

CONSTITUTION of the Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN)

PREAMBLE

We, the citizens of the Federal Republic of Nigeria Who share the principles and ideals of Unity Party of Nigeria, conscious of the need promote the sustenance of democracy, freedom, equality and justice hereby resolve to resuscitates the Unity Party of Nigeria to uphold the unity, indivisibility and indissolubility of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;

And desirous of aggregating like-minded minds so as canvass for votes for any candidate(s) at all elections to ensure the emergence of good leaders, good governance and the enthronement of rule of law, political liberty, economic efficiency and social justice.

And dedicated to promoting the security, egalitarianism and welfare of all Nigerians ho therefore we enact and give ourselves the following Constitution;

ARTICLE 1 -PRELIMINARY

Section 1: Party Identity

1. THE NAME of the Party (hereinafter called "the Party") shall be the Unity Party of Nigeria, abbreviated as UPN.
2. THE IDEOLOGY of the Party shall be Democracy, Justice and Egalitarianism
3. THE UPN MISSION is to promote the social, economic and political wellbeing of all Nigerians through genuine democracy characterised by transparency, accountability, welfare services and social-justice.
4. THE MOTTO of the Party shall be People First.
5. THE SLOGAN of the Party shall be UPN -Up Nigeria!
6. THE UPN FLAG is the Party logo embossed against a background of the Party's colours of Black, Green and Red. The colour BLACK signifies energy and possibilities; RED symbolises strength; and GREEN stands for productivity in all ramifications.
7. THE UPN LOGO is a flaming white candle, whose glow radiates in 36-spangled yellow rays across the background of a green map of Nigeria representing the 36 States of the federation. In totality, the UPN logo symbolises UPN's commitment to bringing the light of development and contentment into Nigeria. The black surface of the

candled means Energy .The double-tipped reddish flame on the candle originates from the two-fingered V-sign traditional to the UPN.

Section 2: Registered Office and National Secretarial

The Registered Office of the Party shall be situated within the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and it shall serve as the Party National Secretariat.

Section 3: State Offices

The Party shall maintain a State Office in every State Capital throughout the Federation.

Section 4: Policies and Programmes

1. The policies and programmes of the Party shall be in conformity with the provisions of Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; and accordingly the Party shall at all times pursue the political, economic, social, educational and other objectives as well as the Directive Principles of State Policy enshrined in Sections 13-18 of Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 as amended.
2. Without prejudice to the generality of Subsection (1) of this Section, the Party shall vigorously and urgently pursue the following policies and programmes:
 1. Free and Qualitative Education at All Levels
 2. Full and Gainful Employment
 3. Providing job seeker allowance to graduates of the Colleges of Education, Polytechnics and Universities
 4. Free Curative and Preventive Health Services for All
 5. Integrated Rural and Urban Development-epitomised by efficient electricity supply, potable water, decent and affordable housing, communication infrastructure, modern and mechanised farming, agricultural storage- facilities and massive road construction and maintenance.

Section 5: Aims and Objectives

In tandem with the spirit and letters of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the aims and objectives of the Party shall include:

1. To promote and foster the unity of the people of Nigeria;
2. To organise branches throughout the Federation;

3. To sponsor eligible candidates for election into Executive and Legislative positions at the Local Government, State Government and Federal Government levels, including to the offices of Governor and Deputy Governor, and President and Vice-President;
4. To strive faithfully to implement the policies and programmes enumerated in Subsections (1) and (2) of this Section through those of its members appointed or elected into Executive or Legislative positions throughout the Federation in the Executive or Legislative arms of Local Governments, State Governments or the Federal;
5. To promote public participation in, and when necessary, control of, the major means of production, distribution and exchange;
6. To secure for workers of all grades in Nigeria the full benefits of their labour;
7. To protect the interests of farmers and peasants of Nigeria, and to strive to obtain for them the greatest possible returns for their labour;
8. To co-operate with Trade Union Organisations and Cooperative Movements in Nigeria with a view to the development and maintenance of the economic progress of Nigeria;
9. To maintain and foster representative democracy and the strict observance of the Rule of Law in the Federation of Nigeria;
10. To co-operate with any political or other organisation whose aims and objectives are in harmony with those of the Party, and in conformity with the provisions of Chapter II of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
11. To promote social, political, and economic freedom and the general welfare of the people of Nigeria;
12. To foster and defend the Freedom of the Press;
13. To promote the strict observance of Fundamental Human Rights in Nigeria and throughout the world;
14. To do everything conducive to the realisation and promotion of the aforementioned Party aims and objectives.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Eligibility for Membership

All Nigerians of not less than 18 years of age shall be eligible for membership of the Party.

Section 2: Admission Procedure

1. A person qualified for membership of the Party may apply for membership of the Party and may be admitted as such, and be enrolled accordingly in the Party's National Register of Members.
2. Application for membership shall be made to a branch of the Party in the local government ward.
3. An applicant for membership shall pay an ENROLMENT FEE of N100 only (or any other amount that the National Congress may from time to time fix).
4. On enrolment, the member shall receive a membership card bearing (among other things) this NAME, PICTURE, MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION NUMBER and SIGNATURE.
5. Every Member of the Party shall belong to a branch of the Party in the Ward and be active thereat.
6. The possession of a Membership Card shall be prima facie evidence of a person's membership of the Party.
7. The UPN Ward Branch Secretary shall send particulars of enrolment to the National Secretariat through the Local Government Area and State Secretariat for enrolment in the National Register of Members.
8. The UPN Ward Treasurer shall forward the Enrolment Fee to the UPN National Treasurer, through the UPN Local Government Treasurer and the UPN State Treasurer.

Section 3: Obligations of Members

- 3.1 A Member shall pay a Monthly Due of N50 or such other sum as may from time to time be fixed as Monthly Membership Fee by Congress.
- 3.2. Upon enrolment, a member is ipso facto deemed:
 1. To have accepted the Principles, Policies, Programmes and Objectives of the Party, and to have agreed to conform with the Constitution, Regulations, and Rules of the Party as may from time to time be in force;

2. To have accepted to abide by all lawful directives and rulings of the Party acting through its organs;
3. To have undertaken to promote the objectives of the Party loyally and to refrain from pursuing any course of action as may be inconsistent with or inimical to the interest of the Party.

Section 4: Discipline:

Any Member of the Party shall be liable to be tried for charges of violation of the Constitution of the Party, and shall be liable to be dealt with in the manner prescribed in the First Schedule to this Constitution, provided he is a Party Member

1. Who is alleged to have disobeyed or neglected to carry out a lawful directive of the Party, or of the Chairman or other officers of the Party; or
2. Who is alleged to have conducted himself in a manner likely to bring the name of the Party into hatred, contempt or ridicule; or
3. Who, other than at a meeting of the Party, is alleged to have advocated any doctrine, view or opinion contrary to what the Party has laid down; or
4. Who is alleged to have committed a breach of any of the provisions of this Constitution
5. Who has, in every case of discipline, been accorded the Right to Fair-Hearing and due process

ARTICLE III - PARTY STRUCTURE

Section 1: Organs of Party

The Party shall be governed through the following organs:

1. UPN National Convention
2. UPN Board of Trustees
3. UPN National Executive Council
4. UPN State Congress
5. UPN State Executive Councils
6. UPN Local Government Congress
7. UPN Local Government Executive Councils
8. UPN Ward Congress
9. UPN Ward Executive Committee

Section 2: National Convention - Convention

2.1. There shall be a National Convention which shall consist of:

1. President and Vice President, if produced by the Party
2. All National Officers of the Party
3. Governors and Deputy Governors, if produced by the Party
4. State Chairmen of the Party
5. Members of the Party who are current members of the Senate
6. Members of the Party who are current members of the House of Representatives
7. Speakers, Deputy Speakers of the State House of Assembly who are members of the Party
8. Members of the Party, who are serving Ministers in the Federal Government
9. One representative from each Local Government Area to be elected by the Local Government congress.
10. Former holders of the afore-stated government and legislative offices who are still members of the Party.

2.2. The first National Convention of the Party shall be composed of one representative from each Local Government Area of the Federation.

Section 3: National Convention: Functions and Powers

3.1. The National Convention shall be the Party's Supreme Authority with plenary powers.

3.2 The functions of the National Convention shall without prejudice to the generality of Subsection (1) of this Section consist in particular of the following:

1. To consider and lay down broad principles of policy for the guidance Of the Party and all its organs;
2. 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 principles, policies, programmes, aims, and objectives of the Party;
3. Where the Party is in Opposition in the House of Representatives, to examine the policies and programmes pursued by the Federal Government in order to determine what action the Party should take;

4. Where the Party is in power in any State, to examine the policies pursued by the State Government from time to time in order to determine that it is in accord (as much as practicable) with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party;
5. To consider reports from Federal and State constituencies and to take such steps as are necessary to protect, advance, or consolidate the interests of the Party in such constituencies;
6. At the presidential election as provided by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to ensure that the Party's candidates are elected as President and Vice-President;
7. To secure at Federal elections the return of as many Party candidates as possible, so that the Senate and the House of Representatives may be controlled by the Party;
8. To raise adequate funds for the achievement of the foregoing objectives;
9. To exercise such other power and authority as are vested in it by this Constitution;
10. To take any action as may in its opinion be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down in this Constitution: and
11. To conduct elections into the National Executive Council of the Party.

Section 4: National Executive Council of the Party:

- 4.1. There shall be a National Executive Council of the Party which shall consist of the following:
 1. National Chairman
 2. Deputy National Chairman
 3. Six National Vice Chairmen, one from each geo-political zone
 4. National Secretary
 5. Deputy National Secretary
 6. Six Assistant National Secretaries, one from each geo-political zone
 7. National Treasurer
 8. Deputy National Treasurer
 9. Six Assistant National Treasurers, one from each geo-political zone
 10. National Financial Secretary
 11. Deputy National Financial Secretary

12. Six Assistant National Financial Secretaries, one from each geopolitical zone
13. National Publicity Secretary
14. Deputy National Publicity Secretary
15. Six Assistant National Publicity Secretaries, one from each geopolitical zone
16. National Legal Adviser
17. Deputy National Legal Adviser
18. Six Assistant National Legal Advisers, one from each geo-political zone
19. National Organising Secretary
20. Deputy National Organising Secretary
21. Six Assistant National Organising Secretaries, one from each geopolitical zone
22. National Women's Leader
23. Deputy National Women's Leader
24. Six Assistant National Women's Leaders, one from each geo-political zone
25. National Youth Leader
26. Deputy National Youth Leader
27. Six Assistant National Youth Leaders, one from each geo-political zone
28. National Welfare Officer
29. Deputy National Welfare Officer
30. Six Assistant Welfare Officers, one from each geo-political zone
31. National Auditor
32. Six Assistant National Auditors, one from each geo-political zone
33. All State Chairmen
34. Thirty-Seven Ex-Officio Members elected by the National Congress such that each State has at least one Member
35. President, Vice President, Senate President, Deputy Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Deputy Speaker, if members of the Party.

4.2. The Council shall meet once every quarter at such time and place as may be prescribed by the National Secretary on the direction of the National Chairman of the Party.

4.3. The Council shall be presided over by the National Chairman or in his absence by the Deputy National Chairman and in the event of both being absent, any one of the six National Vice Chairmen as may be elected by the meeting.

Section 5: Quorum

5.1. One-third of the total membership of the Council shall form a quorum.

5.2. The Council shall be the Principal Agency of the Party for the purpose of formulating and carrying out its policies and programmes and for performing such other functions as may be declared to it by the Congress. It shall also discharge, between meetings of Congress, all functions of the Congress.

Section 6: National Working Committee

6.1. There shall be a National Working Committee appointed from among its own members by the National Executive Council to discharge the functions of the Council between meetings of the Council. The National Working Committee shall consist of the National Chairman, the Deputy National Chairman, National Vice Chairmen, the National Secretary, the National Treasurer, the National Publicity Secretary, the National Legal Adviser, National Women's Leader, National Youth Leader, National Organising Secretary, National Financial Secretary, National Auditor, and National Welfare Officer.

Section 7: National Convention of the Party

7.1. The National Convention shall elect the aforementioned National Officers of the Party each of whom shall hold office for a maximum of 8 years COMPRISING of two terms of four years and elected at regular intervals as the National Convention. -

7.2. In addition to the offices mentioned in Subsection (1) of this Section the National Convention shall have power to create additional Party offices and to fill them as it may from time to time deem fit,

7.3. The National Convention may set up any Committee it may deem fit for the due discharge of its functions and charge such Committee with specific or general functions and directives in the interest of the Party.

7.4. The National Convention may delegate the power Of appointment in respect of any particular office provided for in this Section to the National Executive Council and may at any time revoke such delegated power.

7.5. Any Officer elected by the National Convention or by its authority may resign his office by notice addressed to the National Chairman of the- Party through the National Secretary, but such resignation shall not take effect until such notice has been accepted by the National Executive Council

7.6 The National Chairman of the Party may resign byte addressed to the National Convention through the National Secretary.

7.7. The appointment of any Officer of this Party found to be inefficient disloyal, fraudulent or guilty of any other serious offence may be terminated by the National Convention (i.e. the appointing authority) after due process.

Section 8: State Congress

8.1 There shall be constituted for each State a State Congress of the Party composed of the following:

1. Seven representatives from each Ward to be elected at a meeting of the Ward;
2. All Party members who are members of the National Assembly and State House of Assembly;
3. All State Officers of the Party;
4. Governor, Deputy Governor and Secretary to the State Government and any Member of the Party currently serving as a Commissioner in the State Government; and
5. Local Government Council Chairmen and Vice Chairmen

Section 9: Functions and Powers of the State Congress

9.1. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the State Congress shall have the following powers and functions:

1. To consider and lay down broad principles of policy the guidance of the Party and its organs in the State;

2. Where the Party is in power in the State, to examine the policies pursued by the State Government from time to time in order to determine that they are in accord with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party;
3. Where the Party is in opposition, to examine the policies pursued by the State Government from time to time in order to determine what action the Party should take;
4. To consider from time to time reports from Local Government Areas and to take such steps as are necessary, to protect or advance or consolidate the interests of the Party in such Local Government Areas;
5. At the gubernatorial election, as provided by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to ensure that the Party's candidates are nominated in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Council;
6. To secure, during State elections, the return of as many Party candidates as possible so that the State Legislature may be controlled by the Party;
7. To conduct election for members of the State;
8. To exercise such other powers and authority as Congress may delegate to it or as may be exercisable by it under this Constitution.

Section 10: State Executive Committee

10.1. There shall be a State Executive Committee consisting of

1. Chairman
2. Deputy Chairman
3. Three Vice-Chairmen
4. State Secretary
5. Assistant State Secretary
6. State Treasurer
7. Assistant State Treasurer
8. State Legal Adviser
9. Assistant State Legal Adviser
10. State Publicity Secretary
11. Assistant State Publicity Secretary
12. State Financial Secretary and
13. Assistant State Financial Secretary

14. State Women's Leader
15. Assistant State Women's Leader
16. State Youth Leader
17. Assistant State Youth Leader
18. State Financial Secretary
19. Assistant State Financial Secretary
20. State Organising Secretary
21. Assistant State Organising Secretary
22. State Auditor
23. Assistant State Auditor
24. State Welfare Officer
25. Assistant State Welfare Officer
26. Governors and Deputy Governors of the State, if members of the Party
27. Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the State House of Assembly, if members of the Party
28. Majority Leader or Minority Leader of the State House of Assembly, if members of the Party
29. Local Government Area chairmen of the Party
30. One Ex-officio Member per Local Government Area of the State, to be elected by the Local Government Congress

10.2. Subject to the National Convention's approval, the functions and powers of the State Executive Council shall be as may be delegated to it by the State Congress.

Section 11: State Officers of the Party

11.1. Each State Congress shall elect the aforementioned State Officers of the Party for the State each of whom shall hold office for a tenure of four years or lesser period as the State Congress may determine and shall be eligible for re-election for another term.

11.2. The State Congress may set up any Committee it may deem fit for the due discharge of its functions and charge such committees with specific or general functions and directives in the interest of the Party.

11.3. The State Congress may, with the approval of the National Convention or the National Chairman, delegate the power of appointment in respect of any particular office provided in this Section to any Committee or to any other Officer or officers of the Party, and may with the same approval revoke such delegated power.

11.4. Any Officer elected by the State Congress may resign his office by notice addressed to the State Executive Council.

11.5. The State Chairman may resign his office by notice addressed to the National Executive Council through the State Secretary but such notice shall not take effect until accepted by the National Executive Council.

Section 12: Local Government Area Congress: Composition

12.1 There shall be constituted a Local Government Area Congress consisting of:

1. All Local Government Officers of the Party
2. Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and Councillors who are members of the Party in the Local Government Council
3. Members of the State House of Assembly who are members of the Local Government Area
4. Fifteen members from each ward in the Local Government Area

Section 13: Functions and Powers of the LGA Congress

13.1. To discuss matters relating to the Local Government Area;

13.2. To ensure the success of the Party in the Local Government Area at any General Election or Bye-Election in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Council of the Party.

13.3. To elect delegates of the Local Government for the State Congress or the National Convention.

13.4. To nominate candidates to represent the Party at elections into the Local Government Councils in accordance with the directive of the National Executive Committee of the Party.

13.5. To elect members of the Local Government Executive of the Party.

Section 14: Local Government Executive Council

14.1. The Local Government Executive Council shall comprise

1. Chairman
2. Deputy Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Assistant Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Assistant Treasurer
7. Legal Adviser
8. Assistant Legal Adviser
9. Publicity Secretary
10. Assistant Publicity Secretary
11. Financial secretary
12. Assistant Financial Secretary
13. Women's Leader
14. Assistant Women's Leader
15. Youth Leader
16. Assistant Youth Leader
17. Financial Secretary
18. Assistant Financial Secretary
19. Organising Secretary
20. Assistant Organising Secretary
21. Welfare Officer
22. Assistant Welfare Officer
23. Auditor
24. Assistant Auditor

3.3: the Functions of the aforementioned Local Government officers shall relate to the Local Government Area in the same manner as the officers of the other levels relate to their areas of jurisdiction.

Section 15: Ward Congress

15.1 There shall be a Ward Congress consisting of every registered financial Member of the Party in the ward.

15.2. Section 15: Functions and Powers of the Ward Congress

1. To elect members of the Ward Executive
2. To elect delegates to the Local Government Congress and the State Congress as it may be necessary
3. To elect a Councillorship Candidate to represent the Party at the election into the Local Government Council in accordance with the directive of the National Executive Committee of the Party
4. To mobilise members in the ward to ensure victory for the Party in all elections held in the ward.

15.3. Composition of Ward Executive Council

1. Chairman
2. Deputy Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Assistant Secretary
5. Treasurer
6. Assistant Treasurer
7. Legal Adviser
8. Assistant Legal Adviser
9. Publicity Secretary'
10. Assistant Publicity Secretary
11. Financial Secretary
12. Assistant Financial Secretary
13. Women's Leader
14. Assistant Women's Leader
15. Youth Leader
16. Assistant Youth Leader
17. Financial Secretary
18. Assistant Financial Secretary
19. Organising Secretary
20. Assistant Organising Secretary
21. Welfare Officer
22. Assistant Welfare Officer
23. Auditor
24. Assistant Auditor

Section 16: Rules and Regulations for Local Government Area and Ward Meetings of the Party

16.1. Every Local Government Area or Ward meeting of the Party shall be entitled to make rules and regulations for its branch for the following purposes:

1. The appointment of an Executive Committee which shall exercise the powers and functions of the Local Government Area Meeting or Ward meeting from time to time when any of these bodies is not functioning.
2. The appointment of such officers as are deemed necessary for the efficient running of each of the bodies as may be approved by the National Executive Council.
3. Subject to the Constitution, the prescribing of the number of the representatives that will attend Local Government meetings, or Ward meetings.
4. Prescribing a quorum subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
5. Generally, making provisions for the carrying out of the functions vested by this Constitution on each of these bodies.

ARTICLE IV- MEETINGS

Section 1: Meetings of the National Convention and the State Congress

1.1. The National Convention shall be held once a year at such place and time as may be prescribed by the National Executive Council.

1.2. The State Congress shall take place at least once every two years at such place and time as may be prescribed by the State Executive Council.

1.3. The National Chairman of the Party or the State Chairman may summon an emergency meeting of the National Convention and State Congress at any time, provided that at least seven days' notice of the meeting is given to the members.

1.4. Unless there are provisions to the contrary, one-third of the members of any organ of the Party shall form a quorum.

Section 2: Rules at Meetings:

2.1. All meetings of the National Executive Council, National Convention, State Executive Council, State Congress, and Local Government Area meetings, as well as all meetings of the Party of whatever nature or description, shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in the Third

Schedule to this Constitution and the right of attendance at all meetings shall be subject to such conditions as the appropriate body may from time to time prescribe. The National Chairman may, in his discretion, require any Member or members of the Party to attend any meeting of the Party as a co-opted Member or members and such Member or members shall be admitted to such a meeting but shall not be entitled to vote.

2.2. On the application made in writing by at least 15 members of the National Executive Council or State Executive Council, the National Chairman or the State Chairman (as the case maybe) shall direct the Secretary to summon a meeting of the National Executive Council or the State Executive Council.

Section3: Election of Officers

3.1. Officers of the Party shall be elected by secret ballot.

ARTICLE V: PROVISIONS RELATING TO FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS

Section 1: Functions of Officers

1.1. The National Chairman of the Party shall be the Head of the Party and shall exercise all powers vested in him by this Constitution. He shall at all times ensure the maintenance of the Party Constitution and is thereby empowered to give directives to all officers and agencies of the Party, whether Federal or State, and to appoint ad hoc Committees of the Party on any subject, in order to ensure that this Constitution is maintained and that the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party, as laid down from time to time by the Party, are carried out

1.2. The Deputy National Chairman shall assist the National Chairman of the Party in the exercise of all his functions. If the National Chairman is away from the country or otherwise unable to carry out his duties, the Deputy National Chairman shall exercise such powers and functions as are vested in the National Chairman by this Constitution.

1.3. The: State Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the State Congress or the State Executive Committee, unless the National Chairman is present -in which case the latter shall preside.

1.4. The National Secretary, State Secretary or any of any other tier of the Party, shall keep proper records of all proceedings and minutes of the meetings. He shall summon meetings at the direction of the appropriate tier Chairman of the Party

1.5. The Deputy Secretary, whether of the National Convention or a State Congress, shall assist the Secretary in the exercise of all his functions. If the Secretary is away from the country or otherwise unable to carry out his duties, the Deputy Secretary shall be responsible for discharging all the duties and performing all the functions of the Secretary under the Constitution.

1.6. The Treasurer, whether of the National Convention or of the State `Congress, shall be responsible for ensuring that all monies received by the Party are properly accounted for and all monies spent duly authorised. He shall advise the National Convention or the State Congress as the case may be from time to time in all financial matters and keep them fully informed of the financial position of the Party, and also on the steps to be taken to ensure that the Party is able to fulfill all its financial obligations.

1.7. The Publicity Secretary, whether of the National Convention or Congress, shall see to it that due publicity is given to the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party, ant. Party members and the general public are fully informed thereof.

1.8. The Legal Adviser, and Deputy Legal Adviser whether of the National Convention or a State Congress, shall be responsible for advising the Party and its organs on all legal aspects of their activities and shall arrange for the conduct of any legal proceeding in which the Party, or any of its members or officers in his capacity as such, may be involved.

Section 2: Audit of Accounts

2.1. The National Executive Council shall appoint a competent firm of Accountants to audit all the accounts of the Party annually and place the Audited Accounts and Reports before National Convention.

2.2. The National Convention shall cause to be published in appropriate manner and in accordance with extant statutes a statement of the Party assets and liabilities.

ARTICLE VI: GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1: General Elections

1.1. The National Executive Council and the State Executive Councils shall make rules and regulations for setting up the necessary machinery for the nomination of candidates to contest the Presidential, Gubernatorial, Federal and State. Parliamentary elections respectively to the extent that the State Executive Committees directive is consistent with that of the National Executive.

Section 2: Local Government Elections

2.1. The State Congress shall make rules and regulations for the nomination of candidates for Local Government elections in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Council.

Section 3: Board of Trustees: Composition

3.1. There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Party who shall consist of the following:

1. The National Chairman
2. All past and serving Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, who held or hold the respective posts as members of the party and who are still members of the party;
3. All Past and serving National Chairmen, who are still - members of the party;
4. All past and serving Presidents of the Senate and Speakers of the House of Representatives who are still members of the party;
5. All founding members of the party as defined in this Constitution;

6. Two members, from each of the six geo-political zones; and provided that membership of the Board of Trustee shall reflect the Federal Character of Nigeria.

Section 4: Board of Trustees: Functions

4.2. The trustees shall serve as the conscience of the Party and will give direction to all the Party organs in respect of the execution of Party programmes and policies.

4.3. The trustees shall be entitled to perform all functions vested in them by law or by this Constitution, notwithstanding any vacancy in the office of any of the officers who are ex-officio trustees or entitled to be appointed as trustees,

4.4. All properties of the Party shall be vested in the Trustees.

4.5. The Trustees shall execute such Trust Deeds as may be approved or prescribed by the National Executive Council.

Section 4: Board of Trustees: Tenure

4.6. A Member appointed as Trustee shall cease to hold the office of Trustee if

1. He ceases to be a Member of the Party
2. He ceases to hold the office by virtue of which he was appointed or elected Trustee
3. He is adjudged guilty of a breach of Trust by a Court of competent jurisdiction
4. If he has been sentenced by a Court of competent jurisdiction to imprisonment for any criminal or civil offence apart from manslaughter arising from motor accident only.
5. If he becomes deceased.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section1: Without any prejudice to the Powers of the Convention Ok w other assigned organ of the Party to constitute an appropriate Committee. the appropriate time for the discharge of the Party's duties and responsibilities, the following Committees shall, be established by

the Party through the assigned organ of the Party as Standing Committees of the Party.

1. Appeal Committee
2. Disciplinary Committee
3. External Relations Committee
4. Programmes and Policies Committee
5. Research and Publications Committee
6. Ways and Means Committee
7. Training and Manpower Development Committee

1.2. Membership and composition of all the Standing Committees shall be determined by the Central Working Committee of the Party, but subject to the Approval of both the National Executive Council and the National Convention of the Party.

1.3. Each Member of the Committee shall serve for a period of four years with an opportunity for re-nomination for another four years.

1.4. No Committee Member shall serve on the same Committee for more than two terms of four years each.

1.5. A Member of the Committee shall cease to be a Member of such Committee if he or she contravenes any clause of Section 3.4(1-5) of

Article VI;

1.5.1. If he or she is found guilty by the Disciplinary Committee or any Administrative Panel of Enquiry of the Party;

15.2. Membership of the affected Member as stated in 1.5.1 shall be stored if the Appeal Committee exonerates him or her, or the NEC and Convention overturn the Appeal Committee's decision;

1.5.3. Each Committee is empowered to set up sub-committees and co-opt experts among the Party members into such sub-committees, but such coopting must be supported by two-thirds of the Committee members, done through the Party Secretary and with the approval of the appropriate Executive Council.

Section 2: Functions of the Standing Committees

2.1. In addition to any other functions that may be assigned to any of the Committees in Section 1 of this Article by the Party, the functions of the Committees shall be as stated in Section 2(2) below.

2.2. Appeal Committee

2.2.1 The Committee shall take all appeals against the decisions of all the Disciplinary Committees, Nomination Committees, Primary Election Committees and any other Administrative Panels of Enquiries set up by the Party and whose decisions have a binding effect on the concerned parties.

2.2.2. Decision of the Appeal Committee becomes binding once upheld by the NEC of the Party.

2.2.3 Reversal or alteration of the upheld decision shall be effected by the Party's Convention only.

2.2.4. The Appeal Committee of the Party shall exist at the national level only.

2.3. Disciplinary Committee

2.3.1. All chapters of the Party shall have a Disciplinary committee for the purpose of taking all cases referred to it by the Party through the Executive Council,

2.3.2. The Committee must (within 14 days of receiving any case from the Executive Council) sit, conclude its investigation and submit its report of the Executive Council.

2.3.3. The Committee may however request for and be granted an extension of seven days to conclude and submit, if in the view of the Executive Council, there is a cogent reason for such a request

2.3.4. Where the Committee fails to sit at all within the statutory 14 days, any of the concerned parties is privileged by this Constitution, to

request the Secretary of the Party at the concerned level to transfer the case to the Disciplinary Committee of the next higher level of Party.

2.3.5. The Secretary, on receiving such request, must within three working days, oblige, by forwarding all the relevant documents to the next level Disciplinary Committee through the Secretary of such level.

2.3.6. The higher level Secretary must within three working days of receiving such report, with the approval of the levels Chairman, send all the documents to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, and in this wise, Sections 2.3.2 and 2.3.3 of this Article become applicable.

2.3.7. Where the National Disciplinary Committee is involved in Section 2.3.4, any of the concerned Party may request the National Secretary to forward the case to the National Executive Council for necessary action.

2.3.8. Any Member willing to appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Committee or Administrative Panel of Enquiry, must send such appeal through his State Secretary of the Party within 7 days of such judgement, while the State Secretary must acknowledge the filing of the appeal with date and ensure that the Appeal request reaches the desk of the National Secretary within three working days of its receipt.

2.3.9. Any appeal sent after seven days is invalid and the decision of the Disciplinary Committee becomes binding.

BAD BEHAVIOUR AND PUNISHMENT

Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Party shall have power to discipline any member who:

- a. Breach of the Constitution of the party;
- b. Conduct amounting to anti-party activities;
- c. Creating division or faction of the party and by whatever cancelled, not being one provided for in this constitution;
- d. employing thuggery or violence;
- e. Embarking in litigation in any disputes concerning rights obligations and duties of member(s) of the party without having recourse party first;

PUNISHMENTS

The appropriate committee at any level of party organization may impose any of the following sanctions;

- a. fine
- b. Suspension;
- c. Removal from office
- d. Expulsion from the Party

2.4. External Relations Committee

2.4.1. The External Relations Committee shall search for relevant beneficial associations both within and outside the country, and establish and sustain a relationship with such associations on behalf of the Party.

2.4.2. All programmes or relationships shall be in agreement with the relevant laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and with the approval of the Party National Executive Council.

2.4.3. This Committee shall exist at the National level only.

2.5. Programmes and Policies Committee

2.5.1. The Programmes and Policies Committee of the Party shall regularly work out the methodologies and modalities for the implementation of the Party programmes in accordance with the Party ideology

2.5.2. The Committee shall regularly review the Party programmes and update them in line with the needs of the people and the National but within the confines of the Party's ideology.

2.5.3. The Committee shall serve as the "programmes technical committee" to governments produced by the Party to ensure compliance of such governments with the Party's ideology and manifesto.

2.5.4. The Committee shall exist at the National level only.

2.6. Research and Publications Committee

2.6.1. The Research and Publications Committee shall regularly produce all Party publications with the appropriate serial numbers (where

necessary) and determine the dissemination of such publications to Party members and the general public.

2.6.2. The Committee shall liaise with the Directorate of Organisation to conduct researches into vote-winning strategies for the Party.

2.6.3. The Committee shall liaise with the Directorate of Organisation to examine the electoral fortunes of the Party throughout the Federation.

2.6.4. Publications produced by the Committee shall however not include press releases but shall include the Party's Constitution, Manifesto, policies and programmes, collection of Party speeches, monographs, etc.

2.6.5. Every publication by the Committees shall be subject to the approval of the National Executive Council.

2.6.6. The Research and Publications Committee shall exist at the National level only

2.7 Ways and Means Committee

27.1. The Ways and Means Committee of the Party shall exist at all levels of the Party.

2.7.2. The Committee shall source for funds for the Party through legally acceptable means of fund-raising.

2.7.3. The Committee shall monitor the finances of the Party through regular inspection of the Party books and ensure strict compliance with the laid-down procedures and appropriate laws of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guiding public finances.

2.8. Training and Manpower Development Committee

2.8.1. The Training and Manpower Development Committee shall exist at all levels of the Party.

2.8.2. The Committee shall develop and oversee all the training programmes of the Party for Party members, aspirants, candidates and elected and appointed members of the Party.

2.8.3 The Committee must however liaise with the External Relations Committee on training programmes that involve foreign organisations and associates.

2.8.4 All foreign training programmes of the Party shall exclusively be the prerogative of the National Training and Manpower Development Committee.

2.8.5. All training programmes must have the approval of the Party Executive Council before implementation.

Article VIII: Amendment of the Constitution

Section 1. The Party shall have the power to amend, add to or rescind this Constitution or any Schedule hereto, provided no amendment shall not be made except at the National Convention of the Party and approved by not less than two-thirds of those persons present and voting at the Convention.

Section 2. Notice of the proposed amendment must reach the National Secretary in writing at least thirty days before the day of the meeting. Notice of the amendment shall be given to members of the National Convention at least fourteen days before the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered.

FIRST SCHEDULE

RULES FOR DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

1. Any Member accused of committing an offence against the Constitution of the party shall be informed in writing of the accusation against him not less than fourteen days before he shall be summoned to appear before a meeting of the Executive Committee of the State, Local Government Area or Ward meeting. Provided that an Officer of the National Convention or State Congress, or any Member of the National Executive Council or State Executive Council, shall only be summoned to appear before a meeting of the National Executive

Council or State Executive Council, as the case may be, and shall not be subject to disciplinary proceedings before any other of the other bodies mentioned in this Section.

2. The disciplinary body concerned shall fully investigate the accusation, and if after hearing his defence, it finds that the Member is guilty, it shall impose such punishment as is prescribed by this Constitution or (if no punishment is prescribe9, such other punishment as it deems fat
3. Any person not satisfied with the decision of the Executive Committee of the State, Local Government or Ward may appeal to the National Executive Council and, if still dissatisfied, may appeal to the National Convention, whose decision shall be final.
4. A Member of the State Executive Committee who is dissatisfied with a decision of the State Executive Council may appeal the National Executive Council and, if still dissatisfied. ma, appeal to the National Convention whose decision shall be final
5. A Member of the National Executive Council who is dissatisfied with a decision of the National Executive Council may appeal to the National Congress whose decision shall be final. The National Congress, the National Executive Council, or the Executive Committee of the State or of the Local Government or Ward Congress may appoint a Select Committee of members of the Party to exercise the powers conferred upon it by these rules, provided that any decision of such a Committee shall be subject to ratification by the body which appointed it,
6. Any person found guilty of an offence against the Constitution of the Party may be penalised through fine, reprimand, suspension from membership for a prescribed time or expulsion.

SECOND SCHEDULE

PARLIAMENTARY COUNCILS

1. There shall be a National Parliamentary Council consisting of the National Chairman, President, Vice President. Secretary to the Government of the Federation all Party Members of the National Assembly and National Secretary. All Ministers in the Federal Government shall be ex-officio but non-voting members of the Parliamentary Council.

1. a) The Parliamentary Council of the National Assembly shall elect a Parliamentary Leader from among the Members of the Senate, and a Deputy Parliamentary Leader from among the Members of the House of Representatives.
b) The National Chairman of the Party shall preside at the meeting the election of the Parliamentary Leader and the Deputy Parliamentary Leader, but shall not have any vote at the election
c) Both the Parliamentary Leader and the Deputy Parliamentary Leader shall hold office for the duration of the life of the National Assembly, and shall be eligible for re-election (if they return as duly-elected Legislators in a subsequent public election).
2. There shall be a State Assembly Council for each State consisting of State Chairman, Governor, Deputy Governor, all Party members of the State Assembly in each State and the State Secretary. All Commissioners in the State Government shall be ex-officio but non-voting members of the Assembly Council.
3. a) The Assembly Council of a State shall elect an Assembly Leader and a Deputy Assembly Leader.
b) The State Chairman shall preside at the meeting for the election of the Assembly Leader and Deputy Assembly Leader, but shall not have any vote at the election.
c) Both the Assembly Leader and the Deputy Assembly Leader shall hold office for the duration of the life of the State Assembly, and shall be eligible for re-election (if they return as duly-elected Legislators in a subsequent public election).
4. The function of the Parliamentary and Assembly Councils shall be to discuss matters that come before their respective Legislatures so that the members of the Party may adopt agreed lines of action in regard to such matters.
5. The person who is for the time being the Parliamentary or Assembly Leader in the National Assembly or the State Assembly shall preside at the meetings of the respective Councils.

6. The National Chairman of the Party, the State Chairman of the Party, and the Parliamentary and Assembly Leaders of the Party in the National Assembly and the State Assembly respectively shall be responsible to the National Executive Council and the Congress of the Party for the conduct of the Party in the implementation at Federal and State Levels of the policies and programmes which may from time to time be laid down by the Party.
7. If in the opinion of the National Executive Council, the Parliamentary Leader or Deputy Parliamentary Leader, Assembly Leader or Deputy Assembly leader in any of the Legislatures has lost the confidence of the Party, the National Chairman of the Party shall summon a meeting of the appropriate body which elected him and require the meeting either to affirm their confidence in the person concerned or elect a successor.

THIRD SCHEDULE

1. STANDING ORDERS AND RULES FOR CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. The National Chairman of the Party shall preside at all meetings of the National Congress or of the National Executive Council.
2. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the State Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the State Congress or of the State Executive Council.
3. The Chairman of a Local Government Area or Ward shall preside at meetings of the Executive Committee of any of the aforesaid bodies.
4. The proceedings of and debate of a meeting shall be in the English Language, or at the discretion of the Chairman, in any Nigerian language

2. Motions and Amendments

1. No Motion shall be entertained at a meeting unless at least seven days' clear notice of such a Motion has been given to the Secretary or the Chairman, except it is:
 - 1.1. A Motion for the adjournment of the meeting;
 - 1.2. A Motion that any subject referred to a Committee of members of the Party, or some other appropriate body;

1.3. A Motion proposing an amendment to some other Motion; or

1.4. A Motion proposing that a particular Member should be authorised to speak for more than 10 minutes,

2. A Motion or Amendment shall not be open for discussion until it Shall have been seconded.

3. A Motion or Amendment may be withdrawn at any time at the request of the Mover and with the consent of the Chairman.

4. The Chairman of a 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.

5. No Member shall be permitted to speak on any subject at any meeting for longer than 30 minutes unless the majority of members agree that he should speak for a longer time.

6. A Member must confine his observations to the subject under discussion and may not introduce irrelevant matter thereto.

7. 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.

8. No Member shall use offensive, insulting or disorderly language about any other Member of the Party, or impute improper motives to such a Member.

9. A Member desiring to speak shall put up his hand, sitting in his place and shall not rise or speak until he is called upon by the Chairman.

10. No 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.

11. 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 that has been misunderstood. Provided that the provisions of this Section shall not apply to meetings of the National Executive Council, State Executive Council or any Committee meeting.

12. Any Member deviating from the provision of these rules may be immediately called to order by the Chairman or by a Member rising to a point of order. A Member rising to a point of order shall simply direct attention to the point he desires to bring to notice and submit it to the Chairman for a decision.

13. No Member shall leave any meeting except with the permission of the Chairman.

14. 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 prejudice the right of a Mover of a Motion or Amendment to wind up.

15. 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, may be asked to leave the meeting by the Chairman.

16. Unless the Constitution otherwise prescribes, voting on any subject shall be by show of hands.

FOURTH SCHEDULE

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION

1. The Executive Council of the Party at all levels shall appoint administrative staff to assist in the effective implementation of the policies and programmes of the Party.

2. The salaries and emolument of the officers shall be fixed by the National Executive Council.
3. The following officers, with the stipulated functions and duties, shall be appointed at the National and State levels

1. Administrative Secretary

The Administrative Secretary heads the staff of the Secretariat and coordinates the activities of various heads of Department.

He will be responsible for control and proper management of both staff and assets of the Party. The Administrative Secretary shall be responsible directly to the National Secretary of the Party.

2. Director of Organisation:

1. He is expected to develop and maintain an effective and efficient responsive system that can positively appeal and mobilise the masses of the country.
2. He will evolve an effective and efficient campaign strategy that is indigenous and national in outlook so that it can respond to the needs aspirations of Nigerians.
3. He will be responsible to the Organising Secretary.

3. Director of Publicity:

He will develop an effective and efficient system that will keep the Party and its organs abreast and well-informed of policies and programmes of the Party as well as all other issues relating thereto that are of interest to the Party and the Nation.

2. He is to make Press Releases that are of benefit to the Party and get them widely circulated for the information of the generality of Nigerians.
3. He will be responsible to the publicity secretary.

4. Director of Research and Publics

1. He is to study and keep the Party machinery informed of strategies of other parties so that the Party can respond positively to such situations.

2. He is to review the Party's strategies, policies and programmes periodically.

3. He is to study and analyse past election patterns and make scientific forecasts so that the Party can be provided with information that can assist it in formulating its policies.

4. He is to ensure the gathering and collection of reliable and useful intelligent information at all levels and scientifically analyse same for Party's use.

5. He will be responsible to the Publicity Secretary.

5 Director of Finance

The Director of Finance shall:

- a. Demand for, collect and receive all dues, fees, levies, donations and other money meant for the party.
- b. Keep proper books of accounts of the income and expenditures of the party and submit them with all relevant and supporting documents to the party's Auditor for auditing as and when required.
- c. Keep the tellers and cheque books and be a co-signatory to the party's bank account.
- d. Make payments and disbursements for and on behalf of the party authorized by it.
- e. Submit a full report and a fair and true account of the financial position of the party to the Treasurer who shall present it at the Executive. Committee Meeting and National Convention.

FIFTH SCHEDULE

CODE OF ETHICS

1. The UPN will respect the tenets of internal democracy that puts the choice of political office holders on the shoulders of the people.
2. The Party shall not engage in the imposition of candidates on the people.
3. The Party in the people shall be supreme and no political office holder shall be allowed to operate in a manner that portrays him as being above his constituents.

4. All Party political office holders shall be made to be responsive and responsible to the people by adhering to this ethical code of conduct as enshrined the Party's Constitution.
5. A political office holder shall not appoint his brother, son, daughter, or wife as a political appointee under him.
6. A political office holder shall not use his position for personal or financial gain.
7. Abuse of office shall not be tolerated and will be viewed as corruptive activity.
8. Political office holders shall declare their assets publicly at the and end of their tenure in such a manner that would be justified, taking into account their legitimate salaries, allowances, emoluments and privileges receivable while in office.
9. Political office holders shall not engage in acts that could be construed as an act of tribalism and nepotism, and all their actions must be justifiable in the reasoning of a civilised world.

SIXTH SCHEDULE

SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Electoral Act for the time being in force, the Constitution of Unity Party of Nigeria shall be supreme and all its provisions shall be binding on the Party and all its organs, officers and members.
2. Except to the extent of conflicting with any provision of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or any duly established of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, any action or decision legally and rightfully taken by the Party or any of its organs in pursuance of the provisions of this Constitution shall be final and binding on the Party and all its organs and the entire membership of the Party.
3. The Party is supreme, provided that it shall derive all its powers, authority and existence from the provisions of this Constitution.
4. No personal interest or consideration shall be put first or above the interest or consideration of the Party and any elected or appointed Party Officer, who secured his position on the platform of the Party, shall be made to be responsive and be responsible the yearnings of the people.

5. This Constitution, to be cited as the Constitution of the Unity Party of Nigeria, shall take effect from this day of the first conference of the National Executive Council of the Party, this 19th day of June 2003.