the Party shall be Democratic People's Party (DPP)

## **2. MOTTO:**

The motto of the Party shall be Patriotism, Equity and Justice

## **3. EMBLEM:**

The Emblem of the Party shall be denoted by Green-White-Blue placed horizontally with pineapple insert.

## **4. LOGO:**

As in '3'

## **5. FLAG:**

As in '3' on white background

## **6. SLOGAN:**

Equity and Justice

## **7. REGISTERED OFFICE:**

The Registered Office of the Party shall be located at the FCT, Abuja with Branches in every State Capital, Local Government and Area Council headquarters and in all the Wards of the Federation.

## **8. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The aims and objectives of the Party shall be as follows:

- a) To promote peace, order and good government whose primary responsibility shall be the welfare and security of all citizens founded on the principles of freedom, equality and justice.
- b) To achieve and promote socio-economic and political independence
- c) To protect human dignity and promote dignity of labour
- d) To establish a true democratic Government where respect for the rule of law, equity and social justice prevail
- e) To protect the unity and sovereignty of Nigeria as one indivisible nation
- f) To sponsor and ensure the success of credible candidates for elections to various positions in the three tiers of Government
- g) To build a virile economy in line with the principles of globalization
- h) To promote meaningful international cooperation for the advancement of the economic, political and other strategic interests of Nigeria, in cooperation with other countries
- i) To promote Regional and sub-regional integration for the purpose of promoting peace and socio-economic well-being of Africans
- j) To undertake and do such other activities which, in the opinion of the Party, are conducive or ancillary to the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Party.
- k) In the pursuit of the above stated objectives, the Party shall conform with the provisions of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, especially the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy as enshrined in Chapter II of the Constitution, and Chapter VI of the same Constitution relating to power sharing and Rotation of key Political Offices

## **9. MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the party shall be open to every Nigerian without discrimination, provided that such a person:

- (a) is not below the age of 18;
- (b) is not a member of any other political party;

- (c) agrees to abide by the aims and objectives and fundamental values of the party and such other rules and conditions prescribed by the Party;
- (d) is registered in his ward as a member and issued with a membership card;
- (e) has paid the prescribed registration fees;

## **10. REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

- (a) A Register of members shall be kept and maintained at each ward and local Government Headquarters indicating the names, addresses, date of registration and occupation of a registered member
- (b) Every registered member shall be issued with a membership card after paying the necessary fees as determined from time to time by the party
- (c) The Register shall be reviewed and up-dated at least once every year

## **11. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS**

Every member shall have the right to:

- (a) vote and be voted for into any post or Office of the Party as provided in this Constitution
- (b) contest for candidature of the party into any elective office in the three tiers of Government, provided that he is qualified under the law
- (c) attend a meeting of the Party at any level subject to the provision of this Constitution
- (d) actively participate in party activities

## **12. OBLIGATION OF MEMBERS**

Every member shall:

- (a) Pay such dues and levies as may be prescribed by the National Executive Committee
- (b) Be required to attend party meetings at the level where he is a member
- (c) Abide by the provisions of this Constitution and such other rules and regulations as may be issued from time to time by the Executive Committee
- (d) Promote the image of the Party and contribute to the success of the party at the Polls
- (e) Not subvert the objectives of the party

## **11. PARTY ORGANIZATION V**

- (i) There shall be four (4) levels of party Organisation:
  - a) The Ward
  - b) The Local Government/Area Council
  - c) (c The State; and
  - d) The National
- (ii) Each of these levels of the Party Organisation shall have a functioning Party Secretariat
- (iii) The Organisational Structure at the State level shall also apply with respect to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja

## **12. PARTY ORGANS**

The Party shall have the following Organs:

- (a) The Ward Executive Committee V
- (b) The Ward Congress
- (c) The Local Government/Area Council Executive Committee
- (d) The Local Government/Area Council Congress
- (e) The State/FCT Executive Committee
- (f) The State/FCT Congress
- (g) The National Executive Committee
- (h) The National Convention

## **13. COMPOSITION OF THE PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

The following shall constitute the Officers of the party at the levels specified hereunder:

### **(A) WARD**

- 1. Chairman
- 2. Deputy Chairman
- 3. Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. Financial Secretary
- 6. Publicity Secretary
- 7. Organising Secretary
- 8. Assistant Organising Secretary

9. Councilor from the Ward where he is a member of the Party
10. 10 Two other members elected by simple majority at the Ward Congress

#### **(B) LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

1. Chairman
2. One Vice Chairman
3. Secretary
4. One Assistant Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Assistant Treasurer
7. Legal Adviser
8. Assistant Legal Adviser
9. Publicity Secretary
10. Assistant Publicity Secretary
11. Financial Secretary
12. Assistant Financial Secretary
13. Three Ex-officio members

#### **(C) STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. The State Chairman and all State Officers of the Party
2. The state Governor and Deputy Governor where they are members of the Party, or the party's candidates for such offices
3. All members of the Legislature from the State who are members of the Party

#### **14. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

- (i) The Ward Executive Committee shall meet to transact all or any of the following:
  - (a) Identify the main issues (Political, Economic and Social) of concern in the ward
  - (b) Raise funds
  - (c) Membership drive
  - (d) Plan strategies for campaigns to mobilize voters
  - (e) Implement the regulations and decisions of the Party

- (ii) The Ward Congress shall consist of registered members of the Party in the Ward and shall meet as and when necessary, and shall transact all or any of the following
  - (a) Elect members of the Ward Executive
  - (b) Select candidates for Councillorship election
  - (c) Approve the Ward budget and receive external auditors report
  - (d) Receive reports of officers of the Ward and any other business that may be tabled by a member

**(iii)**

- (a) Chairman of Local Government Councils who are members of the Party or Party Leaders in the Councils.
- (b) Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of every Local Government Area branch in the State.
- (c) Women and Youths Leaders of every Local Government Branch Executive.
- (d) Ten members elected by the State Congress on their personal merit.
- (e) All National Officers and members of the National Executive Committee from the State.
- (f) All members of the State Working Committee.
- (g) All Commissioners, Special Advisers and Special Assistants who are members of the Party.
- (h) All Federal Ministers from the State who are members of the Party.
- (i) Chairmen of Boards and Corporations from the State who are members of the Party.

## **STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The State Executive Committee shall have the same powers and functions within the area of the jurisdiction of the State concerned, as the National Executive has throughout the country.

### **STATE OFFICERS**

The State Officers of the Party shall be as follows:

- (i) State Chairman
- (ii) (ii) One Deputy State Chairman

- (iii) One Vice Chairman from each Senatorial District
- (iv) State Secretary
- (v) Two Assistant State Secretaries
- (vi) State Treasurer
- (vii) Assistant State Treasurer
- (viii) State Financial Secretary
- (ix) Assistant State Financial Secretary
- (x) State Auditor
- (xi) Assistant State Auditor
- (xii) State Legal Adviser
- (xiii) Two Assistant Legal Advisers
- (xiv) State Publicity Secretary
- (xv) Assistant State Publicity Secretary

### **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF STATE OFFICERS**

State Officers shall have the same powers and functions as the National Officers have in this Constitution but within the area and jurisdiction of the State.

### **STATE WORKING COMMITTEE**

A State Working Committee shall comprise:

- (j) The State Chairman and his Deputy
- (i) (ii) The Governor and his Deputy or candidate for an election
- (ii) The State Vice-Chairmen
- (iii) The State Secretary
- (iv) The State Treasurer
- (v) The Financial Secretary
- (vi) The Publicity Secretary
- (vii) The Party Leader in the Legislature
- (viii) Two Ex-officio members appointed by the State Executive Committee.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE**

The State Executive Committee shall set-up standing and ad-hoc subcommittees to facilitate its work but ad-hoc sub-committee shall cease to exist upon completion of their assignments.

## **STATE CONGRESS**

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

- (a) The State Chairman and all other State Officers.
- (b) The Governor and his Deputy if produced by the Party.
- (c) Three delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Areas
- (d) Chairman of Local Government Councils of the State who are members of the Party.
- (e) All members of the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party.
- (f) All Councilors, all Legislators at the State House of Assembly and National Assembly who are members of the Party.
- (g) All Commissioners, Ministers and Special Advisers from the State who are members of the Party.
- (h) The National Officers of the Party who are from the State.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The Congress shall meet to transact any of the following:

- (a) Elect Officers of the State Executive Committee
- (b) Elect Delegates to Party Convention
- (c) Organize Gubernatorial Primaries
- (d) Ratify the results of Local Government primaries

## **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The National Executive Committee shall consist of:

- i. The National Chairman and all national Officers of the Party.
- ii. The President and Vice-President where they are members of the Party or candidates for these offices in an election year.
- iii. All members of the National Assembly who are members of the Party.

## **NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE**

The National Working Committee shall consist of:

- (i) The National Chairman;
- (ii) The President and Vice President or candidates in an election year;
- (iii) Zonal Vice Chairmen;

- (iv) The National Secretary and Deputy Secretary;
- (v) The National Treasurer;
- (vi) The National Legal Adviser;
- (vii) The Party Leader in the Senate and the Party Leader in the House of Representatives;
- (viii) Any other persons co-opted by the National Working Committee.

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- (i) National Chairman;
- (ii) 2 Deputy national Chairmen (North and South);
- (iii) 6 National Vice Chairmen (one for each zone);
- (iv) National Secretary;
- (v) Deputy National Secretary;
- (vi) 6 Assistant National secretaries; (Zonal)
- (vii) National Treasurer;
- (viii) 6 Assistant National Treasurers
- (ix) National Organizing Secretary
- (x) 6 Assistant National Organizing Secretaries (Zonal)
- (xi) National Financial Secretary
- (xii) 6 Assistant National Financial Secretaries; (Zonal)
- (xiii) 6 Assistant National Legal Adviser (Zonal)
- (xiv) National Legal Adviser;
- (xv) 6 Assistant National Legal Advisers
- (xvi) National Welfare Officer
- (xvii) 6 Assistant National Welfare Officer
- (xviii) (xviii) National Auditor
- (xix) 6 Assistant national Auditors
- (xx) National Women Leader
- (xxi) 6 Zonal Women Leaders
- (xxii) 36 State Chairmen of the Party and FCT
- (xxiii) The President and Vice President of the Country if produced by the party
- (xxiv) State Governor produced by the Party;
- (xxv) Ministers and Special Advisers if produced by the Party;
- (xxvi) 18 Ex-Officio (three from each Zone);

- (xxvii) President and Deputy President of the Senate, the Speaker and
- (xxviii) Deputy Speaker of the House produced by the party; (xxx) The Senate leader, Deputy Senate leader, whip and Deputy Whip in the Senate;
- (xxix) The House leader, Deputy leader, Whip and Deputy Whip in the House of Representatives
- (xxx) One Senator from each zone produced by the party.
- (xxxi) Two members of the House of Representatives, from each of the 6 zones of the Federation.

### **POWERS ANDS FUNCTIONS**

- (a) The National Working Committee shall be responsible for the day-to day administration of the Party and shall be responsible to the National Executive Committee;
- (b) The National Working Committee shall perform any other functions assigned to it by the National Executive Committee.

### **MEETINGS AND QUORUM**

All Organs of the Party shall meet at least once in three months. The quorum shall be one-third of their membership.

Organs shall also meet at any other time at the request of their Chairmen of at least one-third of members in writing requesting the Chairmen to call such meetings.

### **TENURE OF OFFICE**

All State and National Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of four years unless re-elected by the appropriate Party Congress or Convention provided that no officer remain in office for more than two terms.

All Local Government and Ward Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three years unless re-elected by the appropriate Congress for another and last term.

Should a vacancy occur in any of the National Offices, the National Executive Committee shall appoint a substitute subject to ratification at the

next Convention but the Officer so appointed shall remain in office for the remaining period of the term.

Delegates to the Local Government Congress shall serve for three years while Delegates to the State Congress and National Convention shall serve for four years.

Any officer or officers may be removed during his or their tenure through a vote of no confidence against him or them passed by a simple majority of the membership of the Congress or Convention.

### **PARTY CAUCUS**

For effective coordination of the executive, legislative and Party organs, the Party caucus shall consist of:

a. Representation of the Party:

- i. The National Chairman
- ii. The Deputy National Chairman
- iii. The Vice Chairmen
- iv. The National Secretary

b. Representatives of the Executive

- i. The President
- ii. The Vice President
- iii. Two persons nominated by the President if members of the Party

c. Representatives of the Legislature

- i. The Senate President
- ii. The Speaker, House of Representatives if members of the Party
- iii. Leaders of the Party in the Senate and the House of Representatives.

### **COMPOSITION OF THE OFFICERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**

The composition of officers of the Executive Committees at all levels shall reflect the principles of the Federal Character of Nigeria or shall take

account of the geographical diversity of the area in the case of ethnically homogenous States, Local Government Areas and Wards.

## **DISCIPLINE**

- (a) Discipline of members shall be exercised at all levels of the Party by the Executive Committee at that respective level. This shall be governed by due process and all shall be accorded fair hearing.
- (b) The Executive Committees of all levels shall have the power to suspend from membership any member but the power to expel is exclusively reserved to the National Executive Committee (NEC).
- (c) Records of all disciplinary actions taken against any member of the Party, at any level, shall be properly kept and forwarded to the National Headquarters.

## **APPEAL**

A member suspended or disciplined at any level shall have the right of appeal to the immediate higher organ of the Party within 30 days, in that successive order, up to the National Convention; provided that the decision of the National Convention shall be final.

## **PATRONS**

All Branches of the Party shall be free to appoint Patrons, but only at the National level shall there be a Grand Patron. The number of Patron at any Party level shall not exceed six.

## **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT**

The Policies and Manifesto of the Party within the framework of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be supreme.

## **PARTY FINANCE**

The funds of the Party shall be derived from:

- a. Statutory Allocations made by Government in accordance with the Law.
- b. Fees and subscriptions and other lawful levies imposed on members,
- c. Lawful donations, public collection and other lawful means of fund raising.

d. Lawful investments.

### **COMMON SEAL**

The common seal of the Party shall be a design approved by the National Executive Committee and shall be in the custody of the National Secretary of the Party.

### **TRUSTEES**

- (a) There shall be six Trustees of the Party who shall be registered members of the Party and in whom all movable and immovable properties of the Party shall be vested.
- (b) The Trustees shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee subject to the approval of the National Convention and shall hold office at the pleasure of the National Convention.
- (c) The Trustees shall be registered as required by Law.
- (d) The Trustees shall hold all the properties of the Party subject to the directive of the National Executive Committee and shall each sign all documents to which the Common Seal of the Party shall be affixed as required by Law.
- (e) Subject to the directives of the National Executive Committee, the Trustees may prudently invest any money not immediately required for the activities of the Party in such a manner as approved by the National Convention.
- (f) In the event of death, resignation or removal of a Trustee from office, the vacancy shall be filled by the National Executive Committee.
- (g) The National Secretary 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,