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CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY

ARRANGEMENT OF ARTICLES

PREAMBLE

ARTICLE	PAGES
1 Name Of The Party	1
2 Aims And Objectives	1
3 Membership	5
4 Disciplinary And Grievance Procedures	10
5 Structure And Organization	18
6 Constituency Organization	19
7 Regional Organization	26
8 Overseas Branches	34
9 National Organization	35
10 Removal Of Elected Officers	49
11 Selection Of Parliamentary Candidates	51
12 Selection Of The Presidential Candidate	53
a.Election Of The Presidential Candidate	53
b.Selection Of The Vice Presidential Candidate	58
13 The Parliamentary Group	58
14 Special Organs Of The Party	59
15 Council Of Elders	62

16 Auditors	64
17 Rules And Regulations To This Constitution	64
18 Amendments To The Constitution	64
19 Revocation Of The 1992 Constitution	65

***Bold section represents new amendments.
Italic section represents old amendments.**

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

NEW PATRIOTIC PARTY

With faith in God;

Believing in the supreme dignity of man;

In common brotherhood of all Ghanaians wherever they may

be;

And in the right of every Ghanaian citizen to freedom of

conscience, association and expression;

We the members of the Party:

HEREBY ADOPT UNTO OURSELVES AND PROMULGATE

THIS CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1

NAME OF THE PARTY

The name of the Party is the New Patriotic Party.

ARTICLE 2

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Party are:

1. **To participate in shaping the political will of the people by disseminating information on political ideas, social and economic programmes of the Party.**
2. **To sponsor candidates for elections to any public office as required under the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.**
3. **To win political power through democratic means in order to pursue the Party's agenda as provided for in the Party's particular manifesto for a general election.**
4. To foster and actively promote unity among all the peoples of this country regardless of ethnic origin, position, gender, occupation, status in society or political affiliation.
5. To bring together like minded citizens of the country so that they may strive for Freedom and Justice by the appreciation and protection of human rights and the Rule of Law through the practice of true democracy.

6. To build in this country 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.
7. To harness to the full the human and natural resources of the country and ensure development of all Regions and Districts of the country without discrimination.
8. To ensure that the wealth of the country is not monopolized by a section or particular area of the country but is fairly shared and enjoyed by all, in particular, to bridge the present wide gap between the urban and rural communities and also improve conditions in depressed urban areas of the country.
9. To reduce the excessive centralization which has characterized Government up to now and ensure as far as practicable that the regions and districts of this country fully participate in deciding matters affecting their development and their well being.
10. To promote a well balanced development of agriculture and industry, making the best use of the resources of each area of the country.
11. To protect the environment from degradation and repair the damage done to the environment by wasteful and improper exploitation of our land, forest, marine, and fresh water resources.
12. To ensure that there are equal opportunities for all citizens without discrimination on any grounds whether of gender, age, position, politics, religion or status.

13. To manage the economy of the country with efficiency and prudence, guided by the consideration of the national interest.
14. To promote a vibrant, free-market economy and encourage vigorous participation by citizens in economic activities.
15. To create a climate in which private enterprise will thrive and citizens and foreigners alike may invest without fear and without unnecessary bureaucratic restrictions and impediments, in order to create wealth and prosperity for the citizens and people of this country.
16. To provide a good system of education, both public and private, at all levels which responds to the developmental needs of the country as well as the need for qualitative education.
17. To solve the grave problem of massive unemployment and to provide for all who are capable, the opportunity and means of earning a living, either by way of self-employment or as employees in various undertakings.
18. To give priority attention to the health needs of the nation in order to establish and maintain a decent, humane, efficient system of public health which is easily accessible to the broad masses of the people.
19. To foster and maintain freedom of the media, and open dissemination and interchange of ideas, subject only to the laws of libel and the legitimate claims for national security.
20. To give equal opportunities to women and ensure that all forms of discrimination against women end,

so that they can contribute more effectively to the development of the nation.

21. To pursue responsible population policies.
22. To maintain, in the interest of national unity, harmonious relations with all other political parties, notwithstanding any differences in ideologies.
23. To respect, obey and protect the Constitution and laws of the Republic.
24. To ensure and protect the integrity of the Republic.
25. To respect, preserve and promote the traditional cultures and institutions of this country, particularly Chieftaincy.
26. To ensure that the country maintains friendly relations with all countries which respect our sovereignty and integrity as a nation, and support measures that strengthen the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union (AU), the Commonwealth and the United Nations (UN), in pursuit of development, peace, freedom and just international order.
27. To ensure that the Charter of the AU and Treaty of ECOWAS conform to democratic principles and maintain respect for the Rule of Law in Africa.
28. To develop and maintain close fraternal relations with all political parties in West Africa, and the rest of Africa, which share the liberal democratic ideals of the Party, with the view to the establishment of regional and continental associations of likeminded democratic parties to promote and defend ideals of Democracy and the Rule of Law in Africa.

ARTICLE 3

A. MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the Party shall be open to all citizens of voting age without regard to gender, ethnic origin, religious affiliation or status.
2. Any citizen may join the Party by declaration in a prescribed form of his or her intention to become a member and to abide by this Constitution.
3. Any person who desires to become a member of the Party may enroll for membership in any parliamentary constituency where the person resides or hails from, or in an external branch.
4. **Every person shall, upon being enrolled, be issued with a membership card bearing the person's name, postal address, house number, polling station and constituency or external branch in which the person has been enrolled.**
5. There shall be three categories of membership:
 - a) Founding Members;
 - b) Patrons;
 - c) Members;
 - a) Founding Members are those persons who took part in bringing the Party into being and paid the prescribed fee;
 - b) Patrons are Members who undertake to contribute to the national fund of the Party for the support of the Party's organization such extra levies as the Party may impose from time to time;

c) Levies paid by Founding Members and Patrons shall be in addition to whatever membership dues they may pay in the constituency in which they are registered as Members.

6. A Patron who persistently fails to pay the levies duly imposed may cease to be such by having his or her name struck off the register of Patrons, provided, however, that any such Member whose name is struck off the register for this reason shall have his or her name reinstated upon payment of all outstanding levies.
7. Persons who are neither Founding Members nor Patrons shall be described as Members.

B. Donations and Subscriptions

1. Every Member shall be liable to pay such amount of dues and in such a manner as the Party may from time to time determine.
2. Subject to the provisions of the laws governing political parties, any person or groups of persons, who agree with the aims, objectives, policies and programmes of the Party, may make donations to the Party.

C. Rights of a Member

A Member shall have the right to:

- i. Participate in all activities of the Party, subject to rules and regulations governing such activities;

- ii. Be heard whenever his or her activities and conduct are in question and under consideration by the Party;
- iii. Contest for any position or office within the Party, in accordance with rules and regulations governing elections. A member shall be disqualified from holding any office or contesting any election in the Party if he or she:
 - a) Has been convicted and / or sentenced by a court of competent jurisdiction in respect of any offence involving high treason, or an offence involving the security of the State, dishonesty, fraud or moral turpitude, unless a period of ten years has elapsed after the serving of the sentence or he or she has been granted a full pardon;
 - b) Suffers from mental disability.
 - c) Is not of good standing. A member shall be of good standing where he or she has paid in full and up to date all dues or levies he or she is liable to pay as a Member, and had discharged all his or her duties as a Member.

D. Duties of a Member

A member shall

- i. Protect and promote the good name of the Party;
- ii. Protect the unity of the Party;
- iii. Be loyal and truthful to the Party;

- iv. Abide by and publicly uphold the decisions of the Party;
- v. Carry out his or her duties faithfully and with honesty to the best of his or her ability.
- vi. Participate fully in the activities of the Party and ensure that the local organs of the Party work effectively and accountably.
- vii. Pay dues as well as give donations for special programmes and activities as may be decided from time to time by the Party.
- viii. **Not initiate, commence or prosecute any legal proceedings whatsoever against the party or any other member of the Party relating to party affairs, without first having exhausted the grievance procedure laid down in this Constitution in respect of grievances against the Party or any other member.**

E. Resignation of a Member

- 1, **A member shall cease to be a member by writing and signing a letter addressed to his or her Constituency Chairperson declaring his or her intention to cease to be a member and forthwith surrendering his or her membership card.**
2. Any person who, accordingly, ceases to be a member of the Party shall return to the Party any Party property in his or her custody and shall forfeit any monies, dues or donations made to the Party.

F. Suspension of a Member

1. A Member may be suspended from membership of the Party, or holding any office in the Party, pending an enquiry into his or her conduct by a Disciplinary Committee.
2. Any decision to suspend a Member shall not be taken unless the nature of the complaint has been communicated to the Member in writing, and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against such member.

G. Expulsion of a Member

1. A Member may be expelled from the Party on grounds of misconduct in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, and upon such expulsion shall cease to be a Member.
2. Any person who, accordingly, ceases to be a member shall return to the Party any party property in his or her custody and shall forfeit any monies, dues or donations made to the Party.
3. No Member shall be expelled unless such expulsion is effected in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of this Constitution.

H. Forfeiture of Membership

1. **A member of the Party who stands as an independent candidate against the officially elected member of the Party or who joins or declares his or her support for another Political Party, or for an independent candidate when the Party has sponsored a candidate in a general or**

by-election automatically forfeits his or her membership of the Party.

2. **Whenever a member ceases to be a member through resignation, expulsion from the Party or forfeiture of membership, the person may reapply for membership of the Party and the person may be readmitted on conditions provided in the Constitution, except where the National Executive Committee decides otherwise.**

I. Register of Members

1. **There shall be kept at every polling station and in the office of the Party in each Constituency an up to date register of members of the Party in the Constituency which shall be updated every six months and forwarded to the National Secretariat.**
2. **The Regional Secretariat of the Party shall keep an up to date register of Founding Members and Patrons of the Party in its region and shall take custody of the list of registered members in all Constituencies of the region. The National Secretariat shall keep a register of all categories of members of the Party.**

**ARTICLE 4
DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

A. DISCIPLINE

1. **Appointment of Disciplinary Committees**
 - a) Each constituency shall have a Constituency Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the Constituency Executive Committee. It shall

comprise not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) members, provided, however, that where the Constituency Disciplinary Committee consists of three (3) members at least one (1) shall be a woman and where there are five (5) members at least two (2) shall be women. None of the members of the Constituency Disciplinary Committee shall be Constituency Officers.

- b) Each Region shall have a Regional Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the Regional Executive Committee. It shall comprise not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) members, provided, however, that where the Regional Discipline Committee consist of three (3) members at least one (1) shall be a woman and where there are five (5) members at least two (2) shall be women. None of the members of Regional Disciplinary Committee shall be Regional Officers.
- c) There shall be a National Disciplinary committee, which shall be one of the Standing Committees of the National Council and shall be composed as follows:
 - i. One (1) person appointed by the National Executive Committee.
 - ii. One (1) representative of the Parliamentary Group.
 - iii. One (1) representative of the National Council of Elders.
 - iv. One (1) representative of the Constitutional Committee.
 - v. One (1) representative of the Regional Chairpersons.
 - vi. Three (3) persons appointed by the National Chairperson in consultation with the National Executive Committee, one of whom shall be designated Chairperson of the National Disciplinary Committee,

provided, however, that at least two (2) out of nine (9) members shall be women. At least five (5) members of the committee, including the Chairperson, shall be present to constitute a valid meeting of the Committee.

2. Term

The term of members of a Disciplinary committee shall be four (4) years, but they may be reappointed.

3. Jurisdiction

- a) The Constituency Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline within the constituency organization.
- b) **The Regional Disciplinary Committee shall have original jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline at the regional level with respect to the Regional Executive Officers and other key members of the Party in the region including Constituency Executive officers, Patrons and Founding Members.**

The Regional Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals on the decisions of the Constituency Executive Committee.
- c) **The National Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline at the National level with respect to National Executive Officers and key members of the Party including Members of Parliament,**

Patrons, Founding Members, Standing Committees and National Council members as well as other members who may be referred to the National Disciplinary Committee by the National Executive Committee.

The National Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals from the decisions of the Regional Executive Committee.

- d) **A Member aggrieved by or dissatisfied with the conduct of any member of the Constituency Executive Committee shall file a complaint in writing to the Regional Executive Committee. A complaint against a member of the Regional Executive Committee shall be made to the National Executive Committee and in the case of the National Executive Committee to the National Council.**

4. Functions

- a) A Disciplinary Committee shall:
 - i. Investigate complaints concerning the misconduct of a Member;
 - ii. Make a full, faithful and impartial inquiry into any complaint referred to it;
 - iii. Report in writing the results of the inquiry and the reasons leading to the conclusions reached; and
 - iv. Make recommendations to the Executive Committee based on the results of the inquiry.

- b) The Executive Committee shall, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the recommendation of a Disciplinary Committee, adopt, modify or reject same and shall communicate its recommendation and the reasons leading thereto in writing to all affected parties.
- c) The Executive Committee shall make any recommendation it deems fit to promote discipline within the Party, including the suspension and/ or expulsion of the Member. The recommendation automatically comes into full force and effect where no appeal is lodged against it in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

5. Proceedings

- a) Disciplinary proceeding may be initiated by a complaint in writing delivered to the Disciplinary Committee, in so far as the complaint relates to the affairs of the Party.
- b) Proceeding of a Disciplinary Committee shall be held in camera and shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Natural Justice.
- c) A Disciplinary Committee shall, within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of a complaint, conclude its deliberations on the matter, and make its recommendation thereon to the Executive Committee, except that the period of twenty-one (21) days may, in appropriate circumstances, be extended by the Executive Committee.
- d) The determination of any question or matter before a Disciplinary Committee shall be in accordance with the opinion of the majority of the members of the Committee.

- e) A Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person in the performance of its function.

6. Appeals

- i. A Member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, a recommendation of the Constituency Executive Committee may, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the notice of the recommendation, appeal against the recommendation to the Regional Disciplinary Committee by filing an appeal in writing with the Regional Secretary. The Regional Disciplinary Committee shall conclude its deliberations on the appeal within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the appeal and submit its recommendations on the appeal to the Regional Executive Committee for its decision.
- ii. A Member aggrieved by or dissatisfied with a decision of the National Executive Committee may, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the notice of the decision of the Regional Executive Committee, appeal against the decision to the National Disciplinary Committee by filing an appeal in writing with the General Secretary. The National Disciplinary Committee shall conclude its deliberations on the appeal within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the appeal and submit its recommendation on the appeal to the National Executive Committee for its decision.
- iii. **A Member aggrieved by or dissatisfied with a decision of the National Executive Committee may, within twenty one (21) days of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal against it to**

the National Council by filing an appeal in writing with the General Secretary. The National Council shall conclude its deliberations on the appeal within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the appeal and its decision shall be final and binding on all affected parties.

7. Misconduct

- a) A complaint shall involve an allegation that any of the following acts of misconduct relates to a Member:
 - i. Violation of the duties of a Member;
 - ii. Violent, dangerous or intimidatory conduct against another Member;
 - iii. Falsification of reports, accounts or expense claims or other fraudulent conduct;
 - iv. Willful damage to Party property;
 - iv. Breach of the duty to uphold publicly Party policies;
 - v. Creation of discord or factionalism within the Party;
 - vi. Bringing the name of the Party into disrepute or public ridicule;
 - vii. Defection to another party.
- (b) **Any conduct which has the effect of any of the above or is similar in nature to any of the above shall amount to misconduct and shall attract sanctions including fines, suspension, expulsion from the Party or disqualification from holding any office or position in the Party for a stated period.**

8. Grievance

1. A Member who has a grievance against the Party may, in writing, petition the Constituency Executive Committee, as the case may be for redress. A grievance shall involve an allegation of unjust or unfair treatment by the Party against the Member.
2. A Constituency, Regional or National Executive Committee, as the case may be, shall, in conjunction with other party organs, where appropriate within twenty one (21) days from the receipt of the petition, investigate the grievance, conclude its deliberations thereon, and notify its decision to the Member.
3. **A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, the decision of the Constituency, Regional or National Executive Committee, as the case may be, may, within seven (7) days from the date of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal in the case of the decision by the Constituency Executive Committee to the Regional Executive Committee, in the case of a decision by the Regional Executive Committee, to the National Executive Committee whose decision shall be final. The Regional or National Executive Committees, as the case may be, shall decide the appeal within seven (7) days of its receipt, and communicate its decision thereon to the member.**

ARTICLE 5

STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

1. (a). The Party is a national party and shall accordingly be structured and operated on that basis.
- (b). **The Constituency Organization shall include the Electoral Area which shall be next on the hierarchy to the Polling Station. The Polling Station Executives in each Electoral Area shall elect the Electoral Area Coordinator who shall be a member in good standing for at least two years.**
- (c). **For the purposes of effective coordination and monitoring, where the Polling Stations under an Electoral Area exceed ten (10), an additional Electoral Area may be created and a Coordinator elected accordingly.**
2. a) *The Party shall be based on Constituency, Regional, External and National Organizations.*
- b) *There shall be a Polling Station Executive of five (5) members (Chairman, Secretary, Organizer, Youth Organizer, and Women Organizer) whose duties shall be:*
 - i) *Act as polling agents when appropriate.*
 - ii) *Be responsible for house-to-house campaigns*

- iii) *Act as agent during voter's registrations and cleaning of the voters' register.*
- iv) *And perform any other function that would be assigned them by a Constituency Officer.*

c) In Polling Station Executive elections, all card-bearing and paid-up members in good standing in the polling station area shall vote.

ARTICLE 6

CONSTITUENCY ORGANIZATION

1. There shall be, in every parliamentary constituency of Ghana, a branch of the Party consisting of Members who have enrolled in the Constituency. The basic unit of organization of the Constituency shall be the Polling Station area.
 - a. Each constituency shall have a Constituency Executive Committee which shall consist of:
 - i. The Constituency Chairperson
 - ii. The 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson
 - iii. The 2nd Constituency Vice Chairperson
 - iv. The Constituency Secretary
 - v. The Constituency Assistant Secretary
 - vi. The Constituency Treasurer
 - vii. The Constituency Financial Secretary
 - viii. The Constituency Organizer
 - ix. **The Deputy Constituency Organizer**
 - x. The Constituency Women Organizer
 - xi. **The Deputy Constituency Women Organizer**
 - xii. The Constituency Youth Organizer
 - xiii. **The Deputy Constituency Youth Organizer.**

- xiv. **The Constituency Communications Officer.**
- xiv. **The Constituency Electoral/Research Officer,**
- xv. **The Constituency Nasara Coordinator,** and
- xvi. The sitting Parliamentarian or Parliamentary Candidate for the Constituency.

Municipal, Metropolitan and District Chief Executives may attend Constituency Executive Committee meetings as ex-officio members when the Party is in government.

Nine (9) members of the Constituency Executive Committee, including three elected Persons shall constitute a quorum of the Committee. The elected persons for the purposes of the quorum shall include the Chairperson or one of the Vice Chairpersons.

3. **With the exception of:**
 - (i) **The Constituency Financial Secretary,**
 - (ii) **The Deputy Constituency Organizer,**
 - (iii) **The Deputy Constituency Women Organizer,**
 - (iv) **The Deputy Constituency Youth Organizer,**
 - (v) **The Electoral/Research Officer ,**
 - (vi) **The Nasara Coordinator, and**
 - (vii) **The Constituency Communications Officer**

who shall be appointed, all Constituency Officers shall be elected at a Constituency Annual Delegates Conference, which shall be supervised by a person appointed by the Regional Executive Committee from within its membership.

All appointments shall be made to reflect the diversity and the national character of the Party.

- 4 a) Election of Constituency Officers shall be by secret ballot, and by a simple majority. They shall hold office for **four (4) years**, and may seek re-election.
- b) In the running of the Constituencies and Region, Constituency officers and Regional Officers shall be responsible for the day-to-day Administration of the Party in the Constituency and Region respectively.
- 5 i) **Within fourteen (14) days of their election, the elected Constituency Officers and the Member of Parliament or Parliamentary Candidate shall in consultation with the Regional Executive Committee appoint the Officers who are specified to be appointed under clause (3) of this Article.**
- ii) **Within fourteen (14) days after the appointment of the Officers referred to under clause (3), the Constituency Executive Committee shall appoint members of the Constituency Disciplinary Committee, the Constituency Finance Committee, five members each on the Council of Elders and the Council of Patrons.**
6. i) There shall be in every Constituency, a Constituency office of the Party, which shall be headed by the Constituency Secretary

and shall have such other personnel as the Constituency Executive Committee may appoint.

- ii) The Constituency Secretary shall report administrative matters to the Constituency Chairperson.
- iii) The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the Constituency Secretary and other personnel of the Constituency office shall be determined by the Constituency Executive Committee.
7. i) The Constituency Chairperson shall be the executive head of the Party in the Constituency and the convener of meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee.
- ii) The Constituency Chairperson shall be a member of the Regional Executive Committee.
- iii) In the absence of the Constituency Chairperson, the 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson shall act in his or her place.
8. The Constituency Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every month and shall present quarterly reports on the operations and activities of the Party in the Constituency to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. The Constituency Executive Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the operation of the Party within the constituency and the implementation of its programmes for promoting social and political awareness and general political education within the constituency, for recruiting

members into the Party and for mobilizing support for the party before and during elections.

10. The Constituency Executive Committee may form such committees or sub-committees as it considers necessary or expedient; and may co-opt any Member within the constituency into any of such committees.
11. A Constituency Officer shall cease to be such an Officer if:
 - i. He or she resigns;
 - ii. He or she is removed in accordance with the procedure for the removal of officers;
 - iii. By reason of bodily or mental infirmity, is incapable of carrying out his or her duties and responsibilities as Constituency officer;
 - iv. He or she is expelled from the Party;
 - v. Without just cause, he or she absents himself or herself persistently from meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee of which he or she is given notice, provided that no Constituency Executive shall cease to be an Officer for this reason without:
 - a. Being summoned to appear before the Constituency Executive Committee and being afforded an opportunity to explain himself or herself.
 - b. A report being submitted to the Regional Executive Committee on the conduct of such officer with the recommendation of the Constituency Executive Committee.
 - c. The Regional Executive Committee considering the report of the Constituency Executive

Committee and pronouncing whether such Officer shall cease to be a Constituency Officer.

- d. Having the right to appeal to the National Executive Committee which shall decide the matter and whose decision shall be final.
12. A Constituency Officer who ceases to be such officer by reason of absenteeism shall nevertheless continue to be a Member of the Party and shall be entitled to offer him or herself for re-election to membership of the Constituency Executive Committee at any subsequent Constituency Annual Delegates Conference.
13. Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be filled in the case of the Constituency Chairperson by the 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson; in the case of 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson by the 2nd Vice Chairperson, and in the case of the 2nd Constituency Vice Chairperson, Constituency Secretary and Constituency Treasurer, by election by the Executive Committee of another officer to hold such office.

In the case of any other Constituency Officer, the Constituency Executive Committee shall appoint somebody to act. Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall vacate his or her office at the same time as the other Constituency Officers at the end of the term of **four (4) years**. In the case of the Financial Secretary, the Constituency Executive Committee shall appoint someone to act in his or her place until a substantive appointment is made.
14. In every year, at least four (4) weeks prior to the Regional Annual Delegates Conference, there shall be a Constituency Annual Delegates Conference which shall be attended by the following delegates;

- I. **Members of the Constituency Executive Committee**
 - II. **All Electoral Area Coordinators**
 - III. **All Polling Station Executives at all Polling Stations in the Constituency.**
 - IV. **Five (5) members of the Constituency Council of Elders.**
 - V. **Five (5) Constituency Patrons, and**
 - VI. **Any Founding Member from the Constituency who is a signatory to the registration documents of the Party at the Electoral Commission.**
15. The presence of at least one-third (1/3) of the delegates of the Constituency shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference.
16. a) The Constituency Annual Delegates Conference shall:
- i. Deliberate on all matters affecting the organization and wellbeing of the Party in the Constituency;
 - ii. Consider and approve a statement of account presented by the constituency Treasurer;
 - iii. Consider and approve a programme of activity for the coming year;
 - iv. Pass resolutions or make recommendations for consideration of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference, and
 - v. Elect Constituency Officers when required.
- b) Constituency or Regional Officers shall appoint an Officer from amongst them and not just any person to supervise, Polling station and Constituency elections.

17. Every Constituency Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Constituency Delegates Conference when required to select the Parliamentary Candidate for the Constituency. The delegates for the Extraordinary Delegates Conference shall be the same as the Delegates for the Constituency Annual Delegates Conference.
18. Whenever the Constituency Executive Committee or the Constituency Chairperson or one third (1/3) of the members who constitute delegates for the Constituency Annual Delegates Conference, deem it necessary, an Extraordinary Constituency Delegates Conference may be convened. The Constituency Secretary shall give notice of such a meeting not later than seven (7) days before the date of the Conference, and shall specify the agenda for the Conference.

ARTICLE 7

REGIONAL ORGANIZATION

1. Each Region shall have a Regional Executive Committee, which shall consist of:
- i. The Regional Chairperson
 - ii. The 1st Regional Vice Chairperson
 - iii. The 2nd Regional Vice Chairperson
 - iv. The Regional Secretary

- v. **The Deputy Regional Secretary**
- vi. The Regional Treasurer
- vii. The Regional Organizer
- viii. **The Deputy Regional Organizer**
- ix. The Regional Women Organizer
- x. **The Deputy Regional Women Organizer**
- xi. The Regional Youth Organizer
- xii. **The Deputy Regional Youth Organizer**
- xiii. **The Regional Financial Secretary**
- xiv. **The Regional Electoral/Research Officer**
- xv. **The Regional Communications Officer**
- xvi. **The Regional Nasara Coordinator**
- xvii. Constituency Chairpersons and
- xviii. **Members of Parliament in the Region and Parliamentary Candidates from the Region who shall, however have no right to vote.**

The Regional and Deputy Regional Minister may attend Regional Executive Committee meetings as ex-officio members when the Party is in Government.

- 2. a) **With the exception of:**
 - i. **The Deputy Regional Secretary,**
 - ii. **The Deputy Regional Organizer,**
 - iii. **The Deputy Regional Women Organizer,**
 - iv. **The Deputy Regional Youth Organizer,**
 - v. **The Regional Financial Secretary,**
 - vi. **The Regional Electoral / Research Officer, and**
 - vii. **The Regional Communications Officer,**

who shall be appointed, all Regional Officers shall be elected at a Regional Annual Delegates Conference, which shall be supervised by a person appointed by the National Executive Committee, from within its membership.

- b) **All appointments shall be made to reflect the diversity and the national character of the Party.**
- 3. i) **The Election of Regional Officers shall be by secret ballot and by a simple majority. All Officers shall hold office for four (4) years and may seek re-election. No Member shall be eligible to apply for nomination as a Regional Officer unless such a Member is a known and active member for at least two (2) years.**
- ii) **No Member shall be eligible to contest an election or to be appointed to the Position of a Regional Officer if such a**

person is a Constituency or National Officer, Metropolitan, Municipal or District Chief Executive, Member of Parliament, Minister or Deputy Minister of State.

4 i) Within fourteen (14) days of their election, the elected Regional Officers shall in consultation with the National Executive Committee appoint the Regional Officers who are required to be appointed under section 2 of this Article.

ii) Within fourteen (14) days of the appointment of the Regional Officers, the Regional Executive Committee shall appoint members of the Regional Disciplinary Committee, the Regional Finance Committee, ten (10) members each on the Council of Elders and Council of Patrons.

5 i) There shall be in every Region, a Regional Office of the Party, which shall be headed by the Regional Secretary and shall have such other personnel as the Regional Executive Committee may appoint.

ii) The Regional Secretary shall be responsible for:

- a) Keeping proper records of the Party;
- b) Carrying out the decisions of the Regional Executive Committee;
- c) Supervising and coordinating the operations of the Constituency Offices within the Region.

iii) The Regional Secretary shall report administrative matters to the Regional Chairperson.

iv) The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the Regional Secretary and other personnel of the Regional Secretariat shall be determined by the Regional Executive Committee.

6 (i) The Regional Chairperson shall be the executive head of the Party in his or her Region and the convener of meetings of the Regional Executive Committee and the Regional Delegates Conference, and shall preside over such meetings.

(ii). The Regional Chairperson shall be a member of the National Executive Committee.

(iii) In the absence of the Regional Chairperson the 1st Regional Vice-Chairperson shall act in his or her place.

7 The Regional Executive Committee shall meet, at least, once in every three (3) months and shall present quarterly reports on the operations and activities of the Party in the Region to the National Executive Committee. The presence of at least one-third (1/3) of the members of the Regional Executive Committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Committee.

8. The Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible for coordinating the operations and activities of the Party in the Region, for ensuring that Party Policies and programmes are implemented in the Region, for fostering cooperation between the various constituency

organizations of the Party within the Region and for drawing up suitable regional programmes of activity for this purpose.

9. The Regional Executive Committee may form such committees or sub-committees as it considers necessary or expedient and may co-opt any Member in the Region to any of such committees.
10. A Regional Officer shall cease to be such an officer if:
 - i) He or she resigns;
 - ii) He or she is removed in accordance with the procedure of removal of officers;
 - iii) By reason of bodily or mental infirmity, is incapable of carrying out his or her responsibilities as a Regional Officer;
 - iv) He or she is expelled from the Party;
 - v) Without just cause, he or she absents himself or herself persistently from meetings of the Regional Executive Committee of which he or she is given notice, provided that no Regional Officer shall cease to be an Officer for this reason without;
 - a. Being summoned to appear before the Regional Executive Committee and being afforded an opportunity to explain himself or herself;
 - b. A report being submitted to the National Executive Committee on the conduct of such Officer with the recommendation of the Regional Executive Committee;
 - c. The National Executive Committee considering the report of the Regional Executive Committee and pronouncing

whether such officer shall cease to be a Regional Officer. The decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final.

11. A Regional Officer who ceases to be such officer by reason of absenteeism shall, nevertheless, continue to be a member of the Party and shall be entitled to offer himself or herself for re-election to membership of the Regional Executive Committee at any subsequent Regional Annual Delegates Conference.
12. Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the Regional Executive Committee shall be filled in the case of the Regional Chairperson by the 1st Regional Vice Chairperson; in the case of the 1st Regional Chairperson, by the 2nd Regional Vice Chairperson, and in the case of the Regional Secretary and Regional Treasurer, by election of the Regional Executive Committee of another officer to hold such office. In the case of any other officer, the Regional Executive Committee shall appoint someone to act. Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall vacate his or her office at the same time as the other Regional Officers at the end of term of **four (4) years.**
13. **In every year, at least four (4) weeks prior to the National Annual Delegates Conference, there shall be a Regional Delegates Conference which shall be attended by the following delegates;**
 - I. Members of the Regional Executive Committee.**
 - II. Members of Parliament in the Region.**
 - III. Members of the Constituency Executive Committees.**

- IV. **Regional representatives on the National Council.**
- V. **Ten Members of the Council of Elders in the Region.**
- VI. **One Tescon member from each recognized tertiary institution in the region.**
- VII. **Ten Patrons in the Region, and**
- VIII. **All Founding members from the Region who are signatories to the registration documents of the Party at the Electoral Commission.**

- 14. The Presence of at the least one-third (1/3) of the delegates of the Regional Delegates Conference shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference.
- 15. The Regional Annual Delegate Conference shall:
 - i) Deliberate on all matters affecting the organization and well being of the Party in the Region;
 - ii) Consider and approve a statement of accounts presented by the Regional Treasurer;
 - iii) Pass any resolution or make any recommendations for consideration by the National Annual Delegates Conference;
 - iv) Elect representatives to serve on the National Council so that fifty percent (50% of the regional representatives to the National Council shall be Regional Officers and fifty percent (50%) shall not be such officers. Each Region shall have such number of representatives as determined by the number of constituencies in the Region so that every five (5) constituencies in a

- Region shall have one representative on the National Council;
- v) Elect Regional Officers when required.
- 16. Every Regional Executive Committee shall, within two (2) weeks from the close of the proceedings of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference, submit a report thereon to the National Executive Committee.
- 17. A representative of the Regional Chairperson shall be a member of the National Disciplinary Committee.
- 18. Whenever the Regional Executive Committee or the Regional Chairperson or one third (1/3) of the Constituency Executive Committee in the Region, as the case may be, thinks it necessary, an **Extraordinary** Regional Delegates Conference may be called. The Regional Secretary shall give notice of such meeting not later than seven (7) days before the date of the Conference, and shall specify the agenda for the Conference.

ARTICLE 8

EXTERNAL BRANCHES

- 1. **There shall be established external branches of the Party whose activities shall be governed by the provisions of this Constitution.**
- 2. **Any group of party members in any country abroad may constitute themselves into one external branch only subject to the recognition under 8(1)**

3. The Rules and Regulations of the branch shall be in conformity with the provisions of this Constitution.
4. **The minimum number of membership to qualify as External Branch shall be one hundred (100) or as determined by the National Executive Council which shall in appropriate cases allow a number of external branches to come together to form one External Branch.**

ARTICLE 9

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

1. There shall be a national organization of the Party which shall consist of:
 - i) The National Annual Delegates Conference
 - ii) The National Congress
 - iii) The National Council
 - iii) The National Executive Committee
- A. National Annual Delegates Conference**
 1. There shall be a National Delegates Conference which shall be the supreme governing body of the Party.
 2. (i). The National Delegates Conference shall meet once every year, at least four (4) weeks after the last of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference.
 - (ii). The National Delegates Conference shall be attended by the following delegates:**

- a. **Members of the National Council**
 - b. **Members of the National Executive Committee**
 - c. **All Members of the Regional Executive Committees**
 - d. **All Members of the Constituency Executive Committees**
 - e. **Fifteen (15) Members of the National Council of Elders**
 - f. **Twelve(12) delegates from every external branch as defined under section 8(2) of this Constitution.**
 - g. **One Tescon representative from each recognized tertiary institution in the country**
 - h. **Fifteen (15) Patrons elected from among themselves**
 - i. **Founding Members across the country who are signatories to the Registration documents of the Party at the Electoral Commission**
 - j. **All Members of Parliament, and**
 - k. **All New Patriotic Party Members who are Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives when the Party is the governing Party.**
- (iii). The presence of at least one-third (1/3) of the delegates of the National Delegates Conference shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference.
3. The notice convening a National Annual Delegates Conference shall be given to every Constituency Executive Committee by the General Secretary not later than one (1) month before the date for holding the Conference.

4. The National Annual Delegates Conference shall deliberate and make appropriate resolutions on the following:
 - i. The National Chairperson's Report;
 - ii. The National Treasurer's Statement of Accounts;
 - iii. Any other matters.

The National Annual Delegates Conference shall also

- a) Instruct the General Secretary and the National Treasurer to file the appropriate annual returns to the Electoral Commission.
 - b) Elect National Officers when required.
5. Whenever the National Executive Committee or the national Chairperson thinks it necessary, an **Extraordinary** National Delegates Conference may be convened. The General Secretary shall give notice of such meeting not later than seven (7) days before the date for the Conference and shall specify the agenda for the Conference.

B. The National Council

1. There shall be a National Council which, subject to the decisions of the National Delegates conference, shall direct the affairs of the Party in between meetings of the National Delegates Conference, and for this purpose may give such directives to the National Chairperson as may be considered necessary for the well-being of the Party.
2. The National Council shall consist of:
 - i) Voting members of the National Executive committee;

- ii) Twenty (20) sitting Parliamentarians chosen by the Party's Parliamentary Group;
 - iii) Regional representatives;
 - iv. Past National Chairpersons, **Past Presidents, and Past Vice Presidents,** Presidential Candidates, **Running Mates,** and Past General Secretaries.
3. Regional representatives shall serve for a term of **four (4)** years, but may seek re-election.
 4. The National Council shall meet at least twice a year, provided that no more than seven (7) months shall elapse between the first and second meetings.

The presence of at least one third (1/3) of the members of the National Council shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Council.

5. The National Council shall have the following Standing Committees, which shall submit quarterly reports of their activities to the National Executive Committee for consideration and transmission the National Council.
 - a) Finance Committee;
 - b) Constitutional Committee;
 - c) Organization Committee;
 - d) Research Committee;
 - e) Disciplinary committee;
 - f) Vetting Committee.

a) Finance Committee

- i) The Finance Committee shall consist of the National Treasurer and six (6) other members, who including the Chairperson, shall be appointed by the National Council on the recommendation of the National Chairperson. The National Treasurer shall be Secretary to the Finance Committee.
- ii) It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to raise funds necessary to finance the operations of the party in conformity with the applicable laws. It shall report on its activities to the National Chairperson.
- iii) The Finance Committee shall, at the beginning of each Financial Year, approve and submit for decision by the National Executive Committee budgetary estimates prepared by the National Treasurer on the running of the Party.
- iv) The Chairperson of the Finance Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

b) Constitutional Committee

- i) The Constitutional Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, who should be an eminent jurist, and six (6) other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Council.
- ii) The Constitutional Committee shall advise the National Council and the National Executive Committee on matters relating to the smooth operation of the Party's Constitution, and shall assist in the resolution of any conflict that may arise

between the various organs of the Party in the implementation of the Party's Constitution.

- iii) The Constitutional Committee shall submit to the National Council and the National Executive Committee any proposals it may have for the development and the implementation of the Party's Constitution.
- iv). The Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee and a representative of the Constitutional Committee shall be a member of the National Disciplinary Committee.

c) The Organization Committee

- i) The Organization Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and six (6) other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Council.
- ii) The Organization Committee shall advise the National Council and the National Executive Committee on improvements in the operation of the Party organization
- iii) The Chairperson of the Organization Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

d) Research Committee

The Research Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and such other persons as the National Council may appoint. Its functions will be as determined by the National Council. The Chairperson of the Research Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

e) The National Disciplinary Committee

- i). The National Disciplinary Committee shall have the composition, functions, and jurisdiction set down in Article 4 of this constitution.
- ii) The Chairperson of the National Disciplinary Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee

f) Vetting Committee

- i). The Vetting Committee shall examine and vet the candidature of every aspirant for the Presidential Nomination of the party to ensure that such person qualifies to contest for the office of President of the Republic.
- ii). The Vetting Committee shall consist of:
 - a. The five (5) Chairpersons of the other Standing Committees of the National Council;
 - b. The Chairperson of the National Council of Elders; and
 - c. Three (3) other persons appointed by the National Council, one of whom shall be designated Chairperson of the Vetting Committee, provided however the National Council shall ensure that at least two(2) out of the nine (9) persons are women.
- iii) The Vetting Committee shall disallow the candidature of any aspirant when it finds that such aspirant does not qualify to be a Presidential Candidate. It shall submit such finding in writing to the National Executive Committee, with a copy to the aspirant.

- iv) An aspirant who is dissatisfied with such a finding may appeal against it to the National Executive Committee within forty eight (48) hours of receipt of notice of the finding by filing an appeal in writing with the General Secretary. The National Executive Committee shall give its decision of the National Executive Committee and the appeal shall be final.

C. The National Executive Committee

- 1. Subject to such directions as the National Council may issue, the National Executive Committee shall be responsible for directing and overseeing the operations and activities of the Party.

2. i) **The National Executive Committee shall consist of:**

- a) The National Chairperson
- b) Past Presidents**
- c) Past Vice Presidents**
- d) The sitting President**
- e) The sitting Vice- President**
- f) The Presidential Candidate
- g) The Presidential running mate**
- h) The 1st National Vice-Chairperson
- i) The 2nd National Vice-Chairperson
- j) The 3rd National Vice –Chairperson
- k) The General Secretary
- l) The two Deputy General Secretaries**
- m) The National Treasurer
- n) The Party's Parliamentary leader
- o) The National Organizer
- p) The two Deputy National Organizers**
- q) The Chairperson of the National Council of Elders
- r) The National Women Organizer
- s) The two Deputy National Women Organizers**
- t) The National Youth Organizer**
- u) The two Deputy National Youth Organizers**
- v) Regional Chairpersons or their representatives**
- w) One(1)representative of the Parliamentary Group

- x) One (1) representative of the Founding members
 - y) One (1) representative of the Patrons
 - z) The National Nasara Coordinator
- ii) Chairpersons of Sector Committees, past National Chairpersons, past Presidential Candidates, past Running Mates, past General Secretaries, Directors at the National Secretariat and such other members as the National Executive Committee may determine, shall be entitled to attend meetings of the National Executive Committee but without the right to vote.
3. National Officers shall be elected at a National Annual Delegates Conference by a simple majority of the votes cast and shall hold office for **four (4)** years. Nomination of such officers shall be lodged with the General Secretary not later than fourteen (14) days before the holding of the National Delegates Conference. They may seek re- election.
 4. The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every Three (3) months .The presence of at least one-third (1/3) of the members of the National Executive Committee shall be necessary to Constitute a quorum of the Committee.
 5. The National Executive Committee may form such Committees including Sector Committees and Sub-committees as it may consider necessary and expedient, and may co-opt any member into such Committees. Sector Committees may assist the National Executive Committee in defining the Party's policies on national issues, in monitoring the activities of the various departments of Government

and in such other matters the National Executive Committee may determine.

6. Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the National Executive Committee shall be filled in the following manner:

In case of the National Chairperson by the 1st National Vice Chairperson and the other National Vice-Chairpersons in descending order as the occasion may require; and in the case of the 3rd National Vice-Chairperson, the General Secretary and the National Treasurer, by election of the National Executive Committee of another National Officer to hold such office. In the case of the National Women's Organizer and the National Youth Organizer, the National Executive Committee shall request the bodies they represent to nominate someone to act in their place while a Regional Chairperson shall be replaced by the Vice Chairperson. Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall vacate his or her office at the same time as the other National Officers at the end of the term of **four (4)** years.

D. The National-Chairperson

- i) The National Chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the National Delegates Conference, the National Congress, the National Council, the National Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.
- ii) The National Chairperson shall be the convener of all the meetings of the National Delegates Conference, the National Council, the National Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.

- iii) In the absence of the National Chairperson the 1st National Vice-Chairperson shall act in his or her place.
- iv) The National Chairperson shall not be a candidate for the office of Member of Parliament or President of the Republic.

E. The National Vice-Chairperson

- i) There shall be three (3) National Vice-Chairpersons ranked first, second and third, according to the number of votes received at the election at the National Annual Delegates Conference. The 1st National Vice-Chairperson, being the most senior, shall act for the National Chairperson in his or her absence, and the others in descending order as the occasion may require. The National Vice-Chairpersons shall assist the National Chairperson in the running of the Party and shall be assigned such duties as may be prescribed by the National Council, the National Executive Committee and the National Chairperson.

F. The General Secretary

- i) **The Party shall have a National Secretariat which shall be headed by the General Secretary, who shall be a full time employee of the Party.**

The General Secretary shall be assisted by two Deputy General Secretaries who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council.

- ii) The National Secretariat shall consist of the General Secretary, the National Organizer, the Director of Finance, the Director of Communications, the Director of Campaign Strategy and such other personnel as the National Executive Committee may appoint.

- iii) The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the General Secretary and other personnel of the National Secretariat shall be determined by the National Chairperson with the approval of the National Executive Committee.

- iv) The General Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the operations of the Party's National Secretariat and coordinating the activities and operations of the Party and of all employees of the Party at Constituency, Regional, External and National levels.

- v) The General Secretary shall perform his functions in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Committee and the National Chairperson.

- vi) The General Secretary shall, within one (1) month prior to the holding of the National Delegates Conference, submit to the National Executive Committee a report on the state of the Party. Upon approval by the National Executive Committee, the General Secretary shall submit the report to the National Annual Delegates Conference.

- vii) The General Secretary shall not be a candidate for the office of Member of

Parliament or the
Republic.

President of the

be assisted by two Deputy National Organizers who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council.

G. The National Treasurer

- i) The National Treasurer shall be responsible for handling the national funds of the Party, and shall see to their proper disbursement in accordance with applicable laws.
- ii) The National Treasurer shall be responsible to the Finance Committee and shall make a monthly report on the state of the Party's Finances to the Finance Committee.
- iii) The National Treasurer shall, prior to the beginning of each financial year, prepare budgetary estimates for the Party's operations for the approval by the Finance Committee, which shall submit them to the National Executive Committee for decision.
- iv) The National Treasurer shall, not less than one (1) month prior to the holding of the National Delegates Conference, submit to the National Executive Committee a report on the state of the Party's finances. Upon approval by the National Executive Committee, the National Treasurer shall present the report to the National Delegates Conference.
- v) The National Treasurer shall not be a candidate for the office of Member of Parliament or President of the Republic.

H. The National Organizer

- (i). The National Organizer shall be responsible for the management of the organizational work of the Party. The National Organizer shall**

- (ii). The National Organizer shall be responsible for organizing recruitment drives, establishing contacts at all levels among voters, setting up and maintaining local branches, training of party activists and , in association with the Director of Communications, train officials to become trainers and organize both inner- party and voter education exercises.
- (iii). The National Organizer shall perform his functions in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Committee and the General Secretary.
- (iv). Once every quarter, the National Organizer shall submit a comprehensive report of his activities regarding the state of the Party's organization to the General Secretary.

I. Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee

1. There shall be a steering Committee of the National Executive Committee, which shall be responsible for overseeing daily management of the Party and shall act on behalf of the Party on urgent matters. The Steering Committee shall report on its activities to the National Executive Committee.
2. a) The Steering Committee shall consist of the following members.
 - (i). The National Chairperson
 - (ii) **The National Vice Chairpersons**

- (iii). The Presidential Candidate
- (iv). The Party's Parliamentary Leader
- (v). The Chairperson of the Council of Elders
- (vi). The General Secretary
- (vii). The National Treasurer
- (viii). The National Organizer
- (ix). The National Women Organizer
- (x). The National Youth Organizer, and
- (xi). The Nasara Coordinator

Seven (7) members of the Steering Committee, including the National Chairperson **or in his or her absence the 1st Vice Chairperson**, shall be present at a meeting to constitute a quorum of the Committee".

- b)
 - i) *When the Party is in power, a representative of the President shall attend Steering Committee meetings.*
 - ii) *The Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee shall appoint a National Officer who will supervise Regional Officers elections..*

ARTICLE 10

REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

- 1. a. Whenever forty percent (40%) of the delegates that **elect** Constituency, Regional and National officers as the case may be, give written notice to the Constituency, Regional or National Executive as the case may be, of the demand for the removal of any elected officer he Executive Committee which receives such notice shall within one (1) week of receipt of the notice circulate such notice to all delegates affected.

- b. The petition for the removal of an officer shall be on stated grounds, a copy of which shall be given to the affected officer who shall be given the opportunity to be heard by a body constituted by the Executive Committee.
- 2. Within one (1) month of the circulation of such notice referred to in clause (1), the said Executive Committee shall summon an Extraordinary Delegates Conference to deliberate and decide on the matter.
- 3. In the case of the demand for the removal of any member of the Constituency Executive Committee, the written notice shall be given to the Regional Executive Committee. With respect to the removal of Regional Officers, the written notice shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee while in the case of the removal of National Executive Officers, the written notice shall be to the National Council."
- 4. Upon receipt of the written notice, the Constituency, Regional, National Executive Committee or National Council as the case may be, may suspend the officer from acting in his or her office pending the holding of the Emergency Delegates Conference.
- 5. The notice summoning the Conference shall specify the agenda and the approval for the removal of the Officer shall be by **two-thirds** majority of the votes cast at the Conference. Refusal by the Conference to approve the removal of the Officer shall, automatically terminate his or her suspension, if any, from office.

6. **Clauses 1-5 herein shall not apply to appointed officers who may be removed by the decision of the appointing authority.**

in consultation with the Regional and Constituency Executives, may dispense with the requirement.

ARTICLE 11

SELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATE

1. No member shall be nominated or endorsed as the Party's candidate in any parliamentary election unless the Member has been selected in accordance with the provisions of this Article.

2. a) *The selection of Parliamentary Candidates shall be advertised for 18 months prior to the date of the National election provided that it shall be advertised for 1 (one) month in the Constituency.*
- b) *Parliamentary Candidates shall be elected at least twelve (12) months before the national general election. For the avoidance of doubt, the National Executive Committee shall have the power to determine separate dates for elections in constituency where the Party has sitting Members of Parliament.*
- c) *A member applying for nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate should be a known and active member for at least two (2) years provided that, in appropriate cases, the National Executive Committee ,*

- d) *A member applying for nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate for any Constituency shall be a registered member and a voter in the Constituency, which he or she seeks to represent, provided that, in appropriate cases, the National Executive Committee, in consultation with the Regional and Constituency Executives, may dispense with the requirement.*

3. Any Member may, prior to the expiry date of the period set out in Article 11 (2), submit an application for the nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate.
4. No Member shall be entitled to apply for nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate for any Constituency unless he or she:
- (i) Is a known and active Member of at least (2) years:
 - (ii) Is a registered Member and a voter in the Constituency which he or she seeks to represent, provided that in appropriate cases the Constituency Executive Committee may dispense with the requirement:
 - (iii) Is of good character:
 - (iv) Is otherwise of good standing

- (v) Has paid the prescribed fee for Parliamentary Candidate by the deadline set by the National Executive Committee:
- (vi) Qualifies under the electoral laws to be a Parliamentary Candidate for the Constituency; and
- (vii) Has signed the "Undertaking for Parliamentary Candidates"

5. It shall be the obligation of the Member seeking nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate to satisfy the Constituency Executive Committee, the Regional Executive Committee and the National Executive Committee that the conditions stipulated in Article 11 (4) have been fulfilled, and any application which does not comply with these conditions shall be rejected.

ARTICLE 12

a. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

1. The election of the Party's Presidential Candidate shall be held not later than twenty-four (24) months from the date of the national election. The date and venue for the election shall be decided by the National Council, provided, however, that the National Council may, on appropriate occasion, vary the date.
2. Not later than six (6) months prior to the holding of the election, the General Secretary shall give notice inviting applications from Members for nomination

as the Party's candidate to contest for the office of the President of the Republic. The Notice shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the Party's Constituency, Regional and National Offices and shall specify the closing date for application, which shall not be more than five (5) months to the holding of the election.

3.
 - a) Any Member may, prior to the expiry of the period set out in Article 12 (2), submit an application for nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate.
 - b) *When the Party is in government, the election of a Presidential Candidate shall be held not later than 11 months before the national general election.*
 - c) *Notice inviting application for the members for nomination as the Party's candidate shall be given three (3) months prior to the holding of the National Congress and shall close after two (2) months.*
 - d) *Any Minister, National Officer, and District Chief Executive (DCE) who files to contest to become a Presidential Candidate of the Party shall resign his/her position*
4. No Member shall be entitled to nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate unless he/she:
 - (i) Is a known and active Member of at least five (5) years;
 - (ii) Is of good character

- (iii) Is otherwise of good standing;
- (iv) Has paid the prescribed fee for Presidential Aspirant by the deadline set by the National Executive Committee;
- (v) Is found to be qualified to be a Presidential Candidate by the Vetting Committee.
- (vi) Has signed the “Undertaking for Presidential Aspirants” and
- (vii) The Member’s nomination has been endorsed in writing by at least one hundred (100) Members in good standing, ten (10) from each region.

5. a) It shall be the obligation of the Member seeking nomination as the Party’s Presidential Candidate to satisfy the National Executive Committee that the conditions stipulated in Article 12 (4) have been fulfilled and any application which does not comply with these conditions shall be rejected.

b. **Where there are more than five contestants for nomination as the Party’s Presidential Candidate, a Special Electoral College shall cast their votes by secret ballot for the first five contestants to be short-listed. The Special Electoral College shall comprise the following delegates:**

- (i) The National Council
- (ii) The National Executive Committee
- (iii) The Regional Executive Committees
- (iv) National Council of Elders
- (v) Members of Parliament
- (vi) Three representatives of each of special organs of the Party

- (vii) Past National Officers
- (viii) 3 representatives each from every external branch.
- (ix) Founding Members during the registration of the Party at the Electoral Commission
- (x) All New Patriotic Party card bearing Ministers when the Party is in government.

Every delegate shall be entitled to one vote.

6. **The Party’s Presidential Candidate shall be elected by the following delegates:**

- (i) The National Council
- (ii) The National Executive Committee
- (iii) The Regional Executive Committees
- (iv) The Constituency Executive Committees
- (v) The Electoral Area Coordinators
- (vi) The five (5) Polling Station Executive Officers in each Polling station
- (vii) National Council of Elders
- (viii) All NPP Members of Parliament
- (ix) Past National Officers
- (x) Three (3) representatives of each of the special organs of the Party
- (xi) Twelve (12) delegates from every external branch as defined under section 8(2) of this Constitution.
- (xii) Founding Members who are signatories to the registration documents of the Party at the Electoral Commission
- (xiii) Fifteen Patrons to be elected from among themselves
- (xiv) One Tescon representative from each recognized tertiary institution
- (xv) All New Patriotic Party card bearing Ministers and deputy Ministers when the Party is in government.

Every delegate shall be entitled to one vote.

The National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council shall make rules and regulations governing the organization and conduct of elections of a Presidential Candidate.

1. a. Election of Presidential Candidate
 - (i) Where there is only one (1) contestant for the nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate, the National Congress shall acclaim his nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate.
 - (ii) Where there is more than one (1) contestant, each delegate will cast his or her vote by secret ballot for one of the contestants.
 - (iii) Where a contestant obtains more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes cast, he or she shall be the Party's Presidential Candidate.
 - (iv) Where, however, no candidate obtains more than 50% of the vote cast, there shall be a run-off between the first two contestants and the contestant with simple majority shall be the Party's Presidential Candidate .
 - (v) In the event of a tie between the two contestants, the run-off will continue until one contestant obtains a simple majority.

b. Selection Of the Vice Presidential Candidate

The Party's Presidential Candidate shall, in consultation with the National Council, nominate the Vice Presidential Candidate.

The Vice Presidential Candidate shall be a known and active Member of at least five (5) years and shall be nominated by the Presidential Candidate at least twelve (12) months before the general elections when the Party is not in government or the sitting President is not the Candidate. The National Council may however dispense with the requirement under special circumstances.

ARTICLE 13

THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

1. The Party's Members of Parliament shall form the Parliamentary Group, which shall have rules and regulations, not inconsistent with this Constitution, to govern its activities.
2. The election of the Leader, the Deputy Leader, the Chief Whip, and the Deputy Chief Whip of the Parliamentary Group shall be done by the National Council.
3. **The National Executive Committee shall in consultation with the Parliamentary group appoint the Party's Parliamentary spokespersons, who shall be Chairpersons of the Party's Sector Committees when the Party is not in government.**

4. The National Council and the National Executive Committee shall, respectively, review each year the performance of the Parliamentary leadership and spokespersons with a view to making appropriate changes where necessary.
5. The Parliamentary Leader, together with one (1) other representative of the Parliamentary Group, shall be members of the National Executive Committee, and one (1) representative of the Parliamentary Group shall be a member of the National Disciplinary Committee. The Parliamentary Leader shall be a member of the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee and Parliamentary spokespersons shall be members of their respective Sector Committees.

ARTICLE 14

SPECIAL ORGANS OF THE PARTY

1. The following are the special organs of the Party:
 - a) The National Women's Wing
 - b) The National Youth Wing; and
 - c) Such other organs as the National Council may determine;

- a) The National Women's Wing

The National Women's Wing is a special organ within the party which promotes the policies and programmes of the Party amongst women. Its responsibilities are:

- i) Recruit Women into the membership Party;
- ii) Cultivate the support of women for the Party before and during election,
- iii) Raise public awareness on gender and children's issues,
- iv) Promote policies that will realize the full potential of women and children
- v) Oppose vigorously policies and practices that militate against the full development of women and children;
- vi) Create a nationwide organization within the Party to cater for the activities and interest of female members.

The National Women's Wing shall have rules and regulations to govern its activities, **including holding a special congress for the elections of its officers**, which shall not be inconsistent with this Constitution.

The National Women's Organizer shall be a member of the National Executive Committee and of the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.

The National Women Organizer shall be assisted by two Deputy National Women Organizers who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council"

- b) The National Youth Wing

The National Youth Wing is a special organ within the Party which promotes the policies and programmes of the Party amongst the youth. ("Youth" is a Member who has

not attained the age of forty (40) years). Its responsibilities are to:

- i) Recruit the youth into membership of the Party.
- ii) Cultivate the support of the youth for the Party before and during elections.
- iii) Raise public awareness about the problems facing the youth, including educational standards and unemployment;
- iv) Promote policies that will realize the full potential of the youth, including policies to improve the quality of education and to widen access of the youth to quality education;
- v) Oppose vigorously policies and practices that militate against the full development of the youth;
- vi) Establish branches of the Party in second cycle and tertiary institutions of learning in all parts of the country;
- vii) Create a nation-wide organization within the Party to cater for the activities and interest of young Members.

The National Youth Wing shall have rules and regulations to govern its activities, **including holding a special congress for the election of its officers**, which shall not be inconsistent with this Constitution.

The National Youth Organizer shall be a member of the National Executive Committee and of the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.

The National Council may, by a resolution of the Council, expand the categories of special organs as it deems fit.

The National Youth Organizer shall be assisted by two Deputy National Youth Organizers who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council.

ARTICLE 15

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

1. There shall be a National Council of Elders composed of Members who have given of their best and have contributed significantly to the formation, welfare and progress of the Party and its forbears. The members of the National Council of Elders shall elect their own chairperson and other officers.
2. The National Council may be called upon from time to time to:
 - i) Solve disputes and differences among Members;
 - ii) Give ideas and advice for the improvement of the Party's activities
 - iii) Assist in raising funds for the Party.
3. a. The National Executive Committee shall approve of nomination of outstanding party elders to the list of the National Council of Elders. The list shall be prepared by the National Chairperson in consultations with the Regional Chairpersons. An Elder is a

member who has attained the age of sixty-five (65) years and more.

b. **The membership of the National Council of Elders shall not exceed thirty (30) at any given time. The National Council may by a resolution and in consultation with the National Executive Committee approve the expansion of the membership of the Council of Elders beyond the number herein specified.**

4. The Chairperson of the National Council of Elders shall be a member of the National Executive Committee, the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee and the Vetting Committee, and a representative of the National Council of Elders shall be a member of the National Disciplinary Committee.

5. Each Region shall have a Regional Council of Elders, composed of Members who have made significant contribution at the Regional and Constituency level to the formation, welfare and progress of the Party and its forbears. The members of the Regional Council of Elders shall elect their own Chairperson and other officers.

6. The Regional Executive Committees shall approve of nomination of deserving Party elders in the Region or the Constituencies to the list of the Regional Council of Elders, and new entrants shall be decided by the Regional Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 16

AUDITORS

1) There shall be appointed by the National Council a firm of auditors to audit the accounts of the Party to be presented at the National Annual Delegates Conference. Their term of office shall expire at the end of each National Annual Delegates Conference, but they may be re-appointed for a further period.

ARTICLE 17

RULES AND REGULATIONS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

There may be separate rules and regulations of the Party to supplement the provisions of the Constitution. The rules and regulations may provide the guidelines needed for the Constituency, Regional, External and National Organizations and operations of the Party.

ARTICLE 18

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Every amendment to this Constitution shall be made at the National Delegates Conference, provided, however, that no amendment shall be made unless:

i) Notice of such amendment has been submitted in writing to the General Secretary not later than two (2) months before the National Delegates Conference;

- ii) The General Secretary has circulated the proposed amendment to every Regional and Constituency office at least one (1) month before the National Delegates Conference;
- iii) At least two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates at the National Delegates Conference cast their votes in favour of the amendment.

ARTICLE 19

REVOCATION OF 1992 CONSTITUTION

Upon the coming into force of this Constitution, the Constitution of the Party registered with the National Electoral Commission on 24th June 1992 subsequently amended shall cease to have effect.

DATED THIS 22nd DAY OF AUGUST 2009

PETER MAC MANU
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

NANA OHENE NTOW
GENERAL SECRETARY