

PROGRESSIVE PEOPLES ALLIANCE (P PA)
Motto: Prosperity to the people
MANIFESTO OF PROGRESSIVE PEOPLES ALLIANCE

PREAMBLE

Our country has gone through a series of unbearable political trauma since our independence and emergence as a nation state in 1960. After the amalgamation of the Northern and Southern entities of what is known today as Nigeria, our forbearers and leaders took positive steps which ensured that the amalgamation remained solid and indivisible until January 1966 when the military staged the first coup in Nigeria paving way for 39 years of military rule.

Today, we are back on the road to democracy though with wobbly steps. The present efforts at re-building the nation into a strong, united and progressive community are obviously not yielding the desired results in almost all departments of human development. The welfare of the people is neglected in favour of grandiose and white elephant programmes and projects which cannot put food on the table for the masses of Nigeria.

The out-going administration may have done its best in creating institutional and policy foundations for developmental take-off, but hunger, poverty, ignorance, disease and social infrastructural deficiency still persists in the land.

Our party, the Progressive Peoples Alliance (PPA) will work to strengthen the weak areas of the current reforms of the out-going administration because we are of the firm belief that Nigeria needs structural reforms to meet our developmental goals. Nigeria is in dire need of a sustainable democratic process which can only be guaranteed by a progressive and popular leadership with the welfare of the people at heart. It is for these and many other reasons that PPA is being launched as the political party that is totally committed to the will and welfare of the people of Nigeria.

A PPA government will strive to build a self-reliant economy that will develop on the strength of the nation's resources and by the effort of our people in pursuit of this.

- a) The State will play a leading role in the economy in order to achieve a self-reliant and just society.

- b) Diversification of the economy will be promoted in order to reduce reliance on oil and foreign capital.
- c) Improvement and effective revenue collection through a system of progressive taxation will be undertaken.
- d) Gap between the rich and poor will be narrowed through an equitable income distribution policy.
- e) Formation of co-operatives as a strategy of economic development will be encouraged
- f) Full and gainful employment for all citizens will be pursued. We believed that the attainment of technological and industrial self-reliance is a sine qua non for the construction of an independent national economy. This, We shall endeavor to achieve by means of;
 - a) Protecting domestic industries from aggressive external competition through tariff and non-tariff measures; including where necessary, outright prohibition of certain imports.
 - b) Mobilizing indigenous scientists and technologist for research and development activities. In particular, policy will focus on the development of indigenous technology: but foreign technology will also be acquired and adapted to suit our environment and needs.
 - c) Local sourcing of raw materials through greater financial commitment to research and its application.
 - d) Establishment of industrial research fund with compulsory contribution from the public and private sectors.
 - e) Establishment of a Nation Centre for Industrial Development.
 - f) Paying particular attention to agro-based industries.

In general our economic strategies will emphasize active interventions by the state where necessary and desirable, to correct observed failures of market forces. In international economic relation, our management on the national currency will stress the need of exchange rate stability. Appropriate protection for infant industries and quantitative restrictions on imports to prevent dumping and unfair international trade practices will be suitably undertaken. We will not under the pretext of trade liberalization open the nation's economy to the flood of imports from protected industries abroad.

Our fiscal policy will strive to plug tax loopholes and penalize tax evasion. Public expenditure programmes will emphasize the role of the public sector in employment generation. Social services and corrective public and private sector credits for sustainable economic growth and development. To

protect the welfare of the masses, prices of essential commodities will be moderated to minimize market exploitation.

Our incomes policy will emphasize that narrowing of income inequalities through progressive income tax structures taxation of excessive profits and enhanced urban minimum wage.

A PPA government will employ all means at its disposal to generate the necessary revenue to finance its development projects and services, especially in the areas of education and health. With this in mind, the following steps will be taken:

- a) The progressive personal income tax structure will be reviewed to ensure that those who earn more pay more
- b) Profits taxes will be increased to ensure that multinational business, banks and other business establishments which declare huge profits every year are adequately taxed.
- c) Taxes will be imposed, again, with a view to reducing the income differentials between the rich and the poor in the society.
- d) Property taxes will be increased, with a view of additional resource for government.
- e) Sales taxes on luxuries such as alcohol, cigarettes, etc will be introduced.
- f) The income tax will be reviewed to block all loopholes.
- g) The tax collection machinery will be overhauled to minimize the incidence of tax evasion.
- h) A special court will be set up to promptly deal with all cases of tax evasion

AGRICULTURE

Objective

The PPA shall accord priority to the following objectives

1. Self-sufficiency in food production
2. Agro-industrialization
3. Infrastructures for storage processing and marketing
4. Increase foreign exchange earnings

Strategy

Peasant farmers and co-operatives are the very elements in our agricultural transformation programmes. They shall be encouraged to.

- i. Increase their productivity

- ii. Enhance the profitability
- iii. Obtain fertilizers, insecticides and other farms inputs
- iv. Make available modern faming machinery to reduce their physical hardship encountered by use of primitive tools.

Land

The land use decree shall be strengthened to facilitate easy access to land by peasant farmers shall be given top priority. The party shall prevent a situation whereby the dispossession of the people of their land would result in land hunger.

AGRICULTURAL INPUTS AND EXTENSION SERVICE

Agricultural inputs shall be delivered to peasant farmers and cooperatives. Agricultural Extension Services will be revitalized and strengthened. It shall therefore be the policy of the party that extension services shall be made available to entire farming populace in order to provide new techniques and processes.

Railways

The party will invest in the rail component of the urban Mass Transit System, and will not only continue with the process of revamping the railways but would also make funds available for purchasing new rolling stocks and refurbishing of existing ones. Major agricultural and industrial parts of the country hitherto not reached by rail line shall be effectively linked by the party.

Air Transport

The PPA standard strategy shall be the development and sustenance of a viable air transport system for the country.

Operation of private airlines in the domestic and international routes shall be encouraged and regulated to ensure reliability and safety. The Nigeria Airports Authority shall be adequately funded to enable it acquire and maintain vital equipment necessary for regular maintenance and operation of aircrafts.

Water Transport

The party shall develop the inland waterways, with emphasis on Dredging the beds of all major rivers so that they can be navigable throughout the

year Providing financial allocation for the manufacturing of necessary vehicles required for water transport.

Communication

The party shall ensure:

Further reorganization of the country's postal system with a view to guaranteeing its efficiency the commercialization of NITEL and NIPOST shall be pursued, modernization of communications equipment belonging to NITEL, NIPOST and the Nigerian Television Authority.

EDUCATION

Objectives

The PPA sees education as a cardinal social objective that must be pursued vigorously by the state. It is an important social instrument for national unity amongst the diverse people of Nigeria. Therefore, to achieve the much desired national unity, the PPA government shall; Ensure that our educational system be improved upon and adjusted where necessary.

Ultimately provide free, functional education at all levels, Integrate in the formal education system the political education of the citizenry, with emphasis of the provisions of the constitution of the State and democratic principles.

Foster and expand education all levels and fields of knowledge Encourage private and voluntary organizations to establish schools, subject to compliance and adherence to government if they so wish.

STRATEGY

The party strategy shall be at each level of formal education. to provide the full complement of staff, equipment and infrastructures that will create the environment for literacy expansion, reading culture, habit of scientific inquiry, and research and development.

PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION (NURSERY)

Voluntary- agencies and, individuals shall be free to establish Nursery school institutions, but PPA government shall set guidelines to determine the amount of school fees and other levies to be charged so as to protect the interest of parents and their wards.

Adequate arrangement of effective supervision of such schools shall be made to check deviation from set standards.

Nursery education shall be community-oriented with the curricula structured such that they shall inculcate into the children at this early stage the cultural, moral and religious values of their immediate environment. PPA government shall ensure easy access to nursery schools by a cross-section of the community where it is located so as to prevent nursery education from becoming an elitist institution.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

In the view of the PPA, primary education is the pillar on which rests the country's educational system. Therefore, primary education shall be free, compulsory and relevant to our overall national needs. Efforts will be made to reduce the incidence of drop-outs by strengthening the curricular such that graduates can become truly literate and primarily equipped for the life ahead. PPA Government shall provide adequate classrooms, books and instructional materials at no cost to parents.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

State-run secondary schools throughout the country shall be free, As secondary education serves as a preparatory stage for useful living within the community and preparation for higher education, it shall be made more functional and the curricular designed to make school leavers, especially those who are unable to go beyond this level, well equipped for self-employment The current (6-3-3-4 system shall be strengthened. Adequate boarding facilities and instructional materials shall be made available to create a conducive atmosphere for effective learning. Teachers' salaries will be paid regularly and promptly to ensure their effective performance at all times.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

PPA government shall give technical education the key place it deserves in Nigeria's technological progress. Technical education shall therefore be given top priority.

The PPA government shall provide

- a) Improve hostel facilities, conducive for effective learning.
- b) Free tuition to students.

- c) Essential books, instructional materials, libraries, classrooms and equipment.

TEACHER EDUCATION

PPA government shall

- a. Guarantee accommodation for teachers both in urban and rural areas.
- b. Introduce mechanisms for providing study leave.
- c. Establish regular meetings with principals, teachers union and Parents/teachers associations on issues relating to policy formulation, review and implementation.
- d. Ensuring prompt payment of pensions and gratuities to retired teacher; and
- e. Ensure that teachers are provided with adequate instructional materials by the authority.

NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

As a large proportion of the Nigerian populace is illiterate, the party is committed to giving basic literacy and nomadic education to enable citizens contribute to the socio-economic development of the nation. The efforts already set in motion by government and other agencies shall be strengthened and intensified through adult education programmes.

FUNDING EDUCATION

The PPA government considers funding as one of the critical factors on its strategy of education policy implementation. No nation can achieve greatness and where more than 70 percent of its population is illiterate.

The party strategy of education takes cognizance of this situation and also the fact that success in implementation hinges in part on the level and quantum of funding.

The party's commitment to free education at all levels is premise on this belief.

HEALTH

Objective

The PPA shall present a comprehensive health policy tier for the country, the essential aim of which shall be a guarantee on the health for all the

citizens. Under the PPA National Health Programme, free medical services shall be available to all children from birth up to the age of 12. All pupils in post-primary schools, as well as students in university and other tertiary institution up to graduation. Free medical service will also cover all old people from the age of 65.

STRATEGY

The party shall set up a National Health Insurance Scheme to which contributions will be made by all workers according to income, and all private companies and business houses under an arrangement that will not stifle production and industrial growth.

Primary health care shall be an essential element of our National Health Programme and shall guarantee the provision of clean water, healthy food in a healthy shelter and environment. While the PPA shall improve the standards of the country's general and specialized hospitals, the party shall pursue a policy of progressive integration of our traditional medical practice into the national modern health programme.

The PPA shall promote systematic and adequately fund research into all forms of traditional medicine and shall encourage the establishment of traditional health institutions in all the states to complement the national effort in health care delivery through conventional medical practice.

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

Objectives

The party's objective on housing and environment are grouped into three broad categories, namely:

- 1) provision of housing for all Nigerian
- 2) improving the environment through programmes like environmental sanitation, annual tree planting, tree supply of nursery plants, reclamation of land for building projects and the fight against erosion among others, and
- 3) disposal of industrial wastes in order to protect the lives of our people as well as plants and animals through controlled. Pollution of water and the atmosphere and vigilance against industrial waste policies of the advanced countries.

STRATEGY

A PPA government shall therefore endeavor to

- a) simplify the process of acquiring land for building purposes;
- b) initiate research into and development of local building materials with a view to reducing cost of building materials.
- c) Establish low-interest housing loan scheme for workers
- d) Establish property development agencies, building societies, mortgage institutions to build for sale and / or allocation of different type of houses using local materials for different levels of workers;
- e) o) Establish housing estate in urban, semi-urban and rural areas on owner-occupier basis. The design of such houses will be such that the houses can be extended at owner's wish
- f) improve and beautify the environment by establishing open spaces, parks and gardens for recreational purposes in cities, towns and within estates and/or co-operatives: and;
- g) provide all facilities that will make life comfortable and secure for residents of housing estates, schools, places of worship, banks, petrol filling stations, pitches for games, cinema houses etc.

A PPA government will pay attention to the environment in continuation of what the present Administration is doing to improve the environment by tackling erosion, oil spillage, and desertification, among others.

A PPA government shall review possibility of increasing the percentage of the revenue allocated for the development of ecologically stricken parts of the country. The party's strategy in its housing programme will be to provide these faces for the people on terms that are reasonable

YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE

General and Specific Objectives

To integrate Sporting and Cultural activities into a system of national mobilization, education and development of the youth both as symbols of national character and identity and as future leaders

As basic elements of these general objectives the mental, physical and moral development of our youths shall be given priority attention. Existing youth development programmes shall be strengthened and new ones created to

- i. Make Nigeria Youths realize there maximum potentialities
- ii. Inculcate moral discipline in our youths and insulate them from obscene literature, films etc.

- iii. Promote interaction among youth for national understanding and integration and
- iv. strengthen laws against child abuse and child labour.

A PPA in government shall reorganize the NYSC Scheme to embrace all graduates of postsecondary institutions; and shall promote and encourage societies and clubs such as boy scouts, debating society, etc for the physical and Intellectual development of there members.

SPORTS

PPA government shall use sports to

- a) promote the physical and mental health of groups and individuals.
- b) promote the spirit of healthy competition among the populace thereby helping to cement relations among Nigerians and
- c) participate in international sporting activities.

The party views the provision of facilities that promote and encourage the development of these activities as vital The party shall

1. encourage sports at all levels.
2. provide recreational facilities such as parks garden and theatres.
3. build stadia in each local government headquarters and improve the existing ones to meet the desired standards.
4. Establish national and state parks both for recreational purposes and as a means of promoting tourism.
5. Reward young talented sports men and women who have brought laurels to the country.
6. Formulate a comprehensive insurance scheme which will be developed for the coverage of all members of the various national sports teams and.
7. Create and open a National Sports Hall of Fame to honour and immortalize the name of sports men and women who contribute to the development of sports in the country.

CULTURE

A PPA government will support and implement an effective and comprehensive cultural policy. The thrusts of such a policy shall be to

- a) sieve out bad aspects of culture and encourage those which are conducive to our moral and economic development.

- b) use the rich cultural heritage of the people of the country as a vehicle of national integration and
- c) promote internalization of the new political culture, the principles of grass root multiparty system, and patriotic and nationalistic values.

DEFENCE

Objective

The party's objectives on defence shall be consistent with the provisions of the constitution in this regard. Specifically, our objectives are

- a. national security in all its ramifications
- b. Focus on Africa and the Third World as the centerpiece of Nigerians foreign policy.
- c. Resist imperialism neo-colonialism, racial discrimination, and all forms of external intervention and domination.

STRATEGY

- 1) use of the political and economic instruments of diplomacy as the standard foreign policy strategy.
- 2) pursuit of the principles of peaceful co-existence in international politics and relations with other countries.
- 3) collective self-reliance as a strategy in regional cooperation.

THE CIVIL SERVICE

Objectives

- 1) Development of a body of patriotic and nationalistic civil service characterized by the quality and committed personnel that have speed and proficiency for policy implementation.
- 2) Commitment to the present civil service reforms and pursue more if need be.

The party in government shall strive to

- i. provide conducive working environment for all categories to stall
- ii. provide office buildings equipped with adequate equipment and materials in quality and quantity;
- iii. review salaries and allowances of civil servants periodically to cushion off adverse effect of inflationary trends in the economy.
- iv. Provide opportunities for civil servants to update their knowledge and improve their skills through in-service courses, seminars, workshops and in-house skill development programmes;

- v. Create the ideal working environment for civil servants to participate in policy formulation and implementation,
- vi. Ensure probity, discipline and accountability in the management of public resources through regular internal and external auditing of account and prompt submission of reports required by civil service circulars and regulations.
- vii. Ensure that the civil service is non-partisan by being fair to all and sundry without discrimination.
- viii. Ensure that recruitment into the civil service, especially at the senior levels, is in line with the principle of federal character as stipulated in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- ix. Reward excellence through a system of accelerated promotion, letter of commendation and other forms of incentives.

THE JUDICIARY ARM/THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE OBJECTIVE

- i. To uphold the constitution of the Federal republic of Nigeria
- ii. To uphold the principles of separation of powers as enshrined in the constitution
- iii. To defend the principles of social justice equity, equality, and human rights
- iv. To insulate the administration from all forms of parochial interest and to ensure that the national interest and objectives are generally upheld.

Strategy

The party shall be committed to constitutional government and constitutionalism; as well as independence of the judiciary;

- a. By the constitution to the bench of only men and women with proven integrity shall be so appointed
- b. Continue with the present judicial set up, ensuring that the judiciary is self-accounting,
- c. Build sufficient court houses across the country to ensure quick dispensation justice.
- d. Appoint more judges and magistrates
- e. Uphold the principle of habeas corpus
- f. Review the existing legal and system with a view to enhancing opportunity for free legal services for the masses,

A PPA government will improve the working conditions of judges and magistrates

THE POLICE

Objectives

- i. To transform the police into a truly nationalist instrument for the maintenance of law and order in the country,
- ii. To enthrone discipline in the Nigerian police force
- iii. To transform the public image of the police both in appearance, in their living conditions, and their relations with citizenry.

Strategy

A PPA government shall intensify present efforts aimed at improving the law and order maintenance capability and image of the police by

- i. increasing the present strength of the police force
- ii. raising the entry qualifications.
- iii. expanding and improving training facilities
- iv. providing adequate training opportunities for the rank and file with provisions for refresher course; in-service training and attachment to police commands in other part of the world.
- v. Providing adequate funding for the modernization of police
- vi. equipment
- vii. Providing sufficient barracks accommodation with amenities to
- viii. house au members of the police and their families.
- ix. Improving the welfare, working conditions salaries and allowances of the police with a view to curbing the tendency for corruption among some members of the force and.
- x. Launching in-housing political education among the police to change their attitude to the state and perception of there duties and obligations

THE PRISONS

Objectives

1. To decongest the prisons.
2. To make the prison a corrective institution and provide them with well equipped and functional workshops
3. To improve the sanitary and Health conditions of the prisons

Strategy

The party shall, when in government, make measures to

- i. Decongest the prisons further by building new ones and
- ii. by periodic judicial visits to prisons;
- iii. construct special prisons for different categories of prisoners

- iv. rehabilitate prisoners by providing adequate facilities and equipment for their acquisition of knowledge and skills while in the prison to enable them lead useful life and to obtain gainful employment on discharge
- v. improve working conditions of warders and other prison staff;
- vi. initiate orientation programmes for prison inmates to give them new hope for a better life as acceptable members of the society after their discharge
- vii. provide facilities for faster dispensation of justice by our law courts

TRADITIONAL RULERS

General Objectives

The party sees traditional rulers not only as fathers of the nation and as custodians of our rich cultural heritage, but also as an important institution that provides continuity and stability to the political system that no government can afford to ignore, especially at this point in our resolved commitment to create a new and enduring socio-political order.

Because of the historic and integrative role traditional rulers play at the grass roots level as community-mobilizes and formidable bridges between the government and the governed, a PPA in government will consolidate this important socio-cultural institution, and transform its material and symbolic bases of influence so as to enable it effectively continue to serve as supportive pillars of the three-tier federal structure Our ultimate aim is to modernize tradition, in a way that traditional rulers will be better placed than ever before to contribute to the process of change.

Strategy

The PPA shall

- a) Maintain the existing traditional council of chiefs in the states
- b) Assign new roles to the council in such spheres as social and cultural mobilization, as well as use of groups and similar associations for commitment and national development

WOMEN

Objectives

- 1. To encourage the full emancipation, participation and involvement of women in all political, social, economic and other aspects of national life

2. To recognize the special responsibilities of women and to promote their use as veritable agents of political socialization

Strategy

The party in government shall encourage the mass education and mobilization of our woman for

- i. production purposes
- ii. nurturing a healthy family system
- iii. uniting the kinship groups
- iv. ensuring that they play positive role in development; and
- v. political socialization

The PPA shall be committed to the mobilization of women through existing women organizations and programmes and ensure that women are free to pursue any vocation and employment within the confines of the law.