



PREAMBLE

IN THE NAME OF THE ALMIGHTY GOD, from whom all authority is derived and to whom all actions both of men and organizations must be referred,

We the Advocates,

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the youth of today have massive responsibilities to play when the sound of development is blown; and that no matter how poor one is, to become rich remains his own duty. It is not the duty of even the dearest or closest friend or relative.

STRONGLY BELIEVE that we can do something fast and stop looking forward to each other for assistance –looking at the faces of our parents, our colleagues, political parties and political entities and the government for shelter, for job and anything else.

DETERMINED to effectively assist in building better Nations and youth by seeing ourselves as potential and competent Team of Nation Building. Our mission is obtained through revealing the possibilities in us, and in different dimensions.

DO HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION establishing Advocates for National Development International which shall be a busy working tool towards developing a better nation.

ARTICLE 1: NAME AND MOTTO

1. The association shall be known and called **Advocates for National Development International**, hereafter referred to as **ANDI** or the Organization.
2. It shall have its motto as 'Our Country, Our Pride'

ARTICLE 2: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The Organization **Advocates for National Development International** shall continue to have absolutely no root or directives from any single political party, political entity or any interest group or person. The main objectives of Advocates for National Development International are to:
 - a. Propagate the good name of Ghana
 - b. Encourage nationalism among Ghanaians
 - c. Think critically and make analysis towards national development
 - d. Promote education and creativity among Ghanaians youth
 - e. Create public awareness about pertinent national issues
 - f. Promote national peace and stability
 - g. Encourage discipline among the young generation
 - h. Promote human rights and justice in the country
 - i. Promote accountable governance
2. Without prejudice to clause 1 of this article, all the aims and objectives are subject or referred to any other country within which ANDI may be established.

ARTICLE 3: APPLICATIONS

1. ANDI shall be a representative Organization of the interest of Ghana and any other country ANDI may be established. It shall relate to the affairs and interest of that country.
2. This constitution shall be binding on all members of ANDI, and shall supersede and such constitution representing any branch.

ARTICLE 4: MEMBERSHIP

1. FULL MEMBERSHIP
 - a. Membership is open to every individual, provided he/she is a recognised national within or outside Ghana.
 - b. Membership of ANDI shall also be open to all Ghanaians and citizens from any other any country worldwide.

- c. Students in local membership should be enrolled and pursuing recognized course for the requisite duration in any recognised tertiary institution worldwide.
- d. Without prejudice to the provision of clause 1.a. and 1.b., of this Article, all other person of tertiary institutions or any other party sufficiently minded to carry out and help realise the aims and objectives of ANDI shall be eligible for membership.

2. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

- a. Any member, in the local membership, shall continue to enjoy membership of ANDI, as an associate member after leaving school upon the completion of the course/programme of study.
- b. Associate members shall also qualify to be a Regional or National executive member.

3. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

- a. Any lecturer/teacher, non-teaching staff, student beyond first degree person who is very helpful towards pursuing the course of the Organization may be appointed as an honorary member.
- b. For the purpose of recognition, National, Regional, and Local secretariat intending to confer honorary membership on any person shall write to the National Secretariat, copied to the National President for approval.

- 4. Without prejudice of this Article clause 1., 2., and 3., there shall be no limitation to membership.

ARTICLE 5: ANDI EXECUTIVES

- 1. There shall be an executive body elected by the members of the Organization to manage the affairs of the Organization in every country institution where ANDI may exist. The executive shall comprise of the following:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. General Secretary
 - d. Financial Secretary
 - e. Publicity Officer
 - f. Organising Secretary

2. The executives (in clause 1 of this Article) shall be known to be **National Executives**, **Regional Executives** and **Local Executives** (representing the Country, Regions and Institutions, respectively, within which the Organization finds itself).
3. Deputy executives may be appointed or elected as and when the need arises. In the case of former, assent must be provided by the National President.

ARTICLE 6: DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

A. General duties:

All executive members

1. Shall be effective towards inviting people to join the Organization from across the country and beyond.
2. Shall, individually, present to the general members of the Organization, his projections for the term of office or within a reasonable duration of operation.
3. Shall assist other members as may be necessary to facilitate the works of the organization.

B. Powers and Duties of Office Bearers:

1. The President:

- a. Shall be the head in command over the National Executives, Regional Executives, and Local Executive and all other bodies that may be set under any of them.
- b. Shall perform other functions as may be recommended and accepted by the majority.
- c. Shall preside over all meetings, be they general or executive, of the Organization.
- d. Shall summon all meetings timely through the General Secretary.
- e. Shall represent the members or cause to be represented at conferences, symposia etc, to which the organisation may be invited.
- f. Shall in consultation with other executive committee members, has the prerogative to take decision and later inform the general members.
- g. Shall have a casting vote at all meetings.
- h. Shall interpret standing orders during meetings.
- i. Shall at the beginning of every year, whilst in power, deliver an address on the affairs and *state* of ANDI. Such an address shall be called *Presidential Address*.
- j. Shall be the spokesperson of the Organization with his/her discretion or direct any executive/member, in the consent of the majority, to resume such duty.
- k. Shall be a signatory to the association's bank account.

2. Vice President:

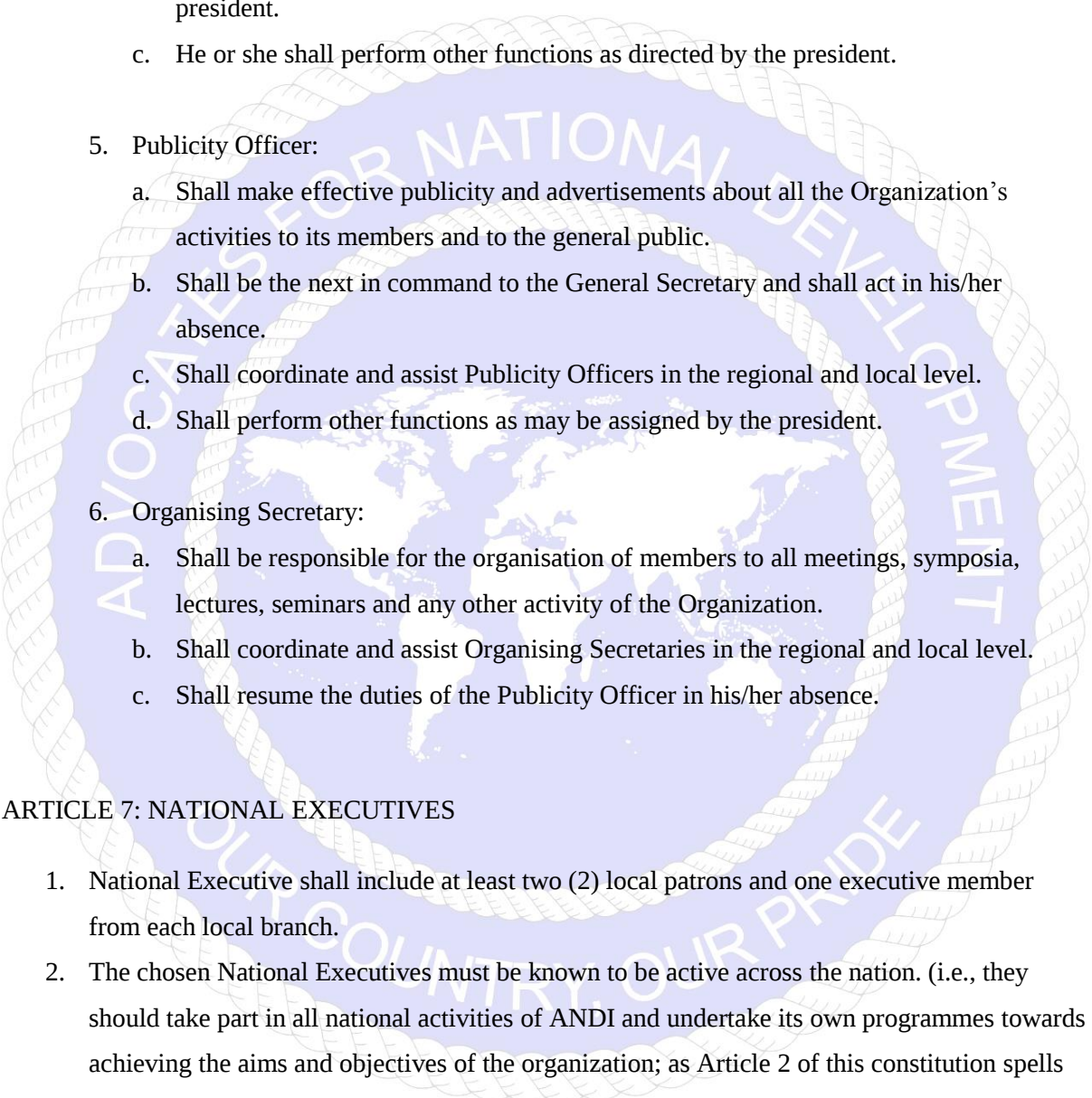
- a. Shall resume the office and prerogatives of the president when the latter is absent and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the president or National Patron.
- b. Shall regularly coordinate with the president and Regional Executives and offer advisory assistance, or any other as may be requested, to ensure a smooth administration.
- c. Shall be the next to the signatory of the Organization's bank account aside the president, or shall be a signatory to the said account as may be directed by the president.

3. General Secretary:

- a. Shall take minutes at all executive and general meetings.
- b. Shall conduct all correspondence on behalf of the Organization, with the approval of the president.
- c. Shall timely coordinate with local executives and give feedback to the president.
- d. Shall be the administrative head of the secretariat.
- e. Shall perform all other functions as directed by the president.
- f. Shall in consultation with or by the direction of the president arrange meetings.
- g. At every meeting, except emergency ones, he/she shall read loud the minutes of the previous meeting held either at a general or executive meeting.
- h. Shall be the next to the signatory of the Organization's bank account after the president, or shall be a signatory to the said account as may be directed by the president.

4. Financial Secretary:

- a. Shall be responsible for the financial transactions of the Organization including;
 - i. Keeping and issuing receipts of monies belonging to the Organization.
 - ii. Ensuring payment of bills incurred by the Organization.
 - iii. Depositing monies in the association's bank account within a week of receipt of such monies.

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- iv. Keeping proper and true account or documents, and other materials pertaining to the office, in order to produce such financial reports as may be required from time to time.
 - b. Shall be a signatory to the Organization's bank account, in consultation with the president.
 - c. He or she shall perform other functions as directed by the president.
5. Publicity Officer:
- a. Shall make effective publicity and advertisements about all the Organization's activities to its members and to the general public.
 - b. Shall be the next in command to the General Secretary and shall act in his/her absence.
 - c. Shall coordinate and assist Publicity Officers in the regional and local level.
 - d. Shall perform other functions as may be assigned by the president.
6. Organising Secretary:
- a. Shall be responsible for the organisation of members to all meetings, symposia, lectures, seminars and any other activity of the Organization.
 - b. Shall coordinate and assist Organising Secretaries in the regional and local level.
 - c. Shall resume the duties of the Publicity Officer in his/her absence.

ARTICLE 7: NATIONAL EXECUTIVES

1. National Executive shall include at least two (2) local patrons and one executive member from each local branch.
2. The chosen National Executives must be known to be active across the nation. (i.e., they should take part in all national activities of ANDI and undertake its own programmes towards achieving the aims and objectives of the organization; as Article 2 of this constitution spells out).

ARTICLE 8: PATRON

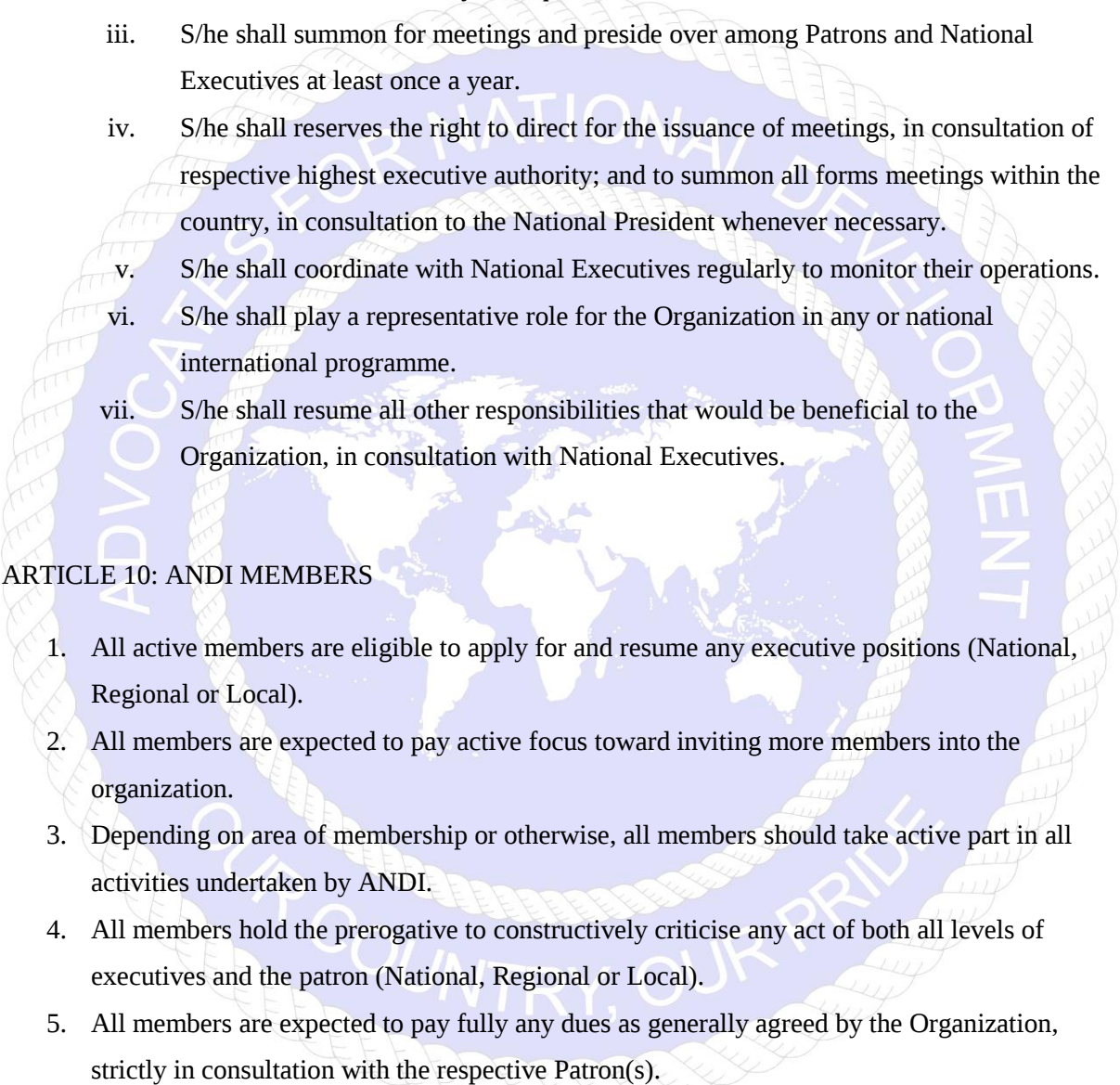
1. There shall be a Patron of the Organization; at least one member of staff of any institution ANDI may exits.
2. Such person(s) should accept to serve such purpose willingly and the majority has to approve of him/her.
3. There shall a National Patron and Local Patron(s).
4. The decision of the Patron(s), acting in consultation with at least three (3) executives of the Organization shall be final and binding on all parties, with respect to level of operation.

ARTICLE 9: DUTIES AND POWERS OF PATRONS

THE LOCAL PATRON: shall perform very key functions of the organisation; among them shall include the following. He shall:

- i. Be the head of command in the local branch of administration.
- ii. Offer regular advice on Organization's programmes and other related matters and such forms of help that shall be required for the welfare of the Organization.
- iii. Present himself in all general meetings, except emergency ones (which shall not be compulsory) or with special reason(s), as a result granted a permission from the president or his vice.
- iv. Effectively assist in inviting more members into the organization and spreading image of it.
- v. Continue to, in consultation with at least three executives (including the president), have the prerogative to demote and appoint anyone into an executive position.
- vi. Give address, in consultation with the president, in executive functions such as conferences, symposia etc.
- vii. Be the backbone of the local branch. For instance through spearheading and representing the course of all of its programmes.
- viii. Continue to have the power to take decisions, in the course of ANDI, in terms of emergency, without necessarily consulting anyone.

THE NATIONAL PATRON: shall be elected by the National and Regional Executives. He shall perform same functions as spelt for Local Patron, however, with respect to difference in rank. The National Patron shall perform the following function in addition:

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- i. S/he shall be the head in command over both National, Regional, and Local Executives and Patrons.
 - ii. S/he shall coordinate with all other Patrons in the country and provide advisory assistance or others as may be requested of him/her.
 - iii. S/he shall summon for meetings and preside over among Patrons and National Executives at least once a year.
 - iv. S/he shall reserves the right to direct for the issuance of meetings, in consultation of respective highest executive authority; and to summon all forms meetings within the country, in consultation to the National President whenever necessary.
 - v. S/he shall coordinate with National Executives regularly to monitor their operations.
 - vi. S/he shall play a representative role for the Organization in any or national international programme.
 - vii. S/he shall resume all other responsibilities that would be beneficial to the Organization, in consultation with National Executives.

ARTICLE 10: ANDI MEMBERS

1. All active members are eligible to apply for and resume any executive positions (National, Regional or Local).
2. All members are expected to pay active focus toward inviting more members into the organization.
3. Depending on area of membership or otherwise, all members should take active part in all activities undertaken by ANDI.
4. All members hold the prerogative to constructively criticise any act of both all levels of executives and the patron (National, Regional or Local).
5. All members are expected to pay fully any dues as generally agreed by the Organization, strictly in consultation with the respective Patron(s).
6. All members hold the right to absents themselves from general meetings only after permission is duly granted by the president or the Patron.
7. Active members may be entrusted in the formation of Organisational policies.

ARTICLE 11: ELECTIONS

1. ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- a. An Electoral Commission shall be set up for a period of two years, of which it shall be renewed by the power of the president through appointment, and in consultation with National executives.
- b. It shall organise and preside over all elections of the Organization.
- c. The commission shall comprise of
 - i. An Electoral Commissioner (EC)—who shall be appointed by the president, in consultation with the National President, Local Patron, and Local President.
 - ii. The EC shall ensure a fair and firm and unbiased election at all times.

2. ELECTORAL PROCESS

- National/Regional:
 - a. National elections shall be organised at the end of every four years.
 - b. A fair period of at least two (2) weeks shall be given to aspirants for campaigning processes before election takes place.
 - c. Executives of the Organization, except those appointed, shall be elected by simple majority of members present and voting.
- Local:
 - a. Local Branch elections shall be organised at the end of every academic year.
 - b. Local branch elections shall be conducted after a fair period of at least two (2) weeks is given to aspirants for campaigning processes.
 - c. Executives of the Organization, except those appointed (either as an honour or act on Article 5. Clause 3.), shall be elected by simple majority of members present and voting.
 - d. Without prejudice to Clause 2. Sub-item 2c. of this Article, by-elections may be held as and when necessary.

ARTICLE 12: TENURE OF OFFICE

1. All offices, except local offices, shall hold office for a period of four (4) years.

2. Without prejudice to clause 1 of this article, there shall be no term limit for office holders by appointment, so long as the person remains vibrant and loyal to the Organization and that is ready to continue service.
3. An officer shall cease to hold office upon the occurrence of the following event(s):
 - a. Infirmary which renders the officer incapable of performing his/her required duties.

ARTICLE 13: REMOVAL OF EXECUTIVE

1. a. Any ANDI executive that brings to the notice of the Organization any act(s) of misconduct or non-performance may face removal.
 - b. On receipt of such report, a committee of at least three (3) active members shall be appointed by the respective executives to investigate the matter, provided that the committee shall be empowered to recommend to the executives the appropriate disciplinary action to be taken which shall be:
 - i. Caution and demand for apology
 - ii. Suspension
 - iii. Removal from office
 - d. Upon the recommendation, if any executive is to be suspended or removed from office, members of ANDI shall impeach the said executive by two-third of members present and voting at a meeting convened for that purpose.
 - e. Upon reaching a general consensus on meeting the Organization's interest, all executives are required to adhere and stick to finalization.
 - f. Where the executives are unable to comply with the requirement of item "e" of this Article, the members may refer the matter to the Patron(s) for determination of executive position.
2. An executive shall, aside clause 1 and 2 of this Article, be suspended or removed by the respective (closest) Executives, in the presence of the president of such executive body, for gross misconduct or on grounds of immorality.

ARTICLE 14: FINANCE

1. A member of the Organization shall pay dues as may be decided by members/Executives.

2. Dues may be reviewed as and when necessary by the members or the executives subject to the approval of members and in consultation with the respective (closest) Patron(s).
3. The executive body may from time to time ask members to pay special sum of money for such purposes as may be determined by members.
4. The Organization may accept contributions and donations from the general public, provided the donation does not conflict with the Organization's policies and the constitution of the country ANDI exists.
5. All such monies and other funds that may be raised by executive from any legitimate source shall, in with respect to the provisions of Article 13, item 4, be deposited in the Organization's bank account.
6. The Organization shall operate a bank account with a recognised bank operating in a reasonable location.
7. A. The President, Vice President, Financial Secretary And General Secretary shall be the signatories to the Organization's bank account only after in each case consulting at least the president.
B. Without prejudice to clause 7.A. of this Article, at least, the President and The Financial Secretary may sign for any transaction in the absence of the others.
8. All regional secretariats shall pay fifteen per cent (15%) of all dues collected, into the national secretariat accounts yearly.
9. Receipt shall be issued upon any payment.

ARTICLE 15: AUDITING

1. The respective executives may appoint a committee to audit the accounts of any committees established to undertake any programme for the Organization.
2. The Auditing Committee shall never be subjected to any authority in course of its operation.

ARTICLE 16: PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES AND CONGRESSES/CONFERENCES

1. Realistic programmes/activities shall be clearly drawn in the presence of at least the President/ Vice President, The General Secretary/ Deputy General Secretary, The Organizing Secretary/Deputy Organizing Secretary.

2. Nature of programmes, including regularities, shall be decided and be implemented by level of executives.
3. Notwithstanding, such programmes/activities shall be presented to the respective patron(s) for consideration or otherwise.
4. Massive effort shall be put forth to undertake such drawn programmes.

CONGRESS/CONFERENCE

There shall be;

- a. Congress which shall be held at least once a year with a theme of the interest of ANDI truly acknowledged by respective (closest) Patron and the majority of members.

ARTICLE 17: QUORUM

1. For the purpose of any meeting, a quorum shall be constituted when half (1/2) of the members are present.
2. Meetings may proceed accordingly, in consultation with the president or the patron, if at any time during such meetings, the number should fall below half (1/2), then any decision taken may in such circumstances will be binding on the Organization.
3. Without prejudice to clause 2 of this Article, at least the President/the Vice and The General Secretary/the Deputy Secretary and the Publicity Officer shall constitute the quorum.
4. Without prejudice to clause 1 and 2 of this Article, the President, at his discretion, may start a meeting when the quorum is not met within thirty (30) minutes after scheduled time and the decision taken shall be binding on the Organization.

ARTICLE 18: MEETINGS/PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

1. MEETINGS

There shall be;

- a. Ordinary meetings which shall be held at least once a month (for local executives), and at least twice a year (for national and regional executives).
- b. i. Emergency meetings may be convened by the executives as and when necessary.

- ii. Any five (5) members acting together through a letter with stated reasons may also ask the Executives to convene an emergency meeting.
- c. Executive meeting; members shall be made to give to the house their office projections for the term or year.
- d. At a least a seven (7) day notice before general meetings and at least five (5) day notice before executive meetings.
- e. Without prejudice to prior notice for good number of days before any meeting, with the exception of emergency ones.
- f. Simple majority of members present and voting shall determine the acceptance or rejection of a policy at the meeting.

2. PROCEDURE AT MEETINGS

- a. Meetings shall be opened with a prayer from any present member.
- b. No member shall be allowed to speak without the permission of the chairman (President), unless by standing orders (raising of the hand, points of information, correction, interest and order).
- c. A member shall always address the chairman before contributing to any discussion.
- d. No member shall leave a meeting without the permission of the chairman.
- e. A member having been warned by the chairman persistently misconducts himself/herself and may be expelled by the Patron or the chairman from the meeting for the duration of the meeting or as decided.

ARTICLE 19: SUSPENSION OF PARTS OF THE CONSTITUTION

- 1. Any provision of this constitution may be suspended for a special period as nationally decided by the Organization.
- 2. Any of such suspensions shall be by means of notice of such effect, moved and carried by two-thirds majority of the members present at a meeting convened for that purpose.
- 3. Without prejudice to clause 1 of this article, such part of the constitution has to be deliberated and accepted by two-third majority (2/3) of the national executives.

ARTICLE 20: REVIEW, REPEAL AND AMENDMENT

1. All or any provisions of this constitution may be changed or deleted or added or otherwise amended by the Organization.
2. Proposal to amend any part or parts of the constitution shall be delivered to the national executives for two (2) clear months then the matter will or may be considered.
3. Before the Organization considers any matter of amendment of this constitution, there shall have been a written notice of the proposed amendment, circulated to all regional and local executives as well as members at least for three (3) clear weeks before there may or will be amendment.
4. Amendment to the constitution can only be made by two-thirds majority decision of members present, and voting at meeting held for that purpose.
5. The executives may delegate the duty of amending the constitution to conform with stated proposals to a constitution review committee.
6. Review, repeal and amendment of the constitution shall be done as and when the need arises.