

**MANIFESTO  
OF  
ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY**

**PREAMBLE**

ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY is a new political association of Nigerians who have shown genuine concern for the plight of our great country, who are determined to work together, conscious of our various background and ethnic origins, prepared to offer selfless services, and provide a new direction for peaceful co-existence in the country. We are committed to the re-engineering of our political, economic and social foundations to eschew politics of bitterness and build a new, united and prosperous country under a good democratic government.

This party will bring together the moderates and liberal democrats from the right and from the left of the political divide, to evolve a new dynamic and people-oriented philosophy of selflessness, service, sacrifice and accountability for the Country.

## **A. PREAMBLE**

### **POLICY TRUST OF ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY**

## **B. DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS ON FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE PEOPLE**

1. The government and the people
2. Political imperatives of a united Nigeria

## **C. SECTIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**

3. Economy
4. Agriculture and rural development
5. Industrialization
6. Health
7. Education
8. Internal Security and National Defence
9. Foreign Relations (Regional, African and Foreign Policy)
10. Human Rights
11. Environment
12. Culture, Ethnicity, Statism, Corruption
13. Women in Politics and National Development
14. Mass Media in National Development
15. Scientific and Technological Development
16. Energy
17. Transport and communications
18. Labour, Employment and Productivity
19. Solid Minerals Development
20. Youth Development
21. Traditional Rulers
22. The Civil Service
23. Sports
24. Disabled, Aged etc./Social Welfare

## **AD**

### **ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY, AD**

In 1960 the prospect of Nigeria becoming the leader of African continent was rightly taken for granted having regard to its great human and natural resources. The unlimited potentials and prospects justify these high hopes.

The prospects remained bright into the fourth year of our "nationhood". Since then, our history has been a story of all-round failure, a story of squandered resources and missed opportunities, of monumental wastages and leakages through so many abandoned projects, institutionalized corruption, and massive and merciless looting by the persons in Government their relations and friends. The last five years has introduced Nigerians to the idea that no condition is so bad that it cannot be worse. Our hospitals which were the sick go for death certificate. The same story can be told of every aspect of the economy, polity, and society. The mismanagement and unjust manipulation have become serious threats to the oneness of Nigeria.

The situation is desperate; to reverse (he (rend now is urgent, important and calls for drastic action. This situation has no room for 'politics as usual'. Only politics as service can work.

It is in this regard that we, the members of ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY (AD) pledge to the people of Nigeria our strong dedication and strong commitment to these cardinal objectives,

1. Introduce and sustain in Nigeria, a NEW POLITICS, based on Truth, Justice, Patriotism and Conscience. The new politics for the new Nation shall do away with the spirit of 'winner-takes-all'.
2. Make the welfare (in body and mind) of man, every man, every woman, the basis for every action of government at every level. We shall

remove every structural and other impediments to growth in welfare by promoting and adhering to the principle and practice of true federalism. We shall give serious attention to the peculiar problems and disadvantages of the various areas of Nigeria with special emphasis to the oil producing areas.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- i. That there is a new credible national political leadership that takes Nigeria as one constituency and believes in her unity and corporate existence.
- ii. That the recently announced six-zonal geopolitical structure and the principle of rotation are sine qua non sustainable political stability' for the country.
- iii. That the idea of a broad-based, inclusive government be vigorously pursued and encouraged.
- iv. Membership of the Alliance for Democracy is open to every Nigerian citizen, irrespective of place of origin, status, ethnic group, gender or religion.
- v. Commitment to the enthronement of popular and participatory democratic governance with the objective of restoring and sustaining an enduring political stability, economic and social progress based on the following essential elements:
- vi. Right of choice; Freedom from ignorance and Want; Empowerment and Capability; Respect for the Rule of Law and Equality Before the Law; Promotion and Defence of Human Rights; Creation of Appropriate Political Machinery; Sustained Political Communication to create Trust and Confidence amongst leaders and the Populace; Accountability of the Leadership to the Followership; Decentralization of Political Power and Authority; Periodic and Orderly Succession through secret ballot.

Accordingly, this document sets out the aims, objectives and contents of the Manifesto of the Peoples' Congress comprising:

- (a) The Mission statement embodying time Part's National Agenda, its philosophical foundations, and the basic principles, which will guide the Actions and Policies of the Party in government.
- (b) Affirmation of Commitment to the Constitutional Provisions on fundamental objectives and directive principles of state Policy.
- (c) The Sectoral Policy Objective and Programmes of the Party with appropriate strategies for effective implementation.

The Alliance for Democracy is convinced that the overall import of a democratic government is whether it can effectively enhance the capability and capacity of the people to manage and control changes as well as promote nation development. The party, therefore, believes that through the programmes and strategies enunciated in is Manifesto and National Agenda, which are consistent with time provisions of [he institution, it will be.

Possible to mobilize the entire citizenry in the process of political and economic transformation of the country, to enable us meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## **BACKGROUND**

Our country Nigeria has come a long way since Independence on 1 October 1960. The period spanning over three decades has witnessed a geometric series of dashed hopes and failed expectations. Established political culture with Sound democratic governance is yet to take roots in our country. This worrying situation is compounded by the decline in our country. This moral and economic life. The 1994/98 experience has

compounded issues in all sectors of human endeavor. Events of 1998 however may be described as intervention by God aimed at the saving the military, traditional rules, the academic, etc are to blame for allowing ourselves to be impoverished in the midst of abundant natural resources that abound in the country.

At this point in the annals of our history, patriotic men and women who have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of excellence in their private and public life, and above all, in the service of the same disposition, the Alliance for Democracy as a political party, to be used -as a vehicle to political power for turning our country around to the path of planned and orderly development, peace and unity.

In pursuance of these objectives, our organization would enlist all Nigerians with sufficient patriotic and selfless instincts to come together to move the nation forward. We, therefore, present our party's philosophy based on five principles which define our ideology:

- i. Belief in God
- ii. National Unity
- iii. Just and Egalitarian Society
- iv. Social Justice and Economic Progress
- v. Representative and Functional Political Democracy

(1) **BELIEF IN GOD**

The principle re-affirms the Nigeria people's belief in the existence of God and the fact that the fear of God is the beginning of all wisdom. It re-emphasizes that the worship of God according to one's religion and the pursuit of sacred values will lead to a peaceful and prosperous Nigeria.

**THE JUDICATURE**

1. Ensure that in the exercise of Judicial Powers vested in the structure of Courts, the Judiciary upholds the Constitution and particular, conform to, observe and apply the Constitutional Provisions on the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy.
2. Strengthen the independence of the judicial by making it self-accounting
3. Enhance the access of citizens of the Courts;
4. Ensure that the operations of the judicial system, at all levels, command the respect, trust and confidence of the populace and that integrity and equity are demonstrated in the decisions and judgments of the Courts.

### **STRATEGY**

In furtherance of the above policy objectives, the Party in Government shall:

- (i) Endeavor to create and sustain conducive and stable environment to enable the proper discharge of their Constitutional functions by the Courts.
- (ii) Strengthen the Judiciary to improve overall efficiency by adopting a strategy of non-interference in the exercise of the Powers of the national Judicial Council and Judicial Services Commission, to make appointments or exercise disciplinary control over persons.
- (iii) Provide more court buildings, facilities and equipment as well as residential accommodation for Judicial Officers to enhance their operational effectiveness.
- (iv) Expand and improve the facilities of the Judicial Institute to enhance its capacity to provide continuing professional education and training to all categories of Judicial officers in order to up-grade and up-date their knowledge, skills and experience necessary for the effective discharge of their judicial functions.

- (v) Widen the scope and coverage of the legal Aid Scheme to accommodate a greater number of citizens who deserve to benefit from the service is our belief that the sacred relationship between the people their elected leaders is covenant which is sacrosanct and which must be respected at all times the leaders and the people.

## **OBJECTIVES**

This organization would work for the promotion and protection of an enduring democratic system with credible National Political leadership comprising honest, selfless and professional political class whose government would guarantee the following.

1. Fundamental human rights, freedom of worship and association, freedom of the press, the enforcement of discipline and the entrenchment of new moral code and the rule of law.
2. Broad-based open Market Economy, Providing opportunities for developing our abundant natural resources and harnessing the economic potentials of individuals and groups through the creation of enabling environment for the promotion of both Private and Public entrepreneurship;
3. Operation of true Federation with appropriate devolution of Powers to each tier of Government and the recognition of the Principles of federal Character in all aspects of Governance;
4. Peaceful co-existence as a basis for Enduring Democracy, Political Stability, National Security, Economic progress and Social Emancipation;
5. The constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will be a sacred document. Our government will be conducted in strict compliance with the letters and spirit of the Constitution.

In consideration of the above objectives, Alliance for Democracy therefore, presents our MANIFESTO comprising the POLITICAL, the ECONOMIC, and the SOCIAL COMMITMENTS to Nigerians, in our determined resolve, to a new Nation.

### **POLITICAL COMMITMENT**

Recognizing that God our Creator has blessed Nigeria with:

- (i) Diverse peoples that is energetic, intelligent, resourceful and dynamic.
- (ii) Abundant natural and human resources, which should qualify us as a rich and developing nation.
- (iii) A congenial environment that is relatively free of natural disasters and extreme swings in climatic conditions.

AND

Realizing that after 35 years of freedom from colonial rule, this country is still faced with serious problems of political stability, peace, justice and fair play in our national polity. Our group of concerned patriotic and committed citizens of Nigeria has decided to enter into a covenant with the people of Nigeria and with God, to assiduously and faithfully work for the attainment of the following:

- (i) Credible National Political leadership that would unite the country, create wealth, eliminate poverty and make her attains her rightful place in the comity of nations.
- (ii) Honest, selfless and professional new political class, that is morally upright and committed to serve, to make the required changes and ready to make the necessary sacrifices for national development. A covenant of selflessness, service, sacrifice and accountability.
- (iii) An internal political focus and relations for the benefit of all Nigerians.

- (iv) The guarantee of fundamental human rights for all Nigerians and aliens in our midst and to enthrone respect for the rule of law and order.
- (v) Provision of equal opportunities for all citizens, irrespective of their ethnic, religious gender, geographic and social backgrounds to attain their highest potentials.
- (vi) Universal belief in democratic principles and to seek the mandate of the people to serve and to be accountable to them at all times.
- (vii) Good governance that is honest, transparent, responsible and imbued with fear of God to guarantee accountability and selfless service to the country always.
- (viii) Leadership by example.

### **ECONOMIC COMMITMENT**

Our economy has witnessed serious macroeconomic distortions and dislocations over the years. Spiraling inflation, unemployment, gross capacity under-utilization in our industries, and the over-dependence on oil revenues have remained with us for a very long time now. To address these central problems which underline other economic difficulties we covenant to diversify the National Economy by encouraging development in non-petroleum producing sectors in order to reduce dependence on oil a main source of our National income as follows:

- (i) Increase efficiency and productivity in agriculture, mining, and manufacturing sector.
- (ii) Embark on gas development, conversion and utilization programmes.

- (iii) Promote exports through various incentives. Support massive applied scientific research and development for production of necessary goods for economic emancipation.
- (iv) Encourage the establishment and development of 'small medium scale enterprises as engines of; economic growth.
- (v) Create a suitable environment for foreign investment to flow into the, country.
- (vi) Strengthen the Naira so that it may freely find its true value in the international currency market.
- (vii) Formulate and implement disciplined, budget, fiscal and monetary policies.
- (viii) Work assiduously, to eradicate corruption, fraud, embezzlement and the so-called "Nigerian Way" and to enthrone a new culture of integrity, Transparency and Accountability.
- (ix) Put the organized private sector into more confidence so that they can be genuinely involved in the revamping and management of the national economy.
- (x) Turn the abundant arable land of this country to be the food basket of Africa and over the world.
- (xi) Encourage industrialists to develop local substitutes for important raw materials and to use the raw materials front put enhanced agricultural production the catalyst for our industrial revolution.
- (xii) Cut out waste in public finance.
- (xiii) Set out targets for growth rates in the economic.
- (xiv) Enlist the interest of labour unions in all activities so that peaceful relations can be created in the country.
- (xv) Put in place an energy policy that will ensure efficient exploitation, distribution and management of all energy resources.
- (xvi) Build a strong infrastructure of roads, electricity, water transportation, railways and telecommunications and pay special' attention to the building of a modern standard, gauge railway 'system across the

length and breadth of the country to ensure the easy movement of men and materials across the nation at affordable prices.

- (xvii) Encourage and promote private entrepreneurship as a way of activating the latent potentials of our people to participate more in the national economy.
- (xviii) Take appropriate measures to reduce our huge external debt as soon as possible.
- (xix) Review, harmonize and consolidate salary structure in our public service system to narrow and/or close the gap with the private sector in order to streamline conditions of service generally in the country and attract top brains to the public sector.
- (xx) Provide greater tax relief to low income earners and embark on efficient tax assessment and collection system.
- (xxi) Establish open and transparent system of handling all public financial matters.

### **SOCIAL COMMITMENT**

Presently, our nation is in a state of social disequilibrium. To put our country back on the path of progress and glory our organization therefore covenants with the Nigerian people:

- (i) To establish and implement a new national moral orientation programme to re-orientate all our citizens in order to rekindle our spirit of patriotism, embrace our social responsibilities, reaffirm our beliefs in democratic governance, and to build a strong civil preference for constitutional governance at all times.
- (ii) To provide free and compulsory education at primary and secondary school levels in all public schools, to encourage private participation in education at all levels; and to provide adequate support and funding for qualitative, results-oriented tertiary education to meet the requirements of our national goals and to establish centres of excellence in

Education and Scientific Research for the benefit of all Nigerians and stem brain drain.

- (iii) To emphasize the primary health care delivery system as a means of providing health services for the rural population and adequately equip and maintain secondary and tertiary health care delivery, system for the country in order to eliminate the overseas treatment syndrome and to encourage the development of any cogent traditional treatment of specific ailments.
- (iv) To improve and provide good conditions of service for all Nigerian workers since they are the backbone of good governance and administration.
- (v) To ensure security of life and property in our land and to make our streets and highways safe both in the day and at night, and to protect and strengthen territorial integrity and security.
- (vi) To give opportunities that will encourage and ensure active women participation in the social, economic and political development of the nation.
- (vii) To mobilize the abundant energy and talent of our youths to productive, ventures in order to abolish youth unemployment, juvenile delinquency and drug abuse. To actively encourage sports development nationwide.
- (viii) To promote and support the National and State Housing Programme to provide every Nigerian family with a decent shelter.

- (ix) To provide gainful employment for all Nigerians.
- (x) To promote public morality through the enhancement of the operations of the public complaints Commission.
- (xi) To promote a free, responsibly and accountable press and to enlist their participation to build a New Nigerian.
- (xii) To develop our cultural heritage and the Arts and transform them as vehicle of industrial and economic growth and development as well as for the mobilization of the entire citizens.
- (xiii) To promote domestic and international tourism for the projection of our national image and National Integration as well as economic growth.

## **CONCLUSION**

The foregoing Mission Statement has spelt out clearly the Party's National Agenda, its philosophy of governance, and board policy guidelines for dealing with the problems of the polity, economy and society in our great country. It is on the basis of these objectives and principles, that we accept the challenge to provide the required credible political leadership for Nigeria, for the benefit of all our people and to the greater Glory of God.

The Party is committed to the faithful implementation of the Agenda in order to build bridges of unity across the length and breadth of the country, eschew political bitterness and hatred, eradicate fear and skepticism in our body polity, and set the country on the path of political stability,

economic progress and social justice for the common good and welfare of our people.

## **AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS ON FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY**

Consistent with the aims objectives, broad policy guidelines, and principles of democratic governance embodied in our Mission Statement, the Peoples, Congress strongly affirms its commitment to observe, conform to, apply and enforce the provisions of Chapter 11 of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1995, relating to the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy to wit:

### **THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE**

The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice. Sovereignty belongs to the people of Nigeria from whom government through the Constitution derives all its power and authority. The Security and Welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose and responsibility of government, and the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

The Composition of the Government at Federal, State or Local levels, and any of their agencies, and the conduct of their affairs, shall recognize and reflect the Federal Character principle, and the diversity of the people within their areas of authority in order to promote national unity sense of belonging and loyalty among the people of the Federation.

### **POLITICAL OBJECTIVE AND THE INDIVISIBILITY OF THE NIGERIA POLITY.**

Alliance for Democracy cherishes the firm and solemn resolve of the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to live in unity and harmony as one indivisible, indissoluble, democratic and sovereign Nation under God. The Party acknowledges that the constitution which is supreme, is to promote good government and welfare of all persons in our country on the principles of Freedom, Equality and Justice, as well as to promote Inter-African Solidarity, World Peace, International Cooperation and Understanding.

Nigeria shall be a Federal consisting of States and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The country shall be governed through a three-tier structure of government Federal, State and Local Government.

The Party re-affirms its commitment to the constitution.

The Party re-affirms its commitment to the Constitutional provisions on Political objectives, acknowledging “Unity, Freedom, Equality and Justice” as the Motto of the country. The Party in Government will work assiduously to promote national integration in all its manifestations, by faithfully implementing the various Constitutional Provisions under the Political, Economic, Social, Educational and Foreign Policy Objectives of the Directive Principles of State Policy.

## **SECTORAL POLICY OBJECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES**

### **ECONOMY**

#### **ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND POLICY OBJECTIVES**

1. The Nigerian economy, although under-developed, is relatively open, mixed and market-oriented with strong trade and commercial links with the world economy. It is recognized that an economy that is highly open, is subject to external disturbances which militate against its internal development. Thus, in spite of efforts to promote the growth and development of the Nigerian economy, a number of economic problems have remained intractable. For some years now, the Nation has been plagued by inflation, high population growth, inadequate foreign exchange, deterioration in health and educational facilities and standards, government fiscal deficits, low-level of agricultural production, weak financial structures, inefficient parastatals, poor tax system, low capacity utilization in industry, heavy debt overhang, increasing unemployment and the erosion of the standard of living of most Nigerians.
  
2. Alliance for Democracy shall have as its primary objective the resuscitation and transformation of the National economy by formulating appropriate policies and creating an enabling environment for sustained economic growth and development. We recognized that for Nigeria to move out of the persistent economic doldrums, there are certain fundamentals of national economic management that cannot be committed to development, Transparency and Accountability in Public Sector Management.
  
3. The central focus of our economic policy will be to facilitate greater entrepreneurial development and participation by Nigerians in the economic activities of the country to enable our people assume greater

responsibilities for the achievement of their individual and collective development goals. Thus, while the state will continue to exercise a measure of control over some major sectors of the economy, in the public interest, appropriate incentives and policy guidelines will be put in place to encourage individuals, private sector groups and institutions to participate effectively in the Nation's development process.

4. The Party has identified 15 key development problems of Nigeria as; Growth Productivity, Unemployment, inequality, materials for other sectors; encourage private entrepreneurship, focus attention on Small and Medium Enterprises, invest aggressively in infrastructure.

(ii) Enhance PRODUCTIVITY by institutionalizing effective incentive and merit systems that reward superior performance in both public and Private sector management; intensify on-the-job training and retaining; encourage the setting-up of statistical-and monitoring mechanisms to measure productivity in public enterprises.

(iii) Direct Measure in the short and long-term to address POVERTY to include Educational and Skill Up-grading/Conversion Programme to equip the poor for work in a diversified economy; reform of the informal sector where most of the poor find livelihood generally embark on paid and self-employment generating schemes.

(iv) Deal with UNEMPLOYMENT by undertaking comprehensive survey of all sectors of the economy to estimate their employment elasticity to guide employers of labour; carry out surveys of Nigeria's wage structure to determine their employment implications; resuscitate Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) persuade State and Local Authorities to remove any impediments to labour mobility across

States of the Federation; improve market information system, evolve policies that reactivate ailing industries.

- v) In order to combat INEQUALITY, apply the Federal Character principle to pull-up any disadvantaged groups without sacrificing efficiency<sup>1</sup> incentive and merit; provide egalitarian access to primary and secondary education; steam-line the social security system; create economic opportunities by committing the country to full-employment and high productivity.
  
- (vi) To tackle the problem of INFLATION; commit the Nation to fiscal discipline and prudence so as to avoid unsustainable Central Bank financed fiscal deficit; strengthen the institutional capacity of the Central bank and enhance its relative autonomy; further deregulate output will have ameliorating influence on general price level; embark on local raw materials based industries, and encourage local fabrication of spare parts to save foreign exchange; reform the bureaucracy and Tax System.
  
- (vii) In order to eradicate MASS ILLITERACY; strengthen existing mass illiteracy programmes, embark on aggressive illiteracy reduction education schemes, especially for women and the disabled; implement the Constitutional provision of compulsory formal primary and junior secondary education throughout the country, encourage the local publishing industry; and the establishment of more public and community libraries.
  
- (viii) In order to overcome the problem of FISCAL CRISIS, policy strategy will be directed to both income and expenditure area, including; diversification of revenue sources through appropriate investment

policies; increase in tax proceeds by continuing reform in tax laws and collection machinery; exercise fiscal prudence and austerity so that the deficit does not get out of hand; institute transparency and accountability in budgetary operations of all agencies and institutions; ensure strict selection of capital projects and formulate plans for their completion to prevent abandoned projects syndrome.

- (ix) In order to deal with EXTERNAL DEBT problem, undertake fundamental review of the machinery of debt management in the country; evaluate regularly how debt financial projects are failing; explore other debt rescheduling options to release the nation's resources to other priority development programmes; encourage debt forgiveness/cancellation options and legislate strict guidelines for incurring national debt and its servicing by government, agencies and the private sector.
  
- (x) To enhance MANAGEMENT effectiveness in both private and public sectors, in order to reduce the incidence of resources MIS-MANAGEMENT and failure, spell out the risk of managerial failure at Institutional level and prescribe sanction; encourage public sector management to embrace modern management techniques currently practiced in the private sector e.g Total Quality Management (TQM); encourage greater on-the-job-training in technical areas jointly organized by private enterprises; evaluate how Nigerian cultural factors affect management practices; bring up ethical issues to the attention of public and private managers.
  
- (xi) In order to secure reforms in EDUCATION AND Technology, undertake the review of the 6-3-3-4 system of education and implement the compulsory education programme in the first Nine

years of schooling; commit greater budgetary allocation to education; give special encouragement to science and technical teachers at all levels of education; consider special funding at tertiary education level to sustain quality teaching and research parastatals; give appropriate incentives to encourage research and development initiative in industries.

- (xii) To deal with problems of POPULATION AND HEALTH, promote mass education to reduce illiteracy and ignorance, which can influence fertility growth and enhance healthy living habit, improve nutrition and disease control; ensure optima management of available urban space to control city growth compatible with municipal services; take measures to develop new cities in the local government area headquarters.
- (xiii) To deal with the problem of INFRASTRUCTURE, make strenuous efforts to create a healthy competition through commercialization and privatization especially in the case of utility infrastructures; improve the efficiency of other non-utility agencies by charging cost-recovery fees where possible; undertake massive rehabilitation and reconstruction of dilapidated infrastructure in different parts of the country.
- (xiv) To tackle ENVIRONMENT DEGRADATION and ensure sustained environment protection, investigate ecological problems in areas of soil erosion, desert encroachment and oil pollution and provide funds for remedial action; strengthen public awareness of good environmental practice.

- (xv) In order to control OVER-DEPENDENCE, economic measures will be taken to attain self-reliance in food production, provision of raw materials, provision of basic defence needs, mastery of indigenous technology; consolidating the manufacturing base, economic diversification especially, the agriculture sector; enhance the capacity of indigenous experts and professionals as investment in human capital.

The Party believes that appropriate measures taken to resolve the foregoing development problems will usher in a period of national prosperity. What emerged in the post-independence era as politics of bitterness was symptom of the country's fundamental under-development. It will take a visionary and committed Political Leadership, to steer the nation out of its development doldrums. The Peoples' Congress is well equipped and prepared to offer the nation that political leadership that is development-oriented.

### **AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

It is estimated that the contribution of Agriculture to the Nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) declined steadily from 63.3 per cent in 1960/61 to 38.0 per cent in 1995. Also an estimated 80 percent of Nigeria's population lives in rural areas. Agricultural (including Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries) forms the bulk of economic activities of the rural population. The rural sector consists at various economic activities outside the urban economy. Rural development is a process of increasing the level of per capital income in the rural areas as well as the standard of living of the rural population, through improvement in food production and nutrition level, health, education, housing, recreation and security. Since most of the rural populations are involved in Agricultural related activities, an increase in agricultural production and productivity will have a multiplier effect on the

economic condition of rural dwellers through increase in their incomes and employment.

## **2. OBJECTIVES**

In recognition of the important role of agriculture in national development, the Party will be guided by the following objectives' in the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector:

- a. Ensuring self-sufficiency in food production;
- b. Provision of Raw materials for local Agro-allied industries;
- c. Diversification of export crops production to increase foreign exchange earnings;
- d. Improve Rural and farm infrastructures for storage, processing and marketing of produce; and
- e. Increase rural employment and improve agricultural production skills and techniques.

## **3. STRATEGIES**

Accordingly, the Party will pursue policies designed to improve significantly, Agriculture and Food production as well as Rural Development through Programmes such as:

- (i) Massive cultivation of Rice, Cassava, Beans, Yams, Millet, Maize, Guinea Corn, etc for both home and export markets.
- (ii) Massive supply of fertilizers, and creating greater awareness in the use of fertilizers and improved seeds at subsidized rates.
- (iii) Increased use of machines in farm operations.

- (iv) Reorganization of existing Agricultural and Rural Development special agencies, Credit and Insurance Institutions for greater effectiveness.
- (v) More Capital Investments in irrigation and construction of dams for water supply in the arid zones of the country; to guarantee all-season farming.
- (vi) Expansion and rationalization of Agricultural Research Institutes to make them more results-oriented.
- (vii) Assistance to the small -scale farmers to increase productivity, as well as encouragement of large-scale plantation for major export crops like cocoa, groundnut, cotton, rubber and oil palm.
- (viii) Encourage Commercial livestock and fisheries development as well as strengthening Afforestation and Environmental Protection schemes.

## **INDUSTRIALIZATION**

### **OBJECTIVE**

The process of industrialization is necessary to promote and accelerate economic and social development in the country. The Party will continue to accord a major role to Industrialization in the National Development Plan in recognition of its impact on meeting the basic needs of the population, ensuring the integration of the economy and the modernization of society. The industrialization process constitutes a fundamental objective in the total range of activities aimed at reducing the country's under-development and economic dependence. Over time, the high hopes in the manufacturing sector's capacity to make significant impact on the economy have not been realized. The industrial development policy of the Party will, therefore, be to provide necessary incentives and a congenial environment for the private sector to function as engine of growth, while Government should continue to improve and expand on the provision of essential infrastructures.

In the light of foregoing, the objectives of the industrialization process will be as follows:-

- (i) Promote a planned and balanced economic development, including the establishment and diversification of industries and dispersal of industrial projects and infrastructural facilities throughout the Federation.
- (ii) Satisfaction of basic needs of the population through competitive production, distribution and exchange of goods and services.
- (iii) Creation of jobs
- (iv) Establish a base for developing other economic sectors.

- (v) Creation of a basis for assimilating and promoting technological progress through technical skills development.
- (vi) Modernization of society.
- (vii) Development of indigenous manufacturing industries for the production of goods for national development.

In order to implement the above objectives, a number of strategies would be pursued as follows:

- (i) Provision of a stable macro-economic environment.
- (ii) Simplification of the regulatory environment and even-handed enforcement
- (iii) Improvement of infrastructure capacity and utilities through greater public investment.
- (iv) Ensure adequate maintenance of existing infrastructure to improve capacity utilization.
- (v) Encouragement of foreign direct investment.
- (vi) Industrial production which promotes aggressive export policy apart from the satisfaction of domestic requirements.
- (vii) Promote and encourage the establishment and development of small and medium scale enterprises as engines of economic growth.
- (viii) Encourage industrialists through incentives, to develop local substitutes for imported raw materials.
- (ix) Up-grade and modernize industrial capacity for competitive production of basic consumer and capital goods.

## **HEALTH**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The primary policy objectives in the health sector are to:

- (i) Ensure that there are adequate and functioning medical and health care facilities in all parts of the country and that every citizen has access to these facilities at affordable cost.
  
- (ii) Encourage the various levels of government to provide adequate preventive and curative health services to all citizens.

### **STRATEGIES**

In order to guarantee adequate health care delivery to all and sundry, the following implementation strategies shall be adopted by the various tiers of government and other relevant agencies:

- (i) Improve the budgetary allocation for health care services at federal, state, and local government levels.
  
- (ii) Improve the amount of subventions to teaching and specialist hospitals to enable them rehabilitate deteriorating facilities and equipment, undertake proper maintenance and up-grade their capacity to provide the type of health care services for which they were established.
  
- (iii) Review the remuneration and other incentives for the various grades of medical and health personnel in order to improve their morale and motivate them to high levels of performance and commitment.
  
- (iv) Encourage state governments to establish general hospitals in the local government areas where in exist at the moment.

- (v) Ensure that all local government area provide head centres and clinics to bring health care delivery services neat or to the people especially in the rural communities.
- (vi) Recognize and encourage the provision of Health Care Delivery by corporate bodies, industrial establishments, private individuals, voluntary agencies and communities to supplement the effort of Government.
- (vii) Undertake measures to control and eradicate infective diseases, promote health and nutritional education, especially in schools; and provide free immunization services to all citizens.
- (viii) Assist Government Agencies and communities to provide and maintain potable water facilities in order to improve sanitation and reduce the incidence of waterborne, diseases.
- (ix) Encourage the reintroduction of Schools Health Services of the States as an integral part of students social welfare programme.
- (x) Combat the problem of fake drugs in the country by strengthening the National Food and Drugs Administration and Control Agency to improve its operational effectiveness.
- (xi) Encourage and provide appropriate incentives to enable the local drugs manufacturers to meet the Nation's basic drugs requirements, and review the tariff for imported drugs which are not currently produced locally.

## **EDUCATION**

### **OBJECTIVE**

The party acknowledges the Constitutional Provision on Education under the Fundamental Objectives and Directives Principles of State Policy as follows:

- (i) Government; shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels.
- (ii) Government shall promote science and technology.
- (iii) Government shall strive to provide free secondary education; and free university education
- (iv) Government shall, promote the learning of indigenous languages.

The Party considers education as a cultural process to raise the worth and dignity of mankind. Education is a lifelong, activity taking place within the family, the society and the schools. We believe education is the mutual responsibility of the family, society and government.

Our philosophy on education is based on the parading that education needs to be integrated with the technological and industrial systems of the country. The quality of our education should improve in accordance with the advancement of science and technology. Our emphasis on educational development should be on quality improvement of every level and type of education. There should be expansion of educational opportunities at the secondary school level in order to provide adequate places to absorb the products of free and compulsory education at the primary level. The Party in government shall, pursue a Community based education policy to maximize opportunities.

Accordingly, the Party in government shall be guided by the following objectives in educational development:

- i) Review and streamline the 6-3-3-4 system - of education, to deal with the problems experienced since its introduction several years ago.
- ii) Encourage the active participation of the organized Private Sector, Parents, the Community and Voluntary Organizations in the provision of educational opportunities.
- iii) Ensure political and moral education for the citizenry.
- iv) Provide a supportive and conducive environment for learning at all levels of education.
- v) Promote equal educational opportunities for all citizens.
- vi) Ensure the regular and prompt payment of teachers' salaries.
- vii) Legally register and recognize teaching as profession.
- viii) Support the education of the disabled.
- ix) Provide increased resources, teaching and non-teaching and other infrastructures for mass illiteracy programme in all parts of the country.

## **STRATEGY**

In order to implement the above objectives, the following strategies shall be pursued:

### **(i) PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION**

Private individuals, corporate bodies and voluntary agencies shall be encouraged to participate in the provision, of pre-primary education under Government guidelines to ensure quality control.

### **(ii) PRIMARY EDUCATION**

Every child of the primary school age shall be given compulsory access to education through the use indigenous language at this level of education minimize the number of school drop-outs from this level of education, and encourage the formations Parents/Teachers Association.

(iii) **SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Education at this level shall be functional comprehensive. School drop-outs shall be prepared vocational training. Strengthen the School Inspectorate Service to ensure the maintenance prescribed minimum standards in facilities, equipment curriculum, staffing and educational management.

(iv) **TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

Encourage technical education for technology development. The need for partnership, with industries shall be stressed. To this end, industries shall be encouraged through incentives to participate in the development of technical and vocational education.

(v) **UNITY SCHOOLS**

The people shall be sensitized on the need for national integration through Unity Schools. Children from the diverse ethnic backgrounds of communities shall be admitted, with no regard to ethnic origin, religion, gender or class. Communities shall be encouraged to participate in the financing of unity schools, especially P.T.A.

(vi) **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The handicapped shall be educated in order to promote the idea of self-help and meaningful living. More special schools shall be built to achieve this goal-, and educational facilities shall also be extended to the nomadic herdsmen and migrant fishermen.

(vii) **HIGHER EDUCATION**

This level of education shall be further developed to be responsive to the needs of the labour market. Parents, the Community and the industrial sector shall be encouraged to actively participate in the funding of higher education. These issues of University autonomy

improved funding and better conditions of service for all categories of staff will be carefully reviewed and resolved in order to restore stability and high standard to the Nation's higher education system.

(viii) **TEACHER EDUCATION**

Teacher education shall be promoted through:

- Staff development fellowships, which shall be supported by the government.
- Improved facilities for the further training of teachers.

(ix) **NON-FORMAL EDUCATION**

The goal is the eradication of illiteracy in order to wipe out ignorance and disease. Accordingly, adult, vocational and special literacy programmes shall be set up for nomads, migrant fishermen, school drop-outs, and other citizens who were not able to take advantage of formal education.

x) **FUNDING EDUCATION**

The funding of education shall be made a joint venture between the government, industrial sector, parent and the community. The Party in Government shall encourage and create more opportunities for the active participation of the organized private sector in the funding of education. The education tax shall be enforced. Relevant industries shall be encouraged to fund research and development activities in the Universities and other tertiary institutions. The Community shall be encouraged through positive policies to become active participants in the funding.

## **INTERNAL SECURITY AND NATIONAL DEFENCE**

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. Internal security, in all its ramifications, is viewed by the Party, as a collective responsibility requiring the co-ordinated efforts and services of specialized Civil, Pars-Military, and the Military Institutions and other Intelligence Agencies. Those institutions and agencies include:
  - (i) The Police which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order
  - (ii) The Customs which 'is involved in checking the illegal importation of contraband and" prohibited goods e.g. arms, capable of endangering public safety.
  - (iii) Immigration which undertakes border, patrols, and, is responsible for checking the entry of illegal aliens at the borders and ports of entry.
  - (iv) Prison, established as punishment and reform institution to keep convicted offenders and criminals away from the public.
  - (v) Security Intelligence Agencies, responsible for intelligence information gathering and analysis to alert Government Authorities.
  - (vi) The Armed Forces, which is the military establishment, responsible for national defence, comprising Army, Navy and Air force.
  - (vii) The Populace, the entire c4tizenry are expected to remain mobilized and security conscious, to safe-guard national integrity.
  
2. Subject to constitutional Provisions, the Party's policy objectives on internal security and National Defence shall be:
  - (i) The maintenance of national security and enforcement of law and order to secure public safety and safe-guard the security of 'life and property in all parts of the country, including combating crime and other offences, which endanger public peace, and internal security or the Nation.

- (ii) Organization and maintenance of well-trained highly efficient, professionally-oriented, properly motivated and well-equipped Armed, Force, committed to the discharge of their traditional, functions and the defence of the Constitution, and generally including:
  - (a) Protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Nation by defending the country against internal subversion and external aggression.
  - (b) Act as deterrence factor in sustaining internal security and promotion of the Nation's foreign policy objectives.
  - (c) Contribute to the protection and security of mankind by serving in internal peace-keeping operations
  - (d) Under taking special rescue operations of national significance whenever called upon to do so.

## **STRATEGY**

In furtherance of the above policy objectives, and to enable the specialized security and law enforcement agencies and the armed forces to discharge their duties faithfully and satisfactorily, the Party in Government will take the following measures:

- (i) Review carefully the current organizational and operational problems of the various specialized agencies; Police, Immigration, Customs, Prisons, Security Services, and determine their basic needs and requirements in terms of facilities, equipment, accommodation, transport and logistics, funding staffing and other motivational factors, with a view to taking prompt remedial measures to strengthen their operational performance, competence and capability.
- (ii) Ensure the highest standards of professionalism within the Nigerian Armed Forces, through properly planned career development, education and training, including overseas exposure, where necessary, to enable the officers and men to continuously up-date and up-grade

their knowledge, skills and experience, compatible with modern trends in military science and technology.

- (iii) Acquire and ensure proper maintenance of suitable weapons and arms, to guarantee effective deterrence, and rapid response, to any external threats to our nation's territorial integrity and enhance the combat readiness of the Armed Forces
- (iv) Reduce over-dependence on the use of imported weapons and enhance self-reliance, by encouraging local production of arms and military equipment, and thereby utilizing the available specialized skills and experience of technically qualified military personnel, using the facilities of the Defence Industries Corporation or other establishments which could be set up for that purpose.
- (v) Take measures to improve the living conditions of the members of armed forces by providing suitable barracks accommodation for them, and continuously, monitoring the adequacy of welfare schemes to sustain morale and enhance professionalism.
- (vi) Explore the possibility of engaging the engineering based professional corps of the military, to assist civil authorities in the execution of certain public works project, in order to take advantage of technical skills and experience as well as in keeping essential services functioning during periods of national crisis.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **OBJECTIVES**

1. The Party n Government is committed to Policy objectives to uphold and enforce the Fundamental Human Rights as enshrined in chapter IV of the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1995 as follows:

The Right to life; Dignity of the human person; Right to eradicate corrupt practices; Right to personal liberty; Fair Rearing; Private family life; Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion; Freedom of expression and the. Press; Right to peaceful assembly and association; freedom of movement; Medical Consultation; Freedom from discrimination; Right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in the Federation.

### **STRATEGY**

In order to uphold the above human Rights, the Party will:

- (a) Provide necessary support to enable the recently established National Human Rights Commission to discharge its functions properly;
- (b) Ensure the effective functioning of the Code of Conduct Tribunal' and the Public Complaints commission.
- (c) Guarantee the independence of the Judiciary.
- (d) Equip the Police and other Law Enforcement Agencies to enhance their operational performance in maintaining public peace and internal security.
- (e) Encourage the Press and other Mass Media Agencies to perform their role in such a manner as to promote democratic culture in the country and demonstrate sensitivity to matters of national interest.
- (f) Re-orientate and sensitize the citizenry to appreciate the fact that civic and political rights demand self-discipline, responsibility and obligations.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **OBJECTIVES**

Issues on environment relate to conservation, pollution, protection and sustainable development. The major environmental problems in Nigeria include; Refuse Disposal and Management; Desert/Sea Encroachment Erosion and Deforestation, Industrial Pollution as well as Oil and Gas pollution. Accordingly, the policy objectives of the Party shall be;

- (i) The protection and improvement of the environment to safe-guard our water, air and land resources, including forest, marine and wild life of the country.
- (ii) To secure for all Nigerians a quality of environment adequate for their health and well-being.
- (iii) Identify and bring under control those factors which degrade the environment in Oil and Solid Minerals producing areas.
- (iv) To restore, maintain and enhance the ecosystem and ecological process essential for the functioning of the biosphere.
- (v) To preserve the biological diversity and the principle of optimum sustainable yield in the use of living, natural resources and ecosystems.

### **STRATEGIES**

- (i) Undertake a massive programme of environmental education and training in order to create public awareness, develop environmental consciousness and promote the understanding of essential linkages between environment and development, as well as encourage individual and community participation in environmental improvement effort.
- (ii) Provide the necessary equipment, facilities and technical personnel to enable the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA) to

discharge with greater effectiveness its regulatory, monitoring, surveillance, and control functions in all parts of the country.

- (iii) Ensure better planning of towns and villages for space allocation of facilities.
- (iv) Promote environmental conservation and take care of the flora, fauna and other resources of the land.
- (v) Encourage the proper siting and maintenance of green areas in every Community for leisure and recreational purposes.
- (vi) Resuscitate and increase budgetary allocation to the Ecological Fund, for the purpose of financing Erosion Control, Oil Pollution and Desert Encroachment in the affected parts of the country.

## **CULTURE, ETHNICITY, STATIM, CORRUPTION**

### **OBJECTIVE**

Culture is at the core of the life of every modern Nation. The nation's heritage consists of its cultural resources, its material and non-material culture. These are what give it tile dignity, its identity and defines the way of life of its people in the past and at present. It is the projection of the totality of a peoples way of life.

Accordingly, the Party's objective will be to;

- (i) Protect, preserve and promote our cultural heritage which enhance human dignity
- (ii) Encourage the development of technological and scientific studies which enhance cultural values.

The problem of Ethnicity and Statim derives from mistrust of other groups and fear or domination, to prevent possible marginalization and social deprivation. The incidence of corruption is traceable to excessive greed, poverty and inordinate ambition, as well as ineffective or non-existent machinery for public accountability.

### **STRATEGY**

In order to promote the Nation's cultural heritage, and feel with the problems of Ethnicity, Statim, and Corruption, the Party in Government will;

- (i) Promote cultural exchange programme among States as strategy for national unity.
- (ii) Encourage international exhibitions of the Nation's cultural heritage and resources.
- (iii) Use the country's educational system as potent medium for transmitting cultural values and moms.

- (iv) Encourage free inter-state mobility of people, goods and services to facilitate national integration.
- (v) Establish residence rights for every citizen in all parts of the country.
- (vi) Encourage inter-marriages among persons from different places of origin and ethnic groups.
- (vii) Promote association that cut across religion, ethnic, linguistic or other sectional barriers.
- (viii) Re-introduce moral education in schools
- (ix) Design and implement credible national guidance and orientation programmes, to develop citizen consciousness in National Ethics and Values of discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-reliance and patriotism.
- (x) Ensure that salaried personnel in public and private employment are paid adequate remuneration that enable them to maintain and sustain decent: standard of living in order to reduce corrupt tendencies.
- (xi) Institute measures and programmes to alleviate inequality and poverty among the populace.
- (xii) Ensure the emergence of professional Political Leaders' at various levels, who can be trusted and are imbued with the ethics and values of Self-discipline, Honesty, Integrity, Selflessness and Sacrifices, and have respect for transparency and accountability, capable of providing leadership by example.

## **WOMEN IN POLITICS AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **OBJECTIVE**

Women, by virtue of their population and natural endowment, constitute a very important: segment of the Nation. The Party, therefore, recognizes the multiple role of women, as wives, mothers, citizens and workers, as well as their collective role in various aspects of national de'e.1opment, including economic and political development.

Over the years, Nigerian women have participated in the political and economic life of the country; however, the degree of such participation is not very significant relative to their population. The Policy Objective of the party, therefore, is that greater opportunities should be provided to enable more women at various levels to be brought into the mainstream of the political, economic, social and cultural activities in different parts of the country.

### **STRATEGIES**

Accordingly, the Party in Government, in recognition of the expertise, skills, disposition and potential of women: will be guided in its women development policy by the following strategies:

- (i) Strengthen the institutional capacity of Women Commissions and Agencies at Federal and State levels to enable greater effectiveness in their co-ordination of women development matters in collaboration with the Federal. Ministry of Women and Social Development.
- (ii) Provide orientation programmes aimed at securing greater political awareness of women in their effective participation in decision making process at various levels.
- (iii) Take appropriate measures to empower and integrate women into the overall development process, including their participation in

agriculture, handi-crafts, small-scale ventures, health and family life, industry and commerce.

- (iv) Give special attention and effective support to, recognized Professional Women Organizations and encourage them to reach out to the disadvantaged urban women in the informal sector as well as rural women in the villages and communities.
- (v) Increase and diversify formal education and training opportunities of women and, girls, within the context of overall national planning for manpower needs, to equip them for greater participation in the political and economic life of the nation.
- (vi) Combat illiteracy among women by providing functional literacy and adult education programmes in local languages, with a view to increasing awareness of their civic responsibilities and various political and economic opportunities around them.
- (vii) Encourage the formation of Women, associations that cut across ethnic, linguistic, religious or other sectional barriers, as a strategy for promoting women mobilization, empowerment and national integration.
- (viii) Encourage women organizations to make extensive use of discussion forum and mass media communications to educate and enlighten public opinion on, the values and potentials of women as partners-in-progress in the political, social and economic process the Nation.
- (ix) Ensure that, political parties and government authorities, at different levels, involve duly qualified and capable women in higher administrative, and policy-making responsibilities.

- (x) Encourage those Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) whose primary activities focus on the development and advancement of Women in Nigeria.

## **MASS MEDIA IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

National development and the welfare of the citizens constitute the primary objective of democratic governance. The media should be partner-in-progress with democracy, because a viable and articulate press is essential for the creation and sustenance of democracy. Accordingly, the party acknowledges the Constitutional Provision on the obligations of the mass media, to wit, that the press, radio, television and other agencies of the mass media shall, at all times, be free to uphold the fundamental objectives and highlight the responsibilities and accountability of the Government to the people. In order to further the interest of democracy, the party accepts the objectives and functions of the mass media, to be as follows:

- (i) To convey information to the people with a view to letting them know how the mandate; they gave their representatives is being discharged.
- (ii) To provide a forum through which the governed could then react to government policies and activities.
- (iii) To provide such analysis as would enable the people to secure, an adequate understanding and background of events.
- (iv) To assist in the articulation and pursuit of the national interest.
- (v) To provide informed criticism and viable alternatives to public policies.
- (vi) To help strengthen the economic, social and political fabric of the nation.
- (vii) To monitor the performance of government with a view to preventing deviation from expressly stated objectives.
- (viii) To provide the medium for transmitting knowledge and for educating the, populace.

## **STRATEGIES**

- (i) The Party in Government will endeavour to create a conducive atmosphere to facilitate the realization of the above objectives through building and maintaining mutual trust and respect between Government and Agencies of mass media.

- (ii) Media practitioners will - be encouraged to be more constructive in their critical appraisal o actions taken by individuals or groups, including government officials, which are presumed to be in the notional or public interest.
- (iii) Develop a new approach to the education, training and re-orientation of journalists and other media practitioners to see themselves as agents of development in the Nigerian democratization process.
- (iv) Institutionalize periodic briefing of the Press by appropriate Public Functionaries as a means of keeping the media abreast with major developments and policy decisions in the various arms of Government, and thereby providing opportunity for them to properly inform and educate the people, as well as express constructive opinion on such issues of public Interest.

## **SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The Party acknowledges the constitutional provision that “in recognition of the role of science and technology as an indispensable agent of sustainable economic development, Government should direct its policy towards the urgent development, maintenance and continuous updating of an appropriate effective and productive national science and engineering infrastructure”.

Accordingly, the Party’s objective in pursuance of scientific and technological development shall be to:

- (i) Re-appraise and review the existing state of science, technology and engineering infrastructure in the country, and adopt measures to ensure the proper development and improvement of the nation’s science and technology base, and the appropriate application of science and technology In spear-heading continuing improvements in various sectors of the economy e.g agriculture, transport ‘and communications, industry, including agro-allied industries, health and sanitation, energy, education and manpower, housing, urban development and environment.
- (ii) Popularization of science and scientific attitudes generally among the populace.
- (iii) Accord priority ‘to the’ continuous development and improvement of human resources for the creation of a science and technology infrastructure of manpower, knowledge-skills, innovation and productive capacities to absorb and adapt imported technology as well as develop appropriate local and indigenous technology, for the identification, exploration, and exploitation of our natural resources.

### **STRATEGY**

In order to implement the above policy objectives, the following strategies shall be pursued;

- (i) Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology to enable it provide enhanced professional leadership in the supervision and coordination of the, varied activities of research agencies under the Ministry's surveillance.
- (ii) Take steps to improve the budgetary allocations to research institutes o enable them' up-grade their specialized scientific and technological research capability and facilities, to deal more effectively, with the various national development problems.
- (iii) Resuscitate the Science and Technology Development Fund. In financing related activities and provide incentives to encourage greater investment in research and development activities by the Organized Private Sector, including multi-national companies, to promote innovation and competitiveness in industry and other sectors of the economy.
- (iv) Undertake surveys of science and technology manpower requirements in all sectors of the economy, as a strategy for implementing specialized manpower training and utilization schemes.
- (v) Encourage: applied and adaptive research and take measures to implement relevant research findings to meet identified national development needs.
- (vi) Ensure local processing of available raw materials for value added through the production of basic semi- finished and finished goods to reduce over-dependence on imported fully manufactured goods.
- (vii) Promote national competitions in schools and the organization of science and technology fairs as forum for the exhibition of indigenous technology.

## **ENERGY**

Nigeria is well-endowed with large quantities of primary energy resources such as oil, coal, and natural gas. Also available are the renewable sources of hydro, wood, solar and wind. Energy is an essential input to all aspects of modern age. It is the life wire of industrial and agricultural production, the fuel for transportation as well as for the generation of electricity in conventional thermal power plants. The Party recognizes the need to continue to harness and develop the various energy sources for the nation's energy requirements and accelerated economic growth.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- (a) The Party will undertake a comprehensive and integrated energy policy review and analysis, which will systematically assess the national energy resources and draw up appropriate strategies for continuous exploration, exploitation, and utilization of each energy component for its premium uses in the overall national interest.
- (b) The Party will also ensure that energy resources will be duly protected and, optimally harnessed as well as define an optimum choice of energy sources, technology, financing, and pricing to meet local demand and increased energy for export.

## **STRATEGIES**

- (i) Developing and maintaining a regular inventory of our energy resources, current: and projected needs including human and materials resources.
- (ii) Guaranteeing the continuity and adequacy of energy supply in the short, medium and long terms, including appropriate conservation policies.
- (iii) Giving due and timely consideration to security and environmental protection of the public and the working population from hazards

arising from the exploitation, conversion, transportation and utilization of energy.

- (iv) Improving and intensifying our technological performance capability in the energy sector consistent with self-reliance and the need to attain economic competitiveness.
- (v) Providing active support to research and development activities in all areas that will lead to improve
- (vi) Ensuring optimal use of all energy resources by specifically emphasizing renewable energy resources in the rural areas due to their reduced maintenance needs and the use of unclear energy for electricity generation with its by-products for boosting agriculture, health care and industrial production.
- (vii) Providing a co-ordinated framework for the implementation of all energy issues.
- (viii)

## **TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION**

### **OBJECTIVES**

Transport and communications constitute a very vital sector of the Nigerian economy on which depends:

- i. Development of other sectors of the economy:
- ii. The socio-economic integration of the country; and
- iii. Inter-state commerce and international trade.

The Party shall therefore, ensure the effective planning co-ordination, modernization and maintenance of the various transport and communication systems. i.e. Roads, Rail, Maritime, Air, Inland Waterways, and Telecommunications in order to maximize efficiency and safety.

The Party's strategy in each transport mode shall be as follows:

#### **i. ROAD TRANSPORT**

- a. Undertake a survey of the condition of all Federal Highways and State Roads, including feeder roads, as a basis for embarking on appropriate reconstruction, rehabilitation and maintenance works,
- b. The possibility of private sector participation in highways and bridges construction shall be seriously considered.
- c. The Federal Urban Transport Programme shall be reviewed to make it more effective.
- d. Connection of all state capitals through interstate highways to the FCT, Abuja.

#### **ii. RAIL TRANSPORT**

- a. Revitalization of the Railway system through modernization, rehabilitation of tracks, procurement of new rolling stock, and improvement of all operational and management techniques.

- b. Construction of a modern standard gauge railway system across the length and breadth of the country.

**iii. AIR TRANSPORT**

- a) Improvement and modernization of aviation infrastructure, compatible with international safety standard.
- b) Continuous encouragement to private airline operators, subject to their meeting the required conditions and safety standard.

**iv. MARITIME TRANSPORT AND INLAND WATERWAYS**

- (a) Renovation and modernization of the ports to enable them cope with growing traffic.
- (b) Encouragement of Nigerian nationals to participate in international shipping and maritime trade.
- (c) Local manufacture and maintenance of vessels for water transportation.
- (d) Greater utilization of inland waterways as alternative mode of transporting goods in the country.

**v. COMMUNICATIONS**

- (a) Re-organization of the nation's telecommunications and postal system in order to achieve greater efficiency in their operations.
- (b) Modernization of communications equipment and facilities and ensuring that all operators within the industry comply with approved guidelines and regulations of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC).
- (c) Encouragement of private participation and investment in the sector.

## **LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY**

### **OBJECTIVES**

- a) The Party shall ensure the full mobilization and effective utilization of the labour force (men, women and youth, both trained and untrained) for national development, and social progress.
- b) Continuous improvement of the working conditions of the labour force both in the private and public sectors of the national economy.

### **STRATEGIES**

- (i) Reduce unemployment and create gainful employment opportunities for all persons who are able and willing to work, through improvements in agriculture, industry and commercial activities, in the formal and informal sectors, as a way of achieving better living standards for the bulk of the population.
- (ii) Undertake realistic manpower assessment, projections, planning and programming and continuous monitoring of its development and proper utilization.
- (iii) Re-organize and strengthen the various skill development and Employment Agencies to make them more functional and results-oriented.
- (iv) Promote effective Industrial Relations through the instruments of collective bargaining and joint consultation in the determination of fair remuneration and other conditions of employment and disputes settlement through the processes of conciliation, mediation and arbitration.
- (v) Review, harmonize and consolidate salary structure in our public service system to narrow and/or close the gap, with the private sector to streamline conditions of service generally in the country and attract best brains to the public sectors.

## **SOLID MINERALS DEVELOPMENT**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The policy objective in the sector shall:

- (i) Encourage comprehensive exploitation of our minerals resources.
- (ii) Ensure that policy guidelines to regulate the exploitation of various types of solid minerals by both public and private operators are put in place.

### **STRATEGY**

The main thrust of the policy objective is to regulate the entire spectrum of the solid minerals development sector. For the attainment of these objectives the following steps shall be taken:

- (i) Establishment of Incentive packages and other infrastructures for investor in this sector.
- (ii) Intensive geological efforts to explore, for exploitation, all the nation's mineral resources.
- (iii) The Nigerian Coal Corporation and the Nigerian Mining Corporation shall be strengthen and adequately funded to enable them carry out their statutory functions effectively.
- (iv) Detailed information on the nation's mineral resources to be put together for the use of all interested investors at home and abroad.
- (v) Commercialization and Privatization of public mining operations shall be encouraged.
- (vi) "Production Sharing Joint-venture Arrangement" with both local and foreign investors shall be vigorously pursued

## **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

### **OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY**

The YOUTH of the nation constitute an important human resource for national development. To this end, the Party shall adopt policies and strategies that will enhance the position of the youth in national development as follows:

- (i) Ensure the reduction in the number of school drop-outs and destitute among the youth through the provision of functional education and training opportunities for all.
- (ii) Ensure that youth socialize through sports and cultural activities in order to ensure a smooth transition from youth to adulthood.
- (iii) Develop programmes that will enable positive personality development for the youth
- (iv) Sensitize families to bring up the youth to disciplined, hardworking and patriotic citizens.
- (v) Ensure that the National Youth Services Corps Scheme is revitalized to facilitate the development of our youths.
- (vi) Facilitate skill, development and employment opportunities for the youth and encourage them to engage in meaningful self-employment, through assistance and support to the Apprenticeship system in the Informal Sector of the economy
- (vii) Ensure that no youth is exploited or abused.
- (viii) Promote the development of different associations like the boys Scouts, Girls Guides, Young Farmers Club, for the cognitive, psychological, physical and intellectual development of the youths.
- (ix) Adopt policies that shall wipe out criminality drug and substance abuse among youths, as well as permissiveness through pornography.
- (x) Encourage youth exchange programmes among all state and the Federal Capital Territory.

- (xi) Encourage the establishment of rehabilitation Centres for youth affected by drug abuse, parent desertion disability and delinquency.

## **TRADITIONAL RULERS**

The party acknowledges the fact that federalism involves unity in diversity. Therefore, in considering the role of traditional institutions and rulers, with the context of a republican nation, the Party believes that each component state within the federation should feel free to retain and modernize its own peculiar institutions to meet the legitimate yearnings of their people. Traditional Rulers, in order to protect their position as fathers of the nation, should not be involved, in partisan politics.

Accordingly, the Party in Government would recognize the following as the role and functions of Traditional Rulers:

- (i) Offer advice to the various levels of governmental authorities on matters referred to them, in furtherance of national development.
- (ii) Serve as Father-figures and custodian of the values, ethics, culture and tradition of their communities.
- (iii) Act as agents of peace, stability, continuity and social development in their communities.
- (iv) Advise on community development plans and programmes within their domain.
- (v) Advise on matters relating to customary laws and practices, art and cultural affairs, inter-communal relations and chieftaincy matters.
- (vi) Assist the law enforcement agencies in maintenance of public order within their domain.
- (vii) Assist in the mobilization of human and material resources towards national integration, development projects, community self-reliance and welfare of their people.

## **THE CIVIL SERVICE**

### **OBJECTIVES**

The Civil Service provides the machinery for the planning, formulation and implementation of Government policies and programmes. The Service provides administrative and technical support for the discharge of Ministerial responsibilities and other Government functions, and it is involved with the administration of services and programmes to the public. The Civil Service is, therefore, an indispensable institution for the effective functioning and performance of Government. In recognition of the important role of the Civil Service in the machinery of Government, the Party will pursue the following policy objectives.

- (i) To develop an effective civil service that is results-oriented, committed and sensitive to the needs of the public, the economy and society.
- (ii) To evolve a civil service that is professional and sufficiently motivated.
- (iii) To make Government business more competitive and service-oriented.

### **STRATEGY**

In order to realize the above objectives, the following strategy shall be pursued;

- i) Ensure a conducive environment of work, providing necessary facilities and equipment to improve operational performance
- ii) Review the organizational structure of Civil Service to enable prompt consideration of issues and decision-making, which tend to be hindered by avoidable bureaucratic processes.
- iii) Undertake training needs analysis of the entire as a basis for determining performance deficiencies, and institute appropriate training and staff development programmes aimed at improvement of skills, knowledge, experience and attitudinal reorientation
- iv) Introduce an adequate structure of remuneration and incentive for the Civil Service to secure necessary motivation and commitment.