

Citizens Alliance (CA)

Constitution

PREAMBLE

The Citizens Alliance (hereinafter called “CA” or the “Party”) is a political organization founded on the ideals of development, democracy, civil liberties, social cohesion, and social justice in The Gambia. CA believes that all powers resides in the citizenry and therefore recognizes the equal value of every citizen irrespective of gender, ethnicity, religion, race, age, and ability.

The CA shall promote a citizen driven agenda and shall put in place policies that will seek to eradicate all forms of discrimination against any citizen or group of citizens. The party will embrace our country’s diversity, ensure equity and equality and promote justice. Recognizing the right of every Gambian to participate in the affairs of the country, CA shall create an environment and space for the citizens to engage their Government on regular basis.

CA is committed to inclusive development, democracy, rule of law, good governance, accountability, transparency, and probity through transformative leadership. Accordingly, CA shall build strong and effective institutions of governance that will ensure a fair and equitable management of public resources and for the implementation of the party’s socio-economic and political objectives. In pursuit of the above, CA shall take measures to address corruption, mismanagement and maladministration in The Gambia.

Recognizing the right of every Gambian citizen in every corner of the country to earn a decent living and to live a life of dignity and realise their potential, CA shall harness and distribute state resources equitably and fairly to ensure that each Gambian has access to the basic necessities of life such as food, shelter, electricity, water, quality education and healthcare.

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CHAPTER ONE

ARTICLE 1: NAME

The name of the Party shall be Citizens Alliance (CA), referred to in this Constitution as " **CA**" and/or "**the Party**".

ARTICLE 2: MOTTO

The motto of the Party shall be **Patriotism, Integrity and Development.**

ARTICLE 3: LOGO

The logo of the party shall be a **Baobab Tree**

ARTICLE 4: COLOUR

The colour of the party shall be **Dark Blue and White.**

CHAPTER THREE

ARTICLE 7: MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Membership of the Party shall be open to all Gambians residing within and outside of the country
- (2) A prospective member shall:
 - 1) attained the age of 18 years
 - 2) undertake to abide by and accept the constitution, aims, objectives, policies and programs of the party.
 - 3) is not a member of any other political party.
 - 4) register at his or her Ward of origin or where he or she ordinarily resides or carries on business and/or online through the party's website.
 - 5) pay the prescribed registration fee before admission into the party and be issued a membership card which shall bear the photograph of the member.
- (3) All card carrying members shall vote in the primaries to elect the party's Flag Bearers for President, Administrative Chairpersons, City and Municipal Mayors and Ward Councillors.
- 4) The party membership register shall be kept in both electronic and hard copies and registration of new members shall be closed one month to any primary election.
- 5) Membership of the Party shall be open to any organization which satisfies the conditions in sub-clause 2(b), (d) and which is accepted as a member by the National Executive Council.
- 6) A member may resign his membership by formally notifying the Ward of which he is a member.

CHAPTER FOUR

ARTICLE 8: Structures, Organisations and Elections of Governing Bodies.

8.1 The Party's main structure shall be uniform across its levels from the National to the Polling Unit.

8.2 All office holders shall be elected at the respective national, regional, constituency, ward and polling unit congresses.

8.3 Congresses shall be held every two years.

8.4 The period of the congress shall be referred to as the congress season and it shall be within three calendar months in the year the congress shall be held. In this period and in this order, a congress shall be held at the Polling Unit, Ward, Constituency, Regional levels.

8.5 CA shall have structures at National, Regional, Constituency, Ward and Polling Unit levels. It shall consist of the following structures:

1. Citizens National Congress (CNC);
2. Citizens National Executive Council (CNEC);
3. National Secretariat (NS);
4. Citizens Regional Councils (CRC);
5. Citizens Constituency Councils (CCC); and
6. Citizens Ward Councils (CWC).
7. Citizens Polling Unit Council (CPUC)

ARTICLE 9: CITIZENS NATIONAL CONGRESS

1. There shall be a Citizens National Congress (CNC), which shall be the Supreme and highest decision-making body of the Party.
2. The CNC shall be convened by the Secretary-General every two years, acting on the directives of the Citizens National Executive Council (CNEC) stating date, time, and venue of the Congress.
3. Only the following shall be entitled to vote at the Citizens' National

Congress:

- 1) All council members of the Citizens National Executive Council
- 2) All council members of the Regional Executive Councils
- 3) All council members of Constituency Executive Councils
- 4) All council members of the Ward Executive Councils.
- 5) All Chairpersons of the CPUC.

In Addition,

- a. All Party parliamentary candidates;
- b. All executive members of Youth Alliance
- c. All executive members of Women alliance
- d. All executive members of Diaspora Alliance
- e. All executive members of Differently Abled Alliance

4. The Powers and functions of the CNC shall be to:

- 1) Approve the policies of the Party including the Party's Manifesto and any amendments to it.
- 2) Review all matters of elections, legislature, and the Local government;
- 3) Consider Proposals for amendment/s of the constitution of the party provided that notice of the proposed amendments is submitted to the Secretary-General who shall circulate the same to the members at least ten days before the session;
- 4) Elect the following officers of the CNEC:
 - 1) National Chairperson
 - 2) Secretary-General
 - 3) two Deputy Secretaries-General
 - 4) National Treasurer
 - 5) Deputy National Treasurer

- 6) National Auditors
 - 7) Nationals Communications Officer or Spokesperson
 - 8) National Party Policy and Strategy Specialist
 - 9) Chief Legal Officer/Legal Adviser
 - 10) Compliance and Oversight Officer
 - 11) Director of Think tank.
 - 12) President and General Secretary of (CWA);
 - 13) President and General Secretary of the (CYA);
 - 14) President and General secretary of the (CIDA);
 - 15) President and General Secretary of the (DACA).
- 5)** Confirm the appointment of the 8 National Vice Chairpersons to be selected from chairpersons from each Regional Council and the Diaspora Alliance.
 - 6)** Confirm the election the Party's Presidential Flag Bearer.
 - 7)** Elect a standing order committee, which shall be responsible for the matters of procedure of the national congress.
 - 8)** Approve the creation of any other integral organs of the party other than those already mentioned in this constitution.
 - 9)** Receive and approve the Annual Report through the Secretary-General on the functions, policies and achievements of the Party.
 - 10)** Approve the budget for the party for the next financial year presented by the CNEC.
 - 11)** Consider the audited accounts of the party;
 - 12)** Delegate any of its powers to the CNEC provided that such delegation of power is clearly specified.
 - 13)** Review this Constitution as a living document amenable to amendment for the purpose of reflecting current realities as seen fit and necessary in every two years; and
 - 14)** Decide on any other matters not specified or mentioned under this Constitution.

5. Provided where the CNC is not convened within the stipulated period, not less than 20 (twenty) members of the CNEC may requisition the meeting of the National Congress.

6. The Special Session or Extra-Ordinary Session:

The CNC may be held at any time as decided by the CNEC provided that such a Special Session shall be convened where not less than twenty of the members of the CNEC requisitioned such a Special Session.

7. Emergency Session:

The Chairperson of the CNEC may summon an emergency session of the CNC, if in his/her opinion there exists a situation which requires an immediate decision of the CNC.

8. Quorum:

One third of the total number of members of the CNC shall form a quorum in any session of the Congress. Provided where the Quorum falls short of the prescribed numbers, the Chairperson may adjourn the meeting and reconvene for conducting the business of the day.

ARTICLE 10: CITIZENS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (CNEC)

1. There shall be a Citizens National Executive Council, which shall serve as the party's policy arm and shall be made up of:
 - 1) National Chairperson;
 - 2) National Vice Chairpersons selected from chairperson from each Regional Executive Council;
 - 3) Secretary-General;
 - 4) Deputy Secretary-General;
 - 5) National Treasurer;
 - 6) Deputy National Treasurer;

- 7) National Auditor;
- 8) Youth Alliance President and Secretary-General;
- 9) Women's Alliance President and Secretary-General;
- 10) Diaspora Alliance President and Secretary-General;
- 11) Differently Abled Citizens Alliance President and Secretary-General;
- 12) Regional Council President and Secretary-General;
- 13) Constituency Council President and Secretary-General;
- 14) Ward Council President and Secretary-General;
- 15) Nationals Communications Officer or Spokesperson;
- 16) National Party Policy and Strategy Specialist;
- 17) Deputy National Party Policy and Strategy Specialist
- 18) National Party Mobilizers;
- 19) Chief Legal Officer/Legal Adviser;
- 20) Compliance and Oversight Officer; and
- 21) Director of Think tank.

2. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CITIZENS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

2.1 The CNEC is the highest Executive Body subordinate to the National Congress and shall be responsible to carry out the following functions:

- 1) Carry out and implement all the resolutions, orders, directives and decisions of the CNC.
- 2) Prepare and present the Central Budget of the party.
- 3) Prepare and present the Annual Report of the Party.
- 4) Deal with any other matter as provided for in this Constitution.
- 5) Shall have the powers to make rules that are consistent with the provisions of this Constitution for the smooth functioning of the Party.
- 6) Shall have the power to preside and adjudicate disciplinary matters over members as well impose penalties as it sees fit.
- 7) Endorse the manifesto of the party;

- 8) Approve the party's presidential candidate' running-mate.
- 9) Prepare the agenda for the National Congress.
- 10) Appoint auditors to audit the accounts of the Party adopted by the National Congress.
- 11) Present the audited accounts to the CNC for acceptance before submission to the Independent Electoral Commission.
- 12) Select members to constitute the electoral committee of CA for the purpose of conducting elections at all levels within the party.

3. Meeting and quorum of the CNEC.

- 1) The CNEC shall meet as often as it deems necessary but at least once in every quarter.
- 2) A meeting of the CNEC shall be convened by the Secretary-General on the direction of the National Chairperson or upon a written request of at least one-third of the Members of the CNEC.
- 3) One third of the total number of members of the CNEC shall form the quorum.
- 4) Provided, where the quorum falls short of the prescribed numbers, the person presiding over the meeting may adjourn the meeting and reconvene at a later date convenient for conducting the business of the day.
- 5) The meeting shall be cancelled if the quorum cannot be met after 30 minutes of the stipulated commencement time.

ARTICLE 11: NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

1. There shall be a National Secretariat, which shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation and management of CA, especially the management of its office headquarters.
2. The National Secretariat shall be composed of:
 - a. Secretary-General.
 - b. Deputy Secretary-General.
 - c. Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer.
 - d. National Mobiliser and Policy and Strategy Specialist and the Deputies.
 - e. National Communications Officer and the Deputy.
 - f. Facilities and Logistic Officer.
3. The National Secretariat shall have such Departments and other staff as the Executive Council may approve.

ARTICLE 12: REGIONAL CONGRESS

1. There shall be a Citizens Regional Congress held once every two years, and at least two weeks before the National Congress at a venue within the region.
2. The CRC may hold its Congress so long as two-thirds of its constituencies in the Region have held their Constituency Congresses.
3. The Regional Congress shall be convened by the Chairperson of the CRC in consultation with the Regional Executive.
4. Where the Chairperson fails to convene a Regional Congress, the Secretary-General in consultation with Executive Council shall direct as to the convening of such congress giving the venue, time and agenda.
5. The following persons shall attend and vote at The Regional Congress:
 - 1) All card carrying members at that region.
6. The Powers and Functions of the Regional Party Congress shall be to:

- 1) Review the activities as well as general planning for the Party in the region.
- 2) Elect members of the Citizens Regional Council.
- 3) Receive reports on activities of the constituencies, wards and polling units in the region not more than two weeks after such Congress.

ARTICLE 13: CITIZENS REGIONAL COUNCIL.

1. There will be Citizens Regional Council (CRC), which shall consist of the following:

- 1) Chairperson
- 2) Vice-Chairperson
- 3) Secretary-General
- 4) Deputy Secretary-General.
- 5) Treasurer
- 6) Deputy Treasurer
- 7) Auditor
- 8) Regional Party Organizer and strategist.
- 9) Regional Youth Organizer
- 10) Deputy Regional Youth Mobilizers
- 11) Regional Women Mobilizers
- 12) Deputy Regional Women Mobilizers
- 13) Regional communications Officer
- 14) Deputy Regional Communications Officers
- 15) Constituency Council Chairperson and Secretary General
- 16) Ward Council Chairperson and Secretary General
- 17) Polling Unit Chairpersons
- 18) Facilities and Logistics Officer.

2. The following members of the Regional Council shall be elected by the Regional Congress:

- a. Chairperson

- b. Vice-Chairperson
- c. Secretary
- d. Deputy Secretary
- e. Treasurer
- f. Regional Party Policy and Strategy Specialist
- g. Regional communications Secretary
- h. Regional Youth Mobilizer
- i. Regional Differently Abled officer
- j. Regional Women Mobilizers; and
- k. Facilities and Logistic Officer

3. The CRC shall be responsible for:

- 1) Organizing all Party activities within the Region.
- 2) Implementing the decision of the National Congress and the Citizens Regional Congress within the Region.
- 3) Monitoring the performance of the Citizens Constituency Councils, the Citizens Ward Councils and the Citizens Polling Unit Councils within the region.
- 4) Evolving strategies for the conduct of electoral and other Congress.
- 5) Campaigns for the Party in the Region.
- 6) Submitting a written report to the CNEC on the Regional Congress and elections not later than one (1) week after such Congress is held.

ARTICLE 14: CITIZENS CONSTITUENCY CONGRESS

- 1. There shall be a Citizens Constituency Congress held every 2 years at a venue within the constituency.
- 2. The Constituency Congress shall be convened by the Chairperson of the Citizens Constituency Council in consultation with the Constituency Executive.
- 3. Where the Chairperson fails to convene a Constituency Congress, the General Secretary-General shall direct as to the convening of such conference giving the venue, time and agenda in consultation with the executive.

4. The following persons shall attend and vote at Constituency Congresses:
 - 1) All card carrying members in that constituency.

5. The Constituency Congress shall:

- 1) Plan and review the activities of the Party in the constituency.
- 2) Elect members of the Citizens Constituency Council
- 3) Propose resolutions for discussion at the National Congress.

ARTICLE 15: CITIZENS CONSTITUENCY COUNCIL

1. There shall be Citizens Constituency Council (CCC), which shall consist of the following:

- a. Chairperson
- b. Vice Chairperson
- c. Secretary-General
- d. Deputy Secretary -General
- e. Treasurer
- f. Deputy Treasurer
- g. Constituency Party Organizer and Strategist
- h. Deputy Constituency Party Organizer and Strategist
- i. Constituency Youth Organizer
- j. Deputy Constituency Youth Organizer
- k. Constituency Women Organizer
- l. Deputy Constituency Women Organizer
- m. Constituency Differently Abled Officer
- n. Constituency Communication Secretary
- o. Deputy constituency communication Secretary
- p. Member of Parliament
- q. Chairperson and Secretary-General of the Citizens Ward Councils

r. Chairpersons of the Polling Unit Councils.

2. The following members of the Citizens Constituency Council shall be elected by the Citizens Constituency Congress:

- a. Chairperson
- b. Vice-Chairperson
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer
- e. Auditor
- f. Constituency Party Organizer and strategist
- g. Constituency communications Secretary
- h. Constituency Youth Organizer
- i. Constituency Women Organizer
- j. Constituency Differently abled Officer
- k. Facilities and Logistic Officer.

3. The CCC shall meet at least once every three months.

4. All meetings of the CCC shall be convened by the Secretary on the directions of the Constituency Chairperson.

5. Powers and Functions of Citizens Constituency Council shall be to:

- 1) Carry out all the orders, directives, and instructions of the Citizens Constituency Congress and the CNEC.
- 2) Prepare a bi-annual report on the functions of the Party at the Constituency level and submit the same to the Citizens Constituency Congress and the CNEC.
- 3) Prepare the Constituency Budget
- 4) Formulate and implement programs for the achievement of the Party's aims and objectives at the Constituency level.
- 5) Deal with all financial matters of the constituency.
- 6) Implement any other function that may be entrusted to it by a superior authority.

6. Quorum.

1. One third of the total numbers shall form the quorum.
2. Provided where the quorum falls short of the prescribed numbers, the constituency chairperson or the person presiding may adjourn the meeting and reconvene at a later date, convenient for conducting the business of the day.

ARTICLE 16: CITIZENS WARD COUNCIL

1. Each Constituency shall be divided into Citizens Ward Councils (CWC), which shall consist of:

- 1) Chairperson
- 2) Vice Chairperson
- 3) Secretary-General
- 4) Deputy Secretary-General
- 5) Treasurer
- 6) Deputy Treasurer
- 7) Facilities and Logistics Officer
- 8) Ward Youth Organizer
- 9) Ward Women's Organizer.
- 10) Ward Differently Abled Officer.

2. The Office Bearers of the CWC shall be elected at the Ward General Meeting by all card carrying members in that ward.

3. The names of the Office-Bearers of the Ward Council shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Constituency Executive Council.

4. Citizens Ward Council shall be:

- 1) Responsible for coordinating the activities of the ward and the implementation of the decisions of the National Congress.

- 2) To recruit new members to the party.
- 3) Conduct civic education exercises.
- 4) To ensure high Party support and voter turnout at all national polls.
- 5) To Ensure CA remains sensitive to concerns of the communities that the party exists to serve
- 6) To support the constituency and regional congresses

5. The Executive for the Ward council shall be elected at a Ward meeting called for that purpose at least one month before the Constituency Congress.

6. Meeting and Quorum.

1. The Ward Council shall meet once every three months.
2. One third of the total numbers shall form the quorum.

ARTICLE 17: CITIZENS POLLING UNIT COUNCIL

1. There shall be a Citizens Polling Unit Councils (CPUCs) at every polling unit (PU) in The Gambia and every CA member shall be a member of the CPUC in the area where he or she is registered to vote.
2. Each CPUC that shall have an executive committee comprised of:
 - a) Chairperson.
 - b) Vice Chairperson.
 - c) Secretary-General
 - d) Deputy Secretary-General
 - e) Treasurer.
 - f) Deputy Treasurer.
 - g) Facilities and Logistics Officer.
 - h) Youth Organizer.
 - i) Women's Organizer.
 - j) Differently Abled Officer.
3. The executive committee shall be elected by card carrying party members voting in that polling unit (PU).

4. The names of the executive committee shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Ward Council.
5. Functions of the executive committee shall be:
 - 1) Coordination of activities at PU level and implementation of the National Congress decisions.
 - 2) Mobilisation of potential and card carrying members
 - 3) Recruitment of members
 - 4) Carry out civic and voter education activities.
 - 5) Conduct Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) activities
 - 6) Ensure CA remains sensitive to concerns of the communities that the party exists to serve.
 - 7) Support the ward, constituency and regional congresses
 - 8) Ensure that party members as prescribed under this constitution.
6. The executive shall be elected at a CPUC meeting called for that purpose at least one month before the Ward Congress.
7. **Meetings and Quorum.**
 - 1) The CPUC shall meet once every three months.
 - 2) The executive committee shall meet once a month.
 - 3) One third of the executive committee shall form a quorum.
 - 4) Five CPUC members shall form quorum.

CHAPTER FIVE

ARTICLE 18: INTEGRAL ORGANS

The following shall constitute the integral organs of the Party:

- a. Citizens Women's Alliance (CWA);
- b. Citizens Youth Alliance (CYA);
- c. Citizens Diaspora Alliance (CIDA);
- d. Differently Abled Citizens Alliance (DACCA).
- e. Citizens Think Tank (CTT);

1. The Citizens Women's Alliance (CWA)

1.1. The Citizens Women Alliance shall be the women's wing of CA. The CWA shall be integral of CA and shall have the following functions:

- 1) Promote the rights of all Women and the girl child;
- 2) Raise the political awareness of Gambian of women;
- 3) Organise Capacity development workshops for women
- 4) Mobilise women behind the party
- 5) Work to promote the development of women so that they can become full and equal members of society; and
- 6) Shall plan and supervise all activities and programs of the Party relating to women.

1.2. The executive of CWA shall consist of the following:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President
- 3) Secretary-General
- 4) Deputy Secretary-General
- 5) Treasurer
- 6) Advocacy Officer
- 7) Organiser

1.3. The Citizens National Congress shall elect the CWA President and the Secretary and they shall take necessary steps to organize a CWA general meeting to elect other office-bearers and members.

1.4. The CWA shall have chapters at the Regional, Constituency, Ward and Polling Unit levels.

1.5. The CWA committee shall meet at least once in three months.

2. The Citizens Youth Alliance (CYA)

2.1. The CYA shall be the Youth Organ of the Party and it shall be entrusted with the following primary objectives:

- 1) Organise young people behind the vision of the party
- 2) Advocate, champion and defend the rights, interest and aspirations of young people
- 3) Shall plan and supervise all youth activities and programs of the Party.
- 4) Participation in all party activities.

2.2. There shall be an executive committee of the CYA consisting of:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President
- 3) Secretary-General
- 4) Deputy Secretary-General
- 5) Organizer

6) Treasurer

2.3. The Citizens National Congress shall elect the CYA President and the Secretary- General and they shall take necessary steps to call for a general meeting to elect other office bearers and members.

2.4. The CWA shall have chapters at the Regional, Constituency, Ward and Polling Unit levels.

3. Citizens Diaspora Alliance (CiDA)

3.1. There shall be a Citizens Diaspora Alliance of CA that shall have the following functions:

- 1) Promote and defend the interest and aspirations of Gambians residing abroad
- 2) Advocate for diaspora participation in all elections in Gambia and work to mobilise support for the party
- 3) Plan and supervise all activities and programs of the Party within the Diaspora
- 4) Galvanise and rally Gambians in the Diaspora behind the vision and general principles of the party.
- 5) Organize resource mobilisation both in the Gambia and the diaspora.

3.2. There shall be an executive of Citizens Diaspora Alliance consisting of:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary-General
- d. Deputy Secretary-General
- e. Organizer
- f. Treasurer

3.3. The Citizens National Congress shall elect the CiDA President and the Secretary-General and they shall take necessary steps to call for a general meeting to elect other office bearers and members.

3.4. The CiDA shall have chapters in every major city where feasible.

4. Differently Abled Citizens Alliance

4.1. There shall be a Differently Abled Citizens Alliance (DACA) of CA that shall have the following functions:

- 1) Promote the safety, welfare, wellbeing and general interest and aspiration of people living with disabilities
- 2) Ensure people living with disabilities are represented in all structures, processes and procedures of the Party
- 3) Mobilise people living with disabilities and work to eliminate all impediments to their development as a full and equal members of society
- 4) Initiate and participate in sensitisation campaign for people living with Autism, Down Syndrome, Schizophrenia and other cognitive disabilities.

4.2. There shall be an Executive Council of the DACA, which the positions shall not be restricted to only differently abled people and shall consisting of:

- 1) President
- 2) Vice President
- 3) Secretary-General
- 4) Deputy Secretary-General
- 5) Organizer
- 6) Treasurer

4.3. The Citizens National Congress shall elect the DACA President and the Secretary-General and they shall take necessary steps to call for a general meeting to elect other office bearers and members.

4.4. Differently-able individuals are encouraged to participation in vying for election at

all levels of the part.

5. Citizens Alliance Think Tank

5.1. The CA shall establish a Think Tank which shall consist of policy development committees (PDC) on every strategic sector. The PDCs shall be the technocratic organ of CA and shall serve as prototype government of the party. They shall have the following functions:

- 1) Evolve new ideas and innovative policies
- 2) Develop the Party's policies
- 3) Develop the Party's manifesto
- 4) Conduct or coordinate surveys and research to generate empirical evidences to make informed policies, develop strategy, identify new trends and deduce future projections of the party, and the country
- 5) Represent the Party in national or international conferences or political debates in various disciplines relating to their field.
- 6) Organise international conferences on key thematic and policy issues.
- 7) Create the intelligence unit to collect and analyse relevant data for socio-economic advancement.

5.2. The Think Tank shall be headed by a Director who shall be elected by the National Congress and will supervise the PDCs.

CHAPTER SIX

Article 19. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICERS.

1. THE FLAG BEARER AND VICE FLAG BEARER.

1.1. The functions, powers and authority of the Flag Bearer, assisted by the Vice Flag Bearer, shall be as follow:

- 1) To serve as political leader of the CA and to canvass for and be elected as the President of the Republic of The Gambia
- 2) To exercise the powers and authority and perform the functions delegated to the Flag Bearer by this Constitution and the by-laws.
- 3) To exercise the power and authority and perform the functions generally and customarily exercised and performed by the Flag Bearer of a political party.
- 4) To provide befitting leadership for the party.

2. NATIONAL CHAIRPERSONS AND VICE CHAIRPERSONS

2.1. To preside at the National Congress and at all National Committee Meetings and in their absence one of the National Vice Chairman shall preside.

3. GENERAL SECRETARY-GENERALS AND DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERALS SECRETARIES

3.1. Functions and responsibilities of the Secretary-Generals and Deputy Secretary-Generals:

- 1) Be responsible for the administration of the Party Secretariat and all Party employees.
- 2) be responsible for the coordination of Party organisation and campaigns;
- 3) be the Secretary to the National Congress.

- 4) the Deputy Secretary-Generals Secretaries shall assist the General Secretary-General/s in the performance of his/her/their functions.

4. NATIONAL TREASURER AND DEPUTY NATIONAL TREASURER

4.1. Functions and responsibilities of National and Deputy National Treasurer:

- 1) Be responsible for the safe custody and accounting of Party funds to the National Executive Committee and the National Congress.
- 2) Prepare for the consideration of the National Executive Committee through the Finance Committee, such budget statements, accounts and estimates as the National Executive -Committee may require.
- 3) Make on behalf of the Party such payments as he/her may be authorized to do;
- 4) Ensure that at all levels of the Party organisation, proper books of accounts and records of all the Party assets held are kept and written reports are submitted annually to the National Executive Committee.
- 5) Be responsible for the disbursement of the National Funds of the Party upon the instruction of the Functional Executive Committee given in consultation with the Finance Committee.
- 6) Report on the state of the Party's finance to the Finance Committee and the National Executive Committee once every three months.

5. NATIONAL ORGANISER AND STRATEGISTS

- 5.1. Shall be the Chief field operators of the Party especially for the purpose of recruiting membership, mobilising support for the Party and ensuring high voter turnout at all elections in which the Party is involved.

6. NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER/SPOKESPERSON

6.1. Functions and responsibilities of National Communications

Officer/Spokesperson shall be to:

- 1) Head the communications and press team.
- 2) Take responsible steps for all propaganda activities of the Party.
- 3) Promote party-media relations, publicity, public, information dissemination, opinion research and advertising.
- 4) Propagate the good image of the party through the media.
- 5) Compile and publish the activities of the party, on monthly basis.
- 6) Organise periodic press conferences.

7. The Legal Adviser

7.1. Functions and responsibilities of the Legal Adviser shall be to:

- 1) Provide honest and professional standard legal advice.
- 2) Participate in all negotiation or discussion of the Party with the sole intent to proffer genuine legal advice where possible and necessary.
- 3) Represent the party in entering into any contract or transaction with other bodies within or outside the country.
- 4) Coordinate legal assignment to external legal counsel.
- 5) Coordinate legal assistance for part official in legal issues.

8. The Logistic Officer

8.1. Shall be responsible for all logistical arrangements for the Party, with the help of the Regional, Constituency and Ward level logistics officers.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Article 20: ELECTION OF PARTY OFFICERS

1. Party Elections and Primaries

- 1.1. All elections within the party shall be conducted through secret ballot and each member shall have one vote.
- 1.2. All elections except for the position of Standard Bearer, National Chairperson and General Secretary of the CNEC shall be elected by simple majority.
- 1.3. The party's National assembly, Council Chairperson, City and Municipal Mayor and Ward Councillor flag bearers shall be elected through direct elections by all card carrying members in the relevant constituency, region and ward councils.
- 1.4. The party's presidential candidate shall be selected through a direct election by all card carrying members of the party in all the PU's.
- 1.5. Elections to fill the position of National Chairperson and General Secretary of the CNEC and the Standard Bearer shall be elected by absolute majority (50% +1) of the votes cast. Should this be unattainable, a second round voting between the two candidates with most votes shall take place.
- 1.6. The CA electoral committee shall be responsible for issuing guidelines and managing all nominations and elections within the party.
- 1.7. A member of the electoral commission shall serve a term of four years renewable once.
- 1.8. Party Primaries to elect the Flag Bearer in the presidential elections shall be held at least two years before the presidential election.

2. Eligibility For Party Executive Positions

A person shall be qualified to hold office as a member of the Executive Council of the Party at any level if he/she:

- 2.1. Fulfils the conditions for membership as set out in Clause 2 of Article 7 of this Constitution.
- 2.2. Has not been adjudged by the Disciplinary Committee of the Party or a competent court to have committed fraud, any act of dishonesty or moral turpitude and convicted for crimes that carry capital punishment.
- 2.3. Is qualified to be registered as a voter in the Gambia.
- 2.4. Is not a member of the Electoral Committee of the party.
- 2.5. A person elected to an office shall not be of the same gender as his or her deputy except for offices where there is more than one deputy.

3. Eligibility For Party Candidates.

A person shall be qualified to be nominated as a party candidate for any elective position in The Gambia hold office as a member of the Executive Council of the Party at any level if he/she:

- 3.1. Fulfils the conditions for membership as set out in Clause 2 of Article 7 of this Constitution.
- 3.2. Meets the conditions to hold the office to be vied for under the Gambian constitution or any other national laws.
- 3.3. Has not been adjudged by the Disciplinary Committee of the Party or a competent court to have committed fraud, any act of dishonesty or moral turpitude and convicted for crimes that carry capital punishment.
- 3.4. Is qualified to be registered as a voter in the Gambia.
- 3.5. Is not a member of the Electoral Committee of the party.
- 3.6. A party Flag Bearer in one election shall not automatically qualify for the same ticket in subsequent primaries.
- 3.7. The running-mate to the party's flag bearer in a presidential election shall not be of the same gender as the party flag bearer and shall be nominated by the elected Flag Bearer, subject to approval by the CNEC.

4. Tenure of Office

4.1 A term of office for any executive position within the party shall be four years.

4.2 A member shall serve on the executive of the party for a tenure of three terms only, except for a member serving on the CNEC.

4.3 A CNEC member shall serve for a tenure of two terms only.

1. Vacation of Office Holders.

1.1. An office holder in the Party shall vacate his/her office to be such office holder if he/she:

- 1) Resigns
- 2) Is expelled from the Party; or
- 3) He/she is removed from office in accordance with the procedure for removal of officers.

2. FILLING OF VACANCIES

2.1. Any vacancies in any executive positions at any level of the Party may be filled by appointment as follows:

- 1) At the national level by Citizens National Executive Council.
- 2) At regional level by the Citizens Regional Council acting in consultation with the Executive Council concerned.
- 3) At the constituency level by the Constituency Executive Council concerned acting in consultation with the Regional Executive Council of the region of the constituency.
- 4) At the Ward level by the Ward Executive Councils concerned.

CHAPTER EIGHT

ARTICLE 21: RULES OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY CODE

1. Every Party member shall faithfully comply with and apply the following rules of conduct and any other rules promulgated by the Party in the future:
 - 1.1. Promote the values and principles of the party
 - 1.2. Ensure the unity and cohesion of the party at all times;
 - 1.3. Defend the name of the Party as well as its decisions;
 - 1.4. Faithfully implement all lawful decisions of the party;
 - 1.5. Show loyalty to the Party at all times and in particular ensure that any confidential matters of the Party are not divulged to unauthorized persons;
 - 1.6. A Party member may be subjected or may be made subject to Party discipline for any of the following:
 - 1) Breach of any of the provisions of this Constitution
 - 2) Conduct or activities that goes against the principles or bring the Party into disrepute, ridicule, or contempt
 - 3) Insubordination or negligence in the execution of lawful decisions or directives of the Party by members or officers of the party
 - 4) Unauthorized disclosure of confidential Party information; and
 - 5) Any other act or omission likely to impact adversely on the effectiveness of the Party's policies, programs and strategies.
2. The Power to discipline any member who violates the disciplinary code of conduct or any code of conduct promulgated shall be vested in the National Executive Council (NEC) or any disciplinary committee set established by the NEC The following disciplinary measures may be imposed by the NEC or its disciplinary subcommittee:
 - 2.1. Expulsion
 - 2.2. Suspension for a specific period

- 2.3. Removal from office;
- 2.4. Ineligibility to hold office; or
- 2.5. Fine.

- 3. Any member who is expelled or any person who ceases to be a member of the Party through the declaration of such intention shall return all Party properties in his/her custody.
- 4. Any member aggrieved by a decision at any of the various levels shall have the right to appeal to the immediate higher level in that successive order up to the National Congress, provided that the decision of the National Congress shall be final.

ARTICLE 22: SPECIAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

- 1. A Special Complaints Committee composed of three members shall be established at various levels of the party structure to perform the following:
 - 1.1. Receive complaints at various levels relating to acts or omissions by party members and party office holders which constitute breach of the constitution other than the provisions spelt out in Chapter seven/Chapter eight relating to the Code of Conduct and the Disciplinary Code. Complaints may cover acts of illegibility, which constitute abuse of position or acts, which occasion injustice to a member.
 - 1.2. Investigate the matter complained of and make appropriate recommendations to the next level who shall upon receipt deal with the report as appropriate.
- 2. The Citizens National Executive Council shall publish guidelines to regulate the conduct of proceedings of the Special Complaints Committee.

CHAPTER NINE

MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 23: AMENDMENTS OF THIS CONSTITUTION

This Constitution shall be subjected to a periodic review of two-three years as per article 9 (4)(m) above. The Constitution may shall be amended by the Citizens National Congress in a General or Special Session by a majority of two thirds of the delegates present, which shall be at-least fifty-one percent of the strength of the members and voting. Provided that notice to be proposed amendment shall be submitted to the General Secretary who shall circulate the same to the members at least twenty-one (21) days before the session to be scheduled.

ARTICLE 24: QUORUM FOR MEETINGS

1. Unless otherwise provided for by this Constitution, the quorum for any Party meeting shall be one-third of the registered members of that level, body or organ.

ARTICLE 25: RESIDUAL POWERS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1. Where on any Party matter there is no provision in this Constitution which deals with that matter, the Citizens National Executive Council shall, by regulations, provide for that matter to be dealt with.

ARTICLE 26: ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution will be adopted by the First National Delegates Congress of the (CA) to be held in Banjul on the Day of 2019.

DATED AT Banjul THIS.....

SIGNED SIGNED

National Chairman.....Secretary-General.....

**OATH OF
OFFICE**

I.....
do (in the name of the Almighty Allah/God swear) (solemnly affirm) that I will at all times well and truly serve thein the office of..... and that I will uphold, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the CITIZENS ALLIANCE PARTY as by law established. (So help me God).

