# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ALL PROGRESSIVE GRAND ALLIANCE (APGA)

#### PREAMBLE

WE Patriotic and progressively minded Nigerians

COMMITTED to the nation unity territorial integrity and sovereign Independence of the Federal Republic of Nigeria conscious of the need to save ourselves and succeeding generations of Nigerians from poverty, want, ignorance, corruption, and exploitation, which have constituted stumbling blocks to our nation development, political, economic and progressive;

RESOLVED to render selfless service and rekindle in all Nigerians a deep sense of patriotism and nationalism;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED to form an effective and virile progressive political platform for the better articulation and realization of these ideals. DO HEREBY make, ADOPT AND GIVE to ourselves the following Constitution.

#### NAME OF THE PARTY

There shall be Political Party, called addressed and known as All Progressive Grand Alliance (APGA), hereinafter referred to as "the party".

## **ARTICLE 2**

#### MOTTO:

The Motto shall be "BE YOUR BROTHER'S KEEPER".

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### FLAG/SYMBOL:

The colours of the Party flag shall be Green, Yellow and White.

The symbol/emblem of the Party shall be a red cockerel on a yellow background standing atop the acronym **APGA** 

## **ARTICLE 4**

#### SUPREMACY OF THE PARTY CONSTITUTION:

Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 and any other law for the time being in force, in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the provisions of this constitution shall take precedence over and above any other rules or regulations of the party and where any rule, regulation or any other enactment of the Party is inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution, such an enactment is to the extent of its inconsistency null and void and of no effect,

## **ARTICLE 5**

## NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The party's registered office/national secretariat shall be located at Abuja the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria.

## AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- a) To establish a political nation, governed under the rule of law, justice, equity, transparency, and good governance.
- b) To pursue the principles of integrity, credibility and consistency in all aspect of our National life.
- c) To canvass for membership all over the country and solicit for electoral support for the attainment of political power.
- d) To ensure the complete eradication of politics of bitterness and rancor, but shall pursue peace with all men.
- e) To promote the emergence of only worthy and credible candidates to contest elections on the party's platform at all levels.
- f) To promote revenue allocation formula that will encourage every state of Nigeria to explore and exploit its comparative advantage for the general welfare of all Nigerians and the growth of our national economy.
- g) To ensure the provisions of employment opportunities through the encouragement of growth of small and large scale industries in a deregulated economy.
- h) To create a Nigerian society where all law abiding citizens shall have equal opportunity in the pursuit of happiness.
- i) To uphold the Beijing declaration on affirmative action for women.
- j) To engage in other related ancillary, corollary and dependent actions that will further the collective group interest of the peoples of Nigeria.
- k) To promote the co-existence of the different religions, tradition and cultural heritage of the individual communities of our nation.
- I) To ensure institutionalization of meritocracy, justice, equity, accountability, citizenship rights, resource control and true federalism.
- m)To ensure the preservation of the environment and fight degradation and pollution.
- n) To fight against the monetization of our polity.

- o) To promote national dialogue to give every section of Nigeria a true sense of belonging, through the establishment of true Federalism;
- p) To establish conditions and an environment under which Nigerians will practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, and work together to build a new nation which will guarantee social justice, equal opportunity for all, mutual respect and understanding, and elimination of all forms of discrimination among our people;

## **MEMBERSHIP:**

## 1. Conditions for Membership

Membership of the party shall be open to all Nigerians, respective of their religion, ethnic group, place of birth, gender, social and economic status, provided that:

- a. The person is at least 18 years of age.
- b. The person is not a member of another political party or if he/she was such a member, has resigned such membership and shall show evidence of his/her resignation
- c. The person shall not be a serving Public Officer, a member of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, the Police or a Traditional Ruler.
- d. Application for membership shall be on individual basis.
- e. A prospective member shall register at the Ward he ordinarily resides in or his Ward of origin.

## 2. Membership Rules and Obligations

a. Members of the Party shall be obligated to affirm the Party's aims and objectives and conduct themselves in a manner that shall not bring the Party to public odium and disrespect. Shall also observe the rules and regulations embedded in this constitution.

- b. Members shall pay all dues, levies as they may be demanded by any organ of the Party authorised to do so.
- c. Members are obliged to participate in the activities of the party e.g. election campaigns, rallies, fund raising functions and meetings.
- d. Every member shall possess a membership card.

## 3. Rights and Privileges of Membership

- a. A fully registered and financially up-to-date member of the party shall have the right to vote and be voted for into any of the elective positions of the Party.
- b. A member shall enjoy all the privileges of the Party and shall be entitled to be appointed to any committee of the party on the approval of the Executive Committee of the Party at that level

## 4. Register of Members

A register of members shall be kept and maintained at every level of the Party's Secretariat, namely, Ward, Local Government Area, State and National, provided always that every such level of the Party shall update its membership records from time to time. It shall be the responsibility of a member to ensure that his/her name is duly entered in the Ward Register.

## 5. Termination of Membership

- a. Membership of the Party shall be terminated by death resignation or expulsion.
- b. Upon resignation or expulsion a member shall be legally obliged to return to the party all its properties in his/her possession.
- c. Upon the death of a member, his/her next-of-kin shall be similarly obliged.

## PARTY ORGANIZATION:

There shall be five(S) levels of Party organization, namely,

- i. Ward
- ii. Local Government Area
- iii. State
- iv. Zonal
- v. National

The organisational structure at the state level shall also apply mutatis mutandis to the Wards and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja as if it were a state.

## **ARTICLE 9**

## (1) PRINCIPAL ORGANS OFTHE PARTY

- (i) National Convention
- (ii) National Executive Committee
- (iii) Zonal Supervisory Committee
- (iv) State Congress
- (v) State Executive Committee
- (vi) Local Government Congress
- (vii) The Local Government Area Committee
- (viii) The Ward Congress
- (ix) The Ward Executive Committee
- a) Each Executive Committee shall implement the policies of and shall be accountable and report to the Congress or Convention of its level.
- b) In all respects, party hierarchy shall ascend correspondingly from the Ward to the National Level
- c) Each Executive Committee shall have a standing subcommittee to be known as the Working Committee whose composition and functions shall be as spelt out in this constitution

d) The above principal organs shall have power to set up standing and ad-hoc committees for their respective purposes.

## (2) OTHER PARTY ORGANS

- (i) Board of Trustees
- (ii) National Caucus
- (iii) Zonal Caucus
- (iv) State Caucus
- (v) Local Government Area Caucus

## **ARTICLE 10**

## **COMPOSITION OF ORGANS**

The party organs listed above shall be composed as follows:

(1) National Convention

- (i) The National Chairman and all members of the National
- (ii) Executive Committee
- (iii) Members of the Board of Trustees
- (iv) The President and the Vice President if produced by the party
- (v) Governors and Deputy governors of the party
- (vi) All Ministers, Ambassadors, Special Advisers and Special:
- (vii) Assistants to the President who are members of the Party
- (viii) State Commissioners and Special Advisers to the Governors produced by the party
- (ix) Members of the National and State Assemblies produced by the party
- (x) Members of the State Executive Committee (including that of FCT)
- (xi) All Party Chairmen of the Local Government Areas
- (xii) All Local Government Council Chairmen produced by the Party
- (xiii) 30 Delegates from each of the six geo-political zones in the country

(xiv) Two representatives elected by the party in the Federal Capital Territory for the purpose of the Congress.

## (2) National Executive Committee

- (i) National Chairman
- (ii) Deputy National Chairman South
- (iii) Deputy National Chairman North
- (iv) 6 Vice National Chairmen (Representing the Zones)
- (v) National Secretary
- (vi) Deputy National Secretary
- (vii) 6 Assistant National Secretaries
- (viii) National Treasurer
- (ix) Deputy National Treasurer
- (x) 6 Assistant National Treasurers
- (xi) Deputy National Financial Secretary
- (xii) 6 Assistant National Financial Secretaries
- (xiii) National Publicity Secretary
- (xiv) Deputy National Publicity Secretary
- (xv) 6 Assistant National Publicity Secretaries
- (xvi) National Legal Adviser
- (xvii) Deputy National Legal Adviser
- (xviii) 6 Assistant National Legal Advisers
- (xix) National Welfare Secretary
- (xx) Deputy National Welfare Secretary
- (xxi) 6 Assistant National Welfare Secretaries
- (xxii) National Organising Secretary
- (xxiii) Deputy National Organising Secretary
- (xxiv) 6 Assistant National Organising Secretaries
- (xxv) 6 Ex-Officio members (one from each Zone)
- (xxvi) The National Auditor
- (xxvii) Deputy National Auditor

- (xxviii) 6 Assistant National Auditors
- (xxix) National Women Leader
- (xxx) Deputy National Women Leader
- (xxxi) 6 Assistant National Women Leader
- (xxxii) National Youth Leader
- (xxxiii) Deputy National Youth Leader
- (xxxiv) 6 Assistant National Youth Leaders
- (xxxv) State Chairmen of the Party
- (xxxvi) The President and the Vice President of the Country if produced by the Party.
- (xxxvii) President and Deputy President of the Senate, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker produced by the Party in the Senate and House of Representatives.
- (xxxviii) State Governors, Deputy Governors if produced by the Party
- (xxxix) Majority or Minority Leader, Party Whip and their Deputies produced by the Party in the National Assembly.

## (3) Zonal Supervisory Committee

- (i) National Vice Chairman of the Zone who shall be the Chairman of the Committee.
- (ii) All the Assistant National Officers from the Zone
- (iii) State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the Party.
- (iv) National Executive Committee members who are from the Zone.
- (v) Members of the National Assembly from the Zone who are members of the Party.
- (vi) State Chairmen and State Secretaries of the Party from the Zone.
- (vii) Speakers, Deputy Speakers, Party Leaders and Whips of The State House of Assembly from the Zone who are members of the Party.

(viii) Three (3) Ex-Officio members from each of the States in the Zone.

#### (4) State Congress

- (i) The State Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee.
- (ii) The Governor and Deputy Governor if produced by the party
- (iii) The Speaker and Deputy Speaker if produced by the party.
- (iv) All members of the National Executive Committee from the State.
- (v) All members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party.
- (vi) The Leader and Chief Whip of the Party in the State Assembly
- (vii) All Commissioners and Special Advisers to Governors who are members of the Party.
- (viii) All Local Government Council Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen who are members of the Party.
- (ix) Ministers, Ambassadors, Presidential Advisers, and Presidential Political Special Assistants produced by the Party.
- (x) Chairmen and Secretaries of the Party in the Local Government Area of the State.
- (xi) Members of the National Board of Trustees.
- (xii) 3 delegates per Ward elected at the Ward Congresses who shall cease to function after the conclusion of the State Congress for which they were elected.

#### (5) **State Executive Committee**

- (i) State Chairman
- (ii) Deputy State Chairman
- (iii) Three State Vice-Chairmen, one from each Senatorial District
- (iv) State Secretary

- (v) Assistant State Secretary
- (vi) State Treasurer
- (vii) Assistant State Treasurer
- (viii) State Financial Secretary
- (ix) Assistant State Financial Secretary
- (x) State Publicity Secretary
- (xi) Assistant State Publicity Secretary
- (xii) State Legal Adviser
- (xiii) Assistant State Legal Adviser
- (xiv) State Welfare Secretary
- (xv) Assistant Stat Welfare Secretary
- (xvi) State Organizing Secretary
- (xvii) Assistant State Organizing Secretary
- (xviii) State Women Leader
- (xix) Assistant State Women Leader
- (xx) State Youth Leader
- (xxi) Assistant State Youth Leader
- (xxii) 3 Ex-Officio Members
- (xxiii) The State Governor and the Deputy Governor produced by the Party
- (xxiv) The Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Majority Leader, Minority Leader, Party Whip and their Deputies produced by the Party in the State House of Assembly.
- (xxv) The Chairman of the Party in each Local Government Area.

#### (6) Local Government Area Congress

- (i) The Local Government Party Chairman and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee.
- (ii) All National and State Executive Committee members of the Party from the Local Government.

- (iii) Local Government Council Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Supervisors an4 Councilors who are members of the Party.
- (iv) All members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area who are members of the Party.
- (v) All Commissioners and Special Advisers who are members of the Party from the Local Government Area.
- (vi) All members of the Ward Executive Committee in the Local Government Area.
- (vii) 10 Delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Area elected at the Ward Congress who shall cease to function after the Local Government Congress for which they were elected.

## (7) Local Government Area Executive Committee

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) Local Government Council Chairman and Deputy Chairman if produced by the Party.
- (iii) Deputy Chairman
- (iv) All Ward Chairmen in the Local Government Area
- (v) Secretary
- (vi) Assistant Secretary
- (vii) Treasurer
- (viii) Financial Secretary
- (ix) Assistant Financial Secretary
- (x) Publicity Secretary
- (xi) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- (xii) Organizing Secretary
- (xiii) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- (xiv) Auditor
- (xv) Legal Adviser
- (xvi) 4 Ex-Officio members at least two of whom shall be women
- (xvii) Women Leader

(xviii) Youth Leader

## (8) Ward Congress

The Ward Congress shall comprise of all officers and registered members If the Party in the Ward. The Ward Congress shall be summoned by the Ward Executive at least once in a year.

## (9) Ward Executive Committee

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) Councilor of the Ward if produced by the Party
- (iii) Vice Chairman
- (iv) Secretary
- (v) Assistant Secretary
- (vi) Treasurer
- (vii) Financial Secretary
- (viii) Organizing Secretary
- (ix) Publicity Secretary
- (x) Ward Women Leader
- (xi) Ward Youth Leader
- (xii) Five Ex-Officio members elected at Ward Congress, two of whom must be women.

## (10) Board of Trustees

There shall be a Board of Trustees consisting' oft least 24 members of unquestionable integrity drawn from the six geo- political zones of the country in whom all the movable and immovable properties of the party shall be vested. The Board shall also include the following:

- a. All former National Chairmen and -National Secretaries of the Party,
- b. All former Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Republic, produced by the. Party

- c. All former Presidents of the Niger ill Senate and Speakers of the House of Representatives, produced by the Party.
- d. Any such other members of the Party as may from time to time be nominated by the Nation I Executive Committee and ratified by the Party's National Convention.

## (11) National Caucus

- i. The National Party Chairman,
- ii. 2 Deputy National Chairmen
- iii. President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria if produced by the Party Presidential Candidate of the Party
- iv. Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria if produced by the Party Nice Presidential Candidate of the Party.
- v. Senate President, Deputy Senate President and Senate Leader if produced by the Party.
- vi. Speaker of the House of Representatives, Deputy Speaker, House Leader if produced by the Party.
- vii. Secretary to the Federal Republic of Nigeria if produced by the
- viii. Party National Secretary
- ix. Chairman Board of Trustees
- x. National Treasurer
- xi. National Legal Adviser
- xii. Former National Chairmen and National Secretaries of the Party who are still members of the Party
- xiii. Such other members as may be co-opted or appointed by the National Chairman in consultation with the National Executive Committee.

## (12) State Caucus

- i. State Chairman
- ii. State Deputy Chairman

- iii. State Governor if produced by the party/Gubernatorial Candidate of the party
- iv. State Deputy Governor if produced by the party/Deputy Gubernatorial Candidate of the party
- v. Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Leader of the State House Assembly if produced by the party
- vi. State Secretary
- vii. Secretary to the Government of the State if produced by the party
- viii. State Treasurer
- ix. State Legal Adviser
- Such other members as may be co-opted or appointed by the State Chairman in consultation with the State Executive Committee.

## (13) Local Government Area Caucus

- i. Local Government Area Party Chairman
- ii. Local Government Area Vice Chairman
- iii. Local Government Council Chairman if produced by the party/Chairmanship Candidate of the party
- iv. Local Government Area Party Secretary
- v. Councilors produced by the party
- vi. Local Government Area Treasurer of the party
- vii. Such other members as may be co-opted or appointed by the Local Government Area Chairman in consultation with the Local Government Executive Committee

## POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF PARTY ORGANS:

## (1) National Convention

The final authority of the Party shall rest with the National Convention which shall have the power to:

- a. Formulate policies and programmes of the Party
- b. Elect or remove the National Officers of the Party
- c. Receive debate and ratify reports from the Electoral Nomination Committee of the Party, and elect the presidential candidate of the Party.
- d. Demand and receive reports from the National Executive Committee and from any other Committees and or organs of the Party, and take appropriate decisions on the reports and or recommendations.
- e. Create, elect and appoint any committees it may deem necessary, desirable or expedient and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit and proper.
- f. Examine the actions taken or legislation being proposed or passed by any government, legislative house or Local Government Council and determine what further actions the party should take.
- 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 arms of Governments in the Federation.
- h. Consider reports from National, State and Local Government branches of the Party and take such decisions as are necessary to protect, advance, and consolidate the gains and interests 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 officers and members of the Party and determine appeals brought before it by any member or organ of the Party.
- k. Ratify the type, nature and membership of standing committees to be setup by the National Committee.

- I. Review, or amend the Constitution of the Party from time to time as the need arises.
- m. Delegate any of its powers to the National Executive Committee or to any other organ of the Party.
- n. Take any action as may be conducive to the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down Constitution.
- o. Appoint External Auditors to audit the Party's Account for its consideration.
- p. Exercise such other powers and authority as are vested in it by this Constitution.
- q. Ratify the minimum rate of annual subscription to be paid by members and proportion of income from subscription to be remitted to the national Secretariat,
- r. Approve the National Budget of the Party.

## (2) National Executive Committee

The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the Party and putting into effect the decisions of the national Convention. To that end, the National Executive Committee shall carry out the activities listed hereunder:

- a. Summon and prepare the agenda for the national Convention,
- b. Prepare and submit reports and budget for consideration of the Convention.
- c. Provide financial guidelines for the approval of the National Convention
- d. Formulate policies and programmes for the Party which shall be ratified by the National Convention,
- e. Deal with appeals and other problems referred to it by, or coming from the Zones, and States of the Federation.
- f. Make rules for Party discipline and loyalty which rules shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party.

- g. Make Party electoral regulations, to govern the conduct elections to all Party offices at every level and to govern me procedure for selecting party candidates for elective offices.
- h. Ratify conditions of service of the secretariat staff of the Party.
- i. Co-opt such persons as it deems necessary, desirable or expedient to attend its meeting and take part in its deliberations provided that such co-opted person shall have no voting right.
- j. Have power to make standing orders for the approval of the convention.
- k. Deal with any other matters referred to it by the National Convention or the Board of Trustees.
- I. Establish ad-hoc and or standing committees of the Party and appoint members to such committees.
- m. Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested in it by the Constitution.
- n. The National Executive Committee shall examine the actions, policies and programmes pursued and legislation made by the Governments in the Federation from time to time in order to determine whether or not they are in accord with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Party, and the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and if not, to make recommendation to the national Convention for its action or take such action as may be necessary.
- o. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party.
- p. Recommend the minimum rates of annual Subscription payable by members.
- q. Recommend the proportion of income from subscription each Ward, Local Government, and State shall remit to the National Secretariat.

- r. Appoint members of the Board of Trustees subject to the ratification of the Annual Convention,
- s. Decision of the National Executive Committee shall be binding on all organs and all members, except the National Convention,

## (3) **Zonal Supervisory Committee**

The Zonal Working Committee shall meet to transact any or all of the following:

- a. Co-ordination of policies and operations of the Party within the Zone.
- b. Liaising with the State and National headquarters.

## (4) State Congress

#### The State Congress shall:

- a. Approve budget of the Party in the State.
- b. Elect Officers of the State Executive Committee
- c. Organize Primaries for Ward, Local Council and State Assembly elections.
- d. Receive reports of Officers of the Party
- e. Receive Auditor's Report

## (5) State Executive Committee

The State Executive Committee shall:

- a. Identify the main issues, (political, social and economic) of Concern to the State;
- b. Generally administer the Party in the State and implement the decisions of the State Congress or directives from the National Executive Committee and National Convention;
- c. Prepare for ratification by the State Congress the annual budgets;
- d. Prepare the agenda of the State Congress.

## (6) Local Government Area Congress

The Local Government Area Congress of the Party shall:

- i. Elect members of the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party.
- ii. Organize primaries for elective offices in the State and National Elections.
- iii. Approve budget for running of the Party at the Local Government level.
- iv. Receive auditor s report.

## (7) Local Government Executive Committee

The Local Government Executive Committee shall:

- a. Identify the main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern in the Local Government.
- b. Receive reports from the constituent Wards on:
  - i. Membership drive
  - ii. Fund raising activities
  - iii. Strategies for political campaigns and electoral successes.
  - iv. Mobilization of voters
- c. Receive directives and materials and distribute same to all Wards and ensure their effective utilization.
- d. Provide strategies for effective communication between the Wards and the Local Government.
- e. General administration of the party in the Local Government.
- f. Put into effect decisions of the Local Government Congress and other organs of the party.
- g. Employ and determine the conditions of service (including discipline) of all secretariat staff of the party, in the Local Government Area.

## (8) Ward Congress

The Ward Congress shall:

a. Approve the budget for the Ward;

- b. Conduct Primaries for Ward elections;
- c. Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee;
- d. Elect Ward delegates to the State Party Congress;
- e. Receive reports of Officers of the Ward;
- f. Any other business as will be in the interest of the Party.

## (9) Ward Executive Committee

The Ward Executive Committee shall:

- a. See to the day-to-day running of the party.
- b. Raise funds for the day-to-day running of the party and other functions.
- c. Engage in membership drive.
- d. Draw up strategies for political campaign.
- e. See to the mobilization of voters.
- f. Put into effect decisions of Ward Congresses and other organs of the Party.
- g. Perform such other functions as will be in the interest of the Party.

## (10) National Board of Trustees

- a. The Board of Trustees shall be the conscience of the Party and ensure the highest standards of morality in all activities of the Party and call to order any officer(s) of the Party whose conduct falls below expectation.
- b. The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for feeling the pulse of the Party to ensure high morale of members and a favourable image in the eyes of the Nigerian populace.
- c. The Board of Trustees shall harmonize, co-ordinate, review Nationwide and advise, as and when necessary, on policies, programmes and activities of the Party.
- d. The Assets of the Party shall be vested on the Board who shall serve as custodian of such Assets.
- e. The Board shall co-ordinate the sourcing of Party funds.

- f. The Board shall mediate in the event of disputes between the organs of the Party, the Executive and Legislature.
- g. The Board shall carry out all such activities as may be referred to it by the National Convention.
- h. The Board of Trustees shall give to the National Executive Committee of the Party, general advice relating to particular matters and it shall be the duty of the National Executive Committee to consider the advice.
- i. Notwithstanding the above, the Board shall not take part in the dayto-day activities of running the Party, at any level.
- j. Members of the Board of Trustees can attend any meeting of any organ of the Party, except the National Executive Committee, but shall have no voting rights at any meeting of any of these bodies except the Board of Trustees meeting and the National Convention.
- k. A Trustee may be removed from office by a resolution at the Annual Convention on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee, on grounds of infirmity of mind or misconduct.
- I. A Trustee may resign his membership of the Board by tendering a letter to that effect to the National Chairman.
- m. In the event of the occurrence of a vacancy on the Board, it shall be filled by the National Executive Committee subject to ratification by the National Convention.
- n. The Board of Trustees shall regulate its own proceedings and same functions at their respective levels as the National Caucus shall draw up a Code of Conduct under which the members of the Board are to operate.
  - (i) The Trustees shall be registered under the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.
  - (ii) Six (6) of the Trustees, reflecting the Federal Character of the country, shall be registered along with the Board and shall be known as the Registered Trustees.

- (iii) The Board shall have and shall elect its own Chairman and Secretary for a period of four years and shall be eligible for another four years.
- o. A Trustee shall hold office for a period of four years and shall be eligible for renewal for another four year term thereafter.

## (11) National Caucus

- a. To receive annual financial statements from NEC for discussion and advise.
- b. To deliberate and advise on the relationship of the Party with other political parties, the Federal Government and State Governments.
- c. To provide a platform for the reconciliation of differences between Senior Party members and to ensure that there is peace in the Party and the nation.
- d. To provide a platform for wide consultation among Party leaders and for the formation of a consensus on all matters of national importance.
- e. To recommend members of the Selection and Screening Committee to the National Executive Committee.
- f. The State and Local Government Caucus shall exercise the

## **ARTICLE 12**

## POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS

## (1) National Chairman

- a. Shall be the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer of the party and shall preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee of the party.
- b. Provide good and effective leadership to the Party.
- c. Promote and defend the name, policies and programmes of the Party.

- d. Be a signatory to the Account of the Party.
- e. Direct the due execution of the programmes of the party.
- f. Have powers to delegate his duties, give lawful directives to all officers, agencies, officials, and members at all levels of the Party.
- g. Have a casting vote in the event of a tie in the meetings of the party over which he presides.
- h. Perform such other functions as may be assigned to him from time to time by the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, and the National Working Committee.

### (2) Deputy National Chairman

- a. Shall assist the National Chairman in the discharge of his duties
- b. The Deputy National Chairman who comes from the same part of the country the National Chairman committees shall act in the absence of the National Chairman while the second Deputy National Chairman shall act in the absence of the aforementioned Deputy National Chairman.
- c. The Deputy National Chairman shall in the absence of the National Chairman preside over the meetings of the National Executive Committee, the National Working Committee and the national Convention.
- d. The Deputy National Chairmen may be assigned such other functions by the National Chairman, National Convention and the National Executive Committee.

#### (3) National Vice-Chairmen

- a. Anyone of the national Vice-Chairmen shall preside over the meetings of the national Executive Committee, the National Working Committee and the national Convention in the absence of the National Chairman and the Deputy National Chairmen.
- b. Preside over their respective zonal meetings

c. Each of the National Vice-Chairmen shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to him by the national Executive Committee or the national Chairman.

## (4) National Secretary

- a. Shall supervise the day-to-day activities at the National Secretariat under the general direction of the National Chairman.
- b. Cause to be issued notices of meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee.
- c. Cause to be kept all records and books of proceedings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee.
- d. Render a written annual report of the activities of the Party.
- e. Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus and the National Working Committee.
- f. Direct the conduct of correspondence as may be required.
- g. Carry out any other duty as may be assigned to him from time to time by the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus, the National Working Committee, and the National Chairman.
- h. Be a co-signatory to the Party Account.

## (5) **Deputy National Secretary**

- a. The Deputy National Secretary shall assist the National Secretary in the discharge of his duties.
- b. In the absence of the National Secretary, the Deputy National Secretary shall act as the national Secretary.

c. The Deputy National Secretary shall be assigned such other functions as may be deemed necessary by the National Secretary or the National Chairman.

## (6) Assistant National Secretaries

- a. The six (6) Assistant National Secretaries shall be the Secretaries of their Zonal Supervisory Committee.
- b. They shall perform such function as may be assigned to them by the National Secretary.

#### (7) National Treasurer

- a. Shall receive and promptly pay into the Party's account all monies received for and on behalf of the Party.
- b. Ensure prudent management of Party funds.
- c. Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account to the National Executive Committee.
- d. d. Be a co-signatory to the Party account.

#### (8) **Deputy National Treasurer**

Shall assist and deputise for the National Treasurer.

#### (9) National Financial Secretary

- a. Collect all monies due to the Party and pay such monies to the National Treasurer not later than 5 days after collection
- b. Prepare and submit proposals for raising party funds for the consideration of the National Executive Committee
- c. Ensure that proper account and records are kept and cause such books to be produced for inspection as may be required.
- d. Prepare and submit proposal for raising funds for the Party for the consideration of the National Executive committee.

### (10) Deputy National Financial Secretary

Shall assist and deputise for the National Financial Secretary in his absence.

## (11) Assistant National Financial Secretary

Shall keep records of Party finances at the zonal level

#### (12) National Publicity Secretary

- a. Shall be responsible for Party information, promotional services and activities all of which must be consistent with the Party constitution, manifesto and policies.
- b. Initiate programmes for the general mobilization of the Party faithful and recruitment of new members.
- c. Organize seminars, workshops, rallies and campaign programmes for the attainment of the Party objectives,

#### (13) Deputy National Publicity Secretary

Shall assist and deputise for the National Publicity Secretary

#### (14) Assistant National Publicity Secretary

Shall take charge of Party publicity matters in their respective zones.

#### (15) National Welfare Secretary

- a. Shall be responsible for protocols, traveling, and accommodation
- b. Promote and sustain the welfare of the executive and members generally
- c. Organise relief assistance in emergency cases
- d. Carry out any other assignment directed by the National Chairman.

### (16) **Deputy National Welfare Secretary**

Shall assist and deputise for the National Welfare Secretary in his absence.

### (17) National Organizing Secretary

- a. Shall initiate programmes for the general mobilization of the party faithful and recruitment of new members
- b. Shall be responsible for party field and campaign operations
- c. Liaise with the National Women and Youth Leader for harmonization of programmes for attainment of party victory at all elections.

### (18) Deputy National Organizing Secretaries

Shall assist and deputise for the National Organizing Secretary in his absence

#### (19) Assistant National Organizing Secretary

Shall be responsible for party field and campaign operations in their respective Zones.

#### (20) National Auditor

- a. Shall audit the books of account of the Party bi-yearly and shall report accordingly to the national Executive Committee.
- b. In consultation with the external auditors: present the audited account of the Party to the National Convention annually.
- c. Be called upon by the National Executive Committee to audit accounts of the Party from time to time.

#### (21) **Deputy National Auditor**

Shall assist and deputies for the National Auditor in his absence.

### (22) Assistant National Auditor

- a. Shall be responsible for auditing of the Party zonal account in their respective Zones.
- b. Arrange for the conduct of litigation and defence on behalf of the Party, including its organs, officers and officials in so far as the subject of litigation pertains to the Party interest.
- c. Give legal opinion on all laws, regulations and constitution of the Party in the event of ambiguities.

## (24) Deputy National Legal Adviser

Shall assist and deputise for the National Legal Adviser in his absence.

#### (25) Assistant National Legal Adviser

Shall be the Party Legal Officer in their respective Zones.

#### (26) National Women Leader

- a. Be responsible for women mobilization and organization.
- b. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies that would endear the Party to Nigerian women.

#### (27) Deputy National Women Leader

Shall assist and deputise for the National Women Leader in her absence.

#### (28) Assistant National Women Leader

Shall be responsible for the mobilization of Party women in their respective zones.

#### (29) The National Youth Leader

a. Be responsible for mobilization of Youths for the attainment of Party objectives.

b. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies that would endear the Party to Nigerian Youths.

### (30) **Deputy National Youth Leader**

Shall assist and deputise for the National Youth Leader in his absence.

#### (31) 6 Assistant National Youth Leaders

Shall be responsible for the mobilization of Party Youths in their respective Zones.

### OTHER ELECTED MEMBERS

The other elected members of the National Executive shall perform such functions (special duties) as may be assigned to them by the National Chairman.

## **OFFICERS AT OTHER LEVELS**

Subject to the express provision(s) of this Constitution all other officers at the Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels shall have the same powers and functions at their respective levels as prescribed for National Officers provided that legal advisers at all levels shall as far as practicable be legal practitioners within the contemplation of the Legal Practitioners Act 1975.

## **ARTICLE 13**

## SPECIALADVISERS:

There shall be the offices of Special Advisers attached to office of the National Chairman. Their numbers shall not exceed five while the National Secretary shall have one Special Assistant.

In addition, Principal Officers of the Party may have attached to their offices Personal Assistants as may be determined by the National Chairman.

## **ARTICLE 14**

## ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

- (1)The Administration of the Party shall be supported, facilitated and strengthened by a bureaucracy.'
- (2)At the National and State level, as much as possible the following Departments or Directorates shall be established:

#### a. Administration

To see to the day-to-day running of the Secretariat; to keep records of Party activities including minutes of meetings of the Executive and other Committees and official communications; to provide secretarial assistance to all committees; and to handle personnel and welfare matters including administrative discipline.

### b. Finance and Supply

To keep records f the finances of the Party; to raise and administer such funds for the Party in accordance with the Party's guidelines; to keep inventory of all Party's assets; and to handle capital purchases and stores.

#### c. Planning, Research and Statistics

To plan implementation methodology for the manifesto, objectives and programmes of the party; to plan and advise on Campaign strategies to win general elections; to maintain a data bank of Party activities and related matters; to handle statistical computations; and to manage the Library of the Party.

#### d. Operation

To be responsible for organization of the Party's public functions, congress, rallies, conventions, electioneering campaigns; internal elections of the Party; and general field work.

#### e. Public Relations

To publicise the activities of the Party; to promote Party image and explain its policies and programmes; to initiate and manage lawful propaganda for the Party; to process the Party's publications; and to arrange press conferences.

### f. Legal Services

To provide all necessary legal support for the Party

#### g. Security and Intelligence

To manage security matters including training, scheduling and supervision of security personnel; to watch over and protect party property; to arrange security cover for party officers as may be decided; and to manage intelligence for the Party.

#### h. Works and Transport

To manage maintenance of Landed Property and vehicles of the Party; to handle lands and property matters; to process contracts awards and supervise contract jobs; to secure party accommodation including official quarters as may be decided; and to manage telecommunications services.

The administrative structure at other levels shall take cognizance of their manpower and operational needs and shall reflect the national and state structure as much as possible.

The Secretary at all levels shall be in charge of Party bureaucracy.

The executive organs of the Party shall have official access to Party bureaucracy for the conduct of their duties.

Staff of the Party shall not vote or be voted for at the elections of the Party except such staff who is a member of the Party has resigned his/her appointment not later than one month to the elections.

The Party shall have conditions of service for its staff.

### STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES:

- 1. The Convention or Congress at every level or its principal organ, shall have power to set up standing committees and, where necessary, adhoc committees.
- 2. Without prejudice to the above provisions, the Party shall have the following Standing Committees, subordinate and secondary to the Executive Committee at every level of the Party.
  - a. Working Committee
  - b. Finance Committee
  - c. c Publicity Committee
  - d. Screening/Selection Committee.

### **ARTICLE 16**

### DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES:

### (a) <u>Working Committee</u>

Which shall be headed by the Chairman at the respective level shall comprise all Principal officers and their Deputies shall be responsible for the implementation of decisions of its executive committee in between meetings.

#### (b) Finance Committee:

Which shall be headed by the Treasurer as Chairman, shall comprise a minimum of seven members, including the Financial Secretary to be appointed by the Party Executive Committee and shall advise the Party on ways and means of generating funds and property and investing these for the Party in accordance with the Provisions of this Constitution.

#### (c) <u>Publicity Committee:</u>

Which shall be headed by the National Publicity Secretary, shall comprise seven members and shall advise the Party on management

of information, communication, publication public relations propaganda, mass media matters and community affairs.

### (d) <u>Screening And Selection Committee:</u>

Which shall be headed by the National Chairman of the Party and Six members to be appointed by the National Working Committee and shall:

- i. Be solely responsible for the screening of Party candidate(s)/official(s) for nomination or election
- ii. Select and recommend to Independent Electoral Commission all candidates for Political Offices on the Party's platform.
- iii. Provide all guidelines for the nomination of the Party's candidate in all elections.

Members of the Committee shall not be eligible to contest for any political post. Any member, who desires to contest for any political post, shall immediately forfeit his or her membership of the Committee.

An Appeal shall lie from the decision of the Committee to the National Executive Committee whose decisions duly authenticated by the Chairman and Secretary, shall be binding on all members.

#### **ARTICLE 17**

#### ZONING OF PARTY OFFICES:

The composition of officers of the Executive Committees and other principal organs at each level of the Party shall reflect the principle of the Federal character of Nigeria, except that in the case of States, Local Governments and Wards which are ethnically homogenous, the composition shall take account of the geographical diversity of the area.

## ARTICLE 18 TENURE OF OFFICE/ELECTION OF PARTY OFFICERS

- (1) The Founder of the Party, CHIEF CHEKWAS OI(OR1E shall hold the Office of the National Chairman of the Party for an initial period off our years and may hold the office for a second term of four years if he so desires.
- (2) Other officers shall hold office for four years and shall be eligible for a second term of four years.
- (3) Election into any of the offices of the Party shall be held on a date fixed by the National Executive Committee.
- (4) Election into any of the offices of the Patty shall be by way of secret ballot.
- (5) Any officer of the Party who wants to run for another office shall vacate his office at least two months to the date of election.

## **ARTICLE 19**

## VACANCIES/REMOVAL FROM OFFICE:

1. In the event of the death or resignation of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman shall temporary hold the office until election is conducted. In the event of the death or resignation of any officer who has no deputy or assistant the Executive Committee at that level shall appoint a suitable person to act in that capacity until the next Convention/Congress of the Party, when a new officer shall be elected.

## 2. Removal From Office:

The National Chairman may be removed from office on a vote of No Confidence passed by at least two-thirds majority of votes of a National Convention convened solely for the consideration only of such motion. Any other officer of the Party may be removed by a simple majority of votes of numbers of a Convention or Congress as the case maybe of the party present and voting.

3. **Special Circumstances**: Any officer of the Party who is indicted for any Criminal Offence, bothering on fraud, embezzlement, conduct likely to bring the image of the Party to ridicule and disrespect shall be deemed to have been expelled from the Party.

## **ARTICLE 20**

### CODE OF CONDUCT AT ELECTIONS:

Any member of the Party who is contesting for any Party office or Political Office shall not establish, operate, retain, train, equip any person or group of persons, or maintain any wing, arm or vanguard in whatever form or manner and in whatever name called, for use or display of physical force or coercion in promoting or attaining any political objective.

Any member who contravenes this provision stands to be expelled from the Party.

#### **ARTICLE 21**

#### PARTY DISCIPLINE AND DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

Members of the Party must maintain a commendable and exemplary level of discipline in both their public and private lives and conduct. Because a substantial attraction of the Party derives from the element of moral authority and power, the Party will exert a serious measure of discipline for any misdemeanor aimed at tarnishing its well nurtured image and credibility.

The provision of this Constitution applies to all members of the Party and is not exhaustive as the General Convention can impose new sanctions on any erring members commensurate to his/her misconduct, even when such a misconduct and sanction is not provided for in this Constitution.

## 1. Ordinary Members

- a) Any member who disrupts any meeting of the Party by way of noise making, unruly conduct or behaviour or recourse to violence shall be suspended indefinitely pending the outcome of the report of a disciplinary committee set up by the General Congress. Such a committee may recommend either of the following relating to the suspension order, fine or outright dismissal from the Party.
- b) Any Party member whose verifiable public and private conduct tends to bring the image of the Party into disrepute and ridicule shall be suspending pending the determination of his/her case by the Disciplinary Committee. The Committee shall recommend the appropriate sanction for such misconduct.
- c) No member of the Party shall take the Party to any court of Justice in the land, no matter the circumstances, and under any condition: The relevant authorities and agencies within the Party shall resolve all matters affecting the members of the Party. A member who takes the Party to Court shall lose his/her membership, the date of which shall be determined by the General Convention.
- d) Any member of the Disciplinary Committee who is indicted for any offence stands suspended from the Committee pending the determination of his/her case. Such a determination will define his/her future relationship with Committee and/or the Party.

## 2. Officers of the Part

- a) Any officer of the Party at all levels who fails to attend one meeting of either the General Convention or Executive Committee of the Party without a written explanation seven days to the meeting shall be suspended from the Pall y for a period of one (1) month.
- b) Any officer of the Pally at all levels who fails to attend two consecutive meetings of either the General Convention or the Executive Committee without a written explanation seven days to the meeting shall be suspended from the Party indefinitely pending the

determination of his/her case by the relevant Disciplinary Committee of the Party.

- c) Any officer at all levels who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of either the General Convention or Executive Committee of the Party without a written explanation seven days to the meeting shall be dismissed from the Party by the General Convention without recourse to the Disciplinary Committee.
- d) Any officer of the Party at all levels whose verifiable public and private conduct tends to bring the image of the Party into public disrepute mid/or ridicule shall be suspended indefinitely pending the determination of his/her case by the relevant Disciplinary Committee of the Party.
- e) Any officer of the Party at all levels who disrupts any meeting of the Party by way of noise-making, unruly behaviour or conduct and/or violence shall be suspended indefinitely from the Party pending the determination of his /her case by the relevant Disciplinary Committee.
- f) No officer of the Party at all levels shall take the Party to any Court of Justice in the land, no matter the case or circumstance, and if he/she does so, such an officer stands dismissed from the Party, at any date chosen by the General Congress.
- g) Any officer of the Party at all levels who fails to discharge his/her functions, as and when due, and whose utterances or activities run counter to the spirit and letter of this Constitution shall be suspended from office indefinitely pending the determination of his/her case by the relevant Disciplinary Committee of the Party.
- h) National officers of the Party including a member of the Party elected into a legislative house shall be subject to disciplinary measures determined by the Committee established by the General Congress of the Party. This descending level of determination shall apply to other officers of the Party at their respective levels.

#### 3. Disciplinary Procedure

- a. 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 of the Party at that level.
- b. Where there is a complaint of misconduct against any Party member(s), the appropriate Executive Committee shall send same to the appropriate Disciplinary Committee to deliberate and make recommendation thereto.
- c. The Disciplinary Committee shall inform the member(s) in writing concerning the allegations and the place and time of hearing the case against him/them.
- d. Parties before a Disciplinary Committee shall be given opportunity to present their case orally or in writing either in person or through a counsel of his choice and call witnesses.
- e. The Executive Committee at the appropriate level shall stipulate a time limit, within which the Disciplinary Committee shall complete its work which shall in any case not be more than 14 days.

## 4. Punishment

- a) Any member of the Party found guilty of any of the offences disclosed in this Constitution shall be liable in any of or combination of the following punishment:
  - (i) Reprimand
  - (ii) Censure
  - (iii) Fine
  - (iv) Debarment from holding office
  - (v) Removal from office
  - (vi) Suspension from the Party
  - (vii) Expulsion from the Party

Any person found guilty of any of the offences disclosed in this Constitution shall be punished in accordance with this part based on the gravity of the offence.

# 5. Appeal

- a) Any Party member aggrieved by the decision of any organs of the Party shall have the right of appeal within 14 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the Party.
- b) An appeal shall he determined by the appropriate appeal body within 21 days from the date of receipt of the appeal by the Executive Committee concerned.

# **ARTICLE 22**

# MEETINGS

## 1. Convention and Congresses:

The Convention and Congresses of the party at the national, state and other levels shall beheld at least once a year at a date, venue and time to be decided by the appropriate executive committee after due consultations.

## 2. Emergency Meetings:

- a) Without prejudice to the above provision, the Executive Committee may summon an emergency meeting of the National Convention or Congress at any time, provided that at least seven days' notice of the meeting is given to all those entitled to attend.
- b) The Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Party at any level shall direct the Secretary of the organ to summon a meeting of the Executive Committee as the case may be on joint application made in writing by at least two-thirds of the members of that organ;
- c) Provided that where the Chairman and the Secretary fail to convene the meeting within 21 days of the receipt of the application, a meeting may be convened by a Publication in a national newspaper made by the signatories to the joint application.

#### 3. Quorum:

One third of the members of any organ of the party shall constitute the quorum for the purpose of a valid meeting of that organ; all meetings shall be summoned in writing.

#### 4. Conduct of Meetings

- a) The meeting of any organ of the Party shall be convened by the Secretary of that organ on the directive of its Chairman or, where necessary the Chairman himself.
- b) The conduct of all meetings shall be in accordance with parliamentary procedures. The Chairman shall preside over the meeting. A member shall speak only when permitted to do so by the Chairman. Discipline shall prevail. Decisions shall be taken by consensus or, failing that, by voting. In that case, a simple majority of votes cast shall be the decision.
- c) Voting at any meeting, congress or convention shall be in accordance with the rules and procedures of that organ.
- d) Indiscipline at meetings including, disruption of a meeting, shall be punished.

## **ARTICLE 23**

#### TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Constitution as herein contained, and for the purpose of stability, continuity, cohesion, orderliness, sustainable Party development, promotion of peace, harmony and progress in the Party, the Protem Executive Committee members and the Officers at all levels of the Party shall operate as Substantive Executive Committee members and Officers of the Party for a period of four years from the date the Party is registered with INEC. However, during' the transitional period, the National Executive Committee, shall have the power to change, replace or remove any Executive member at any level of the Party, if he/she is found wanting on grounds of infirmity, insanity, incompetence, bankruptcy and upon conviction of any crime involving dishonesty. At the expiration of this Transition period, any Officer may contest any election into any Party Office subject to the provision of Article 19 of this Constitution

# **ARTICLE 24**

## NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR AN ELECTION AT ANY LEVEL

The National Executive Committee shall formulate guidelines and regulations for the nomination of Candidates for election into public offices at all levels, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

## 1. Presidential Candidate

Aspirants for Presidential election shall be nominated as candidate for the Party at the National Convention but where the National Executive Committee identifies a credible and nationally acceptable person it shall nominate and present such a person for ratification only at the National Convention as the Party's Presidential Candidate.

## 2. Vice Presidential Candidate

The nomination of the Vice Presidential Candidate shall be selected by the National Principal Officers in consultation with the Presidential Candidate, the Grand Patrons and Board of Trustees Chairman.

## 3. Gubernatorial Candidate

Aspirants for the Office of the Governor of a State shall be nominated by the State Congress subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee but where the State Executive Committee identifies a credible and acceptable person, it shall nominate and present such a person for ratification only at the State Congress as the Governorship Candidate of the Party. Such ratification shall approved by the National Executive Committee.

## 4. Deputy Gubernatorial Candidate

The nomination of the Deputy Gubernatorial Candidate shall be selected by the State Principal Officers in consultation with the Gubernatorial Candidate. The nominated candidate shall be forwarded to the National Executive Committee for approval.

#### 5. National And State Assembly Members

The nomination of the candidates for the national Assembly (Senators and House of Representatives) and State Assemblies shall be made by the affected Local Government Congresses subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee but where credible and acceptable persons have been identified by the affected Local Government Executive Committees. it shall forward the name of such persons after due consultation with the State Executive Committees to the National Executive Committee for approval.

#### 6. Local Government Chairmen/Councilors

The nomination of Councillorship/Chairmanship Candidate for a Local Government shall be made by the Ward Congress/Local Government Congresses subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee but where an acceptable and credible person has been identified by the Ward Executive Committee/Local Government. Council Executive Committees and after due consultation with the State Executive Committee shall forward such candidates to the National Executive Committee for approval.

#### 7. Deputy Chairmanship Candidate

The selection of Deputy Chairmanship Candidate shall be made by the Local Government Principal Officers in consultation with the Chairmanship candidate and shall be subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee.

#### 8. Nomination Dispute

The National Executive Committee shall be the final authority for resolving all disputes relating to the choice of Party's Candidates for all elections.

The National Executive Committee shall in case of electoral dispute set up an Ad-hoc Appeal Committee to arbitrate on matters arising thereof, such Ad-hoc Committee shall report to the national Executive Committee through the national working Committee. The National Executive Committee shall be the final authority for ratification of all electoral decisions arising from the appeal Committees at all levels.

# **ARTICLE 25**

# PROHIBITION FROM HOLDING DUAL OFFICES

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

- 1. President of the Federation
- 2. The Vice-President
- 3. Governors and Deputy Governors
- 4. Ministers, Ambassadors and Special Advisers/Special Assistants
- 5. Members of the national and State Assemblies
- 6. Commissioners and Special Advisers
- 7. Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Councilors of the Local Government Councils
- 8. Any full time employment or appointment in the public service.

## **ARTICLE 26**

## DONATION FOR CAMPAIGN

- 1) Any individual, group or organisation who wishes to make a Donation (Cash or Kind) shall do so in the name of the party, either at the State or National level.
- 2) All Candidates on the platform of the Party shall have their electioneering campaign sponsored by the Party.

# ARTICLE 27

## PARTY FINANCE

The Party shall derive fund from:

- (i) Subscription, Fees, and Levies on members.
- (ii) Proceeds from investments.
- (iii) Subventions, Donations, and Fund raising
- (iv) Gifts and Grants by individuals or groups of individuals as allowed by law.
- (v) Borrowing as approved by National Executive Committee.
- (vi) Any other lawful means.

#### **ARTICLE 28**

## BANK ACCOUNT

- 1) The Party shall maintain bank Accounts in the headquarters, city or town of its various levels of organisation, provided that where banking facilities are not available, the services of the bank nearest to the city or town shall be utilized.
- 2) The Executive Committee of that level of the Party shall decide the banks for such Accounts.
- 3) The following officers of the Party, as the case may be, shall be valid signatories to the Party's Bank Accounts and other Financial transaction:
  - a. The National Chairman and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward levels.
  - b. The National Secretary and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward levels.
  - c. The National Treasurer and his counterparts at State, Local Government and Ward levels.

Provided that the withdrawals from or debit instructions on the account shall be valid if authorised by the Chairman and any of the other two signatories (i.e. Secretaries and Treasurers).

## **ARTICLE 29**

## AUDIT OF ACCOUNT:

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.

The Executive Committee at the State and Local Government shall similarly appoint a competent firm of Accountants of audit the Accounts of the Party annually and present the reports of the audited accounts at their respective Congresses.

#### **ARTICLE 30**

#### COMMON SEAL

There shall be a Common seal of the Party that shall be in the custody of the Secretary of the National Board of Trustees.

## **ARTICLE 31**

#### OATH OF OFFICE

Every officer elected or appointed as an officer of the Party shall subscribe to the Oath of Office as provided in Schedule I (Oaths 1 and 2) to this Constitution before a Commissioner for Oaths or Notary.

#### ARTICLE 32

#### AMENDMENT

- 1. This Constitution and the Schedules thereto can be amended only by the National Convention of the Party.
- 2. Notice of any proposed amendment shall be given to the National Secretary at least two months before the date of the National Convention. The notice, which shall he in writing, shall contain a clear statement of the proposed amendment and reasons for it.
- 3. Notice of proposed amendment(s) shall he served on the members of the National Convention at least 30 days before the date of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to he considered.
- 4. The Constitution or any part thereof shall stand amended if a proposed amendment is supported by at least two thirds of the delegates present and voting.
- 5. Where new positions and offices arc created as a result of the amendment of this Constitution, the relevant, Executive Committee, until the next Congress or Convention, shall fill such positions and offices, in an interim capacity.

## **ARTICLE 33**

#### INTERPRETATION

The National Executive Committee shall be the final authority as to the interpretation of any aspect of this Constitution and its ruling shall be final.

# SCHEDULES SCHEDULE 1 OATH

# 1. OATH OFALLEGIANCE

I .....do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and ,bear true allegiance to the ALL PROGRESSIVES GRAND ALLIANCE (APGA) and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and I will Preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Party and that of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so help me, God.

# 2. OATH OF OFFICE

I .....do solemnly swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the All PROGRESSIVES GRAND ALLIANCE (APGA). I will discharge my duties to the best of my ability, faithfully and in accordance with the Constitution of the Party and law and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and prosperity of the Patty and the, Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I will strive to Pursue, enhance and implement the aims and objectives of the Party as contained in its Constitution and Manifesto; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my Official decisions; that in all circumstances I will do what is right to all the members and organs of the Party and to all manner of people, according to law without fear or favour, affection or illwill; that I will not directly or indirectly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under consideration or shall become known to me as an officer of the Party, except as may be required for the due discharge of my duties, and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria. So help me God.

#### SCHEDULE 2

#### **STAFF RULES:**

- a. Employees of the Party are subject to direct control and discipline of the National, 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 various levels.
- b. All employees of the Party shall he bound by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Party and decisions of the National Executive Committee and other authorised organs of the Party.
- c. All employees of the Party who acts iii 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/her post and may, in addition, be-prosecuted. Erring employees will be afforded ample opportunity to defend themselves before disciplinary action is taken against them.
- d. The remuneration and other conditions of service of the Party shall be determined as follows:
  - (i) For National Officers (employees) by the National Chairman on the recommendation of the National 1xecutive Committee.
  - (ii) For the State, Local Government Area and Ward Officers (employees) by the State Chairman on the recommendation of the State Executive Committee.
  - (iii) No employee of the Party shall seek Nomination to enable him contest any election unless he/she resigns his/her appointment one month to the date of the elections.