

**THE
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
ACCORD**

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ATTESTATION

THE CONSTITUTION OF ACCORD

ARTICLE OF FAITH

NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PARTY

WE, a group of Nigerians cutting across all demographic variables sharing common beliefs and aspiration about how to guarantee the greatest good to the greatest majority of Nigerians have irrevocably committed ourselves to the formation of new political party, We are equally committed to providing Nigerians with credible political agenda that can qualitatively transform our lives for better.

We, the members of the ACCORD believing in the Unity, indivisibility and indissolubility of our sovereign nation under one God having firmly and solemnly resolved; To uphold the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and to commit ourselves to ONENESS AND PROGRESS:- To provide for a constitution for the purpose of effective governance of our party and for the advancement of the ideals,. aims and objectives of this party;

Do hereby, make and give to ourselves the following Constitution.

ARTICLE I

NAME OF THE PARTY

The name of the part shall be ACCORD ("The party")

ARTICLE 2

PREMACYOF THE PARTY CONSTITUTION

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or of any other law for the time being in force in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the provisions of this constitution shall take precedence over

any other Rules or Regulations of the party, where such Rules or Regulations are inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE 3

REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the party shall be situated in the Federal capital territory, Abuja with branches in every state capitals, Abuja FCT, and local government headquarters, and the Area Councils in the Federal Capital territory as well as all Wards in the Federation.

ARTICLE 4

MOTTO OF THE PARTY: The Motto of the party shall be **UNITY, ONENESS AND PROGRESS**

ARTICLE 5

SLOGAN OF THE PARTY

The Slogan of the Party shall be 'ONENESS & PROGRESS'

ARTICLE 6

FLAG OF THE PARTY The flag of the party shall be in '**GREEN AND YELLOW**' colours with a FIST showing a Thumb-Up. The alphabet "A" shall be inscribed on the said fist.

ARTICLES 7

THE ETHICAL COMMITMENT OF THE PARTY

- 6.1 The Party shall maintain a National outlook and accordingly will not tolerate any form of discrimination on grounds of tribe, religion or sex.
- 6.2 The Party shall recognize and respect the linguistic, cultural and religious diversity of its members.
- 6.3 The Party policies and programmes shall reflect highest standards of morality and conduct from all its members and leadership.

- 6.4 The Party shall contest all elections drawing its support from all sections of the society.
- 6.5 The Party shall support the emancipation of women by encouraging their representation at all levels and combat sexism.
- 6.6 The Party shall observe the principles of freedom of speech and free circulation of ideas and information and natural justice as enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999.
- 6.7 The Party endorses the universal ethics of: Truth, Integrity, Honour, Accountability in leadership, Service, hard work, Sacrifice, Self-discipline, Self-reliance, Compassion, Patriotism, Health, Knowledge, Courage, Endurance and Good neighborliness.

ARTICLE 8

PRINCIPLES AND AIMS OF THE PARTY

The Aim of the Party shall be to promote:

- i. The unity of Nigeria and Nigerians
- ii. The rule of law, equity and justice.
- iii. Good governance and equality of opportunity for ALL Nigerians.
- iv. Respect for fundamental human rights.
- v. Integrity and transparency in the conduct of public affairs.
- vi. Sustainable development, qualitative education, basic health care, eradication of hunger, elimination of poverty, rapid industrial growth, housing, full employment, provision and improvement of basic infrastructure and social services.
- vii. True federalism and equitable revenue sharing formula.
- viii. Full and productive employment with security of life, family and property.

ARTICLES 9

OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTY

To achieve these aims, the Party shall endeavour to attain power through democratic and constitutional means for the purpose of good

governance, creating socio-economic conditions for national development, and accordingly the Party shall strive to;

- i. Maintain and preserve the integrity, unity and sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as one indivisible political entity.
- ii. To attain political power through democratic and constitutional means for the purpose of good governance, creating socio-economic conditions in which the productive energies of individuals and corporate groups are enhanced and utilized for national development.
- iii. Ensure genuine restoration, permanent entrenchment and practice of democracy, the rule of law, equity and social justice.
- iv. Promote national integration and harmonious co-existence of the diverse communities of our society.
- v. Build an egalitarian society founded on the principle of freedom, equality and justice.
- vi. Uphold the independence of the judiciary, free press, as well as the freedom of speech and association.
- vii. Ensure that the programmes of the Party at all levels conform at all times with the fundamental objectives; and directive principles of state policy, as enshrined in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, as well as the Ethics, Aims and Objectives of the Constitution of the Party.
- viii. Promote mutual respect for and understanding of the religious, traditional and cultural heritage of the various communities of Nigeria.
- ix. Eradicate illiteracy in our society and promote learning and research in science and technology.
- x. Co-operate with African and other Nationalist movements and organisations that were engaged in the eradication of imperialism, neo-colonialism, racism and to strive relentlessly towards African unity, as well as greater understanding and cohesion among all peoples of African descent;

- xi. Co-operate with member nations in promoting the aims of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the Commonwealth of Nations as well as other international and regional bodies that shall be in the best interest of Nigeria and Africa.
- xii. To support and promote the struggle for the rights of, children and the disabled;
- xiii. Undertake other activities, which in the opinion of the party are conducive to the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Party.
- xiv. To 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 10

PARTY PHILOSOPHY

The Philosophical principle of the party is WELFARISM

ARTICLE 11

MEMBERSHIP

1. ELIGIBILITY

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

- (a) a member accepts the principles, aims and objective fundamental values, policies and programmes of the party
- (b) a person shall register as a member of the party at the ward in which he/she normally resides and pays the prescribe annual membership fees.
- (c) a registered member moving his/her residence from Ward to another within the Federal Republic of Nigeria may transfer his/her membership to the latter subject to any condition as the party may stipulate.

2. RESTRICTION

Membership of the party shall not be open to

- (a) persons below 18 years
- (b) persons convicted or indicted of offences involving dishonesty
- (c) foreigners
- (d) members of any of the existing registered Political Parties who still retain their membership.

ARTICLE 12

QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Qualification for membership shall from time to time be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the party or other body authorized to do so by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 13

EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP

- i. Upon registration, a member shall be deemed to have:
 - a) Accepted to abide by the provisions of this constitution as well as the policies, programmes and ideals of the party.
 - b) Accepted to abide by and obey all rules, regulations, directives and decisions of the party or any of its organs
 - c) Accepted to promote the principles, aims and objectives of the party and to refrain from pursuing any cause of action that may be inconsistent with or inimical to the interest of the party.
- ii. Every member shall have the right to actively participate in the activities and discussions of the branch of the party of which he is a member provided such member is a current financial member and subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Party or the provisions of this Constitution.
- iii. Every member shall have the right to be voted for into any office of the party provided such member of the party continuously for 12 Calendar months preceding the date of the election, maintains his/her membership.

- iv. The first elections to any Party office shall not be subject to the provisions of subsection (iii) above.
- v. Every member shall refrain from publishing or distributing to the media any material which purport to be the view of any faction or group within the Party and which tend to, contradict the views or decisions of any Party organ.

ARTICLE 13A

REGISTER OF MEMBERS

1. Register of Members.

A register of member shall be kept and maintained at the Ward Secretariat of the Party, and at every level of the parts The national executive committee shall recommend to the Conference the minimum rate of subscription that shall apply for the ensuring year, the proportion of subscription income which each ward, local government area and state Shall remit to the national Secretariat.

2. Foreign Chapters

- i. Subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee, members of the Party who reside ii countries having diplomatic relations with Nigeria not being less than fifty (50) in number, ma establish chapters of the party in their places c residence.
- ii. There shall be established in the National Secretariat the office of Coordinator of foreign Chapters who shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of the Foreign Chapters and who shall report to the National Secretary.

ARTICLE 14

LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

- 1. Without prejudice to the provision of Article 11 of this Constitution, any member who fails to renew his membership by payment of the annual subscription fee' within 6 months after the due date shall

cease to enjoy the rights and privileges of membership and if in default for upwards of 12 months, shall cease to be a member.

2. Any member who loses his membership on account of his failure to pay his dues or meet his financial obligation shall resume membership on the payment of all outstanding dues.
3. A member may be dismissed from the Party by the appropriate Party organ for any anti-party activities or for gross misconduct or for the violations of the provisions of this Constitution

ARTICLE 15 PARTY ORGAN ISATION

ARTICLE 16 ORGANS OF THE PARTY

NATIONAL

- i. The National Executive Committee
- ii. The National Convention
- iii. The National Working Committee.
- iv. The National Caucus
- v. The National Board of Trustees

ARTICLE 17 COMPOSITION OF PARTY ORGANS, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

2. The Ward Executive Committee

There shall be a Ward Executive Committee which comprises:

- i. The Chairman
- ii. The elected Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Local Government Council and Councilor of the Ward, if produced by the Party.
- iii. The Vice Chairman

- iv. The Secretary
- v. The Assistant Secretary
- vi. The Treasurer
- vii. The Financial Secretary
- viii. The Organizing Secretary
- ix. The Publicity Secretary
- x. The Ward Woman Leader
- xi. The Ward Youth Leader
- xii. Five other members elected at the Ward Congress, two of whom must be women
- xiii. Members of National, Zonal, State and Local Government Executive Committees of the Party from the Ward
- xiv. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the Ward
- xv. Elected Members of the National and State Assemblies from the wards, who are members of the Party.
- xvi. Political office holders that is to say, the elected President, the elected Vice President, Federal Ministers, Special Advisers and Special assistants to the Vice President, the elected Governors, elected Deputy Governors and State commissioners, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the Governors and Deputy Governors, Secretary to the Federal Government and Secretary to the State Government, Chairmen and members of the Board of Federal and State parastatals from the Ward who are members of the Party.

- B. The Ward Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month.
- C. The ward Executive Committee meeting shall be summoned by the Ward Secretary I upon the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds ($2/3$) of the members of the Ward Executive Committee or upon application by one-third ($1/3$) of registered members of the Ward.
- D. The Quorum at Ward Executive Committee meeting shall be one-fifth ($1/5$) of the membership.

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:

The Ward Executive Committee shall meet to transact or any of the following:

- (a) Identify the main issues (political, economic and social) which are of concern to the Ward; for consideration and action
- (b) Raise funds for the party and Candidates;
- (c) Undertake membership drive;
- (d) Implement strategies for political campaigns;
- (e) Mobilize voters at elections;
- (f) Undertake the general administration of the Ward and;
- (g) Implement disciplinary regulations and decision of the party

3. The Ward Congress.

- A. There shall be a Ward Congress which shall consist of all officers and registered members of the Party in the Ward. It shall be summoned by the Ward Secretary upon the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Ward Executive' Committee or upon application by one-third (1/3) of registered members of the Ward and shall hold every two years.
- B. The quorum at meetings of the Ward Congress shall be one-fifth (1/5) of the registered members of the Ward.
- C. A special Ward Congress may be summoned by the Ward Secretary upon a written request of two-third (2/3) of the members of the Ward Congress.
- D. Powers and Functions:
 - (i) Elect Ward delegates for the party congresses
 - (ii) Elect members of the Ward executive Committee.
 - (iii) Organize primaries for the nomination of local Government Chairman.
 - (iv) Select candidates for Councillorship election.
 - (v) Approve the budget for the Ward
 - (vi) Receive reports of officers of the Ward;
 - (vii) Receive external auditor's report

(viii) Any other business tabled by registered member.

4. The Local Government Executive Committee

A. There shall be a Local Government Executive Committee comprising:

- i. The Chairman
- ii. The elected Local Government Council Chairman and Vice Chairman, who are members of the Party
- iii. The Vice Chairman
- iv. All ward Chairmen in the Local Government Area
- v. The Secretary
- vi. The Assistant Secretary
- vii. The Treasurer
- viii. The Financial Secretary
- ix. The Publicity Secretary
- x. The Assistant Publicity Secretary
- xi. The Organization Secretary
- xii. The Auditor
- xiii. The Legal Adviser
- xiv. The Assistant Legal Adviser
- xv. Five (5) other ex-officio members at least two of whom shall be women
- xvi. The Woman Leader
- xvii. The Youth Leader
- xviii. Members of the National, Zonal and State Executive Committees from the Local Government Area
- xix. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the Local Government Area
- xx. Elected Members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area who are members of the Party.
- xxi. All political office holders that is to say, the elected President, the elected Vice President, Federal Ministers, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the President and Vice President,

elected Governors, elected Deputy Governors, State commissioners, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the Federal Governors and Deputy Governors, Secretary to the Federal Government and Secretary to the State Government, Chairman and members of the Board of Federal and State parastatals from the Local Government Area who are members of the Party.

- B. The Local Government Area Executive Committee shall meet at least once every quarter.
- C. The Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be summoned by the Local Government Secretary upon the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Local Government Executive Committee.
- D. The Quorum at meetings of the Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be one-fifth of its Membership.

E. Powers and Functions:

The powers and functions of the local Government Executive committee shall include the following:-

- (a) Identify main issues, (political social and economic) of concern in the local Government for consideration and action
- (b) Receive Reports from the Wards on:
 - i. Membership drive;
 - ii. Funds raising activities;
 - iii. Strategies for political campaigns;
 - iv. Mobilize voters for elections
- (c) Harmonize reports and distribute them to all Wards and ensure their implementation.
- (d) Provide Strategies for effective communication between the Wards and the local Government.
- (e) Undertake the General Administration of party in the local Government area including matters of discipline,

- (f) Employ and determine the conditions of service including discipline of all such paid officials.
- (h) Organize primaries for elective offices in the local Government Areas.

Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Constitution of the party.

5. The Local Government Area Congress

- A. There shall be a Local Government Area Congress comprising:
 - i. The Local Government Party Chairman and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee,
 - ii. All National, Zonal and State Executive Committee members of the Party from the Local Government Area,
 - iii. The elected Local Government Council Chairman, the elected Vice Chairman, Supervisors and Councilors who are members of the Party.
 - iv. All elected members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area, who are members of the Party.
 - v. Members of National Board of Trustees from the Local Government Area.
 - vi. All Ward Chairmen in the Local Government Area.
 - vii. Five (5) delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Area two of which shall be women elected at the Ward Congress who shall cease to function after the Local Government Area congress for which they were elected.
 - viii. All political office holders produced by the Party from the Local Government Area.

- Bi. The Local Government Area Congress shall be held at least' once every two years.
- ii. The Quorum of the Local Government Area Congress shall be one-fifth of delegates provided that no less than two third of all Wards are represented

iii. The Local Government Area Congress shall be summoned by the Local Government Secretary upon the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Local Government Area Congress

C Powers and Functions:-

The powers and functions of the Local Government congress shall include the following:

- (1) Receive situation reports from the chairman, and the Local Government council chairman elected by the party.
- (2) Elect local Government party delegates to state Congress and national convention.
- (3) Ratify the results of the ward primaries.

The State Working Committee

A. There shall be a State Working Committee comprising:

- i. The State Chairman
- ii. The State Vice Chairman
- iii. The State Secretary
- iv. The State Treasurer
- v. The State Legal Adviser
- vi. The State Financial Secretary
- vii. The State Publicity Secretary
- viii. State Auditor
- ix. The State Organizing Secretary
- x. The State Woman Leader
- xi. The State Youth Leader

B. The State Working Committee shall be summoned by the State Secretary on the order of the Chairman or upon written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the State Executive Committee who shall meet at le once every month.

C. The Quorum of the State Working Committee shall be on half (1/2) of the membership

7. The State Caucus

A. There shall be in each State a Party Caucus which shall consist of the following members:-

- i. The State Chairman of the Party as Chairman
- ii. The elected Governor and Deputy Governor, produced by the Party
- iii. The elected Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Major Party Leader and Party whip in the State House Assembly if produced by the party
- iv. The State Vice Chairman
- v. National Executive Committee Members of the State
- vi. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the State
- vii. The State Party Secretary
- viii. Minister(s), Ambassadors, Advisers and Special Assistants and other political office holders produced by the Party
- ix. Elected Members of the National Assembly who are from the state if produced by the Party

B. The State Caucus shall be summoned by the State Secretary upon the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the State Caucus shall meet at least once a month.

9. The State Executive Committee

A. There shall be a State Executive Committee comprising:

- i. The State Chairman
- ii. All National and Zonal Executive Committee members of the Party from the State
- iii. The elected Governor and Deputy Governor of the State if produced by the Party

- iv. The elected Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Party Leader and Party whip of the Party, in the State House of Assembly
- v. The State Vice-Chairman
- vi. All Party Chairmen from all Local Government Areas of the State
- vii. The State Secretary
- viii. The State Treasurer
- ix. All elected Council chairmen and their Vice if produced by the Party
- x. The State Financial Secretary
- xi. The State Assistant Financial Secretary
- xii. The State Publicity Secretary
- xiii. The State Assistant Publicity Secretary
- xiv. The State Organizing Secretary
- xv. The Assistant State Organizing Secretaries The State Legal Adviser
- xvi. The State Auditor
- xvii. Two (2) ex-officio members elected by the State congress from each of the three senatorial districts, three of whom shall be women
- xviii. The State Woman Leader
- xix. The State Youth Leader
- xx. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the State.

B. The State Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every quarter and shall be summoned by the State Secretary on the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the State Executive Committee. The Chairman or 2/3 of the members of the Executive committee shall have power to summon an extraordinary meeting.

C. The Quorum of the State Executive Committee meeting shall be one quarter (1/4) of the membership

D Powers and Functions:-

The Executive Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following

- a. Identify the main issues (political, social and economic) of concern in the state.
- b. Undertake general administration of the Party in the state and implement the decisions of the Zonal conference or directive from the National executive Committee 'or national Conference
- c. Prepare the Annual Budget
- d. Employ and determine the conditions of service of all party officials in the state.
- e. Receive reports from the Local Government Executive Committee in all matters under their jurisdiction. Execute such other powers and functions, as are vested in it by this Constitution.

10. The State Congress

- A. There shall be a State Congress which shall comprise of:
 - i. The State Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee
 - ii. All members of the National and Zonal Executive Committee from the State
 - iii. All elected members of the National Assembly and the State House of Assembly who are members of the Party
 - iv. All Commissioners, Special Advisers and Social Assistants to the Governor and Deputy Governor who are members of the Party
 - v. All elected Local Government Council Chairmen who are members of the Party
 - vi. All Local Government Party Secretaries
 - vii. All Local Government Women and Youth Leaders
 - viii. Three (3) delegates from each Local government elected at the Local Government Congress who shall cease to function after the conclusion of the State Congress for which they were elected,

- ix. Ministers, Ambassador, Advisers and Special Assistants to the President and the Vice President produced by the Party from the State.
- x. Members of the National Board of Trustees from the State.

B Powers and Functions

- a. The Congress shall meet to transact any of the following:
- b. Receive report on the State of the party from State Chairmen
- c. Elect officers of the party Conferences and delegates to party Conferences;
- d. Organise gubernatorial primaries.
- e. Ratify the results of Local Government primaries.

13. The provisions/reference in this Constitution relating to the Ward, Local Government and State levels of organization of the party shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Ward, Area Council and Federal Capital Territory levels of the party Organisation.

11. Zonal Working Committee

A. There shall be Zonal Working Committee comprising:

- i. The Zonal Chairman who shall be the Chairman
- ii. The Zonal Secretary
- iii. The Zonal Treasurer
- iv. The Zonal Financial Secretary
- v. The Zonal Organizing Secretary
- vi. The Zonal Legal Adviser
- vii. The Zonal Publicity Secretary
- viii. The Zonal Auditor
- ix. The Zonal Woman Leader
- x. The Zonal Youth Leader.

B. The Zonal Working Committee shall meet at least once every quarter and the Quorum shall be one half of its membership.

12. The Zonal Executive Committee

There shall be a Zonal Executive Committee comprising:

- i) The National Vice Chairman who shall be the Chairman.
- ii) All elected State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the Party.
- iii) All elected Members of the National Assembly from the Zone who are members of the party
- iv) Members of the National Board of Trustees from the Zone.
- v) Ministers, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the President and Vice President from the Zone who are members of the party.
- vi) All elected Speakers, Deputy Speakers, Majority Party Leaders and Party Whips of the State House of Assemblies from the Zone who are members of the Party.
- vii) The Zonal Secretary who shall be the Secretary of the Committee.
- viii) State Chairman and State Secretaries of the Party from the Zone.
- ix) The Zonal Treasurer
- x) The Zonal Financial Secretary
- xi) The Zonal Publicity Secretary
- xii) The Zonal Legal Adviser (who shall be a Legal Practitioner of at least five years standing).
- xiii) The Zonal Woman Leader
- xiv) The Zonal Youth Leader
- xv) One Ex-Officio Member from each of the States in the Zone.

A. The Zonal Executive Committee shall meet at least once every quarter provided that the Chairman or two third of the Members of the Committee shall have power to summon an extra ordinary meeting.

B. The Quorum of the Zonal Executive Committee shall be one-third of the Membership of the Committee.

C. the Zonal Executive Committee shall have the power of cooption.

13. The Zonal Congress

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

C. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

The Zonal Congresses shall:

- 1. Receive and consider reports from States in the zone on the state of the party.
- 2. Consider and review performance of governments formed by the party as to the implementations of the party's programmes and promises.
- 3. Prepare joint positions for the zone on national matters including allocations of resources, patronages, political appointments etc.

14. The National Working Committee

- A. There shall be a National Working Committee of the Party comprising:
 - i) National Chairman as the Chairman
 - ii) The Deputy National Chairman
 - iii) The National Secretary
 - iv) The Deputy National Secretary
 - v) V) The National Treasurer
 - vi) The National Financial Secretary
 - vii) The National Organizing Secretary
 - viii) The National Publicity Secretary
 - ix) The National Auditor
 - x) National Legal Adviser
 - xi) The National Woman Leader
 - xii) The National Youth Leader
 - xiii) The Six Zonal National Vice Chairmen.
- C. The Quorum of the National Working Committee shall be one-half (1/2) of its Members.

D. The National Working Committee shall meet at least once a month.

E DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

The national working committee shall meet regularly between the meetings of the national executive to give effect to all the latter's resolutions and decisions.

15. National Caucus

A. There shall be a National Caucus of the Party comprising:

- i) The National Chairman of the Party as Chairman.
- ii) The elected President and Vice President, if produced by the Party.
- iii) The elected Senate President and Deputy Senate President, the Leader and Deputy Leader, the Chief Whip and Deputy Chief Whip of the Party in the Senate who are Members of the Party.
- iv) The elected Speaker and the Deputy Speaker, the Leader and Deputy Leader, of the Party, the Chief Whip and Deputy Chief Whip of the Party in the House of Representatives, who are Members of the Party.
- v) The Deputy National Chairmen and the National Treasurer.
- vi) The Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees and six other Trustees, one from each of the six geo-political zones.
- vii) The National Secretary, who shall be the Secretary of the Caucus.
- viii) The Attorney General of the Federation, if produced by the Party.
- ix) The Secretary to the Government of the Federation, if produced by the Party.
- x) Three (3) Members of the Party who are Federal Ministers to be nominated by the President of the Federal Republic.
- xi) The Political Adviser and the Adviser on National Assembly matters to the President if produced by the Party.

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

E. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

- 1. Receive reports referred to it by the national executive.
- 2. Discuss the state of the nation and its effect on party.
- 3. Deal with matters of policy and discipline that may be referred to it by the NEC
- 4. Any OTHERS as assigned by NEC or by the national Convention.

16. National Executive Committee

- A. There shall be a National Executive Committee of the Party which shall comprise of the following:
 - i) National Chairman
 - ii) The elected President and Vice President, if produced by the Party
 - iii) The elected President of the Senate, the Deputy President of the Senate who are produced by the Party. The Leader and Deputy Leader, the Chief, Whip and Deputy Chief Whip of the Party in the Senate.
 - iv) The elected Speaker, the Deputy Speaker in the house of Representatives, who are produced by the Party, the Leader and Deputy Leader, the Chief Whip and Deputy Chief Whip of the Party in the House of Representatives.
 - v) All elected State Governors who are Members of the Party.
 - vi) The National Deputy Chairman.
 - vii) The six Zonal National Vice-Chairmen
 - viii) The Chairman and Secretary of the National Board of Trustees.

- ix) Other Members of the National Board of Trustees, who shall, however, not have any voting rights.
- x) All State Chairmen including the Federal Capital Territory.
- xi) The National Secretary
- xii) The Assistant National Secretary
- xiii) The National Treasurer
- xiv) The National Financial Secretary,
- xv) The Assistant National Financial Secretary,
- xvi) The National Organizing Secretary
- xvii) The Assistant National Organising Secretary,
- xviii) The National Publicity Secretary
- xix) The Assistant National Publicity Secretary.
- xx) The National Legal Adviser
- xxi) Two Assistant National Legal Advisers.
- xxii) The National Auditor.
- xxiii) The Assistant National Auditor.
- xxiv) The National Woman Leader.
- xxv) The National Youth Leader
- xxvi) Two Assistant National Youth Leaders.
- xxvii) Three (3) elected Ex-officio Members at least one of shall be a woman from each of the six geo-political Zones.

- A. The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once in a quarter. The National Executive Committee shall be summoned by the National Secretary on the order of the Chairman or upon a written request by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the National Executive Committee meet at the request of two-third (2/3) of its Membership who shall notify the Chairman at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting
- B. The Quorum for the meeting of the National Executive Meeting shall be one quarter (1/4) of the Members of the Committee.

C. Powers and functions:

The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for the nation-wide administration of the party and implementation of the decisions of the National Convention. It shall also:-

- a. Prepare the agenda of the National Convention
- b. Prepare and submit report and budget for the consideration of the Convention
- c. Initiate policies and programmes for the consideration of the Convention.
- d. Deal with appeals and other problems referred to it by or coming from state or other levels of the party.
- e. Make party rules for party discipline and loyalty which shall be binding on all organs and members of the party.
- f. Make Party Electoral Regulations and Guidelines, subject to ratification by the Convention, to govern the conduct of elections to all party offices at every level and to govern the procedure for selecting party candidates for elective offices.
- g. Employ and determine the conditions of service of officers of the party.
- h. Co-opt 'persons as it deems necessary, desirable or expedient to attend its meeting and take part in its deliberation provided such co-opted persons shall have no right to vote.
- i. Have the power to make Standing Rules
- j. Deal with any other matter referred to it by the national Convention.
- k. Exercise such other powers and function as are vested in it by the constitution.
- l. In addition, and subject to the provision of this constitution the NEC shall have power to:
 - a) Consider and determine policy matters for the party; as directed by the convention.
 - (b) Demand and receive Reports from the National Working Committee or any other Committees or organ of the party, and take appropriate decisions on their report or recommendations;

- (c) Create, elect, and appoint any Committees it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient, and assigned to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit and proper;
- (d) Examine the policies and programmes pursued by Governments in the federation from time to time in order to determine whether or not they are in accordance with the principles, policies, programmes; aims and objectives of the party and the constitution of the Federal of Nigeria;
- (e) Examine the action taken or legislative Bills being proposed -or passed by any government, legislative House or local Government Council and determine what actions, if any the party should take;
- (f) Examine the actions and policies pursued and legislations made in order to ensure that they are in accordance with the principles policies, programmes, aims and objective of the party, and to make recommendations or take such action as are necessary;
- (g) Secure at all elections the return of as many party candidates as possible, so as to generally have control of the legislative and executive branches of the Governments in the Federation
- (h) Consider reports from federal, state and local Government branches of the party and take such decisions as are necessary to protect, advance or consolidate the gains and interest of the party;
- (i) Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the party:
- (j) Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs of the party; and determine appeals brought before it by any member organ of the party;
- (k) Determine the type, nature and membership of standing Committees; (l) Delegate any of its powers to any Committee or any organ of the party;
- (l) Take any action as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objective of the party as laid down in this Constitution,

(m) Exercise such other power and Authority as are vested in it by this constitution.

17. The National Board of Trustees

- A. There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Party, which shall comprise the following.
 - i) Three (3) elected members including a woman from each of the six (6) geo-political Zones. Persons so elected shall not seek further elective office in the Party.
 - ii) All serving and past elected Presidents and Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who held the respective posts as Members of the Party.
 - iii) All serving and past elected Presidents of the Senate and Speakers of the House of Representatives, who held the respective posts as members of the Party.
 - iv) Any other Members of the Party that the Board of Trustees deems fit to appoint as Members of the Board of Trustees subject to ratification by the Party National Convention.
 - v) The Board of Trustees shall comprise persons of integrity who have contributed substantially to the growth of the Party.
- B. The Board of Trustees shall have and elect a Chairman and a Secretary from its Members.
- C. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees shall be the custodian of the common seal of the Party.
- D. Each member of the Board of Trustees shall hold office for a term of five years and at the expiration shall be eligible for re-election for another term of five (5) years and no more.
- E. The Board of Trustees shall regulate its own proceedings.
- F. The Board of Trustees shall meet at the instance of the Chairman or at the request of half of the members of the Board or following resolution of the National Executive Committee requesting for such a meeting.

National Convention

- A. There shall be a National convention of the Part which shall consist of:
- i. The National Chairman and other members of the National Executive Committee.
 - ii. Members of the Board of Trustees
 - iii. The Secretary to the Government of the Federation (if a member of the Party).
 - iv. All elected Governors and Deputy Governors who are members of the Party.
 - v. All elected Members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party.
 - vi. All Ministers, Ambassadors, Special Advisers and Special Assistants to the President and Vice President and all Chairmen of Boards of Federal Parastatals who are Members of the Party.
 - vii. All Zonal and State Party Secretaries (including those of the Federal Capital Territory).
 - viii. All commissioners, Special Advisers to the Governors, all State Youth and Women Leader (including those of the Federal Capital Territory).
 - ix. All Party Chairmen of the Local Government Areas.
 - x. One delegate from each Local Government Area elected at the Local Government Area Congress.
 - xi. All elected Local Government Council Chairmen produced by the Party
- B. The Quorum of the National Convention shall be on third (1/3) of the Members.
- C. The National Convention shall meet every four (4) years.
- D. A special National Convention may be convened at any time at the instance of the National Executive, Committee or two third of all State Executive Committees. The Special National Convention shall meet

to discuss special matters only which shall be specified in the notice summoning the convention.

E. POWER AND FUNCTIONS

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 and amend this Constitution,

- (i) The national Convention shall be held as and when necessary to:
 - (a) elect national officers of the Party;
- (ii) Ratify decisions of the national Executive committee on disciplinary matters referred to it;
- (iii) Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the party;
- (iv) Review or amend the Constitution of the party from time to time;
- (v) Ratify the results of presidential primaries.

ARTICLE 18

POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS

National Officers

The Party shall have the following officers who shall exercise the following powers and functions

1. The National Chairman

The National Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the party and is vested with the following powers.

- i. Summon and preside over the meeting of the National convention, the national Executive Committee, the National caucus and the National Working Committee of the Party.
- ii. Provide good and effective leadership direct the activities of the Party under the overall supervision of the National Executive Committee.
- iii. Promote and defend the integrity, policies and programmes of the party and make pronouncements for and on behalf of the Nation

Executives outlining the policies/programmes and activities of the party.

- iv. Exercise all powers vested in him by this constitution as well as ensuring strict compliance with the provisions of the constitution.
- v. Assign specific functions to any member or officer the Party.
- vi. Delegate his powers to the Deputy National Chairmen and zonal Chairmen;
- vii. Casting votes if and when necessary.
- viii. Present to the National Convention comprehensive statement of the state of the party and the political situation generally.

2. The Deputy National Chairman

- i. In the absence of the National Chairman, the deputy National Chairman shall preside at meetings and act on behalf.
- ii. The Deputy National Chairman shall also perform such other duties as delegated to him by the National chairman

3. National Secretary

The National Secretary shall be the of the party and is vested with the following powers

- i. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the party
- ii. Supervise and direct all officials of the party, and cause to be issued notice of meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive committee the National Caucus and the National Working Committee.
- iii. Cause to be kept all records of the National Convention, the National Executive committee, the National Caucuses and the National working committee as well as other records of the party
- iv. Render a written annual report of the activities of the party.
- v. Ensure the implementation of the decisions of the National convention, the National Executives Committee the National Working committee.
- vi. Carry out any other duties that may be assigned to him by the National Convention, and all other Committees.

4. The Deputy National Secretary

- i. Perform the functions of the National Secretary in his absence
- ii. Perform all such other duties. as may assigned to him by the National Secretary

5. The National Treasurer

The National Treasure shall be vested with the following powers:

- i. Receive and promptly pay into the Party's accounts all monies received for and on behalf of the party and keep all cheque books and other banking documents of the party.
- ii. Ensure prudent management of the party's funds.
- iii. Ensure that all funds received by the Party are duly received and paid into the party's accounts immediately and if for any reason that is not possible, within 48 hours of collection.
- iv. Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account and periodic reports to the National Executive Committee.

The Assistant National Treasurer

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

The National Financial Secretary

The National Financial Secretary is vested with the following powers:

- i. Collect and keep records of all dues, levies subscriptions and donations paid or made to the party.
- ii. Prepare and submit proposals for raising funds for the party for the consideration of the National Executive committee.
- iii. Undertake strict supervision of budgeting, budgetary control and financial reporting.
- iv. Protect Assets of the party and institute operating procedures through internal control.

- v. Establish and co-ordinate policies for the investment of funds to generate income for the party.

8. **Assistant National Financial Secretary**

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

9. **The National Organising Secretary** is vested with the following powers:

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

10. **The Assistant National Organizing Secretary**

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

11. **The National Publicity Secretary**

The National Publicity Secretary is vested with the following power

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

12. The Assistant National Publicity Secretary

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

13. The National Auditor

There shall be a National Auditor of the Party who shall

- i. Audit the book of Account book of the Party annually and shall report to the National Executive Committee.
- ii. Present the audited account of the Party to the National Convention annually.
- iii. Carry out any other function as may be required by the National Executive Committee.

14. The National Legal Adviser

There shall be a National Legal Adviser of the Party who shall:

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

16. Assistant National Legal Advisers

The Assistant National Legal Advisers shall perform such functions as may be assigned to them by the National Legal Adviser and deputize for him in his absence.

17. The National Woman Leader

There shall be a National Woman Leader who shall:

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

18. The Deputy National Woman Leader

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

19. The National Youth Leader

There shall be a National Youth Leader who shall:

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

20. The Deputy National Youth Leader

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

B. Officers at Other Levels

- i. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, all other officers at the Zonal, State, Local government and Ward levels shall have the same powers and functions as their corresponding National Officers. The legal advisers officers at all levels shall as far as practicable be legal practitioners
- ii. The Executive Committee at all levels shall ha power to set up committees where necessary desirable or expedient and shall assign to them such powers and functions as may be deemed fit a proper.

C. Principle of Federal Character.

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

ARTICLE 19

TENURE OF OFFICERS

All National, Zonal, State Local Government area, and Ward Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of four (4) year and shall be eligible for re-election at the appropriate Convent or Congress for a second term only.

ARTICLE 20

A. DISCIPLINE AND OFFENCES:

- i. Any breach of the Party Constitution;
- ii. Acts, conduct or utterances likely to bring the party into disrepute hatred or contempt;
- iii. Disobedience or neglect to carry out la directives of the party or any organ of officer of party;
- iv. Engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding party, its members or officials;
- v. Persistent absenteeism from meetings and in the case of an elected party officials, absenteeism also from duty;
- vi. Engaging in anti-Party activities;
- vii. Disorderly conduct at meetings, rallies etc;
- viii. Engaging in any other activities likely to cause disaffection among party/members or likely to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient conduct of party business;
- ix. Unauthorized publicity of party dispute or creating parallel party organ(s)/at any level;
- x. Factionalization or belonging to any group within the party under whatever name(s) other than as provided for in the constitution;
- xi. It shall not be lawful for the party or any members thereof to organize, retain, train, equip or encourage' the organizing, retention,

training, equipping of any member or group of members for the purposes of employing the use or display of physical force or coercion or any form of intimidation whatsoever;

- xii. A member of the Party shall not resort to court action or litigation on any dispute or on any matter whatsoever concerning rights, obligations and duties of any member(s) without first availing himself of the provisions of Article 21(B, C and D) of this constitution or in any case without giving the party at least 21 (twenty one) days' notice of intention to commence legal proceedings.

b. Disciplinary Procedure

- i. Subject to the provisions of this Article and principle of natural justice there shall be a Disciplinary committee of seven members at every level of the party appointed by the appropriate Executive Committee.
- ii. The working committee at any level may aft preliminary hearing, suspend a member from t party for a period not exceeding one month with which he shall not lose his right to contest any election. He shall be referred to the appropriate disciplinary committee within this period.
- iii. The Disciplinary committee shall inform tin member(s) in writing concerning the allegations and the place and time of hearing the case again him/her.
- iv. Parties before a Disciplinary committee shall be given an opportunity to present their case orally or writing either in person or through a counsel of h choice and call witnesses.
- v. The Executive committee of the party at t appropriate level shall stipulate a time limit. With which the disciplinary committee shall complete I work which shall in any case not be more than I days.

SANCTIONS

1. Any member of the party found to have contravened any offence disclosed under Article 21(A) shall be liable to any of or combination of the following punishment.
 1. Reprimand
 2. Censure
 3. Fine
 4. Debarment from holding any party office
 5. Removal from office
 6. Suspension from the party
 7. Expulsion from the party.
2. Subject to the provision of this article, the Executive committee at any level of the party shall have power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures against any member at the level.
3. Notwithstanding, any other provision of this constitution relating to discipline where it is proposed to expel or remove a member of the National Executive committee, public office holder, ministers, ambassadors, special Advisers, Deputy Governors, or member of any of the legislative houses, such a proposal shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee which shall refer the same to its disciplinary committee.
4. The National Executive Committee shall, on receipt of the report of the Disciplinary committee, make a decision on the matter within fourteen days.
5. A decision to expel a member of the party whether an Office Holder or not, taken or confirmed by the National Executive Committee shall become effective upon ratification by the National convention save that a member so expelled shall have cause to enjoy all privileges of membership until such ratification.

ARTICLE 20A

Appeal or Complaint

- a. Any Party member of the party who is aggrieved by the decision of any of the organs of the party shall have the right of appeal or

complaint within 14 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the party.

- b. An appeal shall be determined by the appropriate appeal' body within 21 days from the date of receipt of the appeal by the Executive Committee concerned.

ARTICLE 21

Removal or Resignation/Handover

In the event of his removal or resignation from office, a party officer shall immediately hand over to the Chairman or the Chairman's nominees, all records, files and other properties of the party in possession. In the case of the Chairman's he shall hand over to secretary at the appropriate level.

ARTICLE 22

MODE OF ELECTIONS INTO PARTY OFFICES

1. The National Convention, Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward Congresses shall meet to elect officers of the party as specified under the party constitution at the various levels of the party structure.
2. Every registered member who has satisfied the requirements for nomination and election under the party constitution, the constitution of the Federal Republic Nigeria or any office provided that officials of the party shall also be eligible to re-contest for any office so long as they conform with stipulations of the party guidelines.
3. Guidelines for elections to party offices shall be approved by the National Executive Committee of the party accordance with the provisions of the party constitution.
4. No member of the party shall be qualified for nomination election or appointment into any party office unless he has been a registered member for at least twelve (12) calendar months before the nomination.

ARTICLE 23

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO PUBLIC OFFICES

The National Executive Committee shall, subject to the provision of the party constitution, formulate guidelines/regulations for the nomination of candidates for election into public offices at all levels. The National Executive Committee shall be the final authority for resolving all disputes relating to the choice of party candidate for elections into any elective offices in the Federation.

ARTICLES 24

PROHIBITION FROM HOLDING DUAL OFFICES

Subject to the provisions of this constitution, any officer holding any office at any level shall be deemed to have resigned that position if he assumes any of the following offices:

1. President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
2. The Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
3. Governor and Deputy Governor of a State
4. Minister of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
5. Ambassador and Special Adviser/Special Assistant to the President or Vice President.
6. Member of the National and State Assemblies
7. Commissioner in a State, Special Adviser or Special Assistant to the Governor or Deputy Governor.
8. Chairman, Vice Chairman or Councilor of a Local Government Council.
9. Any full time employment or appointment in the public service.

ARTICLE 25

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANISATION

The party shall be administered through the following directorate.

The Directorates of

- a. Administration and finance,
- b. Strategy, research and communications
- c. Operations and security;
- d. Political, Mobilization and Contact.
- e. Legal

All the above Directorates shall operate under the office of the National Secretary

ARTICLE 26

PARTY FINANCE

The Party shall derive its funds from:

- i. Subscription Fees, and Levies on members
- ii. Proceeds from investments
- iii. Subventions and Donations
- iv. Gifts and grants by individuals authorized by law.
- v. Borrowing as approved by Committee.
- vi. Any other lawful means.

ARTICLES 27

BANK ACCOUNTS

- i. The party may maintain Bank Accounts at the Headquarters, city or town it is situated provided that where bank facilities are not available, the services of the Bank nearest to the city or town shall be utilized.
- ii. The Bank for such Accounts shall be decided by the Executive committee at that level of the party.
- iii. The following officers of the party, as the case may be, shall be authorized signatories to the party Bank Accounts and other financial transaction.

- a. The National Chairman .and his counterparts at Zonal, State, Local Government, and Ward levels;
- b. The National Secretary and his counterpart at Zonal State, local government and ward levels.
- c. The National Treasurer and his counterpart at Zonal, State Local government and ward levels;

Provided that the withdrawal from or debit instructions on the' account shall be valid only if authorized by the Chairman and any of the other two signatories (i.e Secretary or Treasurer)

ARTICLE 28

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

1. The National Executive Committee shall appoint a competent firm of accountants to audit the accounts of the party annually and present the report of the audited accounts at the National Convention.
2. The Zonal, State and the Local Government Executive Committees shall similarly appoint a competent firm of Accountants to audit the Accounts of the party annually and present the reports of the audited accounts at their respective congress.

ARTICLE 29.

AMENDMENT

- A. No amendment to the Party Constitution shall be valid except made at the National Convention.
- b. i. The Party shall have power to amend the party constitution provided that no amendment of the Constitution shall be made except at the National Convention of the party; and only by two-thirds(2/3d) majority of members present and voting at the National Convention.
- ii. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be give to the National Secretary at least sixty (60) d before the date of the National

Convention The notice shall be in writing and shall contain clear statement of the amendment sought and reasons for same.

- iii. The National Secretary shall cause the Notice to be circulated to the State branches of the party publication at least thirty (30) days before the date of the convention.

ARTICLE 30

COMMON SEAL

There shall be a common seal of the party, which shall be in the custody of the National Secretary of the Party.

ARTICLE 31

CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY

1. Only National officers shall have the authority to bind the party and create any legal relationship. Any other person purporting to bind the party shall produce a written authorization from one of the National officers which shall indicate the extent of the National Officer's authority.
2. The Party shall have perpetual succession and power, apart from any individual member, to acquire, hold and alienate property, enter into agreements and do all things necessary to carry out its aims and objectives and defend its members, its property and its reputation.

ARTICLE 32

OATH OF OFFICE

Every person elected or appointed, as an officer of the party shall subscribe to the Oath of office as provided in Schedule 1 & 2 to this constitution, in the language that he understands before a commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public.

ARTICLE 33

INTERPRETATION

In this constitution:

- a. Any questions as to the meaning of any section of this constitution or the schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Executive Committee whose interpretation of the same shall be final
- b. Funds include valuable properties
- c. Any reference to the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine gender.
- d. Party means ACCORD
- e. "Month" means "Calendar Month"
- f. Where computation of any figure in this constitution results in a fraction, the figure obtained shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
- g. "Youth" means a member between the ages of 18 and 40 years.

SCHEDULES

1. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I,do solemnly swear/affirm that I shall be faithful and bear true allegiance to the ACCORD. I shall discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the party and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement and well-being and prosperity of the party and Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I shall strive to pursue, enhance and achieve the aims and objectives of the party as contained in its Constitution and Manifesto; that I shall not allow my personal interest to influence my official decision; if in all circumstances I shall do right to all in accordance with the law without fear or favour, affection or ill-will, that I shall not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought to my attention or which shall become known to me as an officer of the Party, except as may be required for the discharge of my duties, and that I shall devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria. So help me God.

SCHEDULES 2

STAFF RULES

- i. Employees of the party shall be subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, zonal, State, Local Government area and Ward Secretariat of the party. Appeal on matters of discipline and routine administrative matters shall lie with the Chairman at the various levels.
- ii. All employee of the party shall be bound by the Constitution rules and Regulations of the Party and decisions of the National Executives Committee and other authorized organs of the party. A person who seeks and obtains employment in the party shall be deemed to be a member of the party.
- iii. Any employee of the party who acts in a manner likely to bring contempt or ridicule to the party or its officers or takes part in subversive activity against the party or its officers shall, if found guilty, be immediately relieved of his post. Erring employees shall be afforded ample opportunity to defend themselves before disciplinary action is taken against them.
- iv. The remuneration and other conditions of service of employees shall be determined as follows:
 - a. For national officers (employer) by the national Convention on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee.
 - b. For the State Officers (employees) by the State Congress on the recommendation of the State' Executive Committees
 - c. For the Local Government Area and Ward Officers (employees) by the Local Government Area Congress on the recommendation of the Local Government Executive Committees.
 - d. No employee of the Party shall seek nomination to enable him contest any election unless he resigns his appointment one month to the date of elections.

SCHEDULES 3
RULES OF CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

LANGUAGE TO BE USED IN MEETINGS

1. The proceedings of a party meeting at all levels of the party shall be in English Language or any Nigerian Language understood by a majority of members at the respective, levels
2. All meetings shall be chaired by the Chairman or his Deputy at the relevant level. In the event of the absence of the Chairman and his deputy, members present shall elect a member from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.
3. Rules and Regulations governing the conduct of any meeting shall be approved from time to time by the National Executive Committee.

DATED AT ABUJA THIS

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

NATIONAL SECRETARY