CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (NDC)

COMMENCEMENT:

19TH SEPTEMBER 1992

MOTTO:

UNITY, STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (NDC)
ARRANGEMENT OF ARTICLES

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PREAMBLE

WE, the members of the NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS (NDC),

BELIEVING in THE DESTINY of Ghanaians to build a society that realises truly human values based on the full mobilisation of the talents and energies of our people and the sustainable development of the resources with which nature has generously endowed us;

CONSCIOUS that this great edifice must be erected on the specified platform of our country's history and its current location in the world's economy;

RECOGNIZING that the requisite re-alignment of national economic and social institutions of private and public character to meet national development needs is only possible given committed, capable and accountable political leadership;

DETERMINED to provide a framework of voluntary political associations within which Ghanaians from all walks of life and from different traditions can surmount their differences and contribute democratically to the shaping of this new society;

RESOLVED to uphold the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana approved by the national referendum held on the 28th April 1992; and COMMITTED to freedom, justice and accountability;

Do hereby give to ourselves, this CONSTITUTION.

CHAPTER ONE

PRELIMINARY MATTERS, NAME, MOTTO, SYMBOL, COLOURS, PHILOSOPHY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PARTY

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of the Party shall be NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS, referred to in this Constitution as "the Party".

ARTICLE 2: MOTTO

The motto of the Party shall be UNITY, STABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT.

ARTICLE 3: SYMBOL

The symbol of the Party shall be what is known in Akan as AKATAMANSO (UMBRELLA).

ARTICLE 4: COLOURS

The colours in the flag of the Party will be BLACK, RED, WHITE and GREEN.

ARTICLE 5: PHILOSOPHY OF THE PARTY

The Party is a Social Democratic Party that believes in the equality and the egalitarian treatment of each person irrespective of their social, cultural, educational, political, religious and economic relations in a multi-Party environment.

ARTICLE 6: ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PARTY

The Founding Father of the Party is Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings upon whose vision and leadership the Party was established.

CHAPTER TWO

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE 7: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The aims and objectives of the Party are to:

(a) promote participatory democracy and responsible government in Ghana;

(b) attain political power through democratic and Constitutional means to create conditions conducive to ensure national development;

(c) ensure the attainment of equality and fraternity of each man and woman under the law without regard to ethnicity, race, religious belief, ideology, culture, social or economic status;

(d) secure the right of each member of society to participate in decision-making in an open and democratic manner but defer to the majority interest without the sacrifice of minority rights;

(e) ensure the establishment of the rule of law and the right of each citizen or law-abiding person in Ghana to pursue their affairs without unlawful interference and the right of each person to easy access and equal recourse to the court;

(f) seek provision of free and compulsory basic education and within the means available, progressively provide appropriate higher education for every citizen of Ghana;

(g) ensure the provision within the shortest possible time, to every community in Ghana, basic human needs; adequate food, affordable housing, clothing, water, health care, schools, accessible roads, electricity and telecommunication facilities;

(h) establish friendly relations with all countries;

(i) strengthen economic, political and cultural co-operation with African countries especially those in the ECOWAS sub-region; and

(j) establish ties with parties and organisations, particularly those with identical political beliefs and commitment throughout the world.

2. The aims and objectives of the Party shall conform to the Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms and the Directive Principles of State Policy as enshrined in Chapter 5 and Chapter 6 of the Fourth Republican Constitution and accordingly, the Party shall pursue the political, economic, social, educational and other objectives stated in Chapter 6 of the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.

3. To these ends the Party shall:

(a) organise discussions on every aspect of national life within its various organs and develop policies that reflect the democratic and development aspirations of the people;

(b) evolve programmes and actions which will realise these aims, objectives and aspirations;

(c present or elect candidates for Presidential elections;

(d) field candidates to contest elections for seats in Parliament with a view to maintain a leading voice in the evolution of legislation, policies, and programmes; and

(e) do anything necessary or expedient in the pursuit of the above aims and objectives.

CHAPTER THREE

MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

ARTICLE 8: MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership of the Party shall be open to every citizen of Ghana irrespective of ethnic origin, religion, place of birth, social or economic status.

2. A citizen of Ghana may be registered as a member of the Party if that person :

(a) has attained the age of eighteen (18) years:

(b) accepts the Constitution, aims, objectives, policies and programmes of the Party;

(c) is accepted for membership by a branch of the Party;

(d) accepts the discipline and rules of conduct of the party;

(e) pays the subscription fee and annual dues as required; and

(f) is not a member of any other political Party.

3. Membership of the Party shall be open to any organisation that satisfies the conditions in sub-Clause 2 (b), (d) and (f) Where the organisation is accepted as a member by the National Executive Committee, its members shall be individually registered with a branch.

4. A person wishing to join the Party shall apply to a Branch by filling out a membership form.

5. The Branch Executive at its next meeting shall either accept or reject the application.

6. Upon acceptance, the member will be issued a membership card by the Constituency Executive Committee under which the Branch falls.

7. Where the Branch Executive refuses to accept the application it must communicate the reasons to the applicant in writing within fourteen (14) days.

8. The applicant may appeal to the Constituency Executive Committee for redress.

9. Subscription fees and annual dues determined from time to time by the National Congress shall be payable by each member.

10. The National Congress may delegate the determination of subscription fees and annual dues to the National Executive Committee.

11. A person is not a member of the Party unless the person is a member of a Branch.

12. A member may resign membership by formally notifying the Branch of which the person is a member.

ARTICLE 9: AFFILIATION

1. An organisation may be affiliated to the Party and is entitled to send a delegation to the National Congress if:

   (a) it publicly endorses the aims, objectives, policies and programmes of the Party;

   (b) it is an organisation whose membership is not based on ethnic or racial criteria; and

   (c) it accepts to pay the requisite subscription fees and annual dues determined by the National Congress.

2. An application for affiliation shall be made in writing to the National Executive Committee and shall be accompanied with:

   (a) the organisation's Constitution, charter, or regulations as the case may be;

   (b) a description of its current membership and main activities;

   (c) a list of its national officers; and

   (d) a statement of its other affiliations and organisational links nationally and internationally.

3. The National Executive Committee shall review each application and make recommendations to the National Congress by way of resolution.

4. Upon acceptance, the National Congress shall determine the number of delegates that the affiliated organisation is entitled to send to the National Congress.

5. The National Executive Committee shall monitor affiliations and submit periodic reports to the National Congress on the desirability of the continued affiliation of any affiliated organization.

6. An affiliated organisation may terminate its affiliation by notification to the National Executive Committee in writing.

7. The National Executive Committee may by resolution propose for adoption by the National Congress the termination of a relationship with any affiliated organization.

ARTICLE 10: INTEGRAL ORGANS

1. The following shall constitute the integral organs of the Party:

   (a) The Youth Wing;

   (b) The Women's Wing;

   (c) The Parliamentary Group;

   (d) The Zongo Caucus;

   (e) The External Branches; and

   (f) Any other integral Organs that may be created by the National Congress.

2. The regulations of the Integral Organs of the Party shall be approved by the National Executive Committee and shall be consistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

3. There shall be established External Branches of the Party proposed by the National Executive Committee and approved by the National Congress.

4. The External Branches shall be co-ordinated by the Director of International Relations who shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee.

5. The International Relations Department shall have the staff and facilities that the National Executive Committee shall determine.

6. The Director of International Relations shall perform the functions assigned by the National Executive Committee

CHAPTER FOUR

STRUCTURE

ARTICLE 11: LEVELS OF ORGANISATION

The Party shall be organised at branch, constituency, regional and national levels.

ARTICLE 12: BRANCH

The basic unit of the Party shall be the Branch that shall comprise members resident at a polling station.

ARTICLE 13: BRANCH MEETING

A Branch meeting shall discuss strategies to:

(a) carry out Party campaigns and education;

(b) recruit membership;

(c) ensure high Party support and voter turnout at all national polls; and

(d) ensure that the Party remains sensitive to the grassroot concerns of the communities that the Party exists to serve.

ARTICLE 14: BRANCH EXECUTIVE

1. The Branch shall have an executive that consists of:

(a) a Chairman who shall preside at meetings of the Branch;

(b) a Secretary who shall record proceedings at meetings and provide administrative services to the Branch;

(c) an Organiser who shall be the chief field operator in the performance of the functions of the Branch;

(d) a Treasurer to collect membership dues, donations and other monies that may be authorised by the National Congress or the National Executive Committee and deal with these as directed;

(e) a Women Organiser responsible for the mobilisation of women at the branch level for Party activities;

(f) a Youth Organiser responsible for the mobilisation of the youth at the branch level for Party activities;

(g) a Communication Officer responsible for the publicity of activities and marketing the Party at the branch level; and

(h) two other members.

2. The Executive for the Branch shall be elected at a Branch meeting called for that purpose at least one month before the Constituency Conference.

3. An executive member of the Branch may be re-elected to the office subject to the right of recall by the Branch meeting.

4. The tenure of office of the Branch executives shall be four (4) years.

ARTICLE 15: CONSTITUENCY CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Constituency Conference held every four (4) years to elect Party officers at a venue within the constituency.

2. The Constituency Conference shall be convened by the Chairman of the Constituency Executive Committee in consultation with the Constituency Executive.

3. Where the Chairman fails to convene a Constituency Conference, the General Secretary shall direct as to the convening of such conference giving the venue, time and agenda.

4. Where for sufficient reason a Constituency Conference cannot be organised within four (4) years as required, the National Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Committee, shall direct the holding of the conference at a subsequent date.

5. The following persons shall attend and vote at Constituency Conferences:

   (a) members of the Branch Executives in the Constituency;

   (b) the member of Parliament and the Party Parliamentary candidate from the Constituency;

   (c) members of the National Executive Committee both elected and co-opted who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

   (d) members of the Regional Executive Committee both elected and co-opted who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

   (e) members of the Constituency Executive Committee both elected and co-opted who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

   (f) members of the National and Regional Council of Elders who are members of the party and hail from the constituency;

   (g) Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

   (h) Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(i) Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(j) former Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(k) District Chief Executives who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(i) Members of the Council of State who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(m) former Members of Parliament who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(n) former Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(o) former Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(p) former members of Council of State who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency;

(q) founding members of the Party who are members of the Party and who hail from the Constituency; and

(r) former Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the Constituency.

6. The Constituency Conference shall:

(a) review the activities of the Party in the Constituency and plan for the Party generally in the constituency;

(b) elect members of the Constituency Executive Committee;

(c) where applicable, elect a candidate to contest election to Parliament on the Party's ticket for an election year; and

(d) propose resolutions for discussion at the National Congress.

ARTICLE 16: CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a Constituency Executive Committee that consists of the following:

(a) a Chairman;

(b) a Vice chairman;

(c) a Secretary;

(d) a Deputy Secretary;

(e) a Treasurer;

(f) a Deputy Treasurer;

(g) a Constituency Organiser;

(h) a Deputy Constituency Organiser;

(i) a Constituency Youth Organiser;

(j) a Deputy Constituency Youth Organiser;

(k) a Constituency Women Organiser;

(l) a Deputy Constituency Women Organiser;

(m) a Communication Officer;

(n) a Deputy Communication Officer;

(o) a Member of Parliament;

(p) a District Chief Executive who is member of the Party;

(q) eight (8) other members;

(r) five (5) other co-opted members chosen by the Constituency Executive Committee in consultation with the Regional Executive Committee; and

(s) Regional and National Executive Committee Members who hail from the constituency.

2. The following members of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be elected at the Constituency Conference:

(a) a Chairman;

(b) a Vice -Chairman;

(c) a Secretary;

(d) a Deputy Secretary;

(e) a Treasurer;

(f) a Deputy Treasurer;

(g) a Constituency Organiser;

(h) a Deputy Constituency Organiser;

(i) a Communication Officer;

(j) a Deputy Communication Officer; and

(k) eight (8) other members

3. The following members of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be elected by their respective organs:

(a) a Constituency Youth Organiser;

(b) a Deputy Constituency Youth Organiser;

(c) a Constituency Women Organiser; and

(d) a Deputy Constituency Women Organiser.

4. The Constituency Youth Conference shall be attended by all branch Youth Organisers.
5. The Constituency Women Conference shall be attended by all branch Women Organisers.
6. The members of the Constituency Executive Committee mentioned in clauses (2) and (3) shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election.

7. The Constituency Executive Committee is responsible for:

(a) the organisation of the Party activities within the Constituency;

(b) the implementation of the decisions of the National Congress, the Regional Party Conference and the Constituency

Conference under the guidance of the Regional Executive Committee;

(c) the supervision of the Branches within the constituency;

(d) the acceptance of the nomination of candidates for election by the Constituency Conference to contest elections to Parliament on the Party's ticket subject to the endorsement of the National Executive Committee;

(e) the conduct of electoral and other campaigns that the Party is involved in at the level of the Constituency; and

(f) the submission of a written report to the Regional Executive Committee on the Constituency Conference not later than two (2) weeks after the Conference is held.

ARTICLE 17: DISTRICT CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. In any district where there is more than one constituency, there shall be a District Co-ordinating Committee comprising the chairmen, secretaries, organisers, Members of Parliament and the District Chief Executive if the District Chief Executive is a member of the Party and two representatives of each Constituency Executive Committee in the constituency.

2. For the purpose of this article, each sub-metropolitan district council of a Metropolitan Assembly shall be deemed to be a district.

3. The District Co-ordinating Committee is responsible for co-ordinating the work of the various Constituency Executive Committees in the district.

ARTICLE 18: REGIONAL PARTY CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Regional Party Conference held every four (4) years at least two weeks before the National Congress at a venue within the region.

2. A regional Party may hold its conference if two-thirds (2/3) of their constituencies in the region have held Conferences. The Regional Party Conference shall be convened by the Chairman of the Regional Executive Committee in consultation with the Regional Executive Committee.

3. Where the Chairman fails to convene a Regional Party Conference, the General Secretary shall direct the convening of the Conference giving the venue, time and agenda.

4. Where a Regional Conference cannot be organised for sufficient reason within four (4) years as required by Clause (1) of Article 18, the National Executive Committee shall direct the holding of the conference at a subsequent date.

5. The following persons shall attend and vote at a Regional Party Conference:

   a. every Constituency Executive Committee Member from each constituency in the region;
   b. the members of Parliament and the Party's Parliamentary candidates from the region;
   c. members of the National Executive Committee who hail from the Region;
   d. each member of the Regional Executive Committee, both elected and co-opted;
   e. Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives of the region who are members of the Party;

f. Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
g. Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State who are members of the party and who hail from the region;
h . Regional Ministers and Deputy Regional Ministers of the region who are members of the party and;
i. Founding members of the Party who hail from the region;
j. members of the National and Regional Council of Elders who hail from the region;
k. five (5) representatives of (TEIN) Tertiary Educational Institutions Network in the region, at least two of who shall be women;
l. Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
m. former Ministers and former deputy ministers who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
n. former Members of Parliament who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
o. former Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
p. Members of the Council of State who are members of the Party and who hail from the region;
q. former members of the Council of State who are members of the Party and who hail from the region; and
r. former Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who hail from the region.

6. The Regional Party Conference shall:

(a) review the activities of the Party in the region and plan for the Party generally in the region;

(b) elect members of the Regional Executive Committee under clause 1 of article 19; and

(c) receive reports on activities of the constituencies in the region not more than two (2)weeks after the conference.

ARTICLE 19: REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a Regional Executive Committee, that consists of the following:

   (a) a Chairman;

   (b) two Vice - chairmen;

   (c) a Secretary;

   (d) a Deputy Secretary;

   (e) a Treasurer;

   (f) a Deputy Treasurer;

   (g) a Regional Party Organiser;

   (h) a Deputy Regional Party Organiser;

   (i) the Regional Youth Organiser;

   (j) two Deputy Regional Youth Organisers;

   (k) the Regional Women Organiser;

   (l) two Deputy Regional Women Organisers;

   (m) the Regional Communication Officer;

   (n) Deputy Regional Communication Officer;

(o) one(1) representative of each Constituency Executive Committee;

(p) all Members of Parliament from the region who are members of the Party;

(q) Ministers of State from the region, including Deputy Ministers;

(r) District Chief Executives of the region who are members of the Party;

(s) three(3) other persons co-opted in consultation with the National Executive Committee.

2. The following members of the Regional Executive Committee shall be elected by the Regional Party Conference:

(a) a Chairman;

(b) two Vice-Chairmen;

(c) a Secretary;

(d) a Deputy Secretary;

(e) a Treasurer;

(f) a Deputy Treasurer;

(g) a Regional Party Organiser;

(h) a Deputy Regional Party Organiser;

(i) a Regional Communication Officer: and

(j) a Deputy Regional Communication Officer

3. The following members of the Regional Executive Committee shall be elected by their respective organs:

   (a) a Regional Youth Organiser;

   (b) two Deputy Regional Youth Organisers;

   (c) a Regional Women Organiser; and

   (d) two Deputy Regional Women Organisers.

4. The following shall attend and vote at the Regional Youth Conference:

   (a) the Regional Youth Organiser;

   (b) the Deputy Regional Youth Organisers;

   (c) every Constituency Youth Organiser in the region;

   (d) every Deputy Constituency Youth Organiser in the region;

   (e) one representative from each constituency in the region elected at the Constituency Youth Conference at which the Constituency Youth Organiser and the Deputy Constituency Youth Organiser were elected; and

   (f) one representative from each TEIN accredited institution in the Region.

5. The following shall attend and vote at the Regional Women Conference:

   (a) the Regional Women Organiser;

(b) the Deputy Regional Women Organisers;

(c) every Constituency Women Organiser in the region;

(d) every Deputy Constituency Women Organiser in the region;

(e) one Woman Commissioner from each TEIN accredited institution in the Region.

(f) Women members of Parliament who hail from the region.

(g) Women Ministers and Deputy Ministers who hail from the region.

6. The members of the Regional Executive Committee in clauses (2) and (3) of Article 19 shall hold office for a term of four years (4) and are eligible for re-election.

7. The Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible for:

(a) organizing all Party activities within the region;

(b) implementing the decision of the National Congress and the Regional Party Conference within the region under the guidance of the National Executive Committee;

(c) monitoring the performance of the Constituency Executive Committees and the District Co-ordinating Committees within the region;

(d) evolving strategies for the conduct of electoral and other campaigns of the Party in the region; and

(e) the submission of a written report to the National Executive Committee on the Regional Party Conference not later than one (1) week after the Conference is held.

ARTICLE 20: NATIONAL CONGRESS

1. There shall be a Congress of the Party to be held once every four (4)years called the National Congress.

2. The National Congress is the highest decision making body of the Party.

3. The National Congress shall be convened by the General Secretary acting on the direction of the National Executive Committee which shall state the date and venue of the National Congress.

4. The following are entitled to attend and vote at the National Congress:

   (a) each Constituency Executive member from every constituency,

   (b) each Regional Executive member from every region,

   (c) each member of the National Executive Committee;

   (d) the President of the Republic and the Vice President if they are members of the Party;

   (e) the Party's Presidential and Vice Presidential Candidates in an election year where they are members of the Party;

   (f) past Presidents and Vice Presidents of the Republic who are members of the Party;

   (g) members of the National and Regional Council of Elders;

(h) Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers who are members of the Party;

(i) Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party;

(j) Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party;

(k) every member of the Parliamentary Group;

(l) every Party parliamentary candidate in an election year;

(m) every founding member of the Party;

(n) the representatives of affiliated organizations;

(o) a representative of each other Integral Organ of the Party;

(p) fifteen (15) representatives of each External Branch of the Party including the Youth Organiser; and Women Organiser of that Branch;

(q) five representatives of the Tertiary Educational Institutions Network within each Region, two of whom shall be women;

(r) a representative of the Zongo Caucus in each region;

(s) Former Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers who are members of the Party;

(t) Former Members of Parliament who are members of the Party;

(u) Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party;

(v) Former Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party;

(w) Former Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party;

(x) Members of the Council of State who are members of the Party;

(y) Former members of the Council of State who are members of the Party;

(z) Former Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party.

(aa) Former National Executive Committee members who are members of the party

5. The following may attend the National Congress as observers:

(a) the President of the Republic and the Vice President who are not members of the Party but have been elected with the support of the Party;

(b) a person who is not a member of the Party but has been endorsed by the Party as a Presidential candidate and the Vice Presidential candidate in an election year; and

(c) other observers determined by the National Executive Committee.

6. The National Congress Shall:

(a) elect a Standing Orders Committee responsible for matters of procedure at the National Congress and Congress Committees;

(b) approve the annual report and policy recommendations proposed by the National Executive Committee;

(c) consider the audited accounts of the Party for the preceding year presented by the National Executive Committee;

(d) consider proposals for Constitutional reform or for the reform of the Standing Orders;

(e) consider resolutions submitted by Regional Conferences as well as Congress floor resolutions where these are supported by not less than fifty (50) delegates;

(f) elect the members of the National Executive Committee under this Constitution;

(g) approve the creation of integral organs of the Party other than those stated in this Constitution; and

(h) generally perform policy oversight functions for the Party.

ARTICLE 21: SPECIAL NATIONAL DELEGATES CONGRESS

1. The National Executive Committee may call a Special National Delegates Congress by notice at a place and on a date determined by it.

2. A Special National Delegates Congress shall have the same representation and powers as the National Congress.

ARTICLE 22: NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a National Executive Committee that consists of the following:

   a. the National Chairman;
   b. five (5) national vice-chairmen, two of whom shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee;
   c. the President if that person is a member of the Party;
   d. the Presidential Candidate if that person is a member of the Party;
   e. the Vice President if that person is a member of the Party;
   f. The Vice Presidential Candidate if that person is a member of the Party;
   g. Past Presidents or Past Vice Presidents of the Republic who are members of the Party;
   h. the General Secretary;
   i. two (2) Deputy General Secretaries;
   j. the National Treasurer;
   k. the Deputy National Treasurer;
   l. ten (10) Ministers of State who are members of the Party in Cabinet;
   m. the National Organiser;
   n. the two Deputy National Organisers;
   o. the National Communication Officer;
   p. the two Deputy National Communication Officers;
   q. the National Women Organiser;
   r. the two Deputy National Women Organisers;
   s. the National Youth Organiser;
   t. the two Deputy National Youth Organisers;
   u. every Regional Chairman, Regional Secretary, Regional Women Organiser, Regional Organiser and Regional Youth Organiser;

v. twenty (20) representatives of the Parliamentary group that may be determined by the group;

w. three (3) other persons co-opted by the National Executive Committee; and

x. five (5) other members elected by the National Congress.

2. The following members of the National Executive Committee shall be elected by the National Congress at elections to be supervised by the Electoral Commission:

(a) the National Chairman;

(b) three (3) National Vice-Chairmen;

(c) the General Secretary;

(d) Two (2) Deputy General Secretaries;

(e) the National Organiser;

(f) two (2) Deputy National Organisers;

(g) the National Communication Officer;

(h) two (2) Deputy National Communication Officers; and

(I) five other members.

3. The National Treasurer and Deputy National Treasurer shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council of Elders.

4. The following members of the National Executive Committee shall be elected by their respective organs:

(a) a National Youth Organiser;

(b) two (2) Deputy National Youth Organisers;

(c) a National Women Organiser;

(d) two (2) Deputy National Women Organisers; and

(e) representatives of the Parliamentary Group.

5. The following shall attend and vote at the National Youth Conference to elect the National Youth Organiser and two Deputy National Youth Organisers:

(a) the National Youth Organiser;

(b) the two Deputy National Youth Organisers;

(c) every Regional Youth Organiser;

(d) every Deputy Regional Youth Organiser;

(e) every Constituency Youth Organiser;

(f) every Constituency Deputy Youth Organiser

(g) one representative from each accredited TEIN institution

(h) every Youth Organiser from each foreign branch;

(i) one (1) other person elected at the Constituency Youth Conference at which the Youth Organiser and Deputy Youth Organiser were elected.

6. The following shall attend and vote at the National Women's Conference to elect the National Women Organiser and two deputy National Women Organisers:

(a) the National Women Organiser;
(b) the two Deputy National Women Organisers;
(c) each Regional Women Organiser;
(d) each Deputy Regional Women Organiser;
(e) each Constituency Women Organiser;
(f) each Deputy Constituency Women Organiser;
(g) one Woman Commissioner from each TEIN Institution accredited to the Party; and
(h) two Women Organisers from each foreign Branch.
(i) All women members of Parliament and Women Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State who are members of the party.

7. All National Executive Committee members elected at the National Congress shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and are eligible for re-election.

8. A person shall not qualify to be a member of the National Executive Committee unless that person is a member of a Branch and has paid subscription fees and annual dues.

9. The National Executive Committee shall:

(a) ensure that the policies and programmes of the Party adopted by the National Congress are carried out;

(b) present an annual report to the National Congress on the state of the Party that includes a full statement of accounts as required under the Political Parties Act, 2000 (Act 574);

(c) prepare and approve the manifesto of the Party in time for any general elections;

(d) vet candidates to be elected at constituency level to contest seats for Parliament;

(e) endorse the Parliamentary candidacy of a contestant who is not a Party member where the Party is not contesting in the Constituency;

(f) prepare standing orders and rules of accreditation for the conduct of the National Congress to be adopted by the National Congress;

(g) prepare the agenda for the National Congress;

(h) prepare rules of conduct and procedure for its own meetings and for the meetings of other Party organisations;

(i) approve applications for modification of the rules of procedure or structure received from other Party structures particularly at the Branch and Constituency levels, if the modifications comply with the spirit of the Constitution;

(j) settle disputes between Party organisations or officials as regards the policy of the Party or the interpretation of this Constitution subject to a right of appeal to the National Congress that shall have the final decision;

(k) advise the National Congress as regards the affiliation to the Party of various organisations;

(l) appoint auditors to audit the accounts of the Party annually and present the audited accounts to the National Congress for acceptance before submission to the Electoral Commission; and

(m) appoint and assign responsibility to:

(i) the Director of International Relations;

(ii) the Director of Research;

(iii) the Director of Communication;

(iv) the Director of Administration; and

(v) the Director of Elections all of who shall be national officers of the Party

10. The National Executive Committee shall meet as often as it considers necessary but at least once in every quarter.

11. A meeting of the National Executive Committee shall be convened by the General Secretary on the direction of the National Chairman or upon the written request of at least one-third of the members of the National Executive Committee.

12. The quorum for meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be one-third (1/3) of the membership.

13. The officers appointed under clause 9 (m) may attend meetings of the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 23: FUNCTIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a Functional Executive Committee, membership of which shall be drawn from the National Executive Committee.

2. The following members of the National Executive Committee shall constitute the Functional Executive Committee:

(a) the Chairman;

(b) the Vice Chairmen;

(c) the General Secretary;

(d) the two Deputy General Secretaries;

(e) the National Treasurer;

(f) the Deputy National Treasurer;

(g) the National Organiser;

(h) the two Deputy National Organisers;

(i) the National Communications Officer;

(j) the two Deputy National Communication Officers;

(k) the National Youth Organiser;

(l) the two Deputy National Youth Organisers;

(m) the National Women's Organiser;

(n) the two Deputy National Women Organisers; and

(o) the leader of Party in Parliament and two Members of Parliament who are members of the National Executive Committee.

3. The following appointees may attend meetings of the Functional Executive Committee:

(a) the Director of International Relations and Deputy;

(b) the Director of Research and Deputy;

(c) the Director of Communications;

(d) the Director of Administration;

(e) the Chairman, Finance Committee;

(f) the Director of Elections and Deputy and;

(g) other persons invited by the Functional Executive Committee.

4. The Functional Executive Committee is responsible for the overall administration of the affairs of the Party in between National Executive Committee meetings.

5. The composition of the Functional Executive Committee shall be replicated at the Regional and Constituency levels of the Party with the necessary modifications.

ARTICLE 24: COUNCIL OF ELDERS

1. There shall be established a National Council of Elders composed of not more than 30 (thirty) members at least five (5) of whom are women.

2. The National Council of Elders shall have the following membership:

(a) the Founding Father;

(b) The President and former Presidents who are members of the Party;

(c) the Vice President and former Vice Presidents who are members of the Party;

(d) former National Chairmen who are members of the Party;

(e) not more than one former National Vice Chairman of the Party;

(f) every former General Secretary who is a member of the Party;

(g) not more than two (2) former members of the Council of State who are members of the Party;

(h) not more than two (2) former Cabinet Ministers who are members of the Party;

(I) the former Speakers of Parliament who are members of the Party;

(j) the former Leaders of the Parliamentary group who are members of the Party and are no longer members of Parliament; and

(k) not more than six (6) other outstanding members of the Party who have given loyal and distinguished service towards the welfare and progress of the Party.

3. Apart from the ex-officio members all other members of the Council shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee.

(a) The Founding Father of the Party shall be the Chairman of the Council of Elders ; and

(b) The Vice Chairman of the Council shall preside over meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairman.

4. There shall be established a Regional Council of Elders for each region, composed of not more than fifteen (15) members, at least three (3) of whom are women.

(a) A person is eligible for appointment to the Regional Council of Elders upon proven record of distinguished service to the Party; and

(b) The Regional Executive Committee for each region shall propose the membership of the Regional Council of Elders for the consideration and approval of the National Executive Committee.

5. The Council of Elders shall upon referral from the National Executive Committee, examine Party issues and advise the National Executive Committee as may be considered appropriate

(a) the Council of Elders shall endeavour to resolve disputes and differences among Party members and among the various institutions within the Party;

(b) the Council of Elders shall consider and advise on matters arising from the Party's relationship with other political parties in alliance; and

(c) the Council of Elders shall also offer advice on other matters referred to it by the National Executive Committee.

6. The tenure of office of members of the Council of Elders shall be the same as that of the National Executive Committee.

7. A member of the Council of Elders is eligible for re-appointment.

8. Members of the Council of Elders are eligible to vote at the National Congress, regional and constituency conferences in the regions and constituencies they come from.

9. Members of the Regional Council of Elders shall perform functions similar to those assigned to the National Council of Elders save that these functions are limited to the regional level.

CHAPTER FIVE
NATIONAL OFFICERS

ARTICLE 25: NATIONAL CHAIRMAN AND NATIONAL VICE CHAIRMEN

1. The National Chairman shall preside at the National Congress and at each National Executive Committee meeting and in the absence of the National Chairman, one of the National Vice- Chairmen shall preside.

2. The President of the Republic who is a member of the Party is the leader of the Party when it is in government.

3. Where a sitting President is not elected a flag bearer, a person elected as flag bearer of the Party at any time before an election is the leader of the Party.

4. At any other time the Chairman of the Party is the Leader.

5. Where the Chairman becomes the Leader of the Party and for some reason cannot perform functions as the leader the National Executive Committee shall elect one of the vice chairmen to be Leader of the Party.

ARTICLE 26: GENERAL SECRETARY AND DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARIES

1. The General Secretary is responsible :

   (a) for the administration of the Party Secretariat and Party employees;

   (b) for the co-ordination of Party organisation and campaigns;

2. The General Secretary is the Secretary to the National Congress.

3. The Deputy General Secretaries shall assist the General Secretary in the performance of his/her functions.

ARTICLE 27: NATIONAL TREASURER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL TREASURER

1. The National Treasurer is responsible for the safe custody and accounting of Party funds to the National Executive Committee and the National Congress.

2. Funds for the Party shall be derived from:

(a) contributions of founding members;

(b) subscription fees or other monies payable by members and affiliated organisations;

(c) donations, public collections and funds from other fund-raising activities.

(d) investment income;

(e) funds if any, provided by government to political parties; and

(f) membership dues

(g) such other funds as are permissible under the Law.

3. The National Treasurer shall:

(a) prepare budget statements, accounts and estimates for the consideration of the National Executive Committee through the Finance Committee;

(b) make authorised payments on behalf of the Party;

(c) ensure that proper books of accounts and records of Party properties held are kept and that written reports are submitted annually to the National Executive Committee for each level of the Party's organisation;

(d) be responsible for the disbursement of the national funds of the Party on the instruction of the Functional Executive Committee given in consultation with the Finance Committee; and

(e) report on the state of the Party's finances to the Finance Committee and the National Executive Committee once every three months.

4. The Deputy National Treasurer shall assist the National Treasurer in the performance of his/her functions.

ARTICLE 28: NATIONAL ORGANISER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL ORGANISERS

1. The National Organiser shall be the chief field operator of the Party whose functions include the following:

(a) membership drive,

(b) mobilise support for the Party; and

(c) ensure high voter turn-out at any elections in which the Party is involved.

2. The Deputy National Organisers shall assist the National Organiser in the performance of his/her functions

ARTICLE 29: NATIONAL COMMUNICATION OFFICER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL COMMUNICATION OFFICER

1. The National Communication Officer is responsible for the communication activities of the Party.

2. The Deputy National Communication Officers shall assist the National Communication Officer in the performance of his/her functions.

ARTICLE 30: NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANISER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANISERS

1. The National Youth Organiser is responsible for organising the youth wing of the Party.

2. The Deputy National Youth Organisers shall assist the National Youth Organiser in the performance of his/her functions.

ARTICLE 31: NATIONAL WOMEN ORGANISER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL WOMEN ORGANISERS

1. The National Women Organiser is responsible for organising the women's wing of the Party.

2. The Deputy National Women Organisers shall assist the National Women Organiser in the performance of her functions.

ARTICLE 32: NATIONAL COMMITTEES

1. There shall be established the following committees at the national level of the Party:

   (a) Finance Committee;

   (b) Political Committee;

   (c) Legal Committee;

   (d) Economic Committee;

   (e) Social Committee;

(f) Communication Committee;

(g) Research Committee;

(h) Conflict Resolution Committee; and

(i) such other committees as the National Executive Committee may determine.

2. The composition and functions of the Committees other than the Finance Committee shall be determined by the National Executive Committee.

3. Members of the Committees shall hold office for a term of four years and are eligible for re-appointment.

ARTICLE 33: FUNCTIONS OF OTHER OFFICE HOLDERS

The role and functions assigned to the national officers in Articles 25, 26,27,28,29, 30, and 31 of this Constitution apply to appropriate office holders in similar offices at the various levels of the Party structure from the regional to constituency levels.

CHAPTER SIX
NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

ARTICLE 34: STRUCTURE OF SECRETARIAT

1. There shall be a National Secretariat, which is the administrative organ of the National Executive Committee.

2. The National Secretariat comprises the :

(a) General Secretary;

(b) Deputy General Secretaries;

(c) National Treasurer;

(d) Deputy National Treasurer;

(e) National Organiser;

(f) Deputy National Organisers;

(g) National Communication Officer;

(h) Deputy National Communication Officers;

(i) National Youth Organiser;

(j) Deputy National Youth Organisers;

(k) National Women Organiser;

(l) Deputy National Women Organisers; and

(m) other members determined by the National Executive Committee.

3. The National Secretariat shall have Departments and other staff as approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 35: NATIONAL COMMUNICATION SECRETARIAT

1. There shall be established a National Communication Secretariat to promote publicity, public education, information dissemination, opinion research, advertising and Party media relations.

2. The National Communication Secretariat in consultation with the Communication Committee shall co-ordinate the communication strategies of the Party at each level and develop communication programmes for Party activities subject to the approval of the National Executive Committee.

3. The Director of Communications shall head the National Communication Secretariat

4. The Director of Communications is responsible to the National Executive Committee.

5. There shall be established in each region, a Regional Communication Committee to undertake the activities approved by the National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 36: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DIRECTORATE

1. There is established by this Constitution an International Relations Directorate to be headed by a Director of International Relations

2. The Director of International Relations is responsible for all matters affecting the party's international relations, in particular, ensuring that there are smooth working relations between the Party and its external branches, its sister parties and other progressive parties and organizations outside Ghana.

3. The National Executive Committee shall issue the guidelines that may be necessary for the smooth running of the Directorate.

ARTICLE 37: FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. The Finance Committee consists of the following persons:

   (a) the Chairman and three members appointed by the National Executive Committee;

   (b) the General Secretary;

   (c) the National Treasurer;

   (d) the Deputy National Treasurer; and

   (e) the Internal Auditor.

2. The Finance Committee is responsible for raising funds for the Party.

3. The Finance Committee shall:

   (a) cause to be prepared statements of account as prescribed by the National Executive Committee;

   (b) raise loans or obtain overdraft facilities within the country for the Party where authorised by the National Executive Committee; and

   (c) invest Party funds with the consent of the National Executive Committee.

CHAPTER SEVEN - GENERAL PROVISIONS ON ELECTIONS

ARTICLE 38: ELECTIONS DIRECTORATE

1. There is established by this Constitution an Elections Directorate for the Party.

2. The Elections Directorate shall be established at the National, Regional and Constituency levels.

3. The Elections Directorate to be headed by a Director shall comprise eleven (11) members at the National level, nine (9) members at the Regional level and seven (7) members at the Constituency level;

4. There shall be appointed a Deputy Director to assist the Director of Elections at the National, Regional and Constituency levels.

5. The Constituency Executive Committee shall establish a three (3) member Election Committee to perform the functions of the Elections Directorate at the branch level.

6. A member of an Elections Directorate is ineligible to contest any Party position in an election at the level that the member is assigned to supervise.

7. Elections Directorate shall be established at the National, Regional and Constituency levels.

9. The Elections Directorate at each level shall assist the Executive Committee at the level to:
   (a) co-ordinate the registration of Party members for purposes of Party elections;

(b) complete, maintain and keep custody of the register of the Party members;

(c) issue biometric registration identity cards;

(d) co−ordinate and supervise presidential and parliamentary elections;

(e) liaise with the Electoral Commission in the conduct of both National and Party elections.

10. The National Executive Committee shall formulate regulations on the composition of the Elections Directorate and the Branch Elections Committee and also provide guidelines for the performance of their functions.

ARTICLE 39: BIOMETRIC REGISTRATION

1. A biometric registration exercise shall be conducted by the Election Directorate under the direction of National Executive Committee to establish the biometric register of Party members.

2. The eligible age for the registration of a member is eighteen (18) years.

3. Registration of members shall be conducted at the Branch level.

4. The register of members shall be kept at the constituency, regional and national offices of the Party.

5. Biometric registration cards shall be issued to every registered Party member.

6. Biometric registration may be used for Party elections as may be determined by the National Executive Committee and in such elections, all party members registered in the biometric register shall be entitled to vote.

ARTICLE 40: QUALIFICATION AND ELECTION OF PARTY OFFICERS

1. A person shall not be qualified to hold office as a member of the Executive Committee of the Party at any level if the person:

   (a) does not meet the conditions for membership as set out in Clause 2 of Article 8 of this Constitution;
   (b) has been adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have committed fraud, an act of dishonesty or moral turpitude;
   (c) has been found to have contravened the Code of Discipline of the Party as contained in Article 44 of this Constitution or any other decision confirmed by the National Executive Committee;
   (d) has been convicted for an offence involving the security of the State, fraud, dishonesty or moral turpitude;
   (e) has been convicted of any other offence punishable by death or by a sentence of not less than ten years ; or
   (f) is not qualified to be registered as a voter under any law related to public elections.

2. A member of the Party is not qualified to vie for a National Executive Committee position unless the member has held an executive position within the Party or government before seeking election.

3. An office holder in the Party shall cease to be an office holder if:

   (a) the person resigns;

   (b) is expelled from the Party; or

(c) is removed from office in accordance with the procedure for removal of officers.

4. A member who desires to contest any Party Executive position at the constituency, regional or national level shall file a nomination in the appropriate form determined by the National Executive Committee:

5. The nomination form duly filled shall be lodged with the appropriate Party secretariat.

6. In this clause, appropriate Party secretariat refers to the secretariat of the Party responsible for the conduct of the elections.

7. The Party Executive Committee at the appropriate Party secretariat shall vet the candidate and make the appropriate recommendation to the National Executive Committee and its decision shall be final

8. The provisions on election shall also apply to elections held under Articles 16(3), 19 (2), 19(3) 22(2) and 22(4).

9. Office holders at various levels of the Party shall be elected by simple majority of the votes cast and shall hold office for a term of four (4) years and be eligible for re-election.

ARTICLE 41: ELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES

1. The National Executive Committee shall notify each Constituency Executive Committee as to the time of the opening of nominations for the contest of primaries for the Parliamentary seat in each constituency.

2. The Constituency Executive Committee shall circulate the notice to every Polling Division within seven days after receipt of the notice and shall invite nominations from prospective candidates.

3. At a date to be determined by the Constituency Executive Committee but guided by the overall calendar of the Party's political activities, each prospective candidate shall be invited to a Constituency Executive Committee meeting to select prospective candidates that meet the eligibility criteria of the Party.

4. The Regional Executive Committee shall supervise the selection process for Parliamentary candidates at the constituency level.

5. The Regional Executive Committee and the Constituency Executive Committee shall forward the details of the candidates to the National Executive Committee after selecting prospective candidates that meet the eligibility criteria of the Party.

6. The National Executive Committee shall examine the details of the candidates to ensure that the candidates are indeed eligible to contest the constituency primaries after which the National Executive Committee shall endorse the list for the primaries to be held in the constituency.

7. A decision of the National Executive Committee not to endorse any of the prospective candidates during the selection process for a constituency shall be communicated to the Constituency Executive Committee and a short listed candidate who wins the primaries by a simple majority of votes cast shall be duly elected as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate.

8. A member shall not be qualified to contest the primaries for a Parliamentary seat if the person:

(a) is disqualified under national electoral laws from contesting for any Parliamentary seat;

(b) is not an active member of the Party at the constituency level for the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of filing nomination; and

(c) is for any reason disqualified from being a Party member as provided for in Article 8.

9. The National Executive Committee shall issue guidelines on the election of Parliamentary candidates based on the provisions of this Article.

10. The Electoral College for the election of a Parliamentary Candidate shall be constituted by the following:

(a) Branch Executive members both elected and co-opted in the constituency;

(b) every constituency Executive member, elected and co-opted and who are members of a Branch in the constituency;

(c) the member of Parliament who is a member of the Party;

(d) members of the Regional Executive Committee both elected and co opted who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the Constituency;

(e) founding members of the Party who hail from the Constituency;

(f) two (2) members of each integral organ who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the Constituency;

(g) members of the national and regional Council of Elders who hail from the constituency;

(h) Ministers and Deputy Ministers of State who are members of the Party and who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the Constituency;

(i) Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who are members of a Branch in the constituency and who hail from the constituency;

(j) Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party and who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the constituency;

(k) Former Ministers of State and former Deputy Ministers who are members of the Party and who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the constituency;

(l) Former Members of Parliament who are members of the Party and who are members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the constituency;

(m) Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party and members of a branch in the constituency and hail from the constituency;

(n) former Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the party and who are members of a branch in the constituency ;

(o) former Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party and members of a branch in the constituency;

(p) Members of the Council of State and former members of the Council of State who are members of the Party and members of a branch in the constituency; and

(q) former Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party and who are members of a branch in the constituency;

(r) members of the party registered in the biometric register subject to the approval of the national Executive Committee as stated in Article 39 (6).

ARTICLE 42: ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE.

1. The date and venue for the election of the Presidential Candidate shall be decided by the National Executive Committee but that election shall take place at least twelve (12) months before a national election date if the Party is in power and at least twenty four (24) months if the Party is not in power.

   (a) If at the close of nomination only one person files nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate that person shall be subject

to a vote out of which the person must obtain more than 50% of the votes cast. Where two (2) persons file their nomination the person who receives the greater number of votes shall be declared elected as the Party Presidential Candidate;

(b) Where the votes are equal at any ballot between two (2) candidates, another ballot shall be held;

(c) At any ballot between more than two (2) persons, the candidate who receives the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected if that person receives a majority (50% plus one) of the votes cast; but if no candidate receives this majority, the name of the candidate who receives the least number of votes shall be withdrawn, this shall be followed by a run-off between the first-two contestants and the contestant with a simple majority shall be declared the Party's Presidential Candidate;

(d) The run-off shall be repeated in the case of a tie between the two contestants until one of them obtains a simple majority;

(e) Where there is equality of votes between candidates who receive the smallest number of votes and one of them has to be excluded from the election under sub-clause (d), there shall be a ballot to determine which of them should be excluded;

(f) The National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council of Elders shall issue guidelines on the election of a Presidential Candidate based on the provisions of this Article;

(g) The Electoral College for the election of a Presidential candidate shall consist of the following:

(i) every Branch Executive Committee Member, elected and co-opted;

(ii) every Constituency Executive Committee Member, elected and co-opted;

(iii) every Regional Executive Committee Member, elected and co-opted;

(iv) every National Executive Committee Member, elected and co-opted;

(v) Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers who are members of the Party;

(vi) Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party;

(vii) Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives who are members of the Party;

(viii) every member of the Party's Parliamentary Group;

(ix) one representative from each organisation that is a member of the Party;

(x) representatives of each affiliated organisation determined at the preceding National Congress;

(xi) a representative each of other integral organs that the National Congress may create;

(x) representatives of each affiliated organisation determined at the preceding National Congress;

(xi) a representative each of other integral organs that the National Congress may create;

(xii) fifteen (15) representatives of each External Branch including the Youth Organiser and the women organiser;

(xiii) five representatives of the Tertiary Institutions Network (TEIN) within each region two (2) of whom are women;

(xiv) the members of the Council of Elders at the national and regional levels;

(xv) the President of the Republic of Ghana and the Vice President where they are members of the Party;

(xvi) the Party's Presidential Candidate and running –mate in an election year where they are members of the Party;

(xvii) past Presidents and Vice Presidents who are members of the Party;

(xviii) each founding member of the Party;

(xvix) Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party;

(xvx) former Ministers and former Deputy Ministers who are members of the Party;

(xvxi) former Members of Parliament who are members of the Party;

(xvxii) former Presidential Staffers who are members of the Party;

(xvxiii) former Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executive who are members of the Party;

(xvxiv) former Ambassadors and High Commissioners who are members of the Party; and

(xvxv) members of the Council of State and former members of the Council of State who are members of the Party.

(xvxvi) members of the party registered in the biometric register subject to the approval of National Executive Committee (NEC).

2. Biometric registration may be used for party elections as determined by the National Executive Committee, and in such election, all party members registered in the biometric register shall be entitled to vote.

3. The polling stations for the presidential primary election shall be determined and announced by the National Executive Committee (NEC) that shall issue guidelines and regulations on the matter.

ARTICLE: 43 CHOICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

The Party's Presidential Candidate shall nominate a running mate in consultation with the National Executive Committee and the National Council of Elders.

ARTICLE: 44 SPECIAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

1. A Special Complaints Committee comprising three(3) members shall be established at various levels of the Party structure to perform the following functions:

   (a) receive complaints at various levels related to acts or omissions by Party office holders that constitute a breach of

Chapter Eight on the Code of Conduct and the Disciplinary Code; a breach of the Constitution other than the provisions spelt out in Chapter Eight on the Code of Conduct and the Disciplinary Code;

(b) the complaints may cover acts of illegibility that constitute abuse of position or acts that occasion injustice to a member;

(c) the Special Complaints Committee shall investigate the matter complained of and make appropriate recommendations to the next level; and

(d) the leadership at the next level shall deal with the report on the complaint as appropriate.

2. The National Executive Committee shall publish guidelines to regulate the conduct of proceedings of the Special Complaints Committee.

CHAPTER EIGHT
CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY CODE

ARTICLE: 45 RULES OF CONDUCT FOR PARTY MEMBERS

Each Party member shall faithfully comply with and apply the following rules of conduct:

(a) ensure the unity and cohesion of the Party at all times;

(b) defend the name of the Party as well as its decisions;

(c) faithfully implement the lawful decisions of the Party;

(d) be a model for freedom, justice and accountability;

(e) show loyalty to the Party at all times and in particular, ensure that any confidential matters of the Party are not divulged to unauthorised persons;

(f) register as a voter and vote at public elections and referenda;

(g) faithfully apply the Fundamental Human Rights and Freedoms provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana; and

(h) pay Party subscription fees and dues regularly.

ARTICLE: 46 PARTY DISCIPLINE

1. The discipline of any Party member shall be exercised by the respective executives of the Party at the various levels on the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee of that level, except that the Executive Committee at each level may suspend a member from membership of the Party or from holding any office in the Party for a period not more than six months before the commencement of disciplinary proceedings against that member if it is considered that the suspension is in the interest of the Party.

2. Where the Executive Committee suspends a member pending the commencement of disciplinary proceedings against that member, it shall within one month after the date of the suspension refer the matter for adjudication by the Disciplinary Committee.

3. Where the Executive Committee fails to refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee within One (1) month, the suspension shall lapse unless renewed.

4. The Executive Committee may renew the suspension for five (5) consecutive months only.

5. For the purpose of clause (1), every level of the Party organisation except the district shall have a 3-member Disciplinary Committee elected by the Executives at that level who shall not be members of the Executive within four (4) weeks of coming into office.

6. Despite the provisions of Article 45(1), the National Disciplinary Committee may adjudicate upon any matter referred to it by the National Executive Committee.

7. The disciplinary process shall have regard to the due process and the rules of natural justice.

8. A Party member may be subjected or may be made subject to Party discipline for any of the following:

   (a) breach of any of the provisions of this Constitution;

   (b) anti-Party conduct or activities likely to embarrass the Party or bring the Party into hatred, ridicule, or contempt;

   (c) insubordination or negligence in the execution of lawful decisions or directives of the Party by members or officers of the Party;

   (d) unauthorised disclosure of confidential Party information; and

   (e) any other act or omission likely to impact adversely on the effectiveness of the Party's policies, programmes and strategies.

9. The following disciplinary measures may be imposed on a member of the Party at the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings against that member:

   (a) expulsion;

   (b) suspension for a specific period;

(c) removal from office;

(d) ineligibility to hold office

(e) fine; and

(f) reprimand.

10. Any member who is expelled or any person who ceases to be a member of the Party through the declaration of the intention shall return any Party properties in the custody of the member and shall forfeit any moneys, dues or subscription fees made to the Party.

(a) a member who is aggrieved by a decision at any of the various levels may appeal to the immediate higher level in that successive order up to the National Executive Committee and the decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final

(b) for purposes of determining an appeal by National Executive Committee the latter shall appoint a five (5) member committee to determine the appeal.

ARTICLE: 47 COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCEDURE

1. Any member who has reasonable grounds to believe that another member or other members of the Party are in breach of the provisions of clause 8 of Article 47 may lodge a petition in writing to an appropriate Executive Committee for redress:

(a) where the grievance is against the leadership of the Party at any particular level, the petition may be lodged with the Executive Committee of the next higher level;

(b) where the grievance is against a National Officer of the Party, the petition may be lodged with the National Executive Committee;

(c) members of the Party are enjoined to exhaust the complaints procedure contained in this Constitution before recourse to legal proceedings or adverse publication in the media against the Party at any level;

(d) for the avoidance of doubt, any Party member who commences legal proceedings against the Party for whatever reason without exhausting the complaints procedure and reliefs available under this Constitution shall be subject to Party discipline under clause 8 of Article 46.

2. A Disciplinary Committee shall within fourteen (14) days after receipt of a compliant convene a meeting to consider the complaint.

3. A Disciplinary Committee shall conclude its deliberations and make appropriate recommendations for implementation to the Executive Committee within thirty (30) days after its first sitting, unless an extension of time is granted by the Executive Committee,

4. Every recommendation from a Disciplinary Committee shall be by a majority decision in the absence of consensus.

5. A Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to the control or direction of any person in the performance of its functions.

6. A member who is aggrieved by the decision of a Disciplinary Committee may appeal in writing, addressed to the Secretary of the Executive Committee of the immediate higher level within fourteen (14) days after the notice of the decision by the Executive Committee.

7. Where a Disciplinary Committee at any level sits as an appellate body it shall be guided by the provisions of Articles 45 and 46 of this Constitution and rules of procedure published by the National Executive Committee in the conduct of its deliberations.

8. Any recommendation from a Disciplinary Committee sitting as an appellate body shall be transmitted through its Executive Committee to the Executive Committee below for implementation.

9. A decision by an Executive Committee to vary the recommendation of its Disciplinary Committee shall be by a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of its entire functional membership.

CHAPTER NINE
AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE: 48 AMENDMENTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

1. The National Congress may amend any provisions of this Constitution.

2. A resolution for the amendment of this Constitution shall not have effect unless it has been debated by the National Congress and received the votes of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present and voting at the National Congress.

3. Proposals for amendment of the Constitution shall be sent to the General Secretary at least two (2) months before the National Congress.

MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 49: FILLING OF VACANCIES

1. A vacancy created in an executive position at any level of the Party in between a National Congress, Regional and Constituency Conference may be filled by appointment as follows:

   (i) at the national level by the National Executive Committee;

(ii) at regional level by the National Executive Committee acting in consultation with the Regional Executive Committee concerned;

(iii) at the district level by the Executives of the constituencies comprising the District Coordinating Committee concerned;

(iv) at the constituency level by the Constituency Executive Committee concerned acting in consultation with the Regional Executive Committee of the region of the constituency; and

(v) at the Branch level by the branch Executives.

2. Where the vacancy is occasioned by the absence of a substantive officer, the vice or deputy shall act in his or her stead until the next election;

3. Where there are more than one vice – chair or deputies, the Party Executives at that level shall elect one of the vice-chair or deputies to occupy the vacant executive position until the next elections.

ARTICLE 50: QUORUM FOR MEETINGS

Unless otherwise provided for by this Constitution, the quorum for any Party meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the registered members of that level, body or organ.

ARTICLE 51: METHOD OF VOTING

At any Party meeting, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, decisions shall be reached by consensus and in case of failure to reach a consensus, by a majority of the votes cast.

ARTICLE 52: RESIDUAL POWERS OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Where on any party matter there is no provision in this Constitution which deals with that matter, the National Executive Committee shall by resolution provide for that matter to be dealt with.

ARTICLE 53: REGULATIONS

1. The National Executive Committee in consultation with the National Council of Elders may make regulations to give effect to the provisions of this Constitution.

2. In particular, the National Executive Committee may make regulations:

   (a) to determine the time lines for the implementation of the biometric registration system for Party elections;
   (b) to provide general directions for the conduct of Party elections;

   (c) to prescribe dues payable by Party members; and

   (d) generally for the achievement of the purpose for the establishment of the National Democratic Congress

ARTICLE 54: PARTY ANNIVERSARY DATES

The following shall be observed as Party Anniversary Dates:

(i)	May Day	-	May 1
(ii)	Accountability Day	-	June 4
(iii)	Party Founding Day	-	June 10
(iv)	Farmers Day	-	First Friday in December
(v)	Revolution Day	-	December 31

ARTICLE 55: ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution was adopted by the First National Delegates Congress of the NDC held at Cape Coast on the 19th September 1992 and subsequently amended at the 2nd National Delegates Congress of the NDC held at Kumasi on 23rd September 1994 and further amended at the Fourth National Delegates Congress of the NDC held at Sekondi on the 12th December 1998 further amended at the 5th National Delegates Congress of the NDC held at Accra on the 27th April 2002 and further amended at the 6th National Delegates Congress of the NDC held at Koforidua on the 22nd December 2005 and further amended at the 7th Delegates Congress at Tamale on the 16th January 2010 and subsequently amended at the 8th Delegates Congress at Kumasi on 20th December 2014.

ARTICLE 56: INTERPRETATION

"Polling station" and Polling division" shall have the meaning ascribed to them by the Electoral Commission.

ARTICLE 57: ACTS DONE IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS CONSTITUTION

1. For the avoidance of doubt, all officers elected at the preceding National Congress shall be deemed to be duly elected as officers of the Party.

2. Despite anything in this Constitution, an act or measure carried out in anticipation of meeting the requirements of this Constitution shall be taken to have been duly done for the purpose of this Constitution.

ARTICLE 58: ORGANOGRAM

The organogram of the Party shall be as follows:

ORGANOGRAM OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS

National	Ghana	National Executive Committee (NEC)	National Congress (NC)
Region	Region	Regional Executive Committee	Regional Party Conference
District	District Sub-Metropolitan District Council	District Co-ordinating Committee	
Constituency	Constituency	Constituency Executive Committee	Constituency Conference
Unit	Polling Station/s	Branch Executive	Branch Meeting

OATH OF OFFICE

I……. do (in the name of the Almighty God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will at all times well and truly serve the National Democratic Congress in the office of……and that I will uphold, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the National Democratic Congress as by law established. (So help me God).

PARTY ANTHEM

Arise, arise for Ghana
Ye patriots of the land
Towards secure future
Development our goal
From victory unto victory
The NDC shall lead
A stable democracy, Ghana
Our strength in unity.

From victory unto victory
The NDC shall lead
A stable democracy, Ghana
Our strength in unity.

DATED AT KUMASI THIS 20TH DECEMBER 2014

SIGNED: .....
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

SIGNED: .....
GENERAL SECRETARY