

**THE  
CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
NATIONAL RESCUE MOVEMENT  
NRM**

## **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL RESCUE MOVEMENT, NRM**

### **PREAMBLE:**

We, citizens of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, desirous to constitute ourselves into a political party; to provide for a constitution for the purpose of effective governance of our party and for the advancement of its aims and objectives of the party; conscious of the need to:

1. Preserve and promote the sovereignty, unity and progress of the Federal Republic of Nigeria by guaranteeing the security and welfare of the people;
2. Promote a national polity based on social justice, freedom, equality, egalitarianism, rule of law, peace and progress of all our people;
3. Promote a society which guarantees equality of opportunity for all Nigerians free from any form of discrimination;
4. Establish a government whose policies shall guarantee the protection of and safety for all citizens of Nigeria and their property at all times in all parts of Nigeria;
5. Encourage the culture of service to humanity as the *raison d'être* for participation in politics and to reinvent the polity by promoting the values of Patriotism, Humility in Service for Prosperity, Unity in Diversity, Brotherhood for Peace; Productivity for Self-Reliance; Selfless Service for Egalitarianism; and Honesty in Development.

**DO HEREBY MAKE AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THE FOLLOWING CONSTITUTION**

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **PRIMACY OF THE PARTY CONSTITUTION**

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or any other law for the time being in force in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the provisions of this Constitution shall have supremacy over any person, provisions, rules or regulations of the party.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **2.1 PARTY IDENTITY**

#### **1. NAME**

The name of the party shall be **National Rescue Movement, NRM.**

#### **2. MOTTO**

The Motto of the Party shall be:

**Rule of Law for Peace, Productivity for Prosperity;**

#### **3. LOGO**

The logo of the party shall be a honey bee embossed on circular white background inside a golden colour circumference. The honey bee represents the rich natural resources of Nigeria and the productive potentials of its people. The white circle represents peace and hope while the golden line represents the honey produced by the bee signifying service to humanity.

#### **4. FLAG**

The Flag of the Party shall be a map of Nigeria shaded in black on a red background with a honey bee embossed on a white circular background inside the map.

#### **5. SLOGAN**

The slogan of the party shall be; **NRM - Rescue Nigeria.**

## **ARTICLE 3**

### **3.1 REGISTERED OFFICE**

The registered office of the party shall be situate within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, and it shall serve as the National Secretariat of the Party with offices in every State Capital, Local Government and Area Council Headquarters, and in all Wards and in all Polling Units of the Federation.

## ARTICLE 4

### 4.1 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- i. The aims of the party shall be in conformity with the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy as enshrined in Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and accordingly, the Party shall pursue the political, economic, social, educational, and other objectives as well as the Directive Principles and Policies stated in the said Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- ii. The objectives of the party shall be to:
  - (a) Attain political power through democratic and constitutional means for the purpose of creating socio-economic conditions in which the productive energies of individual citizens and corporate groups are enhanced and utilized for national development.
  - (b) 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.
  - (c) Promote participatory democracy at all levels of the government in the belief that sovereignty belongs to the people from whom government, through the Nigerian Constitution, derives all its powers and authority.
  - (d) To inculcate decent, selfless service and patriotic culture in Nigerian politics.
  - (e) To inject new blood into Nigerian politics to facilitate the achievement of the welfare and security of the people.
  - (f) To establish a true democratic government where respect for the rule of law, equity and social justice prevail.
  - (g) To field, sponsor and ensure the success of credible candidates for elections to various political positions in the three tiers of government.
  - (h) To steer the course of Nigerian politics towards socio-economic and political emancipation of the people of Nigeria.
  - (i) To sensitize, mobilize and assist the Nigerian youth for self-reliance and self-employment as part of efforts in curbing the rate of unemployment, and youth restiveness in the Country.
  - (j) To revolutionize, modernize and incentivize agriculture to provide sustainable employment, self-reliance and food sufficiency for local consumption and export.
  - (k) Undertake other activities which in the opinion of the party are ancillary, incidental or conducive to the promotion of the aforementioned aims and objectives.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **5.1 MEMBERSHIP**

- i. Membership of the party shall be open to every citizens of Nigeria irrespective of his/her religion, ethnic group, place of birth, gender, circumstance of birth, social or economic status.
- ii. A person shall be eligible to be registered as a member of a party provided that such a person:
  - a) Is a citizen of Nigeria;
  - b) Has attained the minimum age of 18 years and is not a member of another political party;
  - c) Accepts the aims, objectives, principles, fundamental values, policies and programs of the party;
  - d) Has applied for membership on an individual basis;
  - e) Shall be registered as a member of the party at the Polling Unit of birth or residence;
  - f) Shall pay the prescribed annual membership fees.
  - g) has accepted to abide by the provisions of the Party's Constitution and Party's decisions at Executive Committee Meetings of all levels of the Party's structure and Annual Meetings.
- iii. A registered member moving his/her residence from the Polling Unit to another within the Federal Republic of Nigeria may transfer his/her membership to the new Polling Unit subject to any conditions the party may stipulate.

### **5.2 ADMISSION PROCEDURE**

- i. A person qualified for membership of the party may apply for membership by filling the registration form of the party which shall be counter-signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the party of his Polling Unit.
- ii. An applicant for membership shall pay a Registration fee of N200 only (or any other amount that the National Convention of the Party may from time to time decide).
- iii. When duly registered, a member shall receive a membership card bearing (among other things), his name, Picture, Membership Registration Number and Signature.
- iiii. Every member of the party shall belong to a Polling Unit branch of the Party in his place of birth or residence.
- v. The possession of a membership card shall be a prima facie evidence of a person's membership of the Party.

### **5.3 REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

(i) A Register of members shall be kept and maintained at each Polling Unit, Ward, Local Government Headquarters, State and National Secretariat of the Party indicating the names, addresses, date of registration and occupation of a registered member.

(ii) The NRM Polling Unit Branch Secretary shall send particulars of registered members to the Ward Secretary who shall compile all registered members in the Ward in two copies and transmit one copy to the Local Government Party Secretary, who in turn will compile the register of members of the Party in the Local Government and on his own part, transmit one copy to the State Secretary of the Party. The State Secretary of the Party shall compile the list of all registered members of the party in the State and will transmit a copy of the register to the National Secretary of the party who will compile the National Register of the Party.

(iii) Every registered member shall be issued with a membership card after paying the necessary fees as determined from time to time by the party.

(iiii) The Register shall be reviewed and up-dated at least once every year.

#### **5.4 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

a. Membership of the Party shall be terminated by death, resignation or expulsion.

b. Only the National Convention shall have power to confirm the expulsion of a member of the Party.

c. Any member who commences any legal action or assists in instituting the same against the decision of any organ of the Party shall have his membership suspended.

### **ARTICLE 6**

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

i. Every member shall pay such fees and levies as may from time be prescribed by National Executive Committee of the party or any other body authorized so to do by the National Executive Committee or the National Convention.

ii. Upon registration, a member shall be deemed to have:

a) Accepted to abide by the provisions of the constitution as well as the policies, programs and ideas of the party;

b) Accepted to abide by all lawful rules, regulations, directives and decisions of the party or any of its organs; and

c) Accepted to promote the aims and objectives of the party loyally and refrain from pursuing any cause of action that may be inconsistent with or inimical to the interest of the party.

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 subject to any qualification, rules, regulations or the provisions of this Constitution.

iiii. Every member shall have the right to be voted for into any office or any post of the party during any election provided such member has not been barred by any section of the Nigerian or this Constitution, and has been active and is a current financial member of the party continuously for 12 calendar months.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **7.1 PARTY ORGANISATION**

i. There shall be five (5) levels of party organization:

a) The Polling Unit

b) The Ward

c) The Local Government Area

d) The State; and

e) The National Level.

ii. Each of these levels of the party organization shall have a functioning Secretariat.

iii. The organization structure of the state level shall also apply mutatis mutandis to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

### **7.2 PARTY ORGANS**

The Party shall have the following Organs:

- a. Polling Unit Party Officers
- b. Polling Unit Executive Committee
- c. Polling Unit All Members Meeting
- d. Ward Party Officers
- e. Ward Executive Committee
- f. Ward Polling Units Annual Assembly
- g. The Local Government Party Officers
- h. The Local Government Executive Committee
- i. The Local Government General Assembly
- j. The State Party Officers
- k. The State Management Committee
- l. The State Congress

- m. The National Officers of the Party
- n. National Management Committee
- o. The National Executive Committee
- p. The National Convention
- q. The National Caucus

### **7.3 COMPOSITION OF PARTY ORGANS**

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

#### **7.3.1 POLLING UNIT PARTY OFFICERS**

a) The Chairman

b) Vice Chairman

c) Secretary

d) Assistant Secretary

e) Treasurer

f) Financial Secretary

g) Publicity Secretary

h) Organising Secretary

i) Women Leader

j) Youth Leader

i. The Officers shall meet at least once a month. The quorum for the Polling Unit Officers Meeting shall be two thirds of the members.

ii. The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the Polling Unit Officers and in his absence, the Vice Chairman. In the absence of the two Officers, the Secretary shall preside.

iii. The Chairman shall lead the Polling Units Delegates to the Ward Annual Polling Units Assembly of the Party.

iiii. The Chairman shall serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Polling Unit and Chairman of the Campaign Committee.

v. The Chairman shall preside over any business of activities that may be assigned to the Polling Unit by the Ward, Local Government, State or National Executive Committee.

vi. The Polling Unit Officers shall ensure that the party wins in all elections at the Polling Unit of their jurisdiction.

### **7.3.1(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE POLLING UNIT PARTY OFFICERS**

The Polling Unit Officers shall meet to transact any or all the following businesses:

- a) General administration of the Polling Unit
- b) Initiate Strategies for Membership and voter mobilization, political campaigns and fund raising.
- c) Implementing the decisions of the Ward Polling Units Assembly.
- g) The Polling Unit Officers shall ensure that the party wins in all elections at the Polling Unit of their jurisdiction.

### **7.3.2 THE POLLING UNIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Polling Unit Executive Committee shall comprise of the following:

- a) The Polling Unit Officers of the Party
- b) Ten Ex-Officio Members who shall be nominated from the different parts of the Polling Unit Area by a simple majority.
- c) All Ward, Local Government, State and National Officers of the Party who are registered in the Polling Unit.
- d) All elected Public Officers of the party at the three tiers of Government and in all legislative houses who are registered in the Polling Unit.

### **7.3.2(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE POLLING UNIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Polling Unit Executive Committee shall meet to transact the following business:

- a) Approve the budget of the Party in the Polling Unit.
- b) Receive, consider, ratify and approve reports and decisions of the Polling Unit Party Officers.
- c) Ensure regular meetings of the Polling Unit Party Officers.
- d) Initiate or consider disciplinary action against any erring registered member of the Party who is registered in the Polling Unit.
- e) Any other action that may be referred to it by the Polling Unit All Members Annual Meeting or the Ward Executive Committee.

### **7.3.3 POLLING UNIT ALL MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING**

The Polling Unit All Members Annual Meeting shall comprise of ALL registered members of the party in the Polling Unit Area.

#### **7.3.3(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE POLLING UNIT ALL MEMBERS ANNUAL MEETING**

- a) Identify the main issues (political, economic and social) of concern to the Polling Unit;
- b) Initiate strategies for massive membership drive and political campaigns to ensure the registration of party members at all times and the victory of the party in all elections that cover the Polling Unit Area.
- c) Fund raising for the party and Party's candidates;
- d) Mobilization of voters to vote for the Party's candidates during elections.
- f) Election of Delegates to Ward Polling Units Assembly, Local Government General Assembly, State Congress and National Convention of the Party.
- g) Consider appeals arising from disciplinary action administered against any erring member of the Party by the Polling Unit Executive Committee. Where a member not holding any party or political office is involved, the member may appeal to the Ward Executive Committee and further appeal shall lie to the Ward Polling Unit Annual Assembly while final appeal terminates at Local Government Executive Committee whose decision shall be final. Where the action involves a Polling Unit Party Officer or an Executive Committee Member, the Member shall appeal to the Ward Executive Committee, further appeal to Ward Polling Units Annual Assembly additional appeal to Local Government Executive Committee and final appeal shall lie to the Local Government Annual Assembly whose decision shall be final.

### **7.3.4 WARD PARTY OFFICERS**

- a) The Chairman
- b) The Vice Chairman
- c) Secretary
- d) Assistant Secretary
- e) Treasurer
- f) Financial Secretary
- g) Assistant Financial Secretary
- h) Publicity Secretary

- i) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- j) Organizing Secretary
- k) Welfare Officer
- l) Auditor
- m) Women Leader
- n) Youth Leader

#### **7.3.4(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE WARD PARTY OFFICERS**

The powers and functions of the Polling Unit Party Officers shall apply mutatis mutandis to those of the Ward Party Officers.

#### **7.3.5 WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Ward Executive Committee shall comprise of the following:

- a) The Ward Chairman
- b) Vice Chairman
- c) Secretary
- d) Assistant Secretary
- e) Treasurer
- f) Financial Secretary
- g) Publicity Secretary
- h) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- i) Organizing Secretary
- j) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- k) Welfare Officer
- l) Assistant Welfare Officer
- m) Ward Women Leader

n) Ward Youth Leader

o) One Ex-Officio member elected at the Ward Polling Unit Assembly by a simple majority from every Ward within the LGA.

p) All elected Public Officers of the party at any level who are registered in any of the Polling Units in the Ward.

### **7.3.5(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The powers and functions of the Ward Executive Committee shall be mutatis mutandis those of the Polling Unit Executive Committee as they apply to the Ward.

### **7.3.6 WARD POLLING UNITS ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

i. The Ward Polling Unit Annual Assembly shall consist of:

1) Party officers from all the Polling Units within the Ward.

2) Ten Assembly members elected at All Members Polling Unit Annual Meeting.

3) Ward Executive Committee members.

ii. The Ward Polling Unit Annual Assembly shall be held once every year. However, Special Assembly may be called by the Ward Chairman or at the request of 1/3 of Polling Units that make up the Ward.

iii. The quorum shall be 2/3 of the members.

### **7.3.6(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The powers and functions of the Ward Polling Unit Assembly shall be to:

i. Receive Annual Reports on the performance of every Polling Unit in the Ward, during previous general or bye-elections.

ii. Receive Annual Report on the performance of elected and appointed public officers from the Ward.

iii. Elect Ward Party Officers.

iv. Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee

v. Elect the councillorship candidate for the Ward in a Local Government Election year.

vi. Consider appeals arising from disciplinary action taken against any erring member of the party from the Polling Unit All Members Meeting for presentation to the State Chairman through the Local

Government Chairman of the party where the victim is member of the State or National Executive Committee.

vii. Approve Annual budget for the ward.

viii. Consider Ward Party Auditor's annual report.

ix. Any other business tabled by a registered member of the Assembly provided the Ward Exco had approved it as part of the Assembly's agenda.

### **7.3.7 THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTY OFFICERS**

The Ward Party Officers shall consist of the following:

- a) The Chairman
- b) Deputy Chairman
- b) Vice Chairman
- c) Secretary
- d) Assistant Secretary
- e) Treasurer
- f) Financial Secretary
- g) Legal Adviser
- h) Publicity Secretary
- i) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- j) Organizing Secretary
- k) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- l) Welfare Officer
- m) Assistant Welfare Officer
- n) Local Government Auditor
- o) Local Government Women Leader
- p) Ward Youth Leader

### **7.3.7(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS OF THE PARTY**

The functions of the Local Government Officers of the Party shall apply mutatis mutandis to the powers and functions of the State Officers of the Party as applicable to the Local Government Area.

### **7.3.8 LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

- i. Chairman
- ii. Deputy Chairman
- iii. Vice Chairmen who are also Chairman, Secretary and treasurer of every Ward within the Local Government Area.
- iv. Local Government Secretary
- v. Assistant Secretary
- vi. Treasurer
- vii. Financial Secretary
- viii. Legal Adviser
- ix. Auditor
- x. Publicity Secretary
- xi. Assistant Publicity Secretary
- xii. Organizing Secretary
- xiii. Assistant Organizing Secretary
- xiv. Welfare Officer
- xv. Assistant Welfare Officer
- xvi. One Ex-officio member from every Ward elected at the Local Government General Assembly
- xvii. The Local Government Council Chairman if produced by the party.

### **7.3.8(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Local Government Executive Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following businesses:

- a) Identify main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern to the Local Government;
- b) Receive reports from Wards on:
  - i. Membership drive
  - ii. Fund raising activities;
  - iii. Strategies for political campaigns;
  - iv. Mobilization of voters and transmit same to the meeting of State Executive Committee.
- c) Take instructions and receive circulars from the state secretariat and transmit same to all wards and ensure their implementation
- d) Recommend strategies for effective communication between the wards and other local government Party Organs.
- e) Undertake the General Administration of the party in the Local Government level.

#### **7.3.8(b) MEETINGS**

- i. The Local Government Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every two months.
- ii. It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Members of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- iii. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be 2/3 (two thirds) of its membership.

#### **7.3.9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Local Government Area General Assembly shall consist of:

- a) All members of the Ward Executive Committee
- b) All members of the Local Government Executive Committee
- c) The members elected by the Ward Polling Units Assembly from each ward within the Local Government Area.

d) Chairman, Vice-Chairman and councilors of the Local Government Council who are members of the party.

e) All elected Public Officers of the party at any level who are registered in any Ward in the Local Government Area.

f) All elected or appointed Public Officers from the Local Government Area at any level or tier of government who are members of the Party.

### **7.3.9(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

Local Government General Assembly of the party shall meet to transact any or all of the following businesses:

i. Approve budget for running the Local Government Administrative Headquarters of the party;

ii. Receive report of LG Auditor of the Party.

iii. Receive and consider the reports of the activities of the Local Government Executive Committee.

iv. Elect Local Government Party Officers.

vi. Ratify the results of the Local Government Area primaries.

### **7.3.9(b) MEETINGS**

i. The Local Government Area General Meeting shall be held twice every year.

ii. The quorum for the conference shall be one-third of its members provided that not less than two-thirds of all the Wards in the Local Government are represented.

### **7.3.10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CAUCUS**

There shall be established the Local Government Caucus of the Party which shall comprise of the following:

1. Local Government Party Chairman who shall be the Chairman of the Caucus

2. Local Government Council Chairman

3. Local Government Deputy Chairman of the party

4. Local Government Party Secretary

5. Commissioners and Special Advisers in the State Executive Council who are from the Local Government

6. Local Government Council Secretary

7. State Assembly members from the Local government

8. Four highly respected elders from across the Local Government whose appointment shall be made by the Local Government Executive Committee and shall reflect the geo-political diversity of the Local Government.

### **7.3.11 STATE PARTY OFFICERS**

The State Party Officers shall comprise:

- i. State Chairman
- ii. State Deputy Chairman
- iii. Three State Vice Chairmen, one from each of the 3 Senatorial Zones
- iv. State Secretary
- v. Assistant State Secretary
- vi. State Treasurer  
Ass. State Treasurer
- vii. State Financial Secretary
- viii. Assistant State Financial Secretary
- ix. State Auditor
- x. State Legal Adviser
- xi. Assistant State Legal adviser
- xii. State Publicity Secretary
- xiii. Assistant State Publicity Secretary
- xiv. State Organising Secretary
- xv. Assistant State Organising Secretary
- xvi. State Welfare Officer
- xvii. Assistant State Welfare Officer

xviii. State Woman Leader

xix. Assistant State Woman Leader

xx. State Youth Leader

xxi. Assistant State Youth Leader

### **7.3.11(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The State Executive Committee shall meet to transact the following businesses:

- a) Identify main issues (political, social, economic) of concern in the State;
- b) Undertake general administration of the party in the State and implement the resolutions and decisions of the State Congress or directives from National Secretariat.
- c) Prepare the Annual Budget of the State Branch
- d) Employ and determine the conditions of service of party staff in the State.
- e) Constitute ad-hoc and standing Committees as and when necessary carry out some specific or special assignment.

### **7.3.11(b) MEETING**

- i. The State Party Officers shall meet once every month;
- ii. It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or at least one-third of the members of the State Party Officers.
- iii. The quorum for a meeting of the State Party Officers shall be one-third of its entire membership.

### **7.3.12 STATE PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

There shall be for every State, a State Executive Committee of the party which shall comprise the following:

- a) The State Chairman and all the other State Officers
- b) The Governor and Deputy Governor of the State where they are members of the party.
- c) Chairmen of Local Government Councils of the State who are members of the Local Government Executive Committee of the party

- d) All members of the Local Government Executive Committee of the party
- e) All councilors, all Legislators at the State House of Assembly and National Assembly who are members of the party
- f) All Commissioners, Ministers and Special advisers of the party;
- g) The National Officers of the party who are from the State.

### **7.3.12(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

#### **MEETING**

- i. The State Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every quarter of a year.
- ii. The quorum for the State Executive committee shall be two-thirds of all its members.

### **7.3.13 STATE CONGRESS**

There shall be for every State, a State Congress of the party which shall hold once a year unless otherwise convened to transact a special business in which case it becomes SPECIAL Congress. Special Congress may be convened on the instruction of the National or State Executive Committees or at the request of two-thirds of the Local Government Executive Committees in the State.

The congress shall consist of one congressman from every Polling Unit in the State during the first State Congress after the Party's registration by Independent National Electoral Commission INEC. However, any Polling Unit where the Party loses election at the immediate past previous election loses representation at the State Congress and National Convention. No member of the Party irrespective of his social status, position in the Party or Public Office shall serve as congressman or woman save elected by his Polling Unit to serve as such.

### **7.3.13(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The Congress shall meet to transact any or all of the following:

- i. Receive and consider the Annual Report of the activities and performance of the party in the State as shall be presented by the State Party Secretary.
- ii. Where the Party is in power in the State, to evolve policies and programmes for the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Party in the State.
- iii. Elect officers of the State
- vi. Ratify the results of Local Government primaries.
- vii. Receive appeals on disciplinary matters from the Local Government General Assembly.

### **7.3.14 STATE CAUCUS**

There shall be a State Caucus of the Party to be comprised of the following:

1. The State Chairman who shall be the Chairman of the Caucus
2. The Governor of the State
3. The Deputy Governor of the State
4. The State Deputy Chairman of the Party.
- 5) State Secretary who shall serve as Secretary.
- 6) The Speaker of the State House of Assembly
- 7) House Majority Leader or Minority Leader, whichever is produced by the party.
8. Secretary to the State Government
9. Three elders of the Party from the three Senatorial Districts of the State selected by the State Chairman in consultation with the State Governor who shall be credible and highly respected personalities.
10. Serving Federal Ministers of the Party from the State
11. One Member each of the Senate and House of Reps who shall be nominated by the respective members of the two Chambers of the National Assembly from the State.

#### **7.3.15 NATIONAL OFFICERS OF THE PARTY**

The National Officers of the Party shall comprise:

- i. National Chairman;
- ii. Deputy National Chairman;
- iii. National Secretary;
- iv. Deputy National Secretary;
- vi. National Treasurer;
- vii. Deputy National Treasurer;
- viii. National Financial Secretary;
- ix. Deputy National Financial Secretary;

- x. National Auditor;
- xi. Deputy National Auditor;
- xii. National Legal Adviser;
- xiii. Deputy National Legal Advisers
- xv. National Publicity Secretary;
- xvi. Deputy National Publicity Secretaries;
- xvii. National Organising Secretary
- xviii. Deputy National Organising Secretaries;
- xix. National Welfare Officer;
- xx. Deputy National Welfare Officer;
- xxi. National Woman Leader;
- xxii. Deputy National Woman Leader;
- xxiii. National Youth Leader;
- xxiv. Deputy National Youth Leader;

#### **7.3.16 NATIONAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

There shall be National Management Committee which shall comprise of National Chairman who shall be the Chairman, National Deputy Chairman and all substantive National Principal Officers of the Party while Deputy National Secretary shall serve as Secretary of the Committee.

The National Management Committee shall meet every Monday to deliberate on Party issues arising from the states and the FCT for necessary action.

#### **7.3.17 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

There shall be a National Executive Committee of the Party which shall comprise of the following:

- 1) National Chairman and all National Officers of the Party;
- 2) President, Vice President where they are members of the Party;
- 3) State Chairmen and State Secretaries;

4) All Senators, House Principal Officers and House Committee Chairmen;

5) Thirteen Ex-officio members to be elected at the National Convention but shall be drawn from the different geo-political zones of the Country.

#### **7.3.17(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

The National Executive Committee shall have the following Powers and Functions:

- a. Identify critical political, socio-economic issues of Nation's development and recommend solutions to the Government that is produced by the Party, but where the party is not in power to criticize the Government of the day on those lines.
- b. Undertake general administration of the party in the State and implement the resolutions and decisions of the National Convention or carry out delegated authority by the National Convention.
- c. Prepare Annual Budget of the Party for the Nation.
- d. Determine the conditions of service of party staff at all levels and employ National Secretariat's staff.
- e. Prepare draft policies, programs and projects for the consideration of National Convention.
- f. Decide date, venue, time and agenda for Annual and Special Conventions.
- g. Decide dates for Annual meetings of all Branches of the Party for the purpose of electing Party Officers, nominating candidates for all or vacant elective positions or for other purposes as stipulated in this Constitution.
- h. Considering appeals from the states arising from election of Party Officers, nomination of candidates for elective offices, disciplinary action or any other Party issue.
- i. Constituting ad-hoc and standing committees for regular or special purposes.
- j. Constituting Electoral Committees for election of Party offices or nomination of candidates for elective offices.
- k. Make party electoral regulations, to govern the conduct of elections to all party offices at every level and to govern the procedure for nominating party candidates for elective offices;
- l. Consider reports from Federal and State Constituencies and take such steps as are necessary to protect, advance or consolidate the gains of the party in such constituencies.
- m. Co-opt Party members to serve on the committee.
- n. Any other issue that may assist the Committee in discharging its duties.

#### **7.3.17(b) MEETING**

i. The National Executive Committee shall meet once every quarter at such date, time and venue as may be decided by the Committee.

ii. It may also meet at any other time at the instance of the National Chairman or two-thirds of its members.

iii. The National Chairman shall preside over the National Exco meetings and in his/her absence the Deputy National Chairman.

iv. The quorum shall be two-thirds of its membership.

### **7.3.18 NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The National Convention of the party shall consist of:

- a) The President and Vice President where produced by the party;
- b) All Governors and Deputy Governors who are members of the party;
- c) All National Officers of the Party
- d) All members of the National Executive Committee:
- e) All members of the National Assembly who are members of the party;
- f) All State Legislators who are members of the party
- g) All members of the State Executive Committee;
- h) One Representative from each Local Government Areas of the Federation nominated by the Local Government General Assembly
- i) Former holders of the afore-stated government and legislative officers who are still members of the party

#### **7.3.18(a) POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

1. The final authority of the party shall rest with the National Convention which, shall, to the exclusion of all other organs of the party, have the power to decide the nationwide policies and programmes of the party. The National Convention shall be held as and when necessary to;

- i. Elect national officers of the party who shall hold office for a period of six (6) years;
- ii. Consider and lay down broad principles of policy for the guidance of the Party and all its organs
- iii. Where the party controls the federal government, to examine the policies and programmes pursued by the Federal Government from time to time in order to ensure that they are in accord with the manifesto, principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party;
- iv. Ratify decisions of the National Executive Committee on disciplinary matters referred to it;
- v. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the party;
- vi. Review or amend the Constitution of the party from time to time;
- vii. Ratify the results of Presidential primaries.

2. In addition to the office mentioned in subsection (1) of this Section, the National Convention shall have power to restructure party organs and offices and fill them from time to time.

## **7.4 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

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

### **i. Chairman**

- a) The Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee of the Party and the National Management Committee.
- b) He shall oversee the working of the party throughout the country and shall be the Chief Executive of the Party.

### **ii. Deputy National Chairman**

- a) The Deputy National Chairman shall preside over meetings in the absence of the National Chairman;
- b) He/she shall perform other functions that may be assigned to him by the National Chairman or any Organ of the Party.

### **iii. National Secretary**

The National Secretary shall in addition to other specific functions conferred on him by this Constitution:

- a) Take or cause to be taken all minutes of the meetings of the National Convention, and National Executive Committee.
- b) Responsible for all correspondences to and from the Party.
- c) Prepare the order of business for meeting of all National Organs of the Party with the approval of the National Chairman;
- d) Supervise and control the day to day activities of the National Secretariat;
- e) Co-ordinate the activities of a National Officers of the Party.
- f) In the event of his removal or resignation, he shall immediately hand over to the Deputy National Secretary with proper handing over notes which shall include all Party records, files, assets, register or any other properties of the party in his possession.

### **iv. Deputy National Secretary**

The Deputy National Secretary shall be responsible for the following:

- a) Deputize for the National Secretary in his/her absence.
- b) Serves as Secretary of National Management Committee.

c) Act as National Secretary with full powers of the office in case of resignation or removal of the substantive Office holder.

d) Any other duty that may be assigned to him/her by the National Executive Committee or National Convention.

**v. The National Treasurer**

The National Treasurer shall:

a) Receive and promptly pay into the party's account all monies received for and on behalf of the party;

b) Pay or cause to be paid all authorized party expenses;

c) Ensure that proper records are kept and shall cause such records to be produced for inspection by INEC auditors, Party's auditors or external auditors appointed by the National Executive Committee.

**vi. National Financial Secretary**

The National Financial Secretary shall:

a) Collect all monies due to the party and pay such monies to the National Treasurer not later than five days after collection;

b) Prepare and submit proposals for raising party funds for consideration of the National Executive Committee;

c) Ensure that proper records of revenue collection are kept and report presented to the meeting of National Exco. quarterly.

**vii. National Publicity Secretary**

The National Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for the management of party information, publicizing Party activities, constitution, manifesto and campaign propaganda, policies and programs of the Party.

1. preparing Party's publications such as: newsletters, magazines, flyers, leaflets, Posters, Billboards and any such campaign materials as may be directed by the National Exco.
2. Recommend to National Exco ways and means of utilizing print, electronic and social media for publicizing Party's activities and its candidates.

**viii. National Legal Adviser**

The National Adviser shall advise the party on all legal matters and arrange for the legal defense of the party in all legal proceedings involving the party.

#### **ix. National Auditor**

National Auditor shall audit the books of accounts of the party and report annually to the Annual Conference and may be called upon by the National Executive Committee to audit such accounts from time to time.

#### **x. Assistant National Officers**

A person elected as Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Assistant Financial Secretary, Assistant Legal Adviser, Assistant Auditor or Assistant Publicity Secretary shall:

- a) Act for the Principal National Officer in his absence, provided that where there are two or more Assistants, the Principal National Officer shall direct in writing who is to stand in for him;
- b) Carry out any other functions as may be assigned to him by the Principal Officer.

**7.5.** The functions and powers provided above provisions shall apply mutatis mutandis to all corresponding offices at other echelons of the party, viz, State, Local Government, Ward and Polling Unit Officers.

### **7.6 THE NATIONAL CAUCUS**

There shall be a National Caucus of the Party which shall comprise of the following:

1. The National Chairman as Chairman of the Caucus
2. President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
3. Deputy Chairman of the Party
4. National Secretary as Secretary of the Caucus
5. Senate President where he is a member of the Party.
6. Speaker of the House of Representatives where he is a member of the Party
7. Leaders of the Party in both Houses of the National Assembly
8. Secretary to the Government of the Federation
9. Special Adviser on National Assembly Matters
10. Minister of Economic and National Planning

## 11. Minister of the Federal Capital Territory

### **7.6.1 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL CAUCUS**

The National Caucus shall have the following powers and functions:

1. Advising the President in designing policies, programs and projects based on Party's manifesto, campaign promises, yearnings and aspirations of Nigerians.
2. Initiating strategies to ensure cordial working relationship between the executive arm of Government and the Legislature.
3. Advising the President on planning Strategy for the implementation and execution of Government policies, programs and projects.
4. Advising the President on annual budget framework including priorities.
5. Insulate the President from being hijacked by any power cabal.
6. Communicate to the President of the true and actual public opinion about government performance and recommend ways of improvement.
7. Advice the President on any other measures necessary for the stimulation of socio-economic development, peace, order and public safety.

### **7.7 BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

There shall be established for the Party a Board of Trustees. The BOT shall be composed of seven members who shall be credible Nigerians of national status and of unquestionable character. The Board Members shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee of the Party who shall present them to the National Convention for ratification and shall be drawn from the different parts of the country.

#### **7.7.1 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The BOT shall have the following powers and functions:

1. Keep under its custody undated resignation letters of Party's candidates for the offices of the President, Vice President, Governors, Deputy Governors and Members of States and National Assemblies.
2. Consider appeals from aggrieved Governors, Deputy Governors, President and Vice-President as well as members of the States and National Assemblies.
3. Tendering letters of resignation to the appropriate House of Assembly after exhausting avenues of appeal and having been satisfied that the accused President, Vice President, Governors, Deputy Governors and Members of National and States Assemblies found guilty of committing gross misconduct under this Constitution.

4. Keep under its custody the Register of assets of the Party.
5. The National Secretary of the party shall prepare an inventory of all the properties, movable and immovable, real and personal belonging to the party and shall deposit a copy of the said inventory with the Trustees.
6. Keep under its custody the certificate of Registration of the Party.
7. The Trustees shall hold the properties of the party subject to the directive of the National Executive Council, and shall each sign all documents to which the common seal of the party shall be affixed as required by law.
8. Subject to the directives of the National Executive Committee the Trustees may invest wisely money not immediately required for the purposes of the NRM in such manner as approved by the National Convention.
9. The Trustees shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee subject to ratification by the National Convention.
10. The Trustees shall hold office for one term of seven years.
11. A Trustee may be removed from office by the Annual Convention of the party on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee on grounds of infirmity, insanity, bankruptcy, fraud, disciplinary action, absence from Nigerian for a period of not less than one year.
12. The National Executive Council shall state clearly the reason for such recommendations for removal to the National Convention.
13. In the event of death or resignation or removal of a Trustee from office, the vacancy shall be filled by the National Executive Committee subject to ratification by the next National Convention.

#### **7.8 PARTY OFFICER CONSTESTING POLITICAL OFFICES**

A Party officer or Staff may contest for nomination to any elective office without resigning from Party Office. The affected officer shall, however, resign immediately he/she is declared winner by Electoral Commission.

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

- a) The composition of officers of the Executive Committee at each level of the party shall reflect the principles of the Federal character of Nigeria but in the case of States, Local Government wards and Polling Units which are ethnically homogeneous, the composition shall take account of the geographical diversity of the area.
- b) The remuneration and other conditions of service of party functionaries at all levels shall be determined by the National Executive Committee.

### **ARTICLE 8**

## **8.1. MEETINGS**

### **8.1.1 CONVENTION, CONGRESSES AND GENERAL MEETINGS**

The Convention, Congresses and General Meetings of the Party at the national, State, Local Government, Ward and Polling Unit levels shall be held once a year at a venue and time to be decided by the appropriate Executive Committee.

### **8.1.2 EMERGENCY MEETINGS**

a. Without prejudice to the above provisions, the Executive Committee may summon an emergency meeting of the National Convention or Congress at any time, provided at least seven-day notice of the meeting is given to all accredited delegates.

b. The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Party at any level shall direct the Secretary of that Organ to summon a meeting of the Executive Committee as the situation may require or by a joint application made in writing by at least two-thirds of Members of that Organ.

c. Where the Chairman and the Secretary fail or refuse to convene the meeting within 21 days of the receipt of the application, a meeting may be convened vide a publication in at least two national newspapers made by the signatories to the joint application.

### **8.1.3 QUORUM**

Two-thirds of the members of any organ of the party shall constitute the quorum for the purpose of a valid meeting of that organ. Save for emergency Meeting, all Executive Committee meetings at all levels shall have at least seven-day notice while Annual meetings at all levels shall have at least two-week notice.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **9.1 DISCIPLINE OF PARTY MEMBERS**

a. The Party shall be a disciplined organization and accordingly, all members of the party shall be expected to contribute to its good image by self-discipline, honesty, good conduct, decorum and demeanour and must show loyalty to the party, the government and the nation.

b. Discipline of party members shall be exercised by the respective Organs as encapsulated in this Constitution and the process shall at all times be governed by due process and fair hearing as may be stipulated in the Party's Constitution, Rules and Regulations and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as amended.

c. The power to initiate disciplinary action against any member of the party shall lie with the Polling Unit Executive Committee. However, where the Polling Unit Exco. fails or refuses to initiate disciplinary action two weeks after receiving the request the next level of the Party shall take it up.

d. All acts of indiscipline shall be punished. Punishment shall be as provided by this Constitution.

e. 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.

## **9.2 OFFENCES**

A party member who is alleged to have done any of the following shall be liable for punishment if found guilty by the appropriate Organ of the Party:

a) A breach of any of the provisions of this constitution;

b) Anti-party activities or conducting oneself in a manner that is likely to embarrass the party or bring the party to hatred, contempt, ridicule or disrepute;

c) Disobedience or negligence in carrying out lawful directives of the party or of the officers of the party;

d) Flouting the ruling or decisions of the party;

d) Engaging in dishonest practices defrauding the party;

e) Disrupting peaceful, lawful and legitimate activities of the party;

f) Engaging in activities that are detrimental to the achievement of the aims and objectives of the party;

g) Disloyalty to or sabotage against the cause of the Party;

h) Disorderly behavior during meetings;

i) Theft, fraud, disrespect to Party Leadership, immoral conduct;

j) Failure or refusal to meet financial and other obligations for membership;

k) Conviction for criminal offences.

l) Assuming names and titles, slogans, motto or mode of dressing other those provided by the Party's constitution.

m) Giving wrong information to any organ of the party or unauthorized publicity, propaganda that may subject the Party or its candidates to ridicule or disrepute.

## **9.3 GROSS MISCONDUCT**

For the purpose of punishment, the following acts shall, in addition to the definition of gross misconduct in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended shall be gross misconduct liable for punishment under this Constitution:

- i. Sabotaging the party in any manner at any level in such a way that tarnishes the Party's image, reputation, credibility, or diminish the party's chances of winning any election.
- ii. Defacing the Party images, logo, flag, symbols or the posters of its candidates.
- iii. Collaborating with other parties to defeat the party in any or all elective offices as provided by the 1999 constitution as amended.
- iv. Supporting or voting for candidates other than the Party's sponsored candidates or candidates of its choice during election of presiding officers in the States and National Assemblies.
- v. Conniving with the opposition presiding Officers to nominate and/or ratify minority officers against the Party's nominees in the States and National Assemblies.
- vi. Usurping Local Government Councils' powers or allocated funds by governors elected under the platform of the party.
- vii. Engaging in foreign or religious trips more than twice every quarter by Governors and Deputy governors and the duration of the authorised trips should not be longer than two weeks at any given time, save where the visit is on medical grounds.
- viii. Failure to visit any part of the constituency by State and National Assembly Members at least once in every Month for State Assembly members and at least twice every quarter by the latter.
- ix. Failure to pay 10% of basic salary monthly by elected and appointed party members including part-time members and Chairmen of Boards of Local, State and Federal Agencies, Boards, Corporations, Commissions or other statutory bodies.
- x. Failure by any elected public officer who is a member of the party to adhere, comply or implement any party policy that is made by the relevant organ or branch of the party.

#### **9.4 PUNISHMENT**

- i. Punishment may be imposed by the party as disciplinary measure against any of its members and the gravity of punishment shall depend on the nature of the offense.
- ii. Punishment to be imposed may take the form of:
  - a) Expulsion from the party;
  - b) Suspension from the party;
  - c) Suspension from Party Meetings, Functions and Activities;
  - d) Suspension from contesting election;
  - e) Suspension from holding party office;
  - f) Suspension from holding public office under the party;
  - g) Fine;
  - h) Reprimand and Warning.

iii. Any member of the Party that is found guilty of violating articles i, ii, iii, iv of Article 9.3 shall be liable for punishment as follows:

a) In the Case of a Member not holding any party or public office, the person shall be suspended for a period of six months.

b) For Officers of the Party at the Polling Unit, Ward, Local government or any member of the Executive Committee at these levels, the penalty shall be suspension from the party and its activities for three months and a fine of two thousand Naira (N2,000).

c) For State and National Officers and Executive Members other than the President, Principal Officers of the State and National Assemblies and the Members of such legislative Houses, commissioners, Ministers, Advisers, State and Federal Board members, Local government Council Chairmen, they shall be liable to a fine of Five Thousand naira, (N5,000) or three months' suspension, or both.

d) State Executive Committee Members who are State Assembly Members, Commissioners, Advisers, Local government Council chairmen, State Board Members shall be liable to three months suspension or twenty thousand Naira fine, or both.

e) National Executive Committee members who are Members of the National Assembly, suspension for one month and fine of One Hundred Thousand Naira, or both.

f) Principal Officers of the national Assembly other than Senate President and Speaker, two weeks suspension, a fine of five hundred thousand Naira or both.

g) Vice President, senate President and Speaker, One week suspension, One million Naira fine, or both.

h) President of the Federal Republic, three days suspension, two million Naira fine or both.

iv. a) Any Deputy Governor or Governor found guilty of violating Paragraphs v & vi shall be liable to suspension from the party in the first instance for two weeks, fine of five million Naira (N5M) or both.

b) Where the violation persists in the second instance, he shall be suspended for one month or a fine of ten million Naira or both.

c) Where the offence is committed a third time, the accused shall be referred to the Board of Trustees for necessary vetting and further investigation. If satisfied with the decision of guilt by the Appeal and State Disciplinary Committee, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and his Members shall present Letter of Resignation, previously signed by the Accused to the Speaker of the relevant House of Assembly. The Presiding Officer shall read the letter to the House pursuant to section.....of the Constitution of the Federal Republic 1999 as amended and the accused shall lose his position.

v. a) Where a member of the State or National Assembly is found guilty of violating Article 9.3 (iii), (iv) & (v), he shall at the first instance be liable to six weeks suspension, a fine of Two hundred and Fifty Thousand Naira (N250,000) or both.

b) In the second instance, the member shall be liable to eight weeks suspension, a fine of Two Hundred Thousand Naira, if he is a State legislator, and Five Hundred Thousand Naira, if he is a Federal Legislator, or both suspension and fine.

c) Where he violates the said provisions a third time, the matter shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees and the process shall apply mutatis mutandis as in the case of a State Governor.

vi. Where the President and the Vice President are found guilty of gross misconduct as provided under this constitution, the procedure for tendering their resignation letters to the Senate President or the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall apply mutatis mutandis as in the case of a State Governor.

vii. In administering disciplinary action, Article 9.1 (ii) above shall be adhered to at every level of the party, the relevant organ of the party may appoint disciplinary committee to ease the administration of sanctions.

viii. Every member shall have the right of fair hearing in the process of taking the disciplinary action against him/her.

ix. Where the accused is dissatisfied with the disciplinary action taken against him, may appeal against it to the next level, as provided in this Constitution. However, every case must terminate at the level provided under this Constitution.

## **9.5 APPEAL**

i. Any member aggrieved by the decision of any of the organs of the party pursuant to Article 9 of this Constitution shall have the right to appeal within 30 days of the decision to the organ of the party provided in this Constitution provided that appeals to the respective levels shall terminate as provided herein.

ii. Where a member, other than one holding any party position is involved, the member shall appeal to the Polling Unit Executive Committee and further appeal shall lie to the Local Government Executive Committee whose decision shall be final. Where the action involves a Polling Unit Officer or an Executive Committee Member, the Member shall appeal to the Local Government Executive Committee and further appeal shall lie to the Local Government Annual Assembly whose decision shall be final.

iii. Where the Action involves a Ward Party Officer or Executive Member, the Member shall appeal to the Local Government Executive Committee and further appeal to the Local Government General Assembly. Further appeal shall lie to the State Management Committee whose decision shall be final.

iv. Where the action involves a Local Government Party Officer or Member of the Local Government Executive Committee, the member shall appeal to the Local Government General Assembly first, and further to the State Executive Committee. Final appeal shall lie to the State Congress where it shall terminate.

v. Where the action involves a State Party Officer or State Executive Committee Member, the member shall appeal to the State Congress and further to the National Executive Committee. Further appeal shall lie to the National Caucus whose decision shall be final.

vi. Where the action involves National Party Officer or National Executive Committee Member, he shall appeal to the National Caucus and final appeal shall lie to the National Convention whose decision shall be final.

vii. For the avoidance of doubt, no branch or organ of the party shall have power to initiate disciplinary action against any member of the Party except the Polling Unit Executive Committee. However, any branch or Organ of the party or member may request the Polling Unit Executive Committee of the Member through the Chairman to initiate disciplinary action against a member in writing, stating the reasons for the action, which must be supported with the provisions of this Constitution.

## ARTICLE 10

### 10.1 REGISTRATION

#### a. Register of members

It shall be the responsibility of Party Secretary at all levels of the Party Structure to keep custody of membership register. These are:

- a) Polling Unit
- b) Ward
- c) Local government Area;
- d) State branch and
- e) The National Secretariat.

#### ii. Subscription Rate:

The National Executive Committee shall recommend to the Convention:

- a) The minimum rates of subscription that shall apply for the ensuing year;
- b) The proportion of the subscription income which each Polling Unit shall remit to, Ward, Local Government Area, State and National Secretariat. Every level of the Party Structure shall have 20% share of revenue collected by all other organs.

## ARTICLE 11

### 11.1 TENURE OF OFFICE

- i. All National Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of six years but are eligible for re-election for another similar term.
- ii. All State Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of five years but are eligible for re-election for similar term by the State Congress.
- iii. All Local Government and Ward Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of four years but are eligible for re-election for similar term by the appropriate Annual Meeting while Polling Unit officers shall hold office for two terms of three years each.
- iv. Any Officer elected into the National Executive Committee at any level may contest for any elective office under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as amended without resigning from the party office.
- v. All delegates to the Polling Units All Members Annual Meeting, Ward Polling Units Annual Meeting, Local Government Annual Assembly, State Congress and National Convention shall the position for twelve months.
- vii. The maximum terms for any office of the Party is two terms.
- viii. Any officer or officers may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence against him or them passed by two-thirds majority of the membership of the appropriate organ of the Party.
- ix. An officer elected or appointed to fill a vacancy arising from death, resignation, expulsion or otherwise shall serve for the unexpired period of the person he is replacing, but shall be eligible for election to the same office for two terms
- x. An officer of the Party shall not hold office at two different levels simultaneously except one of those offices is ex-officio membership at higher level in which he/she is not a member.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **12.1 ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE**

- i. The Party Secretary at each level of party structure shall supervise party employees within their respective levels.
- ii. The party shall employ full-time Administrative staff which at least shall include the following:
  - a) An Administrative Secretary
  - b) An Accountant
  - c) An Internal Auditor
  - d) Librarian

e) Such other staff as the various party organs may deem necessary to employ for the effective running of their affairs.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **13.1 COMMITTEES**

i. Without prejudice to the powers of the Executive Committee or any other Organ of the Party to constitute standing or ad-hoc Committees, for the discharge of specific duties and responsibilities, the following Standing Committees shall be established by the Party at National and State levels.

1) Strategy and Campaign Committee;

2) Planning and Research Committee;

3) Finance Committee.

4) Publicity Committee;

4) Mobilization and Membership Recruitment Committee;

5) Party Members Complain Committee.

6) Establishment and Disciplinary Committee.

7) Any other Committee the Executive Committee of the two Organs may deem necessary.

ii. The Executive Committees of the two organs appointing ad-hoc and standing committees shall have power to give them Terms of Reference.

## **ARTICLE 14**

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

i. The National Convention, State Congress, Local Government General Assembly, Ward Polling Units Annual Meeting and Polling Unit All Members Meeting of the party, as specified under this Constitution at all levels of the party structure shall elect the respective party Officers as specified in this Constitution.

ii. Every registered member who has satisfied the requirements for nomination and elections under this Constitution may contest for any Party position or vote at such elections.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

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

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **16.1 PARTY FUNDS**

1. The funds of the party shall be derived from:

a) Statutory allocations made by Government in accordance with the law;

b) Fees subscriptions or other levies imposed on members;

c) Donations, public collections and other means of fund raising;

d) Investments;

e) Gifts and grants by individual or groups of persons

f) Collection and disbursement of all funds shall conform with all relevant laws and the Independent National Electoral Commission's guidelines on operations of political parties.

2. The National Secretariat shall be entitled to 20% of all income accruing to the Party all Levels.

3. The National Executive Committee shall have the discretion to make special grants and donations or loans (without interest) to any Organ of the Party.

4. The budget of the Party at any level shall be approved by the appropriate Executive Committee and authorization of all expenditures therein shall be vested in the appropriate Chairman after Executive Committee Resolution to that effect.

5. A fee to be known as registration fee shall be paid by every member as one of the conditions of membership. The fee, which shall be the same throughout the country shall be determined by the National Executive Committee.

### **16.2 BANK ACCOUNT**

i. The party shall maintain Bank Account in the Headquarters, City or Town of its various levels of the Party Structure.

ii. The Banks for such Accounts shall be decided by the Executive Committee of every level of the Party.

iii. There shall be three signatories to the party's Bank Accounts who shall be Chairman, Secretary and the Treasurer, provided that two signatories can validly authorize transaction on the account.

### **16.3 AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

The National Executive Committee shall appoint a competent firm of accounting to audit all the Accounts of the party annually and present the audited accounts before the National Executive Committee for consideration before presentation to National Electoral Commission.

## **ARTICLE 17**

### **AMENDMENT**

- i. The party shall have the power to amend the Constitution or the Schedules hereto, provided that no amendment shall be made except by the National Convention of the party, in a decision supported by not less than two-thirds of delegates present and voting.
- ii. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to the delegates of the National Convention. The Notice which shall be in writing shall contain unequivocal statement of the amendment and reasons for same.
- iii. One month notice shall be given before the date of the Convention in respect of all amendments.

## **ARTICLE 18**

### **INTERPRETATION**

- i. Any question as to the meaning of any section of this Constitution or the Schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Executive Committee through the Party's National Legal Adviser whose ruling shall be final.
- ii. In this Constitution unless it is otherwise expressly provided or the context otherwise requires:
  - a) Convention means the highest organ of the party at National level
  - b) Congress means the highest organ of the party at State, Local government and ward levels
  - c) Conferences means the general regular meeting of the members of the party at national, State and Local government levels.

## **SCHEDULE 1**

### **1. MEMBERSHIP RULES**

- i. Prospective members of the party shall be registered through Polling Unit branches to which they have applied and subsequently accepted and enrolled as party members.

ii. Membership shall automatically lapse if the subscription fees of a member are not received within three months after the date, provided that a member whose membership terminates in this manner shall be admitted into the party upon the payment of all arrears of the said subscription.

iii. In an election year, only members who had paid their subscription one month before primaries, congresses or convention shall be eligible to vote and be voted for.

## **SCHEDULE 2**

### **1. STAFF RULES**

i. The party shall employ full time Administrative Secretary, Account, 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 and Local Government Executive Committee as the case may be through the National Executive Council and all other authorized organs of the 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 Council and all other authorized organs of the party.

iiii. 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 be found guilty, be immediately relieved of his post and may in addition be expelled from the party.

employees of the party shall stand for nomination to enable him/her contest any election without resigning from his position. However, he/she shall have to resign immediately he/she is victorious.

vi. All the Administrative Staff of the party referred to in Schedule 2 to this Constitution are paid staff of the Party.

## **SCHEDULE 3**

### **a. CANDIDATURE**

The Party shall attempt to fill candidates in all constituencies in Nigeria that are demarcated by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) under the 1999 Constitution as amended. Consequently, all members of the Party interested in contesting for any elective office shall comply through the following procedure, rules and regulations:

1. Evidence of qualification to contest for the office as provided under the 1999 Constitution as amended and the subsisting Electoral Act.

2. Evidence of registration as member of the Party.

3. Evidence of up-to-date payment of party dues and levies.

4. Present a hand written undated resignation letter from the office he is seeking Party's candidature.
5. Provide evidence of payment of Party's nomination fees for the office he is applying to contest.
6. Undergoing screening by the Party and where found qualified to contest under the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Electoral Law, all extent Laws and this Constitution, including any rules or regulations governing party nominations.
7. Any incumbent President, Governor, Legislator, Chairman of council, and councilor or any Party officer at any level shall not have to resign his or her position to qualify for contesting Party's Nomination or legislative and Executive office election by Independent National Electoral Commission INEC.

## **b. PRIMARIES**

The National Executive Committee shall issue guidelines for holding of party elections into Party offices or Nomination of Candidates for general election in an election year or bye elections.

## **SCHEDULE 4**

### **1. RULES OF CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

1.1 All meetings of the various organs of the Party shall follow the same or similar procedure as prescribed hereunder. Irregular conduct of meetings, except where the appropriate notices were given shall be unconstitutional.

1.2 The chairman of every Organ of the Party shall preside over the meetings of his/her Organ except in the case of a sub-committee where the presiding person may be appointed by the Executive Committee of the organ or from among themselves.

1.3 All meetings of the party at the National level shall be conducted and recorded in English Language. The Chairmen of other levels may by Resolution of the Committee use local language if in its judgment, it will serve conduct of the meeting better.

### **2. MOTIONS**

i. No motion shall be entertained at meeting unless at least seven- day notice us given to the Secretary or the Chairman, Save:

a) A motion for adjournment of the meeting;

b) A motion that a subject be referred to a Committee of members of the party or some other appropriate body;

c) A motion proposing an amendment to some other motions;

- d) A motion proposing that a particular member be authorized to speak for more than ten minutes;
- ii. The Chairman of a meeting shall be entitled at his discretion to dispense with requirement to give notice of motion in any case where it is necessary for reasons of urgency of the matter.
- iii. A motion or amendment may not be opened for discussions 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 must confine his observations to the subject matter under discussion and shall not speak longer than 10 minutes.
- vi. A member must confine his observations to the subject under discussion and may not introduce irrelevant matters thereto;
- vii. No member shall be permitted to reopen any specific question upon which decision has been taken.
- 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 desiring to speak shall put his hand up, sitting in his place shall not rise to speak until he is called upon by the Chairman.
- x. No member shall speak more than once on any topic except the mover of 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 discretion of the Chairman to offer explanation on some material part of this speech which has been misunderstood.
- xi. The provisions of paragraph (x) to this schedule above shall not apply to meetings of Polling Unit, Ward or ad/hoc and Standing Committees.
- xii. Any member deviating from any of the provisions of these rules may be immediately called to order by the Chairman or by member rising to a point of order,
- xiii. A member rising to a point of order shall simply direct attention to the point he desires to bring to the attention of the meeting and the Chairman for a decision.
- xiv. No member shall leave any meeting without the permission of the Chairman.
- xv. At any time in the course of deliberation a member shall be entitled to move that question “be now put” and the meeting shall not prejudice the right of a mover of a motion or amendment to wind up.
- xvi. Any member whose conduct is disorderly at any meeting or who refuses to withdraw an offensive or insulting language after he had been told by the Chairman to do so, may be expelled from the meeting.

xvii. Unless the Constitution otherwise prescribes voting on any subject shall be by show of hands or by secret ballot.

xviii. Except otherwise provided for in this Constitution, decisions of any organ of the Party shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of votes of members present.

## **SCHEDULE 5-OATHS**

### **OATHS OF ALLEGEANCE**

I.....do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance of the National Rescue Movement and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that I will preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the National Rescue Movement and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so Help me, God.

### **OATH OF OFFICE**

I.....do solemnly swear /affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the National Rescue Movement. I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the National Rescue Movement and the Law and always in the interest of the integrity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the National Rescue Movement and the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I will strive to pursue, enhance and implement the aims and objectives of the party as contained in its Constitution and Manifesto that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my official decisions; that in all circumstances I will do right to all the members and organs of the party and all manner of people, according to 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.

## **SCHEDULE 6-COMMENCEMENT AND CITATION**

This Constitution shall be cited as the Constitution of the National Rescue Movement and its provisions shall come into force on .....