

**CONSTITUTION OF THE**  
**ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS PARTY (A.P.C.)**

**PREAMBLE**

**WHEREAS** by the Political Parties Decree 1995 the National Provisional Ruling Council has lifted the prohibition which was imposed on political activity.

**WHEREAS** by the said Political Parties Decree 1995 political parties may be established to participate in shaping the political will of the people, to disseminate information on political ideas, social and economic programmes of a national character, and to sponsor candidates for presidential, parliamentary and local government elections.

**AND WHEREAS** a political party known as the All People's Congress Party (APC) was founded in Sierra Leone on the 11<sup>th</sup> September, 1960 but ceased to function under the aforesaid prohibition which was imposed on political activity.

**AND WHEREAS** it is now the intention to revive the erstwhile APC Party within the framework of the current national, political, economic, social, educational and foreign policy objectives of Sierra Leone developed from the experience of the current National Provisional Ruling Council Administration.

**AND WHEREAS** it is imperative to promulgate an APC Party Constitution consistent with the country's present political experience and reflecting the wishes and aspirations of Sierra Leoneans for sustained multi-party democratic political system.

**AND WHEREAS** the delegates of the erstwhile ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS Party did on the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1991 adopt a revised Constitution.

**AND WHEREAS** in consonance with the recent experience of the people of Sierra Leone it is imperative to re-construct an interim APC Party Constitution.

**NOW** therefore the Founding Members of the ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS PARTY (APC) hereby on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 1995 adopt this present Revised Interim Constitution as amended and ratified.

**TITLE: -**

This instrument shall be referred to as The Constitution of The All People's Congress Party.

**COMMENCEMENT: -**

The Constitution shall come into effect on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 1995.

**ARTICLE 1**

**NAME, PARTY SYMBOL AND PARTY MOTTO**

(i) Name

The name of the Party is "THE ALL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS" Party popularly known as the A.P.C.

(ii) Party Symbol

(a) The Symbol of the Party is the Rising Sun, Flamboyant in Red, on a red line representing the horizon, the entire emblem being on a white background.

(b) Every Party Organization shall at all time display the Party Symbol

(iii) Motto: The Motto of the Party is:

(a) Action. Progress, Commitment (A.P.C.)

**ARTICLE 2**

**REGISTERED OFFICE:**

The registered Headquarters of the Party shall be located in Freetown, the Capital, with offices in every Province and District in the State of Sierra Leone.

### **ARTICLE 3**

#### **AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND PHILOSOPHY:**

- (i) Aims:
  - (a) To cultivate the spirit of patriotism and responsible citizenship among Sierra Leoneans.
  - (b) To promote the social, economic, political and cultural development of the people of Sierra Leone.
  - (c) To ensure the full and active participation of all sections, regions, tribes and groups in the country in the administration of the State.
  - (d) To foster unity, friendship and reconciliation among all Sierra Leoneans irrespective of tribe, creed, religion, sex, ethnic origin, restricted geographical environment, or political persuasion.
  - (e) To inculcate into the minds of all Sierra Leoneans the spirit of tolerance, fair play, respect for democratic principles and human rights in the context of a Multi-Party democratic system.
  
- (ii) Objectives:
  - (a) To attain and sustain political power through democratic and constitutional means in order to build a free, democratic, society with equal rights and opportunities and justice for all.
  - (b) To promote peace and safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sierra Leone.
  - (c) To enhance the welfare of all Sierra Leoneans.

(iii) Philosophy:

The Philosophy of the Party is “**CONSTRUCTIVE NATIONALISM**” which enjoins every Sierra Leonean to put the interest of Nation before self.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

##### **MEMBERSHIP**

- (i) Membership shall be open to every Sierra Leonean who accepts the aims, objectives, policies, programmes and discipline of the Party. A member of the A.P.C. shall not be a member of another Political Party.
- (ii) On admission every member shall be given a Membership Card.
- (iii) Associate membership, shall be open to Sierra Leonean Organizations which subscribe to the aims, policies and programmes of the Party.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

##### **RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PARTY MEMBERS:**

- (i) Every member of the Party shall pay such fees and levies as may, from time to time, be prescribed by the National Executive Committee of the Party or any other body authorized to do so.
- (ii) Every member of the Party shall:
  - (a) Abide by the provisions of this Constitution as well as all lawful rules, regulations, directives and decisions of the Party or any of its organs.
  - (b) Accept the policies, programmes and ideals of the Party.
  - (c) Promote the aims and objectives of the Party loyally and refrain from pursuing any course of action which may be inconsistent with or inimical to the interest of the Party.

- (i) Every member shall have the right to participate fully in the activities of the Party provided such a member is current in his financial obligations to the Party.
- (ii) Every member of the Party shall have the right to be voted for into any office or post of the Party during any election, provided such a member is current in his financial obligations to the Party and has been active in Party affairs.

## **ARTICLE 6**

### **PARTY STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION**

- 6.1**
- (i) The Party shall be established throughout the country.
  - (ii) There shall be four levels of Party organisation:
    - (a) The Constituency
    - (b) The District
    - (c) The Regional and
    - (d) The National level
  - (iii) Each of the levels of the Party shall have an Executive Committee.
  - (iv)
    - (a) There shall be a Youth Section of the Party which shall be known and referred to as the A.P.C. National Youth League.
    - (b) There shall be a Women's Section of the Party which shall be known and referred to as the A.P.C. Women's Congress.

### **PARTY ORGANS**

- 6.2**
- (i)
    - (a) National Delegates' Conference
    - (b) National Advisory Committee
    - (c) National Executive Committee
    - (d) National Committee

- (ii) (a) Regional Convention
  - (b) Regional Executive Committee
- (iii) (a) District Convention
  - (b) District Executive Committee
- (iv) (a) Constituency Convention
  - (b) Constituency Executive Committee

### **CONSTITUENCY CONVENTION**

- 6.3.1** (i) There shall be a Constituency Convention for every Constituency
- (ii) The Constituency Convention shall consist of registered members of the Party in the Constituency.
- (iii) The Constituency Convention shall be held at least once every year
- (iv) The quorum for the Constituency Convention shall be one-fifth of the registered members in the Constituency.

### **MEETINGS:**

#### **6.3.2**

- (i) The Constituency Chairman shall call meetings of the Constituency Convention.
- (ii) In the event of failure to hold meeting as stipulated in section 6.3.2(1) of this Constitution then one third of the membership of the Constituency Convention shall convene and hold meetings.

### **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

#### **6.3.3**

The Constituency Convention shall be held to transact any or all of the following business:

- (a) Approve a programme and Budget for the Constituency

- (b) Elect/select members of the Constituency Executive who shall hold offices for three years
- (c) Elect/select Constituency delegates to party Conferences and Conventions
- (d) Receive reports of the Auditors
- (e) Receive reports from officers of the Constituency Executive
- (f) Any other business tabled by a registered member.
- (g) Recommend candidates for elections.

## **CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **6.4.1**

- (i) Every Constituency shall have an Executive Committee elected at the Annual Constituency Convention.
- (ii) The Constituency Executive shall consist of the following:
  - (a) Chairman
  - (b) Vice Chairman
  - (b) Secretary
  - (c) Treasurer
  - (d) Organizing Secretary
  - (e) The sitting M.P. of the Constituency if he/she is a member of the Party.
  - (f) Representatives of the Women's Congress
  - (g) Representatives of the Youth League
  - (h) Two co-opted members of the Constituency
  - (i) The Constituency Executive Committee shall have the power to establish other offices as it may deem necessary.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.4.2**

The Constituency Executive Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) to identify and discuss political, economic and social issues of concern to the Constituency;
- (b) to develop ways and means of raising funds for the Party;
- (c) to engage in membership drive;

- (d) to provide support for party candidates and the party;
- (e) to develop strategies for campaigns, planning and development;
- (e) to engage in registration and mobilization of voters for elections;
- (f) to supervise the general administration of the Party in the constituency;
- (g) to implement decisions of the Constituency Convention and higher Party organs and;
- (h) to maintain discipline among all members of the constituency.

## **DISTRICT CONVENTION**

### **6.5.1**

- (i) There shall be a District Convention for each of the Districts of the Party, comprising of representatives from all constituencies in the District.
- (ii) For Purposes of this section, the Western Area shall constitute two Districts namely: Western Area West District and Western Area East District.
- (iii) Each District Convention shall consist of the following: -
  - (a) District Party Chairman
  - (b) Members of the District Executive Committee
  - (c) Sitting M.P.s belonging to the Party in the District
  - (d) Members of each Constituency
  - (e) Not more than two (2) co-opted members
  - (f) All members of the National Committee shall be ex-officio members.

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.5.2**

- (i) District Conventions shall be held at least once every year.
- (ii) At the District Annual Convention the District Executive Committee shall be elected/selected.

- (iii) District Conventions shall be called by the District Secretary at the request of the District Chairman.
- (iv) In the event of any failure of the District Chairman to summon meetings as stipulated in this Constitution then half the membership of the District Executive Committee shall convene and hold meetings.
- (v) The quorum for the District Convention shall be one-third of its members provided that two-thirds of all the constituencies in the district are represented.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.5.3**

The District Convention shall meet to transact any or all of the following:

- (a) Approve the programme and budget of the Party in the District
- (b) Elect/Select officers of the District Executive Committee who shall hold offices for three years.
- (c) Receive Reports of officers of the District Committee
- (d) Receive Reports of the External Auditors.
- (e) Consider any other matter referred to it by the component Constituency Executive Committee.

## **DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **6.6.1**

- (i) Every District shall have a District Executive Committee.
- (ii) The District Executive Committee shall consist of the following:
  - (a) District Chairman
  - (b) District Vice Chairman
  - (c) Secretary
  - (d) Assistant Secretary
  - (e) Organizing Secretary
  - (f) Treasurer
  - (g) Chairmen of Constituency Executive Committee
  - (h) Three other members elected by the District Convention
  - (i) District Youth Chairman
  - (j) District Women's Chairman
  - (k) Sitting M.P.s of the Party

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.6.2**

- (i) The District Executive Committee shall meet every three months.
- (iii) It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or a third of its members.
- (iv) The quorum for meetings of the District Executive Committee shall be one-third of its entire membership.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:**

### **6.6.3**

The District Executive Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) to organize, implement and co-ordinate Party Policies and Programmes in the District;
- (b) to consider political and organizational reports as well as statements of accounts presented by the District Secretary and Treasurer respectively;
- (c) to prepare the Annual Budget;
- (d) to consider any other matter referred to it by component Constituency Executives or higher organs of the Party.

## **REGIONAL CONVENTION**

### **6.7.1**

- (i) There shall be a Regional Convention for each of the four Regions into which the Party is divided.
- (ii) Each Regional Convention shall consist of the following:
  - (a) Regional Chairman (Chairman)
  - (b) Members of the Regional Executive Committee
  - (c) District Party Chairmen in the Province
  - (d) Members of each District Executive
  - (e) Not more than five co-opted members

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.7.2**

- (i) Regional Conventions shall be held once every year
- (ii) Regional Conventions shall be called by the Regional Secretary at the request of the Regional Chairman.
- (iii) In the event of failure of the Regional Chairman to summon meetings as stipulated in this Constitution, then half the membership of the Regional Executive Committee shall convene and hold Regional Convention.
- (iv) The quorum for the Regional Convention shall be one-third of its members provided that two-thirds of all the Districts in the region are represented.
- (v) Special Convention: - A Special Convention may be held at any time at the request of the Regional Executive Committee and shall perform the same function(s) as the Regional Convention.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.7.3**

The Regional Convention shall meet to transact any or all of the following:

- (a) Approve programme and budget of the Party in the Region.
- (b) Elect officers of the Regional Executive Committee who shall hold offices for three years.
- (c) Receive Reports of officers of the Party
- (d) Receive Reports of the Auditors.
- (e) Any other function that may be referred to it by a higher organ of the party.

## **REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **6.8.1**

- (i) Every Region shall have a Regional Executive Committee
- (iii) The Regional Executive Committee shall consist of the following:
  - a. Regional Chairman (Chairman)
  - b. Vice Chairman
  - c. Secretary
  - d. Assistant Secretary

- e. Organizing Secretary
- f. Treasurer
- g. Chairmen of District Executive Committee
- h. Three other members elected by the Regional Convention
- i. Regional Youth League
- j. Regional Women's Leader
- k. Sitting M.P.s of the Party

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.8.2**

- (i) The Regional Executive Committee shall meet once every six months.
- (ii) It shall also meet at any other time at the request of the Chairman or a third of its members.
- (iii) The quorum for meetings of the Regional Executive Committee shall be one-third of its membership

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.8.3**

- (a) Organize, implement and co-ordinate Party policies and programmes at the Regional level.
- (b) Receive Reports from Regional Secretary and Treasurer respectively.
- (c) Prepare the Annual Regional Budget
- (d) Consider any other matter referred to it by the component District Executives
- (e) Select party candidates for local elections
- (f) Any other function(s) delegated by a higher organ of the party.

## **NATIONAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE**

### **6.9.1**

- (i) The National Delegates' Conference shall be the supreme authority of the Party
- (ii) The National Delegates' Conference shall consist of the following:

- (a) All members of the National Advisory Committee, the National Executive Committees, Regional and District Executive Committees, members of the national Committee, Members of Parliament and Ministers belonging to the Party.
- (b) Each Constituency Chairman and Secretary
- (c) Twenty delegates elected by the Women's Congress (including one from each district)
- (d) Twenty delegates elected by the Youth League (including one from each district)
- (e) Two delegates elected by each affiliated organization
- (f) Five delegates elected by each Constituency

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.9.2**

- (i) The National Delegates' Conference shall be convened at least once every three years at such a place and date as may be determined by the National Advisory Committee, provided that 21 days notice is given.
- (ii) An emergency Delegates' Conference may be convened as and when necessary at the request of the National Advisory Committee.
- (iii) One-third of the accredited delegates shall constitute a quorum.
- (iv) Decisions reached and measures approved by the Conference shall be final and shall be binding on all Party Organs, branches and members.
- (v) Voting at the Conference shall be in a manner to be determined by the rules and procedures of the conference provided that every delegate shall have only one vote.
- (vi) Party Administrative Staff who shall be in attendance shall not vote.

- (vii) The National Advisory Committee shall make rules and procedures for the conference subject to ratification by the National Delegates' Conference.

**POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:**

**6.9.3**

- (i) The final authority of the Party shall rest with the National Delegates' Conference, which shall, to the exclusion of all other organs of the Party special and emergency situation(s) excepted, have the power to decide the nationwide policies of the Party and to amend this Constitution.
- (ii) In special and emergency situations the National Advisory Committee shall exercise sections 6.10.1 (i)(ii) and (iii) and 6.10.111 (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (v) (vi) and (vii)
- (iii) The National Delegates' Conference shall, subject to the provisions of this Constitution, have the power to:
  - (a) Consider and determine overall policy matters for the party
  - (b) Elect or remove from office the National Officers of the Party
  - (c) To elect the National Executive Committee and National Committee
  - (d) To endorse the composition of the membership of the National Advisory Committee which shall be determined by the National Party Chairman in consultation with the Deputy National Chairman and the 4 (four) Regional Chairman.
  - (e) Select/Elect/Endorse the National Chairman/Leader and the National Deputy Chairman.
  - (f) Elect/Select the presidential candidate who shall be the party's candidate at the National Presidential elections.
  - (g) Approve or endorse the selection by the presidential candidate of the running mate.

- (h) Create, elect or appoint any committee it may deem necessary and assign to them such powers and functions as it may deem fit.
- (i) Exercise control and take disciplinary actions on all organs, officers and members of the Party and determine appeals brought before it by any member or organ of the Party.
- (j) Determine the type, nature and membership of the Standing Committee to be set up by the Party's National Executive Committee.
- (k) Renew or amend or ratify or adopt the Constitution of the Party from time to time.
- (l) Delegate any of its powers to the National Advisory Committee.

## **THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

### **6.10.1**

- (i) There shall be a National Advisory Committee whose composition shall be determined by the national Party Chairman in consultation with the National Deputy Party Chairman, the Regional Chairmen and the Secretary General of the Party.
- (ii) Membership shall not be more than 21 (twenty-one) drawn from the Regions of the country.
- (iii) The President and the Vice President, shall be members of the national Advisory Committee.

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.10.11**

- (i) The national Party Chairman shall schedule and call National Advisory Committee meetings.
- (ii) Any six members of the National Advisory Committee can request for a special meeting.
- (iv) The quorum for ordinary meetings shall be one third of the members

- (v) The National Party Chairman shall be Chairman of the National Advisory Committee.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.10.111**

- (i) The National Advisory Committee is the second highest organ of the Party after the National Delegates Conference.
- (ii) The National Advisory Committee shall supervise, and direct the Party at all times and at all levels.
- (iii) The National Advisory Committee shall supervise all Elections: Presidential, Parliamentary, District Councils etc. It shall approve or disapprove candidates for all elections.
- (iii) The National Advisory Committee shall perform the role and functions of any or all Party organs in Emergency situations.
- (vi) The national Advisory Committee shall remove, re-schedule, suspend, sanction etc. any or all functions and powers of all Party Organs.
- (vii) In special and Emergency situations, the National Advisory Committee shall perform the role and functions of the National delegates Conference where a National Delegates Conference cannot be convened. Not less than 16 (sixteen) members, 2 (two) from each Region must constitute a quorum for a special and emergency National Advisory Committee meeting.
- (viii) For ordinary meetings of the National Advisory Committee, a simple majority is required. For special and Emergency meetings, two thirds of members of the N.A.C. must approve.

## **THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

### **6.11.1**

- (i) There shall be a National Committee comprising of the following:
  - (a) National Party Chairman/Leader
  - (b) National Deputy Party Chairman
  - (c) Regional Party Chairmen – (4) one per Region
  - (d) Members of the National Advisory Committee
  - (e) Members of the National Executive Committee
  - (f) District Chairmen (14 – one from each District)
  - (g) Constituency Chairmen (one from each Constituency)
  - (h) One Member of Parliament representing each District
  - (i) Thirty representatives of the APC Women’s Congress (at least four from each Region)
  - (j) Thirty representatives of the A.P.C. National Youth League (at least four from each Region)
  - (k) Not more than thirty co-opted members selected by the National Party Chairman.

## **MEETINGS**

### **6.11.11**

- (i) The National Committee shall meet at least once every six months.
- (ii) Emergency meetings of the National Committee shall be convened at the request of the National Party Chairman or by a resolution endorsed by not less than thirty members of the Committee.
- (iii) One-third of the membership of the National Committee shall constitute a quorum.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.11.111**

- (i) The National Committee shall have the following powers and

functions:

- (a) Supervise the implementation of the policies and programme of the Party as laid down by the National Delegates' Conference/National Advisory Committee.
- (b) Assist in the organization of the Party at the Regional, District and Constituency levels.
- (c) Enforce the Constitution, Rules, regulations, Standing Orders and Bye-Laws of the Party through the Party organs.
- (d) Ensure that proper records of accounts of finances of the Party are maintained and annual statements of accounts are submitted to the National Delegates' Conference and the National Advisory Committee.
- (e) Appoint, subject to the approval of the National Delegates' Conference/N.A.C. Auditors to audit the accounts of every constituent organ of the Party.
- (f) Consider appeals from members and other organs of the Party and forward findings to the N.A.C.

### **NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **6.12.1**

- (1) The National Executive Committee shall consist of the following:
  - (a) National Party Chairman/Leader
  - (b) National Deputy Party Chairman
  - (c) Regional party Chairmen (one from each region)
  - (d) The Secretary-General
  - (e) All District Chairmen of the Party
  - (f) The President, Vice President and Secretary General of the A.P.C. Women's Congress

- (g) The President, Vice President and Secretary General of the A.P.C. National Youth League
- (h) Fifteen Members co-opted by the National Advisory Committee to serve on the National Executive Committee.

## **MEETINGS**

**6.12.2** Members of the National Executive Committee shall meet at least, once every month, and when necessary.

## **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS**

### **6.12.3**

- (i) The National Executive Committee shall assist the National Advisory Committee for the general supervision of the running of the Party and shall ensure that decisions and policies of the National Advisory Committee are duly executed.
- (v) The National Executive Committee shall assist the National Advisory Committee to superintend the organization of the Party at all levels – National, Regional, District and Constituency, and shall take such measures as may be necessary to ensure proper functioning of the Party at the various levels.
- (iv) The National Executive Committee can make recommendations for consideration by the National Advisory Committee.

## **LEADERSHIP**

### **NATIONAL PARTY CHAIRMAN/LEADER AND NATIONAL DEPUTY**

#### **PARTY CHAIRMAN**

##### **6.13.1**

- (i) There shall be a National Party Chairman and a National Deputy Party Chairman who shall be the Political head and Leader and Deputy Leader respectively of the Party. They shall be selected/elected by the National Delegates' Conference for a period of three years.

## **LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION**

### **6.13.2**

- (i) In the event of the office of the National Party Chairman/Leader becoming vacant either by death or physical or mental incapacity or any other reason then the National Deputy Chairman shall complete the unexpired term of office of the vacated Chairman/Leader.

## **REGIONAL PARTY CHAIRMEN**

### **6.13.3**

- (i) There shall be four (4) Regional Party Chairmen elected by the respective regions and endorsed by the National Delegates' Conference every three years. They shall be the Principal Assistants of the National Party Chairman and the National Deputy Party Chairman and they shall head the Regional Branches of the Party.
- (ii) Regional Party Chairman shall report to the National Advisory Committee.

### **6.13.4**

- (i) There shall be (14) fourteen District Chairmen who shall head the District Branches of the Party. They shall be elected by the District Convention every three years.
- (ii) District Chairman shall report to their Regional Party Chairman.

## **CONSTITUENCY CHAIRMAN**

### **6.13.5**

- (i) There shall be a Constituency Chairman for each Constituency Branch of the Party. He shall be the Head of the Constituency Branch of the Party and shall be elected by the Constituency Convention every two years.
- (ii) The Constituency Chairman shall report to their respective District Chairman.

## **PARTY HIERARCHY**

National Level:	National Party Chairman/Leader
“	National Deputy Party Chairman
Regional Level:	Regional Party Chairman
District Level:	District Party Chairman
Constituency Level:	Constituency Chairman

### **NATIONAL PARTY SECRETARIAT**

- 6.14.1** (i) There shall be a National Party Secretariat headed by a Secretary-General.
- (ii) The National Party Secretariat shall be under the supervision of the National Advisory Committee.
- (iii) The National Party Secretariat shall consist of the following:
- (a) The Secretary-General
  - (b) Assistant Secretary-General
  - (c) National Organizing Secretary
  - (d) Assistant National Organizing Secretary
  - (e) National Publicity Secretary
  - (f) Assistant National Publicity Secretary
  - (g) National Treasurer
  - (h) Heads of Departments (for Youth, Women, International Affairs, Research & Information, Education and Welfare)
  - (i) All the above named Officers shall be elected by the National Delegates' Conference except the various Heads of Departments who shall be appointed by the National Party Chairman in consultation with the National Executive Committee.

### **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS**

**6.15.1** The National Officers of the Party shall have the following powers and functions:

- (i) **Secretary-General**

He shall be the Administrative Head of the Party. All Secretariat staff are directly under the control and supervision of the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General of the A.P.C. shall: -

- (a) Take or cause to be taken and keep, in the proper Books provided for the purposes, all Minutes of the meetings of the National Delegates' Conference, the National Advisory Committee, the National Committee and the National Executive Committee.
- (b) Conduct such correspondence as may be required.
- (c) Prepare the Order of Business of Meetings of the Organs of the Party with the approval of the National Party Chairman.
- (d) Supervise and control the day-to-day activities of the National Secretariat.
- (e) In the event of his dismissal or resignation, he shall immediately handover to the Assistant Secretary General all records, files and other property of the Party in his possession.
- (f) The Assistant Secretary-General shall assist the Secretary-General in the discharge of his duties.
- (g) All correspondence from the Secretariat must be issued by the Secretary-General.

(ii) **Assistant Secretary-General**

He/She shall be the principal Assistant to the Secretary General in the over all day to day running of the National Party Secretariat.

(iii) **The National Organizing Secretary:**

The National Organizing Secretary shall:

- (a) Organize the Party at all levels

- (b) Prepare and submit proposals for Fund-Raising activities of the party for the consideration of the National Executive Committee.
- (c) Develop strategies for political campaigns and provide support for political candidates.
- (d) Mobilize voters for elections and ensure the registration of Party Members and Supporters
- (e) He shall channel all communications through the Secretary General for approval or otherwise.

(iv) **Assistant National Organizing Secretary**

The Assistant National Organizing Secretary shall assist the National Organizing Secretary in the discharge of his duties.

(v) **The National Treasurer**

The National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Keep an accurate Account of all monies belonging to, and paid to him, on account of the Party.
- (b) Tender a Quarterly Statement of Accounts.
- (c) Receive and give receipts for all monies paid to him in respect of Subscriptions, Donations or Funds from whatever undertakings of the A.P.C.
- (d) Pay out all Orders fully countersigned by the Secretary-General on behalf of the Party.
- (e) Keep a Cash Book and other Subsidiary Books necessary for the proper and accurate Accounting of all monies received or disbursed on account of the Party.
- (f) Make prompt discharge of all monies received by paying same into the savings Bank or other Bank Accounts of the Party.
- (g) Prepare a Balance Sheet and other Books of Accounts and submit them to the Auditor not later than the 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

## **NATIONAL PUBLICITY SECRETARY**

**6.15.2 (i)** The National Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for all publicity activities of the Party including the holding of Seminars, disseminating Party information, publishing of Literatures, etc.

**(ii) Assistant National Publicity Secretary**

The Assistant National Publicity Secretary shall assist the National Publicity Secretary in the discharge of his duties.

## **AUDITOR**

**6.15.3 a.** There shall be an Auditor of the Party who shall not be a Member of any of the Executive organs of the Party.

b. Shall audit the Accounts of the Party and make a comprehensive written report of his findings directly to the relevant Committees.

c. Shall have access to all Books and Accounts of the relevant Committees of the Party, shall examine every Balance Sheet and Annual Returns, Receipts and Expenditure and shall either sign the Books of Accounts as found to be correct in accordance with Law or specifically include in his Report whatever he discovers to be incorrect or not in accordance with the Law.

## **ARTICLE 7**

### **FINANCES**

#### **SOURCES**

##### **7.1.1**

(a) Registration Fees paid by every Member of the Party on the date he joins the Party.

(b) Subscriptions paid Monthly or Annually by Members of the Party

© Voluntary Donations made by Members and other persons and Organizations.

(d) Returns from Fund-Raising activities undertaken by the Party.

(e) Returns from Dividends, investments, endowments etc.

## **CUSTODY**

### **7.1.2**

- (b) All monies of the Party shall be kept as specified under the functions of the Treasurer in this Constitution.
- (c) The Party shall maintain Bank Accounts at all levels of Organisation.
- (d) All withdrawals shall receive the prior approval of the Chairman and Secretary, or Chairman and Treasurer of the relevant Executive Committee.

## **REGULATION OF FUNDS**

- 7.1.3** The Financial Year of the party shall commence from the First Day of January and end on the Thirty-First day of December, each year.

## **AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

- 7.1.4 (a)** The National Advisory Committee shall appoint a competent firm of Accountants to audit all the accounts of the Party annually and present the audited accounts before the National Committee, the National Executive Committee and the National Electoral Commission/Political Parties Registration Commission (INEC) for consideration.

## **ARTICLE 8**

### **DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS**

#### **8.1.1**

- (i) Discipline of Party Members shall be exercised by the respective Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committees of the Party depending on the level of which disciplinary measure is called for
- (ii) Any member of the Party who is alleged to have done any of the following, shall be liable to be punished if found guilty by the

appropriate Executive Committee or Disciplinary Committee of the Party: -

- (a) Anti-Party activities or conducting himself in a manner which is likely to embarrass the Party or bring the Party into hatred, contempt, ridicule or disrepute in whatever manner.
- (b) Disobedience or negligence in carrying out lawful directives of the Party or of the officers of the party.
- (c) Flouting the rulings or decisions of the Party, engaging in dishonest practices, defrauding the Party, continuously being absent from Meetings without reasonable excuse, carrying out anti-party propaganda, or any other activities which would tend to disrupt the peaceful, lawful and efficient organization of the Party or which activities are inconsistent with the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Party.
- (d) Assumption of names, titles, symbols, etc, which contravenes the provisions of the National Constitution.

## **SANCTION**

### **8.1.2**

- (i) Sanction may be imposed by the Party as a disciplinary measure against any of its Members and the gravity of punishment shall depend upon the seriousness and circumstances of each case.
- (ii) Sanction to be imposed may take the form of:
  - (a) Expulsion from the Party
  - Suspension for a specified period
  - Removal from Office
  - Debarring from holding Office
  - Fine
  - Reprimand

- (iii) The Executive Committee at each level of The Party shall have the power to decide on any of the disciplinary measures against any of its Members as specified in Sub-section (ii) above.
- (iv) Every member shall have the right of fair hearing in all matters that affect him with regards to discipline.
- (v) The National Advisory Committee shall be notified through the next higher organs of the Party, of all disciplinary actions taken against any Member of the Party and records of such actions shall be kept.

### **APPEAL**

- i. Any Member aggrieved by a decision of any of the organs of the Party, in pursuance of Article 8 of this Constitution, shall have the right of appeals within 30 days of the decision to the immediate higher organs of the Party, in that successive order, up to the National Delegates' Conference, provided that the decision of the National Delegates' Conference shall be final.

## **ARTICLE 9**

### **REGISTRATION**

- 9.1.1 (i) Register of Members:  
A Register of members shall be kept and maintained at every level of the Party Secretariat:
  - a. The Constituency
  - b. the District
  - c. The Region
  - d. The National Party Secretariat
- (ii) Subscription Rate
  - (a) The National Executive Committee shall recommend to the National Advisory Committee which in turn recommends to the National Delegates Conference from time to time the minimum rates of Subscription that shall apply.

- (b) The proportion of income from Subscription which each Constituency, District or Region shall remit to the National Secretariat.

## **ARTICLE 10**

### **TENURE OF OFFICE**

- 10.1.1 (i) All National and Regional Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three years unless re-elected by the appropriate Party Convention or Conference.
- (ii) All District and Constituency Officers of the Party shall hold office for a period of three years unless re-elected by the appropriate Convention.

## **ARTICLE 11**

### **PARTY MANIFESTO**

- 11.11 The National Advisory Committee shall, from time to time, prepare the Party Manifesto for the consideration of the National Delegates' Conference.

## **ARTICLE 12**

### **PARTY PUBLICATIONS**

- 12.1.1 The National Secretariat under the supervision of the National Advisory Committee shall publish Literature, Newspapers, Periodicals, Magazines, Pamphlets, Books; etc. on behalf of the Party.

## **ARTICLE 13**

### **VESTING RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

- 13.1.1 All claims, rights, interests, estates, uses or trusts, obligations and other properties vested in the Party shall continue to vest in the Party from the date this Constitution.

### **TRUST BOARD**

- 13.1.2 There shall be a Board of Trustees of the Party who shall be:
  - (a) The National Party Chairman/Leader

- (b) National Deputy Party Chairman
- (c) The Secretary-General
- (d) The Treasurer
- (e) The Four Regional Chairmen

## **ARTICLE 14**

### **RULES AND BYE-LAWS**

14.1.1 The National Advisory Committee may, for ratification by the National Delegates' Conference, make Rules and enforce any Bye-Law(s) not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution and the National Constitution of Sierra Leone.

## **ARTICLE 15**

### **INDEMNITY CLAUSE**

Every member of the Executive, Ad-Hoc Committee and other Organs of the Party shall, so far as is lawful, be indemnified out of the assets of the Party against liability incurred by him/her in or about the execution and discharge of the duties of his/her Office.

## **ARTICLE 16**

### **AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution, or any part thereof may be amended, rescinded, altered or additions made thereto, by resolution carried by a two-thirds majority vote at a National Delegates' Conference or as the case may be, by the National Advisory Committee. Proposal(s) regarding amendments to the Constitution must be sent to the Secretary-General at least two months before the Conference for inclusion in the agenda. Notice of such resolution(s) and the Conference Agenda shall be communicated in writing to all branches at least one month before the Delegates, Conference.

## **ARTICLE 17**

### **CONFIRMATION AND ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION**

The provisions of the Interim Constitution of 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 1995 having been amended under the provisions of Section 6.10.111, sub-sections (iv), (v) and (vi) of this Revised and Ratified Constitution dated 5<sup>th</sup> December 1995 shall be known as the Constitution of the All Peoples Congress (APC) Party and it

shall be deemed to have been confirmed by the National Advisory Committee on Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1995.

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> December, 1995  
Signed: S.A.T. Koroma  
National Interim Chairman/Leader  
Edward Mohamed Turay  
National Secretary-General  
Princess Gibson- Bucknor (Mrs.)  
National Treasurer

? ***Reprinted July 2004***