

**THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE'S PARTY**

**20 December 2011**

**THE CONSTITUTION**  
**PART ONE**  
**CHAPTER 1**  
**THE PARTY**

**1. NAME:**

The Party shall be known and called the **PROGRESSIVE PEOPLE’S PARTY (PPP)**, hereinafter referred to as the Party.

**2. IDENTIFICATION:**

- a) The Party’s symbol shall be a **RED SUN ON A WHITE BACKGROUND**.
- b) *The colours of the Party flag shall be White with Red trimming.*
- c) The Party motto shall be: **PROSPERITY IN PEACE**.
- d) The Party will call on Ghanaians to be **“Awake!”**

**3. HEADQUARTERS:**

The Party shall have its Headquarters and National Secretariat in Accra or such other places as may be determined by the National Committee, subject to subsequent approval by National Convention.

**5. LEGAL STATUS:**

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

**6. FOUNDING MEMBERS:**

*The original founding members are those who whose names and addresses are kept at the Party Headquarters and registered with the Electoral Commission in accordance with Section 9(d) of the Political Parties Act, 2000 (Act 574).*

**7. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The principal aims and objectives of the Party shall be:

- a. to work relentlessly as a Movement to achieve Prosperity and Peace for the people of the Republic of Ghana with a sense of urgency;
- b. to maintain and actively promote the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Ghana;
- c. to promote national reconciliation and unity;
- d. to bring the economy back home through the use of government’s purchasing power;
- e. to offer Ghanaians a Government based on principles of self-determination, social justice and regional integration.

- f. to protect and enhance Ghanaian culture, heritage and institutions; and
- g. to co-operate with other political parties and movements, which commit themselves to similar principles.

8. **SUPREMACY OF THE PARTY'S CONSTITUTION:**

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

**PART TWO**  
**CHAPTER 2**

**STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION**

**BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE PARTY**

9. **PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE:**

The structure of the Party shall be:

- (a) **Polling Station Area:** There shall be in every polling station a local branch of the Party which shall be constituted by all the members of the Party in that polling station.
  
- (b) **Constituency:** A Constituency branch shall be constituted by the local Electoral Area branches within the constituency.
  
- (c) **Regional:** The Regional branch shall be constituted by all Constituency branches in the Region.
  
- (e) **National Committee:** The Party at the National level shall comprise:
  - i. The National Committee
  - ii. The National Administration
  - iii. The National Advisory Council

**CHAPTER 3**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**10. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership of the Party shall be open to any citizen of Ghana who is eighteen years of age or above, and who accepts the aims and objectives of the Party, provided that such person is not a member of any other political party or any organization whose policies are inconsistent with those of the Progressive People's Party.

**11. ADMISSION FEE AND MEMBERSHIP DUES:**

- (a) The admission fee shall be as determined from time to time by the National Committee of the Party.
- (b) Each member of the Party shall pay dues as determined from time to time by the National Committee.
- (c) Dues shall be paid at the Constituency level of the Party in accordance with directives of the National Committee.

**12. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES**

- (1) It is the right of a Party member:
  - (a) to vote at elections and to be elected to office in any of the Party's organisations;
  - (b) to address any question or statement to any Party organisation, or official;
  - (c) to be given the opportunity to be heard, whenever adverse decisions are likely to be taken regarding his or her activities or conduct;
  - (d) to appeal against any adverse decision against him or her as stipulated in clause Article 13 of this Constitution.
  - (e) to petition as a last resort to the National Committee, and
- (2) No member of the Party shall initiate or commence any legal action against the Party without first exhausting all the provisions in this Constitution and other regulations for addressing grievances.

**13. DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS:**

It is the duty of a Party member to:

- (a) protect the unity of the Party at all levels and at all times;
- (b) protect the good name of the Party under all circumstances;
- (c) carry out Party decisions and directives to the best of his or her ability and ensure that any breach of such decisions or directives is promptly reported to the Party authorities;

- (d) respect and uphold the Constitution of the Republic of Ghana and this Constitution, and to promote the spirit of patriotism and voluntarism;
- (e) set good examples of hard work, efficiency, honesty, a keen sense of responsibility;
- (f) guard and protect confidential information of the Party and maintain constant vigilance in this respect;
- (g) criticize constructively and accept criticism in good faith and make frequent self-examination for correction;
- (i) be faithful and loyal to the Party, eschew bribery and corruption;
- (j) register as a voter and vote at elections and referenda in which the Party participates;
- (k) pay Party dues regularly;
- (l) uphold, defend and protect the good name of the Party and at all times to utilize the channels prescribed by this Constitution for the resolution of all grievances.

**14. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

- a. A person ceases to be a member of the Party:
  - i. if he or she resigns by writing under his or her hand or causes it to be written on his or her behalf and addressed to the Executive Director of the Party through the constituency;
  - ii. if he or she is dismissed in accordance with the relevant provisions of this Constitution;
  - iii. if he or she fails without reasonable cause to comply with any of the provisions of the Constitution and regulations, including failure to pay membership dues for a period of more than one (1) year.
- b. A member who resigns or is dismissed, may re-apply and may be considered for re-admission by the National Committee on good cause shown.
- c. *A member who resigns from the party shall surrender his/her membership card to the Constituency Executive.*

## CHAPTER 4

### THE POLLING STATION/CONSTITUENCY/REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS

#### 15. **POLLING STATION/CONSTITUENCY/REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

- (1) There shall be structures of the party at each polling station, as defined in the Electoral laws of Ghana.
- (2) There shall be the following:
  - a) Executive Committee; and
  - b) General Meeting.
- (3) All card-carrying members in good standing in the particular polling station/constituency/region can participate in elections to determine the officers of the party.

#### 16. **COMMITTEE:**

- (1) The executive body shall be the Executive Committee, elected by the members at a general meeting as follows:
  - (i) Chairperson
  - (ii) Vice Chairperson
  - (iii) Secretary
  - (iv) Assistant Secretary
  - (v) Treasurer
  - (vi) Organiser
  - (vii) Assistant Organiser
  - (viii) Women's Organiser
  - (ix) Assistant Women's Organiser
  - (x) Youth Organiser
  - (xi) Assistant Youth Organiser
  - (xii) Education Secretary
  - (xiii) 5 (five) other members

#### 17. **ELIGIBILITY FOR CONTESTING ELECTIONS**

- (a) For the first year in the life time of each structure of party organisation, candidates shall be eligible to contest elections if they are ordinary members of the Party, regardless of the length of time of their membership. However, for subsequent elections, candidates must have held a membership card for at least one year.
- (b) A candidate must be a registered voter in the area.

#### 18. **TENURE OF OFFICE**

- a) All members of the Executive Committee shall hold office for a term of two years and members are eligible for re-election. However, each officer shall be entitled to serve up to three terms of two years each in each position, but not more than six years in total.

19. **VACANCIES ON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

The Executive Committee shall report any vacancy on the Executive Committee to the next level in the party within one month of the vacancy becoming known, and the report shall include a recommendation of a nominee to fill the position in an acting capacity, until the vacancy is filled at the next General Meeting.

20. **THE CHAIRPERSON:**

The Chair shall preside over General and Executive Committee meetings and shall have a casting vote. He shall be in charge of the affairs of the Party within the Area. He shall be assisted by a Vice Chairman who shall act in his absence. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, the Executive Committee shall choose one member to preside.

21. **THE SECRETARY:**

The Secretary shall be the Secretary to the Executive Committee, the General Meeting and shall be the administrative Head of the branch.

22. **FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- (1) The Executive Committee shall perform or discharge the following functions, duties and responsibilities.
  - a. To compile and maintain a membership register.
  - b. To explain the policies and programmes of the Party to the members as well as the general public.
  - c. To pay constant attention to the sentiments and views of all citizens in the area and report same to the executives.
  - d. To ensure strict adherence to the policies and programmes of the Party by all members in the branch and foster the political and general education of Party members.
  - e. To pay heed to the political, economic and cultural concerns of the people and take the lead in organizing the people to solve their own problems by promoting the principle of self-reliance and the spirit of voluntarism.
  - f. To receive and consider applications for membership of the Party and make recommendations to the Executive.
  - g. To collect party membership dues and account for them scrupulously.



- h. To ensure that all moneys received on account of the Party whether they are dues, donations or bequests are paid into a bank account and cause proper books of account and other records to be kept.
  - i. To prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form and containing such particulars as may from time to time be directed by the National Committee.
  - j. To investigate and report any acts of indiscipline and breaches of Party rules which may bring the Party into disrepute, and make appropriate recommendations to the next level Executive.
- (2) The Executive Committee shall have the power to impose sanctions (suspension, expulsion, fine) for gross indiscipline supporting candidates of other parties not approved the National Committee.

23. **MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- (a) The Executive Committee shall ordinarily meet at such times and in such places as the committee may decide, but shall meet at least once every month.
- (b) A meeting may be convened at the request of the Chairman or in his absence the Vice Chairman, in consultation with Secretary.
- (c) The Chairman shall preside at every meeting. In his absence and that of his Vice, any member of the Executive Committee may be elected to preside.
- (d) The quorum at every meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the membership of the executive committee.

24. **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

- (a) There shall be a General Meeting which shall be attended by all the members.
- (b) The General Meeting shall be convened monthly at a date and place to be decided by the Executive Committee. It shall be presided over by the Chairperson. In his absence the Vice-Chairperson shall preside. In the absence of the Vice-Chairperson, the General Meeting may elect one of its members to serve as Chairperson.
- (c) The quorum for a General Meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the membership.

25. **FUNCTIONS OF THE GENERAL MEETING:**

- (1) The General Meeting is the highest organ of the Party in the area. It shall be the duty of the General Meeting to:-
  - (i) receive reports of the Party activities which will be presented to it by the Executive Committee; and to give directions for the implementation of party policies;
  - (ii) discuss all matters relating to the development of the area in general;

- (iii) elect members of the Executive Committee.
- (2) The General Meeting may form sub-committees as appropriate for the better supervision and implementation of the party's programmes for the area.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **NATIONAL ORGANISATION**

#### **26. ORGANS:**

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

- (a) The National Advisory Council
- (c) The National Committee
- (d) The National Party Convention

#### **27. THE NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL:**

##### **(1) COMPOSITION:**

- (a) There shall be an Advisory Council which shall be composed of people selected by the National Committee of the Party.

#### **28. FUNCTIONS:**

- (a) The National Advisory Council shall have the following functions and responsibilities:
  - (i) Promote the image and reputation of the Party nationally and internationally;
  - (ii) Actively support the fund raising efforts of the Party;
  - (iii) Promote the campaigns of candidates for local and national offices (Assembly (when permitted by law), Parliament and President);
  - (iv) Act as arbitrators and mediators in disputes among members of the Party; and
  - (v) Act upon a request of the National Committee or on its own initiative.

#### **29. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP:**

- (a) The National Committee shall have the authority to admit persons eligible to become members of the Advisory Council;
- (b) A person admitted to membership shall be deemed to have been duly nominated for admission as a member of the National Advisory Council if the document nominating him or her is signed by at least five (5) fully paid-up members of the Party.
- (c) The recommendation to the National Committee of a member of the National Advisory Council shall be decided by secret ballot without prior debate, and shall be carried by at least the two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total membership of the National Committee.
- (d) The National Committee of the Party shall maintain a register into which the names of all persons admitted as members of the Advisory Council shall be entered.

**30. THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

There shall be a **National Committee (NC)** to function as the principal organization to administer the day to day affairs of the Progressive People’s Party. The NC's central focus is on campaign and political activity in support of Party candidates. The National Committee provides national leadership for the Party. It is responsible for promoting the Party political platform, as well as coordinating fundraising and election strategy.

The NC is responsible for articulating and promoting the Party’s platform and coordinating party organizational activity. When the President comes from the Party, the party generally works closely with the President. In presidential elections it supervises the national convention and, both independently and in coordination with the presidential candidate, raises funds, commissions polls, and coordinates campaign strategy.

The chairperson of the NC will be elected by vote of members of the National Committee. The NC is composed of the chairs of each region’s Committee, members apportioned among the regions and generally elected either on the ballot by primary voters or by the Regional Party Committee, a number of elected officials serving in an ex-officio capacity, and a variety of representatives of major Party committees/functions.

The NC relies on the monthly contributions to be made by its members.

The Leadership of the Party is made up of:

- National Chairman
- Vice Chairmen (3)
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Executive Director
- Communications Director
- Field Operations Director

**31. FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

- (1) (a) The National Committee shall be responsible for implementation of the policies and decisions of the Party;
- (b) It shall initiate Party policies and establish such policy area sub-committees and inter-party organizations as may be required for the administration of the party;
- (c) It may establish such organs or departments at the National Secretariat of the Party as it may consider necessary;
- (d) It shall have power to appoint the Executive Director who shall head the Administrative functions of the Party and other national officers;

- (e) It shall consider and approve the names of candidates submitted for election to Parliament. Where the National Committee rejects a candidate, it shall refer the matter to the particular Constituency to elect a new candidate;
- (g) It may authorize the preparation and publication of party newspapers, journals and other literature.
- (h) It may authorize fund-raising activities for any purpose and may revoke any fund-raising decision taken by any lower organ of the Party on reasonable grounds.
- (i) It shall exercise control over the finances of the party and ensure that proper books of account and records are kept on all financial affairs of the Party .
- (j) It shall determine the admission fees, membership dues and other levies from time to time.
- (k) It shall cause to be prepared, not later than 30<sup>th</sup> day of September in each year, a budget showing the estimated revenue and expenditure of the party for the coming year.
- (l) It shall cause to be prepared, not later than 31<sup>st</sup> day of March each year, the following statements:
  - (i) Statement of Income and Expenditure of the party for the previous year; and
  - (ii) A Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the party as they stood at the end of the previous year. The said statements shall be duly certified by the National Treasurer.
- (2) The National Committee shall empanel the Vetting Committee to vet persons seeking national positions within the Party as well as Presidential aspirants;
- (3) The authority to approve the candidature of persons contesting the position of the Presidential candidate of the party is vested in the National Committee.
- (4) If an incumbent member of the National Committee decides to contest for a National Office she/he shall not take his/her seat at meetings of the National Committee during discussions or deliberations on any matter affecting his/her selection or election.
- (5) The National Committee may whenever it deems expedient in the interest of the party, extend the term of office for any Constituency Executive Committee or any Regional Executive Committee for a period not exceeding three months.

32. **COMMITTEES OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

The National Committee shall set up working Committees or any other committees it may deem necessary to facilitate the work of the Party.

**32. MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

- (a) The National Committee shall meet at least once every month at the Party Headquarters. When necessary, it shall meet elsewhere.
- (b) The quorum for the National Committee Meeting shall be one-third (1/3) of the total membership.

**33. THE NATIONAL CONVENTION:**

- (a) There shall be a National Convention of the Party which shall be held every year, not later than 12 months after the last Presidential elections.
- (b) The National Convention shall consist of:
  - (i) all Founding Members;
  - (ii) all members of the National Committee;
  - (iii) all members of the National Advisory Council
  - (iv) all Constituency Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, Organizers, Women Organizers, Youth Organizers and Education Secretaries;
  - (v) Two other representatives from each Constituency, at least one of whom shall be a woman;
  - (vi) a representative from each of the tertiary institutions chapters of the party;
  - (vii) Two (2) representatives from each Overseas branch approved by the National Committee .
- (c) The quorum shall be two-thirds  $2/3$  of the total membership of those qualified to attend;
- (d) The National Party Convention shall be presided over by a member of the Advisory Council.
- (e) Whenever the National Convention cannot be held for any stated reasons, the tenure of office of the National Officers shall continue until such a time that the National Party Convention is held.

**34. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

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

- (a) consider and approve the election platform and matters of general policy.
- (b) receive and consider reports on activities and audited accounts of the Party by the Treasurer and issue directives for actions on them.

- (c) confirm, amend, repudiate or revoke any decision made by any subordinate organ of the Party.
- (d) amend this constitution in the manner provided.
- (e) decide on any proposals or matters, and transact any other business which shall be submitted to the National Committee.
- (f) delegate any of its functions or powers to any subordinate organ of the Party;
- (g) perform such other functions as are necessary for the attainment of the aims and objectives of the Party through the appropriate organs of the Party, as provided for by this constitution.

**35. REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTESTING POSITIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:**

- (1) These requirements shall apply to persons contesting National Executive positions and contestants for the position of Presidential Candidate.
  - (a) Candidates must hold a party membership card for two years or more.
  - (b) Candidates must have paid their membership dues in full.
  - (c) Candidates must be in good standing in the party.
  - (d) Candidates must be registered to vote in national elections.
- (2) A candidate shall not be qualified for election unless he or she is nominated for election by a document which:
  - i) is signed by him or her signifying his or her consent
  - ii) is signed by at least one fully paid-up member who is a registered voter from each of the 10 regions.
  - iii) is delivered to the National Secretary of the party at least 14 days before Convention.
- (3) A Candidate must demonstrate belief in and commitment to the ideology and philosophy of the party.
- (4) The National Committee shall have discretionary power to exempt any candidate from any of the conditions stated above. A decision taken by the National Committee in exercise of that power shall be carried by two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total membership of the National Committee.
- (5) Applications for exemptions from the conditions stated in (4) shall be put in writing to the National Committee, through the Secretary of the party.

**36. TENURE OF OFFICE:**

- a) All national officers shall hold office for a term of four years.

- (b) Each officer shall be entitled to serve a maximum of two terms of four years each in each position, upon re-election, but not more than eight years in total.

**37. REMOVAL OF NATIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS:**

- (a) A National office holder may be relieved of his/her position by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the National Committee if the latter deems it fit in the supreme interest of the party so to do.
- (b) Any proposal for such a decision to be taken shall be proposed in writing by a member of the National Committee, and seconded by a member of the National Committee.
- (c) The National Chairman may be removed from office by resolution of the National Party Convention if he or she is found to be incapable of performing the functions of his/her office by reason any of physical or mental incapacity, or for any stated misbehaviour.
- (d) The proposal for the removal of a National office holder shall be given in the form of a notice, one month prior to the meeting. A copy of the said notice shall be served on the affected person, who shall be entitled to a hearing at the National Committee.

**38. ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICE HOLDERS AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE**

- (a) the National Chairman, National Vice-Chairpersons, Treasurer, Secretary of the Party, shall be elected by the card-carrying members of the party voting in their constituencies under rules to be determined by the National Committee.
- (b) the Presidential Candidate of the Party shall be elected by the card-carrying members of the party voting in their constituencies under rules to be determined by the National Committee.

**38. VACANCY OF NATIONAL OFFICE:**

The National Chairman shall within one month of a national office becoming vacant, report the vacancy to the National Committee and make a recommendation of a nominee to fill the position in an acting capacity, until the vacancy is filled in accordance with provisions of this Constitution.

**39. OVERSEAS BRANCHES:**

There shall be Overseas Branches or chapters as approved by the National Committee.



## CHAPTER 6

### AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

#### 40. **AMENDMENTS**

- (a) This Constitution or any part thereof may be repealed or amended by a resolution passed by two-thirds (2/3) majority of members of the Nation Convention present and voting thereon.
- (b) The proposed repeal or amendment when adopted by the National Committee, shall not be presented to the National unless one month's notice has been given to members of Congress.

#### 41. **TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

Notwithstanding any provision in this Constitution:

- (1) The tenure of office of all interim National, Regional and Constituency officers of the Party who are holding office immediately before the coming into force of this Constitution, shall be deemed to have been elected/appointed under this Constitution.
- (2) Any officer of the party whose tenure is taken to have been continued under this Constitution shall continue to hold his/her office until the next election is held by his/her organ of the party.
- (3) The tenure of office of the first National Executive Officers to be elected or appointed under this Constitution shall expire at the next National Convention to elect new National Executive Officers.

**MADE IN ACCRA THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011**