**CONSTITUTION OF THE AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (ADC) 2018 (AS AMENDED)**

**PREAMBLE**

The aim of the founders of this Party is to evolve a truly grass root based political institution in Nigeria that would be relevant at all times. Therefore, our Party will remain close to the people and will always work to essentially be the vehicle for the masses, the average Nigerians, the working-class people, the artisans, the poor and all others who appreciate our cause within our society.

While the party is open to everyone, we will specially seek the involvement of the committed less privileged, disabled and disadvantaged members of our society. At all times, we will have deliberated and elaborate strategies in place to carry along and empower our women, youths, persons with disability and people of all persuasions. Our Party must be wholly associated with the cause of the family and family values, elimination of poverty and enthronement of a modern and decent egalitarian society.

In our opinion, Nigerian leaders have failed to exhibit the inspirational and qualitative leadership needed to drive the development of Nigeria and in turn Africa thus making the entire continent the sick baby of the world. It is from this background that the founders of ADC are inspired to take measures, make whatever sacrifices that are necessary while leaving no stone unturned to break the jinx that is keeping the continent from taking footsteps to assert itself as a responsible and capable member of the comity of Nations.

Our Party is on a mission not only for Nigeria but Africa, the Black race, and the entire world community. One of ADC’s objectives is to bring about good governance in a new Nigeria. ADC seeks to ensure the political space is occupied by public-spirited, competent members of our society.

Following what we considered to be strong deficiencies in our enduring democracy and the unimaginable attitude of our fellow Nigerians towards democratic governance after the disengagement of the military from political governance on May 29th 1999, as concerned Nigerians and enlightened partakers in the political process, we decided to come together to give a proper direction to our national politics and democracy.

The group’s initial concept and inaugural meeting was held at the instance of Chief Ralphs Okey Nwosu who equally hosted and sponsored the occasion.

In our country, Nigeria, the third tier of government (our Local Government Authorities), which is closest to the people and the centre-piece for grass root development is almost waning because the present political parties or government of the day only pay lip service to issues concerning the ordinary people. The present political parties and their various governments as a result of their lack of duty of care, closed-mindedness, incompetence and inactivity have deliberately weakened the local government, failed to utilize the yearly allocation of local government funds to deliver any community development projects thus halting real development of our nation. This irresponsible and ridiculous stampede and negligence can only succeed and become the permanent fate of the people if we allow it to be so.

ADC recognizes that democracy is government of the people by the people and for the benefit of the people. It is also one man, one vote. As a nation, our people have a great role to play. ADC is equally committed to provide that political vehicle for our collective emancipation and development, a political vehicle committed to deliver a responsible government that will be transparent and accountable at all levels. ADC believes that political organizations and the institutions of government should exist only for the interest of the people and the nation.. Through our enlightenment campaign, the people shall be educated to ward-off all the relics that conspire to hold the Nigerian State backward.

ADC's objective is to seek strategic alliances both home and in the diaspora with like-minded Nigerians, people and organisations with a sole purpose of working together to deliver a better Nigeria.

ADC is seeking and onboarding Nation Builders who can identify with the pain caused by the current challenges that we all agree needs urgently the right government (an ADC Party led government) that can help bring about rapidly this overdue change in Nigeria for Nigerians. ADC is bringing people of like minds together to form a truly democratic party as an authentic entity to address the collective needs of all Nigerians which should bring about the glorious emergence of a new Nigerian nation and a great African continent.

In October, 2005 we met, reviewed our activities and raised 755,000 members and supporters. We decided to form a party with the name African Democratic Congress (ADC), a truly people focused political organization to work for the interest of the generality of Nigerians and not just for a class or region.

ADC believes in a government that is accountable to the people and also owned by the people collectively, as its stakeholders. People's voices, through their suggestions and contributions are important and actively encouraged within ADC.

ADC believes in ONE Nigeria, hence does cut across the ethnic barriers that are negative and will hold us back as a nation from making any progress, as long as we fail to see ourselves holistically as One Nigeria for all Nigerians.

Our political vehicle is an open organization where members are welcome with open arms so long as they truly believe in equality of all men and women, are committed to the welfare and well-being of the citizens of Nigeria and share our vision for the African continent and the world.

ADC Party will leverage on ideas collaboratively to raise funds in a manner that serves as an example that there can be a clean way in Nigeria to run politics and raise party funds, away from the flawed money bags and corrupt approach shown by APC/PDP.

An ADC Party will be transparent and accountable with the use of all raised funds. It will be open to periodic audits to demonstrate that funds are being used to deliver change through successfully executed projects at all levels of society in Nigeria

ADC Party believes that local government allocated funds should be used to execute projects in Education, Health, Transportation Networks as well as Entrepreneurship activities in the grassroots to generate employment for the people.

ADC believes in training for self-development of all public office holders including youths. Therefore, Candidates aspiring to contest for elected positions will need to go through an ADC Training Academy as well as affiliated public training institutions so that all citizens understand what good Governance entails, as well has develop the right mindset. We believe that our youths will need to be trained and empowered too as they have a role in the current dispensation as part of an ADC led Government in the future leadership in Nigeria.

The creation of ADC as a political party is as the result of dedicated efforts of noble Nigerian men and women. The result of our selfless effort and focus is a membership as at January 10th 2006 of 1,350,000 (one million, three hundred and fifty thousand) members and presence of our esteem party in all 36 states of the Federation and Federal Capital Territory (FCT). The founders of this organization expect the same effort, sacrifice and level of commitment from all members new or old at all times. This commitment also means the regular payment of annual membership dues that will be responsibly utilized, transparent and accounted for at all times.

**ARTICLE 1**

**NAME OF PARTY**

The name of the Party shall be AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (ADC) hereinafter called “the Party”.

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**ARTICLE 2**

**SUPREMACY OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THE PARTY**

1. This constitution is supreme and its provisions shall have binding force on all members and Organs of the Party.
2. If any act of any member or Organ of the Party is inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution, this constitution shall prevail, and such other act shall to the extent of its inconsistency be void.
3. All elected or appointed public officers who are members of the Party shall remain loyal to all Party Organs through which they were elected or appointed. Accordingly, the supremacy of the Party over all members is hereby guaranteed and proclaimed.

**ARTICLE 3**

**MOTTO AND SLOGAN**

1. The Motto of the Party shall be “In pursuit of the welfare of our People and the Nation”.
2. The slogan of the Party shall be: **ADC: Arise! ADC: Arise!! A D& C: Arise and shine Nigeria.** The slogan of the Party shall be used while conducting Party meetings, rallies or gatherings and shall be demonstrated by the raising up of clenched right or left hand to synchronize.

**ARTICLE 4**

**FLAG AND EMBLEM (LOGO)**

1. The Party’s Flag shall be in the colours of **GREEN**, **WHITE** and **ORANGE** in equal horizontal stripes with the Party logo being super-imposed on the white at the middle, and hoisted on a standard flag pole in front of all the Party offices all over the Federation.
2. The Emblem or Logo of the Party shall be orange colour handshake with ‘ADC’ written boldly under the handshake.

**ARTICLE 5**

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

1. The registered office of the Party shall be in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja and shall be referred to as **ADC Global Headquarters.**

1. **State offices shall be located in their respective State Capitals while Zonal, Local Government and Ward offices shall be determined by the appropriate executive committee of the Party.**

**ARTICLE 6**

**CORE VALUES OF THE PARTY**

The core values of the party are: Patriotism to the country and the Party, Due Process, Transparency, Integrity, Truthfulness, Leadership, Diligence, Accountability, Fidelity, Prudence, Selflessness, Compassion, Open-mindedness, Tenacity of purpose, Vision, Humility.

All members of the Party shall:

1. Be committed to the Party’s ideology and visions.
2. Be committed to the Party’s role modeling leadership paradigm.
3. Be committed to inclusivity and full involvement of the Youths, Women and Persons with Disabilities.
4. Be accountable to their Constituency, the Party and the Country at large.
5. Be committed to building bridges across borders with our hand shake philosophy.
6. Support a more prudent and responsive governance frame work.
7. Be an anti-corruption vanguard.
8. Be completely service-oriented.

**ARTICLE 7**

**PURPOSE, AIMS AND PRINCIPLES**

**a. Purpose**

1. **The purpose of this constitution is to provide procedures and practices that will enable members to participate truthfully, meaningfully and effectively in the deliberations, activities and programmes of the Party.**
2. **To fulfill this purpose, resolutions passed at the National Convention of the Party shall be adopted as the Policies of the Party until the next National Convention.**

**b. Aims**

**The aims of the Party are as follows: -**

1. **To build a free and democratic system of government under which all citizens will be able to contribute to the welfare, peace and prosperity of our Nation and keep its people free from dictatorship and oppression.**
2. **To harness to the fullest, all human and natural resources of the country for the betterment of the citizenry.**
3. **To maintain International Network through the establishment of a robust oversea branches under the aegis of ADC- Diaspora Network.**
4. **To establish local and international centres for leadership trainings and empowerment at all levels of the Party's administration.**
5. **To reduce the excessive centralization of power which has characterized Government and to ensure that all States of the Federation fully participate in matters that affect their development and well-being.**
6. **To manage the economy of the country with efficiency and prudence, guided by the consideration of national interest and to solve the grave problem of massive unemployment.**
7. **To pursue and maintain national unity and harmonious relationship with other political parties in the world which share our ideologies and to establish regional and international associations of likeminded democratic parties to promote and defend the ideals of Democracy and the Rule of Law in Africa.**
8. That the State should be the servant of the people and that democracy should lead to the progress and well-being of the people and the Nation at large.
9. Free and fair elections that abhors imposition, high handedness and other antidemocratic tendencies.
10. The unity of Nigeria.
11. The rule of law, equity and justice.
12. Good governance and equal opportunity for all.
13. Respect for fundamental human rights.
14. Integrity and transparency.
15. True federalism and equitable revenue sharing formula.
16. Full and productive employment, security of life, and property.
17. Self-respect, self-reliance and human dignity.
18. Sound education, basic healthcare, abundant food production, rapid industrial growth, good housing provision, and improvement of infrastructure and basic services.

**c. Objectives**

**The African Democratic Congress as a political party is determined**

**to:**

1. **Reengineer a political party system that is free from domination by wheeler-dealer political elites, money-bags and “god-fathers.**
2. **Reinforce the present transparency regime of the Party with constitutional empowerment.**
3. **Maintain the confidence of our multiple stakeholders and supporters; signpost the processes that ensure transparency and accountability.**
4. **Propagate inclusion and diversity of values in order to give Women, Youths, Diaspora Network and the people with disabilities (PWDs) the best chance to be proportionately represented in politics and leadership.**
5. **Put in place effective and efficient performance metrics for all Party officers.**
6. **Put in place Ethics and Standards office as a proactive quality control and operational integrity structure.**
7. **Provide for the appointment of an upscale firm of Chartered Accountants/Auditors to conduct yearly audit of the entire Party’s Accounts at all levels.**
8. **Ensuring that the audited reports are published in at least two National Dailies and ADC online media platforms.**
9. **Challenge the status quo with creative thoughts, new ideas and sound principles.**
10. **Shake hands across the land and promote inclusion for unity and strength.**

**d. Principle of Action**

**The African democratic Congress believes that the task of nation building and sustenance of any democratic system is a continuous exercise that requires actions not only through the Parliaments, but also through Political Parties, Trade Unions, Organised Society, Statutory Institutions and Diaspora Networks amongst others. To achieve its aims, the Party shall with trust, discipline, and faithful leadership endeavour to: -**

1. Maintain and preserve the integrity, unity and sovereignty of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as one indivisible entity.
2. Ensure genuine restoration, permanent entrenchment and practice of democracy, the rule of law, equity and social justice.
3. Promote national integration and harmonious co-existence of the diverse communities in our society.
4. Build an egalitarian society founded on the principle of freedom, equality and justice.
5. Uphold the independence of the judiciary, freedom of the press, as well as uphold the freedom of speech and association.
6. Ensure that only competent, dedicated, patriotic and credible candidates are sponsored for elective offices at all levels of governance.
7. Ensure that the programmes of the Party at all levels conform with the provisions of this constitution and the Fundamental Objectives, and Directive Principles of State Policy as contained in Chapter 2 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).
8. Promote mutual respect for the religious, traditional and cultural heritage of the various communities of our Nation.
9. Eradicate illiteracy in our society and promote learning and research, science and technology;
10. Build, promote, sustain and consolidate political, economic and social independence and self-respect for all Nigerians.
11. Co-operate with Africans and other Nationalist movements and organizations for the eradication of imperialism, neo-colonialism, racism and to strive relentlessly towards African Unity as well as greater understanding and cohesion amongst Africans.
12. Co-operate with all member Nations in promoting the course of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), The Common-wealth, and United Nations Organization (UNO) and other International and regional groups that shall be in the best interest of Nigeria and Africa; and help to find peaceful solutions for international disputes.
13. Build a political culture in which all Nigerians are equal members, where each contributes according to his ability, where no one person dominates, and where no political party belongs to one individual.

**ARTICLE 8**

**MEMBERSHIP**

a. **Eligibility**

Membership of the Party shall be open to every citizen of Nigeria irrespective of his religion, ethnic group, place of birth, sex, social or economic status, provided that the person seeks to be a member of the Party:

1. **Must be a sane person**
2. Not be below the age of 18 years
3. Not belong to any other political party, and if he was, he must have resigned such membership.
4. Not be a member of any secret society, the Nigeria Police, a member of the Armed Forces of the Federation or a Traditional Ruler.

**b. Application for Membership**

1. **Application for membership shall be made to, and cleared by the Ward Executive of the Party in the Ward where the person ordinarily resides or works.**
2. **The Applicant shall pay the prescribed registration fee and other dues and accept to be bound by the constitution, rules and regulations of the Party.**
3. **Online registration shall be acceptable provided it is cleared by the National Working Committee (NWC) of the Party.**
4. **Where an application for membership is refused, the applicant may appeal to the Local Government Area Executive Committee of the Party or to the NWC in case of refusal of on-line registration.**
5. **Upon enrolment, every member shall be issued a membership and dues card.**

**c. Register of Members**

1. **Register of members shall be compiled and maintained at the Ward and be transmitted to the Secretariat of the Party at the Local Government which shall transmit a copy to the State Headquarters, which in turn shall transmit a copy to the National Secretariat.**
2. **The Party shall update its membership Register every year and the updated Register shall be forwarded to the appropriate Secretariat of the Party until it gets to the Global Headquarters.**
3. **It shall be the responsibility of every member to ensure that his or her name is duly entered in the Register of members.**
4. **Where a group of people join the Party, the Party shall welcome the group but members of such group shall register individually in their respective Wards.**

**ARTICLE 9**

**RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

**a. Rights of Members**

**Every member shall have the right:**

1. **To participate in the Party’s activities including campaigns, rallies meetings, etc.;**
2. **To vote and be voted for during contest for Party positions;**
3. **To submit ideas, complaints and comments to the appropriate Party's body and be notified of the solution.**
4. **To be informed on passed resolutions and other issues concerning the Party.**
5. **Advocate opinions and submit such opinion to the Party for consideration**
6. **All eligible members who retired from the service of the military and paramilitary, including police officers, civil defence, teachers, and other public officers with records that are devoid of corruption allegation shall be entitled to 50% waiver for their nomination for all elective positions.**
7. **Every member of the Party that promptly pays annual dues shall be entitled to participate in the Party’s lottery Programme which shall be organized at least once in a year. The winner of such lottery shall be entitled to valuable gifts to be determined by the National Executive Committee.**

**b**. **Obligations of Members:**

1. **Every member of the Party shall conduct himself in a manner that will not bring the party into odium or disrepute.**
2. **Members of the party shall observe the rules and regulations made pursuant to this constitution.**
3. **Members shall pay as and when due, all dues and levies as may be prescribed by the Party.**
4. **Every member shall cooperate in carrying out the Party's objectives and promote its programmes**
5. **Every member shall respect the resolutions and decisions of the Party**
6. **Adhere to the Party's constitution, regulations, code of conduct etc and promote the Party’s aims, principles and objectives**
7. **Be epitome of discipline, Responsibility, Volunteerism, selflessness, transparency, efficiency and integrity amongst others.**

**c.** **Eligibility to Contest Election:**

1. **Only registered and financially up-to- date members of the Party shall have the right to vote and be voted into any of the elective positions subject to the provisions made for such elections under any extant law.**
2. **A new member shall be eligible to contest election under the platform of the Party irrespective of the period he joins the party. PROVIDED that if such person joins less than two (2) years before the election for which he intends to run, he shall be liable to pay annual dues for 2 years retrospectively.**

**d. Eligibility to hold Party position**

1. **To be eligible to hold any Party position, a member must be a member for at least two years for National and Zonal offices, and at least one 1 year for State, Local Government and Ward positions.**
2. **Such eligible member must not be in arrears of payment of membership dues.**

e. **Life Membership**

1. **The National Executive Council may award life membership of the Party to any deserving person.**
2. **Nominees for national life membership must be longstanding members of the Party who must have provided distinguished services to the Party at the state and national level.**
3. **Each nomination for national life membership shall describe in detail the services rendered by such nominees.**
4. **Nominations for national life membership must be forwarded to the National Executive Committee at least two months prior to the National Convention.**

f. **Class of Founding Fathers (of ADC)**

1. **The Class of Founding Fathers shall be the preserve of honourable life members of the Party and shall be treated with respect at all times.**
2. **The Class of Founding Fathers shall hold honorary and advisory positions for life at the National level, and shall be considered for all dividends of democracy that may be available or approved by the National Executive Committee.**
3. **Members of the Class of Founding Fathers are free to attend any meeting of the party as observers and their advice, suggestions etc. shall be treated with utmost respect.**
4. **The Chairman and Secretary of the Class of Founding Fathers shall be members of the National Executive Committee.**

**g**. **Loss of Membership**

1. **Without prejudice to the provisions of this constitution and/or other rules made there under, any member who fails to renew his membership by payment of annual subscription within a period of 4 months after the due date shall cease to enjoy the rights and privileges of members as prescribed by this constitution, and if such default continues for a period of 6 months, such member shall automatically lose his membership.**
2. **Any member to whom sub section 1 applies shall resume his membership upon payment of all outstanding dues and upon tendering unreserved apology.**

**ARTICLE 10**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

* + - 1. **Without prejudice to the power of the Party to establish and/or set up *ad hoc* Committees as occasions demand, the Party shall with the approval of the National Executive Council constitute and maintain the following Standing Committees at all levels of the party:**

1. **Committee on Ethics and Standard**
2. **Strategy and Mobilization Committee**
3. **Publicity Committee**
4. **Screening and Selection Committee**
5. **Dispute Resolution Committee**
6. **Dispute Resolution (Appeal Committee)**
   * + 1. **Except as hereinafter specifically stated, the number of members of each Committee shall be determined by the appropriate executive committee of the Party. Each committee shall have a Chairman, Secretary and other executives for its proper functioning.**
       2. **Except otherwise stated, the tenure of office of the executive of any standing Committee shall be two years subject to reappointment for another period of two years only.**
       3. **All Standing committees shall report directly to the appropriate executive/working committee of the Party.**
       4. **Composition and functions of the committees**
7. **Committee on Ethics and Standard**

**The Party’s Committee on Ethics and Standard shall be headed by a Deputy National Chairman to be appointed by the National Chairman.**

**Functions of the Committee:**

1. **Oversee compliance with the Rules, regulations and policies of the Party.**
2. **Reviews the Party’s Policies on a regular basis so as to ensure their conformity with the Party’s aims and objectives.**
3. **Develop a code of conduct and ethics which may outline the mission and values of the Party and how to approach problems based on the Party’s core values.**
4. **Carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by the appropriate executive committee of the Party.**

**(b) Strategy and Mobilization Committee:**

**The Committee on Strategy and Mobilization shall be headed by the National Organising Secretary and shall comprise of at least five (5) members to be nominated by the appropriate executive committee.**

**Functions of the Committee:**

1. **Coordinate, facilitate and support the Party’s response to all emergent needs.**
2. **Connect with members to ensure an inclusive planning process.**
3. **Encourage members to take active roles in helping the party to achieve its aims and objectives.**
4. **Identifying with people and encouraging them to join the party.**
5. **Collate members’ contacts into the Party’s data base.**
6. **Carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by the appropriate executive committee of the Party.**

**(c) Publicity Committee**

**The Party’s Publicity Committee shall be headed by the National Publicity Secretary and shall comprise of at least five (5) members to be nominated by the appropriate executive committee.**

**Functions of the Committee:**

1. **The Publicity Committee shall advise the Party on arrangement of information, communication publication, public relations, mass media matters amongst others.**
2. **Carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by the appropriate executive committee of the Party.**

**(d) Screening and Selection Committee:**

**The Party’s Screening and Selection Committee shall he headed by the National Chairman's Nominee and shall comprise of seven (7) members nominated by the National Chairman.**

**Functions of the Committee**

1. **The Committee shall be responsible for the screening of the Party’s aspirants for nomination or election into the following offices of President, Vice President, Governors, Deputy Governors and members of the National and State Houses of Assembly.**
2. **Members of this Screening and Selection Committee shall not be eligible to contest for any political/elective positions in the same election for which they are serving as members.**

**(e) Dispute Resolution Committee**

**There is hereby established a Dispute Resolution Committee at all levels of the Party which shall comprise of three members.**

**Functions of the Committee**

1. **The Dispute Resolution Committee shall sit as a Panel of first instance over all civil claims involving members and the Party.**
2. **The decision of the Committee shall be subject to appeal to the Dispute Resolution Appeal Committee**

**(e) Dispute Resolution (Appeal) Committee**

**There is hereby established a Dispute Resolution Appeal Committee at all levels of the Party which shall comprise of five members.**

**Functions of the Committee**

1. **The Dispute Resolution Appeal Committee shall sit as an appellate panel over the decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee.**
2. **The decision of the Dispute Resolution Appeal Committee on all matters within its jurisdiction shall be final.**

**ARTICLE 11**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF STATUTORY BODIES**

**Without prejudice to the power of the Party to establish and/or set up standing Committees, the Party shall with the approval of the National Executive Council constitute and maintain the following Statutory bodies.**

**1. Legal Practitioners Council**

1. **There shall be a Legal Practitioners Council for the Party. The Council shall comprise of the National Legal Adviser (as chairman) and eight other members and shall be at liberty to regulate its proceedings.**
2. **The Council shall meet at the instance of its Chairman or at the request of half of the members of the Council or following a resolution of the National Executive Committee requesting for such a meeting.**
3. **Functions of the Council:**
4. **To act as a vanguard in ensuring the smooth running of the democratic process,**
5. **Ensure that all arms and tiers of the Party respect the tenets of democracy.**
6. **To play advisory role to all arms of the Party at all levels and on all Party matters.**
7. **Serve as mediators in intra and inter party disputes.**
8. **Serve as peace agents within and outside the Party.**
9. **Ensuring that the legal interest of the party is protected at all times**
10. **Prosecute cases and /or defend the Party in Court and Tribunals.**

**2. Financial Officers Annual Conference (FOAC)**

**There shall be a Financial Officers Annual Conference which shall be headed by the National Financial Secretary.**

**a Composition**

**The Conference shall consist of:**

1. **The National Treasurer**
2. **All Zonal, State, LGAs and Wards Financial Secretaries.**
3. **All Zonal, State, LGAs and Wards Treasurers.**
4. **All Zonal, State, LGAs and Wards Auditors.**
5. **Accountants, Auditors and Bankers within the Party holding other positions may be inducted as members.**

**b Functions of the Financial Officers Annual Conference:**

1. **Act as vanguard for efficient running of the financial transactions of the Party at all levels:**
2. **Ensure that all arms and tiers of the Party respect the tenets of transparency, probity and accountability.**
3. **Document, publish and audit the Party’s financial statements and accounts at all levels – Quarterly and yearly audited.**
4. **Educate financial officers of the Party at all levels on financial matters.**
5. **Act as first line litigants in and outside the Party on all misappropriation, mismanagement and embezzlement of the funds and monies and properties of the Party.**
6. **Advise the Party on ways and means of generating funds to meet the Party’s budget.**
7. **Ensure that the Party’s Accounts are transparently administered at all levels.**
8. **Ensure accountability and probity**
9. **Ensure that all accounts of the party are transparently administered and according to budget.**

**3. Investment Committee**

1. **There is hereby established for the Party an Investment Committee**
2. **Fund belonging to the Party shall be invested.**
3. **Investment arm of the Party shall be headed by the Deputy National Chairman on business and investments.**
4. **The investment shall be on any class of chose in action, real estate investment trust/scheme. PROVIDED THAT the Party shall not hold or possess any funds or other assets outside Nigeria or be entitled to retain any funds or assets remitted or sent to it from outside Nigeria.**
5. **Any funds or other assets remitted or sent to the Party from outside Nigeria shall be paid over or transferred to the Independent Electoral Commission within twenty-one days of its receipt with such information as the Commission may require.**

4. **Membership Secretary**

1. **In achieving the Party’s policy on membership drive, the party shall at all times have a secretary for membership drive.**
2. **Function of the secretary on membership drive**

**Shall manage the drive for members and see to documentation for the strategic development, growth and audit of members into and within the Party.**

**5. The ‘Smart’ Corporate Council (SCC)**

**a. Composition**

**There shall be a ‘Smart’ Corporate Council (SCC) for the Party which shall comprise of:**

1. **The National Chairman and Secretary,**
2. **The National Publicity Secretary,**
3. **One Member from each of the States of the Federation and FCT who must be Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) experts.**
4. **6 members of proven integrity from each of the geo-political zones.**

**b. Functions of the ‘Smart’ Corporate Council include:**

* 1. **To serve the Party as intelligence and strategic body that formulates brand identity, perception, corporate communication culture and publicity protocols for the Party.**
  2. **To leverage the ADC brand as an authentic, inclusive, transformational, knowledge driven, people-centric and ever evolving public interest vehicle in the Nigeria political concourse/space.**
  3. **To ensure strong voice, media presence, and information and Publicity quality and communication strategy.**
  4. **To superintend, service and manage the official website of the Party wherein all information for all Party activities needed by members and, the branding and leverage needed in the public arena shall be timely posted and brandished.**
  5. **To play advisory and monitoring roles in the conduct of electronic voting, teleconferencing and sundry electronic data exchange and communication needs of the Party at the various levels.**
  6. **To issue guideline for the regulation of the procedure for electric voting at party meetings, congresses and convention.**

**ARTICLE 12**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

1. **There is hereby established for the Party the Women's League which shall be open to all Women who are members of the Party.**
2. **The National Women’s League shall operate as a full appendage of the party and shall have power to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its activities, including the elections of its officers: Provided that such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution.**
3. **The Women's League shall have basic structures for its effective functioning at all levels of the Party.**
4. **In the Party’s endeavour to ensure adequate representation for women, the Party shall implement a programme of gender affirmation of at least 35% in all its structures and activities.**
5. **Functions of the Women's League**
6. **To promotes the policies and programmes of the party amongst women.**
7. **Recruit women into the membership of the party;**
8. **Mobilize support for women before and during elections.**
9. **Raise public awareness on gender and children issues.**
10. **Promote policies that will realize the full potentials of women and children.**
11. **Oppose all policies that militate against full development of women and children.**
12. **Form or adopt a nationwide organization to cater for the interests of women and children.**

**ARTICLE 13**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE YOUTHS LEAGUE**

1. **There is hereby established for the Party the Youths League which shall be open to all ADC members between the ages of 18 and 40.**
2. **The Youths League shall operate as a full appendage of the Party and shall have power to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its activities including the elections of its officers: Provided that such rules and regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution.**
3. **The Youths League shall have basic structures for its effective functioning at all levels of the Party.**
4. **In the Party’s endeavour to ensure that Youths are adequately represented, the Party shall implement a programme of youth affirmation of at least 35% in all its structures.**
5. **Functions of the Youths League**
6. **To unite and lead the Youths in confronting and dealing with the problems facing the Youths**
7. **To ensure that the Youths make robust contribution to the aims and objectives of the Party.**
8. **Recruit Youths into membership of the Party**
9. **Mobilize the necessary supports for Youths before and during elections.**
10. **Create awareness that will address problems facing the youth such as wide spread unemployment**
11. **Promote policies that will realize the full potentials of the Youths.**
12. **Oppose policies and practices that militate against the full development of the youth.**
13. **Perform such other functions that are not at variance with the statutory functions enumerated above.**

**ARTICLE 14**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF ADC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

1. **There is hereby established for the Party Leadership Institute.**
2. **The Institute shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and shall operate in every strata of the Party from the Local Government to the States, the National and International level.**
3. **The Learning Center of the Global Headquarters shall be known as ADC Global Campus; the Zonal Institutes shall be known as ADC Zonal Academy; the State and Local Government campuses shall be known as ADC State and Local Government Campus while the Ward Learning Centre shall operate in all the Wards of the Federation.**
4. **Functions of the Institutes**
5. **To serve as platform for learning and skill acquisition**
6. **To impart leadership skills training by helping to build confidence and pave ways for future inspirational leaders.**
7. **Discovering people with potentials and assisting them to actualize their dreams**
8. **Provide web-based portals for those wishing to showcase their talents and skills in systemic leadership,**
9. **Foster leadership culture by challenging dysfunctional rules, protocols and processes.**
10. **Offer mentoring and support**
11. **Perform such other functions in advancing the aims and objectives of the Party**

**ARTICLE 15**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF ADC DIASPORA NETWORK ADC-DN**

1. **There is hereby established for the Party a Diaspora Network (hereinafter referred to as ADC-DN).**
2. **The ADC-DN shall operate as a full appendage of the Party and shall for all intent and purposes be regarded as the 7th geo-political zone of the Party in Nigeria.**
3. **The ADC-DN shall be delimited in 6 regions as follows: Africa, America, Middle East/Asia, Europe, and Oceania and shall operate in a manner that replicates the administrative structure of the Party.**
4. **ADC-DN shall be headed by a Deputy National Chairman with each Country having its own Chapter to be headed by a Chairman in the same manner as the States of the Federation.**
5. **To qualify as a Chapter, each ADC-DN must have a minimum of fifty (50) members.**
6. **The ADC-DN shall make official nomination/recommendations for the Party’s positions at all levels and shall not be discriminated against in any manner whatsoever.**
7. **The ADC-DN administrative organs and members shall act in accordance with the Party’s guidelines at homeland save for exceptional circumstances dictated by the exigencies of their host State.**
8. **The Party shall make concerted effort to provide a platform for full Diaspora engagement/participation in the Nigerian politics. Provided that eligible ADC-DN members must be compliant with government and party directives at homeland with respect to pre-voting registrations or any other prerequisite for that purpose.**
9. **The ADC Nigeria shall at all times update the Party’s website to reflect the ADC-DN engagements.**
10. **Membership:**
11. **The ADC-DN shall be open to all Nigerians in the Diaspora.**
12. **Upon payment of membership and other statutory fees, any Nigerian in the Diaspora shall become a card-carrying member of the Party and shall subject himself to the constitution of the Party.**
13. **All ADC Diaspora Network shall promptly remit their annual dues to the Global Headquarters but shall not be subjected to duplicate or multiple levies.**

**k. Participation**

1. **Eligible members of ADC-DN shall have the right to vote and be voted for Party positions.**
2. **Concerted effort may also be made directly or through the liaison officers of the Diaspora Network.**
3. **In order to vote or be voted for in Nigeria, eligible ADC-DN members must be compliant with government and party directives at homeland with respect to pre-voting registrations or any other prerequisite for that purpose.**
4. **Hybrid registration with automatic transfer of ADC-DN membership to their respective Ward shall be provided for the Diaspora members through the Diaspora Liaison Office/homeland constituency.**
5. **ADC-DN shall incorporate and replicate party structure at Diaspora level. The Diaspora structure shall work only for the purpose of its establishment and shall by no means conflict with the homeland structures.**
6. **The DN shall have power to make Rules and Regulations pursuant to this Constitution.**
7. **Diaspora Networks shall from time to time advise the Global Headquarters on international best practice for political parties and shall seek regulatory alignment between Nigeria and their host Country.**
8. **Diaspora Networks shall report to the Global Headquarters**
9. **All official communication by the DN to the Global headquarters shall be written in the English language and if such report is written in a language other than the English language, it shall be accompanied with the English translation.**

**l. Diaspora Liaison Office**

**There shall be a “Diaspora Liaison Office” which shall interface between the Diaspora Network and the Global Headquarter.**

ARTICLE 16

PARTY ORGANIZATION

1. The Party shall be organized and run at the following levels namely:
2. Polling Unit
3. Ward
4. Local Government Area (LGA)
5. State
6. Senatorial
7. Zonal
8. National
9. There shall be other Units for mobilization to wit:
10. State Constituency
11. Federal Constituency
12. Senatorial District
13. Each of the levels mentioned in 1 (b)-(g) above shall have a Party Secretariat in their respective Constituencies.
14. The organizational structure at the State level shall also apply to the Federal Capital Territory Abuja with such modifications as may be required.

ARTICLE 17

1. PARTY ORGANS

The following shall constitute the Organs of the Party:

1. Polling Unit Executive.
2. Ward Executive Committee
3. Ward Congress
4. Local Government Working Committee
5. Local Government Executive Committee
6. Local Government Area Congress.
7. Senatorial District working Committee.
8. State Caucus.
9. State Working Committee
10. State Executive Committee
11. State Congress
12. Zonal Caucus
13. Zonal Working Committee
14. National Caucus
15. National Working Committee
16. National Executive Committee
17. Board of Patrons
18. Board of Trustees
19. National Convention.
20. Composition
21. Polling Unit Executive:

The Polling Unit Executive shall comprise of the following:

1. Chairman
2. Deputy Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Deputy Secretary
5. Women Leader
6. Deputy Women Leader
7. Youth Leader
8. Deputy Youth Leader
9. PWD Leader
10. Deputy PWD Leader
11. Financial Secretary
12. Treasurer
13. Chief Whip

b) Ward Executive Committee

The Ward Executive Committee shall comprise of:

1. Ward Chairman
2. Councilor of the Ward if produced by the party
3. Ward Deputy Chairman
4. Ward Secretary
5. Ward Assistant Secretary
6. Ward Treasurer
7. Ward Financial Secretary
8. Ward Deputy Finance Secretary
9. Ward Organizing Secretary
10. Ward Deputy Organizing Secretary
11. Ward Publicity Secretary
12. Ward Deputy Publicity Secretary
13. Ward Women Leader
14. Ward Deputy Woman Leader
15. Ward Youth Leader
16. Ward Deputy youth leader
17. Ward PWD Leader
18. Ward Deputy PWD Leader
19. Five other members elected at the Ward Congress, two of whom must be women.
20. Members of National and State Executives from the ward.
21. Council Chairman and Deputy, if produced by the party from the ward.
22. Members of the National and State Assemblies produced by the Party from the Ward.
23. Political office holders from the Ward who are members of the party.
24. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall have no voting right.
25. Polling booth Chairman and Secretaries in the Ward.

c) **Ward Congress**

The Ward Congress shall comprise of all officers and registered members of the Party in the Ward.

d) **Local Government Working Committee**

The Local Government Working Committee shall comprise of:

1. Chairman
2. Deputy Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Organizing Secretary
5. Publicity Secretary
6. Financial Secretary
7. Treasurer
8. Legal Adviser
9. Women Leader
10. Youth Leader
11. PWD Leader
12. Welfare/Social Secretary
13. Chief Whip

**e) Local Government Executive Committee**

The Local Government Executive Committee shall comprise of the following:

1. Chairman
2. Local Government Council Chairman and Deputy Chairman, if produced by the party,
3. Deputy Chairman,
4. Vice Chairman Constituency 1
5. Vice Chairman Constituency 2
6. All Ward Chairmen in the local Government
7. Secretary
8. Deputy Secretary
9. Assistant Secretary Constituency 1
10. Assistant Secretary Constituency 2
11. Treasurer
12. Deputy Treasurer
13. Assistant Treasurer, Constituency 1
14. Assistant Treasurer, Constituency 2
15. Financial Secretary
16. Deputy Financial Secretary
17. Assistant Financial Secretary, Constituency 1
18. Assistant Financial Secretary, Constituency 2
19. Organizing Secretary
20. Deputy Organizing Secretary, Constituency 1
21. Assistant Organizing Secretary
22. Assistant Organizing Secretary, Constituency 2
23. Auditor
24. Deputy Auditor
25. Assistant Auditor, Constituency 1
26. Assistant Auditor, Constituency 2
27. Legal Adviser
28. Deputy Legal Adviser
29. Assistant Legal Adviser, Constituency 1
30. Assistant Legal Adviser, Constituency 2
31. Publicity Secretary
32. Deputy Publicity Secretary
33. Assistant Publicity Secretary, Constituency 1
34. Assistant Publicity Secretary, Constituency 2
35. Women Leader
36. Deputy Women Leader
37. PWD Leader
38. Assistant PWD Leader
39. Assistant Women Leader Constituency 1
40. Assistant Women Leader Constituency 2
41. Youth Leader
42. Deputy Youth Leader
43. Assistant Youth Leader Constituency 1
44. Assistant Youth Leader Constituency 2
45. Welfare/Social Secretary
46. Deputy Welfare/Social Secretary
47. Assistant Welfare/Social Secretary Constituency 1
48. Assistant Welfare/Social Secretary Constituency 2
49. Chief Whip
50. Deputy Chief Whip
51. Five Ex- officio members
52. Three delegates elected for State Congress who shall cease to exist after the State Congress for which they were elected
53. Members of the National and State Executive from the Local Government
54. Members of the State and National Assemblies from the Local Government
55. All Political office holders from the Local Government Area produced by the Party
56. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however have no voting right.

f) **Local Government Area Congress**

The Local Government Congress shall comprise of the following.

1. The Local Government Party Chairman and other members of the Local Government Area Executive Committee.
2. All National and State Executive Committee members of the Party from the Local Government
3. Local Government Council Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Supervisors and Councilors who are members of the party from the Local Government Area.
4. All members of the National and State Assemblies from the Local Government Area who are members of the Party.
5. All Commissioners and Special Advisers to the Governor who are members of the Party from the Local Government Area.
6. All Members of the Ward Executive Committees in the Local Government.
7. All political office holders produced by the Party in the Local Government Area.
8. Five (5) delegates from each Ward of the Local Government Area elected at the Ward Congress who shall cease to function after the Local Government Congress for which they were elected.
9. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however not have voting right.

g) **Senatorial District Working Committee**

The Senatorial District Working Committee shall comprise of:

1. State Vice Chairman who shall be the Chairman.
2. State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the Party from that Senatorial District.
3. Members of the State Executive Committees from the District.
4. Members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party from the District.
5. National Executive Committee members from the District.
6. Local Government Council Area Party Chairmen and Secretaries from the District
7. Local Government Council Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen from the District who are members of the Party.
8. State Assistant Women Leader from the Senatorial District.
9. State Assistant Youth Leader from the Senatorial District.
10. State Assistant Secretary from the Senatorial District.
11. State Assistant Organizing Secretary from the Senatorial District
12. Five (5) persons who shall be appointed by the Senatorial Working Committee of whom two must be women and one youth
13. All elected Councilors from the Senatorial District
14. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however have no voting right.

h) **State Caucus**

The Party shall have a State Caucus with the following members: -

1. State Chairman as Chairman
2. Governor and Deputy Governor, if produced by the Party.
3. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Leader (Majority or Minority) in the State House of Assembly who are members of the Party, and where the Speaker and Deputy Speaker are not from the Party, the Whip of the House shall be member if produced by the Party.
4. State Deputy Chairman.
5. National Executive Committee members from the State.
6. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however have no voting right.
7. State Secretary
8. All political office holders from the State
9. Members of the National Assembly who are from the State.

b. The State Caucus shall meet at least once in a month.

c. The Caucus has the power of co-option.

I)  **State Working Committee**

There shall be a State Working Committee with the following officers as members: -

1. State Chairman
2. State Deputy Chairman
3. State Secretary
4. State Treasurer
5. State Legal Adviser
6. State Financial Secretary
7. State Publicity Secretary
8. State Auditor
9. State Organizing Secretary
10. State Women Leader
11. State Youth Leader
12. State PWD Leader
13. State Welfare/Social Secretary
14. State Chief Whip
15. State Coordinator, Electoral Matters & INEC Liaison

j) **State Executive Committee**

The State Executive Committee shall comprise of the following: -

1. State Chairman
2. All National Executive members of the Party from the State
3. Governor and Deputy Governor if produced by the Party in the State
4. Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Majority or Minority Leader and Whip of the State House of Assembly produced by the Party in the State
5. State Deputy Chairman
6. Three (3) State Vice Chairmen from each Senatorial Zone
7. State Secretary
8. Deputy Secretary
9. Three (3) State Assistant Secretaries from each Senatorial

Zone

1. All Local Government Area Party Chairmen in the State
2. State Treasurer
3. Deputy State Treasurer
4. Three (3) State Assistant Treasurers
5. State Financial Secretary
6. Deputy State Financial Secretary
7. Three (3) State Assistant Financial Secretaries
8. State Publicity Secretary
9. Deputy State Publicity Secretary
10. State Organizing Secretary
11. Deputy State Organizing Secretary
12. Three (3) State Assistant Organizing Secretaries
13. State Legal Adviser
14. Deputy State Legal Adviser
15. State Auditor
16. Deputy State Auditor
17. State Welfare/Social Secretary
18. Deputy State Welfare/Social Secretary
19. State Women Leader
20. Deputy State Women Leader
21. Three (3) State Assistant Women Leaders
22. State Youth Leader
23. State PWD Leader
24. Deputy State Youth Leader
25. Three (3) State Assistant Youth Leaders
26. State Chief Whip
27. Deputy State Chief Whip
28. Six (6) State Ex-officio Members (3 Men and 3 women) two from each Senatorial Zone

xxxviii All elected Council Chairmen and their deputies if produced by the Party in the State

xxxiv Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however have no voting right.

k) **State Congress**

The State Congress shall comprise of: -

1. The State Chairman and members of the State Executive Committee;
2. President and Vice president from the State if produced by the Party
3. All members of the National Executive Committee from the State;
4. All members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party;
5. Political office holders at the Federal and State who are members of the Party;
6. All Local Government Council Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen who are members of the Party;
7. Five (5) delegates per Local Government, elected at the Local Government Congresses who shall cease to function after the conclusion of the State Congress for which they were elected.
8. One delegate from each ward elected at the Ward Congress, who shall cease to function after the Congress.
9. Members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however have no voting right.

l) **Zonal Working Committee**

There shall be a Zonal Working Committee for each of the six (6) geo-political zones with the following officers: -

1. National Vice Chairman of the Zone who shall be the Chairman of the Committee
2. State Governors and their Deputies who are members of the Party in the Zone.
3. National Executive Committee members who are from the Zone.
4. Members of the National Assembly from the Zone who are members of the party.
5. State Chairmen and State Secretaries of the Party from the Zone.
6. Speakers, Deputy Speakers, Party Leaders and Whips of the State House of Assembly from the Zone who are members of the Party.
7. A Zonal Women Leader who shall be the Assistant National Women Leader from the Zone
8. Zonal Youth Leader who shall be the Assistant National Youth Leader from the Zone
9. Members of the National Board of Trustee who shall however have no voting right.
10. The Zonal Working Committee shall have the Assistant National Secretary from the Zone as its Secretary while the Assistant National Organizing Secretary from the Zone shall be the Zonal Organizing Secretary.
11. The Zonal Working Committee shall have the power of co-option.

m. **National Caucus**

The Party shall have a National Caucus to be comprised of: -

1. National Chairman of the Party who shall be the Chairman of the Caucus
2. President and Vice President, if produced by the Party.
3. All the State Governors produced by the Party, President of the Senate, Deputy Senate.
4. President and Senate Leader or three leading Senators from the Party
5. Leader or three leading members of the House of Representatives
6. All the Deputy National Chairmen
7. Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Trustees and the Registered Trustees:
8. Secretary to the Federal Government if produced by the Party
9. National Secretary who shall be the Secretary of the Caucus;
10. Two Cabinet nominees made by the President.
11. Pioneer members of the National Working Committee who are still members of the Party.
12. The Caucus has the power of co-option.

**n. National Working Committee**

National Working Committee shall comprise of: -

1. National Chairman
2. National Secretary
3. Deputy National Secretary
4. National Coordinator, Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Affairs;
5. National Organizing Secretary;
6. National Treasurer;
7. National Financial Secretary;
8. National Publicity Secretary;
9. National Auditor;
10. National Ethics and Standard Secretary
11. National Legal Adviser;
12. National Women Leader;
13. National Youth Leader
14. National PWD Leader
15. National Welfare/Social Secretary

**o. National Executive Committee**

The Party shall have a National Executive Committee which shall comprise of:

1. National Chairman
2. President and Vice President, if produced by the Party
3. Senate President and other Principal officers at the Senate who are members of the Party
4. Members of the State and Federal House of Assemblies who are members of the Party
5. All State Governors and Deputy Governors who are members of the Party
6. All the Deputy National Chairmen
7. Deputy National Chairman, Strategy, Innovation and Change, Civil Societies, Institutions and Professional Bodies
8. Deputy National Chairman, Diaspora Network,
9. Deputy National Chairman, Government Affairs,
10. Deputy National Chairman, Education, Doctrine and Values,
11. Deputy National Chairman, Inclusion and Mainstreaming,
12. The six National Vice Chairmen (one from each zone)
13. National Secretary
14. Deputy National Secretary
15. Six (6) Assistant National Secretaries (one from each geo-political zone
16. National Coordinator, Electoral Matters and INEC Liaison
17. Deputy National Coordinator, Electoral Matters and INEC Liaison
18. National Organizing Secretary
19. Deputy National Organizing Secretary
20. Six (6) Assistant National Organizing Secretaries (one from each geo-political zone)
21. National Treasurer
22. Deputy National Treasurer
23. National Financial Secretary
24. Deputy National Financial Secretary
25. National Publicity Secretary
26. Deputy National Publicity Secretary (Conventional Media)
27. Deputy National Publicity Secretary (News Media)
28. National Auditor
29. Deputy National Auditor
30. National Legal Adviser
31. Deputy National Legal Adviser
32. National Women Leader
33. Deputy National Women Leader
34. National PWD Leader
35. Deputy National PWD Leader
36. Six (6) Assistant National Women Leaders
37. National Youth Leader
38. Deputy National Youth Leader
39. Six (6) Assistant National Youth Leaders
40. National Welfare/Social Secretary
41. Deputy National Welfare/Social Secretary
42. National Coordinator, People with Disabilities
43. Deputy National Coordinator, People with Disabilities
44. National Coordinator, Diaspora Network
45. Deputy National Coordinator, Diaspora Network
46. All State, Diaspora and FCT Chapters Chairmen
47. Chairmen and Secretary of the National Board of Trustees
48. Other members of the National Board of Trustees who shall however not have voting right.
49. All former National Chairmen and Secretaries of the Party
50. All Former State Governors produced by the Party
51. All former members of NWC who are still in the Party
52. Twelve (12) Ex-officio members (two from each geo-political zone)

**p. Board of Patrons (BOP)**

There shall be a Board of Patrons which shall comprise of:

1. All the National Chairmen and all the National Secretaries of the Party, both serving and past.
2. All past and present Presidents and Vice presidents of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who are members of the Party.
3. All past and present Presidents of the Nigerian Senate and Speakers of the House of Representatives who are members of the Party.
4. All past and present Governors, Deputy Governors and Speakers of State House of Assembly who are members of the Party.
5. Any such member of the Party as may from time to time be nominated by the Board and ratified by the National Convention.

b. Board of Patrons are members who represent the political and social conscience of the party having held appointments within the party and/or government and are expected to be meeting at stipulated times to draw up positions of the Party and give any needed advice. They are also expected to give advice on campaign manifestoes for both national and regional campaigns, and to ensure that the Party maintains its rhythm and focus.

**q. The Board of Trustees**

**There shall be a Board of Trustees comprising of:**

**I. One person to be nominated by each of the States of the Federation and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja subject to ratification by the National Executive Committee.**

**ii. The founding National Chairman and Secretary,**

1. **The founding National Principal Officers who are still in the Party, and are not interested in seeking any elective position.**
2. **Such other persons of proven integrity who in the opinion of the Class of Founding Fathers; ought to be co-opted into the Board provided that the number of the Board does not exceed 50.**

**r. NATIONAL CONVENTION**

a. The National Convention shall comprise of: -

1. The National Chairman and other members of the National Executive Committee;
2. President, Vice President and Secretary to the Government of the Federation if produced by the Party
3. Members of the Board of Trustees; (BOT)
4. Members of the Board of Patrons (BOP)
5. All members of the National and State Assemblies who are members of the Party;
6. All Party State Chairmen, Secretaries, Women Leaders and Youth Leaders. (Including that of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja)
7. All Party Chairmen of the Local Government Areas;
8. All political appointees and members of the National and State House of Assemblies produced by the Party.
9. Five (5) delegates elected at the State Congress who will cease to exist after the National Convention for which they were elected.
10. One (1) delegate from each Local Government Area elected at the Local Government Area Congress.
11. All Local Government Council Chairmen produced by the Party;

**ARTICLE 17**

**MEETINGS GENERALLY**

1. **NATIONAL CONVENTION AND CONGRESS**
2. **The National Convention of the Party shall be held once in four (4) years at a date, venue and time to be recommended by the National Working Committee and approved by the National Executive Committee subject to the giving of the requisite statutory notice to the Independent National Electoral Commission and at least fourteen (14) days written notice to all eligible members.**
3. **A Special National Convention may be convened at any time provided at least seven (7) days’ notice of the meeting is given to all eligible members.**
4. **The quorum for the meetings of the National Convention shall be one third (1/3) of its members.**
5. **Zonal, Local Government and Ward Congresses shall be held once in three (3) years at a date, venue and time to be recommended by their respective executive committees. The quorum for the state and ward congresses shall be one third (1/3) of their respective members.**
6. **Special congresses may also be convened at the zonal, local governments and wards at any time provided at least seven (7) days’ notice of the meeting is given to all eligible members.**
7. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**
8. **The National Executive Committee shall meet once yearly and or at any time decided by the National Chairman or at the request made to the National Chairman in writing by at least two-third of the members of the National Executive Committee provided that not less than thirty (30) days’ notice is given to the National Chairman for the meeting to be summoned.**
9. **The National Working Committee may summon an emergency National Executive Committee meeting at any time, provided that at least seven (7) days’ notice of the meeting shall be given to all those entitled to attend.**
10. **Decisions at the meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be by simple majority of members present and voting.**
11. **The quorum for the meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be one third of its members.**
12. **The provision regulating meetings of the National Executive Committee shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to Zonal Committee, State Executive Committee, Senatorial District Executive Committee, Local Government Area/Area Council Executive Committee and Ward Executive Committee meetings.**

**WORKING COMMITTEES.**

1. **The National Working Committee shall meet at least once in a month at the request of the National Chairman.**
2. **A meeting of the National Working Committee may be summoned on a request made in writing to the National Chairman by two-thirds of the Members of the National Working Committee at any time, provided that at least seven (7) days’ notice of the meeting shall be given to all those entitled to attend.**
3. **The quorum for the meetings of National Working Committee shall be 1/2 of its Membership.**
4. **Decisions at the meetings of the National Working Committee shall be by simple majority of Members present and voting.**
5. **These provisions relating to National Working Committee shall apply mutatis mutandis to Zonal Working Committee, State Working Committee, Local Government Area/Area Council Working Committee, Ward and Polling Unit Working Committee.**

**d. National Caucus**

1. **The National Caucus shall meet at least twice in a year at the instance of its Chairman or at the request of half of its members or following a resolution of the National Executive Committee requesting for such meeting.**
2. **The Quorum for meeting of the National Caucus shall be half of its members.**
3. **The National Caucus shall at the instance of the National Chairman meet from time to time to consider critical issues affecting the Party.**

**e. State Caucus**

1. **The State Caucus shall meet at least quarterly at the instance of its Chairman or at the request of half of its members or following a resolution of the State Executive Committee requesting for such meeting.**
2. **The Quorum for meeting of the State Caucus shall be half of its members.**
3. **The State Caucus shall at the instance of the State Chairman meet from time to time to consider critical issues affecting the Party.**

**ARTICLE 18**

**GENERAL RULES FOR CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

1. **Language to be used at all meetings of the party shall be English language or any Nigerian language understood by all members present at the meeting.**
2. **ADC-DN can adopt the language of their host Country if agreed by all members.**
3. **All meetings shall be chaired by the Chairman or as stipulated in this Constitution.**
4. **Rules and regulations governing the conduct of meetings shall be approved from time to time by the National Executive Committee.**
5. **No motion shall be entertained at a meeting unless at least three (3) days’ notice of such motion had been given in writing to the Secretary or to the Chairman, except:** 
   1. **A motion that any subject be deferred or referred to a Committee or some appropriate body.**
   2. **A motion for adjournment; and**
   3. **A motion proposing an amendment to some opinion or motion already presented at the same meeting.**
6. **Every motion and amendment of any motion shall be seconded before discussion.**
7. **A motion for amendment of any motion may be withdrawn at any time at the request of the mover.**
8. **In urgent or emergency situations, the Chairman of a meeting shall have the discretion to dispense or not with the requirement to give notice of motion.**
9. **Deliberations at a meeting shall be strictly on the subject matter(s) listed on the agenda for the meeting provided that general issues may be presented or discussed at the end of the main agenda.**
10. **Except upon a duly notified motion, a fresh deliberation or debate on a matter already concluded shall not be permitted.**
11. **A member shall indicate a desire to speak by a show of one hand sitting, and shall rise to speak only when called upon to do so by the Chairman.**
12. **Any member who deviates from these rules or from the agenda of a meeting shall immediately be called to Order by the Chairman or by another Member raising a point of Order.**
13. **The Chairman of a meeting shall have the power to ask any erring or offending member to leave the meeting.**
14. **No member shall leave a meeting except with the permission of the Chairman.**
15. **“Putting the question” shall follow normal Parliamentary procedure.**
16. **Voting on any subject at a meeting shall be by show of hand or voice vote or by secret ballot as the Chairman may decide.**
17. **Except as otherwise expressly provided for in this Constitution, decisions of any organ of the Party shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting.**
18. **Any elected officer at any level, who absents himself from a properly constituted meeting for three consecutive times without reasonable cause for doing so shall be liable to disciplinary action.**
19. **The venue for all meetings of the organs of the Party at all levels shall be as approved by the appropriate executive of the Party at each level.**
20. **Any irregular conduct of meetings shall be unconstitutional and shall accordingly be null and void.**
21. **The use of disparaging, obscure, diminishing, abusive, insulting or any offensive word or statement that is unbecoming of a good parliamentarian at a meeting by a member against the party or fellow party member shall attract disciplinary action. Fighting, unruly behavior, indecent dressing, etc. shall be similarly treated.**
22. **Any member deviating from these rules or from the agenda. of a meeting shall be immediately called to order by the Chairman or by another member raising a point of order.**
23. **No meeting shall commence in the absence of the required quorum**

**ARTICLE 19**

**POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF PARTY ORGANS**

1. Polling Unit Executive
2. Plan the house-to house campaign within the neighborhood of the Polling Units
3. Develop effective strategies for protecting the votes cast for the Party during elections
4. Select committee members who will serve as polling unit agents during elections.
5. Embark on membership drive for the Party
6. Perform other duties as may be assigned to it from time to time by the Ward Executive Committee
7. **Ward Executive Committee**
8. Day to day running of the Party at the Ward level
9. Raise funds for the day to day running of the Party and other functions.
10. Membership drive
11. Draw up strategies for political campaigns
12. Mobilize voters
13. Execute the decisions of Ward Congresses and other Organs of the Party.
14. Performing such other functions that will advance the interest of the Party
15. **The Ward Congress**
16. Approve the budget for the Ward
17. Conduct Primaries for Wards elections and Councillorship candidates
18. Elect members of the Ward Executive Committee
19. Receive Ward delegates to Party Congresses
20. Receive report of officers of the Ward
21. Receive Auditors Report and
22. Any other business that is in the interest of the Party.

4. **Local Government Executive Committee**

1. Identifying main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern in the Local Government:
2. Receiving report from the constituent Wards on:
3. Membership drive
4. Fund raising activities
5. Strategies for political campaigns and electoral successes

1. **Mobilization of voters**
2. Harmonizing reports and distributing same to all Wards and ensure their implementation.
3. Providing strategies for effective communication between the Wards and the Local Government.
4. General administration of the Party in the Local Government.
5. Putting into effect decisions of the Local Government Congress and other Organs of the Party.
6. Employing and determining the conditions of service (including discipline) of all secretariat staff of the Party in the Local Government Area.

5. **Local Government Area Congress**

1. Electing members to the Local Government Executive Committee of the Party.
2. Participate in primaries for elective offices in the State
3. Electing Local Government Party delegates to State Congress and National Conventions.
4. Approving budget for running of the Party at the Local Government level.
5. Receiving Auditors report.

6. **Senatorial District Working Committee**

1. Co-ordination of policies, programmes and operations of the Party within the Senatorial District:
2. Liaising with the Local Government Areas within the District and State Headquarters.

7. **State Working Committee**

1. Shall be responsible for the day-to-day Administration of the Party at the State level and shall be responsible to the State Executive Committee.
2. Shall perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by the State Executive Committee.
3. Shall meet once in a week or at such interval as may be necessary
4. Shall be summoned by the State Chairman

8. **State Caucus**

1. Shall meet from time to time to consider urgent and critical issues affecting the Party both at the State and the National level.
2. **State Executive Committee**
3. Identifying main issues, (political, social and economic) of concern to the state.
4. General administration of the Party in the State and putting into effect the decisions of the State Congress or directives from the National Executive Committee or the National Convention.
5. Preparation of Annual Budgets
6. Preparation of Agenda for State Congress

10**. State Congress**

1. Approve budget of the Party in the State
2. Elect Officers of the State executive Committee
3. Organize Primaries for Gubernatorial elections
4. Receive reports of officers of the Party
5. Receive Auditor’s Report
6. Implement the resolutions of the National Convention.

11. **Zonal Working Committee**

a. Co-ordination of policies and operations of the Party within the Zone

b. Liaising with the State and National Headquarters

c. The Zonal meeting shall be summoned by the Zonal Chairman

12. **National Working Committee**

1. Be responsible for the day-today administration of the Party and shall be responsible to the National Executive Committee,
2. Perform any other function assigned to it by the National Executive Committee,
3. In emergency situations, the National Working Committee shall act for and on behalf of the National Executive Council and such decisions shall be presented and ratified at the next National Executive Council meeting
4. Have power to receive periodic reports from zonal and State Executive Committees and when necessary to dissolve zonal or State Executive Committees and reconstitute the same pending the next zonal or State congress as applicable
5. All meetings of the National Working Committee shall be convened by the National Chairman or by a resolution of 2/3 of its members provided notice of such resolution is communicated in writing to the National chairman thirty (30) days before such meeting.

13. **National Caucus**

The National Caucus:

1. Shall meet from time to time to consider urgent and critical issues affecting the party
2. Co-ordinate and harmonize the activities of the executive and legislative arms of the Government and the Party.

14. **National Executive Committee**

1. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the Party and putting into effect the decisions of the National Convention:
2. Summon and prepare the agenda for the National Convention
3. Prepare and submit reports and budget for the consideration of the national Convention
4. Provide Guidelines for approval by the National Convention
5. Initiate policies and Programmes for the consideration of the National Convention.
6. Approve Rules for Party discipline and loyalty,
7. Approve Regulations, Policies and Guidelines for conduct of intra party elections. Such Regulations, Policies and Guidelines shall not contravene the provisions of this constitution but be complimentary to it.
8. Ratify conditions of service of the Secretariat Staff of the Party.
9. Co-opt such persons as it may deem necessary to attend its meetings and take part in its deliberations provided that such co-opted persons shall have no voting right.
10. Have the power to make standing orders for approval by the National Convention.
11. Deal with any other matters referred to it by the National Convention or the Board of Trustees.
12. Established ad-hoc and/or standing committees and appoint members to such committees.
13. Exercise such other powers and functions as may be vested in it by the National Convention.
14. Shall in consultation with the Board of Trustees, appoint eminent and outstanding party leaders into the position of Patriarchs or life Members. The people so appointed shall have the right of attendance at all meetings of all Party Organs.
15. The National Executive Committee shall examine the actions, policies and programmes pursued by the Government from time to time with a view to determining whether or not they are in conformity with the principles, policies, programmes, aims and objectives of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and that of the Party. It shall also have power to make appropriate recommendation to the National Convention as may be necessary.
16. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party
17. Recommend the minimum rates of annual subscription payable by members
18. Recommend the proportion of income from subscription by each Ward, Local Government, and State for remittance to the National Secretariat.
19. The decision of the National Executive Committee shall be binding on all Organs and members of the Party.

15. **National Board of Patrons**

1. The Board of Patrons shall be the conscience of the Party in ensuring that the highest standard of morality is maintained at all levels of the Party, and shall have power to call to order any officer of the party whose conduct falls below the norms.
2. The Board of Patrons shall ensure the maintenance of high morale of members and a favorable image in the eyes of the Nigerian populace.
3. The Board of Patrons shall harmonize, co-ordinate, review and advise on policies, programmes and activities of the Party.
4. The Board shall also assist in sourcing funds for the Party
5. The Board of Patrons shall give to the National Executive Committee of the Party, general advice on particular matters and it shall be the duty of the National Executive Committee to consider the advice.
6. Notwithstanding the above, the Board shall not take part in the day-to-day activities of the Party at any level.
7. Members of the Board of Patrons can attend any meeting of any Organ of the Party except the National Caucus, but shall have no voting right at any meeting except in the Board of Patrons’ meeting and the National Convention.
8. The Chairman and Secretary of the Board shall be members of the National Executive Committee.
9. A Patron may be removed from office by a resolution at the National Convention on the ground of infirmity or grievous misconduct.
10. A Patron may resign his membership of the Board by tendering a letter to that effect to the Chairman.
11. In the event of any vacancy in the Board, such vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Patrons in consultation with the National Chairman subject to ratification by the National Convention.
12. The Board of Patrons shall regulate its own proceedings and shall draw up a Code of Conduct for its members.

16. **Board of Trustees**

1. The Board of Trustees shall play advisory role to the Party
2. The assets of the Party shall be vested in the Board who shall serve as the custodian of such assets.
3. The Board shall have power to mediate in any intra or inter party dispute that can be resolved through alternative dispute resolution.
4. The Board shall carry out all such activities as may be referred to it by the National Convention.
5. **The Board of Trustees shall:**
   * 1. **Be the embodiment of the conscience, the soul and the sanctity of the Party and shall be the mirror of the highest standard of morality in the Party,**
     2. **Shall intervene in all disputes and crisis in the Party to ensure its stability at all times.**
     3. **Hold all the properties of the Party in trust for the Party and shall serve as custodian of such assets.**
     4. **Raise fund for the Party**
     5. **Render advice and initiate policies for the Party.**
     6. **Act as Mediators when called upon by the Executive.**
     7. **Promote reconciliation, encourage and facilitate the settlement of disputes in an amicable manner among members of the Party.**
     8. **The Board of Trustees shall be at liberty to elect its Chairman, Secretary and other executives to serve for a period of only 5 years.**
     9. **A Trustee shall hold office for a period of five years and shall be eligible for re-election for another period of five years.**
     10. **The Board shall regulate its own proceedings and shall draw up its code of conduct to be observed by its members.**

17. **National Convention**

1. The final authority of the Party shall vest in the National Convention.
2. Formulate policies and programmes for the Party
3. Elect or remove the National Officers of the Party
4. Receive and ratify reports from the National Executive Committee and any other Committee or organ of the Party, and shall take appropriate decisions thereon.
5. Elect the Presidential candidate of the Party.
6. Create, elect and appoint any committee it may deem necessary and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit.
7. Examine the actions taken or legislations proposed or passed by any Government, Legislative House, or Local Government Council and determine what further actions the Party should take.
8. Secure at all elections the return of as many Party candidates as possible, so as to generally have control of the legislative and executive arms of Governments in the Federation.
9. Consider reports from the National, State and Local Government branches of the Party and take such decisions as are necessary to protect, advance, and consolidate the gains and interest of the Party.
10. Raise adequate funds for the management and sustenance of the Party.
11. Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs, officers and members of the Party and determine appeals brought before it by any member or Organ of the Party.
12. Ratify the report of any standing committee set up by the National Executive Committee.
13. Review or amend the Constitution of the Party from time to time as the need arises
14. Delegate any of its powers to the National Executive Committee or to any other Organ of the Party.
15. Take any action as may be conducive for the promotion of the aims and objectives of the Party as laid down in this Constitution.
16. Appoint External Auditors to audit the Party’s Account.
17. Exercise such other powers and authority as may be vested in it by this Constitution.
18. Ratify the minimum rate of annual subscription to be paid by members and the proportion of income from such subscription to be remitted to the National Secretariat.

**ARTICLE 20**

**POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICERS**

**1. National Chairman**

The National Chairman of the Party shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Party, and shall have power to:

1. Summon and preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus, and the National Working Committee of the party.
2. Provide good, effective leadership and direction for the Party.
3. Promote and defend the aims, policies and Programmes of the Party.
4. Exercise all powers vested in him by this constitution as well as ensuring strict compliance with the provisions of this constitution.
5. Assign specific functions to any member or officer of the Party.
6. Delegate his powers to the Deputy National Chairman and Vice Chairman or any officer of the Party subject to the provisions of this constitution
7. Shall have a casting vote if and when necessary.
8. Shall be the main signatory to the Party’s bank accounts.
9. Shall interface either personally or through nominees with democratic/development partners on behalf of the Party.
10. Shall give directives regarding inter-party relations

2. **Deputy National Chairman**

1. In the absence of the National Chairman, the Deputy National Chairman, (Membership) shall preside at meetings and in his absence; any Deputy National Chairman at the meeting shall preside.
2. Each Deputy National Chairman shall perform the duties in line with the specific portfolio of the office
3. The Deputy National Chairman shall perform all other duties that may be assigned to him by the National Chairman or the National Executive Committee.

3. **National Vice-Chairman**

1. Each of the National Vice-Chairmen shall be responsible for the general coordination of the Party within his geo-political zone and shall also perform such other Party functions as may from time to time be assigned to him by the National Executive Committee or the National Chairman
2. **National Secretary**
3. Supervise the day-to-day activities of the Party
4. Issue notices of meetings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, National Caucus, and the National Working Committee in consultation with an approval of the National Chairman
5. Keep all records and books of proceedings of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, the National Caucus, and the National Working Committee.
6. Render a written annual report of the activities of the Party.
7. Ensure the implementation of the decisions and directives of the National Convention, the National Executive Committee, National Caucus and the National Working Committee;
8. Be in charge of all correspondences;
9. Carry out any other duty as may be assigned to him from time-to time by the National Convention, the National Caucus, the National Executive Committee and the National Chairman.
10. Shall always consult the National Chairman in the discharge of his functions.
11. Shall be a signatory to the Party’s Accounts
12. Shall contribute to discourse and decisions on inter-party relations
13. Deputy National Secretary
14. The Deputy National Secretary shall assist the National Secretary in the discharge of his duties;
15. In the absence of the National Secretary, the Deputy National Secretary shall act as the National Secretary
16. The Deputy National Secretary shall be assigned such other functions as may be deemed necessary by the National Secretary.

6**. Assistant National Secretaries**

1. The Six (6) Assistant National Secretaries shall be the Secretaries of their Zonal Working Committees.
2. They shall perform such functions as may be assigned to them by the National Secretary

7 **National Treasurer**

1. Receive and promptly pay into the Party’s accounts all monies received on behalf of the Party;
2. Ensure prudent management of Party’s fund
3. Ensure that all funds received by the Party are duly receipted and paid into the Party’s account within 48 hours of collection or the next working day thereafter;
4. Prepare and submit a yearly statement of account to the National Executive Committee
5. Shall be a signatory to the Party’s Accounts.

8. **Deputy National Treasurer**

Shall assist and deputize for the National Treasurer and perform all duties assigned to him by the National Treasurer

9. **National Welfare/Social Secretary**.

1. Shall develop and implement welfare package for members
2. Set up committees to visit or show solidarity with members as occasion may demand.
3. Ensure that the rights of members are duly accorded to them.

10. **National Coordinator, INEC Affairs**

1. Shall maintain regular communication with the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and other regulatory authorities on behalf of the Party.
2. Advise the Party on compliance with the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC’S) Guidelines and Regulations,
3. Ensure that the Party’s Programmes and activities are in conformity with the INEC’S Time Table,
4. Shall contribute to discourse on inter-party relations

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11. **National Financial Secretary**

1. Keep records of all dues, levies, subscriptions and donations paid to the Party;
2. Prepare and submit proposal for raising funds for the party for the consideration of the National Executive Committee.

12. **Assistant National Financial Secretary**

Shall assist and deputize for the National Financial Secretary and perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the National Financial Secretary.

13. **National Publicity Secretary**

1. Co-ordinate Party information and public relations;
2. Be the chief image maker of the Party.
3. Cause to be publicized the policies and programmes of the Party in line with the aims and objectives of the Party.
4. Ensure popular, credible, and acceptable image of the Party to the generality of the electorate.

14. **Assistant National Publicity Secretary**

Shall assist and deputize for the National Publicity Secretary in his absence.

15. **National Organizing Secretary**

1. Initiate Programmes for the general mobilization of Party members including recruitment of new members.
2. Prepare problem appraisals and identification of causes of actions to address the problem.
3. Harmonize all information and devise on the appropriate strategy for winning elections.
4. Implement and co-ordinate all field activities of the Party
5. Liaise with the National Women and Youth Leaders for harmonization of Programmes for the attainment of Party victories at all elections
6. Ensure that the Party is structured and deepened in all Wards, Local Government Areas and States.

16. **Deputy National Organizing Secretaries**.

Shall act for the National Organizing Secretary in his absence.

17.**Assistant National Organizing Secretary** shall:

1. Act as Zonal Organizing Secretary
2. Perform other functions as may be assigned to him by the National Organizing Secretary
3. Report regularly the activities in the Zones to the National Organizing Secretary.

18.**National Auditor**

1. Audit the books of accounts of the Party annually and shall report accordingly to the National Executive Committee.
2. Present the audited account of the Party to the National Convention annually,
3. Be called upon by the National Executive Committee to audit the accounts of the Party from time to time.

19. **Deputy National Auditor**

Shall assist the National Auditor in the performance of his duties.

20. **National Legal Adviser**

1. Advise the Party on legal matters;
2. Arrange for the conduct of litigation on behalf of the Party, including its Organs, officers and officials in so far as the subject of litigation pertains to the Party interest.
3. Interpret all laws, regulations and constitution of the Party in the event of ambiguities
4. Shall determine the legal implication and give opinion regarding inter-party engagements and affairs

21. **Deputy Legal Adviser**

Shall perform such duties and functions as may be assigned to him by the National Legal Adviser.

22. **National Women Leader**

1. Be responsible for women mobilization and organization.
2. Initiate and implement strategic programmes and policies that would endear the Party to Nigerian Women

23. **Deputy National Women Leader**

Shall deputize for the National Women Leader in her absence

24. **Vice National Women Leader** :

Shall Act as the Zonal Women Leaders in her zone.

25. **National Youth Leader**

1. Be responsible for mobilization of youths for the attainment of Party objectives.
2. Initiate and implement programmes and policies that will endear the Party to all Nigerians.

26**. National PWD Leader**

1. Shall be responsible for mobilization and organization of Persons with Disability.
2. Initiate and implement strategic Programmes and policies that will satisfy the interest of Persons with Disability.

27. **Deputy National PWD Leader**

Shall act in the absence of the National PWD Leader

28. **Officers at other Levels**

1. Subject to the Provision(S) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Electoral Act and this Constitution as well as INEC Guidelines etc., 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.
2. The Executive Committee at all levels shall have powers to set up Committees where necessary and shall assign to them such powers and functions as may be deemed fit.

29. Principles of Federal Character

Without prejudice to the provisions of this Constitution, the principle and concept of Federal character shall be observed in the composition of offices of the Executive Committee at all levels. The diversity of the people within the area and the need to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty amongst the people shall be taken into consideration in the formation of the Party’s Executive structure.

**ARTICLE 21**

**EXHAUSTION OF INTERNAL REMEDIES**

**Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Electoral Act and other statutory instruments or subsidiary legislations in relation thereto, an aggrieved member of the Party who intends to ventilate his grievance shall first exhaust the internal dispute resolution mechanisms provided for by the Party.**

**ARTICLE 22**

**DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS**

1a. Subject to the provisions of this constitution, the following acts, to wit:

1. Breach of the Party’s constitution;
2. Acts, conduct or utterances likely to bring the Party into hatred, disrepute, contempt or ridicule;
3. Disobedience or neglect to carry out lawful directives of the Party or any Organ;
4. Engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding the party, its members or officials;
5. Persistent absenteeism from meetings and in the case of an elected party official; dereliction of his duties;
6. Engaging in anti-party activities;
7. Disorderly conduct at meetings, rallies; etc.
8. Engaging in any other activities likely to cause disaffection amongst Party members or likely to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient conduct of Party businesses;
9. Unauthorized publicity of Party dispute or fractionalization or creating parallel Party Organs at any level.
10. Belonging to any such factional group or Organ;
11. Collusion or conspiracy to convene unauthorized meetings;
12. Organizing, retaining, training, equipping or encouraging the organization, retention, training, equipping of any member or group of members for the purpose of employing the use or display of physical force or coercion on the Party or its members.

Shall constitute acts of gross misconduct

b. The Disciplinary Committee shall have power to receive complaints in writing from the Executive Committee and shall determine the same in accordance with the principles of fair hearing.

c. The Committee shall upon receiving any complaint send a written invitation to the affected member, and shall communicate to him the date, time, place and venue of the hearing.

d. Any member appearing before the Disciplinary Committee shall be entitled to defend himself in person or by a Legal Practitioner of his choice, and shall be entitled to call witnesses and cross examine his accusers.

e. The Committee shall determine the complaint within 14 days and make appropriate recommendation which may include but not limited to:

1. Reprimand
2. Censure
3. Fine
4. Debarment from holding any office within the Party
5. Removal from office
6. Suspension from the Party
7. Expulsion from the Party.

f. Subject to the provision of this Article, the Executive Committee at all levels shall ensure the enforcement of the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee.

g. Where it is proposed to expel any Minister, Ambassador, Special Adviser, Governor, Deputy Governor or member or any Legislative House, such proposal shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee whereupon the National Executive Committee shall refer the same to its Disciplinary Committee.

h. Notwithstanding the provision of this Article, the National Chairman shall have power to summarily punish or suspend any staff of the Party.

2.**Disciplinary Procedure:**

**The Procedure for hearing and determination of complaints or allegations are as follows:**

1. **A complaint by any member of the Party against an office holder, elected or appointed shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of that Party at the level at which the particular officer is serving.**
2. **The Appropriate executive committee, without debating or discussing the complaint or allegation, shall not later than 14 days forward it to the Disciplinary Committee for its decision.**
3. **The officer concerned shall have a right of appeal to the disciplinary committee of the next organ above, but in the absence of an appeal, the executive committee of the officer concerned shall not later than 14 days ratify the decision of the Disciplinary Committee.**
4. **Suspension or removal of any officer of the Party shall be decided only at the level at which the officer is serving and not by any other organ of the party. Decision to remove any officer shall be carried out after fair hearing before the Party’s Disciplinary and Appeal Committees as the case may be.**
5. **In the event of any fundamental breach of this constitution, the National Working Committee shall have power to dissolve any zonal or State Executive Committee and constitute an interim Committee or suspend any member of such executive pending the next zonal or State Congress.**
6. **No officer of the party shall be allowed to preside over his own cause or matter where his personal interest would conflict with his official duty.**
7. **For the purpose of ARTICLE 22 of this Constitution:**
8. **The Disciplinary Committee of the polling Unit Executive shall be the adjudicatory body of first instance over complaint and or allegation from the polling unit.**
9. **The Disciplinary Committee of the Ward Executive shall be the adjudicatory body of first instance over complaint and or allegation from the Ward level.**
10. **The Disciplinary Committee of the Local Government Area Executive Committee shall be the adjudicatory body of first instance over complaints or allegations from the Local Government/ Area Council level.**
11. **The Disciplinary Committee of the State Executive Committee shall be the adjudicatory body of first instance over complaints or allegations from the State level.**
12. **The Disciplinary Committee of the Zonal Committee shall be the adjudicatory body of first instance over complaints or allegations from the zone.**
13. **The Disciplinary Committee of the National Executive Committee shall be the adjudicatory body over complaints and allegations from the National Level.**

**4. Appeals**

**a. The right of appeal of any aggrieved member of the Party is hereby guaranteed.**

**b. The procedure for appeals shall be as follows:**

1. **Where a member is not satisfied with the decision of the Disciplinary Committee of the Party, he shall have the right to appeal within 30 days of the decision to the immediate higher organ of the Party.**
2. **An appeal shall be determined by the appropriate Appeal Committee within 30 days from the date of receipt of the notice of appeal by the appellate body concerned.**
3. **Where a decision or action taken by an organ of the Party is appealed against, the Party shall maintain the status quo until the appeal is determined.**
4. **An appeal from the decision of the Ward Executive Committee, as an adjudicatory body of first instance on a complaint originating from the Ward shall lie to the Local Government Area Executive Committee and thereafter to the State Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.**
5. **An appeal from the decision of the Local Government Area Executive Committee on a complaint originating from the Local Government Area Chapter shall lie to the State Executive Committee and thereafter to the Zonal Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.**
6. **An appeal from the decision of the State Executive Committee on a complaint originating from the State shall lie to the Zonal Executive Committee and thereafter to the National Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.**
7. **An appeal from the decision of the National Executive Committee on a complaint originating at the National level shall lie to the National Convention whose decision shall be final.**
8. **Any member who files an action in any court of law against the Party or any of its officers on any matter or matters relating to the discharge of the officer’s duties without first exhausting the avenues for redress provided for in this Constitution shall automatically stand suspended from the Party and no appeal against such suspension shall be entertained until the withdrawal of the suit.**
9. **No officer of the Party shall be allowed to preside over his own cause or matter where his personal interest will conflict with his official duty.**

**5a. The findings and recommendations of the Disciplinary Committee shall be forwarded to the appropriate executive committee through the chairman, the deputy chairman or Secretary as the case may be for deliberation.**

1. **A two - third majority vote shall be required to ratify the decision of the disciplinary committee.**
2. **To remove or expel a member of the National Executive Committee, minister, ambassador, special adviser, Governor, Deputy Governor, member of the legislative House or a proposal for expulsion of any member of the party, such a proposal shall be submitted to the National Executive committee (NEC). The (NEC) shall then refer the case to its Disciplinary Committee whose recommendations shall guide the NEC on its verdict.**

**6. Removal or Resignation**

**a. In the event of his removal or resignation from office, a Party officer shall immediately handover to his Chairman or the Chairman’s nominees, all records, files and all properties of the Party in his possession. Where it is the Chairman, he shall hand over to his Deputy.**

**b. In the case of the death of an officer, the properties of the party shall be retrieved through his next of kin or relation or anyone considered to be closely related to him.**

**ARTICLE 23**

**TENURE OF OFFICE**

1. **All National and State Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of four (4) years unless re–elected by the appropriate Convention or Congress.**
2. **All elections into Party offices at all levels shall be done at the appropriate Convention or Congress.**
3. **Except the founding National Chairman, no officer of the Party shall be entitled to present himself for re-election after a period of two terms in office.**
4. **All local Government and Ward Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three (3) years unless re-elected by the appropriate congress.**
5. **Any officer elected into the Executive Committee at any level may resign such appointment by giving 30-days written notice to the appropriate Executive Committee except resignations for the purpose of running for elective office which must be effective within the period stipulated in the Guidelines issued for such elective office.**
6. **Should a vacancy occur in any of the Party offices, the appropriate Executive Committee shall appoint a substitute from the Zone or Constituency where the former office holder hails from pending the conduct of election at the next Convention or Congress.**
7. **If new offices are created after the conduct of appropriate Congress or Convention, the Executive Committee shall appoint officers to the new offices pending the next appropriate Congress or Convention**
8. **Any officer may be removed during his tenure of office through a vote of no confidence against him passed by two-third of the members present and voting at the appropriate Congress or Convention.**
9. **Any officer elected or appointed to fill a vacancy arising from death, resignation or otherwise shall notwithstanding be eligible for election to the same office but for a period of only one term.**
10. **No member can be an officer at the National and State levels concurrently.**
11. **No officer of the Party shall hold executive position office in government concurrently.**

**ARTICLE 24**

**MODE OF ELECTIONS INTO PARTY OFFICES**

**For stability and focus, the founding executive members will serve for up to their full term of the years and subsequently the under listed conditions will apply.**

1. **The National Convention, State congress, Local Government Congress and Ward Congress shall meet to elect the officers of the Party as specified under this Constitution at the various levels of the Party.**
2. **Every registered and financially up-to- date member who has satisfied the requirements for nomination and election under this constitution and the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria or any other laws, rules and regulations shall be eligible to contest for Party office.**
3. **Guidelines for Elections to Party offices shall be approved by the National Executive Committee. All Rules, Regulations and Guidelines shall as much as possible take into consideration the principle of federal character, gender affirmation, interest of the Youths, PWD and the Diaspora Network.**
4. **Without prejudice to the power of the National Chairman to appoint any person into office, all Party posts prescribed or implied by this Constitution shall be filled by democratically conducted elections at the respective National Convention or Congress.**
5. **Where a Candidate for an elective position emerges by consensus, a vote of “yes” or “no” by ballot, or voice shall be called to affirm the consensus.**

**ARTICLE 25**

**GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCT OF PRIMARIES INTO PUBLIC POSITIONS**

1. **The Electoral Committee of the Party shall deepen internal democracy through conduct of free, fair and credible primary elections that will reflect the choice of the people.**
2. **Nomination of candidates for elections into public offices shall be done by members of the Party in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act.**
3. **The National Executive Committee shall decide on whether to adopt the direct or indirect primary.**
4. **The National Executive Committee shall issue Guidelines/Regulations in accordance with this constitution, the Electoral Act and INEC Guidelines for the purpose of nominating candidates for elective offices**
5. **The National Executive Committee of the Party shall be the final authority for confirmation of name(s) or list of Party nominations for election into public offices**
6. **The Electoral committee at all levels of the Party shall be constituted to conduct free fair and credible primary election that will produce credible candidates that will reflect the choice of the people.**
7. **The nomination of candidates for election into public offices shall be by members of the Party only.**
8. **Direct Primary Election shall be by all card-carrying members of the party at the Ward, Local Government, constituency, senatorial District, State, zonal or national level while Indirect primary shall be by the accredited delegates only or by consensus.**

**ARTICLE 26**

**ADOPTION OF ADC CODE OF BEST PRACTICE**

**The Party shall adopt a Code of best practice which shall ensure amongst others:**

1. **That only Legal Practitioners under the Legal Practitioners Act occupy the office of the Party’s Legal Adviser**
2. **That all officers of the Party’s Women League are Women**
3. **That all officers of the Party’s Youth League are Youths.**
4. **That only persons with disability superintend the affairs/activities of Persons with Disability (PWD)**
5. **That only members of the party living outside Nigeria superintend the affairs of ADC-DN**
6. **That only qualified Accountants act as the Party’s Auditors at all levels, and that auditing of the Party Accounts is transparently administered.**
7. **That only qualified person under the Nigeria Press Council Act occupy the office of the Party’s National and States Publicity Secretary.**

**ARTICLE 27**

**PARTY FINANCE**

The party shall derive its funds from;

1. Fees, and levies on members
2. Proceeds from investments
3. Subvention, Donations, and fund raising
4. Borrowing as approved by the National Executive Committee.
5. Any other lawful means in accordance with the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the electoral Act

**ARTICLE 28**

**BANK ACCOUNT AND SIGNATORIES**

1. The Party shall maintain Bank Accounts in the Headquarters, Cities or Towns of its various levels of Organization, provided that where banking facilities are not available, the service of the bank nearest to the city or town shall be utilized.
2. The Bank for such Accounts shall be decided by the Executive Committee of the Party.
3. The following officers of the Party as the case may be, shall be signatories to the Party’s Accounts and other financial transactions:
4. the National Chairman shall be category ‘’A’’ (compulsory)
5. the National Secretary shall be category ‘’B’’ (optional)
6. the National Treasurer shall be category ‘’C’’ (optional)
7. All official communication with the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) shall be signed by the National Chairman and National Secretary.
8. The Alternate Signatories for the National Chairman; two Deputy National Chairmen and National Legal Adviser and For National Secretary; Deputy National Secretary and Legal Adviser and for National Treasurer; Deputy National Treasurer and Legal Adviser.

**Alternate Signatories:**

1. For **National Chairman** – Two Deputy National Chairmen and National Legal Adviser.
2. For **National Secretary** – Deputy National Secretary and Legal Adviser.
3. For **National Treasurer** – Deputy National Treasurer and Legal Adviser.

**ARTICLE 29**

**AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

1. The National Executive Committee shall appoint any competent firm of Accountants to audit the accounts of the Party annually and the Audited Reports shall be presented to the National Convention.
2. The Executive Committee of States and Local Governments shall similarly appoint a competent firm of accounts to audit the accounts of the party annually and present the reports of the audited accounts at their respective congresses.

**ARTICLES 30**

**AMENDMENTS**

1. No amendment to this constitution shall be valid except made at the National Convention, and only by two-third (2/3) majority of members present and voting at the Convention.
2. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be given by the National Secretary at least one month before the date of the Convention. The notice which shall be in writing shall contain a clear statement of the amendment and reasons for the same.
3. Notice of the amendment shall be communicated to the State branches of the Party at least one month before the date of the Convention.

**ARTICLE 31**

**COMMON SEAL**

There shall be a common seal for the Party which shall be in the custody of the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

**ARTICLE 32**

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Every officer elected or appointed as an officer of the Party shall subscribe to the Oath of Allegiance as contained in the first Schedule to this constitution.

**ARTICLE 33**

**INTERPRETATION**

1. Any question as to the interpretation of any provision of this constitution or schedule hereto shall be referred to the National Legal adviser whose interpretation shall be final.
2. In this constitution:
   1. Funds include valuable properties.
   2. Singular includes plural
   3. He includes she while masculine includes feminine
   4. Party means African democratic congress
   5. “Month” means “Calendar” Month”
   6. Where computation of any figure in this constitution results in a fraction, the figure obtained shall be rounded up to the nearest whole number.
   7. “Youth” means a member between the age of 18-40 years.

**SCHEDULES**

**FIRST SCHEDULE**

1. **OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

I ………………………………………………………………. do solemnly, swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS and Federal Republic of Nigeria and I will preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the party and that of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so help me God.

1. **OATH OF OFFICE**

I………………………………………………………………………………. Do solemnly, swear/affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the AFRICAN DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS and the Federal Republic of Nigeria and will preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the Party and law and always in the interest of the integrity, solidarity, advancement, well-being and solidarity of the Party and the Federal Republic of Nigeria; that I will strive to pursue, enhance and implement the aims and objectives of the Party as contained in its constitution and manifesto; that I will not allow my personal interest to influence my official decisions; that in all circumstances, I will do right to all the members and organs of the Party and to all manner of people according to law without fear or favour, affection or ill-will; that I will not directly communicate or reveal to any person any matter which shall be brought under my consideration or shall become known to me as an officer of the Party, except as may be required for the due discharge of my duties, and that I will devote myself to the service and well-being of the people of Nigeria. So, help me God.

**SECOND SCHEDULE**

**Staff Rules**

1. Employees of the Party are subject to the direct control and discipline of the National, State Local Government Area and Ward Secretariat of the Party. Appeal on matters of discipline and routine administrative matters shall lie to the Chairman at the various levels.
2. All employees of the Party shall be bound by the constitution, rules and regulations of the Party and the decisions of the National Executive Committee and other authorized Organs of the Party.
3. All employees of the Party who act in a manner likely to bring contempt or ridicule to the Party or its officers or takes part in subversive activities against the Party or its Officers shall if found guilty be immediately relieved of his post and may, in addition, be prosecuted.
4. The remuneration and other conditions of service of the Party’s employees shall be determined as follows: -
5. For National Officers (employees) by the National Convention on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee.
6. For the State Officers (employees) by the State Congress on the recommendation of the State Executive Committee
7. For the Local Government Area and Ward Officers (employees) by the Local Government Area Congress on the recommendation of the Local Government Executive Committee.

**…………………………… ………………………………**

**THIRD SCHEDULE**

**Bill of ADC member's rights as contained in Appendix 1**

**FOURTH SCHEDULE**

**Bill of Political Party rights as contained in Appendix 2**

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