

African People First Constitution

As amended by and adopted at the first National Consultative Conference, 8 November 2021



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Article 1. Name

The name of the organization shall be the **African People First**, hereinafter referred to as the **APF**.

Article 2 The Character of the APF

2.1 Principles

- 2.1.1 The African People First shall always put South Africans first, black Africans who are the indigenous people of South Africa and true owners of the land.
- 2.1.2 The APF shall, in its composition and functioning, be non-racial, anti-racist and non-sexist and against any form of tribal exclusivism.
- 2.1.3 The principles of freedom of speech and free circulation of ideas and information shall operate within the APF.
- 2.1.4 Its policies are determined by the membership and its leadership is accountable to the membership in terms of the procedures laid down in this Constitution.

2.2 Colours

The colours of the African People First shall be Black (being the main colour) red, green and gold/yellow.

- 2.2.1 Black represents the indigenous people of South Africa and the true owners of the land.
- 2.2.2 Red represents the blood of the people of South Africa the only thing that pulls all South Africans together and making all of us one caring and peaceful nation.
- 2.2.3 Green represents our land. The land we love and the land we are willing to live and die for.
- 2.2.4 Gold/Yellow represents the wealth of our beloved country that all people of the land should equally benefit from.

2.3 Logo

The logo of the African People First shall be the map of most part of the map being black, the bottom part being, green, red and yellow. The name APF shall appear at the top part of the continent Africa written in yellow, a shovel appearing in green on the left side of the middle part of the continent Africa representing the working class, a red fist in the middle representing the unity and power of the people, a yellow AK47 on the right side of the continent Africa representing the defense and security of our country.

Article 3 The Headquarters

The headquarters of the political party shall be KwaZulu-Natal

Article 4 JURISDICTION

The area of jurisdiction of the political party shall be South Africa.

Article 4 Main Economic Policy

African People First is a socialist movement based on socialism principles, where all people of the country shall equally contribute and benefit each according to his/her ability and each according to his/her needs.

Article 5 Background

The African People First - APF was formed on the 8th of November 2020 at a consultative conference held Kwamashu L Section Community Hall. This conference resolved on the

formation of a socialist, but Africanist revolutionary movement called African People First - APF with its new ideology called New Africanism. The New Africanism APF ideology has 5 pillars that serve as a foundation of all policies and objectives of the movement. These pillars are Land, Economy, Afro-Modernism, Ubuntu, and Race. The meeting also resolved on the following structures as the organization organogram, NWC, NEC, PEC, REC, SUBREGIONS/SUB REGION and Branches.

Article 6 Preamble

As a result of daily life frustrations of the poor and working class, a need for radical political movement of the people rose. A political movement that will put forward issues of equity and redress given our shameful history of deprivation and segregation in all spheres of life. It is out of these general concerns of South Africans that a giant political movement the African People First (APF) was born. African People First is a socialist movement based on socialism principles, where all people of the country shall equally contribute and benefit each according to his/her ability and each according to his/her needs.

Article 7 Ideology

APF as an Institute of change for Africans, an Institute of rebirth for Africans, APF is a founder of the new philosophy / ideology called New Africanism. New Africanism is a new way of thinking and a new way of living for Africans. New Africanism understands that Africa was once a great continent and South Africa once a great country. New Africanism simply asks Africans to return to their greatness under the slogan 'Africa Must Be Great Again'.

New Africanism calls for an Economy that is driven by Africans for the benefit of all Africans. This economy must be called Shared Economy and must be based on the spirit of self-reliance. The sharing must happen mainly between the governors and the people. This economy must be driven by the **BUYING POWER** of Africans.

New Africanism believes that every African must have an **INCOME**. Without some form of income, it is impossible for Africans to survive. Governments and those who have income must help those without income.

Land in Africa belongs to all Africans the indigenous people of the land, like wise in South Africa the land belongs to the indigenous people of South Africa.

The Land cannot be a commodity that can be sold between the people. The government and or Amakhosi, kings/chiefs and land committees must govern the land on behalf of the people. In the African countries where there are mix races, the land ownership must be proportional to the racial demographics of those countries.

As a person a New African must be characterized by Intelligence, Healthiness and Prosperity, this person must always be governed by **DISCIPLINE**.

Also, a New African cannot be defeated, poor, greedy and destructive.....a New African must be a winner, industrious, selfless, and clean living guided by 5 Pillars of the New Africanism an APF ideology.

Article 7 Five pillars of the New Africanism an APF ideology.

7.1 LAND

The land belongs to the indigenous people of South Africa. The land shall be nationalized and administrated by the government and traditional Kings and Queens as the custodians of the people. The land shall not be used as a commodity, and it can never be sold. The land shall be equally available to every South African based on the need and means of production. To root

out imbalances and inequalities, the government shall make land available to all, especially the poor, thus making funding available to those who want to work the land for a certain period.

7.2 WEALTH / ECONOMY

The wealth / economy of the country shall be equally shared by the people of this country. People shall contribute and benefit each according to his/her ability and each according to his/her needs. The government shall regulate the amount of imported goods, products and or services thus empowering local goods, products and or services which will lead to sustainable economic growth and job creation. The African People First - APF government shall make use of science and technology to improve productivity and create jobs through local produce and small business empowerment programs.

7.3 AFRO-MODERNISM

This is an ideology that seeks to make Africans to participate in the modern civilization through science and technology. The fourth industrial revolution is still an unknown animal to the majority of our people. This is because we as Africans are taking no part in the crafting of the fourth industrial revolution. Our children's school curriculum should change from the current one to a curriculum that will produce quality innovative ideas. This will allow Africa to create goods and products as well as Information Technology, Medicine and everything we desire.

7.4 UBUNTU

Ubuntu is one of the greatest African teachings that gives one respect, dignity and integrity. We are here to promote the values of UBUNTU to the majority of our people. Ubuntu will create a crime & drug free society with good ethical standards and values.

7.5 RACE

The New Africanism APF ideology seeks to give and boost confidence amongst African People. Africans must indeed find their place in the world society by giving respect to Africans. The world will not accept and respect us as Africans if we do not have our own identity and pride. Africans must be accepted as a proud and responsible human race.

Article 8 Objectives

1. The main objective of the African People First is to always put South Africans first, black Africans in particular being the indigenous people of South Africa and true owners of the land.
2. The land shall belong to the people under the control of the government on behalf of the African people (black), being the original owners of South Africa.
3. The economy and the wealth of the country must be equally shared by the people of South Africa.
4. There shall be a free and compulsory quality education for all South Africans.
5. There shall be free quality health care for all South Africans.
6. There shall be free basic services such as free basic housing, free water, free electricity, and free refuse collection for all residents of the country.
7. Social grants for senior citizens and childcare will be improved.

8. African People First will create employment through development and funding of small businesses, creation of manufacturing companies and localisation of the economy by promotion of South African product.
9. There shall be localization of economy, through retaining skills and natural resources. The African People First shall reduce imported goods thereby increasing and promoting local produce.
10. No foreigner shall be permitted to do any informal and/or business that can be done by the people of this country. No foreigner may it be a physical person or company shall be permitted to own land in South Africa. No foreigner shall benefit in the government services ahead of the people of South Africa.
11. The African People First shall defend our sovereignty as a country and encourage a self-dependent economic development programs and economic growth policies.
12. The African People First shall ensure safety and security of all our people and guarantee a crime free society.
13. Law and order shall be restored ensuring that all state resources are used to benefit the people thus cutting out fraud and corruption. Corrupt government officials, ministers and private sector leaders shall be given a heavy sentence up to a lifetime imprisonment.
14. The African People First will ensure a drug free society by giving heavy sentences to drug dealers and drug syndicate.
15. The African People First shall ensure gender equality and protection of women and children's rights.
16. The African People First shall fight gender-based violence particularly violence against women and children. Those found guilty of such crimes shall receive heavy sentences of up to life imprisonment.
17. The African People First shall promote and advocate for youth empowerment and full participation of the youth in the economy, social issues and politics by giving youth senior positions in all leadership platforms.
18. All illegal immigrants must be deported to their respective countries to ensure proper verification of each and every individual in the country.
19. The African People First promote the right to all cultural and religious practice excluding Satanism.
20. The African People First shall ensure the preservation of our natural resources and environment care including the animals, indigenous plants, sea, rivers, air, mountains and open land.
21. African People First shall ensure that South Africa can never be used as a dumping site for or by any country.

22. The African People First shall introduce and encourage South African people and help them to improve their knowledge and skills in science and technology to improve their daily lives.
23. Career guidance will be priorities so that the country produces correct skills to benefit its people.
24. Mines and farms shall belong to the state. Those who use it shall be offered a lease not more than 50 years.
25. All state owned enterprise shall receive government subsidies and qualified personnel with the required skills shall be employed.
26. Sport and recreation shall be improved, training and sport skills development shall be implemented at a very young age.
27. Transport shall be improved and mostly owned by the state to accommodate the working class and low-income earning group.
28. Poverty is the enemy of the people, this African People First shall end poverty through formation and funding of small business. Small business owners shall be introduced to a consortium and or partnership systems giving them a competitive advantage through shared resources thereby giving them strength to compete in the market.
29. The African People First shall ensure that manufacturing factories are built, and local products are promoted ahead of imported products.
30. The African People First shall promote direct hiring of workers this putting an end to labor brokers and a corrupt tender system.
31. Tax and petrol levy shall be reduced for small businesses to allow growth and sustainability.
32. All graduates who were government sponsored or funded by the government must at least do a minimum of 2 years' service before they can work for the private sector. This will guarantee the government good service delivery to the public as well as affording a 2-year work experience to these graduates.
33. The African People First shall promote good science practice that does not harm nature and that does not destroy the earth or cause global warming.
34. The African People First shall promote and regulate indigenous and natural medicinal practices.
35. The African People First shall promote locally developed medicines and/or vaccines.
36. Science and technology research shall be promoted to encourage local invention and locally manufactured products.
37. Banking and insurance sector shall be transformed by giving way to a black owned private bank and also a state owned bank.
38. The South African Reserve Bank shall be owned by the state.

39. to change our current school curriculum to that, which equip children with skill development at their early ages.
40. To allow all African children and students to use their home languages as a medium of teaching and learning.

Article 9 MEMBERSHIP

9.1 Membership of the APF shall be open to all South Africans above the age of 13 years, irrespective of race, colour and creed, who accept its ideology, principles, policies and objectives and are prepared to abide by its Constitution and Articles.

9.2 Africans and South Africans who believes in the teachings of APF may apply for membership.

9.3 Applications for membership shall be considered by the branch executive committee where such exists, and by the regional executive committee, if no branch executive committee exists. The branch executive committee, the regional executive committee, or such interim structures as the Provincial Executive Committee or the NEC may create from time to time to decide on applications, shall have the power to accept or refuse any application for membership provided such acceptance or refusal shall be subject to review by the next higher organ of the APF.

9.4 Membership cards shall be issued to registered members of the APF and to persons whose application for membership has been accepted, subject to review as aforesaid, and, in all cases, subject to payment of the prescribed subscription. An applicant shall be issued with an acknowledgement of provisional membership and the details of the ward and constituency/area in which the applicant resides and any available information about the local branch structures.

9.5 Any objection to any application for membership may be made by the membership to the branch, regional or provincial secretary within 12 weeks of the notification.

9.6 *The reasons for the rejection of an application for membership by the Secretary-General or the objection by the membership to the application for membership must be sent to the individual applicant in writing.*

9.7 Membership cards shall be issued to registered members of the APF and to persons whose application for membership have been accepted, subject to review and subject to payment of the prescribed subscription in all cases.

9.8 Members shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by the National Executive Committee.

9.9 On being accepted in the APF, a new member shall, in a language he or she knows well, make the following solemn declaration to the body or person designated to administer such oaths:

I,, solemnly declare that I will abide by the aims and objectives of the African People First as set out in the Constitution, the New Africanism and other duly adopted policy positions, that I am joining the African People First voluntarily and without motives of material advantage or personal gain, that I agree to respect the Constitution and the structures and to work as a loyal member of the African People First, that I will place my energies and skills at the disposal of the African People First and carry out tasks given to me, that I will work towards making the APF an even more effective instrument of liberation in the hands of the people, and that I will defend the unity and integrity of the African People First and its principles, and combat any tendency towards disruption and factionalism.

9.10 The following acts will be regarded as an abuse of organisational rules, whether committed by individuals or groups:

- a. The payment of membership subscription of the organisation for persons or groups of persons who would otherwise be unwilling or unable to pay their own subscriptions;
- b. The offer of reduced rate membership to those known by the individual or group making the offer to be ineligible for that category of membership;

c. The recruitment of members who do not reside at an address claimed, where this is done in order to manipulate branch meetings or the outcome of organisational votes.

9.11 The commission of any of the abuses described in Article 4.16 will be considered as behaviour likely to invoke disciplinary proceedings.

9.12 Any member of the APF who stands in an election for local government, provincial or national government elections or acts as the election agent or canvasser of a person standing for such election in opposition to a candidate duly endorsed by the PEC or NEC shall be ineligible to be or remain a member.

9.13a) Any member who joins a political organisation or party other than the APF or a party in alliance with the APF shall be automatically expelled by the PEC or NEC where applicable.

9.13 b) Any member who supports a political organisation or party other than an organisation in alliance with the APF in a manner contrary to the aims, objectives and policy of the APF shall be liable for disciplinary action.

9.13 c) Any member of an organisation who vote with or for an opposition's motion that contradict with APF shall face disciplinary actions.

9.14 Members who fail to pay their subscriptions for three months and having being reminded of their lapse shall not be regarded as members in good standing until they pay their arrears.

Article 10 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

10.1 The APF shall consist of the following organs:

- I. The National Conference which elects the National Executive Committee.
- II. The Provincial Conference which elects the Provincial Executive Committee.
- III. The Regional Conference which elects the Regional Executive Committee.
- IV. The Branch Annual General Meeting which elects the Branch Executive Committee.

10.2 The APF Women's League (MAMA AFRICA)

APF women's league commonly known as **MAMA AFRICA** shall be open to women who are members of the APF and shall have the same basic structure, namely, national, provincial and branch. Its objectives will be to defend and advance the rights of women, both inside and outside the APF, against all forms of national, social and gender oppression and to ensure that women play a full role in the life of the organisation, in the people's struggle and in national life.

10.3 The APF Young Lions

APF youth league commonly known as Young Lions shall be open to all persons between the ages of 13 and 35. It will operate on a national, provincial and branch basis. Its objectives will be to unite and lead young men and women in confronting and dealing with the problems that face the youth, and in ensuring that the youth make a full and rich contribution to the work of the APF and the life of the nation. The Young Lions will drive the youth agenda to eradicate poverty, sustaining economic freedom for the youth and enhancing sustainable growth building good moral behaviour, proper education, enterprise development programs, training and skills development programs through science and technology.

6.5 All members of the Young Lions over the age of 18 must first take full membership of APF before joining taking Young Lions membership.

Article 11 PROVINCES

11.1 For purposes of APF structures, the country shall be divided into the following 9 provinces: Western Cape, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal, Free State, Gauteng, Northern Province, Mpumalanga, North West.

11.2 The provincial headquarters will be determined by the Provincial Conference.

Article 12 THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

12.1 The National Conference shall be the supreme ruling and controlling body of the APF.

It shall be composed of:

12.2 Voting delegates:

- i. At least 80% of the voting delegates at Conference shall be from branches which shall be represented by elected delegates. Branches must have at least 500 paid up members (member in good standing) to qualify for any conference seating. The number of delegates shall be in proportion to the paid up membership.
- ii. The number of delegates to be elected to National Conference by each province shall be fixed by the NEC in proportion to the paid up membership of each province. The province must have at least 6 qualifying regions to qualify for a conference seating.
- iii. The remainder of the 20% of voting delegates at the Conference shall be allocated by the NEC from among the Provincial Executive Committees, the APF Young Lions and the APF Women's League.
- iv. All members of the National Executive Committee shall attend ex-officio as full participants in the conference.

12.3 The NWC shall appoint a conference organising committee which will circulate conference information in advance, determine the precise procedure for selection of delegates and indicate how the membership can then ensure their concerns are on the agenda.

12.4 Voting on key questions shall be by secret ballot if at least two third of the delegates at National Conference demand it.

12.5 The National Conference shall be convened at least every five years.

Article 13 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National Conference shall:

13.1 Decide and determine the policy, programme and Constitution of the APF.

13.2 Receive and discuss the reports of the NEC which shall include the Presidential Address, the Secretary General's Report, which shall include a report on the work and activities of the Women's League and Young Lions, and the Treasurer General's Report.

13.3 Have the right and power to review, ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the APF.

13.4 Elect the President, the Deputy President, National Chairperson, the Secretary General, 1st Deputy Secretary General, 2nd Deputy Secretary General the Treasurer General and the remaining 257 members of the NEC catering each region at least one representative.

13.5 Have the power to elect or appoint any commission or committee and assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee.

Article 14 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

14.1 Powers

The National Executive Committee is the highest organ of the APF between Conferences and shall have the authority to lead the organisation, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

14.2 Without prejudice to the generality of its powers, the NEC shall:

- a. Carry out the decisions and instructions of the National Conference.
- b. Issue and send directives and instructions to and receive reports from the provinces.
- c. Supervise and direct the work of the APF and all its organs, including national, provincial and local government caucuses.
- d. Ensure that the provincial regional and branch structures of the APF function democratically and effectively. The NEC may suspend or dissolve a PEC where necessary and call for new elections within six months. The suspension may not last for more than six months.
- e. Oversee the work of the Women's League and the Young Lions.
- f. Establish departments and set up committees as it considers appropriate.
- g. Manage and control all the national and international property and assets of the APF.
- h. Receive reports, supervise the work of, and delegate such functions to the NWC as it considers necessary.
- i. Issue documents and other policy directives as and when it deems fit.
- j. Confer such honours as it may deem appropriate.
- k. NWC of the NEC shall become a National List Committee for the selection and adoption of candidates for the national Parliament. The NEC shall draw up regulations for the procedures to be followed in such a selection. The National List Committee shall report to the NEC prior to the implementation of its recommendations. Provincial structures for the adoption of candidates shall report to the National List Committee. Every candidate for elections must undertake to abide by the Constitution of the APF and the relevant Code of Conduct for elected representatives.

14.3 The National Executive Committee, except where otherwise stipulated, shall be elected by secret ballot by the National Conference and shall hold office for five years and shall be constituted as follows:

- a. The President, Deputy President, National Chairperson, the Secretary General, 1st Deputy Secretary General, 2nd Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer General who shall be elected separately by the National Conference.
- b. Sixty (63) members of the NEC who shall be elected by secret ballot by the National Conference.
- c. The Chairperson and the Secretary of each elected APF Provincial Executive Committee who shall be ex officio members of the NEC.
- d. The President and Secretary of the APF Women's League who shall be ex-officio members of the NEC.
- e. The President and Secretary of the APF Young Lions who shall be ex- officio members of the NEC.
- f. The NEC shall have the power to co-opt additional members at any time during its term of office in order to provide for a balanced representation.
- g. Should a vacancy occur on the NEC for any reason, the NEC shall have the power to fill the vacancy by appointing a replacement.
- h. The quorum for meetings of the NEC shall be 50%+1 of its total membership.
- i. A person shall have been a paid-up member of the APF for at least five years before she or he can be nominated to the National Executive Committee of the APF.

14.4 Nominations for the NEC members referred to in Article 14.3(a) and 14.3(b) above shall be by the following procedure:

a) (i) Nominations for the posts of:

1. President
2. Deputy President
3. National Chairperson
4. Secretary General
5. 1st Deputy Secretary General
6. 2nd Deputy Secretary General
7. Treasurer General

i shall be made by any Province and placed before the National Conference.

ii. A delegate to the Conference must be a member in good standing for not less than 5 years, having been a member in good standing for an uninterrupted period of 5 years. A delegate to the conference shall, however, have the right to nominate any person whose name has not been proposed in terms of sub-section (i) above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconders to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a minimum of 25 percent (25%) of Conference delegates, then such nomination shall be regarded as having been duly seconded, in which event the name of such nominees shall be placed on the ballot paper. If the nomination fails to secure the support of a minimum of 25% of conference delegates, such nomination shall fall away.

b) Nominations of candidates for the National Executive Committee other than the above positions shall be carried out by the following procedure:

- i. Candidates must be members of the African People First -APF in good standing, not less than 5 years as a member of the African People First -APF with all 5 years having always been a member in good standing.
- ii. Any member who has been previously suspended and or dismissed by the organization must at least serve a 5 year probation period before they can qualify to be nomination into any position in the African People First – APF.
- iii. Subject to sub-section (i) and or (ii) above, only those candidates who are nominated by branches through their provinces and reach the threshold shall appear on the National Conference ballot paper.
- iv. A delegate to the conference shall, however, have the right to nominate any person whose name has not been proposed in terms of sub-section (i) above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconders to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a show of hands by a minimum of 25 percent (25%) of Conference delegates, then such nomination shall be regarded as having been duly seconded, in which event the name of such nominee shall be placed on the ballot paper. If the nomination fails to secure the support of a minimum of 25% of delegates, such nomination shall fall away.
- v. All nomination and or appointment of individuals to a structure of the African People First – APF or to any position outside the organization in the name of APF such as councilors, MPL or MP or any form of delegation in the name of APF must be approved by the president of the African People First.
- vi. Nominated or appointed persons in any position in the name of APF are deployed in such positions at the discretion of the African People First. This means the African People First reserve the right and powers to remove or redeploy such members into any position with no explanation as the organization deem it necessary.
- vii. One person may not accept more than one nomination per elective conference.

14.5 Voting shall take place by secret ballot. Each voting delegate shall vote once in each ballot.

14.6 If any PEC member is elected to the NEC in his or her own right or as a national official, such person shall vacate the Provincial position.

14.7 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Secretary General, the 1st Deputy Secretary General, 2nd Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer General shall be full-time functionaries of the APF.

14.8 The NEC shall meet in plenary session at least once every three months and shall provide broad political and organisational perspectives to the National Working Committee.

Article 15 NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE

15.1 The National Working Committee shall be constituted as follows: The President, Deputy President, National Chairperson, Secretary General, 1st Deputy Secretary General, 2nd Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer General.

15.2 The National Working Committee shall:

- a. Carry out decisions and instructions of the National Conference and the NEC.
- b. Conduct the current work of the APF and ensure that provinces, regions, branches and all other APF structures such as parliamentary caucuses carry out the decisions of the APF.
- c. Submit a report to each NEC meeting.

Article 16 THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION

16.1 The African People First Shall hold its first elective conference to elect its national, provincial and regional elections 10 years after its official registration with IEC. Leaders of all structures shall be appointed by the president otherwise the chairperson of the province may be given an opportunity to form his/her committee in consultation with the president.

16.2 The NEC shall appoint an Electoral Commission of not fewer than three members whose task it will be:

- a. To prepare the ballot papers as directed by the Constitution.
- b. To make provision for ballot boxes or other means of secret voting.
- c. To create machinery for the counting of ballot papers and the effective supervision of the counting of votes.
- d. To announce the results of all ballots and make known the number of votes received by each successful candidate.
- e. To establish procedures for voting and to determine any dispute raised in regard to elections and election procedures, and to determine how any tied vote should be resolved.

16.2. The names of the electoral commission whose work shall commence before Conference opens shall be submitted to the Conference for endorsement and they shall then be reinforced by a representative appointed by each Provincial delegation.

Article 17 THE NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE

17.1 The NWC shall appoint the National Finance Committee.

17.2 The NWC shall determine the composition and powers of the National Finance Committee.

17.3 The National Finance Committee shall report to the NWC at least twice a year on the finances and budget of the APF.

Article 18 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIALS

18.1 The President

The President is the head and chief directing officer of the APF and the leader of the house at a National Conference. He or she shall:

- a. Present to the National Conference a comprehensive statement of the state of the nation and the political situation generally.
- b. Make pronouncements for and on behalf of the NEC outlining and explaining the policy or attitude of the APF on any question.
- c. The president shall head all talks and negotiations of the APF and will always speak for the APF in all events where he is present.
- d. The President shall approve all major deals of the APF and shall be the signature on behalf of the APF.
- e. All major resolutions of the African People First - APF must be endorsed by the president of the African People First – APF before they can come into effect otherwise such resolutions are null and void.
- f. The president shall call and preside over all meetings of the NWC, National Executive Committee, and also approve the conference dates.
- g. Preside over meetings of the NEC in conformity with the Constitution, by-laws and Article s of procedure adopted by the NEC.
- h. Only the president has powers to co-opt members of the NWC and National Executive Committee in agreement with his/her committee.
- a. Under the overall supervision of the NEC, orient and direct the activities of the APF.
- b. Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.2 Deputy President

The Deputy President shall assist the President, deputize for him or her when necessary and carry out whatever functions are entrusted to him or her by the National Conference, the President or the NEC. He or she shall be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.3 In the event of death or permanent incapacity of the President and the Deputy President, the NEC shall as soon as possible appoint an **Acting President** until such time as the National Conference meets.

18.4 The National Chairperson shall:

- a. Preside over the National Conference.
- b. Remain the custodian of the decisions taken by the National Conference and ensure that all organs of the APF implement these decisions and operate within the parameters of policy set out by Conference.
- c. Carry out such additional tasks as the Conference or NEC may instruct.
- d. In the absence of the President and or the Deputy President, the National Chairperson shall assume the functions of the President
- e. All departments, save those falling directly under the President, shall report on their activities to the National Chairperson as per (d).
- f. Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.5 In the absence or incapacity of the National Chairperson, the President shall assume his or her functions.

18.6 The Secretary General

The Secretary General is the chief administrative officer of the APF. He or she shall:

- a. Keep the minutes of the National Conference, the NEC, the NWC as well as other records of the APF.
- b. Conduct the correspondence of the NEC and the NWC and send out notices of all conferences and meetings at the national level.
- c. Convey the decisions and instructions of the National Conference, the NEC and the NWC to the provincial executive committees and see to it that all units of the APF carry out their duties properly.
- d. Prepare annual reports on the work of the NEC and the NWC and such other documents which may, from time to time, be required by the NEC and the NWC.
- e. Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.7 Deputy Secretary General

The Deputy Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General, deputize for him or her when necessary and carry out the functions entrusted to him or her by the National Conference or the NEC and shall be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.8 The 2nd Deputy Secretary General

The 2nd Deputy Secretary General shall assist both the Secretary General and the 1st Deputy Secretary General, deputise for him or her when necessary and carry out the functions entrusted to him or her by the National Conference or the NEC acting as a National Organiser of APF and shall be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

18.9 Treasurer General

The Treasurer General is the chief custodian of the funds and property of the APF. He or she shall:

- a. Receive and bank all monies on behalf of the NEC and shall, together with any two members of the NEC, operate a banking account.
- b. Keep such books of account as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of the APF.
- c. Submit to the National Conference a report showing the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the APF for the period since the previous National Conference, and shall submit periodic reports to the NEC and the NWC.
- d. Be responsible, with the National Finance Committee, for working out and executing plans for fund raising.
- e. Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

19. The National Chaplaincy

There shall be a National Chaplaincy appointed by the NEC on an interfaith basis to provide spiritual guidance.

Article 20 PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

20.1 Subject to the overall guidance of the NEC, the Provincial Conference shall be the highest organ of the APF in each Province.

20.2 The Provincial Conference shall:

- a. Be held at least once every three years and more often if requested by at least one third of all branches in the Province.
- b. Be a conference attended by delegates chosen on a democratic basis by all branches in the Province with representation in proportion to membership, with attention being paid to ensuring representation of areas where membership is reduced.
- c. Be attended by members of the Provincial Executive Committee who shall have full voting and speaking rights as ex officio participants.
- d. Be attended by representatives of the Women's League and Young Lions with voting rights.
- e. Carry out the decisions of the National Conference, the NEC and the NWC.
- f. Receive and consider reports by the Provincial Executive Committee.
- g. Elect the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and other members of the Provincial Executive Committee who will hold office for 5 years. The Provincial Secretary shall be a full-time functionary of the organisation.
- h. Carry out and develop the policy and programme of the APF in the Province.

Article 21 PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

21.1 The Provincial Executive Committee shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the Provincial Conference

21.2 It shall consist of the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 54 other persons elected by the Provincial Conference. A person shall have been a paid-up member of the APF for three years before she or he can be nominated to a Provincial Executive Committee of the APF. Each region shall be equally represented by the Chair and/or the Secretary as determined by the PEC provided that the number of regional representatives on the PEC does not exceed the number of elected members of the PEC.

21.3 The Women's League and the Young Lions in the Province shall be represented by two representatives with full voting rights.

21.4 The PEC shall:

- a. Meet as soon as possible after its election to elect the Provincial Working Committee and thereafter at least once a month.
- b. Carry out the decisions of the Provincial Conference and the NEC.
- c. Manage and control the funds and assets of the APF in the Province.
- d. Submit reports to the NEC Provincial Conference and Provincial General Council as often as is required on the state of the organisation, the financial position of the province, and such other matters as may be specified.
- e. Appoint the regional organiser and staff as required.
- f. Organise, establish and service branches in the province and supervise the work of the regions in the Province; suspend, dissolve, and re-launch branch executive committees and regional executive committees where necessary, subject to any directives from the provincial conference provided that where a BEC or REC has been suspended or dissolved there shall be a right of appeal to the NEC. A suspension shall not exceed a period of three months. Elections for dissolved structures shall be called within three months.
- g. Carry out the policy and programme of the APF and do all things necessary to further the interests, aims and objectives of the organisation
- h. Have the right to co-opt up to 3 people

- i. The quorum for any meeting of the PEC shall be 50% (fifty percent) +1 of its total membership.
- j. Have the duty to appoint annually a Provincial List and Candidates Committee which will identify regulations for the drawing up of the Provincial List of candidates for national elections, provincial elections and for the selection of candidates for local government elections. The Provincial Executive Committee shall report to the NEC and shall be bound by the recommendations of the National List Committee. Every candidate for elections must undertake, in writing prior to the elections, to abide by the Constitution of the APF and the relevant Code of Conduct for elected representatives.

Article 22 PROVINCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE

22.1 The Provincial Working Committee shall be a core group of the PEC and shall consist of not less than one quarter of its members, including the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Province and the Chair or Secretary of the APF Women's League and the APF Young Lions in that Province.

22.2 It shall perform the duties and functions of the PEC to which it shall report.

22.3 It shall meet at least once a week.

Article 23 FUNCTIONING OF THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

23.1 Provincial offices shall, with due allowance for differences of scale and level of work, perform the same functions as their national counterparts.

23.2 The PEC shall, wherever possible, set up provincial departments in line with national departments.

23.3 The PEC shall determine the boundaries of regions within the Provinces, in consultation with the NEC.

Article 24 PROVINCIAL REGIONS

24.1 The PEC, under the supervision of the NEC, shall divide the Province into regions for the more efficient and democratic functioning of the APF.

24.2 The maximum number of regions shall be determined by the PEC according to the Electoral commission demarcation.

24.3 Each region shall hold a regional conference every 5 years which shall elect the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer and a committee of not more than 30; in addition, the Chair and Secretary of the APF Women's League and the APF Young Lions in that Region shall be members of the Regional Executive Committee. A person shall have been a member of the APF for at least two years before she or he can be nominated to a Regional Executive Committee of the APF.

24.4 Each branch within a region shall be entitled to send 6 delegates to the biennial regional conference in proportion to its members.

24.5 There shall be at least one regional council meeting in the course of each year with each branch being entitled to send at least one delegate. Additional regional council meetings may be convened by the regional executive committee or the PEC or on the request of at least one third of the branches.

24.6 The regional executive committee shall be accountable to the PEC for its functioning. The powers of the regional executive committee are such powers delegated to it by the PEC. 24.7 Regional Executive Committees may recommend to the PEC the suspension or dissolution of a BEC, Sub regional Committee or Sub-Regional Committees.

Article 25 PROVINCIAL CHAPLAINCIES

Provincial Chaplains may be appointed by the PEC on the same basis as National Chaplaincy.

Article 26 BRANCHES

Every member of the APF shall belong to a branch, which shall be the basic unit of the organisation.

26.1 The branch shall:

- a. Be registered with the PEC and have a minimum of 500 members, provided that the PEC may confer special recognition, where due to exceptional circumstances, the branch has fewer than 500 members.
- b. Meet as provided for in the Article s and regulations.
- c. Be the place where members exercise their basic democratic rights to discuss and formulate policy.
- d. Be the basic unit of activity for members.
- e. Elect at an annual branch meeting a Branch Executive Committee consisting of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer, and other committee members, consisting of not less than 15 and not more than 20 persons. A person shall have been a member of the APF for one year before she or he can be nominated to a Branch Executive Committee of the APF, provided that where a new branch is being established, the PEC may waive this provision. The Women's League and the Young Lions shall be entitled to two representatives each on the BEC.
- f. Meet at least once per month.

26.2 The branch executive committee shall:

- a. Meet as soon as possible after its election and allocate tasks and functions among its members to enable it to carry out the day-to-day activities of the Branch.
- b. Carry out the publicity and organisational work in its area in furtherance of the policy, programme and decisions of the APF.
- c. Meet at least once per fortnight.
- d. Submit reports on its work to the branch meeting and at least each month to the Regional Executive Committee.
- e. Co-opt not more than three persons, if it considers it necessary to ensure greater representatively.
- f. The quorum for each meeting of the Branch Executive Committee shall be 50%+1 (fifty percent plus one) of the total BEC membership.

Article 27 SUB REGIONS

27.1 Any three (3) or more branches within a Region for the purpose of co-ordination of activities and better organisational efficiency, may be formed into a Sub region at the instance of the Regional Executive Committee after consultation with the relevant branches, or on application to the PEC, by at least two branches within an area of a proposed Sub region.

27.2 Whenever a Sub region has been established the Branch Executive of constituent branches shall at a properly convened meeting, elect a Sub Regional Committee which shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and one (1) representative elected per Branch within the Sub region.

27.3 Where Sub regional structures of the Women's League and Young Lions exist, they shall be represented by one (1) member each, subject to the same provisions relating to the requirement for APF membership.

27.4 The tasks of the Sub Regional Committee will include:

- a. To meet at least once a month.
- b. To co-ordinate the work and activities of the constituent branches and submit reports to the REC.

- c. To see to the implementation of the instructions of the NEC, PEC or the PWC, REC in the Sub region.
- d. To participate in the work of the Regional Council.
- e. To maintain effective links with all branches in the Sub region.

27.5 Sub-regions may be formed by 3 or more Sub regions with similar arrangements and powers as between Sub regions.

Article 28 DISCIPLINE

28.1 All members, without exception, must abide by the Constitution of the APF, the Articles, the Standing Orders and Codes of Conduct as adopted or amended from time to time.

28.2 Disciplinary proceedings against a member shall be confined to violations of the APF Constitution, Articles, Standing Orders, Codes of Conduct.

- a. Be used as a means of stifling debate or denying members their basic democratic rights.
- b. Be instituted as a means of solving private problems or as a means of interfering in the private lives of members where the norms of the organisation are not directly affected, unless such conduct itself constitutes a violation or an offence affecting the organisation.

28.3 A serious offence shall be committed by any member who:

28.3.1 Prejudices the integrity or repute of the organisation, its personnel or its operational capacity by:

- a. Impeding the activities of the organisation;
- b. Creating division within its ranks or membership.
- c. Doing any other act which undermines its effectiveness as an organisation.
- d. Acting on behalf of or in collaboration with:
 - i. Counter-revolutionary forces.
 - ii. A political organisation or party other than an organisation or party in alliance with the APF in a manner contrary to the aims, policies and objectives of the APF.
 - iii. Intelligence or the security services of other countries;
 - iv. Any person or group who seriously interferes with the work of the organisation or prevents it from fulfilling its mission and objectives.

28.3.2 The following shall also be regarded as serious offences, without prejudice to the generality of this provision and the right of the NEC to add to this category of offences:

- a. Conviction in a court of law and sentenced to a term of imprisonment without the option of a fine, for any serious non-political offence.
- b. Misappropriation of the funds of the organisation or destruction of its properties.
- c. Behaving corruptly in seeking or accepting any bribe for performing or for not performing any task.
- d. Engaging in sexual or physical abuse of women or children or abuse of office to obtain sexual or any other undue advantage from members or others.
- e. Abuse of elected or employed office in the organisation or in the State to obtain any direct or indirect undue advantage or enrichment.
- f. Fighting or behaving in a grossly disorderly or unruly way.
- g. Deliberately disrupting meetings and interfering with the orderly functioning of the organisation.

28.3.3 If, in the opinion of the NEC or the relevant body exercising its right to invoke disciplinary proceedings under this Constitution, a member is guilty of the following offences, disciplinary proceedings may follow:

- a. Behaviour which brings the organisation into disrepute, or which manifests a violation of the moral integrity expected of members or conduct unbecoming that of a member.
- b. Sowing racism, sexism, tribal chauvinism, religious and political intolerance, regionalism or any form of discrimination.
- c. Behaving in such a way as to provoke serious divisions or a break-down of unity in the organisation;
- d. Undermining the respect for or impeding the functioning of the structures of the organisation;
- e. Participating in organised factional activity that goes beyond the recognised norms of free debate inside the organisation and threatens its unity.

28.4 a. Disciplinary proceeding shall normally be conducted at the level where the alleged violation or offence took place, namely the branch, region, province or national, and may be heard by the relevant structure; b The NWC may direct that the disciplinary proceedings should be heard at a higher level from where the alleged violation or offence took place.

28.5 b. Any person faced with disciplinary proceedings shall receive due written notice of any hearing and of the basic allegations and charges against him or her and be afforded a reasonable opportunity to make his or her defence.

b The National Disciplinary Committee shall draw up guidelines for the interpretation of this section on discipline and for the Article s of procedure including time limits to be followed before, during and after a hearing.

28.6 Any person found guilty in a disciplinary proceeding, or the complainant has the right, within a reasonable period, to appeal against the conviction or sentence, to the next higher body of the APF. The NWC may direct that any appeal should be heard by a body higher than the one to which the appeal has been made. The PEC may direct that an appeal against the decision by a branch should be heard directly by the Provincial Disciplinary Committee. 28.7 Penalties for proven violations of the Constitution, principles, norms and decisions of the APF shall include reprimand, payment of compensation and/or the performance of useful tasks, suspension and expulsion. 28.8 Temporary Suspension

The Provincial Disciplinary Committee, the National Disciplinary Committee or the NWC having regard to the nature and seriousness of an alleged violation or offence by a member, may summarily suspend the membership of any member pending the preparation of a charge against the member and the finalisation of disciplinary proceedings against the member. The member shall be informed of such suspension. The temporary suspension shall lapse if no disciplinary proceedings are instituted against the member within 30 days of the date of the temporary suspension. Such disciplinary proceedings shall be attended to as quickly as possible and completed within a reasonable period.

28.9 All disciplinary proceedings shall be attended to as speedily as possible.

28.10 Decisions relating to disciplinary proceedings shall be publicly announced.

- i. The NEC shall appoint a National Disciplinary Committee from among its membership and from other structures of the APF. The decisions of the NDC shall be final except that the NEC may, in its discretion, review a decision. Such a review shall be regulated by standing orders adopted by the NEC.
- ii. The National Disciplinary Committee shall hear and determine violations or offences on appeal from appropriate organs of the APF. In addition, the national officers, the NWC or the NEC may refer such violations or offences directly to the NDC. In exceptional situations arising out of serious breaches of the Constitution, Article s or Codes of Conduct, the NDC itself may exercise jurisdiction to investigate and determine a complaint.

2.8.11 The NEC may authorise other structures of the APF to institute disciplinary proceedings and to set up appropriate structures to apply the provisions of this Article.

Article 29 ARTICLES AND REGULATIONS

29.1 The NEC shall have the power to adopt Articles and regulations for the better carrying out of the activities of the APF.

29.2 The PECs shall have the power to adopt Articles and regulations for the better functioning of the APF in their respective provinces.

29.3 All such Articles and regulations shall be consistent with the constitutional norms of the APF, and Articles and regulations framed by the PEC shall only become operative when approved by the NEC, or, on a provisional basis pending approval by the NEC, by the NWC.

29.4 The NEC shall have the power to frame a code of conduct to cover all structures, officials, public representatives, office bearers and members.

Article 30 GENERAL

The APF shall have perpetual succession and power, apart from its individual members, to acquire, hold and alienate property, enter into agreements and do all things necessary to carry out its aims and objects and defend its members, its property and its reputation.

Article 32 AMENDMENTS

Any amendments to this Constitution shall be by a two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting at the National or Special Conference. Notice of intent to propose any amendments to the Constitution should be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary General at least three months before the National or Special Conference. The NEC shall provide at least one month's notice for any Constitutional amendment.

Article 33 SPECIAL CONFERENCE

33.1 A special conference of the APF may be convened by the NEC at any time or at the request of a majority of the Provinces for a stated purpose or purposes. 33.2 Not less than one month's notice of such conference shall be given.

33.3 Participation at the Conference shall be determined by the NEC, provided that branches shall be represented at such a conference in proportion to their membership.

Article 34 CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY

Only the National Officials shall have the authority to bind the APF or to create any legal relationship. Any other person purporting to bind the APF must produce a written authorisation from one of the National Officials which must indicate the extent of that person's authority.

Article 35 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The NEC is authorised to make consequential changes to the content and style of these Articles following these amendments and to make such transitional arrangements as necessary.

Article 36 DISSOLUTION

The National Conference or any Special Conference may dissolve the organisation by a two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting and transfer the assets and liabilities of the movement in such a manner as determined by the Conference.

SECTION 2 of the APF CONSTITUTION SUB-SECTION Disciplinary Procedure)

INTRODUCTION

Article 37 of the Constitution deals with discipline. This disciplinary procedure prescribes how the disciplinary procedure is to be used and how disciplinary proceedings are to be conducted.

OBJECTIVE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

The objective of disciplinary procedure is to ensure that in all disciplinary proceedings:

- There is a formal procedure.
- There is a just and fair procedure.
- A member is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
- A member has a chance to defend herself or himself.
- A member has the right to appeal.

STARTING DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Disciplinary Proceedings may be instituted:

1. Only for violations or offences of the APF Constitution, the Articles, the Standing Orders, Codes of Conduct.
2. By any organ or official of the APF at Branch, Regional, Provincial or National level. However, the NWC may direct that the disciplinary proceedings should take place at a higher level than where a violation or offence was committed.
3. By the National Disciplinary Committee which can hear and decide cases:
 - Referred to it by the APF National Officials, NWC, or the NEC.
 - Of very serious violations or offences on its own initiative.

At Branch, Regional, Provincial or National level by a Disciplinary Committee unless:

- The NWC directs that the disciplinary proceedings should take place at a higher level than where a violation or offence was allegedly committed.
- The National Disciplinary Committee institutes disciplinary proceedings referred by the APF National Officials, NWC, or the NEC.
- The National Disciplinary Committee institutes disciplinary proceedings itself for very serious violations or offences.

HOLDING DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS

1. A charge must be made within reasonable time of the violation or offence.
2. A charge must be prepared on behalf of the organ or officials of the APF instituting the disciplinary proceedings. The charge must:
 - Be in writing
 - Set out the information forming the reason for the charge and the alleged violation or offence in reasonable detail. □ Identify the:
 - Provision of the APF Constitution, the Article s, the Standing Orders, Codes of Conduct alleged to have been violated.
 - Advise the charged member of her or his right to be represented by a member of the APF in good standing, to have an interpreter present, to call witnesses for defence of the charge, and to recall and question witnesses called for prosecution of the charge.
 - Specify the time and place of the disciplinary proceedings.
 - Be delivered to the charged member seven days before the disciplinary proceedings or sooner if this is necessary in certain serious circumstances.
3. The following persons must be present at a Disciplinary Proceeding:
 - The Chairperson and members of the Disciplinary Committee.
 - The presenter of the charge.

- The charged member, who can be tried in her or his absence if she or he does not appear.
- The charged member's representative and/ or interpreter who is a member of the APF in good standing.
- The witnesses.
- A minute taker.

4 The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee must ensure that:

- The disciplinary proceedings are held in a fair manner. He or she will Article on all matters that may arise and ensure order is maintained.
- The charged member is informed of the charge, is informed of her or his rights and is asked to plead guilty or not guilty to the charge.
- The presenter of the charge details the charged member's alleged violation or offence and may call witnesses in support of the charge and may produce relevant documentation in support of the charge.
- The charged member or her or his representative presents the defence to the charge and may call witnesses and may request the recall of and question witnesses called in support of the charge, and may produce relevant documentation.

ADJUDICATION

At the end of the disciplinary proceedings, the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee must ensure that:

1. The members of the Disciplinary Committee discuss the issues raised at the disciplinary proceedings in private and make a finding based on the facts and evidence of the case and make a ruling.
2. The Chairperson and the members of the Disciplinary Committee decide a penalty. The penalties are:
 - Reprimand
 - Payment of compensation and/or performance of useful tasks ☐ Suspension
 - Expulsion.
3. The charged member is advised of the ruling and the penalty of the Disciplinary Committee with the reasons for these and is advised of her or his right to appeal.
4. That the ruling and penalty are publicly announced.

APPEAL

1. An appeal may be lodged by:
 - The charged person against whom a finding has been made or a penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.
 - The organ and/or officials who laid the charge against a finding or a penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.
2. An Appeal Hearing must be held by the next higher level unless:
 - The PEC directs that any appeal from a Branch Disciplinary Committee appeal should be heard by the Provincial Disciplinary Committee.
 - The NWC directs that any appeal should be heard by a higher level than the next higher level.
3. The National Disciplinary Committee is the final structure for appeals to be heard. However, the NEC may at its discretion review a decision of the National Disciplinary Committee in accordance with standing orders adopted by the NEC.

APPEAL PROCEDURE

The following procedure must be followed for appeals:

1. The appeal must be made at the next higher level or the level which the NWC or the PEC directs to hear the appeal.
2. The appeal must:
 - Be made within fourteen days of the charged member being informed of the ruling and penalty with the reasons for these.
 - Be in writing
 - Set out the reason for the appeal in reasonable detail.
 - Set out the grounds for the appeal in reasonable detail.
3. Except in exceptional circumstances determined by the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee hearing the Appeal, no new evidence may be presented or considered at the appeal. No new charges may be brought at the appeal.
4. The Chairperson and the members of the Disciplinary Committee must discuss the issues raised at the appeal hearing and come to a finding based on the facts and evidence of the appeal hearing and make a ruling which can confirm, vary or amend the original ruling and/or penalty.
5. The person who appeals must be advised of the ruling and the confirmation or variation of the original ruling and/or penalty.
6. Any further appeal will need the permission of the next higher level.
7. Any such further appeal must follow the above appeal procedure.

GLOSSARY EXPLANATION OF TERMS USED IN THE CONSTITUTION

Accountable: To answer for, or explain, one's conduct, decisions or acts.

Additional Members: NEC Members who are elected.

Annual subscription fee: The NEC decides the annual subscription fee.

Appeal: A resort or an application to a higher authority for a decision.

Assign: To give out as a task.

Autonomous: The Leagues operate independently, next to and in addition to APF structures and within the framework of the Constitution and policies of the APF.

Bribe: A bribe includes any promise or offer to give something, usually money, to procure services or gain influences in an improper manner.

Candidate duly endorsed: A candidate nominated and elected democratically by the constitutional structures of the APF at the appropriate levels, and endorsed by the NEC, the PEC or the Branch.

Chaplaincy: Does not have the usual meaning which necessarily refers to one faith only, and it is therefore qualified by the word "interfaith" in the next line.

Consistent with: Agreeing, compatible, not contradictory.

Constitution: The Constitution of the APF contains the Article s and principles that prescribes the rights and duties of its official structures and members. It is the basic law of the movement which must be observed by all members.

Contractual liability: The effect of this is to protect the APF against being held responsible by outsiders (e.g. a money lender) for the actions of an individual member who may have been acting on his or her own account.

Co-opt: This is an option whereby an elected body appoints further (non-elected) members to itself.

Deemed [necessary]: Considered, regarded as a subjective opinion; indicates a state of affairs which does not necessarily or in fact exists, but is taken or regarded to exist.

Designated to administer...oaths: The APF designates someone within the organisation to administer the oath.

Direct: To conduct the affairs of, manage, regulate.

Directive: An order or instruction, especially one issued by a central authority.

Disrepute: The absence or loss of reputation; discredit; disgrace.

Elective office: Refers to an office held as Councillor, Member of the Provincial Legislature or Member of Parliament.

Electoral Commission: The APF appoints from among its members a body to constitute an Electoral Commission.

Election agent: Representative of a candidate contesting an election and who represents the interests of the candidate.

Ex officio: Means by virtue of his or her position or office.

Eligible/Ineligible [for membership]: These are the Article s that determine which persons are eligible for (qualified for or worthy to be) members of the organisation. A person qualified for membership is not necessarily entitled to membership.

Endorsed: Approved or supported

Ethnic chauvinism: A prejudiced belief in the superiority of a certain ethnic group (a cultural or social group with certain characteristics like religion, language, ancestry or physical traits).

New Africanism: The document containing the essential philosophy of the APF

Good cause shown: Sufficient reasons. Any fact or circumstance that would make it just and fair between the parties. Good cause should not merely be alleged but must be able to be shown.

Honorary membership: Membership given as a mark of honour without the usual requirements or privileges of membership.

Impeding [activities]: Obstruct the way of, hinder the progress of.

Incapacity: Lack of strength or ability; disability, helplessness.

Invalidly obtained [membership] Membership obtained falsely, not in accordance with the Constitution, and therefore legally ineffective.

Legal relationship: A relationship, like for example a contract, from which legal rights, obligations (like debts) and duties flow.

Logo and Colours: The APF is the sole copyright holder of its logo and colours.

Member: A person who has applied for and being accepted as a paid-up member of the APF. South African citizens over 18 years of age may apply for membership.

Members not in good standing: A member who fails to pay his or her subscriptions for three months and whose membership has lapsed.

Misappropriation: To use money or funds wrongly or dishonestly, especially for one's own use.

National Democratic Revolution: Refers to the process of transforming the country from an apartheid state to a non-racial, non-sexist, united democratic society in which all people enjoy equal rights.

National List Committee: This is appointed annually by the NEC, and which is responsible for drawing up regulations and procedures to be used in the selection of candidates for National Parliament. It shall consist of at least five members and not more than nine members.

Nominate: To propose by name as candidate.

Official: One who holds an office or position of authority in the organisation. **Party in**

alliance: Includes our alliance partners: AFRICAN PEOPLE'S FORUM, APF

WORKER'S UNION, and others as decided by the NEC.

Perpetual succession and power: confer legal personality on the APF, by which it exists in law as an entity with rights and duties independent from the change in its members or officials from time to time, and these rights vests indefinitely in the organisation as a legal person.

Provincial List and Candidates Committee: Refers to the Committee in each province responsible for the compilation of elections lists and ward candidates.

Provisional membership: Refers to a member whose membership has not yet been confirmed, but who may participate in the activities of the organisation except election onto any committee, structure, commission, or delegation of the APF.

Quorum: The minimum number of officials or members of a structure, committee or assembly, usually a majority, who must be present for the valid transaction of the business of the meeting.

Ratify: Approve, give formal sanction to.

Reasonable Period: The NEC may declare a time frame as to when an appeal may be lodged.

Region: This means the geographic area of the province, and not the "region"

Registered political party: This refers to registration in terms of the Electoral Act, 1993.

Rescind: To void or repeal.

Review [of membership application]: The reconsideration of an acceptance or refusal of membership.

Article s and Regulations: In addition to the Article s contained in this constitution, the NEC may also adopt subordinate Article s for the better carrying out of the activities of the APF.

Second: An utterance or show of endorsement of a proposal or nomination.

Shall/may [convene, etc]: 'Shall' normally means 'must' (obligatory, no discretion). 'May' is permissive, and usually confers a discretionary power or function. **Supervise:** To direct and inspect the performance of work, to oversee.

Suspend/suspension: To bar for a period from a privilege, office or position; to render temporarily ineffective or inoperative under certain conditions.

Tied vote: A state of equality of votes; a draw

Tribalistic exclusivism: To prevent persons from certain tribes to play a role in the organisation, or to admit only persons from certain tribal backgrounds to memberships or participation.

Undermines: To weaken, injure or ruin insidiously or secretly.

Universal Suffrage: The right of all persons to vote.

Voting and speaking rights [at meetings]: The right to vote is a matter that is regulated in the Constitution of the organisation. The reason why non-members of a structure are afforded

speaking rights (when they do not have voting rights) is to ensure that the non-members have spoken at the meeting and by virtue of their forceful character possibly unduly influenced the meeting or inhibited free discussion or decision.

Sub regions: A (geographical) area distinguished from adjacent parts by some distinctive feature or character.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution was adopted by all members of the African People First present at the meeting held on/..... /..... at number 43 Turners Avenue, Berea, Durban

Signed by
African People First president and party leader
Mzikayise Maxwell Hlengwa

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