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NATIONAL GRAND COALITION PARTY

UNITED WE STAND, WE STAND UNITED



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL GRAND COALITION PARTY

PREAMBLE

We the members of the National Grand Coalition (NGC) Party in order to form a more cohesive and inclusive political party, provide for the common good of our Members, contribute to the general welfare of our Country, Sierra Leone, participate freely and peacefully in the democratic system provided under the constitution of Sierra Leone, strengthen the democratic values enshrined in the constitution, provide the strong leadership and enlightened membership of our party, cooperate with other political parties and the national governing bodies incorporated under the same constitution, cognizant of the social, political and economic challenges facing our country, hereby ordain and establish this constitution of the National Grand Coalition (NGC) Party on this fourteenth day of November 2020 of the Common Era and of the independence of Sierra Leone, the sixtieth year, at the party national headquarters at No. 14 Naimbana Street, Freetown, Republic of Sierra Leone.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section Title	Page
1. Name	
2. Motto	
3. Symbol	
4. Colours	
5. Aims and objectives	
6. Philosophy of the Party	
7. Membership	
8. Membership of affiliated organizations	
9. Organizational structure	
10. Ward Executive Committee	
11. Constituency Executive Committee	
12. District Executive Committee	
13. District Delegates Conference	
14. Regional Executive Committee	
15. Regional Delegates Conference	
16. National Executive Committee	
17. National Delegates Conference	
18. National Officers	
19. National Chairperson and Leader	
20. Deputy National Chairperson and Leader	
21. National Secretary General	
22. Deputy National Secretary General	
23. National Organizing Secretary	
24. Deputy National Organizing Secretary	
25. National Women's Leader	
26. Deputy National Women's Leader	
27. National Youth Leader	
28. Deputy National Youth Leader	
29. National Publicity Secretary	
30. National Treasurer	
31. Financial Secretary	
32. Legal Officer	

Section Title	Page
33. National Internal Auditor.....	
34. Deputy National Internal Auditor.....	
35. Regional Chairpersons.....	
36. Coordinator of Diaspora Affairs.....	
37. Election of National Officers.....	
38. Resignation.....	
39. Tenure of Party Officers.....	
40. National Secretariat.....	
41. National Women's wing of the Party ..	
42. National Youth Wing of the Party.....	
43. Diaspora Branches of the Party	
44. Tertiary Institutions.....	
45. National Elders Trustee Council	
46. Finance Committee.....	
47. Independent Elections Committee.....	
48. Committee of Parliamentarians.....	
49. The Party Candidacy Committee.....	
50. Presidential Vetting Committee.....	
51. National Disciplinary Committee.....	
52. Offences.....	
53. Election of the Presidential Candidate.....	
54. Party Funds and Accounts.....	
55. Bank Accounts.....	
56. Merger, Split, Coalitions and Dissolution.....	
57. Rules and Regulations.....	
58. Quorum.....	
59. Holding of Dual Offices.....	
60. Amendment.....	
61. Interpretation.....	
62. Legal Capacity.....	
63. Transition.....	
64. Adoption.....	

NAME

1. The name of the Party shall be the National Grand Coalition Party.

MOTTO

2. The Motto of the Party shall be "UNITED WE STAND; WE STAND UNITED".

SYMBOL

3. The symbol of the Party shall be a bike rider using a motor bike to carry a scale of justice with an electric bulb on one side of the scale signifying Enlightenment, Education and Energy and a hoe on the other side of the scale demonstrating the virtues of hard work and dignity in labour all of which are illustrated within a circle with the letters "N""G" and "C" in green, red and blue respectively and the words "NATIONAL GRAND COALITION" in a semi-circle at the top.

COLOURS

4. The colours of the Party shall be Gold, White, Red, Green, Blue and Black.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

5. The aims and objectives of the party are:
 - (1) To create a free, fair and just society that offers opportunities for social mobility and the full exploitation of individual potentials.
 - (2) To promote the awareness of our common identity as a nation, rich in its diversity and uncompromising in its assertion of unity and harmony among its various groups.
 - (3) To sanitize the practice of politics by re-introducing and upholding neglected principles, values and ethics that create a favorable environment for the search for solutions to the developmental challenges faced by our country within a rapidly evolving global context.
 - (4) To participate in the strengthening of democratic institutions and practices so as to guarantee fairness, justice and participation of the entire citizenry irrespective of ethnic, religious, economic, gender and other differences.
 - (5) To harness the knowledge, skills and historical consciousness of all Sierra Leoneans and provoke and instill in them the will to put their NATION FIRST and work together for the purpose of national development.
 - (6) To foster and promote much needed unity amongst Sierra Leoneans by eradicating tribalism, sectionalism, regionalism, nepotism and corruption.
 - (7) To ensure full participation of all Sierra Leoneans in the political, social and economic activities of the nation.
 - (8) To ensure that all Sierra Leoneans are treated equally in all spheres of life on the basis of merit and that justice is meted out to them irrespective of their ethnic origin, religion, tribe, sex, physical or mental condition or situation in life
 - (9) To instill in the citizens a sense of duty to the State, respect for law and order and ensure protection of human rights.
 - (10) To ensure the protection of life and property of all citizens.
 - (11) To restore and maintain discipline and accountability in all facets of the society in order to enhance greater efficiency and productivity

- (12) To promote Rural Development through agriculture and agro-based industries.
- (13) To develop and improve a sustainable national transportation network.
- (14) To promote the use and development of modern technologies including artificial intelligence in Sierra Leone.
- (15) To provide affordable education of high quality and make it more relevant to the socio-economic development needs of the country
- (16) To instill in the Sierra Leonean Youth a strong sense of honesty and the ethics of hard work as the only way to achieve true success in which the energies, talents and creativity of our people become engines of wealth creation.
- (17) To create awareness and protect our natural environment from pollution, deforestation, toxic waste dumping and other forms of environmental deterioration.
- (18) To empower our women to participate at all levels for progressive nation building with a strong emphasis on girl child development.
- (19) To endeavor to provide a national health plan that will be affordable by all regardless of social class and economic status.
- (20) To restore high quality education, promote synergies between educational institutions and the private sector, ensure that academic programmes increase the employability of graduates and respond to the developmental needs of contemporary society; to also support a comprehensive nationwide literacy programme and appropriate formal and technical education and training for national development.
- (21) To create enabling environment for all Sierra Leoneans in both urban and rural areas to have access to information and participate in global development by making available services in telecommunication and modern technology that are efficient and affordable. However, other traditional forms of communication that have proven effective for the mobilization of our human resources and of our communities will be promoted.
- (22) To resuscitate our culture and arts in order to portray our unique, authentic and traditional heritage.
- (23) To promote sports and entertainment for all irrespective of gender, age, ethnic origin or physical ability and at all levels (including schools, community, regional and national) as a medium of national cohesion and to harness the sporting and entertainment potentials and talents of our youths.
- (24) To ensure our commitment to the International Community, with the view to promoting world peace and security, integration at sub-regional, regional and global levels.
- (25) To promote respect for religion in Sierra Leone and to stamp out violence and sexual abuse.
- (26) To gain political power and form a Government in order to achieve the foregoing objectives

PHILOSOPHY OF THE PARTY

6. The philosophy of the Party is anchored on national regeneration, social justice, economic prosperity and the rule of law. It is also rooted in the enhancement of individual participation and freedoms and the collective will of the people to harness their natural resources and human potential.

MEMBERSHIP

7. (1) General membership shall be open to all Sierra Leonean citizens from age 18 years and above residing at home and abroad whose application for membership shall have been accepted by the National Executive Committee of the Party or its authorized agent on payment of the minimum registration fee.
- (2) The Party shall establish other categories of membership such as patrons, chief patrons, grand chief patrons and distinguished grand chief patrons and shall indicate their corresponding registration fees and monthly contributions accordingly in the Party's financial policy and regulations.
- (3) All members shall be required to pay a one-time membership registration fee and thereafter monthly contribution in accordance with the Party's financial policy and regulations that shall be revised periodically by the National Executive Committee.
- (4) Every registered member shall be entitled to a membership card and shall be given a registration number by the National Secretariat of the Party. Such registration numbers shall run serially.
- (5) A register of members shall be maintained at Constituency, District, Regional, and at the Party headquarters with information and updates supplied regularly by the Ward Executive Committees.
- (6) An annual membership list shall be submitted by the Regional Executives to the National Secretariat for compilation.

MEMBERSHIP OF AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

8. (1) An Organization wishing to be affiliated to the NGC Party shall submit an application in writing to the National Secretary-General of the Party providing the following:
 - a. The Constitution and Regulations of the Organization.
 - b. Number of registered members of the Organization
 - c. A list of the Officers of the Organization
 - d. Affiliation with other Organizations locally and internationally.
 - e. A statement of all its other affiliations and organizational links both national and international.
- (2) The National Executive Committee shall review all applications and make recommendations to the National Delegates Conference for approval.
- (3) Upon acceptance of the organization, the National Delegates Conference shall determine the number of delegates it shall be entitled to for the purpose of participating in the Conference which shall be proportionate to the number of its registered members.
- (4) The organization must endorse the aims and objectives, philosophy, policies and programs of the NGC Party.
- (5) The membership is not based on ethnic, tribal, or regional criteria.

- (6) The organization agrees to pay the requisite subscription fees as determined by the National Delegates Conference.
- (7) To qualify to be registered as an affiliated Organization its membership shall not be less than 50 (Fifty) and to qualify for delegates status to attend the National Delegates Conference the membership shall be not less than 100 (One Hundred).
- (8) The members of the Organization must also be registered members of the NGC Party.
- (9) To participate in the National Delegates Conference, an organization must have been registered one year prior to the date of the Conference.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

9. (1) The Party shall be structured and organized at ward, constituency, District, Regional and national levels and each shall have an appropriate functioning executive committee.

WARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

10. (1) There shall be a Ward Executive at each ward comprising of the following positions:

- (a) Ward Chairperson
- (b) Deputy Ward Chairperson
- (c) Ward Secretary
- (d) Deputy Ward Secretary
- (e) Ward Organizer
- (f) Deputy Ward Organizer
- (g) Ward Youth Leader
- (h) Deputy Ward Youth Leader
- (i) Ward Women's Leader
- (j) Deputy Ward Women's Leader
- (k) Ward Public Relations Officer
- (l) Deputy Ward Public Relations Officer
- (m) Ward Treasurer
- (n) Financial Secretary
- (o) Deputy Financial Secretary
- (p) Ward Head for Muslim Affairs
- (q) Ward Head for Christian Affairs
- (r) Ward Auditor

- (2) The duties of the Ward Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) Co-ordinate the activities of the Party in all the Polling Stations and Polling Centres within the Ward.
 - (b) Initially screen candidates for local council elections and properly organize party activities within its ward.
 - (c) Allocate tasks and functions to its members to carry out the day to day activities of the Party and submit reports on its work every month to the Constituency Executive Committee.
 - (d) Arrange continuous face to face meetings with the registered voters in all Polling Stations in the Ward.
- (3) The Executive Committee of each ward shall be elected every three years by the registered members of the Party in the Ward.
- (4) Meetings of the Ward Executive Committee shall be held at least once every two months and the quorum shall be one-third of the members of the Ward Executive Committee. Where the Chairman is absent, the Deputy shall preside.

CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

11. (1) There shall be an Executive Committee at each electoral Constituency elected every three years by all Ward Executives in the Constituency. The Executive Committee shall be composed as follows:

- (a) Constituency Chairperson
- (b) Deputy Constituency Chairperson
- (c) Constituency Secretary
- (d) Deputy Constituency Secretary
- (e) Constituency Treasurer
- (f) Constituency Financial Secretary
- (g) Deputy Constituency Financial Secretary
- (h) Constituency Organizing Secretary
- (i) Deputy Constituency Organizing Secretary
- (j) Constituency Public Relations Officer
- (k) Deputy Constituency Public Relations Officer
- (l) Constituency Youth Leader
- (m) Deputy Constituency Youth Leader
- (n) Constituency Women's' Leader
- (o) Deputy Constituency Women's' Leader
- (p) Constituency Head for Muslim Affairs
- (q) Constituency Head for Christian Affairs
- (r) Constituency Auditor

(2) The functions of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) Coordinate the activities of the Ward Executives within the constituency.
- (b) Conduct elections for the various positions of the Ward Party Executive Committee.
- (c) Initially screen aspirants for Parliamentary candidacy.
- (d) Provide polling agents, polling centre coordinators, observers, in conjunction with the Ward Executives for the consideration of the District and Regional Executive Committees and eventually the National Executive Committee.
- (e) Administer the affairs of the Party at the constituency level.
- (f) Coordinate membership recruitment and mobilization for the Party at constituency level.
- (g) Organize Fund raising for the party at constituency level
- (h) Draw up strategies for election campaigns
- (i) Mobilize voters for elections
- (j) Perform any such function that may be conducive to the attainment of the objectives of the Party.
- (k) Maintain a register of members of the Party in the Constituency.

(3) The Constituency Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month, and the meetings shall be summoned by the Secretary on the instructions of the Constituency Chairperson.

(4) The quorum of the meetings shall be one third of its membership.

(5) All voting at elections shall be by secret ballot and shall be decided by simple majority. Only registered and fully paid up members present shall be eligible to vote.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

12. (1) There shall be a District Party Executive Committee at each of the eighteen Administrative Districts of the NGC which shall be elected every three years by all constituency Party Executive Committee members within the District. The District Party Executive Committee shall comprise the following:

- (a) District Chairperson
- (b) Deputy District Chairperson
- (c) District Secretary
- (d) Deputy District Secretary
- (e) District Womens' Leader
- (f) Deputy District Womens' Leader
- (g) District Youth Leader

- (h) Deputy District Youth Leader
- (i) District Treasurer
- (j) District Financial Secretary
- (k) District Deputy Financial Secretary
- (l) District Organizing Secretary
- (m) Deputy District Organizing Secretary
- (n) District Public Relations Officer
- (o) Deputy District Public Relations Officer
- (p) District Head for Muslim Affairs
- (q) District Head for Christian Affairs
- (r) District Auditor

(2) The functions of the District Party Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) Coordinate the activities of the Constituency Executive Committees within the District.
- (b) Conduct elections for the various positions of the Constituency Executive Committee.
- (c) Review the initial screening of parliamentary candidates done by the Constituency Executive Committee.
- (d) Provide polling agents, observers, or representatives at polling centres and stations for local, parliamentary and presidential elections.
- (e) Recruit new members for the party in the District.
- (f) Monitor and supervise the activities of the party functionaries in the District.
- (g) Undertake activities and programs that will popularize the Party in the District.
- (h) Maintain a register of members in the District.
- (i) Maintain and keep accounts of the District.
- (j) Set up committees that may facilitate the work of the Party.
- (k) Work out strategies for the advancement of the Party in the District.
- (l) Undertake all such activities as needed to attain the objectives of the party.
- (m) Settle disputes between members of the Party in the District.

(3) The District Party Executive Committee shall meet at least once a month and the meetings shall be summoned by the Secretary on the instructions of the Chairperson.

(4) The quorum of the meetings shall be one third of its membership.

- (5) All voting for elections of Officers of the District Party Executive Committee shall be by secret ballot and shall be decided by simple majority. All motions shall be passed by a simple majority.

DISTRICT DELEGATES CONFERENCE

13. (1) There shall be a District Delegates Conference which shall be held annually. The District Delegates Conference is the highest organ of the party in the District and the second highest in each region. The Delegates to attend the District Delegates Conference shall be:
- (a) All Constituency Executives.
 - (b) Members of the District Executive Committee.
 - (c) Current Members of Parliament from the District who are members of the party.
 - (d) Former Members of Parliament from the District who are members of the Party.
 - (e) Current Mayors of City Council who are members of the party.
 - (f) Former Mayors of City Council who are members of the Party.
 - (g) Current Ministers of Government from the District who are members of the party.
 - (h) Former Ministers of Government from the District who are members of the party.
 - (i) Current District Council Chairman who is a member of the party.
 - (j) Former District Council Chairmen who are members of the party.
 - (k) Current Councilors of the District who are members of the party.
 - (l) Founding members of the party from the District
 - (m) Regional Chairperson or his representative who shall facilitate the conference.
 - (n) Ward Chairpersons
- (2) The quorum for the holding of the District Delegates Conference shall be one third of the membership of the Delegates conference.
- (3) Duties of the District Delegates Conference shall be to:
- (a) Receive and consider reports by the District Executive Committee which shall include the Chairperson's address, the Secretary's report and the financial report by the Treasurer.
 - (b) Endorse the election of Officers of the District Party Executive Committee.
 - (c) Review, ratify, alter, or rescind any decision taken by the constituencies, wards or officials of the Party in the District.
 - (d) Appoint Committees to facilitate the work of the party in the district and assign specific tasks and duties to such committees.
 - (e) Vote on key issues that may affect the Party in the District.
 - (f) Develop strategies for the promotion and popularization of the party in the District.

- (g) Deliberate on issues which affect the Party's enhancement in the District.
 - (h) Approve programme of activities for the coming year.
 - (i) Pass resolutions or make recommendations for the consideration of the Regional Delegates Conference.
- (3) Voting on key issues at the conference shall be by secret ballot.
- (4) Voting for the election of the Officers of the District Executive Committee shall be by secret ballot and voting shall be decided by simple majority or consensus.

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

14. (1) There shall be a Regional Party Executive Committee at each region in Sierra Leone which shall be composed as follows:

- (a) Regional Chairperson
- (b) Deputy Regional Chairperson
- (c) Regional Secretary
- (d) Deputy Regional Secretary
- (e) Regional Organizing Secretary
- (f) Deputy Regional Organizing Secretary
- (g) Regional Women's Leader
- (h) Deputy Regional Women's Leader
- (i) Public Relation Officer
- (j) Deputy Public Relations Officer
- (k) Regional Youth Leader
- (l) Deputy Regional Youth Leader
- (m) Regional Treasurer
- (n) Regional Financial Secretary
- (o) Deputy Regional Financial Secretary
- (p) Regional Head for Muslim Affairs
- (q) Regional Head for Christian Affairs
- (r) Regional Auditor

- (2) The Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible to:

- (a) Formulate policies and programs of the Party within the Region and do all things necessary to further the interest, aims and objectives of the party.
- (b) Carry out the decisions and instructions of the Regional Delegates Conference and National Executive Committee.
- (c) Ensure that the Party is properly organized throughout the Region.
- (d) Supervise and co-ordinate the activities of the District Executive Committees.
- (e) Receive reports on the activities of the Districts in the region.
- (f) Submit reports to the National Executive Committee, Regional Party Conference as often as is required on the state of the party, the financial position of the Region and such other matters as may be specified.
- (g) Manage and control the funds and assets of the Party in the Region.
- (h) Plan and work out strategies for local, Parliamentary and Presidential elections in the Region.
- (i) Provide periodic reports on the activities of the Region to the National Executive Committee.
- (j) Execute all other tasks that may be assigned by the National Executive Committee and National Party Conference.
- (3) The Regional Executive Committee shall meet every quarter and the meetings shall be summoned by the Regional Secretary on the instructions of the Regional Chairperson. One third of the membership of the Regional Executive Committee, can by a memorandum signed by them, summon a meeting in the event the Chairman refuses to give instruction for meetings to be summoned or the Secretary refuses to carry out such instructions.
- (4) The presence of one third of the membership of the Regional Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the meetings of the Regional Executive Committee.
- (5) Members of the Regional Executive Committee shall be elected every three years by the District Executive Committees of the Region at the Regional

Party Conference, voting shall be by secret ballot and decided by simple majority. All motions shall be passed by a simple majority.

REGIONAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE

15. (1) There shall be a Regional Delegates Conference to be held once every two years. The Regional Delegates Conference is the highest decision-making organ in each Region.
- (2) The Following Delegates shall attend the conference and shall be qualified to vote.
- (a) All members of the Regional Executive Committee.
- (b) All members of the District Executive Committees.
- (c) All members of the Constituency Executive Committees.
- (d) Current District Council Chairmen of the Region who are members of the Party.
- (e) Former District Council Chairmen of the Region who are members of the Party.

- (f) Current Mayors of City Councils in the Region who are members of the Party.
- (g) Former Mayors of City Councils in the Region who are members of the Party
- (h) Current Members of Parliament who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (i) Former Members of Parliament who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (j) Current Ministers of Government who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (k) Former Ministers of Government who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (l) Current Ambassadors who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (m) Former Ambassadors who hail from the Region and are members of the Party.
- (n) All founding members of the Party from the Region.
- (o) Former members of the Regional Executive Committee.

(3) The Regional Delegates Conference shall:

- (a) Receive and consider reports from the Regional Executive Committee which shall include the Chairman's address, the Secretary's report and the financial report by the Treasurer.
- (b) Review, ratify, alter, or rescind any decision taken by the Districts Constituencies, wards or officials of the party in the District
- (c) Appoint Committees to facilitate the work of the party in the region and assign specific tasks and duties to such committees.
- (d) Vote on key issues that may affect the Party in the Region.
- (e) Develop strategies for the promotion and popularization of the party in the Region.
- (f) Deliberate on issues which affect the Party's advancement in the Region.
- (g) Approve the programme of activities for the coming year.
- (h) Vote on key issues at the conference which shall be by secret ballots.
- (i) Voting shall be by secret ballot and each delegate shall have one vote.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16. (1) There shall be a National Executive Committee (NEC) which is the second highest organ of the party and has the authority to lead the organization subject to the provisions of this constitution.

(2) Composition of NEC shall be as follows:

- (a) All National officers including their deputies and the legal advisers
- (b) Chairperson of the Elders and Trustee Council

- (c) Present President of the Republic of Sierra Leone who is a member of the party.
- (d) Former Presidents of the Republic of Sierra Leone who are members of the party
- (e) Present Vice President of the Republic of Sierra Leone who is a member of the party.
- (f) Former Vice Presidents of the Republic of Sierra Leone who are members of the party
- (g) Presidential Candidate / Nominee of the NGC
- (h) Vice Presidential Candidate / Nominee of the NGC
- (i) Regional Secretaries-General, Women's and Youth Leaders
- (j) Former National Chairpersons and Leader who are still members of the party
- (k) Former National Secretaries-General who are still members of the party
- (l) Former National Women's Leaders who are still members of the party
- (m) Former National Youth Leaders who are still members of the party
- (n) District Chairpersons and District Secretaries
- (o) Current and former District Council Chairmen who are members of the party
- (p) Current and former City Council Mayors who are member of the party
- (q) Current and former members of Parliament who are members of the party
- (r) Current and former Ambassadors who are members of the party.
- (s) Current and former Ministers of Government who are members of the party
- (t) Leader of Muslim Affairs
- (u) Leader of Christian Affairs
- (v) One Diaspora Representative from each Diaspora Region.

(3) The functions of the National Executive Committee shall be to:

- (a) Carry out the decisions and instructions of the National Delegates Conference.
- (b) Ensure that all organs of the Party function democratically.
- (c) Receive reports from all regions for presentation to the National Delegates Conference.
- (d) Set up committees deemed necessary for the proper functioning of the party.
- (e) Control and manage the properties both real and personal of the party.
- (f) Institute disciplinary action against any member accused of misconduct.

- (g) Take all necessary steps to fulfill the aims and objectives of the NGC and to ensure due performance of its duties.
- (h) Prepare the agenda for the National Delegates Conference in collaboration with the National Officers
- (i) Present an annual report on the state of the Party to the National Delegates conference.
- (j) Endorse the candidacies of Parliamentary and Local Councils.
- (k) Settle disputes between party organs and officials and also interpretation of any provisions of this constitution subject to appeal to the National Delegates Conference whose decision shall be final.
- (l) Ensure that the accounts of the party are audited annually and to present the same to the National Delegates Conference for acceptance.
- (m) Assign tasks and responsibilities to the Directors of Communications, Research and Planning and Finance.
- (n) Fill in vacancies occurring in between National Delegates Conferences.
- (o) Consider and ratify the audited accounts of the party before submission to the PPRC.
- (4) The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once every quarter at the direction of the National Chairperson and Leader.
- (5) An emergency meeting may be summoned by the National Chairperson and Leader having regard to the circumstances.
- (6) The quorum for meetings of the National Executive Committee shall be one-third of its total membership.
- (7) Voting shall be by secret ballot. Each delegate shall have one vote.
- (8) The National Executive Committee may invite any members of the Party to be observers at its meetings. An observer may speak and participate in such meetings but shall not have a voting right.
- (9) The decisions of the National Executive Committee shall be binding on all organs and members of the party.

NATIONAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE

17. (1) There shall be a National Delegates Conference which shall be the Supreme and highest decision-making authority of the Party subject to the limits prescribed by this constitution. The National Delegates Conference shall be convened every two years at such place, time and date as may be decided by NEC.
- (2) The following shall attend the conference as delegates:-
- (a) National Chairperson and Leader- who shall chair the conference
- (b) National Secretary General

- (c) All other National Officers
- (d) Regional Secretaries, Regional Women's Leaders and Regional Youth Leaders
- (e) Current and former Members of Parliament who are still member of the Party
- (f) Representatives for each affiliated organization as determined by the National Delegates conference.
- (g) All founding members of the party.
- (h) Three representatives from the Party Executives in each Tertiary Institution.
- (i) Four Representatives from each Diaspora Region.
- (j) Former National Chairpersons and Leader who are still members of the party
- (k) Former Secretaries General who are still members of the party
- (l) Former National Women's and Youth Leaders who are still members of the party
- (m) President and Vice President of the Republic where the party is in power.
- (n) Presidential Candidate / Nominee
- (o) Presidential Running mate.
- (p) District Chairpersons
- (q) District Secretaries
- (r) District Women's Leaders
- (s) District Youth Leaders
- (t) Constituency Chairpersons
- (u) Constituency Secretaries general
- (v) Constituency Women's Leaders
- (w) Constituency Youth Leaders

(3) The National Delegates Conference shall:

- a. Approve all reports and policy recommendations submitted to it by the National Executive Committee.
- b. Approve the budget for the next financial year as submitted by the National Executive Committee.
- c. Consider the review and amendment of the constitution as and when it is deemed necessary.
- d. Formulate policies of the Party.
- e. Institute and take disciplinary action against all members and officers of the Party.

- f. Elect National Officers of the party save the Women's Leader and Youth Leader who shall be elected by their respective wings of the party.
 - g. Approve the creation of new organs of the party where such is necessary.
 - h. Consider resolutions submitted by Constituencies, Districts and Regional Committees.
 - i. Appoint such committees as it considers necessary for the efficient running of the Party and assign to them such powers and functions as it deems necessary.
 - j. Raise enough funds for the management and sustainability of the party.
 - k. Delegate any of its powers to the National Executive Committee or to any other organ of the party as the conference deems fit.
 - l. Appoint external auditors to audit the accounts of the Party.
 - m. Determine the dates and venue for subsequent National Delegates Conferences
 - n. Ratify, review, alter or reconsider decisions taken on any of the constituent bodies or officials of the party.
 - o. Design standard Financial Regulations to govern the management of the Party's finances at all levels.
 - p. Exercise such other powers and authority not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution which shall aid or facilitate the realization of the objectives of the Party.
- (4) One-third of the membership of the National Delegate Conference shall constitute a quorum except otherwise decided by the conference. Voting on key issues shall be by secret ballot and motions shall be passed by simple majority and by two-thirds majority for all such conferences that are attended by less than half of the membership of the National Delegates Conference.
- (5) An emergency National Delegates Conference may be summoned at any time by the National Executive Committee where the need arises to discuss a special matter or matters which shall be specified in the notice summoning the meeting.
- (6) A notice containing the date, time, venue and agenda of the Conference shall be given to every Constituency, District and Regional Executive Committee by the National Secretary General on the direction of the National Chairperson and Leader one month before the date of the conference.
- (7) All members of the Party shall be bound by the decisions of the National Delegates Conference.

NATIONAL OFFICERS

18. (1) There shall be National Officers of the party who shall be persons of competence, integrity, experience in administration and running a democratic political party and shall perform functions assigned to them by this constitution. The following shall be the National Officers of the Party.

NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON AND LEADER

19. (1) There shall be a National Chairperson and Leader of the Party who shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Party and whose functions shall be to :

- a. Uphold the constitution of the Party and shall supervise the work of the National Officers.
- b. Convene and preside over meetings of the National Executive Committee of the Party.
- c. Provide effective leadership for the party and direct the affairs of the Party under the supervision of the National Executive Committee.
- d. Defend the Party's name, integrity, policies and programs.
- e. Speak on behalf of the National Executive Committee on the policies, programs and activities of the Party.
- f. Appoint Committees to look into any Party matters and to attend their meetings.
- g. Assign functions to any member or officer of the Party subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- h. Submit a comprehensive report to the National Delegates Party Conference on the state of the Party country wide.
- i. Endeavor to promote the growth and welfare of the Party.
- j. Ensure strict compliance with the provisions of this constitution by all members.
- k. Do all such things that will be conducive for the promotion, growth and welfare of the Party, in accordance with the spirit and intendment of this Constitution.

DEPUTY NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON AND LEADER

20. The Deputy National Chairperson and Leader shall assist the National Chairperson and Leader in the discharge of his or her functions and shall act for him or her, in his or her absence.

NATIONAL SECRETARY GENERAL

21. (1) The National Secretary General is the head of the National Secretariat and his functions include the following:

- (a) Supervise the day-to-day activities at the National Secretariat under the general direction of the National Chairperson and Leader and issue notices of meetings on the instruction of the National Chairperson and Leader, handle correspondences, keep records of proceedings and minutes of meetings and act as secretary of statutory meetings.
- (b) Prepare annual report of the activities of the Party and present to the National Executive Committee and to the National Delegates. Conference.
- (c) Implement the decisions of and directives of the National Delegates Conference, and the National Executive Committee.
- (d) Ensure that all the organs of the party execute their duties efficiently.
- (e) Appoint staff for the running of the Secretariat of the Party in consultation with the National Chairperson and Leader and NEC.

DEPUTY NATIONAL SECRETARY GENERAL

22. (1) The Deputy National Secretary General shall act for the National Secretary General in his/her absence and assist him/her in the discharge of his duties. He shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the National Secretary General or National Chairperson.

NATIONAL ORGANIZING SECRETARY

23. (1) The National Organizing Secretary shall be responsible for the general mobilization of party members. Specifically, his duties will be to:
- (a) Coordinate field activities, and initiate strategies and plans for the recruitment and registration of new party members.
 - (b) Organize workshops, rallies and campaign programs for the attainment of the Party's success at all elections.
 - (c) Harmonize the programs of the Women's and Youth wings of the Party to ensure success at all elections.
 - (d) Assess the problems in the Party and advise on solutions thereof
- (2) He shall also perform such functions as may be assigned to him by the Chairperson and Leader.

DEPUTY NATIONAL ORGANIZING SECRETARY

24. (1) The Deputy Organizing Secretary shall assist the National Organizing Secretary in the discharge of his/her duties and shall act for him/her in his/her absence.

NATIONAL WOMENS' LEADER

25. (1) The National Women's leader shall be the leader for all the women in the party and translate into action the party's commitment to the empowerment of women and defense of their rights. She shall provide leadership for activities at the National Women's Wing and shall be responsible for mobilization of women.

DEPUTY NATIONAL WOMENS' LEADER

26. (1) The Deputy Women's Leader shall assist the Women's Leader in the discharge of her duties and in her absence shall act in that capacity. She shall perform such functions as may be assigned to her from time to time by the National Women's Leader.

NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER

27. (1) Shall be responsible for the coordination at national level of the programmes and activities of Youths and shall represent their interest nationally. He shall, as leader of the youths be responsible for the political education and mobilization of youths and shall initiate activities relating to the promotion and recruitment of new youths at all levels of the Party.

DEPUTY NATIONAL YOUTH LEADER

28. (1) The Deputy National Youth Leader shall assist the National Youth Leader in the discharge of his/her duties and in his/her absence shall act in that capacity. He / She shall perform such functions as may be assigned to him/her from time to time by the National Youth Leader.

NATIONAL PUBLICITY SECRETARY

29. (1) The National Publicity Secretary shall coordinate all public communications for the party and lead a team that will develop and manage the Party's communication strategy and action plans. S/he will:

- (a) Lead the planning and implementation of all media activity of the party.
- (b) Ensure that the party has a positive public image.
- (c) Support and coordinate the activities of public relations officers of the party
- (d) Provide advice and supervision of the party's internal communication to make sure members are aware of, support and participate in all party activities.

NATIONAL TREASURER

30. (1) The National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Ensure that all monies paid to the Party, including membership registration, subscription fees and dues are lodged in the appropriate Party's bank accounts
- (b) Keep a comprehensive record of the Party's finances.
- (c) Ensure that party members are regularly reminded and encouraged to pay their dues using the membership database established at the Secretariat.
- (d) Ensure that all bills relating to the Party are paid off, pledges collected and staff salaries paid.
- (e) Keep all cheque books, financial and other banking documents of the party to ensure that the party's funds and property are managed.
- (f) Prepare a yearly statement of account and periodic reports for the Finance Committee.
- (g) Provide a regular report on the financial situation of the party to the finance committee.
- (h) Prepare budgetary estimates on the administration and programs of the party for submission to the finance committee.

(2) The National Treasurer shall be one of the signatories to the Party's accounts.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

31. (1) The Financial Secretary shall supervise the Head office staff in the book keeping and day to day financial operations of the Secretariat. Specifically, she shall:

- (a) Manage imprests, receipts, disbursements and procurement of basic office items.
- (b) Furnish the National Treasurer with all information and documentation pertaining to financial operations including payment of membership registration fees, subscriptions and dues, bank transactions and bank statements for the records.

LEGAL OFFICER

32. (1) There shall be a team of Legal Advisers to be headed by a Legal Officer who shall be a legal practitioner of at least 10 years' experience from date of enrollment and shall be elected at the National Delegates Conference.
- (2) The Team of Legal Advisers shall provide legal advice and representation in all matters for the party and shall also advise on the interpretation of the laws, regulations and this constitution where the need might arise.

NATIONAL INTERNAL AUDITOR

33. (1) The National Internal Auditor shall audit the books of account of the party and submit a report accordingly to the National Executive,
- (2) She shall also support the Director of Finance and the Treasurer during the conduct of external audits.

DEPUTY NATIONAL INTERNAL AUDITOR

34. (1) The Deputy Internal Auditor shall assist the National Internal Auditor in the discharge of his or her duties; she shall act in the absence of the National Internal Auditor and perform such duties as may be assigned by the National Internal Auditor.

REGIONAL CHAIRPERSONS

35. (1) All Regional Chairpersons are National officers representing the leadership of the Party in their respective regions. As heads of the Regional Executive Committees, they are ultimately responsible for the image, status and progress of the Party in the regions.
- (2) Specifically, Regional Chairpersons shall:
- (a) Lead in the formulation of policies and strategies to promote and strengthen the Party in the region.
 - (b) Supervise the activities of executive members at all levels within the region.
 - (c) Chair the Regional Delegates Conference.

CO-ORDINATOR OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS

36. (1) There shall be a Coordinator of Diaspora Affairs who shall act as liaison between the Party Secretariat and the executives of all Diaspora Regions and chapters and be the primary source of information for the diaspora on the Party's policies, activities and plans.
- (2) Specifically, the Coordinator for Diaspora Affairs shall:
- (a) Keep the leadership of the Party informed on current party activities in the diaspora
 - (b) Secure the support of the Secretariat for Diaspora activities and plans whenever necessary.
 - (c) Facilitate all Secretariat support to electoral processes in the diaspora including in the settlement of disputes arising from the conduct of elections.
 - (d) Act as the main advocate for the inclusion and participation of the diaspora in decision making processes of the party.
 - (e) Ensure that the Regions and Chapters regularly honour their financial obligations to the Party including payment of their members' registration and subscription dues.

ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

37. All National Officers shall be elected in the National Delegates Conference, except the Women's Leader and Youth Leader, who shall be elected by conferences of their wings called for that purpose

RESIGNATION

38. (1) Where any National Officer resigns his post or is removed from office by way of termination or dismissal he shall handover all documents, records, files and properties belonging to the Party which are in his/her possession to the National Secretary General of the party.
- (2) Where this applies to the National Chairman, he shall handover to the Deputy National Chairman who shall act in such capacity until an election is held for replacement.
- (3) In the case of the National Secretary General he shall handover to the Deputy National Secretary General.
- (4) The said provision shall similarly apply to the lower organs of the party.

TENURE OF OFFICE OF PARTY OFFICERS.

39. (1) All officers from Ward, Constituency, District Executive Committees, Regional Executive Committees and National Officers shall hold office for three years and shall be eligible for re-election.

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

40. (1) The National Secretariat shall be the administrative organ of the National Executive Committee of the Party and shall be composed as follows:
- (a) National Secretary General who shall be the head of the National Secretariat. and shall work under the supervision of the National Chairperson and Leader.
 - (b) Deputy National Secretary General.
 - (c) National Organizing Secretary
 - (d) Deputy National Organizing Secretary
 - (e) National Youth Leader
 - (f) Deputy National Youth Leader
 - (g) National Women's Leader
 - (h) Deputy National Women's Leader
 - (i) National Treasurer
 - (j) National Publicity Secretary

- (2) The Secretariat shall have such departments and other staff as the National Executive Committee may determine.

NATIONAL WOMENS' WING OF THE PARTY

41. (1) There shall be established a National Women's Wing of the party which shall be within the overall structure of the party and shall have its own rules and regulations provided that

such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution or the programs and policies of the NGC party.

(2) The Women's Wing shall have an Executive comprised as follows:

- (a) Chairperson(National Women's Leader)
- (b) Secretary
- (c) Publicity Secretary
- (d) Organizing Secretary
- (e) Youth Women's Leader
- (f) Treasurer
- (g) Regional Women's Leaders.

(3) The responsibilities of the Women's wing shall be to:

- (a) Mobilize women for the party
- (b) Design and implement programs for women throughout the Country for the Party.
- (c) Recruit more women into the Party thereby expanding their membership.
- (d) Popularize the policies and philosophy of the Party amongst women.
- (e) Promote the rights and interests of women within the party.
- (f) Encourage the active participation of women in the activities of the party both before and during elections.
- (g) Perform any other function that may be assigned to it by the National Executive Committee.

NATIONAL YOUTH WING OF THE PARTY

42. (1) There shall be established a National Youth Wing of the party which shall have its own rules and regulations provided that such rules and regulations shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution, programs and policies of the NGC.

(2) The National Youth Wing shall have an Executive comprised as follows:

- a. Chairperson (National Youth Leader).
- b. Youth Secretary.
- c. Youth publicity Secretary.
- d. Youth Organizing Secretary
- (h) Youth Women's Leader
- (i) Youth Treasurer
- (j) Regional Youth Leaders

(k) Representatives of youth in Tertiary Institutions

(3) The responsibilities of the Youth Wing shall be to:

- (a) Mobilize youths for the party.
- (b) Design and implement programs for party youths throughout the Country for the Party.
- (c) Recruit more youths into the Party and there by expand its membership.
- (d) Popularize the policies, ideology and philosophy of the Party amongst youths in the Country.
- (e) Promote the rights and interest of youths within the Party.
- (f) Encourage the active participation of youths of the Party before and during elections.
- (g) Perform any other function that may be assigned to it by the National Executive Committee.

DIASPORA BRANCHES OF THE PARTY

43. (1) Any group of Sierra Leoneans who are members of the NGC Party living outside of Sierra Leone may organize themselves into Diaspora chapters and Regions of the party in their respective Countries subject to the following conditions:

- a. Recognition of the chapters or Region by the National Executive Committee and the National Delegates Conference.
- b. That the activities of the chapters or Regions shall be regulated by the provisions of this constitution.
- c. The chapters shall have a minimum of 50 registered members and in case of a Regional Branch, a minimum of 100 registered members.
- d. The chapters and Regions may in conjunction with the National Secretariat make rules and regulations, byelaws and constitutions to regulate their activities which must be consistent with the provisions of this constitution.

(2) There shall be a Coordinator of Diaspora affairs who shall be elected at the National Delegates Conference. S/he shall be a National Officer of the party.

(3) All disputes arising within and among chapters shall be resolved using the appropriate dispute resolution mechanism provided for by the constitution or bye laws of the chapters. All unresolved issues shall be referred to the Regional body for adjudication. If still unresolved, the matter shall be referred to the National Secretariat where a special committee shall deliberate and take the final decision.

TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS

44. (1) There shall be a functioning Executive of the NGC in each institution of higher learning where the Party has a minimum of 50 registered members.

- (2) Elections: the election of the Executives shall be supervised by the Regional Executive of the Region where the institution is located.
- (3) The main function of the executive shall be to popularize the policies, ideology and philosophy of the Party amongst students on campus and recruit more students into the Party, thereby expand its membership.
- (4) Three members from each institution shall attend as delegates in the National Delegates Conference namely Chairperson, Secretary and Women's Leader.

NATIONAL ELDERS AND TRUSTEE COUNCIL

45. (1) There shall be established a National Elders and Trustees Council which shall be the moral conscience of the party and shall be composed as follows:
- (a) Members of the party who are Past Presidents and Vice Presidents.
 - (b) Members of the party who are Past Speakers, Majority and Minority Leaders of Parliament.
 - (c) Members of the party who are present District Council Chairmen and Mayors.
 - (d) Members of the party who are past National Chairpersons and Leaders of the Party.
 - (e) Current Chairperson and Leader of the Party.
 - (f) Present and past Presidential Candidates who are still members of the party.
 - (g) Present and past Presidential Candidates Running Mates who are still members of the Party.
 - (h) Five founding members of the Party appointed by NEC on the recommendation of the Chairperson and Leader.
- (2) Responsibilities of the Elders and Trustees Council shall be to:
- a. Share oversight on legal and policy issues, conflict resolutions, matters of discipline and elections disputes in addition to their function as trustees.
 - b. Provide advice on critical issues which may be referred to it by National Executive Committee.
 - c. Provide representation on the National Disciplinary Committee.
 - d. Act as Trustees of the properties both personal and real of the party.
 - e. Ensure that the highest standards of morality are maintained within the party.
 - f. Possess, protect and preserve the properties of the party.
 - g. Manage the trust properties in a prudent and business-like manner.

Delegates Conference for confirmation. Members of the IEC shall serve for four years renewable term.

- (3) The IEC is empowered to select party members as its election observers and receive reports from them in elections at lower levels
- (4) The IEC shall assume direct responsibility for the conduct of the National Officers elections and the Presidential Candidate's elections.

COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

48. (1) There shall be established a Committee of Parliamentarians (COP) which shall comprise the following:

- (a) All NGC Members of Parliament
- (b) Former NGC Members of Parliament
- (c) Former Speaker of Parliament who is a Member of NGC
- (d) National Chairperson & Leader
- (e) National Secretary General
- (f) Legal Officer.
- (g) National Publicity Secretary

(2) The Committee of Parliamentarians shall have the mandate to:

- (a) Maintain a permanent and constant working relationship with the NGC Members of Parliament.
- (b) Support NGC Members of Parliament in the exercise of their Parliamentary duties.
- (c) Encourage unity and harmony amongst the Members of Parliament.
- (d) Ensure that there is synergy between the Party's position on national issues and of its representatives.
- (e) Handle all disputes and complaints brought to it by or against the NGC Members of Parliament and strive to resolve them amicably.
- (f) Advise on good Parliament practice.

(3) The NGC Members of Parliament shall elect a Leader who shall lead on all issues in Parliament.

(4) Where the Party has no representation in Parliament, the COP shall elect a Chairperson.

(5) Meetings of COP shall be once a month but shall otherwise be convened by the National Chairperson and Leader or on the request of its members whenever necessary.

THE PARTY CANDIDACY COMMITTEE

49. (1) There shall be established a Party Candidacy Committee which shall be responsible for the allocation of the Party's symbols to aspiring candidates intending to contest in

Parliamentary, Ward, District, City and Town council elections. Procedures for selection of Candidates shall be as follows.

- (2) (a) For the election of Councilors, the Ward Executive Committee shall consider applications and recommend the names of not more than five applicants to the Constituency Executive Committee stating the reasons for the choice of each applicant. The Constituency Executive Committee shall examine the reasons advanced, select the three most qualified and forward their details to the District Executive Committee. The District Executive Committee after examining the reasons shall make the final decision.
- (b) For Parliamentary Candidates, the Constituency Executive Committee and the Chairpersons, Secretaries, Youths and Women's Leaders of the wards that compose the Constituency shall consider applications before selecting and recommending at most 5 aspirants to the District Executive Committee. The District Executive Committee, after considering the reasons advanced for their choice, shall recommend the names of the three most qualified aspirants to the Party Candidacy Committee which shall take the final decision on the award of the Party symbol to the successful aspirant.
- (c) In the case of District Council Chairmen and Mayoral elections the Party District Executive Committee in consultation with the Constituency Executive Committees shall consider applications and select from amongst persons who have expressed their interest to contest the three most qualified and submit their names to the Candidacy Committee which shall make the final choice.
- (3) The Party Candidacy Committee shall consist of the following:
 - (a) National Chairperson and Leader
 - (b) National Secretary General
 - (c) All Regional Party Chairpersons
 - (d) Two members of the National Elders and Trustee Council
 - (e) Two founding members
 - (f) Two current members of Parliament and two former members of Parliament.
- (4) Meetings of the Party Candidacy Committee shall be held as and when necessary to consider the award of party symbols for the various elections excluding elections for the choice of a Presidential Candidate.
- (5) The Party Candidacy Committee may create sub-committees to assist in the execution of its duties.
- (6) It may draw up guidelines to be approved by NEC.

PRESIDENTIAL VETTING COMMITTEE

50. (1) The Presidential Vetting Committee shall, on receipt of applications from persons aspiring to be nominated as the Presidential Candidate of the party, scrutinize and vet the application of each candidate to ensure that he or she is qualified and fit to contest for the office of President in a National Election.

(2) The Vetting Committee shall be composed as follows:

- (a) National Chairperson and Leader.
- (b) National Secretary General
- (c) National Youth Leader
- (d) National Women's Leader
- (e) Regional Chairpersons
- (f) Chairperson of National Elders and Trustee Council.
- (g) Legal Officer.

(3) The Vetting Committee shall reject the Candidacy of any Aspirant that is proved not to be qualified to be a Presidential Candidate.

(4) The Vetting Committee shall submit a report on its findings to NEC and to all the Aspirants.

(5) Any Aspirant who is dissatisfied with the finding of the Committee may appeal to the National Executive Committee whose decisions shall be final.

NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

51. (1) There shall be established a National Disciplinary Committee the members of which shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee and be composed as follows:

- (a) A Representative from the National Elders and Trustee Council.
- (b) A Representative from the Committee of Parliamentarians.
- (c) A Representative from the Youth Wing.
- (d) A Representative from the Women's Wing
- (e) A Lawyer who is a member of the party.
- (f) Head of Muslim Affairs
- (g) Head of Christian Affairs
- (h) A representative from each Regional Executive Committee.

(2) The National Disciplinary Committee shall:

- (a) Ensure that discipline is maintained in the party.
- (b) Investigate all cases of misconduct referred to it.

- (c) Prepare a report of its findings of any case of misconduct and make recommendations to the National Executive Committee.

- (3) (a) When an allegation of a misconduct is made against a member of the Party, the Disciplinary Committee shall notify the member in writing of the allegation made against him / her and the place and time of the hearing.
- (b) A member who appears before a Disciplinary Committee shall be given the opportunity to present his case orally or in writing either personally or through a Lawyer and shall be allowed to call witnesses.
- (c) Any decision taken against a member who has not been informed of the charges against him or her or has not been given any opportunity of defending himself / herself shall be null and void.
- (d) The proceedings of a disciplinary committee shall be held in the Party Office.
- (e) Any member of the Party who is dissatisfied with a decision against him/her by the organ or Officers of the Party shall have the right of appeal to the immediate higher organ of the Party within fourteen days of the date of the decision.
- (f) An Appeal shall be determined by the appropriate appellate body within 21 days from the date of the receipt of the Notice of Appeal by the appropriate Executive Committee.
- (4) The National Executive Committee shall be the final Arbitrator in all appeals.

OFFENCES

52. (1) Disciplinary action may be taken against a member of the party who:

- (a) Does anything likely to bring the party into disrepute or public ridicule.
- (b) Willfully commits any breach of the Party's Constitution Rules and Regulations.
- (c) Engages in anti-party activities.
- (d) Takes legal action to litigate on any disputes or on any matter whatsoever, concerning rights, obligations and duties of any member of the party without first availing himself of the remedies provided under this constitution.
- (e) Persistently absents himself or herself from meetings of the Party.
- (f) Engages in disorderly conduct at meetings or rallies or any Party function.
- (g) Creates a parallel Party organ at any level.
- (h) Disobeys or neglects to carry out lawful directives of the Party or its officials.
- (i) Defrauds the Party or its officials.

(2) Any member who commits any of the offences mentioned in Article 52 herein abovementioned shall be subjected to the following penalties:

- a. Suspension from the Party or suspension from office.

- b. Reprimand
- c. Debarment from holding any Party office.
- d. Removal from office.
- e. Expulsion from the Party.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

53. (1) The election of the Presidential Candidate for the party shall take place eighteen months before the date of the National General Election. The date shall be agreed upon by the National Delegates Conference, after which the National Secretary-General shall display a Notice in all NGC offices throughout the Country and also publish it in newspapers and by radio announcements.
- (2) Members wishing to contest in the said election shall submit applications to the Secretary General attached with a detailed curriculum vitae.
 - (3) All Applicants shall go through a vetting process before being allowed to contest in the said election.
 - (4) Primary elections shall be held in all eighteen (18) Administrative Districts of the NGC Party in the country and in the Diaspora, the results from each district shall be collated by the party's National Independent Elections Committee and the candidate emerging with the highest number of votes shall be declared the winner and be adopted as the party's Presidential Candidate/Nominee.
 - (5) The said winner shall be adopted at the National Delegates Conference as the Party's Presidential candidate.
 - (6) The Presidential Candidate shall in consultation with the National Executive Committee choose his or her running mate.
 - (7) The Presidential Candidate shall be elected by the following delegates:
 - (a) All members of the Constituency Executive Committees.
 - (b) All members of the District Executive Committee.
 - (c) All National Officers of the party shall vote in their respective places of residence.
 - (d) Current and former members of Parliament who are still members of the party.
 - (e) Members of the Regional and Chapter Executives of the National Grand Coalition in the Diaspora.
 - (f) All District Council Chairpersons who are members of the party.
 - (g) All ward Chairpersons
 - (8) To qualify to vote all delegates must be paid up members for at least 12 months.

- (9) Elections for the choice of a Presidential Candidate should be held on the same day.
- (10) The Applicant / Aspirant must meet inter alia the following criteria:
- (a) Must have been a registered member of the party for at least twelve months in the category of Distinguished Grand Chief Patron
 - (b) Must be a citizen of Sierra Leone otherwise than by naturalization.
 - (c) Must be qualified to register as voter as provided under the 1991 Constitution and the National Electoral Laws Act 2012.
 - (d) Must not have been convicted of a criminal offence.
 - (e) Must have attained the age of 40 years.
 - (f) Must be a person of integrity and of high moral standing in the society.
 - (g) Must possess a minimum of secondary/ tertiary education.
 - (h) Must have paid the prescribed nomination fee before the deadline set by the I.E.C.
- (11) Any Aspirant / Applicant who does not meet the aforesaid conditions shall be rejected by the vetting committee.

PARTY FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS

54. (1) The party shall be funded by the following means:

- (a) Payment of membership subscriptions,
- (b) voluntary donations,
- (c) sale of party materials,
- (d) cultural programs,
- (e) gifts and grants from any individuals or groups of individuals, companies, organizations as authorized by law,
- (f) money generated from activities,
- (g) proceeds from nomination forms,
- (h) Investment made by the party.

(2) Only such persons as are authorized by NEC shall receive the funds.

(3) Receipt for collection of funds shall be printed only at the party's National Headquarters. Each receipt shall be duly numbered and issued in books containing 50 receipts.

- (4) The funds and assets of the party shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the political objectives of the party set out in this constitution.

BANK ACCOUNTS

55. (1) The party shall open such number of Bank Accounts in Freetown where the Headquarters is situated, Regional, District and Constituencies headquarters and at such other places as considered necessary.
- (2) There shall be three authorized signatories to the bank account namely, the Treasurer, the National Chairman and Leader and Secretary General. The account may be operated by two of the authorized signatories.
- (3) All monies received shall be deposited in Bank Accounts of the party and all expenses shall be routed through the bank accounts.
- (4) Notwithstanding the above, in the event of special accounts being opened for Parliamentary and Presidential elections, there shall be three authorized signatories for operating such accounts who shall be nominated by the National Executive Committee.
- (5) Withdrawals from or debit instructions on the account shall only be valid when authorized by the National Chairperson and Leader.

MERGER, SPLIT, COALITIONS AND DISSOLUTION

56. (1) Decisions regarding mergers, coalition, split and dissolution shall be taken at the National Delegates Conference.
- (2) Where the situation demands urgent attention, the National Executive Committee may take the decision subject to ratification in the next National Delegates Conference.
- (3) A resolution in respect of merger, coalition, split and dissolution to be effective shall require the approval of at least two thirds of the delegates present and voting.

RULES & REGULATIONS

57. (1) There may be separate Rules and Regulations to complement the provisions of this Constitution.
- (2) All Rules and Regulations that would give effect to and complement this Constitution shall be drafted by the National Secretariat of the Party. These may include but not be limited to Rules and Regulations governing the conduct of intra-party elections, discipline, financial management, management of the party's assets.
- (3) All such rules and regulations shall be submitted to the National Executive Committee for ratification.
- (4) After ratification by the National Executive Committee, the Rules and Regulations shall be submitted to the PPRC for publication in the gazette, in pursuance of Section 24(1)b of the Political Parties Act, 2002.
- (5) Any such Rules and Regulations shall apply to all Chapters of the Party

QUORUM

58. (1) The quorum for any Party meeting shall be one third of the registered members of that level, body or organ.
- (2) At any Party meeting decisions shall be reached by consensus and in the case of failure to reach a consensus, by a majority of the votes cast.

HOLDING OF DUAL OFFICES

59. (1) Subject to the provisions of this constitution, any member holding any office in the Party at National level shall be deemed to have resigned that office if he or she is aspiring for or has accepted any of the offices namely: President, Vice President, Member of Parliament, Mayor, District Council Chairperson or Councilor.
- (2) No member shall be qualified for nomination or election or appointment into any of the offices of the Party unless he has been a registered member for at least 12 months and is of good financial standing in the Party except where there is waiver by the appropriate Executive Committee.

AMENDMENT

60. (1) This Constitution can be amended by the National Delegates Conference provided the amendment has the approval of two thirds of members present and voting at the said conference.
- (2) Notice of any proposed amendment to the constitution shall be sent to the National Secretary General at least two months before the date of the National Delegates Conference. The notice shall be in writing stating clearly the amendment sought and reasons for the amendment.
- (3) The National Secretary General shall upon receipt of the notice cause it to be circulated to all Regional, District, Constituency and Ward Executive Committees at least one month before the date of the National Delegates Conference.
- (4) The proposed amendment shall be debated at the National Executive Committee before submission to the National Delegates Conference.

INTERPRETATION

61. Any questions as to the meaning of any provision/article of this Constitution shall be referred to the National Executive Committee whose interpretation shall be final and binding unless it is overturned by the National Delegates Conference at its next meeting.

LEGAL CAPACITY

62. Only the National Officers shall have the power and authority to bind the party or create legal relationships between the party and any person or group of persons, company and organization.

TRANSITION

63. Any act or thing done or made by the Party prior to the coming into force of this constitution shall if consistent with this constitution be deemed to have been done under this constitution.

ADOPTION

64. This Constitution was ratified and adopted at an Extraordinary Party Conference held on Saturday 14th November 2020. After consideration of objections by the public, review with the PPRC and incorporation of the changes as agreed, the Constitution was submitted to PPRC for republication on 29th July 2021. It shall come into force on the date of republication, and thereupon the NGC Constitution registered with the PPRC on the 18th day of October 2017 shall cease to have effect.

Signed:

1. **Chairperson Interim National Trustee Council**
2. **National Chairperson and Leader**

Witnessed by: 3. **National Secretary General**

4. **Legal Adviser**