

PREAMBLE

Democracy is conventionally defined as “government of the people, by the people”. It is however debatable if Nigeria has had any appreciable form of democracy since independence from Britain in 1960. Our first attempt at democracy and self governance was characterized by political crises and violence, accusations and counter- accusations of vote rigging and general corruption. This unfortunately gave reason for the military to stage its first coup in January 1966, paving way for a long period of military rule.

Nigerians (even our leaders themselves) agree that the greatest problem confronting governance in the land is leadership. Nigeria deserves leadership and government that will listen to the people and do the will of the majority of the people. Our country needs the kind of leadership that can guarantee the masses security in all departments of human existence, be it life of property.

Our Party Hope Democratic Party (HOP) will govern Nigerian on the basis of the popular definition of “government of the people, by the people”. The HOP promises to run a people-centered government that will place premium of the social security and needs of the people. The (HDP) believes that political leaders should see themselves as servants who must do the bidding of the people and not the other way round.

As the name of our party connotes, the Hope Democratic Party is a political party where progressive minded people, determined to change the unprogressive course of goverioi000 in Nigeria, have decided to pitch their tent for the sole purpose of giving moaning to the lives of the suffering masses of this country. And this constitution is node to guide us achieve this objective and more.

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HOPE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Do hereby give to ourselves the following constitution

ARTICLE 1

NAME OF PARTY

The name of the party shall be Hope Democratic Party (here-in after called the party) and its acronym shall be HDP.

ARTICLE 2

SUPREMACY OF PART CONSTITUTION

Subject to the provisions of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Niger, this constitution shall be supreme to any other law, rules and regulation of the party. Where other laws, rules and regulations are inconsistent with the provisions of shall to the extent of its inconsistency null, void and of no effect.

ARTICLE 3

MOTTO AND SLOGAN

The motto of the party shall be "HOPE FOR THE NEW BEGINNING" while the slogan of the party shall be "HDP, HOPE FOR THE NEW BEGINNING".

ARTICLE 4

FLAG AND LOGO

Sky Blue and White, shall be the colours of the flag of the party which is designed in horizontal lines. The logo of the party has a Fish.

ARTICLE 5
REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the party is at plot 12, Road III, Gwarinpa Estate, Abuja

ARTICLE 6
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- i. To promote peace unity in Nigeria
- ii. To promote democratic governance
- iii. To promote the rule of law, equity and justice
- iv. To promote and execute progressive policies in a transparent manner.
- v. To accord Nigerians self-respect and dignity
- vi. To run a people-centred government that will ensure full employment and social amenities for quality life.
- vii. To ensure the security of lives and property of Nigerian
- viii. To preserve of sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- ix. To uphold the independence of Legislature, Judiciary and Freedom of the press
- x. To run a democratic and progressive government where no one is oppressed on the basis of tribe, religion, sex or disability.
- xi. To co-operate with member nations of the United Nations, African Union, Ecowas, the common wealth and other international organization in order to further the best interest of Nigeria.

ARTICLE 7
MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the party shall be open to every citizen of Nigeria irrespective of his/her religion, ethnic group, place of birth, sex, social or economic status, provided that:

- i. The person is not below the age of 18years and is not a member of another political party or if he was such a member, he has resigned such membership.
- ii. A member accepts the aims, objectives, principles, fundamental value, policies and programme of the party.

- iii. A person shall be registered as a member of the Party at the Ward in which he/she normally resides.
- iv. Each member shall pay the prescribed annual membership fee.

ARTICLE 8

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATION OF MEMBERS

- i. Every member shall pay such fees and levies as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the Party or any other body authorized so to do by the National Executive Committee or, 1110 National Convention.
- ii. 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
- iii. 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 provided such member is a current financial member and subject to any qualification, rules, and regulations or the provision of this Constitution.
- iv. Every member shall have the right to vote and be voted for into any office or post of the Party during any election provided such member is and has been active and is a current financial member of the Party continuously for 12 Calendar months.
- v. The first elections to an offices or posts of the Party at the ward, Local, Government, State or National levels shall not be subject to the provision of sub-section (iv) of this section.

ARTICLE 9

PARTY ORGANISATION

There shall be five levels of party organisation namely;

- The Ward
- Local Government Area
- The State
- Zonal and

- The National level

Each of these levels of the party organization shall have a functioning party office. The organizational structure at the State level shall also apply Mutatis mutandis to the mayoralty of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

1. Party Organs

The following shall be the organs of the party:

- i. The Ward Executive Committee
- ii. The Ward Congress
- iii. The Local Government Area Executive Committee
- iv. The Local Government Area Congress
- v. The State Executive Committee
- vi. The State Congress
- vii. The Zonal Executive Committee
- viii. The Zonal Congress
- ix. The National Board of Trustees
- x. The National Executive Committee
- xi. The National Convention

2. Ward Executive Committee

- i. Every Ward of the Party shall have an Executive Committee which shall comprise:
 - a. Chairmen
 - b. Vice-Chairmen
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Publicity Secretary/Organising Secretary
 - f. Youth Leader
 - g. Woman Leader
 - h. Councilor from the ward if he is a member of the party
 - i. Five officio members elected by simple majority at the ward congress
 - j. Members of the National, Zonal, State and Local Government Executive Committee of the party from the ward
 - k. Members of the National Board Trustee from the Ward

- l. Members of the State Assemblies from the Ward, who are members of the party
- m. Political office holders i.e. the President, the Vice President, Federal Minister, Special Advisers and Special Assistant to the Vice President, Governor and State Commissioner, Special Advisers and Special Assistant to Governor and Deputy Governor, Secretary to the Federal Government and Secretary to the State Government, Chairman and members of the Board of Federal and State Parastatals from the Ward who are members of the party
- ii. The Ward Executive Committee meeting shall be summoned by the Ward Chairman
- iii. The Committee shall meet at least twice a month. The quorum for the Executive Committee Meeting shall be five of the members of the Executive Committee.

3. Powers and Functions

Ward Executive Committee shall meet to transact on all the following business:

- i. Identify the main issues (political, economic and social) of concern in the ward;
- ii. Fund raising for the party and candidates
- iii. Membership drive
- iv. Draw up strategies for political campaigns v Mobilization of voters at election time;
- v. Mobilisation of voters at election time;
- vi. General administration of the Ward; and
- vii. Putting into effect decisions of Ward Congress.

4. The Ward Congress

- i. The Ward Congress shall consist of registered members of the party in the ward
- ii. The Ward Congress shall be held at least once in a quarter
- iii. The quorum shall be one-fifth of the registered members in the ward.

5. Powers and Functions

Ward Congress shall be held to transact any or all the following business:

- i. Approve budget for the ward
- ii. Primaries for Local Government Elections
- iii. Elect members of the ward executive committee:
- iv. Elect ward delegates to Party Conferences
- v. Receive report of officers of the ward;
- vi. Receive external Auditors reports;
- vii. Any other business tabled by a registered member

6. Local Government Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

- i. Chairman
- ii. Deputy Chairman
- iii. Ward Chairman
- iv. Secretary
- v. Assistant Secretary
- vi. Treasurer
- vii. Financial Secretary
- viii. Auditor
- ix. Publicity Secretary/Organising Secretary
- x. Legal Adviser
- xi. All ward chairmen
- xii. Woman leader
- xiii. Youth Leader
- xiv. 3 ex-officio members elected by the Congress, one of whom must be a woman
- xv. Members of the National, Zonal, State Executive Committee from the Local government area.
- xvi. Members of the National Board of Trustees for the Local Government.
- xvii. Members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area who are members of the Party
- xviii. All political office holders that is say, the President, Vice President, Federal Ministers, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the President and Vice President, Governors, Deputy Governors, Secretary to the Federal Government and Secretary to the State

Government, Chairman and members of the Board of Federal and State parastatals from the Local Government Area who are members of the party.

- a. The Local Government Area Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a month.
- b. The Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be summoned by the Local Government Chairman or upon application by two-third of the members of Local Government Area Executive.
- c. The Quorum at meetings of the Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be one-fifth of the Membership.

7. Power and Functions

Local Government Executive Committee shall meet to transact any or all the following business;

Identify main issues (political, social and economic of concern in the local government.

Receive reports from Wards on

- a. Membership drive;
- b. Fund raising activities;
- c. Strategies for political campaigns;
- d. Mobilization of voters

Harmonize reports and distribute to all Wards and ensure their implementation.

Provide strategies for effective communication between the wards and other Local Governments.

General administration of the party in the Local Government Putting into effect decisions of Local Government Congress.

Employ and determine the conditions of service (including discipline) of all officials of the Party.

8. Local Government Area Congress

The Local Government Area Congress shall consists of:

All members of the Ward Executive Committee.

All members of the Local Government Executive Committee.

Chairman and Councilors of the Local Government Council belonging to the Party.

Ten members elected by the Ward Congress from each ward within the Local Government Area.

All members of the State House of Assembly and the National Assembly who are all Party members representing constituents in the Local Government Area.

All party office holders at state national levels.

All political office at state and national levels.

9. Meetings

(i) The Local Government Congress shall held at least once in three months. The quorum for the Congress shall be one-third of its members, provided that not less than two-thirds of all the Wards are represented.

10. Powers and Functions

Local Government Conference party shall meet to transact any or all of the following business;

- i. Elect members to the Local Government Executive committee of the party
- ii. Organize primaries for elective offices in State and National Election.
- iii. Elect Local Government party delegate to State Congress and National Convention.
- iv. Approve budget for running Local Government Administrative Headquarters of the Party.
- v. Receive report of External Auditors.

11. State Executive Committee

a. The State Executive committee shall comprises:

- i. State Chairman.
- ii. The Governor and Deputy Governor if produce by the party
- iii. 3DeputyStateChairmen,one from each of the 3 Senatorial zones.
- iv. State Secretary
- v. State Treasurer

- vi. State Financial Secretary
- vii. State Auditor
- viii. State Legal Advisor
- ix. State Publicity Secretary
- x. The Speaker of the Leader of the party in the house of Assembly
- xi. State Women Leader
- xii. State Youth Leader

12. **Meetings**

- i. The State Executive Committee shall meet once every two months.
- ii. It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or any twenty members
- iii. The quorum of the State Executive Committee shall be one-third of the entire membership of the said Committee.

13. **Powers and Functions**

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

- i. Identify main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern in the State.
- ii. General Administration of the Party in the State and putting into effect the decisions of the State Congress or directive from the National Executive Committee or National Congress
- iii. Preparation for Annual Budget
- iv. Employ and determine the constitution service of all Party officials.

14. **State Congress**

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

- (i) The State Chairman and all other State officers.
- (ii) The Governor and Deputy Governor if produce by the Party
- (iii) Five delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Areas.
- (iv) Chairman of Local Government Councils of the state who are members of the Party.
- (v) Chairman of the Local Government Area Executive Committee of the Party

- (vi) All Councils, Legislators at the State House of Assembly and national Assembly who are members of the Party.
- (vii) All Commissioners, Ministers and Special Advisers who are members of the Party.
- (viii) The National Officers of the Party who are from the State.

15. Powers and Functions

State Congress shall meet to transact any or all the following business:

- i. Approve budget of the Party in the State.
- ii. Elect Officers of the state Executive Committee
- iii. Organize Primaries for the Gubernatorial and Presidential Elections.
- iv. Receive Reports of Officers of the Party.
- v. Receive External Auditors Report.

16. Meetings

- i. The State Congress shall meet once in every year on a date and venue to be determined by the State Executive Committee provided that the date chosen shall at least be one month earlier than that of the National Convention
- ii. Special Congress: A Special Congress may be held at any time at the request of the State Executive Committee
- iii. Organize Primaries for the Gubernatorial and Presidential Elections.
- iv. The Agenda of the State Congress shall be held at any time at the request of the State Executive Committee
- v. The quorum of the State Congress shall be the one-third of all the delegates, provided that not less than two-thirds of all the Local Government Areas are represented.

17. Zonal Executive Committee

- i. This shall comprise:
 - a. The Zonal Chairman who shall be the chairman of the committee
 - b. State Governor and their Deputies who are members of the Party
 - c. Members of the National Assembly from the Zone who are members of the Party
 - d. Members of the National Executive Committee from the Zone
 - e. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the Zone

- f. Ministers, Special Advisers and Special Assistance to the President and Vice-President from the Zone who are members of the Party
 - g. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Party Leader and Party Whip of the State House of Assemblies from the Zone who are members of the Party.
 - h. The Zonal Secretary who shall be the Secretary of the Committee
 - i. State Chairman and State Secretaries of the Party from the Zone
 - j. The Zonal Treasurer
 - k. The Zonal Financial Secretary
 - l. The Zonal Publicity Secretary
 - m. The Zonal Legal Adviser (who shall be Legal Practitioner of at least five (5) years standing)
 - n. The Zonal Woman Leader
 - o. The Zonal Youth Leader
 - p. One Ex-Officio member from each of the States in the Zone.
- ii. The Zonal Executive Committee shall meet at least once every quarter provided that the Chairman or two-third of the members of the Committee shall have power to summon an extra ordinary meeting.
 - iii. The Quorum of the Zonal Executive Committee shall be one-third of the membership of the Committee.
 - iv. The Zonal Executive Committee shall have the power of co-option,

18. The Zonal Congress

- i. There shall be a Zonal Congress of the Party which shall consist of all delegates to the National convention from the zone
- ii. The Zonal Congress will meet every 2years. It will alternate with the Zonal Party Conference, which will be convened bi-annually

19. National Executive Committee

- i. The National Executive Committee shall consist of.
 - a. National Chairman.
 - b. The President and Vice-President if produced by the party
 - c. Two Deputy National Chairmen (North and South)
 - d. National Secretary.
 - e. Deputy National Secretary
 - f. National Treasurer.

- g. Deputy National .Treasurer.
 - h. National Financial Secretary
 - i. Deputy National Financial Secretary
 - j. National Publicity Secretary
 - k. Deputy National Publicity Secretary
 - l. National Legal Adviser
 - m. Deputy National Legal Adviser
 - n. National Auditor
 - o. Deputy National Auditor
 - p. National Organizing Secretary
 - q. Deputy National Organising Secretary
 - r. The President Leader of the party in the Senate
 - s. The Speaker or Leader of the Party in the House or Representatives.
 - t. All State Governors who are members of the Party
 - u. All state Chairmen including that of the Abuja
 - v. National Organizing Secretary
 - w. The Woman Leader
 - x. The National Youth Leader.
 - y. Three (3) elected members at least one of whom shall be a woman from each of the six (6) geo-political zones
- ii. The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once in a quarter.
 - iii. The National Executive committee shall meet at the request of two- third (2/3) of its membership who shall notify the Chairman at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting.
 - iv. The Quorum for the meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be one quarter (1/4) of the members of the Committee.

20. The National Board of Trustee

There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Party, which shall comprise the following:

- i. Three (3) elected members from each of the six (6) geo-political zones
Persons so elected shall not seek further elective office in the Party.
- ii. One woman from each of the six (6) geo-political zones
- iii. All serving and past National Chairmen and National Secretaries of the Party

- iv. All serving and past Presidents and Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria provided that they held the respective posts as members of the Party. All serving and past President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representative, provided that they held the respective post as members of the Party.
- v. Any member of the Party that the Board of trustees deems it fit to appoint as members of the Board of Trustees. Such appointment shall be subject to ratification at the Party's convention.
- vi. The National Board of Trustees shall be registered under the (Land Perpetual Act)
- vii. The Trustees from each zones shall elect a person from amongst whom shall be registered along with the Board of Trustees to be known as Registered Board of Trustees.
- viii. The Board of Trustees shall have elected Chairman and Secretary from among its members.
- ix. The common seal of the party shall be in the custody of the secretary of the Board.
- x. Membership of the board is for five (5) years which is renewable for another period of (5) years only.
- xi. The board shall meet at the request of members or at the instance of the National Executive Committee.

21. National Caucus

- i. The National CaLicus of the Party shall consist of the:
 1. All State Governors who are members of the Party.
 2. The two Deputy Chairmen (North and South)
 3. The Six (6) Zonal Chairmen.
 4. The Chairman and Secretary of the National Board of Trustees.
 5. Other members of the National Board of Trustees, who shall, however, not have any voting rights
 6. Other members of the National Board of Trustees, who shall, however, not have any voting rights.
 7. All State Chairmen including those of the Federal Capital Territory
 8. The National Secretary
 9. The Deputy National Secretary
 10. The National Treasurer

11. The Deputy National Treasurer
12. The National Financial Secretary
13. The Deputy National Financial Secretary
14. The National Organizing Secretary
15. The Deputy National Organizing Secretary
16. The National Publicity Secretary
17. The Deputy National Publicity Secretary
18. The President and Vice-President, if produced by the Party
19. The Senate President and Deputy Senate President, the Leader and Deputy Leader, the Chief Whip and
20. Deputy Chief Whip of the Party in the Senate who are members of the Party.
21. The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, the Leader and Deputy Leader, the Chief Whip and Deputy Chief whip of the Party in the House of Representative who are members of the Party.
22. Two Deputy National Chairmen and National Treasurer.
23. The Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees and six(6) other Trustees, one from each of the six (6) geo-political zones
24. The National Secretary, who shall be the Secretary of the Caucus.
25. The Attorney General of the Federation, if produced by the Party.
26. The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, if produced by the Party.
27. Three (3) members of the Party who are Federal Ministers to be nominated to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
28. The Political Adviser and the Adviser on National Assembly matters to the President if produced by the Party.

- ii. The National Caucus shall have the power of co-option
- iii. The Quorum Caucus shall be one half of its members.
- iv. The National Chairman shall, in consultation with the President summon the meeting of the Caucus from time to time to consider important issues affecting the Party and the Nation.

22. National Convention

- i. The National Convention of the party shall consist of:
 - a. The President and Vice-President produced by the Party.

- b. All members of the National Executive Committee.
- c. All Governors and Deputy Governors who are members of the Party.
- d. All members of the National Assembly who are members other Party.
- e. All Special Adviser to the President who are member of the Party.
- f. All members of the Federal Executive Council who are members of the Party.
- g. All State legislators who are members of the Party.
- h. All State Commissioners who are members of the Party
- i. All Party Chairmen and Secretaries of State Executive Committee.
- j. One elected delegate from each Local Government Area.

ii. Meetings

- a. The National Convention shall be held once in every year on a date to be appointed by the National Executive Committee.
- b. A Special National Convention may be held at any time at the request of the President, National Executive Committee or of two thirds of all State Executive Committee.
- c. A Special National Convention shall meet only to discuss matter which shall be specified in the notices summoning the Conventions

iii. Quorum

- a. The quorum of the National Convention shall be one-third of all the delegates provided that not less than two-thirds of all the states of the Federation and Abuja represented.
- b. Decisions reached and measured approved by the Convention shall be final be binding on all Party organs, branches and members.
- c. Voting at the Convention shall be in a manner to be determined by the Rules and procedures for the Convention provided that every delegates shall have only one vote.

- d. Party Administrative staff who shall be in attendance shall not vote.
- e. The National Executive Committee shall make the Rules and procedures for the Convention subject to ratification by the National Convention

iv. Power and Functions

- a. The final authority of the Party shall rest with National Convention which shall, to the exclusion of all other organs, have the power to decide the Nation-wide policies and programmes of the Party and amend this Constitution.
- b. The National Convention, shall subject to the provision of the Constitution, have the power to:
 - 1. Consider and determine policy matters for the Party;
 - 2. Elect or remove the National Officers;
 - 3. Receive, debate and ratify reports from the Electoral Nomination Committee of the Party; elect the President Candidate of the Party and his running mate;
 - 4. Demand and receive from the National Executive Committee and from any other Committees or organs of the Party and take appropriate decisions on their reports or recommendations;
 - 5. Create, elect and appoint any committee it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such power and functions as it may deem fit and proper;
 - 6. 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;
 - 7. Examine the actions taken or legislations being proposed or passed by any Government Legislative House or Local Government Council and determine what further actions the Party should take;
 - 8. Examine the actions and policies pursued and legislations made in order to ensure that they are in accordance with the

- principles or policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party and if not to make recommendations or take such actions as are necessary;
9. Secure at all elections the return of as many Party Candidate as possible, so as to generally have control of the Legislative and, Executive branches of the Governments in the Federation.
 10. 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;
 11. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party;
 12. Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs, officers and members of the Party and determine appeals brought before it by any member organ of the Party;
 13. Determine the type, nature and membership of standing committees to be set up by the Party's National Convention Committee.
 14. Review or amend the Constitution of the Party from time to time.
 15. Delegate any of its power to the National Executive Committee or any organ of the Party:
 16. Take any actions as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down in this constitution;
 17. Exercise such other cover and authority as are vested in it by this constitution.

ARTICLE 10

POWER & FUNCTIONS OF PARTY ORGANS

A. Zonal Working Committee

- a. The Zonal Working Committee shall be responsible for day-to-day administration of the Party at the Zonal level and shall be responsible to the Zonal Executive Committee.

- b. Acts as Liaison between the National Secretariat and the State Chapters in the Zone and vice versa.
- c. Prepare and submit report for the consideration of the Zonal Executive Committee.
- d. It shall perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the Zonal Executive Committee.

B. Zonal Executive Committee.

1. The Zonal Executive shall meet at least once every two months and functions shall be as follows:
 - a. To harmonize, co-ordinate and review all activities of the Party within the Zone.
 - b. To establish ad-hoc or standing committees of the party within the Zone and appoint members to such committees.
 - c. To summon and prepare agenda for the Zonal congress
 - d. To prepare and submit reports and budgets for the consideration of the zonal congress.
 - e. To carry out any other function assigned to it by the National Executive Committee.
2. The meeting of the Zonal Executive Committees shall be summoned by the Zonal Chairman or at the request of two-third of its members.

C. Zonal Congress

The functions of the Zonal Congress shall be as follows:

- i. To approve the budget of the Party in the Zone;
- ii. To elect officers of the Zonal working Committee;
- iii. To receive the report of officers of the Party in the Zone;
- iv. To receive the Auditor's report.

D. National Working Committee

The National Working Committee, shall perform the following functions;

- i. Be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Party and shall be responsible to the National Executive Committee
- ii. In case of emergency the National Working Committee shall act on behalf of the National Executive Committee

- iii. The National Working Committee shall perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by National Executive Committee

E. National Caucus

There shall be a National Caucus, which shall meet from time to time to consider urgent and important issues affecting the Party and shall coordinate and harmonize the relations between, and the activities of, the executive and legislative arms of the government and the party.

F. National Board of Trustees

1. There shall be a National Boards of Trustees, which shall
 - i. Ensure highest standards of morality in all the activities of the Party by acting as the conscience of the Party. with power to call to order any officer of the Party whose conduct fails below the norms
 - ii. Ensure high moral of members of the Party, and ensure that Party enjoys a good image before the National populace and that the Party is in good political health.
 - iii. Harmonize, coordinate, review and advise on policies, programmes and activities of the Party at National Level
 - iv. Be vested with the assets of the Party and shall serve as custodians of such assets
 - v. Coordinate the sourcing of Party funds
 - vi. Mediate in dispute between the executive and legislative arms of government.
 - vii. Carry out such other functions and activities as may be referred to it by the National Executive Committee or the National Convention.
 - viii. Give on any Party matter to the National Executive Committee of the Party.
2. Member of the Board of Trustees may attend any meetings of any organ of the Party, except the National Caucus
3. The Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall be members of the National Executive Committee.
4. A Trustees may be removed from office by a resolution of the National Convention on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, on the ground of infirmity or misconduct.

5. A Trustees may resign his membership of the Board of Trustees by tendering a letter to that effect to the Chairman.
6. Any vacancy on the Board of Trustees shall be filled by the Board subject to ratification by the National Convention.
7. The Board of Trustees shall regulate its own proceeding and shall draw up a code of conduct which shall be binding on the members.

G. The National Executive Committee

The National Executive Committee shall:

- a. Summon the National Convention and prepare its agenda
- b. Prepare and submit reports and budget for the approval of the National convention.
- c. Prepare financial guidelines for the approval of the National Convention
- d. Initiate policies and programmes for the approval of the National Convention.
- e. Deal with appeals and other matter referred to it by the Zones or States of the Federation.
- f. Make rules for Party discipline which shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.
- g. Make Party electoral regulations to govern the conduct of elections to all Party offices at every level and regulate procedure of selecting party candidates for elective offices.
- h. Ratify conditions of services of the secretariat staff of the Party.
- i. Co-operation such persons as it shall deem necessary or ex-pedient to attend its meeting and participate in its deliberation provided that such persons shall have no voting right.
- j. Make standing orders for the approval of the national convention.
- k. Deal with any other matter referred to it by the National Convention or the Board of Trustees.
- l. Establish ad-hoc or standing committee of the Party and appoint members to such committee
- m. Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by this Constitution.
- n. Shall in consultation with the Board of Trustees appointments and outstanding Party leaders to the position of patriarch or members

emeritus who shall have the right of attendance at all meeting of all party organs.

- o. The National Executive Committee shall from time to time examine the actions, policies, programmes pursued and legislation made or proposed by Government in the Federation (produced by the Party) in order to ascertain that they are in accord with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives and the manifesto of the Party and make the necessary recommendation or take any appropriate action.
- p. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party
- q. Recommend the minimum rates of annual subscription payable by
- r. Recommend the proportion of income each Ward, Local Government and State shall remit to the National Secretariat form its subscription.
- s. Decisions of the National executive Committee shall be binding on al organs and members of the Party.

H. The National Convention

The National Convention shall exercise the final authority of the Party and shall be vested with such powers as:

- a. Formulate policies and programmes for the Party.
- b. Elect or remove the National Officers of the Party.
- c. Elect the Presidential candidate of the Party.
- d. Demand and receive report from the National Executive Committee and from any other committee or organ of the party and take appropriate actions.
- e. Appoint any committee it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such powers and functions, as it may deem fit and proper
- f. Examine the actions taken or legislation proposed or passed by any government, legislative house of local government council and determines what further action the Party should take.
- g. Secure at all elections the return of as many Party candidates as possible, in order, generally to have control of the legislative and executive arms of government in the federation.
- h. Consider reports from the State and Local Government branches of the Party and take such decisions and actions as are necessary to protect, advance and consolidate the gains and interest of the Party.

- i. Raise adequate fund for the management of the Party
- j. Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs, officers and members of the Party.
- k. Determine or approve the type and membership to standing committees to beset by the National Executive Committee
- l. Review, or amend the Party Constitution from time to time as need arises.
- m. Delegate any of its power to the National Executive Committee or to any other organ or member of the Party
- n. Take any action as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party.
- o. Appoint External Auditors to Audit the Party's Accounts.
- p. Exercise such other powers and authority as are vested in it by this consideration
- q. Ratify the minimum rate of annual subscription to be paid by members and the proportion of income from such subscription to be remitted to the Party National Secretariat

ARTICLE 11

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF PARTY OFFICERS

A. National Officers

1. The National Chairman

The National Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the Party with the following powers:

- i. Summon and preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee of the Party.
- ii. Provide good and effective leadership and direct the activities for the Party under the overall supervision of the National Executive Committee.
- iii. Provide and defend the integrity, policies and programmes of the Party and make pronouncements for and on behalf of the National executive outlining the policies/programmes and activities of the Party.
- iv. Assign specific functions to any member or officer of the Party;

- v. Delegate his powers to the Deputy National Chairmen and zonal chairmen;
- vi. Casting votes if and when necessary;
- vii. Present to the National Convention a comprehensive statement of the State of the Party and political situation generally.

2. The Deputy National Chairmen

- i. In the absence of the National Chairman, the Deputy National Chairmen from the Chairman's Zone shall preside at meetings and act on his behalf, in his absence the other Deputy National Chairman shall preside
- ii. Each Deputy National Chairman shall be assigned specific functions and shall perform other Party functions and as may be assigned to him by the National Convention, the National Executive Committee and the National chairman.

3. National Secretary

The National Secretary shall be the Chief Administrative and Accounting Officer of the Party and is vested with the following power:

- i. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the party.
- ii. Conduct or direct the conduct of the correspondences of the Party and cause to be issued notices of meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working committee
- iii. Cause to be kept all records and records of proceeding of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee as well as the other records of the Party.
- iv. Render a written annual report of the activities of the Party.
- v. Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National convention, the National executive Committee and ensure that all units of the Party carry out their duties promptly and properly.
- vi. Carry out any duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the National Convention, the national Caucus, the National Executive Committee and the National Chairman.

4. The Deputy National Secretary

The Deputy National Secretary shall assist the National Secretary in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

5. The National Treasurer

The National Treasurer shall be the Chief custodian of the funds of the Party and is vested with the following powers:

- i. Receive and promptly pay into the Party's accounts all monies received for an on behalf of the Party and keep all cheque books and other banking documents of the Party.
- ii. Ensure prudent management of the Party's funds.
- iii. Ensure that all funds received by the Party are duly received and paid into the Party's accounts within 48hours of collection.
- iv. Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account and periodic reports to the National Executive Committee

6. The Deputy National Treasurer

The Deputy National Treasurer shall assist the National Treasurer in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

7. The National Financial Secretary

- i. Collect and keep record of all dues, levies, subscriptions and donations paid or maid to the Party.
- ii. Prepare and submit proposals for raising funds for the Party for the consideration of the National Executive Committee.
- iii. Undertake strict supervision of budgeting, budgetary control and financial reporting.
- i. iv, Protect Assets of the Party and institute operating procedures through internal control
- iv. Establish and co-ordinate policies for the investment of funds to generate income for the Party.

8. Deputy National Financial Secretary

The Deputy National Financial Secretary shall assist the National Financial Secretary in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

9. The National Organizing Secretary

The National Organizing Secretary shall have the following powers:

- i. Initiate programmes for the general mobilization of Party members and recruitment of new members.
- ii. Appraise the problems the Party and propose solutions to such problems.
- iii. Harmonize information and device appropriate strategy for winning election.
- iv. Implement and co-ordinate all field activities of the party.
- v. Organize seminars, workshops, rallies and campaign programmes for the attainment of the Party objectives.
- vi. Liaise with the National Women and Youth leaders for harmonization of programmes for the attainment of the Party's victory at all elections.

10. The Deputy National Organization Secretary

- i. The Deputy National Organization Secretary shall assist the National Organization Secretary in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

11. The National Publicity Secretary

The National Publicity Secretary is vested with the following power:

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

12. Deputy National Publicity Secretary

- i. The Deputy National Publicity Secretary shall assist the National Publicity Secretary in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

13. The National Auditor

The National Auditor of the Party shall carry out the following functions

- i. Audit the book of Account of the Party annually and shall report to the National executive Committee

- ii. Present the audited account of the Party to the National Convention annually.
- iii. Carry out any other function as may be required by the National executive Committee.

14. The Deputy National Auditor

- i. The Deputy National Auditor shall assist the National Auditor in the discharge of his duties and shall deputize for him his absence or whenever so directed.

15. The National Legal Adviser

The National Legal Adviser of the Party shall:

- i. Advise the Party on Legal Matters
- ii. Arrange for the conduct of litigation and defense of actions on behalf of the Party, including its organs and officials as far as the subject of litigation affects the Party's interest.
- iii. Interpret the law, regulation and Constitution of the party in the event of any ambiguities

16. Deputy National Legal Adviser

There shall be a Deputy National Legal Adviser who will perform such functions as may be assigned to him by the National Legal Adviser and deputize for him in his absence.

17. The National Women Leader

The National Women Leader shall:

- i. Be responsible for women mobilization and organization.
- ii. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies aimed at endearing the Party to Nigeria women.
- iii. Co-ordinate activities of the Zonal and State Women Leaders.

18. The Deputy National Women Leader

There shall be a Deputy National Women Leader who shall perform such duties and functions as may be assigned to her by the National Women Leader and shall deputize for her absence or whenever so directed.

19. The National Youth Leader

The National Youth Leader shall:

- i. Be responsible for mobilization youth for the attainment of Party objectives
- ii. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies aims at endearing the Party to Nigeria Youths.
- iii. Co-ordinate activities of the Zonal and State Youth Leaders.

20. The Deputy National Youth Leader

There shall be a Deputy National Youth Leader who shall perform such functions as may assigned to her by the National Youth Leader and I deputize for him in his absence or whenever so directed.

A. Officers at Other Levels

- i. Subject to the provision of this Constitution all other officers at the Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels shall have the same powers and function as their corresponding National Officers.
- ii. The Executive Committee at all levels shall have power to setup committees where necessary, desirable or expedient and shall assign to them such powers and functions as may be deemed fir and proper.

B. Principle of Federal Character

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution, the principle of Federal Character shall be observed in the appointment or election or members of the Executive Committees at all level of the Party.

C. Removal or Resignation

In the crest of his removal or resignation from office, a Party Officer shall immediately hand over to the Chairman's nominees, all records, tiles and other properties of the Party in his possession. In the case of the Chairman he shall hand over to the Secretary at the appropriate level.

ARTICLE 12

DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

A. Discipline

- i. Discipline of Party Members shall be exercised by the respective Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee of the party depending on the level at which disciplinary measure is called for.
- ii. Any member of the party who is alleged in have clone of the following shall be liable to be punished if found guilty by the appropriate Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee of he party-
 - (a) A breach of any of the Provisions of this constitution
 - (b) Anti-party activities or conducting himself in a manner, which is likely to embarrass the party of bring the party into hatred, contempt, ridicule or dispute in whatever manner
 - (c) Disobedience or negligence in carrying out lawful directives of the party or of the officers of the party.
 - (d) Flouting the rulings of decisions of the party, engaging in dishonest practices defrauding the party, Continuously being absent at meetings, carrying out anti-party propaganda or any other activities which would tend to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient organization of the party or which activities are inconsistent with the achievement of the aims and objectives of the party.
 - (e) Assuming names and titles not recognized by the Constitution giving wrong information to any organ of the party i unauthorized publicity of Party dispute without exhausting all avenues of settlements or redress within the Party.

B. Punishment

- (i) Punishment may be imposed by the party as disciplinary measures against any of its members and the gravity of punishment shall depend upon the seriousness and circumstances of each case.
- (ii) Punishment to be imposed may take the form of
 - a) Expulsion from the party
 - b) Suspension for a specified period
 - c) (c Removal from office
 - d) Debarring from office
 - e) Fine
 - f) Reprimand.

- (iii) The Executive Committee at each level of the Party shall have the power to decide any of the disciplinary measures against any of its members as specified in sub-section above.
- (iv) Every member shall have the right of fair hearing in all matters that affect him with regards to discipline
- (v) The National headquarters shall be notified, through the next high organ of the party, if any, of all, of all disciplinary actions taken against any member of the Party and records of such actions shall be kept.

C. Appeal

Any member aggrieved by a decision of any of the organs of the Party, in pursuant of Article 8, of this Constitution, shall have the right of appeal within 30 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the party, in toil successive order, up to the National Convention provided that the decision of the National Convention shall be final.

ARTICLE 13 REGISTRATION

(i) Register of 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 Area
- (c) The State, and
- (d) The National Secretarial.

(ii) Subscription Rate

The National Executive Committee shall recommend to the Convention –

- (a) The minimum rates of subscription that shall apply for the ensuring year
- (b) The proportion of subscription income which each Ward, Local Government Area State shall remit to the National Secretariat.

ARTICLE 14 TENURE OF OFFICE

- (i) 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

- (ii) All local Government and Ward Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three year unless re-elected by the appropriate Congress.
- (iii) Any officer elected into the National Executive Council or State, Local Government Ward Executive Committee may resign his office by giving a 30 days notice in writing to the appropriate Executive Committee.
- (iv) Should a vacancy occur in any of the offices, the Executive committee shall appoint a substitute, subject to ratification at the next Congress. Officers so appointed shall remain in office for the unexpired period of the term.
- (v) Any officer or officers may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence against him or them passed by a simple majority of the membership of the Congress or Convention.

ARTICLE 15

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

- (i) The Party Secretary at each level of government shall establish and supervise Party employees within their respective levels.
- (ii) The Party shall employ full-time Administrative Staff which at the minimum shall include the following-
 - a. An Administrative Secretary
 - b. An Accountant
 - c. An Auditor
 - d. Librarian
 - e. Social Secretary/Welfare Office
 - f. Such other staff as the various party organs may deem fit to employ for the effective running of their affairs,

ARTICLE 16

ELECTIONS OF PARTY OFFICERS

- (i) The National, State and Local Government and the Ward Congress 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
- (ii) Every registered and financially up to date member who has satisfied the requirements for nominations and elections under this Constitution and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria eligible to contest for Party office. provided that paid officials of the party are also eligible

to contest for party office, provided that paid officials of the party are also eligible to contest as long as they relinquish their posts before they contest such elections.

ARTICLE 17

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 to this Constitution before a Commissioner for Oaths or a Notary Public.

ARTICLE 18

BANK ACCOUNT

- (i) The Party shall maintain Bank Accounts in the Headquarters, city or town of its various levels of organization. Provided that where banking facilities are not available, the services of the nearest bank shall be utilized.
- (ii) The Banks Accounts shall be decided by the Executive Committee of that level of organization.
- (iii) Any two of the following officers of the Party, as the case may be, shall be valid signatories to the party's Bank Account and other financial transactions:-
 - a) The National Chairman and his counterparts at State, Local and Government and Ward levels.
 - b) The National secretary and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward levels.
 - c) The national Treasurer and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward levels.

Audit of Accounts

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

ARTICLE 19

AMENDMENTS

- i. The Party shall have the Power to amend this Constitution or the Schedules hereto provided that no amendment shall be made except at the National Convention of the party, and then only by a majority consisting of not less than two-thirds of those persons present and voting at the congress.
- ii. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to the National Secretary at least two months before the date of the National Convention. The notice shall be in writing, shall contain a clear statement of the amendment and reasons for same.
- iii. Notice of the amendment shall be given to the members of the National Convention at least one month before the date of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered.

ARTICLE 20

INTERPRETATION

Any question as to the meaning of any section of this Constitution or the schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Executive Committee whose ruling shall be final

SCHEDULE 1

MEMBERSHIP RULES

A. Registration

- i. Prospective members of the Party shall be registered through Ward branches to which they shall have applied and subsequently accented and enrolled as party members.
- ii. Members shall receive membership cards through their Ward branched of the party upon payment of the prescribed fees.

B. Renewals

- (i) Membership of the Party shall be annually on payment of the prescribed subscription fees.
- (ii) Membership shall automatically apse if the subscription fee of a member is not received within three months after the due date provided that a member whose membership terminates in this

matter shall be re-admitted into the Party upon the payment of all arrears of the said subscription.

- (iii) Provided that in an election year only members who had paid their subscription 3 months before primaries shall be eligible to vote and be voted for.

SCHEDULE 2

STAFF RULES

- (i) The Party employs Full-Time Administrative Secretary, Accountant Auditor, Social Secretary/welfare Officer, Librarian and such other staff as may be deemed necessary.
- (ii) All employees of the Party are subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, State, Local Government Committee at the case maybe, through the National, State, Local Government Secretary of (Ire Party).
- (iii) 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 Committee and all other authorized organs of the party.
- (iv) Any employee of the party who acts or behaves in a manner likely to bring contempt or ridicule to the party or its officers or takes part in subversive activities against the Party or its officers shall, if found guilty, be immediately relieved of his post and may in addition be expelled from the party.
- (v) The National Executive Committee or the Executive Committee of other levels of the party shall fix the remuneration and other conditions of service of all employees of the party at each level of the party organization.
- (vi) All the Administrative Staff of the Party referred to in Schedule 2 of this Constitution are paid officials of the Party employed to run the various Administrative activities of the party at the various levels of the Party organization and do not include the officers of the party elected at the Congresses.

Nomination of Party Staff for Executive or Legislative Offices.

- (i) No employees of the Party shall stand for nomination to enable him or her contest any election unless he resigns his office before doing so.

SCHEDULE 3

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTIONS

A. Presidential Nominations

- (i) The country shall form one single Constituency for the purpose of nomination a Presidential candidate of the Party. All aspirants seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the National Convention specially convened for that purpose, provided that the nomination of each candidate is supported by at least fourteen states of the Federation.
- (ii) The Candidate that wins more than fifty percent of the votes of the total delegate 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.
- (iii) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (ii) above, there shall be a second ballot in which the first two candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly for nominated.

B. Gubernatorial Nominations

- (i) The State form one single Constituency for the purpose of nominating a Gubernatorial candidate of the party. All aspirants 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.
- (ii) The candidate that wins more than fifty percent of the votes of the total delegated of the Special Congress shall be considered duly nominated, provided he has not less than one-third of the votes cast as the nomination in each of at least two-thirds of all the Local Government Areas in the States.
- (iii) Where in the first ballot no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (ii) above, there shall be a second ace of in which toe first two candidates scoring the highest votes n the first ballot shall be eligible to contest and the candidate with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

C. Nomination of Local Government Chairmen

- (i) The Local Government Area shall form one single Constituency for the Purpose of nominating a Local Government Council Chairman candidate of the Party. All aspirant seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the Local Government Area Conference specially convened for that purpose. Provided that each applicant is supported by at least twenty registered members of the Party from the Local Government Area.

- (ii) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (i) 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 candidates with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

D. Nomination of National Assembly Members

- (i) All aspirants seeking nomination to the senate or the House of Representatives shall submit themselves to senatorial district/Federal Constituency Conference specially convened for that purpose, provided that each aspirant is supported by at least twenty registered members of the Party from two thirds Senatorial District/Federal Constituency.

- (ii) Where in the first ballot, no candidate fulfills the condition laid down in (I) 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 candidates with a simple majority of the votes cast shall be considered duly nominated.

E. Nomination of Local Government Ward Councilors

- (i) Each Ward shall form one Constitution for the purpose of nominating a Local Government Ward Councillor candidate of the Party. All aspirants seeking nomination shall submit themselves to the Ward General Meeting specially convened for that purpose provided that each applicant is supported by a least twenty registered members of the party from the Ward.

- (ii) The candidate that wins more than fifty percent of (ho votes of the total delegates of the special general meeting shall be considered duly nominated.

F. Conduct of Nominations

- (i) The National Executive Council shall appoint a Sub-Committee which shall conduct the nominations for the Gubernatorial and Presidential.
- (ii) In the case of Presidential and Gubernatorial nominations, the Executive Council may direct the nomination Sub-Committee to conduct primary Elections within the Party for the purpose of trimming down the number of the candidates to such number as may be determined by the National Executive Council for the nomination Convention or Congress, as the case may be.
- (iii) The State Executive Committee shall appoint a Sub-committee which shall conduct the Nominations for the Candidates of the Party for the National and State Assemblies.
- (iv) 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.

G. Each Nomination Sub-Committee shall be ad-hoc and shall cease to exist as soon as it has performed its functions and the nomination has been ratified.

H. Criteria for Nomination Clearance

Criteria for Party Clearance for Nomination in the wards, State Constituencies, Federal Constituencies and Senatorial Zones shall be as follows:

- (a) A candidates for Elections must be a registered member of the Party.
- (b) He must satisfy the requirements for Elections under the country's Constitutions and Electoral Law

- (c) No incumbent President, Governor, Legislator, Chairman of Council and Councillor Can relinquish his or her Position midway in order to run for another office.

SCHEDULE 4

RULES OF CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

A. PROCEEDINGS

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

B. Motions

- (i) No motion shall be entertained at a meeting unless at least seven clear days notice of such motion has ben given to the Secretary or the Chairman, except-
 - a) A motion for the adjournment of the meeting
 - b) A motion that any subject be referred to a committee of members of the party of some other appropriate body
 - c) A motion proposing an amendment to some other motion.
 - d) A motion proposing that a particular member should be authorized to speak for more than ten minutes
- (ii) The Chairman of meeting shall be entitled at his discretion to dispense with the requirement to give notice of motion in any case where it is necessary for reasons of urgency to do so.
- (iii) A motion on amendment shall not he open for discussion until it shall have been seconded
- (iv) A motion or amendment may be withdrawn at any time at the request of the mover and with the consent of the: Chairman
- (v) A member shall be permitted to speak on any subject at any meeting for longer than 30 minutes unless the majority of the members present agree that he should speak for a longer time.
- (vi) A member must confine his observation to the subject under discussion and may not introduce irrelevant matter thereto.

- (vii) No member shall be permitted to re-open any specific question upon which the meeting has come to a conclusion, except upon a motion for which due notice shall have been given.
- (viii) No member shall use offensive, insulting or intemperate language about any other member of the party, or impute improper motive to such member.
- (ix) A member shall speak more than once on any topic except the mover of a motion or amendment who shall be permitted to wind up after the subject of such motion or amendment has been debated provided that a member who has spoken on a subject may again be heard at the discretion of the Chairman to offer explanation on some material part of his speech which has been misunderstood.
- (x) The provision of paragraph (x) to this above, shall not apply to meetings of the National Executive, State, Local Government, or Wad Executive Committees.
- (xi) Any member deviating from any of the provision of these rules may be immediately called to order by the Chairman or by a member rising to a point of order.
- (xii) A member rising to a point of order shall simply direct attention to the point he desire to bring to notice and submit it to the Chairman for a decision.
- (xiii) No member shall leave any meeting except with the permission or the Chairman
- (xiv) At any time in the course of a debate any member shall be entitled to move that the question be now put” and, unless it shall appear to the Chairman that such motion is premature, the meeting shall be entitled to decide without amendment or debate whether the question should be put at that stage of the debate provided that a motion that the question be now put” shall be prejudice the right of a mover of a motion or amendment to wind up.
- (xv) Any member whose conduct is disorderly at any meeting, or who refuses to withdraw an offensive or insulting language after he has been told by the Chairman to do so, maybe asked to leave the meeting.
- (xvi) Unless the Constitution otherwise prescribes, voting on any subject shall be by show of hands.

**SCHEDULE 5
OATHS**

Oath of Allegiance

I,do solemnly Swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the Hope Democratic Party and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that I will preserve, elect defend the Constitution of the Hope Democratic Party and the (uiiOllt[iti]ii 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 Hope Democratic Party, I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the Hope Democratic Party and the Law, and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the Hope Democratic Party and of 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 do right to all the members and organs of the party and to all circumstances, I will do right to all the members and organs of the party and to all manner of people, according to law without fear or favour, affection of ill-will; that I will not directly or indirectly communicates 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 maybe required for the dun discharge of my duties, and that will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria.

So Help Me God