

THE CONSTITUTION OF

PEOPLES PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPP)

Motto: Truth, Freedom and Progress

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PREAMBLE: We the progressives of Nigeria, having resolved to form a political party in pursuit of our ideological agenda for the good of all Nigerians, so hereby make, enact and give to ourselves the following Constitution whose provisions shall be binding on ourselves. In doing so, we pledge our abiding loyalty to the Federal Republic of Nigeria whose Constitution shall at all times supercede this Constitution of our party.

ARTICLE 1: NAME

There shall be a progressive political party to be referred to, known as and called the PEOPLES PROGRESSIVE PARTY, hereinafter referred to, where the context so admits, as the party.

ARTICLE 2: MOTTO

The motto of the Party shall be “Truth, freedom and progress.”

ARTICLE 3: SYMBOL

The emblem of the Party shall be a stem of three green leaves facing the sky.

ARTICLE 4: IDEOLOGY

The Party shall be guided by a progressive and federalist ideology.

ARTICLE 5: PRIMACY OF PARTY CONSTITUTION

Without prejudice to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or of any other law for the time being in force in the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the provisions of this Constitution shall take precedence over and above any other Rules or Regulations of the Party which are inconsistent with its provisions.

ARTICLE 6: NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

The registered office of the party shall be in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, with branches in state capitals, local government areas including Abuja area councils, and wards, in the Federation.

ARTICLE 7: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The AIM of the Party shall be to democratically acquire, utilize, sustain and retain political power for the sole purpose of rendering total service to the people of Nigeria, Black and African people and humanity as a whole, based on the ideological and principle and practice of federalism and progressivism.
2. To the above end the party shall pursue and undertake the following objectives:
 - a. To set constitutional and administrative structures to ensure a big, strong and durable Party;

- b. To sponsor suitable and committed members to contest general elections as representatives of the Party, to all elective offices of government;
- c. To present to Nigerians a manifesto encapsulating the philosophy, programmes of service, project proposals and modus operandi of the Party in order to lobby and earn their electoral, moral and social support;
- d. To pursue the entrenchment in governance of the utilitarian best principles of “The greatest happiness for the greatest number”;
- e. To set up, at all levels, government that will ensure that the basic needs of modern living, namely, food, portable water, shelter, primary health care, electric power access, road/waterways, base education (literacy/numeracy/skill), recreation/social amenities in formation/public enlightenment, etc. are available in a fair and just manner to all Nigerians;
- f. To promote self-reliance through active and practical encouragement of small and medium scale industrial initiatives, handicraft and agriculture;
- g. To establish a policy of poverty prevention through active government intervention in youth unemployment and redundancy;
- h. To protect, promote and elevate the status of womanhood through various deliberate equalization and parity schemes including compulsory basic education, abrogation of anti-social discriminatory cultural practices, equal employment and electoral opportunities, etc;
- i. To provide welfare support for pensioners, the elderly, the handicapped, widows and unemployed;
- j. To protect the rights and privileges of children, including the unborn child, through appropriate legislations and welfare schemes;
- k. To represent the interest of the Nigerian masses by participation in key and strategic sectors of the economy e.g. oil mineral/solid mineral exploitation, exploitation and marketing; defence industry/aviation industry; shipping industry; telecommunications; housing; fiscal/monetary control; scientific research and technological development, etc.
- l. To create a congenial private sector atmosphere for manufacturing, import business to thrive and prosper in Nigeria;
- m. To respect and protect the right and provide the basic needs of the working class, market women, students/youth /religious leaders, traditional rulers and political class;
- n. To provide leadership, strategic and economic support (where appropriate and possible), for Africa and Blacks in the diaspora;
- o. To honour international treaties, support and promote international co-operation between and among friendly nations and contribute socially,

culturally and economically to the maintenance of world peace and order.

- p. To defend the territorial integrity and unity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
- q. To actively entrench, encourage and regard observance of the nation's ethical values and morality, especially truth, justice, honesty, equity, and the fear of God.
- r. To wage an ideological, moral, constitutional/legal war against corrupt practices, ethnicity and indiscipline in private and public life;
- s. To undertake all innovative activities that would eliminate or reduce practices, misery and uncertainty, foster liberty; enhance confidence, inculcate patriotism and nationalism, galvanize national unity and increase the quantum of happiness among Nigerians.
- t. To offer free primary health care and free/compulsory basic education to Nigerians.
- u. To sponsor scientific research for technological development in agriculture, genetic engineering, medicine and nuclear power for industrial ends.
- v. To undertake any other activities or programmes that would usher in positive change for the lasting benefit of all Nigerians.
- w. To achieve all the foregoing under the umbrella of a federalist platform with power continually devolving to the federating units.

ARTICLE 8: MEMBERSHIP

(1) Conditions for Membership

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

- a. The person is a Nigerian and at least 18 years of age;
- b. The person is not a member of another political party or if he/she was such a member, has resigned such membership and shall show evidence of his/her resignation;
- c. The person agrees to abide by the provisions of the party's Constitution;
- d. Application for memberships shall be on individual basis;
- e. The person shall be registered as a member of the party at the ward in which he/she resides or hails from;

(2) Membership Rules and Obligation

- a. Every member shall pay the prescribed registration fee, monthly dues, levies and fines (where applicable).
- b. Members are obliged to participate in activities of the party e.g. election campaigns, rallies, fund-raising functions, meetings (as appropriate).
- c. Every member shall possess a membership card.

- d. Membership of the Party shall be renewed annually on payment of the prescribed fee.
- e. In an election year, only a member who has paid his/her due subscription up to 3 months before the primaries shall be eligible to vote and be voted for.
- f. Every member shall strive to understand and propagate the ideology, aim and objectives of the Party.
- g. Every member shall be disciplined and shall refrain from anti-party and unpatriotic activities.
- h. Upon registration, a member shall be deemed to have accepted to abide by the provisions of the Party's Constitution and the Party's lawful rules and regulations, directives and decisions.

(3) Rights and Privileges of Membership

- i. Every member shall have the right to vote and be voted for into any office or post during the election, subject to the Party's rules and decisions regarding the post or office; the financial status of the member as provided in section 8(2Xe) of this Constitution; and provided that the member has been known to be actively involved in the Party for at least 6 successive calendar months to the elections.

(4) Register of Members

A register of members shall be kept and maintained at every level of the Party's secretariat, namely; ward, local government area, state and national, provided always that every such level of the Party shall update its membership records from time to time. It shall be responsibility of a member to ensure that his/her name is duly entered in the ward register.

(5) Termination of Membership

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

ARTICLE 9: ORGANIZATION

(1) Party Levels

There shall be five levels of Party Organization, namely:-

- a. Ward
- b. Local Government Area (LGA)
- c. State
- d. Zonal
- e. National

This provision relating to Ward, WA and State levels shall apply imitates mutandis to the Wards and Area Councils of the Federal Capital Territory as if it were a State.

ARTICLE 10: PRINCIPAL PARTY ORGANS

- a. The following shall be the principal organs of the Party:
 - i. The Ward Executive Committee
 - ii. The Ward Congress
 - iii. The L.G.A. Executive Committee
 - iv. The L.G.A. Congress
 - v. The State Executive Committee
 - vi. The State Congress
 - vii. The Zonal Caucus
 - viii. The National Executive Council
 - ix. The National Convention
- b. Each executive committee or council shall implement the policies of and shall be accountable and report to, the congress or convention of its level.
- c. In all respects, Party hierarchy shall ascend correspondingly from the ward to the national level.
- d. The Zonal Caucus shall not be normally involved in the day-to-day running of the Party. Their functions are spelt out in Article 11(14) of this Constitution.
- e. Each state executive committee and the national executive council shall have a standing subcommittee to be known as the Working Committee whose function shall be as spelt out in this Constitution.
- f. The above principal organs of the Party shall have power to set up standing and ad-hoc committees for their respective purposes.

ARTICLE 11: COMPOSITION, FUNCTIONS & POWERS OF PARTY ORGANS

1. Composition of the Ward Executive Committee.

The Ward Executive Committee shall comprise the following officers and ex-officio members:

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) 2 Vice Chairmen (1 male, 1 female)
- (iii) Secretary
- (iv) Assistant Secretary
- (v) Treasurer
- (vi) Assistant Treasurer
- (vii) Financial Secretary
- (viii) Assistant Financial Secretary

- (ix) Publicity Secretary
- (x) Organizing Secretary
- (xi) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- (xii) Welfare Officer
- (xiii) Councilor of the ward if produced by the Party
- (xiv) The Chairman of the host Local Government Area if produced by the Party and hails from the ward
- (xv) 2 other members elected for special duties (1 male, 1 female)
- (xvi) All National, State and L.G.A. officers of the party who hail from the ward.

2. Functions and Powers of the 'Ward Executive Committee

The Ward Executive Committee shall:

- (i) Organize the Ward Congress and implement its decisions:
- (ii) Propose policies for the consideration of the WARD congress:
- (iii) Undertake membership drive and propagate the ideology and manifesto of the Party;
- (iv) Issue rules and regulations on the administration and other activities of the Party;
- (v) Raise funds for the Party;
- (vi) Supervise the Party's projects in the ward;
- (vii) Impose disciplinary sanctions (except expulsion) on any erring or defaulting member;
- (viii) Take any other lawful action in the best interest of the Party.

3. Composition of the Ward Congress

A ward congress shall be composed of all registered members of the Party in that ward. Mode of identification for the purpose of attendance at the ward congress shall be by show of valid membership card, provided that the first ward congress shall be convened by the protem ward executive committee.

4. Functions and Powers of the Ward Congress

The ward congress will

- (i) Elect Delegates to the LGA Congress and to the State Congress, of the Party;
- (ii) Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee;
- (iii) Constitute the electorate for primary elections of the councillorship candidate of the Party in the ward;
- (iv) Approve the budget of the Party in the ward;
- (v) Ratify disciplinary measures taken by the Ward Executive Committee;
- (vi) Evolve policies for the Party in the ward;
- (vii) Consider any other business proposed by the Executive Committee or a member.

(viii) Take any other lawful decision in the best interest of the Party in the ward.

5. Composition of the WA Executive Committee

The LGA Executive Committee shall comprise the following offices and ex-officio member:

- (i) Chairman
- (ii) 2 Deputy Chairmen (1 Male, 1 Female)
- (iii) Vice-Chairmen who shall be the Ward Chairmen
- (iv) Secretary
- (v) Assistant Secretary
- (vi) Treasurer
- (vii) Assistant Treasurer
- (viii) Financial Secretary
- (ix) Assistant Financial Secretary
- (x) Organizing Secretary
- (xi) Assistant Organizing Secretary
- (xii) Publicity Secretary
- (xiii) Assistant Publicity Secretary
- (xiv) Legal Adviser
- (xv) Auditor
- (xvi) 3 other members elected for special duties (1 male, 1 female, 1 youth)
- (xvii) All National and State Party Officers who hail from the WA.

6. Functions and Powers of the WA Executive Committee

The WA Executive Committee shall:-

- a. Organize the WA Congress and implement its decision;
- b. Propose policies for the consideration of the WA Congress;
- c. Undertake membership drive and propagate the ideology and manifesto of the Party;
- d. Issue rules and regulations for the Party administration in the LGA;
- e. Organize and supervise Party administration in the LGA;
- f. Raise funds for the Party;
- g. Organize electioneering campaigns and mobilization of voters and the Party's electoral officers in the LGA;
- h. Organize the Party's projects in the WA;
- i. Take disciplinary measures (except expulsion) against defaulting or erring members;
- j. Undertake any other lawful activities or measures in the best interest of the Party in the LGA, subject to ratification by the WA Congress.

7. Composition of the Local Government Area (WA) Congress

The WA Congress shall consist of:

- (i) All members of the Executive Committee of each Ward;

- (ii) All members of the LGA Executive Committee;
- (iii) Chairman and Deputy Chairman and Councilors of the Local Government if produced by the Party;
- (iv) Members of State House of Assembly if they are produced by the Party and hail from the LGA.
- (v) 10 Delegates elected by the Congress of each ward within the LGA, provided that the founding congress shall be convened by the protem LGA Chairman and shall consist of 10 delegates elected from each ward.

8. Functions and Powers of the LGA Congress

The LGA Congress shall:

- a. Elect members of the LGA Executive Committee.
- b. Ratify disciplinary measures taken by the LGA Executive Committee;
- c. Evolve policies for the LGA;
- d. Approve the budget of the Party in the LGA;
- e. Receive Internal and External Auditor's report;
- f. Pass a vote of no confidence to remove any officer from office for wrongdoing
- g. Take any decisions in the best interest of the Party of the LGA.

9. Composition of the State Executive Committee

The State Executive Committee shall comprise:

- (1) State Chairman
- (2) Three Vice Chairmen (1 from each Senatorial Zone)
- (3) State Secretary
- (4) Assistant State Secretary
- (5) State Treasurer
- (6) Assistant State Treasurer
- (7) State Financial Secretary
- (8) Assistant State Financial Secretary
- (9) Publicity Secretary
- (10) Assistant State Publicity Secretary
- (11) Legal Adviser
- (12) Assistant Legal Adviser
- (13) Welfare Officer
- (14) State Organizing Secretary
- (15) Assistant State Organizing Secretary
- (16) Auditor
- (17) National Officers of the party from the State
- (18) National Executive Council members of the party from the State
- (19) The Governor and Deputy Governor of the State, if produced by the Party.

- (20) The Speaker and Deputy Speaker and Majority Leader (where the party is in control) or the Minority Leader AND Chief Whip (where the party is not in control).

10. Functions of Powers of the State Executive Committee

The State Executive Committee shall;

- a. Propagate the Party's ideology and manifesto;
- b. Organize the Party's election campaigns;
- c. Ensure the effective administration of the Party in the State;
- d. Implement the decisions and directives of the state congress, zonal advisory council and national convention;
- e. Screen and accredit governorship aspirants of the Party in the State;
- f. Prepare the state annual budget of the Party;
- g. Employ and determine the conditions of service of all party employees in the state.
- h. Take disciplinary measures (except expulsion) on the defaulting or erring members; and
- i. Exercise such other powers and functions as are vested on it by this Constitution.

11. Composition of the State Congress

The State Congress shall consist of:

- (i) The State Executive Committee
- (ii) The Governor and the Deputy Governor of the State if produced by the Party;
- (iii) All members of the Federal Executive Council (ie) Council of Ministers who are members of the Party and hail from the State;
- (iv) The Speaker and the Deputy Speaker of the State I-house of Assembly if produced by the Party;
- (v) All federal legislators produced by the Party;
- (vi) All state legislators produced by the Party;
- (vii) All local government legislators (Councilors) produced by the Party.
- (viii) All members of the State Executive Council (the state cabinet) who are members of the Party
- (ix) All Special Assistants to the Governor and the Deputy Governor who are members of the Party;
- (x) 3 Delegates elected from each Ward branch of the Party;
- (xi) The Chairman and the Secretary of each Ward branch of the Party
- (xii) The LGA Chairman and the LGA Deputy Chairman if produced by the Party in the State;
- (xiii) All Special Advisers and Special Assistant to the President who hail from the State and who are members of the Party;
- (xiv) All member of the Zonal Caucus who are from the state;

- (xv) All members of the National Executive Council of the Party who are from the state. Provided that the first slate congress shall be convened by the protem state Chairman and shall be made tip of 20 delegates elected by each LGA;

12. Functions and Powers of the State Congress

The State Congress shall:

- (i) Elect officers of the State Executive Committee;
- (ii) Elect 3 representatives (1 per Senatorial District) to the Zonal Caucus of the Party for its geo-political zone.
- (iii) Discipline Party members in the State (except by expulsion) and ratify disciplinary measures by LGA organs of the Party;
- (iv) Organize state electioneering campaigns;
- (v) Ratify the result of local government primaries in the State;
- (vi) Elect the governorship candidate of the Party in the State;
- (vii) Receive Internal and External Auditor Reports;
- (viii) Ratify decisions/actions of the State Executive Committee;
- (ix) Approve the state budget of the Party;
- (x) Take any other lawful decision in the interest of the Party in the State

13. Composition and Administration of the Zonal Caucus

- (i) Each of the six geo-political zones shall have a Zonal Advisory Council composed of 3 members from each estate who are people (men, women or youth) of renown, wisdom and noble standing in society elected from their respective states including Abuja.
- (ii) Each Zonal Caucus shall elect its Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer to run its affairs;
- (iii) Each Zonal Caucus shall have power to appoint an Administrative officer based in its zone to assist its secretary in administration of its affairs;
- (iv) All state levels of the Party in a zone shall contribute (funds and materials) equally to the administration of its Zonal caucus.
- (v) Meeting of the Zonal Caucus shall rotate in the states of the zone;
- (vi) The National Chairman of the Party shall convene the first meeting of each Zonal caucus;
- (vii) Each Zonal Caucus shall maintain auditable accounts;
- (viii) Each Zonal Caucus shall report, as appropriate, to the National Executive Council;
- (ix) No member of the Zonal Caucus shall hold Executive Council or Executive Committee office at any level, except ex-officio and unless he/she first resigns it membership.
- (x) The Chairman of Zonal Caucus shall be a National Vice Chairman of the Party;

14. Functions and Powers of the Zonal Caucus

Each Zonal Caucus shall:-

- (i) Serve as an appellate body to receive, consider and dispose of petitions and appeals from any aggrieved member or officer or organ of the Party in its zone;
- (ii) Consider and ratify recommendation for the expulsion of any member provided that such recommendation comes from a State Congress;
- (iii) Monitor Party activities in its zone to ensure conformity with the Party's constitution and manifesto and submit periodic reports;
- (iv) Advise the state and national levels of the Party on the basis of observations made and in the interest of the Party;
- (v) Raise funds to support the Party financially and materially;
- (vi) Have power on its own to recommend any punitive action against any member or lower organ of the Party in its zone;
- (vii) Approve and authorize zonal budget proposals before expenditures can be made.

15. Composition of the National Executive Council

The National Executive Council shall comprise the following officers and ex-officio members:

- (i) National Chairman
- (ii) 6 National Deputy Chairmen elected on a national platform to assist the National Chairman in specific areas of interest to the Party, viz;
 - 1. International Relations and The Diaspora
 - 2. Women and Minorities
 - 3. Disabled and The Elderly
 - 4. Professionals and Corporations
 - 5. Civil Society and Labour
 - 6. Youths and Students
- (iii) 6 National Vice Chairmen, each of whom shall be the Chairman of the Zonal Caucus of the Party in his/her zone;
- (iv) Chairman of the State Executive Committee and the Federal Capital Territory Executive Committee of the Party;
- (v) National Secretary
- (vi) 6 Assistant National Secretaries, each assigned functions according to Article 11(15)(ii) above.
- (vii) National Treasurer
- (viii) Assistant National Treasurer
- (ix) National Publicity Secretary
- (x) 6 Assistant National Publicity Secretaries, each assigned functions according to Article 11(15)(ii) above.
- (xi) National Financial Secretary
- (xii) Assistant National Financial Secretary
- (xiii) National Organizing Secretary

- (xiii) 6 Assistant National Organizing Secretaries, each assigned functions according to Article 11(15)(ii) above.
- (xiv) 7 other members elected by the Convention for the special duties, one from each of the geo-political zones of the country and one specifically from the Federal Capital Territory;
- (xv) In all organs of the party women shall fill at least 30% of the posts

16. Functions and Powers of the National Executive Council

The National Executive Council shall:

- (i) Be responsible for the overall administration of the Party;
- (ii) Prepare the agenda for the National Convention;
- (iii) Prepare and submit annual report and budget proposals for the consideration of the National Convention;
- (iv) Initiate policies and programmes for the consideration of the National Convention;
- (v) Deal with problems referred to it from the State level, the advisory Councils, and the National Convention, of the Party;
- (vi) Make rules for party discipline and loyalty, which shall be binding on all organs and members of the Party;
- (vii) Make party electoral regulations, subject to ratification by the National Convention, to govern the conduct of elections of all party offices at every level and to govern the procedure for selecting Party candidates for elective office;
- (viii) Organize the National Convention as and when due and implement its decisions and directives;
- (ix) Propagate the ideology and manifesto of the Party; and implement the objectives of the Party as set out in this Constitution;
- (x) Have powers to make standing orders for the Party
- (xi) Employ and determine the conditions of service of the national officials of the Party
- (xii) Have power to convene any consultative meetings and implement its matters arising in the interest of the party, subject to ratification by the National Convention;
- (xiii) Create, elect or appoint any committee it may deem necessary and assign to them delegated powers and functions;
- (xiv) Monitor, guide and supervise the lower organs of the Party
- (xv) Raise funds for the Party;
- (xvi) Organize National electioneering campaigns and rallies for the Party,
- (xvii) Exercise such other functions and powers as are vested on it by this Constitution.

17. Composition of the National Convention:

The National Convention shall consist of:

- (i) The Chairman and all members of the National Executive Council.

- (ii) The President and the Vice President of Nigeria if produced by the Party.
- (iii) All Legislators (national and state) produced by the Party.
- (iv) Members of the Zonal Caucus.
- (v) Ministers produced by the Party.
- (vi) Governors & Deputy Governors produced by the Party.
- (vii) State Commissioners produced by the Party.
- (viii) Five elected delegates from each Local Government Area of the Federation.
- (ix) Members of State Executive Committee.
- (x) All Chairmen of the Local Government Councils if produced by the Party.
- (xi) Local Government Party Chairmen and Secretaries provided that the first convention shall be convened by the protem National Executive Council. The first convention shall consist of 50 delegates per state.

18. Functions and Powers of the National Convention:

The National Convention shall be the highest and final Authority of the Party. It shall:

- a. Decide the nationwide policies and programmes of the Party;
- b. Ratify the decisions of the National Executives Council on disciplinary matters referred to it;
- c. Receive annual reports and recommendations from the National Executive Council and take decisions on them;
- d. Have power to delegate any of its functional and powers to the National Executive Council or any other organ of the Party, which shall be obliged to comply accordingly;
- e. Elect or remove national officers of the party;
- f. Ratify the result of the party's Presidential Primaries;
- g. Review or amend this Constitution as the need arises;
- h. Raise funds for the management of the party including participation in general elections;
- i. Approve the national budget of the Party;
- j. Review or amend the Party's Constitution;
- k. Where the party is in power, to guide, advise, and where necessary, discipline members of the party in political office both at the legislative and executive arms of government, in order to ensure the fulfillment of the party's manifesto and constitution;
- l. Where the party is not in power at any time and any level of government, to critically examine government policies and programmes, to advise or criticize the government as appropriate in order to ensure good governance in the interest of the nation;
- m. Exercise such other powers or authority as are vested in it by this Constitution.

19. Other Party Organs.

A. Working Committees:

- 1) The Working Committee at national, state, local government area and ward levels shall comprise the principal officers of the organ namely;
The Chairman
The Secretary
The Financial Secretary
The Treasurer
The Auditor
The Publicity Secretary
The Organizing Secretary
The Legal Adviser and other members elected for special duties.
- 2) Each Working Committee shall be sub-committee of the Executive Council or committee of its level and assist it to implement decisions and programmes and report back to it. It shall also oversee administration and carry out special duties.

B. Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

- 1) The National Convention, the National Executive Council, the Congress, Executives Committees and Caucuses of the Party shall have power to set L1 standing and Ad Hoc Committees for their Purposes.
- 2) The composition, tenure, terms of reference of, and appointments to such committees shall be as may be decided by the Chairman of the organ after consultation with its members.

C. Board of Trustees

- (i) The Party shall have the Board of Trustees consisting of at least seven members of unquestionable integrity, drawn from each of the six geo-political zones of the country and the FCT, in whom all the movable and immovable properties of the Party shall be vested.
- (ii) The Trustees shall be nominated by the National Executive Council and appointed by the National Convention at whose pleasure the Trustees shall hold office.
- (iii) The Trustees shall hold all properties of the Party subject to the directive of the National Executive Council and shall each sign all documents in which the common seal of the Party shall be affixed as required by law.
- (iv) In the event of death, resignation or removal of a trustee from office, the trustee or his heirs shall surrender all properties of the Party in his/her custody to the National Secretary.
- (v) All office holders in the Party and in government and all employees of the Party are disqualified from appointment as trustees.

- (vi) The trustees shall be registered under the Part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.
- (vii) The National Secretary of the Party shall prepare an inventory of all properties, movable and immovable, real and personal belonging to the Party and shall deposit a copy of the said inventory with the trustees.
- (viii) The Chairman of the Board of Trustees shall be nominated by the National Executive Council from among the members and appointed as such by the National Convention.

ARTICLE 12: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS

1) The National Chairman

- a. The National Chairman shall be the Chief Executive of the Party and shall preside over the meetings of the National Executive Council. He shall oversee the working of the Party and provide an effective leadership for the Party.
- b. Protect and promote the policies of the Party.
- c. Summon and preside over meetings of the National Executive Council and the National Convention.
- d. Appoint members into Ad hoc committees and standing committees after due consultations with the National Executive Council.
- e. Authorize expenditures, subject to budget approval and ratification.
- f. Have powers to delegate his duties; give lawful directives to all officers, agencies, members and officials at the party; and exercise a casting vote where necessary
- g. Supervise and control all officials of the party,
- h. Ensure through supervision, strict compliance with the provisions of the party's Constitution.

2) National Deputy Chairman

- a. The Deputy Chairman shall preside at the meetings in the absence of the National Chairman.
- b. He shall act for the National Chairman in his absence.
- c. He shall be assigned specific functions. .

3) National Vice Chairman

- a. Shall be the Chairman of the Zonal Caucus.
- b. Shall report to the National Chairman.

4) National Secretary

The National Secretary, in addition to the specific functions, conferred on him by this Constitution, shall:

- a. Take or cause to be taken and keep, in the proper books provided for the purposes, all minutes of the National Convention and National Executive Council.

- b. Conduct such correspondences as may be required.
- c. Prepare the order of business for meetings of all national organs of the Party with the approval of the National Chairman.
- d. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the National Secretariat under the general direction of the Chairman of the Party.

5) National Treasurer

The National Treasurer shall:-

- a. Receive and promptly pay into Party's Account all monies received for and on behalf of the Party;
- b. Keep an Imprest Account as and when authorized by the National Executive Council;
- c. Ensure that proper accounts records are kept and may cause such books to be produced;
- d. Be a co-signatory of the Party's Accounts;

6) The National Financial Secretary shall:

- a. Collect all monies due to the party and pay such monies to the National Treasurer not later than five days after collection.
- b. Prepare and submit proposals for raising Party funds, for the consideration of the National Executive Council.
- c. Ensure that proper accounts and records are kept and may cause such books to be produced for inspection at periodic auditing.

7) The National Publicity Secretary

The National Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for Party information, promotion services and activities, all of which must be consistent with the Constitution, the Party Manifesto and the policies of the Party.

8) The National Legal Adviser

- a. Advise the Party on legal matters and arrange for the legal defence of the party and its officers when necessary;
- b. Deal effectively with all correspondence pertaining to legal matters affecting the Party or its officers,

9) National Organizing Secretary

Shall be responsible for Party field and campaign operations.

10) The National Auditor

The National Auditor shall audit the books of accounts of the Party and report annually to the National Convention and may be called upon by the National Executive Council to audit such accounts from time to time.

11) Other Elected Members

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

12) Assistant National Officers

The Assistant National Officers shall assist their principal officers in the performance of their duties and perform other functions as specifically indicated in the constitution.

13) Officers at Other Level

- a. All other officers at the Zonal, State, Local Government and Ward levels shall have the same powers and functions at their respective levels as prescribed for National Officers provided that the legal officers at all levels shall as far as practicable be legal practitioners within the contemplation of the Legal Practitioners Act 1975.
- b. At all levels, where the Chairman is absent, he shall designate a deputy or Vice Chairman to act for him.
- c. In the event of his removal or resignation from office, a Party Officer shall immediately hand over to his Chairman or the Chairman's nominee all records, files and other property of the Party in his possession.

ARTICLE 13: TENURE OF OFFICE

- a. All State and National Officers of the party shall hold office for a period of four years and may be reelected to the same office for not more than a further period of four years or to another office.
- b. All Local Government and ward officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three years and may be re-elected to the same office for not more than a further period of three years or to another office.
- c. Delegates to the Local Government Congress, State Congress and National Convention who are not Party or Government functionaries shall cease to be delegates once the congress or Convention is over.
- d. Any officer elected into the National Executive Council or State, Local Government or Ward Executive Committee may resign his office by giving 30 days notice in writing to the appropriate Executive Committee.
- e. Should a vacancy exist in any of the offices, the relevant Committee shall appoint a substitute, subject to ratification at the next Congress. Officers so appointed shall remain in office for the unimpaired period of the term.
- f. Any officer or officers may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence passed on him by the membership of the Convention as the case may be.

ARTICLE 14: MEETINGS

- A. (1) Convention and Congresses:

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

(2) Emergency Meetings:

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

(3) Quorum:

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

B. Conduct of meetings

- i. Without prejudice to Article 14(2), the meeting of any organ of the Party shall be convened by the Secretary of that organ on the directive of its Chairman or, where necessary, the Chairman himself.
- ii. The conduct of all meetings shall be in accordance with parliamentary procedures. The Chairman shall preside over the meeting. A member shall speak only when permitted to do so by the Chairman. Discipline shall prevail. Decisions shall be taken by consensus or, failing that, by voting. In that case, a simple majority of votes cast shall be the winner.
- iii. Voting at any meeting, congress or convention shall be in accordance with the rules and procedures of that organ.
- iv. Indiscipline at meetings including, disruption of a meeting, shall be punished.

ARTICLE 15: POWER SHARING

All political positions, appointive positions and positions in government available in or to the Party shall be fairly represented to the various geopolitical entities in the country. This principle shall be observed at all levels of the party in the case of States, Local Government Areas and Wards, which are ethnically homogenous, the distribution of posts shall take into account the geographical diversity of the area.

ARTICLE 16: PARTY ADMINISTRATION

1. The Administration of the Party shall be supported, facilitated and strengthened by a bureaucracy.

2. At the National and State levels, as much as possible the following Departments or Directorates shall be established:

i. Administration

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

ii. Finance and supply

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

iii. Planning, Research and Statistics

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

iv. Operation

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

v. Public Relations

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

vi. Legal Services

To provide all necessary legal support for the Party.

vii. Security Intelligence

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

viii. Works and Transport

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

3. The administrative structure at other levels shall take cognizance of their manpower and operational needs and shall reflect the national; and state structure as much as possible.
4. The Secretary at all levels shall be in charge of Party bureaucracy.
5. The executive organs of the Party shall have direct official access to party bureaucracy for the conduct of their duties.
6. Staff of the Party shall not vote or be voted for at the elections of the Party except such staff who is a member of the Party, has resigned his/her appointment not later than one month to the elections.
7. The party shall have conditions of service for its staff.

ARTICLE 17: COMMON SEAL

The common seal of the Party shall be designed and approved by the National Executive Council and shall be in the custody of the National Secretary of the Party who shall produce it when necessary to the Board of Trustees and other organs of the Party.

ARTICLE 18 PARTY DISCIPLINE

1. Discipline of Members

- (i) Discipline of Party members shall be exercised through respective Disciplinary Committees of the Party at the appropriate level and shall be governed by due process and fair hearing as may be stipulated by ancillary Party regulations, and the Party's code of conduct, Moral/Ethical codes.
- (ii) Any member of the party found guilty of following offences shall be liable for punishment:
 - a. A breach of provisions of the Constitution.
 - b. Anti-party activities or conducting self in a manner likely to embarrass the Party or bring it into hatred, contempt, ridicule or disrepute in whatever manner.
 - c. Disobedience or negligence in carrying out lawful directives of the Party or the Officers of the Party;
 - d. Flouting the rulings or decisions of the Party; engaging in dishonest practices; defrauding the Party continuously being absent at meetings; carrying out anti-party propaganda or any other activities which would tend to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient

- organization of the Party or which are inconsistent with the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Party;
- e. Assuming titles not recognized by the Constitution of the Party; giving wrong information to any organ of the party; unauthorized publicity of party dispute - related grievance without exhausting all avenues of settlement or redress within the Party.

2. Punishment

- i. Punishment may be imposed by the Party as a disciplinary measure against any of its members and the gravity of the punishment shall depend upon the seriousness and circumstances of each case.
- ii. Punishment to be imposed may take the form of:
 - a. Expulsion from the party; provided that the power to expel shall only be exercised by the National Convention on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee.
 - b. Suspension for a specified period:
 - c. Suspension and removal from office:
 - d. Debarring from holding office:
 - e. Fine:
 - f. Warning (1st and 2nd).
- iii. Subject to (a) above, the Executive Committee at the relevant level of the party shall have power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures, against any party member as specified in the sub-section above.
- iv. Every member shall have the right of fair hearing in all matters that affect him with regard to discipline, and the right of appeal against the disposal of his/her case.
- v. The National Headquarters shall be notified through the next higher organ of the party (if any), of all disciplinary actions taken against any member of the party and records of such actions shall be kept by the National Secretary at the national level or Secretaries of the state, local government and ward levels of the Party.

3. Appeal

- (i) Any member aggrieved by disciplinary decisions of any of the organs of the Party shall have the right to appeal within 30 days of such decision to the Zonal Caucus of his/her area. In the event of further dissatisfaction following disposal at this level, then the appellant shall be free to appeal to the National Executive Council of the Party.
- (ii) Pending the determination of an appeal in respect of expulsion, suspension, or other disciplinary measures, the members concerned shall be placed under suspension. No information in respect of the

expulsion shall be made public until the expulsion is ratified by the National Convention. . .

(iii) Any member placed under suspension shall not take part in party activities.

4. The Recall of Elected/Appointed Officers

(i) Before a cleared candidate steps into election or appointive position, he/she shall appear before the executive council or committee of the organ immediately relevant to the position, with a privileged legal practitioner as witness, and sign an agreement of three letters as follows:

1. 1st warning letter; for non-performance or misconduct after 6 months in office.
2. 2nd warning letter for non-performance or misconduct after 12 months in office.
3. 3rd letter; effecting withdrawal for non-performance or misconduct after 18 months in office.

However, no such letter, especially the third above, shall be issued by the relevant authority of the Party, without prior clearance and approval by the next higher organ of the Party, for appointed officers. In addition, for elected officers, a simple majority vote of Party members in the constituency of the affected officer is required for the 3rd letter to be of effect.

ARTICLE 19: MODE OF ELECTION OF PARTY OFFICERS

- (i) The National Convention, State, Local Government Area and Ward Congress of the Party shall meet to elect the officers of the Party, at the relevant levels, as specified in this Constitution.
- (ii) Every registered member who has met his financial obligations to the Party as and when due, and who has satisfied other requirements for nomination and elections specified under this Constitution is eligible to contest for Party office, provided that paid officials of the Party who are registered members are also eligible to contest as long as they relinquish their posts three months before they contest such elections.

ARTICLE 20: OATHS OF OFFICE

Every officer elected or appointed to a Party position shall subscribe to prescribed Oath of Office before a Commissioner for Oath or a Notary Public.

ARTICLE 21: PARTY FINANCES

(1) Income:

The funds of the Party shall be derived from:

- a. Fees, subscriptions or other levies imposed on members.

- b. Donations and public collections.
- c. Proceeds from investments and special fund raising activities.
- d. Gifts and grants by individuals or groups.
- e. Allocations made by Government where legally applicable; provided that collections and disbursement conform with the guidelines of the independent National Electoral Commission

(2) Bank Accounts

- a. The party shall maintain bank accounts in the Headquarters of the National, State, Local Government and Ward levels of the Party, provided that where banking facilities are not available, the nearest bank facilities shall be utilized.
- b. The Executive Council or Committees of the various levels of the Party shall decide the banks for such accounts.
- c. The valid signatories to the Party's bank accounts and other financial transactions shall be:
 - (i) The National Chairman and his counterparts in the Zonal, State, Local Government, or Ward levels.
 - (ii) The National Treasurer and his counterparts at the Zonal, State, Local Government or Ward levels.
 - (iii) In the absence of officers of (ii) above, the National Secretary and his counterparts at the Zonal, State, Local Government or Ward levels.

(3) Audit

The National Executive Council shall appoint a competent firm of Accounts to audit all the accounts of the Party annually and present the audited reports before the National Convention and the Independent National Electoral Commission for consideration and further necessary action.

ARTICLE 22: GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Amendments

- (i) The Constitution and the Schedules thereto, can be amended only by the National Convention of the Party.
- (ii) Notice of any proposed amendment shall be given to the National Secretary at least two months before the date of the National Convention. The notice, which shall be in writing, shall contain a clear statement of the proposed amendment and reasons for it.
- (iii) Notice of proposed amendment(s) shall be served on the members of the National Convention at least 30 days before the date of the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be considered.

- (iv) The Constitution or any part thereof shall stand amended if a proposed amendment is supported by at least two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.

2. Resignation

- (i) A member of the party shall be free to resign his membership at any time.
- (ii) Upon resignation, a member shall be required to surrender all property of the party in his possession to the nearest registered office of the party and obtain clearance to that effect.

3. Interpretation

- (i) The National Executive Council shall be the final authority as to the interpretation of any aspect of this Constitution and its ruling shall be final.
- (ii) Where new positions and offices are created as a result of the amendment of this Constitution, the relevant, Executive Committee, until the next Congress or Convention, shall fill such positions and offices, in an interim capacity.

Schedule

ELECTION INTO POLITICAL OFFICES

(1) Nominations

Nomination of candidate for political offices shall be conducted on the basis of closed direct primaries.

(2) Criteria for Nomination

- a. A candidate for elections must be a registered member of the Party.
- b. He must satisfy the requirement for election under the country's Constitution and the electoral law.
- c. Any incumbent President, Governor, Legislator, Chairman of the Council and Councilor need not resign his/her position in order to run for another elective office.
- d. However, party officers who wish to vie for nomination shall temporarily vacate their posts at least 30 days to the date of nomination. During the period their deputies shall occupy the posts in an acting capacity. The officers can resume their party posts if not nominated.

(3) Primaries

(3.1) Ward Councilors

There shall be direct closed primaries to be conducted at the ward level of a local government area where Party members in that ward shall vote by open ballot for the candidates of their choice.

(3.2) Local Government Council Chairman

The nomination of the chairmanship candidate shall be conducted at a special congress of the Party held in the LGA. The congress shall satisfy the composition of LGA Congress as contained in Article 11(7).

(3.3) Nomination of Governorship Candidate

A special State congress shall be called for the purpose of nominating a governorship candidate. The congress shall satisfy the composition of the State Congress as contained in Article 11(11).

The National Executive Council shall ratify the nomination. Without prejudice to the forgoing, the National Executive Council, in consultation With the National Caucus, may adopt any another democratic option deemed suitable for the nomination of the party's gubernatorial candidate.

(3.4) Nomination of Presidential Candidate

A special National Convention shall be called for the purpose of electing the Party Presidential Candidate. The convention shall satisfy the composition of the National Convention as contained in Article I (17).

Without prejudice to the forgoing, the National Executive Council, in consultation with the National Caucus, may adopt any other democratic option deemed suitable for the nomination of the Party's presidential candidate.

(3.5) Running Mate

The party's presidential candidate, gubernatorial candidate, and local government chairmanship candidate, in consultation with the party's leadership, shall nominate their respective running mates and present same at the National Convention, State Congress and LG Congress, as the case may be, for endorsement.

(3.6) Nomination of Candidates for State House of Assembly, House of Representatives and the Senate.

Nomination of candidates for State houses of Assembly, I-house of Representatives and the Senate shall be through direct primaries to be conducted at the appropriate levels i.e. Local Government Area Congress and State Congress.

4. Transitional Provisions

The tenure of office of the Protem Officers for the purpose of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) registration shall be six mouths from the date of registration of the party and they shall be eligible to contest at the first convention or congress as the case may be.

Schedule

CITATION AND COMMENCEMENT

This Constitution shall be cited as Constitution of Peoples Progressive Party 2006 and shall come into effect from 24th day of May 2006.