

ACTION PEOPLES PARTY

APP



MANIFESTO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preamble	Page 3
The Economy	Page 3
Agriculture	Page 5
Rural Development	Page 7
Energy	Page 7
Mining and Petro-Chemical Industry□	Page 8
Iron and Steel Development	Page 8
Labour, Employment and Wages□	Page 9
Transport and Communications□	Page 9
Education	Page 11
Health	Page 15
Housing and Environment	Page 15
Youth, Sports and Culture	Page 16
Defence	Page 18
Foreign Policy	Page 18
The Civil Service	Page 19
The Judiciary and Administration of Justice	Page 20
The Police	Page 20
The Prisons	Page 21
Traditional Rulers	Page 22
Women	Page 22

PREAMBLE

This nation emerged from its colonial tutelage with political trauma which was caused by the historical experience of the nature of nationalists' struggle in the creation of the nation state. In place of a united, strong and virile nation, the new state was plagued by regionalism in place of patriotic nationalism. Regionalism spread into various institutions of society, weakening the concept of nationhood which had characterized all genuine and progressive states.

Since the return to Democracy in 1999, all the years of successive experiments for the re-birth of a new nation did not provide viable solution to the country's problems. Rather, the nation's scarce resources were inefficiently, and sometimes wastefully, utilized. There was little meaningful and honest effort on the part of the leadership to build a united country and a virile economy. Consequently, the nation still faces substantial problems of poverty, under-development, ignorance, disease and technological dependency. In recent years, much has been done to create the institutional and policy foundations for addressing these problems on a serious and sustainable basis. But much still need to be done, especially in the fields of social relations, rural-urban balance, income distribution, access to economic opportunities and the full realization of individual and group potentialities.

We of the All Progressive Party will embark on National reforms which are progressive in content and operation, and which we believe will improve the lot of the generality of our people.

It is in view of this that we launch our Party, fully convinced that our mission is to help foster the birth of a new social order and democratic society rooted in the people of this nation.

I. THE ECONOMY

A government of the APP 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. Improved and effective revenue collection through a system of progressive taxation will be undertaken.
- d. Gaps between the rich and the 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 facilitated.

We believe that the attainment of technological and industrial self-reliance is sine qua non for the construction of an independent national economy. This, we shall endeavour 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 technologists for Research and Development activities. In particular, policy will focus on the development of indigenous technology ; but for 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 National 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 relations, our management of the national currency will stress the need for exchange rate stability. Appropriate protection for infant industries and quantitative restrictions on imports will be embarked upon to prevent dumping and unfair international trade practices. 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 central role of the public sector in employment generation, social services and corrective public-sector interventions in national economic life. Our monetary policy will ensure adequate 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 the narrowing of income inequalities through progressive income tax structures, taxation of excessive profits and enhanced urban minimum wage-

An APP 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 present progressive personal income tax structure will be reviewed to ensure that those who earn more pay more ;
- b. profit taxes will be increased to ensure that multinational businesses, banks and other business establishments which declare huge profits year after year are adequately taxed ;
- c. taxes on savings will be imposed, again, with a view to reducing the income differentials between the rich and poor in the society ;
- d. Property taxes will be increased, with a view to getting additional resources 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.

II. AGRICULTURE

Objective

The Party shall accord priority 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 the very elements in our agricultural transformation programmes. They shall be encouraged—

- a. to increase their productivity;
- b. to enhance the profitability of their products ;
- c. to obtain fertilizers, insecticides and other farm inputs ;
- d. to make available modern (farming 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 and farmer co-operatives. Land clearing, a problem that militates against expansion by peasant farmers, shall be given top priority. The Party shall prevent such situations where dispossessing the people of their land will result in land hunger.

Agricultural Inputs and Extension Service

Agricultural inputs shall be delivered to peasant farmers and co-operatives. 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.

Irrigation

National Irrigation Schemes shall be provided; Small-scale dams rather than large dams shall be constructed to avoid displacing small-scale farmers. Communities shall be aided by Government matching grants to construct dams to provide irrigation water for all season agriculture. In the area of fisheries, community fish ponds shall be established and nurtured. Aqua-culture shall form the cornerstone of protein improvement programme.

Finance

As access to investible funds poses one of the greatest problems to peasant farmers and co-operatives, an APP government shall create easier access to finance. Loans shall be provided to individual, group of farmers, and co-operatives on reasonable interest charges with long period of repayment.

Marketing

Community Storage System shall be emphasized as a strategy to reduce post-harvest wastage. Marketing of farm produce shall be done through co-operative societies so that participating communities shall derive maximum benefit from their productive efforts.

Livestock Production Community grazing grounds shall be encouraged and so livestock production enhanced. Community water points shall be constructed to foster settlement of livestock owners, especially the cattle nomads.

III. RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Objectives

The APP shall be committed to the following

1. objective reduction of the level of rural poverty ;
2. Reversal of rural-urban migration;
3. General improvement of the quality of life of the rural populace.

Strategy

The APP shall emphasize community organizations for community development Incentives like matching grants shall be given in order to promote the undertaking.

Communal projects; Rural roads, rural water supply, rural electricity supply shall be encouraged, so as to provide and improve the environment for the take-off of rural industrialization. Access to credit facilities shall be enhanced by more active promotion of rural and community banking including the Peoples Bank.

IV. ENERGY

Objectives

The APP policy objectives shall be—

- i. to ensure a steady and increasing supply of energy for both industrial and social uses
- ii. to ensure that the National Energy Commission shall be appropriately funded ;

and

- iii. to formulate and implement a comprehensive energy policy, ensuring that reasonable tariffs are charged-

Strategy

A National Emergency shall be declared in the Energy sector. Hydro-electric thermal and solar-energy shall be further developed and strengthened. The Ongoing Privatization of the energy sector shall be reorganized and adequately monitored to ensure uninterrupted supply of power.

I. MINING AND PETRO CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Objectives

The Party policy objective in this sector shall be—

- i. to ensure responsible and controlled exploitation of our mineral resources ;
- ii. to ensure that government shall maintain effective supervisory rights over all mining activities in the country.
- iii. Undertake comprehensive surveys so as to determine the quantities and locations of all the country's mineral resources.

Strategy

The NNPC and the Nigerian Mining Industry shall be properly organized and adequately funded to enable them play the very active role we envisage for them in our administration

The Party shall establish and further expand petro-chemical plants as vehicles for industrial development. Also New Gas Project shall be developed to boost our economy and employment generation.

VI. IRON AND STEEL DEVELOPMENT

Objectives

The Party's major policy goal shall be to ensure that a viable iron and steel industry is established and maintained as a pre-requisite for industrial and technological take-off.

Strategy

The review of the process of the privatization of the Ajaokuta Steel Complex, other subsidiary rolling mills, and the Itakpe iron-ore mining projects shall be given top priority to ensure that the right things were done and the projects operations fully back to life. The production of flat steel for the manufacturing of industrial machinery of all kinds and needs shall also be a priority.

Quality control shall be enforced to ensure the products acceptability internationally and to build confidence in the goods produced in the country either for home consumption or for export.

VII. LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

Objectives

The APP shall vigorously strive—

- i. to improve the working conditions of the Nigerian labour force ;
- ii. to ensure that workers benefit from the huge profits being declared by the private sector ;
- iii. to ensure that workers are reasonably remunerated by the public sector.

Strategy

The following steps will be taken—

- a. review of the current monthly minimum wage in line with the prevailing economic realities ;
- b. review of the current remuneration of workers, including fringe benefits ;
- c. enforcement of labour discipline and productivity ;
- d. overhaul of the Industrial Arbitration Court to make it independent and effective ;
- e. prompt payment of salaries and allowances ;
- f. review of the pension rates of retired worker to the progress of the nation ;
- g. encouragement of trade union activities, especially the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) ;
- h. representation of labour in all organs of government dealing with the affairs of working people
- i. organization of workers in the industries into Workers' Assemblies, Workers' councils, and Management committees.
- j. free movement of labour throughout all States of the Federation.

VIII. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Objectives

The objectives of the Party shall be—

- i. Efficient transportation system throughout the country ;
- ii. Modernization of all the existing modes of transportation in the country (road, rail, air, water/maritime) and
- iii. Considerable expansion and modernization of our communications system.

Strategy

Our strategy in each sector shall be as outlined below.

A. Road Transportation

- i. Improvement and development of all major roads linking our state capitals and major cities and towns within the states of the federation.
- ii. Support and complement the efforts of Local Governments in the provision of feeder roads for easy social and economic interaction with the rural areas of the country.
- iii. Revamping and acceleration of the Mass Transit Programme.
- iv. The building of National dual Link federal road linking all 36 states of Nigeria.

B. 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 of 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.

C. Air Transport

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

Nigeria Airways shall be returned as the national carrier, but effort shall be made to ensure its survival and operational efficiency by hiring out its Operation to a reputable World Class Airline management company to avoid the mistake of the past. Operation of private airlines in the domestic and international routes shall be encouraged, but will be regulated to ensure reliability and safety. The Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) shall be adequately funded to enable it acquire and maintain vital equipment necessary for regular maintenance and operation of aircrafts.

D- Water Transport

The Party shall develop the inland waterways, with emphasis on—

- i. Dredging the beds of all major rivers so that they can be navigable throughout the year
- ii. Providing financial allocation for the manufacture of necessary vehicles required for water transport.

E. Communication

The Party shall ensure—

- i. total reorganization of the country's postal system with a view to guaranteeing its efficiency ;
- ii. Further liberalization of Commercialization of Telecom Industry to create efficiency ;

- iii. modernization of communications equipment belonging to NIPOST, and the Nigerian Television Authority.
- iv. Return of a New Nigeria NITEL under a private sector partnership to ensure efficient rural telephony and affordability of telecom services.

IX. EDUCATION

Objectives

The APP 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 peoples of Nigeria. Therefore, to achieve the much desired national unity, the APP in government shall—

ensure that our educational system be improved upon and adjusted where necessary ;

- i. Ultimately provide free, functional education at all levels ;
- ii. Integrate into the formal education system, the political education of the citizenry, with emphasis on the provisions of the Constitution of the State and democratic principles ;
- iii. Foster and expand education at all levels and fields of knowledge ;
- iv. Encourage private and voluntary organizations to establish schools subject to compliance and adherence to government regulations.

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.

A. Pre-Primary Education (Nursery)

Voluntary agencies and individuals shall be free to establish Nursery school institutions, but APP government shall set guidelines to determine the school fees and other levies to be charged so as to protect the interest of parents and their wards. Adequate arrangements for effective supervision of such schools shall be made to check deviations from set standards.

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

B. Primary Education

In the view of the APP 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 curriculum such that graduate can become truly literate and primarily equipped for the life ahead. APP Government shall provide adequate classrooms, books, instructional materials at no cost to parents.

C. 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 curriculum 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 time.

D. Technical Education

APP government shall accord technical education the key place it deserves in Nigeria's technological progress. Technical education shall therefore be given top priority. The curricula of the technical schools shall be streamlined such that a comprehensive curricula shall emerge which shall provide for the students to -acquire a reasonable level of scientific and technical literacy to sustain them in their vocations.

The Party shall provide—

- i. well-equipped standard workshops in all technical and vocational schools ; and
- ii. well-trained teachers sufficient in number to be posted to all schools.

E. Unity Schools/Federal Government Colleges

The APP government supports the idea of Unity Schools/Federal Government Colleges, and shall sustain these colleges as centres of excellence and instruments of national integration. Boarding facilities and textbooks shall be provided free. Every Nigerian child shall have equal opportunity to attend them. irrespective of his or her ethnic, religious, or social background.

F. Special Education

The APP shall pay particular attention to the education of the handicapped, ensuring that through special schools they are provided with the means of living a full and meaningful life so that in so doing they are integrated into the labour force and thereby contribute to national development.

G. Higher Education/Professional Education The APP government shall—

give adequate financial and material support to all higher educational institutions, especially the polytechnics and the universities :

create effective machinery for the identification of the manpower needs of the economy, by providing guidelines on the rationalization, planning, diversification and intensification of professional and academic programmes ;

institute a machinery for the identification and evaluation of infrastructural bibliographic, and research needs with a view to providing adequate funds to make the institutions more conducive to teaching service, research and development.

H. University education

The APP in government shall accord special attention to university education with

particular emphasis on agricultural, pure and applied sciences, medical sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities.

The Party shall—

- i. promote closer links between the universities and industry, especially in the area of research and development ;
- ii. encourage local industries, research institutes and universities to undertake joint research into various problems of our society in such areas as health, agriculture, communication, and innovation and discovery ;
- iii. further strengthen the consultancy units of the universities by increasing government and public patronage of their services ;
- iv. motivate academic and non-academic staff of the universities towards better teaching, research and productivity by improving their conditions of service including subsidized housing, medical care and insurance ;
- v. Promote and encourage academic and non-academic staff unions and professional bodies in accordance with guidelines that will promote the positive roles of such unions to protecting and projecting the welfare and conditions of service of their members
- vi. Restore freedom and autonomy to universities. The APP government shall provide—
 - a. Improved hostel facilities conducive for effective learning ;
 - b. Free tuition to students ;
 - c. Essential books, instructional materials, libraries, classrooms and equipment.

I. Teacher Education

AP 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 teachers ; and
- e. ensure that teachers are provided with adequate instructional materials by the authority.

J. Non-Formal Education

As a large proportion of the Nigerian populace is illiterate, the Party is committed to ensuring basic literacy and numeracy 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 APP government considers funding as one of the critical factors in its strategy of education policy implementation. No nation can achieve greatness where more than 70 per cent of its population is illiterate. The Party strategy on funding of education takes cognizance of this situation and also the fact that success in implementation hinges partly on the level and quantum of funding. The Party's commitment to free education at all levels is premised on this belief.

X. HEALTH

Objective

The APP shall present a comprehensive health policy for the country, the essential aim of which shall be to guarantee the health of all citizens. Under the APP National Health Programme, free medical service 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 institutions up to graduation. Free medical service will also cover all old people from the age of 65.

Strategy

The Party shall review the 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. The present Federal Government Health Reforms shall be reviewed.

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 APP 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 APP shall promote 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.

XI. HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

Objectives

The Party's objectives on housing and environment are grouped into three broad categories, namely—

- i. provision of housing for all Nigerians ;

- ii. improving the environment through programmes like environmental sanitation. annual tree planting, free supply of nursery plants, reclamation of land for building projects and the light against erosion among others ; and
- iii. 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

An APP 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. establish housing estates 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 cooperatives ; 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.

An APP 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. An APP 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 facilities for the people on terms that are reasonable.

XII. 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 necessary components for leadership development.

As basic elements of this general objective, 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 Nigerian Youths realize their 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. enact laws against child abuse and child labour.

Strategy

An APP government shall reorganize the NYSC Scheme to embrace all graduates of post secondary institutions; and shall promote and encourage societies/clubs such as boy scouts, debating society, etc. for the physical and intellectual development of their members.

Sports

An APP 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—

- i. encourage sports at all levels ;
- ii. provide recreational facilities such as parks, gardens and theatres ;
- iii. build stadia in each Local Government headquarters and improve the existing ones to meet the desired standards;
- iv. establish national and state parks both for recreational purposes and as a means of promoting tourism ;
- v. reward young talented sports men and women who have brought laurels to the country ;
- vi. formulate a comprehensive insurance scheme which will be developed for the coverage of all members of the various national sports teams ; and
- vii. create and open a National Sports Hall of Fame to honour and immortalize the names of sports men and women who contribute to the development of sports in the country.

Culture

An APP 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 for national integration ; and
- c. promote internalization of the new political culture, the principles of grass root politics, two party system, and inculcation of patriotic and nationalistic values.

XIII. DEFENCE

Objectives

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

- i. National security in all its ramifications ;
- ii. Creation and maintenance of armed forces capable not only of discharging the afore-stated responsibility, but also, using them to support our foreign policy objectives.

Strategy

The Party shall, within contexts of the country's Strategic posture, the nature and sources of threat, and budgetary constraints—

- i. Ensure high standard of professionalism through constant training ;
- ii. Provide sufficient funds that will enable the Defence Industries Corporation produce various types of weapons for defence, deterrence, and retaliation ;
- iii. Pursue, as a deliberate policy of self-reliance, the policy of local production of arms, military equipment, and command, control and communication system that will enhance the combat readiness of our armed forces and boost their morale ;
- iv. Explore the possibilities of setting up similar industries in other locations in the country, especially in communities with proven expertise in indigenous armament technology ;
- v. Ensure that adequate welfare facilities and remuneration are provided members of the armed forces to boost their morale and enhance their capability.
- vi. In view of current National Security challenges, increase the capacity for intelligence gathering.

XIV. FOREIGN POLICY

Objectives

In conformity with the provisions of the Constitution, the APP shall—

- i. pursue policies of mutual co-existence through bilateral and multilateral agreements ;
- ii. observe conventions and obligations of regional and international organizations of which Nigeria is a member ;
- iii. maintain and strengthen Nigeria's membership of the UN, OAU, ECOWAS, the Non-Aligned movement , OPEC and the African, Caribbean and Pacific States ;
- iv. focus on Africa and Third World as the center piece of Nigeria's foreign policy ;
- v. Resist imperial aco-colonialism or discrimination, and all forms of external intervention.

Strategy

Use of the politics and economic instruments of diplomacy as the standard foreign policy strategy.

Pursuit of the principles of peaceful co-existence in international politics and relations with other countries

Collective self-reliance.

Launch of Citizenship Diplomacy.

THE CIVIL SERVICE

Objectives

Development of a body of patriotic and nationalist civil service characterized by the quality, and commitment of its personnel through the proficiency of the policy implementation processes and procedures.

Commitment to the civil service reform

Strategy

The Party in government shall strive to—

- i. provide conducive working environment for all categories of staff;
- ii. provide office buildings with adequate equipment and materials in quality and quantity ;
- iii. review salaries and allowances of civil servants periodically to cushion 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 accounts 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.

XVI. THE JUDICIARY AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Objectives

- 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.

The Party in government shall—

- a. Abide by the Constitution in making appointments to the Bench, and only men and women with proven integrity shall be so appointed ;
- b. Continue with the present judiciary set up, ensuring that the judiciary is self-accounting;
- c. Appoint more Judges and magistrates ;
- d. Uphold the principle of habeas corpus ;
- e. Review the existing legal aid system with a view to enhancing opportunity for free legal services for the masses.

An APP government will improve the working conditions of judges and magistrates.

XVII. 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 the citizenry.

Strategy

An APP 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 qualification into the force ;
- 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 Parts of the world ;

- v. Providing adequate funding for the modernization of police equipment ;
- vi. Providing sufficient barracks accommodation with amenities to house all

Members of the police and their families;

- vii. 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
- viii. Launching in-house political education among the police to change their attitude to the state and perception of their duties and obligations.

XVIII. THE PRISONS

Objectives

decongest the prisons.

To make the prison a corrective institution and provide them with well equipped and funded workshops.

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 by periodic judicial visits to prison
- ii. construct special prisons for different categories of prisoners ;
- iii. 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 ;
- iv. improve working conditions of warders and other prison staff ;
- v. initiate orientation programmes for prison inmates to give them new hope for a life of usefulness as acceptable members of the society after their discharge ;
- vi. provide facilities for faster dispensation of justice by our law courts.

XIX. TRADITIONAL RULERS

General Objectives

The Party sees traditional rulers not just as fathers of the nation and as custodians of our rich cultural heritage, but also as an important governmental institution that provides continuity and stability to the political system and 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 grassroot level as community mobilizes and formidable bridges between the government and the governed, an APP government will consolidate this important socio-cultural and political institution, considerably 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 our traditional institution, so that as the Nigerian society and economy are undergoing basic structural changes, the party in government is committed to putting in place policies designed to strengthen and transform the traditional rulers such that they will be better placed than ever before to contribute to the process of change.

Strategy

The APP 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 political mobilisation, as well as use of age groups and similar associations for commitment and national development.

XX. WOMEN

Objectives

- i. To encourage the full emancipation, participation and involvement of women in all political, social, economic and other aspects of national life.
- ii. To recognize the special responsibilities of women and to promote their use as veritable agent of political socialization.

Strategy

The Party in Government shall encourage the mass education and mobilization of our women for—

- i. Production purposes ;
- ii. Nurturing a healthy family system:
- iii. Uniting the kinship groups together
- iv. Ensuring that they play positive role in development; and
- v. Political socialization
- vi. The APP 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.

ACTION PEOPLES PARTY

2017

Action Peoples Party (APP)