



IPP Constitution

Putting People's Lives First through Technology

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Independent Peoples Party - IPP





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Chapter 1 - The Party

Preamble

The Independent Peoples Party of Ghana is an association of members who share certain principles, as set out below, and who strive to elect candidates to the Flagstaff House and Parliament for the purpose of advancing those principles.

The Independent Peoples Party of Ghana is committed to the view that the dignity of each individual man and woman is the cardinal principle of democratic society and the primary purpose of all political organization and activity in such a society.

The Independent Peoples Party of Ghana is dedicated to the principles of individual freedom, responsibility and human dignity in the framework of a just society, and political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all persons. The Independent Peoples Party is bound by the constitution of Ghana and is committed to the pursuit of equality of opportunity for all persons, to the enhancement of our unique and diverse cultural community.

In accordance with this philosophy, the Independent Peoples Party of Ghana subscribes to the fundamental rights and freedoms of persons under the rule of law and commits itself to the protection of these essential values and their constant adaptation to the changing needs of modern Ghanaian society.

The Independent Peoples Party of Ghana recognises that human dignity in a democratic system requires that all citizens have access to full information concerning the policies and leadership of the Party; the opportunity to participate in open and public assessment of such means, and such modifications of policies and leadership as they deem desirable to promote the political, economic, social, cultural and general well-being of Ghanaians.

To realise this objective, the Independent Peoples Party of Ghana strives to provide a flexible and democratic structure whereby all Ghanaians can obtain such information, participate in such assessment and militate for such reform through open communications, free dialogue and participatory action both electoral and non-electoral. This Constitution sets forth the institutions, systems and procedures by which the Independent Peoples Party of Ghana intend to implement these ideas on behalf of all its members.



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1. Name

The Party shall be called and known as the **INDEPENDENT PEOPLES PARTY**, abbreviated **IPP** and hereinafter referred to as the Party.

2. Identification

- (a) The Party symbols shall be a **Desktop Computer** on a **Blue** and **Orange** background.
- (b) The Party flag shall be **Orange, White** and **Blue**.
- (c) The Party slogan shall be **Putting People's Lives First through Technology**.
- (d) The Party motto shall be: **Yenko Nkoaa, Someha na Someha**, Meaning (hold me here and hold me there, and let's go together).

3. Ideology

The ideology of the Party shall be to advocate and support **Liberalism** or **Centrism** philosophy.

4. Headquarters

The Party shall have its Headquarters and National Secretariat in Kumasi or such other place as may be determined by the Central Committee subject to subsequent approval of Congress.

5. Legal Status

The Party is a corporate entity in accordance with the existing Constitution of Ghana and shall have perpetual succession and may sue and be sued as a corporate body.

6. Founding Members

The names and addresses of Founding Members of the Party shall be kept at the Party

7. Aims and Objectives

IPP principles are Ghanaian principles, first and always. The IPP do not and will not ever waver on our principles because they are issues that affect all Ghanaians regardless of who you are. These are issues that need to be solved and need a pragmatic and effective solutions oriented approach to solving them. The IPP philosophy is that approach and these principles are the core part of the IPP philosophy.

There are three interrelated concepts that form foundation of the Independent Peoples Party philosophy.

I. Principles

The reality is these are critical to the welfare of the country and the Party. These principles bind us as moderates, unify us as Ghanaians, and also serve to exclude extremes.



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FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – Any action of the government must respect principles of fiscal responsibility and public accountability.

ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE – Develop practical savings and investment sources to reduce poverty and create wealth.

NATION'S RESPONSIBILITY – The country can generally determine its course of action based on local values and unique needs.

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE – When the government is compelled to legislate morality, every citizen should be considered as equal.

EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENT – Increase public and private emphasis on math and science to promote Ghanaian innovation to compete in the global economy.

II. Structural

Structural Principles are the most important to the Party. Our structure is what makes us fundamentally different, non-ideological, non-partisan, and not confined by the political spectrum.

DEVELOP REAL LEADERS – This central tenet of the Party is to help leaders both grow and to exhibit good citizenship through leadership.

SELF DISCOVERY - As an IPP it is important to always be learning and growing. This means it is the Party's responsibility to pull information together and to help members discover for themselves their stance on any social or economic topic.

III. Perceptual

We have become a reactive society. While there is little we can do about the underlying problem, as a Party we must always consider many perspectives, including a long term perspective.

FOCUS ON LONG TERM PROBLEM SOLVING – We have developed into a reactive nation. The only issues being seriously considered are those who make the top of each media hour, however it is important to be talking about and solving issues that are foreseeable before they are major issues.

8. Supremacy of the Party Constitution

Subject to the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana, and any laws for the time being in force in the Republic, the provisions of this Constitution shall take precedence over and above any rules and regulations of the Party.



Chapter 2 - Membership

9. General Membership

- (a) Membership of the Party shall be open to any citizen of Ghana who is eighteen years of age or is above and who accepts the aims and objectives of the Party, provided that such person is not a member of any other political party or any organization whose policies are inconsistent with those of the Party.
- (b) Every application for membership shall be vetted by the branch Executive Committee. Where an application is refused the applicant may of right appeal to the Regional Executive Committee. Upon enrolment, every member shall be issued with a Membership and Dues Card.

10. Admission Fee and Membership Dues

- (a) The admission fee shall be as determined from time to time by the National Congress of the Party.
- (b) Each member of the Party shall pay dues as determined from time to time by the National Congress.

11. Rights and Privileges

It is the right of a Party member:

- (a) to vote at elections and to be elected to office in any of the Party organs;
- (b) to address any question or statement to any Party organ, or official;
- (c) to be given a hearing whenever adverse decisions are likely to be taken regarding his or her activities or conduct;
- (d) to appeal against any adverse decision against him or her by a Branch through the Constituency and Regional Organs to the National Organ;
- (e) to petition as a last resort to the National Party Congress; and
- (f) no member of the Party shall initiate or commence any legal action against the Party without first having exhausted the provisions in this Constitution and other regulations for addressing grievances.

12. Appeals and Petition

- (a) Any member of a Branch of the Party who is aggrieved by any decision of or sanction imposed on him or her by the branch organ may appeal in writing to the Central Committee whose decision shall be final so however that the appellant may petition in writing to the National Executive Council and ultimately to the Party National Congress for a review of his or her case.
- (b) Any member of the Party who is dissatisfied with a decision or sanction imposed on him or her by a Regional Executive Committee of the Party in exercise of its disciplinary



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authority under Article 38(h) may appeal in writing to the National Disciplinary Committee under Article 76(c) through the next higher organ.

- (c) A candidate for Parliamentary election whose candidature is not approved by the Central Committee may appeal in writing to the National Executive Council whose decision shall be subject to a petition in writing to the National Executive Council and ultimately to the Party National Congress which shall finally dispose of the issue.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions under this Article, any organ or member of the Party dissatisfied with any decision or sanction imposed on him or her as under this Article or any other provisions of this Constitution or rules and regulations or who claims to be affected in any reasonable manner by any act of commission or omission by the Party may in the last resort after the appeals and petitions provided under this Article have not redressed his or her grievance, petition in writing to the Council of Elders by virtue of Article 46 (f) (i), (ii) and (iii) for ultimate review of his or her case and the decision of the Council shall finally conclude the process of redressing grievances under this Constitution.

13. Exhaustion of Redress Process

For the purpose of Article 11(f) any organ or member of the Party who claims to be aggrieved in any way by any decision or sanction imposed by or any act of commission or omission of the Party shall not be deemed to have exhausted the Procedure for redress unless he, she or it has gone through all the procedures for redressing grievances provided under Article 12 of this Constitution.

14. Obligations

It is the duty of a Party member to:

- (a) protect the solidarity and unity of the Party at all levels and at all times;
- (b) protect the good name of the Party under all circumstances;
- (c) carry out Party decisions and directives to the best of his or her ability and ensure that any breach of such decisions or directives is promptly reported to the Party authorities;
- (d) respect and uphold the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana and this Constitution;
- (e) set good examples of hard work, efficiency, honesty, a keen sense of responsibility and duty;
- (f) guard jealously the secrets of the Party and maintain constant vigilance in this respect;
- (g) criticize constructively and accept criticism in good faith and make frequent self-examination for correction;
- (h) be faithful and loyal to the Party, eschew tribalism, sectionalism, bribery, corruption, opportunism, nepotism, ostentation and vanity;
- (i) register as a voter and vote at elections and referendum in which the Party participates;
- (j) study the ideas and ideals of Kofi Akpaloo and endeavour to be guided in action by these principles; and
- (k) pay Party dues regularly.



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15. Membership of other Groups

As the political vanguard of the people the members of the Party may belong to such recognized bodies as Trade Unions, Co-operative Societies, Farmers and Fishermen Organizations, Professional Bodies, National Union of Ghana Students and similar bodies which seek to promote the economic, social, political, cultural and educational advancement of Ghanaians, Africans and mankind in general.

16. Cessation of Membership

- (a) A person ceases to be a member of the Party:
 - (i) if he or she resigns by writing under his or her hand or causes it to be written on his or her behalf and addressed to the General Secretary of the Party through his or her Branch Secretary.
 - (ii) if he or she is dismissed in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Constitution;
 - (iii) if he or she fails without reasonable cause to comply with any of the provisions of the Constitution, including failure to pay membership dues for a period of more than 1 (one) year.
- (b) A member who resigns or is dismissed may re-apply and may be considered for readmission on good cause shown.



Chapter 3 - Basic Structure of the Party

17. Principal Organs

The Party shall be structured on the basis of:

(a) Branch Organizations: There shall be organized in every Electoral Area of the Country a local branch of the Party. A branch organization shall be the basic organ of the Party and shall be composed of the appropriate Units in the Electoral Area. The National Executive Council may, on the recommendation of the Regional Executive Committee, authorize the formation of a local branch in any Sub-Electoral Area, provided that there are a minimum of 100 (one hundred) registered members in that Sub-Electoral Area. Every branch organization shall be presented with a Charter and shall be entitled to use and display the Party's flag and symbol.

(b) Constituency Organizations: A Constituency Branch shall be constituted by the Local Branches of the Constituency.

(c) Regional Organizations: The Regional Party shall be constituted by all Constituency branches in the Region.

(d) National Organization: The Party at the National level shall comprise of.

- (i) The National Party Congress.
- (ii) The National Executive Council.
- (iii) The Central Committee.
- (iv) The Council of Elders.



Chapter 4 - The Local Branch Organ

18. Local Branch Authority

There shall be in each Local Branch organization:

- (a) the Local Branch Executive Committee; and
- (b) the Local Branch General Meeting.

19. Local Branch Executive Committee

(a) The executive body of every local branch of the Party shall be the Local Branch or Ward Executive Committee elected by the members at a general meeting of members as follows:-

- (i) a Chairman;
- (ii) two Vice Chairmen which one should be a female;
- (iii) a Secretary;
- (iv) an Assistant Secretary;
- (v) a Treasurer;
- (vi) an Organiser;
- (vii) an Assistant Organiser;
- (viii) a Women's Organiser;
- (ix) an Assistant Women's Organiser;
- (xi) a Youth Organiser;
- (xii) an Assistant Youth Organiser;
- (xiii) a Communication Director; and
- (iv) 5 (five) other members appointed by the Branch Executive Committee.

(b) The term of office of the Local Branch Executive Committee shall be 2 (two) years and members are eligible for re-election.

20. The Branch Chairman

The Chairman shall preside over General and Executive Committee meetings at which he is present and shall have a casting vote. He shall be in overall charge of the affairs of the Party within the Branch. He shall be assisted by 2 Vice-Chairmen who shall act in his absence.

21. The Branch Secretary

The Branch Secretary shall be the Secretary to the Branch Executive Committee and the Branch General Meeting and the administrative Head of the Local Branch.

22. Functions of the Branch Executive Committee

The Local Branch Executive Committee shall perform or discharge the following functions, duties and responsibilities:

- (a)** explain the policies and programmes of the Party to the members in the Branch and strengthen the Party in the area where the Branch is situated;



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- (b) pay constant attention to the sentiments and views of all citizens in the area and report the same through the Constituency Secretariat to the National Secretariat.
- (c) ensure strict adherence to the policies and programmes of the Party by all members in the Branch and foster the political and general education of Party members.
- (d) pay heed to the political, economic and cultural concerns of the people and take the lead in organizing the people to solve their own problems by promoting the principle of self-reliance.
- (e) receive and consider applications for membership of the Party and, in case of refusal of an applicant, make recommendations to the Constituency Organ;
- (f) collect Party Membership dues and account for them scrupulously;
- (g) ensure that all moneys received on account of the Party whether they are dues, donations or bequests are paid into an approved bank account and cause proper books of account and other records to be kept;
- (i) prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form and containing such particulars as it may from time to time be directed;
- (j) investigate and report to the National Headquarters through the Constituency Secretariat and the Regional Secretariat any acts of indiscipline and breaches of Party rules which may bring the Party into dishonour and disrepute or make the party unpopular.
- (k) A Branch Executive Committee may suspend an ordinary member for an alleged act of indiscipline during investigation, but shall have no power to suspend a member of a Branch Executive Committee. The Branch Executive Committee may recommend for the consideration of the Constituency Executive Committee the suspension of any member of the Branch Executive Committee and the Constituency Executive Committee shall within 30 days of receiving the recommendation decide whether or not the member ought to be suspended.
- (l) No Branch Executive Committee shall have the power to expel a member from the party; imposition of such a sanction is reserved for the National Executive Council subject to the approval by the National Party Congress. In all cases a hearing must be given the member concerned before he or she is expelled.

23. Meeting of Branch Executive Committee

- (a) The Branch Executive Committee shall ordinarily meet for the dispatch of business at such a time and place as the Committee may decide but shall meet at least once every month
- (b) A meeting may be convened at any time on the direction of the Chairman or at the written request of at least 1/3 (one-third) of the members of the Branch Executive Committee.
- (c) The Chairman shall preside at every meeting. In his absence and that of his 2 Vice any member of the Branch Executive Committee may be elected to preside.
- (d) The quorum at every meeting shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the membership of the Branch Executive Committee.

24. Branch General Meeting

- (a) There shall be a Branch General Meeting which shall be attended by all the members of the Branch.
- (b) The Branch General Meeting shall be convened at least twice in a year at a date and place within the Branch to be decided by the Branch Executive Committee. It shall be presided over by the Branch Chairman. In his absence the 1st or 2nd Vice-Chairman shall preside and act. In



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the absence of the Vice-Chairmen the General Meeting may elect one of its members to serve as Chairman for the occasion.

(c) The quorum for a Branch General Meeting shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the membership.

25. Functions of the Branch General Meeting

(a) The Branch General Meeting is the highest organ of the Party at the Branch level. It shall be the duty of the Branch General Meeting to:-

- (i) receive reports of the Party activities in the Branch which will be presented to it by the Branch Executive Committee and to give directions for the implementation of party policies;
- (ii) discuss all matters relating to the development of the Branch in general;
- (iii) elect members of the Branch Executive Committee; and
- (iv) elect members to attend Party Conferences at the Constituency level.

(b) The Branch General Meeting may form sub-committees as appropriate for the better supervision and implementation of the activities of the area of the Branch.



Chapter 5 – The Constituency Organ of the Party

26. The Constituency Authority

There shall be in each Constituency:

- (a) a Constituency Executive Committee; and
- (b) a Constituency Conference.

27. Constituency Executive Committee

The Party shall be organised in each constituency by representatives of the Branch, Ward and Cells under the leadership and management of a Constituency Executive Committee which shall comprise the following officers of the Constituency:-

- (a) the Constituency Chairman;
- (b) the two Constituency Vice Chairmen which one should be a female;
- (c) the Constituency Secretary;
- (d) the Constituency Assistant Secretary;
- (e) the Constituency Treasurer;
- (f) the Constituency Assistant Treasurer;
- (g) the Constituency Organiser;
- (h) the Constituency Assistant Organiser;
- (i) the Constituency Women Organiser;
- (j) the Constituency Assistant Women Organiser;
- (k) the Constituency Youth Organiser;
- (l) the Constituency Assistant Youth Organiser;
- (m) the Constituency Communication Director;
- (n) the Constituency Deputy Communication Director;
- (o) the Constituency Financial Secretary;
- (p) the Constituency Deputy Financial Secretary;
- (q) the Constituency Research Officer;
- (r) the Constituency Assistant Research Officer;
- (s) the Constituency Campaign Coordinator;
- (t) the Member of Parliament or approved parliamentary candidate for the Constituency;
- (u) the Branch Chairmen; and
- (v) Such other offices as may be approved by the Central Committee.



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28. Meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee

The Constituency Executive shall meet normally once a quarter and the quorum shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the membership.

29. Functions of the Constituency Executive Committee

The Constituency Executive Committee shall be responsible for:

- (a) carrying out all policies and decisions and resolutions passed by the Constituency Conference;
- (b) carrying out and implementing Party decisions and policies as may be directed by the higher organs of the Party;
- (c) approval, co-ordination and supervision of Party activities and programmes of the Branches within the Constituency; and
- (d) nomination of Party parliamentary candidate for endorsement by the Constituency Party Conference and approval by the National Central Committee.
- (e) no Constituency Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend any member of the Constituency Executive Committee
- (f) The Constituency Executive Committee may recommend for the consideration of the Regional Executive Committee the suspension of any member of the Constituency Executive Committee and the Regional Executive Committee shall within 30 days of receiving the recommendation decide whether or not the member ought to be suspended.

30. Chairman

- (a) The Chairman shall be elected by the Constituency Party Conference;
- (b) He or She shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (c) He or She shall preside over all meetings; and
- (d) He or She shall take overall charge of affairs of the Party within the Constituency.

31. Vice-Chairmen

There shall be two Constituency Vice-Chairmen whose election and tenure of office shall be the same as for the Chairman and they shall act as similarly provided by this Constitution in the absence of the Chairman.

32. The Constituency Secretary

- (a) The Constituency Secretary shall be elected by the Constituency Party Conference and shall hold office for 4 (four) years
- (b) The Constituency Secretary shall be the administrative head and Secretary to all meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee and the Constituency Conference.



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33. Other Officers

All other officers of the Constituency Executive Committee, other than ex-officio members, shall be elected by the Constituency Party Conference and shall hold office for 4 (four) years but shall be eligible for re-election.

34. Constituency Party Conference

- (a) There shall be a Constituency Party Conference which shall comprise the following:
 - (i) the Constituency Executive Committee;
 - (ii) all branch Chairmen, Secretaries and Treasurers;
 - (iii) 2 (two) members elected by each branch in the Constituency;
 - (iv) a Representative of each Uncharted Branch in the Constituency;
- (b) The Constituency Party Conference Shall be convened once in a year on the direction of the Constituency Executive Committee or a higher organ of the Party
- (c) The quorum for a Constituency Conference shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the membership.

35. Functions of Constituency Party Conference

- (a) The Constituency Party Conference is the highest organ of the Party at the Constituency level;
- (b) The Constituency Party Conference shall:-
 - (i) receive and consider reports of the activities of the Party presented to it by the Constituency Executive Committee;
 - (ii) issue directives for the implementation of programmes in the Constituency;
 - (iii) ensure the implementation in the Constituency of the decisions adopted and resolutions passed by the National and Regional Conferences;
 - (iv) discuss all matters pertaining to the development of the Party in the Constituency;
 - (v) elect a Party Parliamentary Candidate for the Constituency for the approval of the Central Committee;
 - (vi) elect members of the Constituency Executive Committee; and
 - (vii) elect members to represent the Constituency at other Party Conferences.



Chapter 6 - Regional Organization of the Party

36. Regional Structure

The Party, at the Regional level shall have:

- (a) The Regional Party Conference;
- (b) The Regional Executive Committee;
- (c) The Regional Steering Committee;
- (d) A Regional Secretariat normally located in the Regional Capital.

37. Composition of the Regional Executive Committee

The Regional Executive Committee shall comprise:

- (a) the Regional Chairman;
- (b) the two Regional Vice Chairmen which one should be a female;
- (c) the Regional Secretary;
- (d) the Regional Treasurer;
- (e) the Regional Organiser;
- (f) the Regional Women's Organiser;
- (g) the Regional Youth Organiser;
- (h) the Regional Communication Director;
- (i) all Constituency Chairmen;
- (j) all members of the National Executive Council who hail from the Region and are known to be directly concerned with the Region's social and developmental affairs;
- (k) 4 (four) other members ordinarily resident in the Region elected by the Regional Executive Committee for a 4-year term; and
- (l) all members of Parliament or adopted Parliamentary Candidates of the Region.
- (m) All members of the Regional Executive Committee shall hold office for the term of four years, unless otherwise decided by the Central Committee with the approval of the National Executive Council.

38. Functions of the Regional Executive Committee

The Regional Executive Committee shall perform the following functions:

- (a) be responsible for carrying out decisions taken and the resolutions adopted by the National Congress and the Regional Conference;
- (b) represent the National Executive Council in the Region and be responsible for resolving all political and organisational matters affecting the Party in the Region;



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- (c) receive, consider, approve and co-ordinate all decisions and recommendations made by the lower organs of the Party;
 - (d) make proposals for and oversee all Party developmental activities in the Region;
 - (e) guide the Constituency Executive Committees on ways and means of strengthening the Party within the Region;
 - (f) monitor the activities of members of the Party and ensure that the name of the Party is not brought into ridicule or disrepute as a result of misconduct by members;
 - (g) submit regular reports on Party activities in the Region to the Central Committee;
 - (h) exercise disciplinary authority over Party members in the Region, but shall not have the power to suspend any member of the Regional Executive Committee.
-
- (i) prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form and containing such particulars as the Party may from time to time direct; and
 - (j) appoint sub-committees, as may be appropriate, for the carrying out Party activities
 - (k) The Regional Executive Committee may recommend for the consideration of the Central Committee the suspension of any member of the Regional Executive Committee and the Central Committee shall within 30 days of receiving the recommendation decide whether or not the member ought to be suspended.

39. Meetings of the Regional Executive Committee

- (a) The Regional Executive Committee shall ordinarily meet every 6 (six) months for the despatch of business at such a time and place as the Committee shall decide;
- (b) A meeting may be convened at any time on the direction or at the request of 1/3 (one-third) of the members of the Regional Executive Committee;
- (c) The Chairman shall preside at every meeting. In his absence, the First or Second Vice-Chairman, as the case may be shall preside; and
- (d) The quorum at every meeting shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the total number of members.

40. Composition of the Regional Party Conference

The Regional Conference is the highest organ of the Party at the Regional level and it shall consist of:-

- (a) The Regional Chairman;
- (b) The two Regional Vice-Chairmen which one should be female;
- (c) The Regional Secretary;
- (d) Assistant Regional Secretary;
- (e) The Regional Treasurer;
- (f) Assistant Regional Treasurer;
- (g) The Regional Organiser;



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- (h) Assistant Regional Organiser;
- (i) The Regional Women's Organiser;
- (j) Assistant Regional Women's Organiser;
- (k) Regional Youth Organiser;
- (l) Assistant Regional Youth Organiser;
- (m) Regional Financial Secretary;
- (n) Assistant Regional Financial Secretary
- (o) Regional Research Officer;
- (p) Assistant Regional Research Officer
- (q) Regional Communication Director;
- (r) Assistant Regional Communication Director
- (s) Regional Campaign Director;
- (t) All Party Members of Parliament in the Region or adopted Parliamentary Candidates;
- (u) All members of the National Executive Council in the Region;
- (v) All Constituency Chairmen in the Region
- (w) All Constituency Secretaries in the Region;
- (x) All Constituency Treasurers;
- (y) All Constituency Organisers in the Region;
- (z) All Constituency Women's Organisers in the Region;
- (aa) All Constituency Youth Organisers in the Region;
- (ab) All Constituency Communication Directors in the Region; and
- (ac) 2 (two) members elected by each Constituency in the Region.

41. Functions of the Regional Party Conference

The Regional Party Conference shall have the following functions:

- (a)** receive and consider reports of activities of the Party presented to it by the Regional Executive Committee and issue directives for its implementation in the Region;
- (b)** approve the Party's organisational development and programmes within the Region;
- (c)** ensure the implementation in the Region of decisions adopted and resolutions passed by the National Congress;
- (d)** carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by National Congress or the National Executive Council of the Party;
- (e)** direct the Regional Executive to prepare reports of the Party's activities in the Region for the Central Committee of the Party; and
- (f)** elect the Regional Officers of the Party.



42. The Regional Party Conference

- (a)** The Party Regional Conference shall be convened at least once a year, or on the direction of the Regional Executive Committee, a higher organ of the Party or upon written request of 1/3 (one-third) of its membership. It may convene an extraordinary session for a specific purpose;
- (b)** It shall be presided over by the regional Chairman and in his absence, by the First or Second Vice-Chairman, as the case may be; and
- (c)** The quorum for the transaction of any business shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the total membership.

43. Regional Steering Committee

- (a)** The Regional Steering Committee shall comprise;
 - (i) The Regional Chairman;
 - (ii) The Regional Vice Chairmen;
 - (iii) The Regional Secretary;
 - (iv) The Regional Treasurer;
 - (v) The Regional Organiser;
 - (vi) The Regional Women's Organiser;
 - (vii) The Regional Youth Organiser; and
 - (viii) The Regional Communication Director.
- (b)** The Regional Steering Committee shall be responsible for over-seeing the day to day activities of the Party in the Region.

44. Regional Secretariat

- (a)** The Regional Secretariat shall normally be situated in the Regional Capital;
- (b)** The Regional Secretary, assisted by the Regional Assistant Secretary and an Administrative Officer, shall be responsible for the day to day activities of the Secretariat; and
- (c)** The staff at each Regional Secretariat shall be appointed by the Central Committee upon such terms and conditions as the Committee may consider appropriate on the recommendation of the Regional Steering Committee.



Chapter 7 - National Organization

45. Organs

There shall be the following organs of the Party at the National level:

- (a) The National Party Congress;
- (b) The National Executive Council;
- (c) The Central Committee; and
- (d) The Council of Elders.

46. The Council of Elders

- (a) There shall be a Council of Elders, which shall be composed of the following:
 - (i) Founding Members of the IPP who are still loyal to the Party;
 - (ii) The Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Regional Ministers and District Executives, Ambassadors and High Commissioners.
 - (iii) Any other political functionary of the Akpaloo Political Family, who in the opinion of the National Congress has rendered significant and outstanding service to the Akpaloo Political Family;
- (b) The National Party Congress shall have the authority to admit by approval persons to become members of the Council of Elders;
- (c) A person shall be deemed to have been duly nominated for admission as a member of the Council of Elders if the document nominating him or her is signed by at least 5 (five) fully paid-up members of the Party who are registered voters, and signed by the nominee signifying his or her consent;
- (d) The recommendation to the National Party Congress of a member of the Council of Elders shall be conducted by secret ballot without prior debate, and shall be carried by at least the 2/3 (two-third) majority of the total membership of the Central Committee;
- (e) The Central Committee of the Party shall maintain a register into which the names of all persons admitted as members of the Council of Elders shall be entered;
- (f) The Council of Elders shall have the following functions and responsibilities:
 - (i) The Council shall act as arbitrators and mediators in disputes among the leadership of the Party. It shall promote reconciliation encourage and facilitate the settlement of disputes in an amicable manner among the members of the Party. In this regard, it shall be the duty and responsibility of the Council of Elders to ensure that peace and tranquillity always prevail within the ranks of the Party. Accordingly, the Leadership of the Party shall seriously take into consideration the views, advice and recommendations made by the Council of Elders;
 - (ii) The Council of Elders shall consider and advise the Leadership of the Party on any matter relevant to the achievement of the Aims and Objectives of the Party;



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- (iii) In discharging its functions, the Council of Elders may act upon a request of any member or organ of the Party, or on its own initiative; and
- (g) The Council of Elders shall elect its own chairman and other officers as it deems necessary, and shall formulate its own rules and procedures to regulate its meetings and activities.

47. The Central Committee

There shall be a Central Committee of the Party, which shall consist of the following Party members:-

- (a) The National Chairman;
- (b) The Three National Vice Chairmen which one should be female;
- (c) The President;
- (d) The Vice President;
- (e) The General Secretary;
- (f) The National Treasurer;
- (g) The National Organiser;
- (h) The National Women's Organiser;
- (i) The National Youth Organiser;
- (j) The National Chief Evangelist
- (k) All Chairmen of Committees of the National Executive Council
- (l) All Regional Chairmen
- (m) The Leader and Chief Whip of the Party's Parliamentary Group
- (n) 4 (four) members appointed by the Central Committee, 2 (two) of whom shall be women; and
- (o) A member from each Region normally resident in Kumasi elected by the Regional Executive Committee.

48. Functions of the Central Committee

- (a) The Central Committee shall be the supreme administrative organ of the Party and shall be responsible for implementation of the policies and decisions of the Party under the leadership of the National Chairman;
- (b) It shall initiate Party policies and establish such committees and inter-party organisations for the approval by the National Executive Council;
- (c) It shall establish a Party Education Directorate for education of members of the Party and propagation of the Party principles and ideology to the general public;
- (d) It may also establish such organs or departments at the National Secretariat of the Party as it may consider necessary;
- (e) It shall have power to elect the following national officers of the Party:



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- (i) Two Deputy General Secretaries;
 - (ii) The National Chief Evangelist;
 - (iii) Two Deputy National Organisers, two Deputy National Women's Organisers and two and two Deputy National Youth Organisers.
- (f) It shall consider and approve the names of candidates submitted for election to Parliament; provided that where a candidate is objected to by the Central Committee, the matter shall be referred to the Constituency Executive Committee through the Regional Steering Committee concerned, for a review;
- (g) It shall receive from the appropriate Vetting Committee a report of the names of vetted applicants for presidential election and submit, with or without comments, to the National Party Congress for consideration and final election of one of the applicants as Presidential Candidate;
- (h) The Central Committee shall scrutinise and recommend candidates for appointment as Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Chairmen, Members and Managing Directors of Boards of Public Corporations, Ambassadors, etc. if the Party holds national executive power;
- (i) It may authorise the preparation and publication of party newspapers, journals and other literature with the approval of National Executive Council;
- (j) It may authorise fund-raising activities for any purpose and may revoke any fundraising decision taken by any lower organ of the Party on reasonable grounds;
- (k) An incumbent National Chairman, National Vice Chairman or any other member of Central Committee, National Executive Council or National Congress decides to contest for the office of National Chairman, or National Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee or the National Executive Council or National Congress or of the President shall not take his or her seat at meeting of the respective organ during the discussion or deliberation on any matter affecting the selection or election of his or her candidature;
- (l) It shall exercise control over the finances of the Party and ensure that proper books of account and records are kept on all financial affairs of the Party;
- (m) It shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30th day of September in each year, a Budget showing the estimated revenue and expenditure of the Party for the coming year and submit it to the National Executive Council for consideration and approval;
- (n) The Central Committee shall cause to be prepared, not later than 31st day of March each year the following Statements:
- (i) Statement of Income and Expenditure of the Party for the previous year; and
 - (ii) A Statement of Assets and Liabilities, of the Party as they stood at the end of the previous year. The said Statements, duly certified by the National Treasurer, shall be submitted for audit by the external Auditors of the Party and then forwarded to the Electoral Commission.
- (o) The Central Committee may whenever it deem expedient in the interest of the party, extend the term of office for any Constituency Executive Committee or any Regional Executive Committee for a periods not exceeding three months subject to the approval by the National Executive Council.



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(p) Where the Central Committee desires to extend the term of office for any Constituency Executive Committee for a period exceeding three months, then an approval by the National Executive Council must be sought within three months to validate such an extension.

49. Meetings of the Central Committee

- (a) The Central Committee shall meet at least once every month;
- (b) The quorum of the Central Committee Meetings shall be 1/3 (one-third) of the total number of members, including the National Chairman or one of the National Vice Chairmen; and
- (c) The Central Committee Meetings shall be presided over by the National Chairman, and in his absence, by one of the National Vice Chairmen.
- (d) In the absence of the National Chairman and his Deputies, the Central Committee shall elect one of its members to preside over the meeting and any decision arrived at that meeting shall be binding provided there is quorum.

50. The National Executive Council

There shall be a National Executive Council of the Party, consisting of the following members:-

- (a) All members of the Central Committee;
- (b) All National Party officers;
- (c) All members of the Committees of the National Executive Council;
- (d) All Regional Vice-Chairmen, Secretaries, Organisers, Treasurers, Youth Organisers, Women Organisers, and Communication Directors;
- (e) Five members of the Council of Elders;
- (f) All Party members of Parliament, and the adopted Parliamentary Candidates;
- (g) All Party Ministers and Deputy Ministers;
- (h) Two Representatives of Overseas Branches;
- (i) Two Representatives of the Youth Wing;
- (j) Two Representatives of the uncharted Organisations;
- (k) 10 (ten) Representatives of the Women's Wing; and
- (l) 2 (two) Founding Members from each Region

51. Functions of the National Executive Council

The National Executive Council shall perform the following functions:-

- (a) It shall be the chief executive organ of the Party which shall ensure the efficient execution of the policies and programmes of the Party as approved by the National Party Congress;
- (b) It shall guide and supervise all Party activities through the Central Committee of the Party;



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- (c) It shall be responsible for making the appropriate agenda for the National Party Congress including the business to be discussed;
- (d) It shall be responsible for enforcing this Constitution, rules, regulations, Standing Orders, and Bye-laws of the Party;
- (e) It shall have the power to dissolve a Branch of the Party, or suspend or expel any member of the Party. Any such action taken by the National Executive Council shall be reported to the next National Party Congress to which right of appeal shall be from the Branches or members affected by such actions;
- (g) The National Executive Council shall receive for its consideration, comments and directives, the following statements:
 - (i) The Statement of Income and Expenditure of the Party in the previous year
 - (ii) The Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Party as they stood at the end of the previous year;
- (h) It shall appoint external Auditors of the Party.

52. Meetings of the National Executive Council

- (a) The National Executive Council shall ordinarily meet for the despatch of business at least once every other year;
- (b) An extraordinary meeting of the National Executive Council shall be convened at any time at the request of the Leader, the National Chairman, the Central Committee, or 1/3 (one-third) of the number of the members of the National Executive Council;
- (c) At any meeting of the National Executive Council, the National Chairman shall preside, and in his absence one of the National Vice-Chairmen shall preside;
- (d) At all its meetings decisions shall be reached by consensus or by acclamation or, on request by any accredited member, by a majority of members present and voting; and
- (e) The quorum for the meetings of the National Executive Council shall be 1/3 (one third) of the number of the total membership of the Council.

53. The National Party Congress

- (a) The National Party Congress shall consist of:
 - (i) all Members of the National Executive Council;
 - (ii) all Founding Members;
 - (iii) all members of the Council of Elders of the Party;
 - (iv) all Constituency Chairmen, Secretaries, Treasurers, Organisers, Women Organisers, and Youth Organisers;
 - (v) Two other representatives from each Constituency, at least one of whom must be a woman;
- (b) a representative from each of the Universities and other tertiary institutions.



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- (c) 2 (two) representatives from each Overseas branch approved by the Central Committee.
- (d) the National Party Congress shall ordinarily be held at least 12 (twelve) months before the holding of Presidential and Parliamentary General Elections in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- (e) the quorum shall be 2/3 (two-thirds) of the total membership; and
- (f) the National Party Congress shall be presided over by a member of the Council of Elders appointed for the purpose by the National Executive Council.
- (g) The National Party Congress shall be held at least once in every four years unless there is a compelling reason such as war, State of Emergency for the entire country, a national disaster or any other such reason.
- (h) Whenever the National Party Congress cannot be held for any of the reasons stated in the immediate preceding clause, the tenure of office of the National Officers shall continue until such a time that the National Party Congress is held.

54. Functions and Powers of the National Party Congress

The functions and powers of the National Congress shall be to:

- (a) elect the National Chairman, National Vice-Chairmen, the General Secretary, the National Treasurer, Presidential Candidate, the National Organiser, the National Women Organiser and the National Youth Organiser of the Party under the provisions of this Constitution;
- (b) elect the candidate for Presidential elections;
- (c) consider and approve the Party Ideological Stand, Manifesto and matters of general policy submitted to it by the National Executive Council;
- (d) receive and consider reports on activities and audited accounts of the Party presented to it by the National Executive Council and issue directives for actions on them;
- (e) confirm, amend, repudiate or revoke any decision made by any subordinate organ of the Party;
- (g) have the power to amend this Constitution in the manner provided herein;
- (h) decide on any proposals or matters, and transact any other business which shall be duly submitted to the Congress by any organ of the Party;
- (i) have the power to delegate any of its functions or powers to any subordinate organ of the Party; and
- (j) perform such other functions as are necessary for the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Party through the appropriate organ of the Party as may be provided by this Constitution.

55. Special National Party Congress

A Special National Party Congress may be convened by the Central Committee or at the request of at least 1/3 (one-third) of the members of the National Executive Council to deliberate on specific matters referred to it.



Chapter 8 - Integral Wings

56. The Party Education Directorate

- (a) There shall be a Party Education Directorate established by the Central Committee to perform the following functions:
- (i) to establish such educational institutions or schools as are appropriate for the informing and educating Party members;
 - (ii) to propagate party policies, programmes, decisions and principles with special regards to the Centrist ideology, tenets, ideas and philosophy;
 - (iii) to organise seminars, workshops, lectures and colloquia as are appropriate for informing and educating Party members;
 - (iv) to undertake, or cause to be undertaken, studies and researches into the ideas and teachings of Kofi Akpaloo, and into other political ideologies for the guidance of the Party and its leadership.
 - (v) from time to time, to carry out such outreach activities as are appropriate to ascertain the public reaction to the Party's policies and programmes, and make its findings available to the Central Committee;
- (b) The Party Education Directorate shall consist of such number of renowned political ideologists, educationists and research fellows as may be appointed by the Central Committee;
- (c) The Head of the Directorate shall be the Director of Party Education who shall also act as the chairman at all meetings of the Directorate; and
- (d) The Central Committee may appoint such other officers of the Directorate at the national, regional and constituency levels as it may deem necessary.

57. Unchartered Branches

- (a) Special branches and study groups, without party charters, may be established in work places, Universities and other tertiary institutions for the purpose of studying and propagating Party programmes, policies, decisions, general norms, tenets, ideas, philosophy or ideology. Youth groups may be formed in these branches for the purposes set out in the provisions of this clause; and
- (b) Each unchartered branch or study group shall have a Secretary/Convener elected by the branch to serve as liaison between the nearest Party Secretariat of the local branch within the constituency. He or She shall be in office for two years and be eligible for re-election.

58. Independent Women's Movement

- (a) The Party shall exemplify the concept of women empowerment by encouraging women members of the Party to organise themselves into a dynamic Women's Movement.



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- (b) The Party Women's Movement shall be responsible for raising awareness and mobilisation of the Ghanaian women for the achievement of gender balance in the political, social economic and cultural spheres of the society.
- (c) The Women's Movement shall be organised on national, regional and district levels;
- (d) The Women's Movement shall in consultation with the Central Committee, draw its own rules and regulations to guide its activities;
- (e) The activities of the Women's Movement shall conform to the overall Party Programme and Policies; and
- (f) The National Women's Organiser of the Party shall be responsible for bringing the Women's Movement into being as early as practicable. The Central Committee shall accordingly facilitate the functions of the National Women's Organiser in this direction.

59. Independent Youth Movement:

There shall be established a vibrant Youth Wing of the Party which shall be responsible for educating and mobilising the Youth in support of the Party Programme. In pursuance of the above:

- (a) The National Youth Organiser shall ensure that branches of the Youth Movement are formed in the educational and training institutions in the country;
- (b) The Youth Movement shall work to raise the level of responsibility and capacity of the youth in all spheres of political, economic, cultural and social life, and take active part in the building of the country; and
- (c) In all its endeavours the Youth Movement shall acknowledge the supremacy and leading role of the Party.

60. Parliamentary Group:

- (a) The Parliamentary Group of the Party shall consist of all Members of Parliament who are Members of the Party. The Group shall acknowledge the supremacy and leading role of the Party at all times in consonance with the provisions of this constitution and the National Constitution;
- (b) The Group shall have a Leader and a Chief Whip both of whom shall be elected by and from among members of the Group in consultation with the Central Committee;
- (c) Both the Leader and the Chief Whip of the Group shall be ex-officio members of the Central Committee with full capacity to participate in and vote at the Committee's proceedings; and
- (d) The Leader and the Chief Whip shall be responsible to the National Executive Council through the Central Committee to which they shall report on the work and activities of Parliament and on general conduct of the members of the Group as and when necessary or required by the Central Committee and in any case at the end of every meeting of every Session of Parliament.



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61. Overseas Branches

There shall be overseas branches or chapters as approved by the Central Committee which shall have the status of a region for the purposes of organisation.



Chapter 9 - National Party Leadership

62. National Leadership:

The following elected members of the Party shall constitute the National Leadership of the Party

- (a) The National Chairman;
- (b) The Three National Vice-Chairmen which one should be female;
- (c) The General Secretary;
- (d) The Presidential Candidate;
- (e) The Vice Presidential Candidate; and
- (f) The National Treasurer.

63. Other National Officers:

The following are the other national officers of the Party:

- (a) The National Organiser;
- (b) The National Chief Evangelist;
- (c) The Two Deputy General Secretaries;
- (d) The Two Deputy National Organisers;
- (e) The National Women's Organiser;
- (f) The National Youth Organiser;
- (g) The Two Deputy National Women's Organisers;
- (h) The Two Deputy National Youth Organisers; and
- (i) Deputy National Treasurer.

64. The National Chairman:

- (a) The National Chairman shall be the overall Head and Leader of the Party and shall preside over meetings of the Central Committee and the National Executive Council
- (b) He or she shall be elected by the National Party Congress and shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and shall be eligible for re-election for another term of four years only;
- (c) The National Chairman shall be elected by secret ballot without debate by members present at the National Party Congress under the supervision of the Electoral Commission;
- (d) No person shall be elected as a National Chairman who is not qualified to be elected as a member of Parliament;
- (e) A candidate for election to the office of National Chairman shall be deemed to have been duly elected if more than 50% of the members of Congress present and voting, voted in his favour;



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(f) Where at the election of the National Chairman there are more than two candidates and no candidate obtains the votes specified in clause (e) of the article, a second election shall be held between the two candidates who obtained the two highest numbers of votes to select the winner.

(g) The National Chairman may be removed from office by resolution of the National Party Congress or by two-thirds majority of the National Executive Council if he or she is found to be incapable of performing the functions of his/her office by reason of physical or mental incapacity or for any stated misbehaviour.

(h) A candidate shall not be qualified for election as National Chairman unless he or she is nominated for election by a document which:

(i) is signed by him or her signifying his or her consent;

(ii) is signed by at least one fully paid-up member who is a registered voter from each of the 10 regions;

(iii) is delivered to the General Secretary of the Party at least 14 days before Congress.

65. The National Vice-Chairmen

(a) There shall be First, Second and Third Vice-Chairmen who shall be elected by a simple majority of the National Party Congress. A National Vice-Chairman shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years, and shall be eligible for re-election;

(b) A candidate for the position of National Vice-Chairman shall have the qualifications specified for the National Chairman and shall be nominated as in the case of the National Chairman;

(c) A candidate with the highest number of votes cast shall be deemed to be elected the First National Vice Chairman and the next with the highest number of votes shall be deemed to be elected Second Vice National Chairman and the candidate with the highest number of votes after the latter shall be deemed to be elected Third National Vice Chairman; and

(d) The First National Vice-Chairman shall act as National Chairman when the office of National Chairman is vacant or the National Chairman is absent from Ghana or unable through illness or any other cause to exercise the functions of National Chairman, and the Second National Vice Chairman shall act in the absence of the National Chairman and the First National Vice Chairman and the Third National Vice Chairman shall act in the absence of the National Chairman and the two other National Vice Chairmen.

66. The General Secretary

(a) There shall be a General Secretary of the Party who shall be elected by a simple majority of the National Congress;

(b) He shall be the Head of Administration of the Party, and shall be assisted by two Deputy General Secretaries;

(c) The General Secretary shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and shall be eligible for re-election for another term of four years only;



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- (d) The General Secretary shall be responsible to the National Chairman, and the Central Committee for the overall day to day administration of the Party. He or she shall be responsible for the custody of the Party Seal and for affixing it to the documents of the Party; and
- (e) He or she shall also perform such other duties as are assigned to him or her by the Central Committee under this Constitution.

67. The National Treasurer

- (a) There shall be a National Treasurer of the Party who shall be elected by a simple majority of the National Congress. He or She shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and shall be eligible for re-election to another term of 4 (four) years only;
- (b) He or She shall be a member of the Finance Committee established by the National Executive Council and such other organs of the Party as necessary;
- (c) It shall be the duty of the National Treasurer, with the assistance of such finance officers and internal auditors as may be appointed from time to time, to:
 - (i) prepare for the consideration of the National Executive Council such statements, accounts and estimates as the Council may require;
 - (ii) receive and make on behalf of the Party such payments as he or she may be authorised to do;
 - (iii) ensure that all organisational levels of the Party keep proper books of accounts and records of all properties, and to submit written reports annually to the National Executive Council; and
 - (iv) afford every facility to the external auditors of the Party appointed from time to time to audit the accounts of the Party.

68. The Deputy National Treasurer

- (a) There shall be a Deputy National Treasurer of the Party who shall be elected by a simple majority of the Central Committee. He or She shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years and shall be eligible for re-election to another term of four years only;
- (b) He or She shall be a member of the Finance Committee established by the National Executive Council and such other organs of the Party as necessary; and
- (c) The Deputy National Treasurer shall assist the National Treasurer in the performance of his or her duties.

69. Presidential Candidate

- (a) There shall be a Presidential Candidate of the Party in the presidential elections of the country;
- (b) The Presidential Candidate shall be elected by the National Party Congress after being vetted by the Vetting Committee as provided for in Article 72 of this Constitution;



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- (c)** No person shall be elected as Presidential Candidate of the Party if he or she is not qualified to be President of Ghana in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana;
- (d)** No candidate for election as Presidential Candidate shall be deemed to have been duly elected unless more than 50 (fifty) per cent of the total valid votes cast are in his or her favour;
- (e)** Where at the election of a Presidential Candidate there are more than two candidates and no candidate obtains the votes specified in Clause (d) of this article a second election shall be held between the two candidates who obtained the two highest numbers of votes to select the winner.
- (f)** The election of the Presidential Candidate shall be by secret ballot and conducted by the Electoral Commission;
- (g)** No candidate shall be qualified for election as Presidential Candidate at the National Party Congress unless he or she is nominated for election by a document which.
 - (i)** is signed by him or her signifying his or her consent;
 - (ii)** is signed by at least one fully paid-up member who is a registered voter from each region of Ghana; and
 - (iii)** is delivered to the General Secretary at least 6 (six) weeks before the date of the Congress concerned.

70. Vice Presidential Candidate

- (a)** There shall be a Vice Presidential Candidate of the Party who shall be the Running Mate of the Presidential Candidate at Presidential elections of the country;
- (b)** The Vice Presidential Candidate shall be selected by the Central Committee in consultation with the Presidential Candidate; and
- (c)** The qualification of the Vice Presidential candidate and other conditions of office shall be the same as those of Presidential Candidate.

71. The National Organiser

- (a)** There shall be a National Organiser of the Party who shall be elected by the National Congress. He or She shall hold office for a term of 4 (four) years, and shall be eligible for re-election for another term of four years only;
- (b)** He or She shall be assisted by two Deputy National Organisers; and shall coordinate the activities of the National Women's Organiser; the National Youth Organiser and the Regional Organisers of the Party; and
- (c)** He or She shall make periodic reports on the state of organisation of the Party to the Central Committee through the General Secretary.

72. Presidential Candidates Vetting Committee

- (a)** There shall be a Presidential Vetting Committee of the Party which shall be composed of:



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- (i) Seven (7) persons at least 2 (two) of whom shall be a woman to be appointed by the Central Committee;
 - (ii) two members of the Central Committee other than the National Leadership shall be members of the Presidential Vetting Committee;
 - (iii) the Committee shall elect its Chairman and Secretary;
- (b) The functions of the Presidential Vetting Committee shall be as follows:
 - (i) to consider the candidature of all candidates for election as the Presidential Candidate of the Party;
 - (ii) to vet the candidates and submit a report on them to the Central Committee before presentation to Congress for election;
- (c) In discharging its functions, the Presidential Vetting Committee shall be scrupulously guided by the rules, criteria and determining factors issued by the Central Committee from time to time for the vetting of candidates for the election;
- (d) Any fully paid-up member of the Party may give written information about any candidate due to be vetted. The Vetting Committee shall be obliged to give a hearing to the candidate concerning the information given about him; and
- (e) Any candidate aggrieved by the decision of the Vetting Committee shall have the right to appeal against the decision to the Central Committee within 7 (seven) days of the notice of the said decision.



Chapter 10 - Financial Provisions

73. Sources of Funds

- (a)** There shall be a Party Consolidated Fund into which shall be paid:-
 - (i)** all revenues or other moneys raised or received for the purposes of or on behalf of the Party;
 - (ii)** all moneys raised or received in trust for or on behalf of the Party;
- (b)** The Party Fund shall include:
 - (i)** membership dues, donations, gifts, bequests and income derived from investment;
 - (ii)** loans granted to the Party; moneys borrowed by the Party from banking and other financial institutions; and
 - (iii)** moneys derived from proceeds in respect of any business or investment permitted by law.

74. Finance Committee

- (a)** The Party Fund shall be under general control or direction of a Finance Committee which shall consist of:-
 - (i)** The National Chairman;
 - (ii)** The 1st Vice Chairman;
 - (iii)** The National Treasurer;
 - (iv)** The General Secretary;
 - (v)** A Financial Secretary, appointed by the Central Committee (as Member Secretary); and
 - (vi)** Not more than 10 (ten) other members appointed by the Central Committee;
 - (vii)** The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall be appointed by the Central Committee.
- (b)** The Finance Committee shall cause to be prepared such monthly and/or quarterly statements of account as shall be prescribed by the Central Committee which shall be forwarded to the National Executive Council by the Central Committee
- (c)** The Finance Committee, with the consent of the Central Committee, may raise loans or obtain overdraft facilities for the purpose of the Party upon the security of any assets of the Party and shall have power to execute all deeds or other documents which may be required for the purpose;
- (d)** The Finance Committee, with the consent of the Central Committee, may invest all or any portion of the Party Fund in any savings Bank in Ghana, or in any investments as the Committee may deem appropriate.



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75. Property and Contracts

- (a) The Party shall have power to acquire and hold any movable or immovable property, to sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise alienate, or dispose of, any such property and to enter into any lawful contractual transactions; and
- (b) The use of the Seal of the Party shall be authenticated by the signature of the National Chairman or Treasurer and the General Secretary.



Chapter 11 - Party Discipline

76. Disciplinary Committee

- (a) There shall be a national Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the Central Committee. It shall consist of 5 (five) respected members of the Party including 1 (one) woman;
- (b) The Disciplinary Committee shall have original jurisdiction in all matters relating to the conduct of any organ of the Party and national officers and others referred to it by the Central Committee;
- (c) It shall have appellate jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from the decisions given and sanctions imposed by any other Disciplinary Body set up by any organ of the Party to investigate and determine any alleged breach of Party discipline by a member. Any appeal to the Committee by any organ or member of the Party shall be made in writing and sent to it through the next higher organ of the Party; and
- (d) Central Committee shall make rules to guide the conduct of the Committee.

77. Breaches of Discipline and Sanctions

- (a) A member of the Party shall be guilty of a breach of Party discipline if:
 - (i) he or she contravenes any provision of this Constitution;
 - (ii) he or she does any act of commission or omission which is prejudicial to the good standing of the Party or tends to bring the Party into disrepute;
 - (iii) he or she acts as a candidate or supports such candidate in opposition to official Party Candidate at a Presidential or Parliamentary or Local Government election;
- (b) The sanctions that may be imposed in any disciplinary proceedings under this Constitution are:
 - (i) expulsion from the Party;
 - (ii) suspension from the Party;
 - (iii) termination of appointment;
 - (iii) removal from office; and
 - (iv) written caution or admonition;
- (c) Any decision by the Central Committee based on the findings of the National Disciplinary Committee shall be final provided that any person so adversely affected may petition the National Executive Council and ultimately to National Congress.



Chapter 12 - Meetings

78. Quorum for Meeting

Unless otherwise provided by this Constitution, the quorum for the transaction of any Party meeting shall not be less than 1/3 (one-third) of the total membership of the Party organ concerned.

79. Method of Reaching Decisions

- (a) Except where it is otherwise provided in this Constitution decisions at any meetings of a Party organ shall be reached by consensus of opinion, or, as the case may be, by a majority of the votes cast; provided that the election of the Party leaders shall be by secret ballot; and
- (b) No act or decision of any Party organ shall be invalid by reason only of the existence of any vacancy among its membership; or the presence of an unauthorised person or stranger.



Chapter 13 - Honours and other Awards

80. Conferment of Honour

- (a)** The Central Committee acting for and on behalf of the National Party Congress may at any time confer on any member of the party or any other person who has contributed to the progress of the Party or distinguished himself or herself in the promotion of the ideas of Kofi Akpaloo, such honours, titles, powers and privileges as may be deemed fit, notwithstanding any provisions contained in this Constitution.
- (b)** The conferment of Honours, Titles, Powers and Privileges on members of the Party and other persons shall be in recognition of their singular contribution to the growth and progress of the Party or their distinctive defence and promotion of the ideals and ideas and principles and practices of Kofi Akpaloo as well as of other meritorious conduct or activity in the interest of the Centrist family in general.



Chapter 14 - Party Oath

81. Admission To Party Membership

On my honour I..... do hereby promise that I shall be faithful and loyal to the Independent Peoples Party and its Leadership. I sincerely give my solemn pledge to abide by the constitution, rules and regulations of the Party and work zealously to promote, uphold and maintain the aims and objects for which the Party stands.

82. Members of National Leadership, National Executive Council, Central Committee, Parliamentary Group

(a) On my honour, I do hereby promise that as (e.g. National Chairman, National Vice Chairman, General Secretary, etc.) I shall be faithful and loyal to the Independent Peoples Party and its Constitution and co-operate diligently with my colleagues and comrades of the National Leadership to foster, preserve and keep the national unity and comradeship among members of the Party regardless of their religious affiliation, ethnic origin, social or economic status or former membership of a non-Centrist Party. I further sincerely and solemnly pledge to eschew bribery and corruption in any form and to promote, uphold and maintain the aims and objectives for which the Party stands. (So help me God).

(b) On my honour, I..... do hereby promise that as a member of the National Executive Council/Central Committee I shall be faithful and loyal to the Independent Peoples Party and the Leadership. I sincerely give my solemn pledge to abide by the constitution, rules and regulations of the Party and work conscientiously in concert with my comrades and colleagues to promote, uphold and maintain the aims and objectives for which the Party stands. (So help me God).

(c) On my honour, I..... do hereby promise, in my capacity of a member of the Independent Peoples Party Parliamentary Group, to help maintain Party discipline in Parliament and to work conscientiously for the development of my constituency under the general policy and programme of the Independent Peoples Party. (So help me God).



Chapter 15 - Amendment to the Constitution

83. Amendments

- (a) This Constitution or any part thereof may be repealed amended or new provisions made thereto by resolution carried by 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of members of the National Congress present and voting thereon.
- (b) Any proposal for the repeal, amendment or new provision to any part of the Constitution shall be made in the form of a NOTICE and such NOTICE shall be submitted to the Central Committee not later than 4 (four) months before the date set for National Congress.
- (c) The NOTICE shall specify the name and description of the proposer and the seconded and details of the proposed repeal, amendment or new provision.
- (d) The proposed repeal, amendment or new provision, when adopted by the Central Committee, shall not be presented to Congress unless two months' notice shall have been given to members of Congress.