



PARTY CONSTITUTION

ADOPTED 2nd AUGUST 2020





CLARION CALL

With reverence in the Supreme Power, respecting our diverse cultures and traditions, believing in the Supreme dignity of man, in honour of our people throughout our generations of struggles for freedom from any foreign occupation and exploitation, in common allegiance to the Patriotism of all Namibians, irrespective of their political past, religious beliefs, race, ethnic origin, creed, gender, social status and in compliance with and upholding and respecting the inalienable constitutional rights and freedoms of all Namibian citizens, to freedom of conscience, association and expression, we the members of the Independent Patriots for Change, recognising the rights of our peoples to self-determination and dignity, protection of our motherland, our people and our resources, hereby assembled as a political formation, in a National Convention of Patriots, on this 31st Day of July, 1st and 2nd August 2020, voluntarily adopt unto ourselves and promulgate this constitution, and its supplementary governance tools, as the Principle authoritative governance instruments of our political association.

We hereby, in so constituting ourselves, take a solemn oath, collectively and individually to Uphold, Respect and Implement the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, as the Supreme law and its laws, in the protection of our Heritage and Dignity, United in our Diversity, for the benefit of all our people.

May our torch on our banner of unity guide us to break the chains of servitude.

Empowering our people to determine their own future through grassroots participatory democracy

Namibia is all we have!!!

Namibia is not for sale!!!

We must and can save it!!!

This Constitution was adopted by the Founding Convention of Patriots at its Founding Convention at Safari Hotel Conference Centre, Windhoek, on 2nd August 2020, as binding governance tool for the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC)

Signed into operation by The Founding President



Preamble

In every society, founded on the principle of democracy, rule of law and Justice, there is a state of constant change and adaptation to accommodate new demands upon the State, in particular where the politico socioeconomic needs and aspirations of the citizenry are not being accommodated.

To accommodate and reflect upon these changes, members of society are bound to seek a union so as to express their collective aspirations in a forum that guarantees them broad fundamental freedoms and rights, not founded on elitist principles, but grassroots participatory democratic principles. This, whilst recognising the Supremacy of the Constitution of our Republic, its Fundamental Rights, and Freedoms accorded each and every citizen and as appropriate every person.

Recognising decades of generational sacrifices that brought about the establishment of the Namibian State, founded on the principles of Democracy, Rule of Law and Justice, we recognise the historical role each generation played in its establishment and the cultural diversity of the people in it, their respective contributions to our functionality as a people and our needs and demands within a broader global village concept.

To fulfil the aspirations of many of our people to a decent equitable life in which socioeconomic opportunities will flourish and to provide for the restoration of the dignity of all our people in their diversity, equitably; there is a need for a broad based independent non-racial, non-ethnic, democratic movement, that will provide the vehicle for politico socioeconomic participatory change. Participation in this change by all citizens, is critical for us to divorce from the foundational pillars of our struggle for independence as the qualification for the enjoyment of the fruits of independence as of right, rather to allow for the recognition of the right of all citizens equitably, in our socioeconomic endeavours, so as to seek the building of a truly free and independent nation of diverse aspirations, yet having a common goal and destiny, for the restoration of dignity for all our peoples, with equitable access to our resources, employing equitable appropriate enabling modes.

Where established political formations, irrespective of their origins and history, have become, in essence, dormant elitist societal clubs, which no longer respond to the



needs and aspirations of a generation of independent Namibia, there is a need to find a political home that will be responsive to the needs of the young and advanced in age, founded on obligations to future generations within a vibrant society yet respecting the foundational basis of our existence as a nation.

At a time when our leaders have betrayed the sacrifices made for us to enjoy the fruits of the struggle for independence, our duties and responsibilities lie in the restoration of the dignity of our people and in so doing honouring the heroes and heroines from all generations and from all sides of our historic conflict for paying the supreme price for independence. Our duty is not to adhere to slogans of historic significance and leaders that destroy the fundamental principles upon which our people laid down their lives but adherence to our convictions of principles of equitable distribution of wealth so as to restore our people's dignity.

Following the participation, for the first time ever in the National Presidential Elections, by an independent Presidential candidate, a phenomenon for change was born which the Namibian people from all works of life demanded for a political home through which the needs and aspirations of the Namibian people may be expressed. That Phenomenon for change, is the transformation into a movement for change, of all Namibians irrespective of their cultural, tribal, ethnic, or social status, independent of any past or existing political formation, with a mandate to restore the dignity of our people, equitable distribution of land and its resources to all our citizens and sustainable exploitation of our resources for the benefit of our current and future generations.

We shall therefore take bold patriotic decisions in the best interest of our people and country, in the protection and sustainable exploitation of our natural resources for the equitable benefit of the current and future generations.

We therefore hereby constitute ourselves on the basis of the afore-stated.

Dr. Panduleni Filemon Bango Itula

Founding President and Chief Patriot



1. Article 1

1.1 Establishment – The Name

It is hereby established the Independent Patriots for Change, a political party, to be known as IPCor The Patriots, for short.

The Patriotic movement is identified by the following symbols:

1.2 The Flag of the movement:

The flag consists of three primary and two secondary colours arranged diagonally. These are the navy blue (Admiral blue), golden brown (#996515), white(pearl white) Forest-green(#0B6623) and a Red(Blood red #D30000) and a Flame(Flame) embedded in the blue, equidistant from the left upper corner and upper white line.

The colours are arranged diagonally upwards, from left to right with the red colour emerging faintly between the two white colours either side of the golden brown. The upper, emerges from the upper right corner towards the centre of the flag. The lower from the bottom left corner, passing each other and terminating equidistant from the centre of the flag.

The Golden Brown, forms the diagonal centre of the flag from bottom right to the top right, circumscribed by the white lines upper and below of it.

Embedded at the upper left of the blue navy colour is a flaming torch. When viewed correctly, the flaming torch must be on the top left side of the flag, the hoisting side. The liberty torch represents the continual burning energy of determination of our nation and in particular the youth, as the benefactors and guardians of the future. The torch also represents the bright patriotic future for our Nation and our determination to achieve the goals for which our heroes and heroines sacrificed, throughout all the generations of resistance of our diverse peoples. It represents the new themes of the ever burning flame of Nationhood and resistance against subjugation.

The navy Blue represents the sky, rain and the marine ecosystem. The red represents the historical significance of the origin of our rights but not current and



future dominance of the historical sacrifices of all our diverse peoples throughout the various stages of anti-colonial struggle for freedom, Justice and self determination.

The golden brown represents the mineral wealth below and above the ground and continental shelves, our natural resources and the tenacity and reverence of the endurance of our people through difficult times to struggle for the protection and enjoyment of our natural resources. It also represents our determination to fight for economic independence.

The upper white line denotes peace and harmony amongst our members and compatriots and the lower white line the unity of our people in our Party and country.

The Green represents our vegetation and abundance of agricultural wealth.

All these colours are a reminder to our people of the sacred trust in which we keep our peoples' heritage for the benefit of current and future generations.

The colours whenever presented must never be repetitive, maintain the same spatial orientation and relationship and must always be single on any ornament and/or garment.

Whenever the Namibian flag is hoisted during any Festive occasions as a sign of patriotism, the movement flag must always be on the left of the Namibian flag when viewed from the building outwards. This indicates the superiority of the Namibian Flag above that of the Movement. Where an additional third flag is to be hoisted for whatever reasons, the Namibian flag must always occupy the centre position of these flags.

The National Flag may only be hoisted and flown, other than during National public events, with the explicit permission of His/her Excellency the Head of State on any public or private building.

The movement's flag must always be hoisted at all events of the movement and at meetings the banner of our liberty must be draped over the tables.

1.3 The symbol of the movement

This consists of two clenched brown fists presented ventrally with the wrists shackled in a metallic bracelet attached to a chain of five links, with the middle link broken. The broken link signifies the resolve to break the chain of all human evils that



impedes human socioeconomic development and progress. The remnants of the arm emerge from a pool of red (blood), as a symbol of the supreme sacrifice of our people, from which we gathered strength to break all chains of subjugation. The fists and red splashing pool of blood is superimposed on the Party flag or a golden brown (#996515) background. The entire emblem is then encircled by a navy-blue ring in which the name of the movement and its date of establishment appears.

1.4 The Slogans of the movement

Namibia is all we have!!!; Namibia is Not for sale!!!; We must and Can Save it!!!

When at meetings, the leader shall exclaim: “*Namibia!*” The audience shall respond “*Is All we have*”, this is repeated twice, then followed by the Second exclamation “*Namibia!*” then the audience shall respond “*Is not for Sale!!!*), this is repeated twice, followed by “*Namibia!*” and the audience responds, “*We shall save it*”, then “*Namibia*”, We can Save it” then: “*Namibia*” the audience responds: “*We must save it*”

1.5 Salutation

Salutation shall be by the right-hand slap to the left breast of each Patriot. It is also by raising both hands with fists clenched anatomically in the African Power salute. This may be followed by an own right-hand left breast palm slap. The word Patriot or Compatriot would be in reference to each other irrespective of status. Change is only effected by those Patriots who dedicate themselves to the betterment of the plight of the masses.

1.6 Anthem

We are Namibians first and have an obligation to rededicate ourselves to our National duty and Patriotism. The Namibian National Anthem, ‘*Namibia Land of the Brave*’, shall be the song of rededication at all events of the Independent Patriots for Change (IPC), as a symbol of our continual rededication to the course of our people.



When so performed, it is with honour, dignity, respect and integrity that our members shall perform it. The National Anthem is in the public domain.

Article 2

2. Definition and Principles

- 2.1. The Independent Patriots for Change, is a national generational transformational political movement for change, brought about by a consciousness of the failure and stagnation of the implementation of socioeconomically developmental administrative programs and policies, betrayal of supreme sacrifices for independence, leading to abject poverty of our people as a direct result of chronic corruption and looting of the peoples wealth, at all echelons of government and parastatals.
- 2.2. The Independent Patriots for Change are independent of previous political association and allegiances and foster a spirit of patriotism amongst its members, supporters and sympathisers, towards changing their own socioeconomic fortunes.
- 2.3. The Patriots, all have equal rights which are not derived from any past activities before or after independence. A resolve of all, to self-determination for the restoration of the dignity of all people, is all that is required.
- 2.4. It is premised on the principle of Grassroots Participatory Democracy, Rule of Law, Justice, Dignity, Freedom, Integrity and above all Honesty and Transparent Accountability in Public Office.
- 2.5. As Namibians, we come together in a movement that believes that by our collective strength and endeavours we achieve more for the benefit of all, than we can ever achieve individually for the benefit of a few. We create the means, for each of us, to realise our true potential and for all of us, a community in which power, wealth and opportunities are in the hands of the



many for the benefit of us all. Living together in solidarity where the rights we enjoy reflect the duties we owe and obligations we have, towards the benefit of all of us, in tolerance and mutual respect of each other's diverse needs and aspirations.

3. Article 3

3.1 Aims and Objectives

Pursuant to the provisions of the Namibian Constitution, as the Supreme Law, and its applicable statutes, here therefore IPC states its aims and objectives, as follows:

- 3.1.1.** To respect, uphold, obey and protect the Constitution, laws and territorial integrity of the Republic of Namibia.
- 3.1.2.** To strive for a just society, in which the separation of powers recognises the individual rights and freedoms of each person, determining its strength by the socioeconomic situation of the weak as much as the strong, providing security against fear and injustice in the social and economic environment. A society that nurtures and protects the basic unit of society, promoting equitability of opportunities and delivers people from the tyranny of poverty and indignity, prejudice and the abuse of entrusted people's power.
- 3.1.3.** To reaffirm, our patriotic commitment to the security, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Namibia, the sustainable exploitation of our resources for the benefit of current and future generations, while preserving our land as a shared sacred heritage in exclusive permanent perpetual ownership of all our citizens.
- 3.1.4.** To promote and ensure the implementation of the principles, in the movement and government of separation of powers, so as to allow freedom of governance untainted by conflicts of interests.



- 3.1.5.** Working together, in harmony and conformity of common goals with all progressive patriotic forces in Namibia and globally, IPC seeks the sacred trust of our people to govern the Republic of Namibia with their mandate.
- 3.1.6.** To pursue responsible human and animal population policies.
- 3.1.7.** To maintain, in all interests of National unity and peace, harmonious relations with all other political parties and associations, notwithstanding any differences in ideology.
- 3.1.8.** To foster, promote unity and peaceful co-existence amongst all the people of our Nation, regardless of ethnic, religious affiliation, social status or political affiliation.
- 3.1.9.** To, without discrimination, uphold, respect, preserve and promote all the traditions, customs, heritage, cultures and institutions of all our peoples, ensuring those most and directly affected by historic injustices, including genocide, take centre stage in all considerations and negotiations pertaining to events prior to the constitution of the Republic of Namibia, whilst respecting our principle of a Unitary State, with obligations to equitably, share productive utilisation of our land and resources.
- 3.1.10.** To unite political coherence of the citizens of our country to strive for restoration of the dignity of our people and protection of our heritage, respecting the principle pillars of our State; Democracy, Rule of Law and Justice for all our peoples.
- 3.1.11.** To build and strengthen a free and democratic responsive and accountable system of ethical governance under which all citizens will have the opportunity and be able to contribute constructively to the welfare, peace and socioeconomic development of all our people, keeping our people free from all forms of dictatorship and oppression, of any kind in any form.



- 3.1.12.** To ensure compliance of the protection and upholding of fundamental freedoms and rights of all citizens and all inhabitants of the Republic of Namibia.
- 3.1.13.** To participate in and promote all democratic National, Regional, Local and relevant institutional, elections in Namibia, as a unitary State, so as to influence the composition and policies of the Government, by fielding, funding and campaigning for responsible and accountable, democratically freely chosen representatives in all legislative and other forums, with a mandate to implement and execute the policies and manifesto of the Party within the confines of and relevant laws whilst ensuring meticulous public accounting of all finances so used and all sources thereof, to the membership, and any legitimate entity that may so require such disclosure.
- 3.1.14.** To promote and foster the principles of grassroots participatory representative accountable democracy through all its organs, for all its members and the Namibian public at large, through freely chosen representatives, by equitable, open, periodic and regular contestation for all leadership representation positions by all its members, within and without the Party, whilst adhering, strictly, to the enabling statutory provisions.
- 3.1.15.** To nurture an open responsible and accountable democracy, in which the Government representatives are elected and/or appointed through grassroots participatory democratic principles, on merits and; held to account by the people they represent, with the aid of an independent judiciary as necessary, encouraging and protecting whistle blowers; where decisions that affect our people are taken, as far as practicable, equitably, in consultation with the people and communities they impact upon and; where fundamental human rights and freedoms are respected and upheld by all natural and legal persons.
- 3.1.16.** To ensure, uphold and reward, exemplary transparent accountable ethical governance of the people and enabling governing systems, for the delivery of high quality beneficial services to our people enabling them to flourish,



severely punishing selfish deviation therefrom, while protecting, encouraging and rewarding whistle blowers.

- 3.1.17.** To fight all forms of corruption amongst all our civil servants and promote universal ethical responsive governance.
- 3.1.18.** To provide and facilitate equal and equitable opportunities for all the peoples of Namibia, through equitable affirmative action, protecting minorities and empowering the underprivileged, while enhancing grassroots participatory democracy.
- 3.1.19.** To seek the provision of water, electricity and sanitation to all our people, whilst providing appropriate education, securing homes for all our people, properly funded within our socioeconomic environment, whilst providing nutrition to the vulnerable.
- 3.1.20.** To provide universal, evidence based, well resourced and funded health services, accessible and responsive to the needs of all our people especially the very young and the old.
- 3.1.21.** To promote awareness amongst our population about gender based violence and the protection of the girl- and boy-child, whilst promoting, supporting participation of our women in socioeconomic activities with appropriate verifiable funding.
- 3.1.22.** Developing and encouraging evidence based well funded academic and vocational training appropriate to the needs of Namibia whilst funding appropriate research activities that take into consideration the needs of Namibia and its contribution to all economic sectors of our economy with advanced funding towards sustainable food security for all our peoples and advancement in the Information Technology world.
- 3.1.23.** Notwithstanding constitutional secularity of the Namibian State, in adherence to the principles of democracy, justice for all and majority rule of law, the movement shall instil in the people of Namibia divine reverence of the Supreme Creator, in all state academic institutions, throughout the



formative years and beyond, whilst respecting, upholding and honouring, the rights and freedoms of citizens and inhabitants of Namibia, of freedom of association. We shall seek to amend the Constitution of the Republic so as to ensure it be responsive to the democratic majority without suppressing religious minorities, in this regard, but allowing faith-based institutions of worship and education.

- 3.1.24.** To enhance the beneficial development of economic resources of Namibia by creating equitable opportunities for the citizenry, for individual, communal and national ownership, subject to regulation and control by government, as and when necessary, for the common good and benefit of all the people of Namibia, harnessing the full human and natural resources of the country, ensuring equitable development of all Regions and Constituencies of the country without discrimination, with the establishment of a national resource fund from profits of our natural resources.
- 3.1.25.** To achieve a dynamic economic order, serving the public interest, in which enterprise of the market and the rigour of competition are joined with the forces of partnership for common goals and cooperation to produce the minimum necessary wealth the nation needs and the opportunity for all to work and prosper with a thriving private sector and high-quality public services where those undertakings, critical to the common good of all our citizens are either owned by the public or accountable to them.
- 3.1.26.** To promote a vibrant, free-market economy encouraging vigorous participation by the citizens in economic activities, protecting and restricting certain economic activities, indigenous and of no academic expertise, to our people.
- 3.1.27.** To ensure and protect the environment which we hold in trust for the benefits of current and future generations of human, flora and fauna, and their dependant ecosystems, by strengthening education of the populace.
- 3.1.28.** To ensure that our men and women providing essential services, while upholding and protecting the rule of law, are properly, regularly and



periodically remunerated and to instil pride in their professionalism to serve the people of Namibia, where their socioeconomic rights and freedoms are protected.

- 3.1.29.** Recognising our non-aligned policy, co-operating regionally, continentally and globally, through regional, continental and international institutions, to secure peace, freedom, democracy, economic security and environmental protection for all.
- 3.1.30.** To ensure that the country maintains mutually beneficial relations, in all respects, with all countries which respect our sovereignty and territorial integrity as a nation and our rights to benefit maximally from our natural resources, and supports measures that strengthen The Southern African Development Community (SADC), the African Union(AU), the Commonwealth and United Nations (UN) and its agencies, in pursuit of socioeconomic development of nations, international peace and freedoms amongst nations and a just mutually beneficial international order in all aspects.
- 3.1.31.** Develop and maintain close fraternal relations with all political parties in the SADC region and those globally, with a common interest, which shares our ideals of grassroots participatory democratic with a view to establish regional, continental and international associations of likeminded democratic parties to promote, implement and defend ideals of Grassroots participatory Democracy, justice and Rule of law in Africa.

4. Article 4

4 A Membership– General

- 4.1** Members of the movement shall be called Patriot(s) and the President being the first amongst equals referred to as the Chief Patriot.
- 4.2** All members, irrespective of status within the Party, shall have the right to participate in political activities so as to influence the composition and



policies of the Party and Government through freely chosen representatives, subject to the provisions of this constitution and any other relevant applicable Republican laws of the Republic of Namibia.

- 4.3** All members, irrespective of the category of membership, shall be subjected to a transparent objective vetting regime with clearly defined criteria, prior to election and/or appointment into positions of authority within and without the Party.
- 4.4** Irrespective of social status, all citizens of the Republic of Namibia, of adult age (18 years and above), shall be eligible to apply for and be accorded membership of the movement, subject to subscribing and strict adherence to this constitution and its aims and objectives, its governing supplementary instruments, principles, directives and policies of the movement, as may be democratically, adopted and amended from time to time.
- 4.5** In recognition of the constitutional disjunctive discretionary exercise of a citizen's right to participate in political activities intended to influence the composition and policies of government, enshrined in Article 17 of the Namibian Constitution, membership of the movement shall *only* be open to those citizens who subscribe to open, regular and periodic, grassroots participatory democracy '*through freely chosen representatives*'.
- 4.6** Any citizen who desires to become a member of the movement may enrol for membership in the Constituency Branch they belong, by submitting in any acceptable form, and/or prescribed form, an application supported by at least one person who knows him/her, within that constituency.
- 4.7** An applicant upon registration may only be elected to position of authority including candidacy into government positions, if their voter registration number is of the constituency in which they seek membership or they change such within three (3) months upon completion of induction and 12 months duration of uninterrupted membership, inclusive, and in compliance with all obligations of Patriots.



- 4.8** All Patriots upon acceptance and enrolment as such members, and having taken the oath of ethical conduct and allegiance, in writing, as stipulated in this Constitution (Schedule 1) shall, upon payment of the membership fees, be issued with a numbered membership card, bearing the citizen's name, residential address, profession, highest qualification (if any), region, constituency Branch name, and voter registration number.
- 4.9** All aspirant applicants for active and supportive membership shall be subjected to a proportionate induction Probational period, prior to attainment of full membership, save where such may not be practicable during the foundational period of the movement, for justifiable objective reasons.
- 4.10** Subsequent to a successful completion of the induction period, a probational member may be awarded a full membership save where different transitional criteria may be applied, as democratically agreed upon, during the Foundation Convention of Patriots.
- 4.11** Barring any standing rules and anything to the contrary in the constitution and/or any governing tools of the movement, members, subject to disciplinary procedures, whomay have been barred from eligibility to be elected/appointed in any position of authority, including representation of the movement, who may have previously been suspended or expelled from the movement, elsewhere, shall be subjected to a reorientationperiod of 6 months tailored induction, should they seek reinstatement of their membership, from an appropriate organ.
- 4.12** Notwithstanding belonging to an affiliated entity, members of affiliated entities shall be subjected to the same conditions and procedures of admission as individual members.

B. Categories of membership

- 4.13** There shall be four principle categories of membership: Active and Passive Patriots. Active Patriots are further categorised as Activists and Supporters;



whereas Passive Patriots are either Sympathisers or apolitical voters. Apolitical voters may or may not have a paid up membership card.

- 4.14** Any category of membership may migrate to any other category subject to such migration complying with category requirements

a) Active membership

i. Active Patriots

- 4.15** Active patriots are those members that shall actively contribute to the dynamic development of the movement and its governing functional organs at all structural levels.
- 4.16** Active Patriots will be the custodians of the governing tools of the movements and be responsible for its implementation.
- 4.17** Active Patriots shall subscribe to an activist's code of conduct and a confidentiality code, in addition to strict adherence to principles of conduct of politicians.

ii. Supportive Patriots

- 4.18** Supportive Patriots are those members, who prescribe to the principles and policies of the movement but their professional responsibilities do not allow their constant active participation.
- 4.19** Amongst whom are professionals, in fields other than politics, who are in fulltime (self) employment conducting their professional activities and able to support the movement in various ways, including financial.
- 4.20** Supportive members shall have the same privileges as active members in so far as rights and obligations are concerned



- 4.21** Supportive patriots may be co-opted into functional organs of the movement and shall be entitled to the same rights as active patriots.
- 4.22** Supportive Patriots must demonstrate objective continual contribution on a regular basis in any form, to the activities of the Party prior to qualifying for nomination and eventual election to a position of authority.

b) Passive Membership

- 4.23** Passive Patriots are those members of the citizenry that prescribe to the principles and policies of the movement, but do not actively participate in political activities other than voting.

c) Affiliate membership

- 4.24** No affiliate membership shall be available to any entity. Professional Associations in compliance with relevant statutory provisions may only make professional sectorial presentations at organs of the Party when such had been approved by the relevant authority and in any case the Political Mobiliser of such organ.

d) Founding membership

- 4.25** Founding members, subject to having undergone an induction, are those members that were instrumental in the bringing about of the Party into existence. These include all the Interim Constituency leadership and all the leadership elected at the First People's Founding Convention of Patriots.
- 4.26** Founding members in addition may seek to financially contribute to the movement's continual administrative cost by voluntarily undertaking to contribute funds.

e) Patrons



4.27 Patrons are members who, in addition to having paid their membership fees, undertake to contribute to the national fund of the Movement for the support of the movement's organisational activities, such additional fees as the movement may from time to time impose.

4.28 A patron who persistently fails to pay the levies duly imposed may cease to be such by having his/her name struck of the register of Patrons, provided, however, that any such Patron whose name is struck off the register for this reason shall have his/her name reinstated upon payment of all outstanding levies.

C. Donations and Subscriptions

4.29 Every member shall be liable to such amount of dues,*prospectively*,and in such manner and time as the movement from time to time shall determine.

4.30 Subject to provisions of the laws governing registered political parties, any person who agrees with the aims and objectives, policies and political and social programs of the Movement, may make donations to the movement and such donations shall be recorded in accordance with the provisions of the law and properly audited as is required by law.

D. Condition of Membership

4.31 All members of the Party shall subscribe to an oath of ethical behaviours at all levels within the Party and when in Government.

4.32 Upon application each member shall be obliged to subscribe to the governing tools of IPC, by the taking of an oath and signing the declaratory oath in accordance with rules that may be prescribed from time to time by the National Executive Committee of Patriots (NECP), subject to ratification by the National Council of Patriots (NCP).



- 4.33** With the exception of a founding patriots, an aspiring applicant, prior to the successful completion of the induction and probation period, signing of the declaratory oath and pledging allegiance to IPC, shall be required, prior to issuing of a membership card
- 4.34** An aspiring member at the time of applying for membership, shall not be a registered member of any political party/association or organisation, ancillary or subsidiary thereto, or otherwise, whatsoever, having as its aims ascendance to political power at any level of Government and or influencing, in anyway whatsoever, Government composition or policies, as aims and objectives, declared by the IPC.
- 4.35** An aspiring member at the time of applying for membership shall be 18 years or more, and; subject to conditions of rights enshrined in the Namibian Constitution and any other relevant laws, as may be necessary, enjoy all the rights of membership, in particular, through grassroots participatory democracy, ascendance to any position of authority in the Party, subject to conditions in this constitution, as may be applicable from time to time, by any relevant authority or other governing tools.
- 4.36** Notwithstanding the minimum age, citizens below the age of 18 years shall have the right to membership and have such rights as may from time to time be determined by the youth affairs Patriot in consultation with the NECP

E. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PATRIOTS

- 4.37** Subject to minimum periods of membership which may be set out in the Constitution, or in any by-law or otherwise by legitimate directives from the National Council of Patriots and/or officers of the Party, every member is entitled to all rights of membership;
- 4.38** The minimum period prior to being elected in any position of direct or delegated or representative authority, subject to any transitional provisions, shall be one calendar year for all members.



- 4.39** All Patriots shall have the right to actively and meaningfully participate in the socio-political activities of the movement, intended to promote grassroots participatory democracy, within the movement and the Namibian political space, intended to influence the composition of the leadership of the movement and its policies and the broader Namibian political space.
- 4.40** All Patriots, upon compliance with the necessary requirements, as may be dictated by circumstances, shall have the right to elect and be elected to any position of responsibility and execute any duties empowered there under, to the best of their abilities, for the benefit of all members and as applicable to the Namibian public, promotion of grassroots participatory democracy within the movement and the broader Namibia political arena.
- 4.41** Founding members, as custodians of the Fundamental Principles of the Party, shall have the right to exercise veto rights where the Fundamental Principles of the Party and/or the rights members in Chapter 3 of the Namibian Constitution are being violated or breached.

F. GENERAL DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS OF PATRIOTS

- 4.42** All Patriots shall be obliged to subscribe to the principle of collective leadership, responsibility, accountability and liability when acting within the enabling powers.
- 4.43** All Patriots shall be obliged to promote National Unity and peace, socioeconomic development and self-determination of all Namibians and have a duty to protect the territorial integrity and dignity of the Republic of Namibia.
- 4.44** All Patriots shall be obliged to promote and encourage participation in peaceful political activities, through grassroots participatory democracy,



within the movement, in so doing honouring the sacrifices of generations of our heroes and heroines.

- 4.45** All Patriots shall be obliged to uphold honour, respect, defend and protect the Fundamental principles of the movement and the rights of members, at all times.
- 4.46** All Patriots shall be obliged to act and perform their duties and obligations with honesty, integrity, dignity and respect the rule of law of the Republic of Namibia
- 4.47** All Patriots shall be obliged to obey, execute and administer all legitimate directives, policies and decision of all organs of the movement, as appropriate and applicable, and any such, from an authorised official or organ of the movement, as may be required from time to time, including by this constitution and any governing instrument derived from the constitution of the movement.
- 4.48** All Patriots shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Party, in those forums they belong or may be assigned, delegated, elected or appointed into, including Government organs, subject to strict adherence and obedience to legitimate rules and regulations governing such activities and the principles of natural justice and democracy.
- 4.49** All Patriots shall have the right to raise any concerns and grievance with the appropriate organ or Party Official. Where such grievance is of a serious nature involving a member of the executive of its Constituency branch such may be raised directly with the Disciplinary Authority of the Party, at that structure level.
- 4.50** All Patriots shall be heard whenever his or her activities and conduct are in question and under consideration and where their rights as members had been infringed upon, by any organ and or functionary of the Party;
- 4.51** All Patriots shall have the right to nominate themselves or be nominated and seconded by another, other than their immediate relatives, to contest for any



position or office within the Party, and or be delegated on behalf of the Party in accordance with rules and regulations governing elections in any Forum of entitlement, subject to their compliance with all membership conditions and obligations.

G. SPECIFIC OBLIGATIONS OF A MEMBER

4.52 A member shall

- 4.52.1** Protect and promote the aims and objectives, dignity, policies and principles of the Party;
- 4.52.2** Promote, protect and honour the dignity of all Patriots and citizens of the Republic of Namibia, irrespective of status;
- 4.52.3** Protect the unity of the Party in the diversity of our members and people;
- 4.52.4** Comply with and execute as necessary, unconditionally and without reservations, democratic decisions, directives and policies of any organ of the Party as binding on all members, even if they had not participated in the deliberations leading to their adoption;
- 4.52.5** Be loyal and truthful to the Party and its functionaries;
- 4.52.6** Abide by, and publicly uphold, the decisions of the Party taken in any organ, notwithstanding validly held objections to the contrary, at any time;
- 4.52.7** Carry out his or her duties faithfully and with honesty, integrity, dignity and within the rule of law, to the best of his or her ability, even if they objected to the initiation of such duties by the Party;
- 4.52.8** Participate fully in the activities of the Party and ensure that the local organs of the Party work effectively, efficiently and accountably;
- 4.52.9** Pay all dues as well as give donations for special programmes and activities as may be decided from time to time by the Party, as applicable to such Patriots;
- 4.52.10** Not initiate or commence any legal proceedings against the Party without first having exhausted the grievance procedure laid down in this Constitution. For the avoidance of doubt, no Member shall commence any legal proceedings against the Party for any reason whatsoever



unless whatever grievance the Member may have against the Party has been put before the Party for investigation and final decision, and the Party having dealt with the matter expeditiously, within the prescribed time framework.

4.52.11 Not fraudulently, or otherwise, provide any false information in relation to any conduct under consideration, whatsoever, irrespective, whether pertaining to another entity or member.

4.53 Where a member provides factual and legal evidence that the democratic principles enshrined in the Namibian constitution and/or the Party governance instruments had been infringed upon by the final decision so taken for which the grievance was initiated, such member shall have a right to an appeal to the appropriate authority within the Party.

4.54 All members throughout their period of membership shall strictly adhere to Fundamental principles of members in public office, as outlined below (Schedule 3)

H. DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING OFFICE

4.55 A member shall be disqualified from holding any office or contesting any election in the Party if he or she:

4.55.1 Breaches any of the Fundamental principles for politicians outlined below (Schedule 3)

4.55.2 Has been convicted and/or sentenced by a court of competent jurisdiction in respect of any offence involving high treason, or an offence involving the security of the State, dishonesty, fraud or moral turpitude, unless a period of ten years has elapsed after the serving of the sentence, he or she has been granted a full pardon;

4.55.3 Upon a careful objective evaluation of the case before any tribunal, by an appropriate person with relevant experience, found that there are compelling evidence of wrong doing;



- 4.55.4 Suffers from medically verified mental incapacity;
- 4.55.5 Un-rehabilitated abuser of narcotics and or alcoholic beverages
- 4.55.6 Abuses any opposite or same gender in any manner whatsoever;
- 4.55.7 Whilst holding or aspiring to hold office conduct him/herself in a manner likely to bring the movement in disrepute;
- 4.55.8 With the exception of the President, is holding a Government office, and where such holding of such Government office shall constitute a conflict of interest with any other office they may hold in the Party;
- 4.55.9 Is not of good standing. A member shall be of good standing where he or she has paid in full and up to date all dues or levies he or she is liable to pay as a Member, when such liability occurs, and has discharged all his or her duties as a Member.
- 4.55.10 Has failed the vetting process.

I. RESIGNATION AS A MEMBER

- 4.56** A Member shall cease to be a member by declaring his or her intention to cease to be a member and forthwith surrendering his or her membership card to an appropriate office bearer of his/her Constituency branch, using proper and appropriate means.
- 4.57** Any member of the Party who by any means crosses the floor while on delegated duties in any legislative chamber in any manner shall be have acted in a manner as to signal his/her departure from collective responsibility and thus ceases to be a member. In this case, as appropriate and proper, the Party shall institute the necessary procedures as is required by the relevant governing statutory provisions and Party tools.
- 4.58** Any person who, accordingly, ceases to be a member of the Party shall return to the Party any Party property in his/her custody and shall forfeit any monies, dues or donations made to the Party, whilst he/she was a member.
- 4.59** Any member, who has resigned from the Party, shall be bound by the oath and allegiance of membership and any office they held prior to resigning and



any breach of such oath may result in the Party, if it is aggrieved by such breach, seeking appropriate measures to seek a remedy so as to retain its integrity and dignity.

J. SUSPENSION OF A MEMBER

4.60 A member may be suspended from membership of the Party, or from holding any office in the Party and/or government on behalf of the Party, pending an enquiry into his/her conduct by a Disciplinary Committee of the relevant structural level.

4.61 Prior to the suspension of a member, he/she shall be given an opportunity to state their case in writing and only upon assessment of the content of his case by independent investigating officer of the Party.

4.62 Any decision to suspend a Member shall not be taken unless the nature of the complaint has been communicated to the Member in writing, and disciplinary proceedings have been initiated, legitimately, against such member, in accordance with the principles of Justice.

K. EXPULSION OF A MEMBER

4.63 In any action involving the expulsion of any member compliance with the principles of natural justice shall be compulsory.

4.64 A Member may be expelled from the Party on grounds of misconduct, of any gravity as determined by the arbitrating authority, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, and upon such expulsion shall cease to be a member.

4.65 Any person who, accordingly, ceases to be a member shall return to the Party any party property in his or her custody and shall forfeit any monies, dues or donations made to the Party.



4.66 No member shall be expelled from the Party unless such expulsion is executed in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Constitution and adherence to the principles of natural Justice and respect for human dignity.

L. FORFEITURE OF MEMBERSHIP

4.67 A member who joins or declares his or her adherence to another political party, organization or association or contravenes any of the principles of the Party in a manner that it contradicts the interest of the Party, implicitly forfeits his or her membership of the Party. The Party shall reserve the right to protect its integrity and dignity as appropriate and proper under these circumstances. The Party shall nonetheless comply with the principles of natural Justice.

M. REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

4.68 There shall be kept in the office of the Party in each Constituency branch a register of Members. The Constituency branch secretary shall submit quarterly a list of all registered members to the Regional Secretary. The National Secretariat shall keep a register of all Founding Members and Patrons, and the Regional Secretariat shall keep a register of Founding Members and Patrons in its Region and all other members.

5. Article 5

A. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

5.1 Each constituency shall have a Constituency Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the Constituency Executive Committee. It shall comprise not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) members provided, however, that where the Constituency Disciplinary Committee



consists of three (3) members at least one (1) shall be a woman and where there are five (5) members at least two (2) shall be women. None of the members of the Constituency Disciplinary Committee shall be Constituency Officers.

- 5.2** When hearing cases, the Disciplinary Committees shall have two additional members appointed by any other Constituency, within or from another region, from amongst that other constituency's members, appointed by that Executive Committee of that other Constituency on request by the executive committee ceased with the hearing, subject to such members possessing the required skills and knowledge.
- 5.3** Each Constituency Executive Committee shall appoint an investigating Patriot, to establish the facts of the alleged conduct and present such facts to the prosecuting Patriot, appointed by another Constituency Executive Committee, on request of the Disciplinary committee ceased with the inquiry into the conduct of the Patriot.
- 5.4** Clause 5.2 and 5.3 shall apply to all Disciplinary Committees at all levels with the necessary variation as appropriate, with the Exception of the National Disciplinary Committee, where the National Steering Committee shall have the power to appoint an investigating and prosecuting Patriot from amongst the membership, at their own discretion; but in consultation with the legal department, possessing the relevant skills and knowledge required for the case.
- 5.5** Each Region shall have a Regional Disciplinary Committee which shall be appointed by the Regional Executive Committee. It shall comprise not less than three (3) and not more than five (5) members provided, however, that where the Regional Disciplinary Committee consists of three (3) members at least one (1) shall be a woman and where there are five (5) members at least



(2) shall be women. None of the members of Regional Disciplinary Committee shall be Regional Officers.

5.6 The Regional Disciplinary Committee shall have the Power to hear cases of misconduct of Parliamentarians referred to them by another Region, upon submission of any complaint by the Chief Whip to that other Regional Executive Committee. The Regional Disciplinary Committee shall have appeal jurisdiction from any lower organs.

5.7 There shall be a National Disciplinary Committee, which shall be one of the Standing Committees of the National Council of Patriots and shall be composed as follows:

5.7.1 One (1) person appointed by the National Executive Committee;

5.7.2 One (1) representative of the Parliamentary Group,

5.7.3 One (1) representative of the National Council of Patrons

5.7.4 One (1) representative of the Constitutional and legal Committee

5.7.5 One (1) representative of the Regional Secretaries

5.7.6 Three (3) persons appointed by the National Chairpersons in consultation with the National Executive Committee, one of whom shall be designated Chairperson of the National Disciplinary Committee, provided, however, that at least four (4) out of nine (9) members shall be women. At least five (5) members of the committee, including the Chairperson, shall be present to constitute a valid meeting of the Committee.

B. Term

5.8 The term of office of members of a Disciplinary Committee member shall be three (3) years, subject to being reappointed, barring any conduct to the contrary.



C. JURISDICTION

- 5.9** The Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline and lack of compliance with governance instruments of the Party within any organ and in the case of delegated legislative Patriots, as may be recommended by an appropriate member with responsibility at any Government legislative level, for all representative Patriots at Government level, failing in their duties in anyway, including failure to participate in the activities of the chamber in an appropriate and level for such chamber.
- 5.10** The Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline, unethical conduct and corrupt practices at the regional level, involving, Regional Officers, All Patriots, Local and Regional authority Patriots, Parliamentary Delegated Patriots and figures of the Party, and shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals from recommendations of the lower organs.
- 5.11** The National Disciplinary Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting discipline unethical conduct and corrupt practices at the National level, involving, all Office bearers, Appeals from Regional Disciplinary Committees of All Patriots, Local and Regional authority Patriots, Parliamentary Delegated Patriots and figures of the Party, and shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals from decisions of the Regional Executive Committee and or Regional Disciplinary Committee.

D. FUNCTIONS

- 5.12** Disciplinary Committee shall:
- 5.12.1** Investigate complaints concerning the misconduct of any Member, submitted to it by any entity having *locus standi*;
- 5.12.2** Appoint on the recommendation of the relevant executive organ, an investigating officer, and make a full, faire, factual, objective and



impartial inquiry into any complaint referred to it. In so doing bearing in mind cultural and equitable factors in mind so as not to disadvantage any member.

5.12.3 Report in writing the results of the inquiry and the reasons leading to conclusions reached;

5.12.4 Make recommendations to the Executive Committee based on the results of the inquiry, in relation to the prosecution and subsequent penalty and or relevant remedy at its discretion as may be empowered by this constitution or any other relevant governance tool;

5.12.5 Where the recommendation seeks a hearing, the relevant executive committee shall appoint a prosecutor to present the case to the arbitrator of fact and law.

5.12.6 Where the Executive committee modifies or rejects any recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee, it shall provide written reasons of the grounds of its decision, not later than 4 working days.

5.13 The Executive Committee shall, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the recommendation of a Disciplinary Committee, adopt, modify or reject same and shall communicate its recommendation and the reasons leading thereto in writing to all affected parties.

5.14 The Executive Committee may require the member being investigated to attend a mitigating meeting or seek submission of mitigating circumstances. Upon request, prior to it pronouncing itself on the matter.

5.15 The relevant Executive Committee shall make any recommendations it deems fit to promote discipline within the Party (and ethical governance in the government), including the suspension and or expulsion of the Member, whilst conscious of the rights of such member. The recommendation shall come into full force and effect where no appeal is lodged against the decision, within the time limit, and in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, upon and even if in the absence of verified receipt by such intended patriot of such notification, provided such Patriot was aware of the imminent decision of the relevant Executive Committee.



E. PROCEEDINGS

- 5.16** Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by a complainant with *locus standi* in writing or any appropriate means delivered to the Disciplinary Committee, in so far as the complaint relates to the affairs of the Party, in relation to omission or commission, on behalf of and by any of its members.
- 5.17** Proceedings of a Disciplinary Committee shall be held in camera and shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Natural Justice.
- 5.18** Any Disciplinary Committee, upon receipt of a complaint shall seek in writing the version of the person against whom the complaint had been leveled, within 12 days.
- 5.19** The Patriot against whom a complaint had been leveled shall provide their side of the conduct alleged, as the case may be, within 21 days of receipt of the request there to.
- 5.20** The Disciplinary Committee shall, within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of a complaint, conduct its deliberations on the matter, and make its recommendation thereon to the Executive Committee, except that the period of twenty-one (21) days may, in appropriate circumstances, be extended by the Executive Committee to include *dies non*.
- 5.21** The determination of any question or matter before a Disciplinary Committee shall be in accordance with the evidence based factual opinion of the majority of the members of the Committee.
- 5.22** A Disciplinary Committee shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person in the performance of its function.



F. APPEALS

- 5.23** A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, a recommendation of the Constituency Executive Committee, may, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the notice of the recommendation, appeal against the recommendation to the Regional Disciplinary Committee by filing such appeal and the Disciplinary Committee shall submit such, within seven (7) days from the date of receipt of the submission to the Regional Executive Committee for its decision for their decision.
- 5.24** A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, a decision of the Regional Executive Committee may, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the notice of the decision of the Regional Executive Committee, appeal against the decision to the National Disciplinary Committee by filing an appeal in writing with the General Secretary. The National Disciplinary Committee shall conclude its deliberations on the appeal within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the appeal and submit its recommendation on the appeal to the National Executive Committee for its final decision.
- 5.25** A Member aggrieved by or dissatisfied with a decision of the National Executive Committee may, within seven (7) days of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal against it to the National Council of Patriots by filling an appeal in writing with the National General Secretary. The National Council shall conclude its deliberations on the appeal within sixty (60) days of receipt of the appeal and its decision shall be final and binding upon all affected parties.

G. MISCONDUCT

- 5.26** A complaint shall involve, not exclusively, an allegation(s) that any or such implied and/or related and/or having the same and/or similar effect(s), of any of the following acts of misconduct as relating to the omissions and/or commissions of a Member:



- 5.26.1 Any conduct deemed likely to bring the Party into disrepute;
- 5.26.2 Any form of corrupt practice;
- 5.26.3 Violation of non-regulatory duties and/or obligations of a Member;
- 5.26.4 Violent, dangerous and/or intimidatory conduct against another Member;
- 5.26.5 Falsification of reports, accounts or expense claims or any fraudulent conduct;
- 5.26.6 Willful damage to any Party property;
- 5.26.7 Breach of the duty to uphold publicity Party policy;
- 5.26.8 Creation of discord or factionalism within the Party;
- 5.26.9 Dishonesty, breach of the dignity of another including verbal abuse, conduct contrary to the Rule of Law and/or aims and objectives of the Party;
- 5.26.10 Defection to or supporting, directly or implicitly, another party.

5.27 These acts are not exhaustive or exclusive and acts of a similar nature will be dealt with as provided herein.

H. GRIEVANCE

- 5.28 A member who has a grievance against the Party may, in writing, petition the Constituency Executive Committee, Regional Executive Committee or the National Executive Committee, as the case may be for redress. A grievance shall involve an allegation of unjust or unfair treatment by the Party against the Member, breaching that member's right to dignity.
- 5.29 Constituency, Regional or National Executive Committee, as the case may be, shall, in conjunction with other party organs, where appropriate, within twenty one (21) days from the receipt of the petition, investigate the grievance, conclude its deliberations thereon, and notify its decision to the Member.



5.30 A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, the decision of the Constituency, Regional or National Executive Committee, as the case may be, may, within seven (14) days from the date of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal in the case of the decision by the Constituency Executive Committee, to the Regional Executive Committee, in the case of a decision by the Regional Executive Committee, to the National Executive Committee and in the case of a decision by the National Executive committee, the National Council of Patriots, as the case may be, shall decide within twenty one (21) days of its receipt, and communicate its decision thereon to the member.

6. Article 6

Administrative Structures and Demarcation levels of the movement

6.1 The movement is a national political party and shall accordingly be structured and operated on that basis.

6.2 The structure of the movement shall be based on the national administrative demarcation of government as determined by relevant authority from time to time.

6.3 There shall be the following demarcated structures of the movement which shall each consist of a decision-making organ and an executive organ:

6.3.1 National Administrative structure to cover the entire country

6.3.2 Regional administrative structure in each of the 14 regions of Namibia, these shall be known as the Regional Movement of Patriots (RMP)

6.3.3 Constituency administrative structure in each of the 121 constituencies, Constituency Branches of Patriots (CBP). This may constitute a branch or comprise of many branches.

6.3.4 Branch administrative structure in each constituency, based on administrative convenience, population density and ease of congregation of Patriots.



- 6.4** Each structure shall consist of a conferring, delegate decision making organ and an Executive organ. The conferring delegate decision-making organ, shall be the highest decision making authority at that structure level and may establish as many subcommittees as may be prescribed by this constitution or any other authority, with such powers as may be from time to time prescribed by a relevant authority, for the expedient implementation of constitutional and policy provisions.

Article 7

7. Constituency Branch

- 7.1** There shall be, in every parliamentary constituency of Namibia, a constituency branch or branches of the Party consisting of Members who have enrolled in the Constituency branch.
- 7.2** Where there is only one branch, in any Parliamentary constituency of Namibia, such will constitute the basic unit of the movement.
- 7.3** Where there are more than one Constituency branch in a single Parliamentary Constituency, each, shall have its own Executive committee. However, there shall be a Constituency Executive Committee with members of the Executive drawn from the leadership of all the Constituency branches of one Parliamentary Constituency.
- 7.4** The Constituency branch delegates Conference shall elect:
- 7.4.1** The Constituency branch executive;
 - 7.4.2** Delegates to the constituency delegates Conference
 - 7.4.3** Delegates to the Regional Delegates Conference;
 - 7.4.4** Delegates to the National Convention of Patriots
 - 7.4.5** Delegates to the National Annual Delegates Conference
 - 7.4.6** And Nominate candidates to contest the constituency leadership
 - 7.4.7** Delegates to contest the regional leadership



- 7.4.8** And nominate candidates for all legislative levels of Government – Local and Regional authority and Parliament
 - 7.4.9** Nominate members of the National Council of Patriots;
 - 7.4.10** Nominate and/or endorse, all nominated aspiring national office bearers, including the President;
 - 7.4.11** And recommend to the National Executive Committee a candidate for the position of Traditional, Cultural, Customs and heritage affairs
 - 7.4.12** Nominate candidates to contest the local authority Council elections and where only one constituency exists, elect such members for the local authority council list. Where, there is more than one branch in each constituency, each branch will have a list, of which the total for the constituency shall be equal to one and half of the total available council seats. Each Constituency branch shall thus contribute equal numbers of elected councilors to represent them on the local council.
 - 7.4.13** The President on the recommendation of the relevant organ and on grounds of equitable representation and considerations of minority rights, shall appoint a candidate(s) alternately to the list commencing at the top of the list, as may be necessary to comply with the principles of equitability. No list shall be complete in the absence of this provisions and or a written consent to so decline to exercise such presidential right.
 - 7.4.14** Nominate or elect out of the nominated candidates, as the case may be, a candidate for the regional authority council elections to represent the constituency.
- 7.5** Each constituency shall have a Constituency Executive Committee, which shall consist of:
- 7.5.1** The constituency Chairperson
 - 7.5.2** The 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson
 - 7.5.3** The Constituency Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser
 - 7.5.4** The Constituency Deputy Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser
 - 7.5.5** The Constituency Secretary
 - 7.5.6** The Constituency Assistant Secretary
 - 7.5.7** The Constituency Treasurer
 - 7.5.8** The Constituency Financial Secretary



- 7.5.9** The Constituency Gender affairs
- 7.5.10** The Constituency Youth affairs
- 7.5.11** The Constituency Elders Affairs
- 7.5.12** The Constituency Veteran Affairs
- 7.5.13** Sitting legislative and/or such Candidates for the Constituency

7.6 With the exception of the Socio-Economic Affairs Patriot, who shall be appointed, Constituency Officers shall be elected at a Constituency Annual Delegates Conference, which shall be supervised by a person appointed by the Regional Executive Committee, from a Regional pool of election committee members.

7.7 Election of Constituency branch Officers shall be by secret ballot, and by a simple majority. They shall hold office for five (5) years, and may seek re-election.

7.8 The Constituency Officers and sitting legislative or legislative Candidate(s) shall, within fourteen (14) days of the election, appoint the Financial Secretary where there is none. Thereafter, within seven (7) days, the Constituency Executive committee shall appoint members of the Constituency Disciplinary Committee, where possible one must have experience in arbitration matters and the officer for traditional affairs as may be required from Constituency to constituency.

7.9 **There shall be,**

7.9.1 In every Constituency branch, a Constituency office of the Party, which shall be headed by the Constituency Secretary and Shall have such other personnel as the Constituency Executive Committee may appoint.

7.9.2 The Constituency Secretary shall report administrative matters to the Constituency Chairperson, in writing, regularly.

7.9.3 The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the Constituency Secretary and other personnel of the Constituency office shall be determined by the Constituency Executive Committee, in consultation



with the National General Secretary, national scale and in accordance with the Namibian Labour statutory provisions.

7.10 The Constituency Chairperson

7.10.1 The Constituency Chairperson shall be, first amongst equals, the executive head of the Party in the constituency and the convener of meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee.

7.10.2 He/she shall be elected for a three (3) year term of office in line with all members of the Constituency branch Executive

7.10.3 The Constituency Chairperson shall be a member of the Regional Executive Committee.

7.10.4 In the absence of the Constituency Chairperson the 1st Constituency Vice Chairperson shall act in his or her place.

7.11 The Constituency Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every month and shall present quarterly reports on the operations and activities of the Party in the Constituency to the Regional Executive Committee. The presence of at least- two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Committee.

7.12 The Constituency Executive Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the operation of the Party within the constituency and the implementation of its programmes for promoting social and political awareness and general political education within the constituency, for recruiting members into the Party and for mobilizing support for the party before, during and after elections.

7.13 The Constituency Branch Executive shall be responsible for a quarterly constituency general meeting of all members of the Party, to keep them abreast with all political issues affecting their lives.



7.14 The Constituency Executive Committee may form such committees or sub-committees as it considers necessary or expedient and may co-opt any Member within the constituency into any of such committees, subject to approval by the Regional Executive.

7.15 A Constituency Officer shall cease to be such an Officer if:

7.15.1 He or she resigns;

7.15.2 He or she is removed in accordance with the procedure for the removal of officers;

7.15.3 By reason of bodily or mental infirmity, is incapable of carrying out his or her duties and responsibilities as Constituency officer;

7.15.4 He or she is suspended or expelled from the Party;

7.15.5 Without just cause, on three consecutive occasions, he or she absents himself or herself persistently from meetings of the Constituency Executive Committee of which he or she is given notice, provided that no Constituency Officer shall cease to be an Officer for this reason without:

7.15.5.1 Being summoned to appear before the Regional Executive Committee and being afforded an opportunity to explain himself or herself;

7.15.5.2 A report being submitted to the Regional Executive Committee on the conduct of such officer with the recommendation of the Constituency Executive Committee;

7.15.5.3 The Regional Executive Committee considering the report of the Constituency Executive Committee and pronouncing whether such Officer shall cease to be a Constituency Officer;

7.15.5.4 Having the right to appeal to the National Executive Committee which shall decide the matter and whose decision shall be final.

7.16 A Constituency Officer who ceases to be such officer by reason of absenteeism shall nevertheless continue to be a Member of the Party and



shall be entitled to offer himself or herself for re- election to membership of the Constituency Executive Committee at any subsequent Constituency Annual Delegates Conference.

7.17 Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the Constituency Executive Committee shall be filled in the case of the Constituency Chairperson by the 1st Constituency Vice-Chairperson; in the case of the 1st Constituency Vice-Chairperson by the 2nd Constituency Vice Chairperson, and in the case of the 2nd Constituency Chairperson, Constituency Secretary and Constituency Treasurer, by election by the Executive Committee of another officer to hold such office. In the case of any other Constituency Officers at the end of the term of five (5) years. Subject to the remaining term of office being not less than 12 months, a by-election may be conducted. In the case of the Traditional affairs Patriot, the Constituency Executive Committee shall appoint someone to act in his or her place until a substantive appointment is made.

7.18 In every year, at least eight (8) weeks prior to the Regional Annual Delegates Conference, there shall be a Constituency Delegates Conference which shall be attended by the following delegates; i) Members of the Constituency Executive Committee; Where there is only one Constituency branch, all members of the constituency branch, whereas in the event of more than one constituency branch a maximum of twenty (20) delegates from each of the constituency branches.

7.19 The presence of at least one-third ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the delegates of the Constituency shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference, having due regard to the proportional constituency membership.

7.20 The Constituency Annual Delegates Conference shall:



- 7.20.1** Deliberate on all matters affecting the organization and wellbeing of the Party in the Constituency;
 - 7.20.2** Consider and approve a statement of account presented by the Constituency Treasurer;
 - 7.20.3** Review any national, regional and local election outcomes;
 - 7.20.4** Consider and approve programme of activity for the coming year;
 - 7.20.5** Pass resolutions or make recommendation for consideration of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference;
 - 7.20.6** Elect one (1) member of the Constituency, for every number of members of the constituency branch and as may be determined from time to time by the National Executive Committee of Patriots, irrespective of social status, to be the delegates of the Constituency to attend the National Annual Delegates conference or the National Convention of Patriots;
 - 7.20.7** Elect two (2) Members of the Constituency, irrespective of status, to be the four (4) delegates of the Constituency, of whom 2 may be candidates for any position, to attend the Regional Annual Delegates Conference;
 - 7.20.8** Elect Constituency Officers when required.
 - 7.20.9** Elect candidates for the local (2), regional (2) and national (4) legislative forums at least a year prior to the elections thereof.
 - 7.20.10** Elect candidates to contest for the regional Federal Council of Patriots representatives.
 - 7.20.11** Elect four candidates to contest for the list of eight (8) regional Parliamentary National Assembly members. Due regard shall be had to equitable gender and minority distribution amongst candidates.
- 7.21** Every Constituency Executive Committee shall within two (2) weeks from the close of the proceedings of the Constituency Annual Delegates Conference, submit a report thereon to the Regional Executive Committee.
- 7.22** Every Constituency Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Constituency Delegates Conference to elect, when required, two (2) Members of the Constituency who are not Constituency Officers, together



with four (4) Constituency Officers, to be the six (6) delegates of the Constituency to attend the National Convention of Patriots. These will include members of the Federal Council of Patriots, subject to objections from the branch.

- 7.23** Every Constituency Executive Committee shall convene an Extraordinary Constituency Delegates Conference to select the Parliamentary Candidates for the Constituency.
- 7.24** A constituency branch shall singularly, where there is only one Constituency branch or collectively where more than one constituency branch or tributaries exist, following elimination; field four (4) aspiring Parliamentary candidates to the Regional Extraordinary Parliamentary selection conference, from which 8 aspiring candidates shall emerge.
- 7.25** The constituency branch shall singularly, where there is only one Constituency branch or collectively where more than one constituency branch or tributaries exist, following elimination, field four (4) aspiring members of the National Council of Patriots candidates to the Regional Extraordinary National Council of Patriots selection conference, from which 4 elected members of the National Council of Patriots shall emerge.
- 7.26** When the Constituency Executive Committee or the Constituency Chairperson, as the case may be, considers it in consultation with the Regional Executive, it if necessary, an Emergency Constituency Delegates Conference may be convened. The Constituency Secretary shall give notice of such meeting not later than seven (7) days before the date of the Conference, and shall specify the agenda for the conference. Where there is only one constituency branch, all members of the Party entitled to attend and participate shall be notified.



ARTICLE 8

8 REGIONAL ORGAN

- 8.1 There shall be a Regional Delegates Conference. It shall elect the following;**
- 8.1.1** The Regional Secretary
 - 8.1.2** The Regional Executive Committee
 - 8.1.3** The Regional list of members of the National Assembly;
 - 8.1.4** Regional Members of the Federal Council of Patriots
- 8.2 Each Region shall have a Regional Executive Committee, which shall consist of:**
- 8.2.1** The Regional Chairperson
 - 8.2.2** The 1st Regional Vice Chairperson
 - 8.2.3** The 2nd Regional Vice Chairperson
 - 8.2.4** Regional Mobiliser
 - 8.2.5** The Regional Secretary
 - 8.2.6** The Regional Assistant Secretary
 - 8.2.7** The Regional Treasurer
 - 8.2.8** Regional Health Affairs
 - 8.2.9** Regional Veteran Affairs
 - 8.2.10** The Regional Women Affairs
 - 8.2.11** Regional Youth Affairs
 - 8.2.12** Regional Elders Affairs
 - 8.2.13** Regional Traditional, Culture, customs and heritage affairs (appointed)
 - 8.2.14** Sitting Regional Councilor or Regional Councillor Candidates from the Region, who shall, however, have no right to vote as ex-officio.
- 8.3** Regional Officers shall be elected at a Regional Annual Delegates Conference, which shall be presided upon by a person(s) appointed by the National Executive Committee.
- 8.4** Election of Regional Officers shall be by secret ballot, and by a simple majority. They shall hold office for three (3) years, and may seek re-election.



- 8.5** When electing Regional Officers, due regard shall be had to equitable gender and minority distribution of a 40:60.
- 8.6** Within seven (7) days of the election, the Regional Executive Committee shall appoint members of the Regional Disciplinary Committee, Regional Strategic Elections Committee under the Regional Political Mobiliser/Mobiliser and the Regional Finance Committee.
- 8.7** There shall,
- 8.7.1** Be in every Region, a Regional Office of the Party, which shall be headed by the Regional Secretary and shall have such other personnel as the Regional Executive Committee may appoint.
 - 8.7.2** The Regional Secretary shall be responsible for;
 - 8.7.3** Keeping proper records of the Party;
 - 8.7.4** Carrying out decisions of the Regional Executive Committee;
 - 8.7.5** Supervising and coordinating the operations of the Constituency Officers within the Region.
 - 8.7.6** The Regional Secretary shall report administrative matters to the Regional Chairperson quarterly.
- 8.8** The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the Regional Secretary and other personnel of the Regional Secretariat shall be determined by the Regional Executive Committee, in compliance with relevant labour Act provisions, Act 11 of 2007, as may be amended.
- 8.9** Regional Chairperson shall be the executive head of the Party in his or her Region and the convener of meetings of the Regional Executive Committee and the 1st Regional Delegates Conference, and shall preside over such meetings.



- 8.10** The Regional Chairperson shall be a member of the National Executive Committee;
- 8.11** In the absence of the Regional Chairperson the 1st Regional Vice-Chairperson shall act in his or her place.
- 8.12** The Regional Executive Committee shall meet, at least, once in every three (3) months, and as often as may be required, and shall present quarterly reports on the operations and activities of the Party in the Region to the National Executive Committee. The presence of at least two-third (2/3) of the members of the Regional Executive Committee shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the committee.
- 8.13** The Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible for coordinating the operations and activities of the Party in the Region, for ensuring that Party Policies and programmes are implemented in the Region, for fostering cooperation between the various constituency organizations of the Party within the Region and for drawing up suitable regional programmes of activity for this purpose.
- 8.14** The Regional Executive Committee may form such committees or sub-committees as it considers necessary or expedient and may co-opt any Member in the Region to any of such committees.
- 8.15 A Regional Officer shall cease to be such an officer if;**
- 8.15.1** He or she resigns;
 - 8.15.2** He or she is removed in accordance with the procedure of removal of officers;
 - 8.15.3** By reason of bodily or mental infirmity, is incapable of carrying out his or her responsibilities as a Regional Officer;
 - 8.15.4** He or she is suspended or expelled from the party;



8.15.5 Without just cause, he or she absents himself or herself persistently, on 6 seating's per year or three (3) consecutive seating, from meetings of the Regional Executive Committee of which he or she is given notice, provided that no Regional Officer shall cease to be an Officer for this reason without;

8.15.5.1 Being summoned to appear before the Regional Executive Committee and being afforded an opportunity to explain himself or herself;

8.15.5.2 A report being submitted to the National Executive Committee on the conduct of such Officer with the recommendation of the Regional Executive Committee;

8.15.5.3 The National Executive Committee considering the report of the Regional Executive Committee and pronouncing whether such officer shall cease to be a Regional Officer. The decision of the National Executive Committee shall be final.

8.16 A Regional Officer who ceases to be such officer by reason of absenteeism shall, nevertheless, continue to be a member of the Party and shall be entitled to offer himself or herself for re-election to membership of the Regional Executive Committee at any subsequent Regional Annual Delegates Conference.

8.17 Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the Regional Executive Committee shall be filled, in the case of the Regional Chairperson by the 1st Regional Vice- Chairperson, in the case of the 1st Regional Vice-Chairperson by the 2nd Regional Vice- Chairperson; and in the case of the Regional Secretary and Regional Treasurer, by election of the Regional Executive Committee of another officer to hold such office. In the case of any other officer, Regional Executive Committee shall appoint someone to act. Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall vacate his or her office at the same time as the other Regional Officers at the end of term of three (3) years.



8.18 In every year, at least eight (8) weeks prior to the National Annual Delegates Conference, there shall be a Regional Delegates Conference which shall be attended by the following delegates;

8.18.1 Members of the Regional Executive Committee

8.18.2 Four (4) delegates from each of the constituency branches within the Region.

8.18.3 The four (4) regional representatives on the National Council of Patriots

8.18.4 Two (2) representatives of the Founding Members in the Region;

8.18.5 Two (2) representatives of the Patrons in the Region;

8.18.6 Any other members of the Party in the region, which the Regional Executive considers possesses knowledge and experience to contribute to the deliberations.

8.18.7 Upto 4 members representing the Regional Traditional Authority without voting rights but may contribute to the Conference.

8.19 The presence of at least two-third (2/3) of the delegates of the Regional Delegates Conference shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference.

8.20 The Regional Annual Delegate Conference shall:

8.20.1 Deliberate on all matters affecting the organization and wellbeing of the Party in Region;

8.20.2 Consider and approve a statement of accounts presented by the Regional Treasurer;

8.20.3 Pass any resolution or make any recommendations for the consideration by the National Annual Delegates Conference;

8.20.4 Elect four (4) representatives to serve on the National Council of Patriots.

8.20.5 Elect Regional Officers when required.

8.20.6 Elect 8 Parliamentary candidates on to the Regional Parliamentary list on which the President in consultations with the Regional Executive Committee appoint a candidate(s) in accordance with the equitable principle of gender and minority grassroots participatory democracy



- 8.21** Every Regional Executive Committee shall, within two (2) weeks from the close of the proceedings of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference, submit a report thereon to the National Executive Committee.
- 8.22** A representative of the Regional Chairperson shall be a member of the National Disciplinary committee.
- 8.23** Whenever the Regional Executive Committee or the Regional Chairperson or two thirds (2/3) of the Constituency Executive Committee in the Region, as the case may be, consider it necessary, an Emergency Regional Delegates Conference may be called. The Regional Secretary shall give notice of such meeting not later than fourteen (14) days before the date of the Conference, and shall specify the agenda for the Conference.

ARTICLE 9:

9. National Structure

9.1 There shall be a national Structure of the Party which shall consist of:

- 9.1.1** The National Annual Delegate Conference of Patriot
- 9.1.2** The National Convention of Patriots
- 9.1.3** The National Council of Patriots
- 9.1.4** The National Executive Council of Patriots

A. National Annual Delegate Conference of Patriot

- 9.2** There shall be a National Delegates Conference which shall be the supreme governing body of the party.
- 9.3** Its duties and responsibilities shall be similar to that of the National Convention of Patriots, with the exception, unless so delegated by the Founding and or periodic National
- 9.4** Convention of Patriots, of making Fundamental Policy decisions or elections of National Office bearers.



- 9.5 The National Annual Delegates Conference shall;**
- 9.5.1** Meet once every year, at least four (4) weeks after the last of the Regional Annual Delegates Conference.
- 9.6 The National Delegates Conference shall be attended by the following delegates:**
- 9.6.1** Members of the National Council of Patriots
- 9.6.2** Four (4) delegates from each Constituency Branch
- 9.6.3** Ten (10) Founding Members;
- 9.6.4** Four(4) representatives of the Patrons;
- 9.6.5** Any other members of the Party, which the National Executive Council of Patriots, considers possesses knowledge and experience to contribute to the deliberations.
- 9.6.6** Up to 2 members representing each Traditional Authority without voting rights but may contribute to the Conference.
- 9.6.7** Legislative members from both houses of Parliament in accordance with the principles of representation.
- 9.7** The presence of at least two thirds (2/3) of the delegates of the National Annual Delegates shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Conference.
- 9.8** Prior to issuing notice of the National Annual Conference of Patriots, the National General Secretary in consultation with the National Chairperson, shall invite motions for deliberation from each Constituency branch at least 3 months in advanced.
- 9.9** At least 2 months in advance, the National General Secretary in consultation with the National Chairperson and the President shall submit to the Constitution and Policy Committee all motions submitted for preparation of the final motions that would be sent to the Constituency branches a month prior to the National Annual Conference of Patriots.
- 9.10** The notice convening a National Annual Delegates Conference shall be made to every Regional and Constituency Executive Committee by the



General Secretary not later than one (1) month before the date for convening the Conference.

9.11 The National Annual Delegates Conference shall deliberate and make appropriate resolutions on the following:

9.11.1 Motions submitted to the Conference;

9.11.2 The President's Report;

9.11.3 The National Chairperson's report;

9.11.4 The National Political Mobiliser report;

9.11.5 The National Treasurer's Statements of accounts;

9.12 **The National Annual Delegates Conference shall also;**

9.12.1 Instruct the National General Secretary and the National General Treasurer to file the appropriate annual returns to the Electoral Commission;

9.12.2 Elect National Deputy Officers when required, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

9.12.3 Whenever the National Executive, the President or the National Chairperson considers it necessary, in consultation with the President, an emergency National Delegates Conference may be convened. The National General Secretary shall give notice of such meeting not later than four (4) weeks before the date for the Conference, and shall specify the agenda for the conference.

B. The National Convention of Patriots

9.13 There shall be a National Convention of Patriots which will be responsible for the election of the President of the party and the Presidential Candidate for the Party in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

9.14 The National Convention of Patriots shall be the Highest Authority of the Party



- 9.15** It shall review, amend, dismiss, revoke and confirm all decisions made by any other organ;
- 9.16** It shall elect the Principal National Leaders of the Party.
- 9.17** It shall endorse the National leaders that may have been elected by the Annual Delegates Conference, including the Vice President, as nominated by the President in accordance with the provisions of this constitution.
- 9.18** It shall confirm policies of the Party
- 9.19** It shall have the authority to adopt and amend the Constitution and any symbol and slogans of the Party;
- 9.20** It shall confer any status to any entity;
- 9.21** It shall consider any issues incidental to the activities and functions of the Party and any that may be referred to it by any organ.

C. The National Council of Patriots

- 9.22** There shall be a National Council of Patriots which, subject to the decisions of the National Annual Delegates Conference, shall direct the affairs of the Party in between meetings of the National Convention of Patriots, and for this purpose, may give such directives to the President, National Chairperson and/or the Secretary General, as may be considered necessary for the well-being of the Party.
- 9.23** At least 12 months prior to convening the National Convention of Patriots, the national General Secretary shall invite nominations from all Constituency Branches for candidates, who shall contest for the four national Council of Patriots position from each region. The constituency Branches shall elect four candidates to the Constituency delegates Conference which in turn shall



elect four candidates to the Regional Delegates Conference which shall elect the final four (4) members for the National Council of Patriots to represent the region in the National Council of Patriots.

9.24 The National Council of Patriots shall consist of :

9.24.1 Members of the National Executive Committee;

9.24.2 Maximum Twenty (20) sitting parliamentarians chosen by the Party's Parliamentary Group;

9.24.3 Past Presidents, National Chairpersons and National General Secretaries.

9.24.4 Four (4) delegates from each of the 121 Constituencies

9.25 Regional representatives shall serve for a term of three (3) years, but may seek re-election, for a second term only.

9.26 The National Council of Patriots shall meet at least twice a year and as often as may be advised by the President, National Chairperson and/or the National Secretary, or provided that no more than seven (7) months shall elapse between the first and second meetings. The presence of at least two-thirds ($2/3$) of the members National Council of Patriots shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Council.

9.27 The National Council of Patriots shall have the following Standing Committees, which shall submit quarterly reports of their activities to the National Executive Committee for consideration and transmission to the National Council of Patriots.

9.27.1 Constitutional and Policy Committee;

9.27.2 Political Mobilisation Committee;

9.27.3 Research and Planning Committee;

9.27.4 Disciplinary Committee;

9.27.5 Vetting Committee;

9.27.6 Finance Committee.

9.27.6.1 The finance Committee shall consist of the National Treasurer and six (6) other members, who, including the Chairperson, shall



be appointed by the National Council on the recommendation of the National Chairperson, in consultation with and approval by the President. The National Treasurer shall be secretary to the Finance Committee.

- 9.27.6.2** It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to raise the funds necessary to finance the operations of the Party in conformity with applicable laws. It shall report on its activities to the President, National Chairperson, National General Secretary and National Political Mobiliser.
- 9.27.6.3** The Finance Committee shall, at the beginning of each Financial Year, approve and submit for decision by the National Executive Committee budgetary estimates prepared by the National Treasurer on the running of the Party.
- 9.27.6.4** The finance Committee shall appoint a reputable firm of chartered accountants as may be required.
- 9.27.6.5** The Chairperson of the Finance Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

9.28 Constitutional and Policy Committee

- 9.28.1** The Constitutional Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, who should be an eminent jurist or any other member knowledgeable about the laws, and six (6) other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Council of Patriots.
- 9.28.2** The Constitutional Committee shall advise the National Council of Patriots and the National Executive Committee on matters relating to the smooth operation of the Party's Constitution and legal issues, and shall resist in the resolution of any conflicts that may arise between the various organs of the party in the implementation of the Party's Constitution.
- 9.28.3** The Constitutional Committee shall submit to the National Council of Patriots and the National Executive Committee any proposals it may have for the development and implementation of the Party's Constitution.
- 9.28.4** The Chairperson of the Constitutional Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee, and a representative of the Constitutional Committee shall be a member of the National Disciplinary Committee.



9.29 The Mobilisation Committee

- 9.29.1** The Mobilisation Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and six (6) other members, all of whom shall be appointed by the National Council.
- 9.29.2** The Mobilisation Committee shall advise the National council of Patriots and National Executive Committee on improvements in the operation of the Party Organization.
- 9.29.3** The Chairperson of the Mobilisation shall be the National Political Mobiliser.

9.30 Research Committee

- 9.30.1** The Research Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and such other persons as the National Council may appoint. Its functions will be as determined by the National Council of Patriots and may be directed by any other organ as may be necessary. The Chairperson of the Research Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

9.31 The National Disciplinary Committee.

- 9.31.1** The National Disciplinary Committee shall have the composition, functions and jurisdictions set down in Article 5 of this Constitution.
- 9.31.2** The Chairperson of the National Disciplinary Committee shall be a member of the Vetting Committee.

9.32 Vetting Committee

- 9.32.1** The Vetting Committee shall establish objective non-discriminatory equitable criteria for vetting aspiring candidates, in consultation with the Executive Committee, the Constitution and Policy Committee and Governance and legal Affairs. The Vetting Committee shall distribute these criteria to all organs and may apply position specific conditions.
- 9.32.2** The Vetting Committee (VC) shall examine and vet the candidature of every aspirant for national, regional and local leadership and nomination of the Party to any legislative Forum, to ensure that such person qualifies and possesses the necessary knowledge and skills required for the office they seek election to.



- 9.32.3** The VC shall in consultation with Regional and Constituency Executive Committee, using defined criteria, vet aspiring nominees, for all local, regional and National Legislative and Party positions.
- 9.32.4 The Vetting Committee shall consist of ;**
- 9.32.4.1** The five (5) Chairpersons of the other Standing Committee of the National Council of Patriots;
- 9.32.4.2** Two (2) Founding members of the Party; and
- 9.32.4.3** Three (3) other persons appointed by the National Council of Patriots, one of whom shall be designated chairperson of the Vetting Committee, provided however that the National Council of Patriots shall ensure that at least four (4) of out of the ten (10) persons are women.
- 9.32.4.4** The National General Secretary, Regional Secretaries, Constituency secretary and Constituency branch secretary shall submit for vetting all aspiring nominees to the relevant vetting committee at least three (3) months prior to the election.
- 9.32.5** The Vetting Committee shall allow or disallow the candidature of *any* aspirant nominee when it finds, in accordance with pre-determined criteria, objectively, that such aspirant does not qualify to be a Candidate. It shall submit such finding in writing to the National Executive Committee, Regional and Constituency Executive Committee, as the case may be, with a copy to the aspirant and the nominator.
- 9.32.6** An aspirant who is dissatisfied with such a finding may appeal against it to the National Executive Committee within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of notice of the finding by filing an appeal in writing with the National General Secretary. The National Executive Committee shall give its decision within seven (7) days of receipt of the appeal. The decision of the National Executive Committee on the appeal shall be final.

D. The National Executive Committee



- 9.33** Subject to such directives as the National Council of Patriots and the National Annual Delegates Conference, may issue, the National Executive Committee shall be responsible for directing and overseeing the operations and activities of the Party.
- 9.34** The term of office of all members of the National Executive shall be 5 years.
- 9.35** The National Executive Committee shall consist of :
- 9.35.1** The President – First among equals
 - 9.35.2** The Vice President
 - 9.35.3** The National Chairperson
 - 9.35.4** The 1st National Vice-Chairperson
 - 9.35.5** The 2nd National Vice-Chairperson
 - 9.35.6** The 3rd National Vice-Chairperson
 - 9.35.7** The National General Secretary
 - 9.35.8** The 1st Deputy National General Secretary
 - 9.35.9** The 2nd Deputy National General Secretary
 - 9.35.10** The 3rd Deputy National General Secretary
 - 9.35.11** The National Political Mobiliser
 - 9.35.12** The 1st National Political Mobiliser
 - 9.35.13** The 2nd National Political Mobiliser
 - 9.35.14** The 3rd National Political Mobiliser
 - 9.35.15** The Deputy National Political Mobiliser
 - 9.35.16** The National Treasurer
 - 9.35.17** The Deputy National Treasurer
 - 9.35.18** The Party's Parliamentary Leader
 - 9.35.19** Health and Social Affairs
 - 9.35.20** Logistics and Amenities
 - 9.35.21** The National Elders affairs
 - 9.35.22** The Deputy Elders affairs
 - 9.35.23** The National Women Affairs
 - 9.35.24** The National Youth Affairs
 - 9.35.25** The Veteran Affairs (appointed)
 - 9.35.26** Religious Affairs (By appointment)
 - 9.35.27** Traditional Affairs appointee and Deputy



- 9.35.28** Constitutional, Governance, legal and Policy development Affairs and Deputy
 - 9.35.29** Communication and Strategic Planning and Deputy
 - 9.35.30** Education and Technical Training
 - 9.35.31** National Resource Planning and Management – Sectorial Deputies.
 - 9.35.32** Four (4) Founding Members
 - 9.35.33** Two (2) representatives of the Patrons.
- 9.36** Chairperson of Sectorial Committees, past National Chairpersons, past Presidents, past General Secretaries and such other Members, at least eight (8), as the National Executive Committee may determine from the pool of Founding members, shall be entitled to attend meetings of the National Executive Committee but, with the exception of the first twenty (20) years of existence of the Party, without the right to vote.
- 9.37** The Veteran, Religious and Traditional Affairs Patriots serving on the Executive Committee of any organ, may be appointed by the Executive committee, Constituency Delegates Conference, Annual Delegates Conference, National Convention of Patriots or the President, for a specified period, as may be determined by the National Convention of Patriots or any other organ, subject to local or regional factors.
- 9.38** Other than the President, The National Chair person, The National General Secretary, The National Mobiliser, the National Treasurer and Communications and Strategic Planning, National Deputy Officers shall be elected at the first National Annual Delegates Conference, with the exception of subsequent deputy leaders, by a simple majority of the votes cast and shall hold office for five (5) years. Nomination of such officers shall be lodged with the National General Secretary not later than fourteen (14) months before the holding of the National Annual Delegates Conference. They may seek re-election for only a second term.



- 9.39** The National Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three (3) months and as often as may be directed by the President, National Chairperson or National General Secretary. The presence of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the National Executive Committee shall be necessary to Constitute a quorum of the Committee.
- 9.40** The National Executive Committee may form such Committees, including Sector Committees and Sub-committees as it may consider necessary and expedient, and may co-opt any member into such Committees. Sector Committees, in consultation with the Policy Committee, may assist the National Executive Committee in defining the Party's Policies on national issues, in monitoring the activities of the various departments of Government and in such other matters as the National Executive Committee may determine.
- 9.41** Any vacancy which may occur for whatever reason in the membership of the National Executive Committee, provided such occurs less than 12 months before the end of term of any members, shall be filled in the following manner. In the case of the President, by and the National Chairperson by the 1st National Vice Chairperson and the other National Vice-Chairpersons in descending order as the occasion may require ; and in the case of the 3rd National Vice-chairperson , the General Secretary and the National Treasurer, by election from the National Executive Committee of another National Officer, other than the Chairperson who will perform the duties of the President, to hold such office. In the case of the National Women Affairs and the National Youth Affairs, the National Executive Committee shall confirm the deputy in that position; Regional Chairperson shall be replaced by the Vice Chairperson. Any person elected or appointed to fill a vacancy shall vacate his or her office at the same time as the other National Officers at the end of the term of five (5) years.
- 9.42** Any members of the National Executive Council of Patriots may be removed from Office by the National Council of Patriots for violation of the Namibian



or Party Constitution or conduct so repugnant as to bring the Party into disrepute.

- 9.43** With the Exception of the President and any member barred from so occupying Parliamentary positions or Government appointment, any member of the National Executive Committee who aspires to be a member of Parliament or is appointed into a Government position, shall relinquish their positions in the National Executive Committee, once nominated and before elected as candidate for any legislative position.
- 9.44** Subject to any other provision(s) in this Constitution or any other laws, all members of the National Council of Patriots, National Executive Committee, or any other organ of the Party, shall serve only two periodically elected terms in any one position both in the Party and government whether appointed or elected into such position.

E. The President/First among Equals/Chief Patriot

- 9.45** The President shall be the Head of the Party, The Chief Patriot and First amongst equals.
- 9.46** The President shall be the custodian of the Party and Party Constitution.
- 9.47** The President shall preside at meetings of the National Convention of Patriots, National Council of Patriots, The National Executive Committee and any other meeting as may be necessary and may delegate such duties to the Vice President or Chairperson.
- 9.48** The President shall have the right, at his/her discretion, to appoint a Vice President(s) who shall serve at the pleasure of the President, subject to endorsement by the Annual Delegates Conference and/or the National Convention of Patriots.
- 9.49** He/she may be removed from Office by 2/3rds of a special National Convention of Patriots for Gross violation of the Namibian and/or Party



Constitution and/or for conduct, public or privately, so abhorrent so as to bring into disrepute the Office of President of the Party.

- 9.50** The President of the Party should he/she be elected to the Highest Office of the land of the Brave, The National Office of President of the Republic, shall delegate his duties to the Vice President, at his discretion. The latter shall serve and execute such duties as may be delegated at the pleasure of the President. The President in so doing does not abrogate his duties to the Party.
- 9.51** The President, should he/she be elected to the National Office of President of the Republic, is obligated to, present to the National Council of Patriots biannually a report of implementation in Government of Party policies and manifesto.
- 9.52** With the exception of the Founding President, subject to the decision of the National Council of Patriots, the
- 9.53** President shall serve only two terms of Office.
- 9.54** The Founding President shall have a veto right on issues of Fundamental principles of the Party to ensure democratic decision-making process in all deliberations are adhere to.
- 9.55** The Founding President and every other President of the Party shall be the custodian of the Party Constitution and governing tools and ensure its implementation at all times.
- 9.56** The President of the Party shall in essence remain a president of the Party when, occupying The Highest of the Land of the Brave, and, at his/her own discretion delegate his Party duties to the Vice-President who shall provide regular written reports to the President. The President is not relinquished



from his duties whilst serving as National President of the Republic of Namibia.

- 9.57** The Founding President shall in consultation with the National Chairperson and the National Secretary General have the power to appoint any member of the Party to any organ, including deputies to any portfolio, on merits, where necessary, at his/her discretion, who in his/her opinion has and will contribute significantly to the emergence of the Party and or to effect national equity.
- 9.58** The President shall having the power, in consultation with relevant organs appoint a minimum of two (2) and not more than eight (8) Patriots, yet not exceeding a quarter (1/4) of the elected Patriots, to the list of any legislative forum, in any constituency and/or region, having due regard to gender, minority and national equity, who he/she considered as suitably qualified, experienced to so serve in such capacity. Such appointment shall top the list of any such legislative list.
- 9.59** The President shall appoint his immediate runner-up in any presidential election as the first Vice-President, and in any case, from the list of members of the National Council of Patriots.
- 9.60** The President shall have the power to appoint National deputy office bearers, with the exception, of the first deputy, first amongst equals.

F. The Vice President(s)

- 9.61** The Vice President or Vice-Presidents shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the National General Secretary and the National Chairperson. The Vice President shall serve at the pleasure and discretion of the President and may be assigned such duties and responsibilities by the President as the President sees fit.



- 9.62** In so appointing the Vice-President the President shall have due regard to gender and minority consideration but may appoint any member who in his/her opinion shall serve the party well in that capacity for the benefit of the party.
- 9.63** The Vice-President shall act in the place and stead of the President and shall execute such duties as the President may direct.
- 9.64** The term of Office of the Vice-President shall coincide with that of the President irrespective of whether such appointment occurred after the election of the President. He may be reappointed once only for a second term of Office, but is not barred from seeking election to the Office of President of the Party.
- 9.65** Should the Vice-President wish to seek the candidacy of the Country, he/she shall resign from such position to which he/she was appointed by the President of the Party, at the time of so announcing his/her intention to so stand.
- 9.66** The First Vice president shall be the runner-up to the President-elect and in the event of any objection shall be appointed by the President from the list of members of the National Council of Patriots. This pattern shall be adopted for all national office bearers in all organs at all levels.

G. The National Chairperson

- 9.67** The National Chairperson, in consultation with the President, may preside over all meetings of the National Convention of Patriots, and the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.
- 9.68** The National Chairperson shall be the convener of all the meetings of the National Convention of Patriots, the National Council of Patriots, The National Annual Delegates Conference of Patriots, National Executive Committee, and the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.



- 9.69** The National Chairperson, in consultation with the President and with approval from the National Council of Patriots, shall demarcate regions of responsibilities for all Deputy Office bearers.
- 9.70** The National Chairperson in consultation with the President, the National General Secretary, the National Mobilisation with approval by the National Council of Patriots, shall spearhead the strategic and ideological direction of the Party to ensure common approach of all organs and office bearers and Party functionaries.
- 9.71** In the absence of the National Chairperson the 1st National Vice Chairperson shall act in his or her place.
- 9.72** The National Chairperson shall not be a candidate for the office of Member of Parliament or President of the Republic, while in Office.

G. The National Vice-Chairperson

- 9.73** There shall be four (4) National Vice Chairpersons ranked first, second, third, and fourth according to the number of votes received at the election at the National Convention of Patriots or National Annual Delegates Conference of Patriots. The 1st National Vice-Chairperson shall act for the National Chairperson in his or her absence, and the others in descending order as the occasion may require. The National Vice- Chairpersons shall assist the National Chairperson in the running of the Party and shall be assigned such duties as may be prescribed by the National Council, the National Executive Committee, and the National Chairperson, from time to time.
- 9.74** When Electing Vice National Chairpersons due regard shall be had on regional cluster representation, gender and minority considerations.



G. The National General Secretary

- 9.75** The Party shall have a National General Secretariat which shall be headed by the National General Secretary, who shall be a full time employee of the Party.
- 9.76** The National Secretariat shall consist of the National General Secretary, the National Political Mobiliser, the Director of Finance, the Director of Communications, the Director of Campaign Strategy, and such other personnel as the National Executive Committee may appoint.
- 9.77** The remuneration, terms and conditions of service of the General Secretary and other personnel of the National Secretariat shall be determined by the National Chairperson with the approval of the National Executive Committee and in compliance with relevant labour laws.
- 9.78** The National General Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the operations of the Party's National Secretariat and coordinating the activities and operations of the Party and of all employees of the Party at Constituency, Regional and National Levels.
- 9.79** The National General Secretary shall perform his/her functions in accordance with the directives of the National Executive Committee and the National Chairperson.
- 9.80** The National General Secretary shall, within two (2) months prior to the holding of the National Annual Delegates Conference, submit to the National Executive Committee a report on the state of the Party. Upon approval by the National Executive Committee, the General Secretary shall submit the report to the National Annual Delegates Conference.
- 9.81** The National General Secretary shall not be a candidate for the offices of Member of Parliament or President of the Republic, nor appointment to any



Government position when the Party is in Government, during his/her term of Office.

- 9.82** The National General Secretary shall be elected by the National Convention of Patriots for a five (5) year term of office and may be re-elected for a second term only.

H. The Deputy National General Secretary

- 9.83** There shall be three (3) Deputy National General Secretary.
- 9.84** The Deputy National General Secretaries shall be elected by the National Annual Delegates Conference in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
- 9.85** Their duties and responsibilities shall be determined in accordance with the decision of the National Council of Patriots, The Chairperson and the National General Secretary.

I. The National General Treasurer

- 9.86** The National General Treasurer shall be responsible for handling the national funds of the Party, and shall see to their proper disbursement in accordance with applicable National statutes.
- 9.87** The National General Treasurer shall be responsible to the Finance Committee and shall make a quarterly report on the state of the Party's finances to the Finance Committee.
- 9.88** The National General Treasurer shall, prior to the beginning of each financial year, prepare budgetary estimates for the Party's Operations for approval by the Finance Committee, which shall submit them to the National Executive Committee for decision.



9.89 The National General Treasurer shall, not less than one (1) month prior to the holding of the National Delegates Conference, submit to the National Executive Committee a report on the state of the party's finances. Upon approval by the National Executive Committee, the National Treasurer shall present the report to the National Delegates Conference.

9.90 The National General Treasurer shall not be candidate for the office of Member of Parliament or President of the Republic nor appointment to any Government positions when the Party is in Government during their term of Office.

H. The National Political Mobiliser

9.91 The National Political Mobiliser shall be responsible for the management of the organizational work of the Party.

9.92 The National Political Mobiliser shall be deputized by four National Political /Mobiliser, with equal status, distributed in Four (4) Regional Clusters, as shall be determined by the National Convention of Patriots or the National Council of Patriots.

9.93 The National Political Mobiliser shall be responsible for organizing recruitment drives, establishing contacts at all levels among voters, setting up and maintaining local branches, training of party activists and in association with the Director of Communications, train officials to become trainers and organize both inner-party and voter-education exercises.

9.94 The National Political Mobiliser shall perform his functions in accordance with the directives of the National Executives Committee and the General Secretary and the National Chairperson.

9.95 Once every quarter, the National Political Mobiliser shall submit a comprehensive report in consultation with all his/her deputies, of



their activities regarding the state of the Party's organization to National General Secretary.

- 9.96** There shall be three (3) Deputy National Mobilisers.
- 9.97** The Deputy National Mobilisers shall be appointed by the National Council of Patriots and may be recommended by the (founding) National Convention of Patriots and/or the Annual Delegates Conference of Patriots.
- 9.98** The Chairperson of the Party in consultation with the National Council of Patriots shall demarcate the regions of responsibilities of the Deputy National Mobilisers
- 9.99** Their term of Office shall be equivalent to that of the National Mobiliser

I. Steering Committee of The National Executive Committee

- 9.100** There shall be a Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee, which shall be responsible for overseeing daily management of the Party and shall act on behalf of the Party on urgent matters. The Steering Committee shall report on its activities to the National Executive Committee.

9.101 The Steering Committee shall consist of the following members:

- 9.101.1** The National Chairperson
- 9.101.2** The National Presidential Candidate
- 9.101.3** The Party's Parliamentary Leader
- 9.101.4** The National Elders Affairs
- 9.101.5** The National General Secretary
- 9.101.6** The National Treasurer
- 9.101.7** The National Political Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser
- 9.101.8** The National Women Affairs
- 9.101.9** The National Youth Affairs



9.102 Five (5) members of the Steering Committee, including the National Chairperson, shall be present at a meeting to constitute a quorum of the Committee.

ARTICLE 10:

J. Removal of Elected Officers

- 10.1** Whenever one third (1/3) of the delegates that elected a Constituency, Regional, National Officer, and in the case of the National Presidential Candidate of the Party two-thirds (2/3), as the case may be, give written notice to the Constituency, Regional, or National Executives Committee, and in the case of the President of the Republic, pass a resolution in the National Annual Convention, as the case may be, of their demand for the removal of such an officer, the Constituency, Regional or National Executive, or the National President of the Country, as the case may be, shall, within one(1) week of receipt of the notice, circulate such notice to all delegates and shall, thereafter, within one (1) month, summon an Emergency Delegate conference and in the case of the President of the Republic, an Emergency National Convention of Patriots, to deliberate and decide on the matter.
- 10.2** Upon receipt of the notice, the Constituency, Regional or National Executive, as the case may be, may suspend the officer from acting in his or her office pending the holding of the Conference. The notice summoning the Conference shall specify the agenda. Approval for the removal of the officer shall be by simple majority of the votes cast at the Conference. Refusal by the Conference to approve the removal of the officer shall, automatically, terminate his or her suspension, if any, from office.



ARTICLE 11:

K. Selection of Legislative Candidates

- 11.1** All members of the Party shall have the right to exercise their Republican Constitutional right in Article 17 of the Namibian Constitution, to participate in the National, Regional and Local conduct of political activities to influence the composition of government and policies, through freely chosen representative, subject only to compliance with their conditions of membership of this Party, irrespective of their status in the Party.
- 11.2** No Member shall be nominated or endorsed as the Party's candidate in any legislative or Presidential elections unless the Member has been selected in accordance with the provisions of the article.
- 11.3** All candidates, subject to the vetting process, shall be subject to a vigorous cross examination by a selected panel prior to being subjected to an election by the relevant organ of the Party.
- 11.4** All nominated candidates, subject to vetting, shall be afforded an opportunity to collectively campaign amongst the members of the Party, on one single venue, at all structure levels, prior to the conduct of elections.
- 11.5** All elected representative members shall be accountable to and provide regular reports about their activities, *only* to the electing organ with jurisdiction, which, subject to the principle of natural justice, and consultation with the relevant whip in chambers, (or sanction by at least 80% of cabinet members in the case of the President) may exercise the right to recall such candidates, subject to a disciplinary process, should they persistently fail to fulfill their elected duties and obligations and/or contravene any of the principles of the Party and or the Namibian Constitution.



- 11.6** Where the candidate removed was elected in any forum his/her replacement shall be drawn from the runner up, subject to statutory provisions that may be imposed by the relevant agent of government.

L. Legislative Candidates Parliamentary, Regional and Local chambers

- 11.7** Upon decision by the National, Regional and/or Constituency Executive Committee not later than thirty (30) months prior to the date of the national election, the National and every Regional and Constituency Branch Executive Committee shall invite applications from Members for nomination as the Party's legislative Candidate(s) for the legislative chamber concerned. The notice inviting applications shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the Party's Constituency office and shall specify the closing date for application, which shall not be more than twenty-nine (29) months prior to the date of the national, Regional or local and election, as the case may be, where a lesser period may apply to local constituency branches. Constituency branch general meetings shall be arranged to inform all registered members entitled to participate in any elections. The National Executive Committee may, however, on appropriate occasion, vary these dates.
- 11.8** Any Member may, prior to the expiry date of the period set in this constitution, submit an application for nomination as the party's legislative Candidate seconded by two members of the Party, not in conflict of interest. A candidate may nominate themselves but may not be seconded by a spouse, relative or business associate.
- 11.9** No Member shall be entitled to apply for nomination as the Party's legislative Candidate for any vacancy unless he or she:
- 11.9.1** Is a known and active Member or supporter for at least one (1) years
 - 11.9.2** Is a registered Member and voter in the Constituency which he or she seeks to represent, provided that in appropriate cases the Constituency Executive Committee, in consultation with its



grassroots membership may dispense with this requirement, subject to approval by the President:

- 11.9.3** Is of good character
- 11.9.4** Is otherwise of good standing:
- 11.9.5** Has paid the prescribed fee for Parliamentary Candidates by the deadline set by the National Executive Committee:
- 11.9.6** Qualifies under the electoral laws to be a Parliamentary Candidates for the Constituency ; and
- 11.9.7** Has signed the “Undertaking for legislative Candidates”.
- 11.9.8** Has no pending disciplinary, criminal cases nor previously found guilty of misconduct in the last five (5) years or criminal offence in the past 10 years.
- 11.10** It shall be the obligation of the Member seeking nomination as the Party’s legislative Candidate to satisfy the Constituency Executive Committee and the National Executive Committee that the conditions stipulated in Article 11(5) have been fulfilled, and any application which does not comply with these conditions shall be rejected.
- 11.11** An extraordinary Constituency Delegates Conference shall be convened not later than twenty-six (26) months prior to the date of the national election to elect the legislative Candidate and as may be directed by the NGS.
- 11.12** Having due regard to gender, and minority consideration and the relevant constitutional and statutory provisions, each Region shall elect 8 members of the Party to the Regional List of Parliament, constituency seven (7) for local and one (1) for Regional Councilor elections, from which in accordance with the percentage of votes cast, in descending order the Party shall draw its members of Parliament for that Region. Any remaining seats in Parliament shall be determined by lot of all Regions from which the subsequent member(s) of Parliament shall be drawn.
- 11.13** Having due regard to gender, minority consideration and the relevant constitutional and statutory provisions, each Constituency shall elect twenty 20 (Municipality), ten (10) Town and Eight (8) (Village) legislative candidates to represent the Party in those legislative



chambers, in descending order based on the percentage votes obtained by each candidate. The President on the recommendation of the relevant organ shall have the power to add two and not more than eight (8) and less than a quarter (1/4) to the list of legislative candidates.

ARTICLE 12:

M. Nomination and election of the Presidential Candidate

- 12.1** The election of the Party's Presidential Candidate shall take place at a National Convention of Patriots held not later than twelve (12) months prior to the National Presidential and Parliamentary elections, however, that the National Council of Patriots may, on appropriate occasion, vary the date.
- 12.2** Not later than six (6) months prior to the holding of the National Convention of Patriots, the National General Secretary shall give notice inviting applications from members of nomination as the Party's candidate to contest for the office of the President of the Republic. The notice shall be displayed in a conspicuous place in the Party's Constituency, Regional and National Offices and shall specify the closing date for application, which shall not be more than five(5) months prior to the holding of the National Convention of Patriots. All Constituency Branches shall have the right to nominate a candidate from amongst their members or other members in other Regions, Constituencies and Constituency branches.
- 12.3** Any Member may, prior to the expiry of the period set out in Article 12 (2), submit an application for nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate



No member shall be entitled to nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate unless he or she;

- 12.3.1** Is a known and active Member of at least five (5) years
- 12.3.2** Is of good character
- 12.3.3** Has paid the prescribed notional fee, as may be determined by the National Executive Committee, for the Presidential Aspirants by the deadline set by the National Executive Committee
- 12.3.4** Is otherwise of good standing
- 12.3.5** Is found to be qualified to be a President Candidate by the Vetting Committee
- 12.3.6** Has signed the "Undertaking for Presidential Aspirants." And,
- 12.3.7** The member's nomination has been endorsed confidential in writing by at least one hundred (100) members from each Region. Where each member can support only a maximum of two aspiring National Presidential Candidates from the Party.
- 12.3.8** No public campaign shall be allowed for endorsement purposes within the membership other than a request for such endorsement made by the regional secretary in all constituencies.
- 12.3.9** Has never been convicted of any criminal offences or associated with any criminality.
- 12.3.10** Commands high moral grounds amongst the membership and the citizenry.

12.4 Its shall be the obligation of the member seeking nomination as the Party's Presidential Candidate to satisfy the National Executive Committee that the conditions stipulated in Article 12(3) have been fulfilled and any application which does not comply with these conditions shall be rejected.

12.5 The Party's Presidential candidate shall be elected by the National Convention of Patriots or the Annual Delegates Conference of Patriots.

12.6 Prior to the nomination, any aspiring candidate for the National Presidency shall provide evidence of support from all 14 regions by a



minimum of 200 registered voters irrespective of political affiliation, at least six (6) months prior to nominations.

12.7 All Presidential candidates shall be obliged to canvas members collectively in one venue. There shall be no independent public campaigns. All such campaigns shall be organised by the National General Secretary in consultation with the Regional Leadership of the Party.

12.8 Regional and or Constituency branches shall be obliged to call campaign meetings, specifically for this purpose at the cost of the Party.

12.9 **Where,**

12.9.1 There is only one (1) contestant for nominations as the Party's presidential candidate, the National Convention of Patriots shall seek the nominator and subsequent to that the Convention, shall acclaim his nomination as the party's Presidential Candidate.

12.9.2 Where there is more than one (1) contestant, each delegate will cast his or her vote by secret ballot for one of the contestants.

12.9.3 Where a contestant obtains more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes cast, he or she shall be the party's Presidential Candidate.

12.9.4 Where, however, no contestant obtains more than 50% of the votes cast, there shall be a run-off between the first two contestants and the contestant with a simple majority shall be the party's Presidential Candidate.

12.9.5 In the event of a tie between the two contestants, the runoff will continue until one contestant obtains a simple majority.



B. Nomination and election of the Party President, Vice President, National General Secretary, National Chairperson, National Political Mobiliser.

12.10 The selection shall follow the same pattern subject to due regard to be had to gender and minority consideration

ARTICLE 13:

13. The Parliamentary Group

13.1 The party's members of parliament shall form the parliamentary group, which shall have rules and regulations not inconsistent with the constitution, to govern its activities.

13.2 The election of the leader, the deputy leader, the chief whip and the deputy chief whip of the parliamentary group shall be done by the National Council of Patriots.

13.3 The leadership of the parliamentary group shall, in conjunction with the National Executive Committee appoint the party's parliamentary spokesperson.

13.4 The National Council of Patriots and National Executive Committee shall respectively review each year the performance of the parliamentary leadership and spokesperson with the view to making appropriate changes where necessary and recommendations to the electing organ.

13.5 The parliamentary leader, together with one (1) other representative of the parliamentary group, shall be members of the National Executive Committee, and one representative of the parliamentary group shall be a member of the



National Disciplinary Committee. The parliamentary leader shall be a member of the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee and parliamentary spokespersons shall be members of their representative sector committees.

- 13.6 With the necessary alterations, the same relationship applies to the Regional and local councilors.

ARTICLE 14

14. Special Responsibilities of Patriots

14.1 The following are conferred special responsibilities;

14.1.1 The National Women's Affairs

14.1.2 The National Youths Wing ;and

14.1.3 Such other organs as the National Council of Patriots may determine

a) THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S AFFAIRS

14.2 The National Women's Affairs Patriot shall promote the policies and programmes of the party amongst women. Its responsibilities are to:

14.2.1 Recruit women into the membership of the party;

14.2.2 Cultivate the support of women for the party before and during elections.

14.2.3 Raise public awareness on gender and the girl-child issues.

14.2.4 Promote policies that will realize the full potential of women and children.

14.2.5 Oppose vigorously policies and practices that militate against the full development of women and children.

14.2.6 Create a nationwide awareness within the party to cater for the activities and interests of female members.



- 14.3** The National Women's Affairs Patriot shall promote the election of women into decision making organs of the Party and into Government.
- 14.4** The National Women's Affairs Patriot shall be a member of the National Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.

b) THE NATIONAL YOUTHS AFFAIRS

- 14.5** The National Youth's Affairs Patriot shall promote the policies and programmes of the party amongst the youth. "Youth" is a member who has not attained the age of thirty-five (35) years. His/her responsibilities is to:
- 14.5.1** Recruit the youth into membership of and to strive for election into position of authority within the party and Government;
 - 14.5.2** Cultivate the support of the youth for the party before, during and after elections.
 - 14.5.3** Create awareness about the problems facing the youth, including falling educational standards, funding of students and wide spread unemployment;
 - 14.5.4** Promote policies that will realize the full potential of the youth, including policies to improve the quality of education and to widen access of the youth to quality education, employment and entrepreneurship;
 - 14.5.5** Oppose vigorously policies and practices that militate against the full development of the youth.
 - 14.5.6** Develop, amongst the youth of Namibia a sense of cultural heritage and traditional values without losing focus on their future and political needs and patriotism.
 - 14.5.7** Establish branches of the party in second cycle and tertiary institutions of learning in all parts of the country;
 - 14.5.8** Create a nation-wide program of activities to cater for the activities and interest of young members.



- 14.6** The National Youth's Affairs Patriot shall encourage participation of young people in all spheres of society in promoting Patriotism and unity amongst the youth of our Nation in a manner which shall not be inconsistent with this constitution or the Republican Constitution.
- 14.7** The National Youth Affairs Patriot shall be a member of the National Executive Committee and of the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee.
- 14.8** The National Council of Patriots may, by a resolution of the council expand the category of special duties and obligations of the Youth Affairs Patriot, as it deems fit and as may be proposed by the Youth in the Party.

15. ARTICLE 15:

15. ELDERS AFFAIRS PATRIOT

- 15.1** The Elders Affairs Patron in addition to promoting the Party amongst those of advanced age, and members who have given their best youth and adult life to the Foundations of our Nation, through which the Party finds its foundational bases in the freedom we enjoy and have contributed significantly to the formation, welfare and progress of the party and its forebearers.
- 15.2 The Elders Affairs Patriot may be called upon from time to time to:**
- 15.2.1** Solve disputes and differences amongst members:
 - 15.2.2** Give ideas and advice for the improvement of the Party activities
 - 15.2.3** Assist in raising funds for the party.
 - 15.2.4** Shall provide National data of the difficulties of our elders in all Regions.
 - 15.2.5** The National Executive Committee shall approve of nominations of outstanding party Elders to the list of the National Council of Patriots and invitation to the National Convention of Patriots. The list shall be prepared by the National Chairperson in consultation with the Regional



Chairpersons. An Elder is a member who has attained the age of sixty (60) years or more.

- 15.3** The Elders Affairs Patriot shall be a member of the National Executive Committee, the Steering Committee of the National Executive Committee and the vetting committee, and a member of the National disciplinary committee.
- 15.4** Each region shall have an *ad hoc* Regional Council of Elders that meets at least four (4) times a year and especially at Christmas, composed of members who have made a significant contribution to Namibia at the national or regional constituency level to the formation, welfare and progress of the party and its forbears. It shall also include citizens who are not members of the Party during Christmas events for the elderly. The Regional elders Affairs Patriot shall convene such events.
- 15.5** The Regional Executive committees shall approve nominations of deserving party elders in the Region or Constituencies to the list of the Regional council of Elders and, new entrants shall be decided by the Regional Executive Committee.
- 15.6** Two (2) *ad hoc*, Regional Council of elders shall be appointed delegates to the Annual Regional Delegate conference.

16. ARTICLE 16:

16. ASSOCIATION OF FOUNDING MEMBERS AND PATRONS

- 16.1** Founding members and patrons may form their own associations, whose rules and regulation shall not be inconsistent with this constitution. One (1) representative of the founding members from each Region and one (1) representative of the patrons from each Region shall be delegates to the National Annual Delegate Conference. Two (2) representative each of the founding members and the patrons shall be delegates to the National



Convention of Patriots. Representatives, one each from the founding members and of the patrons, shall, as stipulated in this Constitution be members of the National Executive Committee.

17. ARTICLE 17:

17.CHATTERED AUDITORS

- 17.1** There shall be appointed by the National Council of Patriots a firm of auditors to audit the accounts of the Party to be presented at the National Annual Delegate Conference, but they may be re-appointed for a further 4 years period.

ARTICLE 18:

18.RULES AND REGULATIONS TO THIS CONSTITUION

- 18.1** There may be separate rules and regulations of the party to supplement the provisions of this Constitution.The rules and regulations may provide the guidelines of the constitution.The rules and regulations may provide the guidelines needed for the constituency, Regional and Operations of the party.
- 18.2** The rules may also stipulate the translation of the entire or significant features of this constitution in all indigenous languages

ARTICLE 19:

19.AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 19.1** Every amendment to this constitution shall be made at a National Annual Delegate Conference, provided, however, that no amendment may be made unless:
- 19.1.1** Notice of such amendment has been submitted in writing to the National General Secretary not later than two (2) months before the National Annual Delegate conference



- 19.1.2** The National General Secretary has circulated the proposed amendment to every Regional and constituency office at least one (1) month before the National Annual Delegate Conference;
- 19.1.3** At least two thirds (2/3) of the Delegates at the National Delegates Conference cast their votes in favor of the amendment.
- 19.1.4** That such amended shall be subject to ratification by the National Convention of Patriots but shall not prohibit it being put in operation prior to such ratification.

ARTICLE 20:

20. MEMBERSHIP

20.1 Founding members.

- 20.1.1** The signatories of the documents presented to the electoral commission for the registration of the Party shall have a right to seek membership of the Party.
- 20.1.2** All those who contributed substantially in various ways to the formation of the Party.
- 20.1.3** In addition, those who have been supporters of the Phenomenon for Change and actively participated in the election process such as agents and observers, shall be exempt from the Probational period but be subjected to an induction process.

ARTICLE 21

21. CONSTITUENCY STRATEGIC ELECTION COMMITTEE

- 21.1** There shall be a Constituency Strategic Election Committee consisting of five (5) members. (Chairman, secretary, Political Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser, youth Political Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser, and women Political Mobiliser/Political Mobiliser) whose duties shall be to:
- 21.1.1** Recruit members to act as polling agents and collating centers observers when appropriate.



21.1.2 Be responsible for house to house campaigns.

21.1.3 Recruit as many agents during voters' registration

21.1.4 And to perform any other function that will be assigned them by the National Strategic Election Committee.

ARTICLE 22

22. SELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES

22.1 The selection of Parliamentary Candidates shall be advertised for 18 months prior to the date of the national election provided that it shall be advertised for one (1) month in the Constituency.

22.2 Parliamentary Candidates shall be elected at least twelve (12) months before the national general election. For the avoidance of doubt, the National Executive Committee shall have the power to determine separate dates forelections in constituencies where the Party has sitting Members of Parliament.

22.3 A member applying for nomination as the Party's Parliamentary Candidate should be a known and be an active member for at least two years provided that, in appropriate cases, the National Executive Committee, in consultations with the Regional and Constituency Executives, may dispense with this requirement, on merits.

22.4 A member applying for nomination as the Party's Parliamentary candidate for any Constituency shall be a registered member and voter in the Constituency in which he/she seeks to be nominated from, provided that, in consultation with the Regional and Constituency Executives, the Vetting Committee may dispense with this requirement, subject to relevant statutory provisions.

22.5 Parliamentary Group

22.5.1 The National Council of Patriots, in consultation with the President, shall conduct the election of the Leader, the Deputy Leader, the chief Whip and



the Deputy Chief Whip of the Parliamentary Group when the Party is in power.

22.6 Election of Presidential Candidates

- 22.6.1 When the Party is in government, the election of a Presidential Candidate shall be held not later than 11 months before the national general election.
- 22.6.2 Notice inviting application for members for nomination as the Party's National Presidential candidate shall be issued by the National General Secretary three (3) months prior to holding of the National Convention of Patriots and shall close after two (2) months.
- 22.6.3 Any Minister, National Officer who files to contest to become a Presidential Candidate of the Party shall resign his/her position.
- 22.6.4 Thereupon, the candidate shall be obliged to visit numerous towns and villages throughout the country at the expense of the Party.
- 22.6.5 No National Seating President shall be required to resign any position should such avail themselves for candidacy of the National Presidency.

Article 23

23 ENFORCEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

- 23.1 The Constitution is to be interpreted and read subject to the provisions of the Namibian Constitution and Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014. Unless the context otherwise requires, words and phrases used in the Constitution have the same meaning as in the Namibian Constitution and Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014. To the extent that there is any conflict between any provision of this Constitution and the Namibian Electoral Act, Act 5 of 2014 and other applicable law, the National laws shall prevail.
- 23.2 National Council of Patriots shall provide rules and procedures for the giving of any notice required under the Constitution.



- 23.3 Subject to Article 17.1, the Constitution shall govern the affairs of the Party and in the event of any conflict between the Constitution and any other Party document, the Constitution shall prevail.

Article 24

24 LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

- 24.1 When acting within the scope of their authority, no employee, volunteer, officer, director, or member of any committee established by the Party shall be liable for any debts, actions, claims, demands, liabilities or commitments of any kind of the Party. The Party shall indemnify and hold harmless each such person against any debt, action, claim, demand, liability or commitment whatsoever.

ARTICLE 25

25 ELECTION DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 25.1 Except for any dispute related to the leadership selection process, any ten (10) members of an electoral Constituency Branch may give notice in writing to the National General Secretary of a dispute as to whether the requirements of the Constitution, a by-law or any rules and procedures are being met by the electoral constituency branch.
- 25.2 The National General Secretary in consultation with the election committee shall appoint one or more members to investigate the merits of the dispute, which member(s) shall be authorized to intervene to resolve the dispute.
- 25.3 If the members appointed pursuant to Article 25.2 decide not to intervene or are unsuccessful in resolving the dispute, The Election Committee shall, with reference to their own rules, make a final decision that shall be binding on the member.



- 25.4 Should the member be aggrieved by such decision as may have been arrived at by the Election Committee, such members may appeal any other matter or class of matters, other than a matter related to the leadership selection process, to the ad hoc Election Disputes Arbitration Committee for adjudication by a panel so appointed by the President.
- 25.5 On receipt of the matter by the Arbitration Committee, the Committee shall select a panel of three (3) of its members to arbitrate and decide on the dispute.
- 25.6 The decision of an Arbitration Committee panel is final and binding and there shall be no appeal or review on any ground whatsoever.
- 25.7 Subject to any specific directions from any Arbitration Committee panel, National Executive Committee and the Election Committee is empowered to implement the decisions of that Arbitration Committee panel.
- 25.8 The general rules and procedures for the Arbitration Committee and its panels shall be determined by the Arbitration Committee, subject to ratification by National Executive Committee in consultation with the Election Committee chairperson and Legal Affairs.
- 25.9 The National Executive Committee shall appoint the chair and members of the ad hoc Election Arbitration Committee. None of them shall be members of the National Executive Committee or the Election Committee in any capacity and at least one of them shall have legal training. They shall be appointed for terms of office of at least two years.
- 25.10 A person who was a member of the ad hoc Election Dispute Arbitration Committee at the time of the second national convention shall continue in office for six months after the conclusion of that convention, and may be re-appointed for a further term under Article 26.9.



TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. The foundational Interim Constituency branches and Regional Leadership that formed the grassroots foundation of the Independent Patriots for Change shall be deemed to have been so brought into existence under the provisions of this Constitution subject to endorsement at the Founding National Convention of Patriots.
2. The election of all National Office Bearers that shall take place at the Founding National Convention of Patriots to be held on 31st July to 2nd August 2020 shall be deemed to have taken place under the provisions of this constitution and the patriot(s) so elected shall be taken to have been duly elected National Officers for the purposes of this constitution.
3. All Founding Constituency Branches established prior to the Founding National Convention and the adaption of this Constitution shall be deemed to have been so established under the provisions of this constitution.
4. Subsequent to the Founding National Convention of Patriots, all Branches on the instruction of the National general Secretary-elect, in consultation with the National Executive Committee, shall commence the process of selecting members of the National Council of Patriots as provided for in the relevant Article of this Constitution, supported by the existing foundational leadership. The Foundational leadership shall continue through the transitional period until further directives are issued subject to satisfactory progress. In the presence of instability the National General Secretary in consultation with the President and the National Chairperson may institute the provisions of the constitution and allow for elections of a new leadership.
5. The National Patriots Executive Committee shall have the power in conjunction with the powers of the President to appoint any member(s) of the Vetting Committee, election committee and arbitration committee at all levels of the Party.



1. SCHEDULE 1

Oath of Party Members

Ihaving voluntarily applied and having had my application approved to join the Independent Patriots for Change as a political Party, hereby pledge my allegiance to the convictions, principles and aims and objectives of the Independent Patriots for Change, and so resolve to participate in political activities intended to influence the composition and policies of government, through freely chosen representative members of the Independent Patriots for Change.

I further pledge that I shall respect, uphold, obey and execute to the best of my ability all tasks entrusted in me by any means including directives from any organ, and abide by the rules and regulations of the Independent Patriots for Change and comply with its Constitution as the supreme law of the Party.

I shall undertake not to disclose any information that come to my knowledge in relation to the Party to any entity within or without the Party.

So, help me God



2. SCHEDULE 2

Declaratory Oath for all Party candidates

Isolemnly swear (undertake, affirm, promise) to exercise and execute, within the rule of law and in upholding, respecting the rights of all citizens, to dignity, in all loyalty, discretion, conscience and the trust of our people in all their diversity, the duties and obligations entrust in me as (state position in the Party), of the Independent Patriots for Change, to discharge my functions ethically and with high moral standard, in the best interest of the public and the Independent Patriots for Change, and not to accept any incentives for the performs of my duties as dictate by our laws, and using my conscience to determine what is in the best interest of our people.

I shall be guided by Honesty, Integrity, Dignity and Rule of law at all times in my interactions with fellow human beings.

I shall recognise my obligations towards the core principles of Grassroots participatory Democracy, Justice, Freedom, solidarity and Transparency in all my endeavours whilst in office.

(President only) I shall guard the Constitution of the Independent Patriots for change, as the supreme law of the Party, its core principles and the symbols of Presidential Authority and ensure its implementation and execute its authority, with honour, respect, dedication to the best of my abilities in the furtherance of the aims and objectives of the Independent Patriots for Change.

So, help me God



3. SCHEDULE 3

Oath of Ethical Conduct of the Independent Patriots for Change Politicians

The democratic path Namibians have travelled is only able to create socioeconomic opportunities, as goal, for our people if there is a high level of trust and confidence, in our elected politicians. The supreme purpose of participating in elections to be elected as a political leader is to serve the people that have elected you in the decision-making office.

Without this sacred trust and believe in the righteous conduct of politicians, grassroots representative democracy is beyond comprehension.

As a Political home, with the sole aim of paving a path for our people to political power in order to restore our people's dignity, the Independent Patriots for Change, forms an institution which is central to the realisation of our people's grassroots participatory democracy for the benefit of all. The actions of our political party, our leaders, candidates, our elected representatives, Constituency Branch leaders, volunteers and foot-soldiers, make a significant contribution to our identity, integrity and vibrancy of our democracy.

Once our leaders drag our banner of unity in mud, however, strong their denial of wrong doing, we as a political home would have, collectively betrayed the trust our members and public have in us.

The rigorous criteria for selecting our leaders at all levels and in all organs, is a reflection of the high regard political leaders are held by the public there are elected to serve. Accountability to the public and the power of the public to withdraw those they elect to represent their interest is a significant feature of our constitution. Politicians of the Patriots must accept their duties and obligations to the public in respect of the public perception of the effective and efficient delivery of public services, their general behaviour in their representative capacity in all honourable chambers; they must accept full ethical responsibility for their decisions, actions and omissions and strive at all times to serve the common good of the electorate.

Our Nation has over the last few decades noticed a general decay in moral and ethical conduct amongst political parties and politicians. There has been a general



decline in trust among the public towards democratic institutions and politicians due to scandals involving corruption, robbery of the natural resources, bribery and numerous conflicts of interest, which undoubtedly severely damaged the reputation of politicians in our country. Such breaches, places a great question mark on the legitimacy of public democratic institutions and contribute to public apathy towards political participation to improve their lives.

The Independent Patriots for change (IPC) , will change all of that and expect its members and political representatives at all levels, whether in office or on the campaign trail, to rebuild the IPC e trust amongst the public in our institutions of democracy and our representatives to behave with the honour and respect the public expect from them.

To strengthen political confidence in order to enhance public participation in their democratic political decision-making process, IPC is committed and expect all its representatives to act with utmost ethical adherence to the principles of grassroots representative democracy acknowledging that all power is vest in the people whom we serve. In fighting, corruption, conflict of interest, together with upholding the duty to preserve the highest standards of integrity, respect the dignity of all, we shall not accept nor tolerate unethical behaviour of our members and representatives with our political family.

We therefore oblige our members and representative to prescribe to the following golden principles;

Fundamental Principles: Honest, integrity, Dignity and Rule of Law

- 4. All our representative politicians must act within the law and independent of any external forces or temptations and remain incorruptible;*
- 5. Those exercising statutory power must be bound by a high moral standard;*
- 6. The Rule of law must reign supreme to all our politicians and representatives at all government levels;*
- 7. Where competing interests interfere with independent decision-making, our representatives must vacate their duties to others;*
- 8. It is the masses politicians serve; humble and level-headedness is a criterion required of our representatives*



9. *Elected at the serves of the community our representative must always at all times be aware of their mission.*
10. *In the interest of the people, decisions are not those we like but those that will deliver the greater good to our people, even if we do not agree with them;*
11. *At times it is in the best interest of the greater good of our people that we may compromise to achieve the ultimate goals without compromising our principles and values.*

Conflict of interest compromises ethical service delivery

12. *Our Constitution encourages avoidance of conflict of interest and separation of powers– a clear demarcation between party and government must exist for the public good of all those we are elected to serve irrespective whether they belong to our political home;*
13. *Achieving maximum results with minimal resources allows our nation to grow without wastage of public resources;*
14. *Transparent legitimate donations and political support from public and private entities whilst forming critical elements of the democratic process, should never be linked to later economic or political rewards at the expense of the public nor expectations therefrom;*
15. *Decisions must be influenced by our political convictions as promised in our manifesto to the public and never influence by political gifts or favours. Our representative must never accept any gifts in any form, under any circumstances; and*
16. *Aspiring public representatives of the Independent Patriots for Change must orient themselves to the common good for all and one's public position must never be used for private benefits directly or indirectly.*

We here therefore declare in taking the following oath voluntarily



Declaratory Oath for all

Isolemnly swear (undertake, affirm, promise) to exercise and execute, within the rule of law and in upholding, respecting the right of all citizens, to dignity, in all loyalty, discretion, conscience and the trust of our people in all their diversity, the duties and obligations entrust in me as a civil servant, of the Independent Patriots for Change, to discharge my functions ethically and with high moral standard, in the best interest of the public and the Independent Patriots for Change, and not to accept any incentives for the performs of my duties as dictate by our laws, and using my conscience to determine what is in the best interest of our people.

I shall be guided by Honest, Integrity, Dignity and Rule of law at all times in my interactions with fellow human beings.

So, help me God



17. SCHEDULE 4

Election Committee and Procedures of Election of Party Legislative Official
To be complete following the Founding National Convention



18. SCHEDULE 5

To be completed following completion of the Founding National Convention



19. SCHEDULE 6

To be completed following completion of the Founding National Convention

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