

**THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY  
AND PROGRESS  
(RDP)**





**THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
RALLY FOR DEMOCRACY  
AND PROGRESS  
(RDP)**



This Constitution was adopted at the RDP first National Convention that took place from 5-7 December 2007, Windhoek, Namibia

**2010**



# TABLE OF CONTENT

PREAMBLE .....	1
CHAPTER 1 .....	3
General Provisions .....	3
CHAPTER 2 .....	6
Basic Principles Guiding the Functioning of the RDP....	6
CHAPTER 3 .....	8
The RDP Membership .....	8
CHAPTER 4 .....	10
Rights and Obligations of RDP Members.....	10
CHAPTER 5 .....	13
RDP Discipline and Audit Commission.....	13
CHAPTER 6 .....	15
Elections .....	15
CHAPTER 7 .....	17
The RDP Electoral College.....	17
CHAPTER 8 .....	18
The RDP Discipline .....	18
CHAPTER 9 .....	21
The RDP and the State (government).....	21
CHAPTER 10 .....	22
The RDP and its Organisations .....	22
CHAPTER 11.....	23
The RDP and Civic and Faith Organisations.....	23
CHAPTER 12 .....	25
Structural Organization of the RDP .....	25

<b>CHAPTER 13</b> .....	<b>38</b>
The RDP National Office Bearers.....	38
<b>CHAPTER 14</b> .....	<b>43</b>
Intermediary Structures of the Party.....	43
<b>CHAPTER 15</b> .....	<b>58</b>
Regional, District and Branch Organs of the RDP.....	58
<b>CHAPTER 16</b> .....	<b>61</b>
Composition, Powers and Functions of the Regional, District and Branch Organs and Regional, District and Branch Secretaries of the RDP .....	61
<b>CHAPTER 17</b> .....	<b>86</b>
RDP Primary or Grass-roots Organisation .....	86
<b>CHAPTER 18</b> .....	<b>88</b>
RDP Regional Officers .....	88
<b>CHAPTER 19</b> .....	<b>90</b>
Terms of Office of, and other Provisions for, National Leaders.....	90
<b>CHAPTER 20</b> .....	<b>91</b>
RDP and its Organisations .....	91
<b>CHAPTER 21</b> .....	<b>94</b>
The Identity of the RDP .....	94
<b>CHAPTER 22</b> .....	<b>96</b>
RDP Final Provisions.....	96

## PREAMBLE

Whereas, delegates representing a cross-section of the Namibian people met at a convention held at the Windhoek College of Education from the 5th to the 7th December 2008, to discuss various issues of great concern to the Namibian nation;

And Whereas the said convention identified and raised serious concerns about the current Namibian Government's inability to govern the country competently, justly, fairly and transparently;

And Whereas the convention noted the general dissatisfaction with the situation in the country.

Specifically, the convention came to the realization of:

- the government's inability to address widespread poverty and inequalities in the country;
- the stagnation of the economy;
- the failing education system;
- the staggering levels of unemployment;
- the rampant corruption and lack of accountability in Namibia's public sector institutions;
- the widening and persistent national divisions based on the ideology of regionalism;
- the ever widening gap between the utter of high sounding aspirations and action to implement such aspirations;
- the undermining of the rule of law through criminal activities, such as, the rigging of elections;
- the drifting away from the commitment to the principles and values of democratic governance towards autocracy and cronyism.

And Whereas the convention unanimously expressed the intention to form and build an inclusive, mass based political party that will work to address the broad concerns of the Namibian nation.

And Whereas the Rally for Democracy and Progress was launched on 17th November 2007 at the Independence Arena as an inclusive, mass based political party, dedicated to the promotion of socio-economic well being of the Namibian people;

Now therefore, that inaugural convention of the Rally for Democracy and Progress adopts the following constitution:

# CHAPTER 1

## General Provisions

### Article 1

#### **The Name of the Party**

The name of the party is the Rally for Democracy and Progress, hereinafter referred to as the RDP.

### Article 2

#### **The Headquarters of the RDP**

The national headquarters of the RDP shall be situated in capital city of the Republic of Namibia.

### Article 3

#### **The Definition of the RDP**

The RDP is a mass-based political party, founded on the principles of unity, democracy, freedom, integrity, justice and social progress. The RDP is a political party registered with the Electoral Commission of Namibia in accordance with the provisions of the Namibian Constitution. The RDP was founded in November 2007, in response to the aspirations of the Namibian people for genuine democracy, justice, inclusiveness and prosperity.

## **Article 4**

### **Philosophy of the RDP**

1. The RDP is a mass-based political party, democratic, progressive, independent, and national in character, which assembles in its ranks, patriotic Namibian citizens without discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin, faith, creed, place of birth and social class or stratum.
2. The RDP bases its activity on a wider democratic participation of all social structures and classes of the population which are interested in the triumphs of its ideals of unity, integrity, freedom, democracy, equality, justice and social progress.
3. Members of the RDP are inspired by the traditions of the struggle of the brave people of Namibia as well as those who believe and are interested in the universal democratic values applied creatively to Namibia's realities.
4. The RDP shall organize itself and shall operate within the confines of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia and complementary legislation and is independent of any other political organization, institution, Namibian state or government, and foreign state.
5. Every RDP member shall belong to a primary or grass-roots organization of the party.

## **Article 5**

### **Aims and Objectives of the RDP**

The RDP's main objective is the deepening and consolidation of democracy and social progress in

Namibia. In deepening our democracy, the RDP will strive to achieve unity of purpose and inclusiveness of all citizens in the building of a truly democratic and harmonious society. The RDP will pay special and particular attention to the principle of inclusiveness, responsibility and accountability.

## **Article 6**

### **The RDP Legal Status**

The RDP is a body corporate with perpetual succession capable of suing and being sued, acquiring and disposing off of property and resources in its own name.

## CHAPTER 2

### Basic Principles Guiding the Functioning of the RDP

#### Article 7

#### Rules Guiding RDP Internal Democracy

1. The RDP shall uphold and encourage, as its pillars, free debate, expression of ideas, submissions of proposals and suggestions within the organs, and structures, and its organizations.
2. Internal democracy in the RDP shall be based on the following principles:
  - a. Exercising collective leadership and individual responsibility at all levels of leadership in the RDP.
  - b. Maintaining at all times, the unity in diversity and uphold the principle of inclusiveness.
  - c. Upholding freedom of discussion, tolerance and recognition of divergence of opinions.
  - d. Respecting majority decisions taken in accordance with provisions of the RDP constitution and its rules.
  - e. Honouring the verdict of a democratic process of elections within the RDP.
  - f. Electing and being elected to organs and structures of the RDP.
  - g. Acknowledging the views and opinions of the minority.
  - h. Ensuring accountability of subordinate organs to superior organs of the RDP.
  - i. Upholding freedom of constructive criticism within the organs and structures of the RDP regarding the work of any organ, structure or its member.
  - j. Encouraging RDP members and organizations to make incentives in accordance with the RDP statutes.

- k. Allowing the flow of information between RDP support base and the leadership at all levels.
- l. Promoting a just policy on training, cadreship formation and distribution.
- m. Observing RDP discipline at all levels.
- n. Recognizing work and positive contribution of RDP members.

## CHAPTER 3

### The RDP Membership

#### Article 8

##### Membership

1. There shall be one category of RDP membership, namely, individual membership. Membership shall be open to every Namibian citizen who accepts the aims and objectives of the RDP as stipulated under article eight (8) of the RDP constitution and who are of the age of eighteen (18) years and above.
2. Any person seeking membership of the RDP shall not retain affiliation to any other political party.
3. All card carrying members of the RDP shall pay an annual membership fee whose amount shall be determined by the RDP National Executive Committee from time to time.

#### Article 9

##### Procedure of Admission of Individual Membership

In order for an individual to be admitted in the RDP, he or she shall be required to launch an application to the local RDP structure.

## **Article 10**

### **Cessation of Membership**

Membership of the party shall cease through the following:

1. Death
2. Resignation
3. Expulsion

## **Article 11**

### **Readmission in the RDP**

Readmission in the party is processed in terms of Article nine (9) and shall be ratified by the RDP Branch Executive.

# CHAPTER 4

## Rights and Obligations of RDP Members

### Article 12

#### Rights of RDP Members

The members of the RDP shall have the rights to:

1. Participate actively in meetings of organs and structures to which a member belongs or to which a member is invited.
2. Elect or be elected for a position of leadership in the RDP and to be elected as a delegate to meetings, conferences and conventions of the RDP.
3. Participate freely and actively in discussions during the meetings, conferences and conventions of the RDP on matters related to RDP activities.
4. Express one's opinion and make proposals on matters being debated before decisions are taken on such issues. Be openly critical and constructive during meetings, conferences and conventions or any other organ or structure to which a member belongs.
5. Participate actively in social organizations whose activities are in conformity with the laws of the state and are not in conflict with RDP statutes.
6. Be regularly informed of the decisions taken by the RDP or fundamental questions of party life and its members.
7. Request resignation, for justified reasons, from the position for which one is elected or from a function to one has been designated.
8. Not to suffer any sanctions before one is heard in a properly constituted disciplinary process in accordance with the provisions of the competent rule.

## **Article 13**

### **Obligations of RDP Members**

The members of the RDP shall have the following obligations:

1. To work with integrity, dedication and commitment in the best interest of the RDP and the Namibian citizens at large.
2. To be of exemplary conduct and to act at all times in the spirit of teamwork and comradeship towards other members of the RDP.
3. To protect and exercise care over RDP assets and properties.
4. To attend RDP meetings.
5. To respect and comply with decisions, resolutions and directives of the RDP regardless of whether one has expressed or held different opinions or views.
6. To promote and consolidate RDP's political objectives and core values as outlined in the political program as well as the provisions of RDP's Code of Conduct.
7. To vehemently oppose divisive and factionalist tendencies in the rank and file of the RDP.
8. To continuously and persistently educate the Namibian people of the aims and objectives, policies and political direction of the RDP.
9. To promote transparency and openness in order to achieve constructive criticism without fear and favour with a view to overcome defects and shortcomings.
10. To be sincere and honest in all one's dealings with other RDP members and the public.
11. To keep confidentiality of RDP affairs.
12. To make financial contributions to the RDP.
13. A member of RDP serving in the government at any

level on the ticket of the party shall be required to make financial contribution towards the work of the RDP.

# CHAPTER 5

## RDP Discipline and Audit Commission

### Article 14

#### **Duties and Functions of the Discipline and Audit Commission**

There shall be an RDP Discipline and Audit Commission, hereinafter referred to as Discipline Commission, which shall function under, and guided by, its own rules approved by the Central Committee of the RDP. The Discipline Commission shall be headed by the Chairperson appointed by the Central Committee. The Discipline Commission shall be responsible for the following:

1. To ensure that the provisions of the RDP constitution and the party political program are implemented to the letter.
2. To protect the unity and purity of the policies of the RDP through the detection and examination of the actions or activities of cadres who contravene the provision of the RDP constitution and the party political program and the RDP discipline, those who violate RDP resolutions, RDP morality and the laws of the country.
3. To fight all attempts of forming factions within the RDP designed to falsify the political line of the RDP or defend opportunistic thesis and incorrect or even wrong conceptions about RDP work or the building of the RDP.
4. To defend the prestige of the RDP and that of RDP cadres through combating slanders, tendentious information, false accusations and rumours.

5. To ensure the correct management of the budget and that of finances and appropriate administration of RDP resources.
6. To institute processes with regard to disciplinary measures against RDP members of the Central Committee, RDP members of Parliament and all other RDP members.
7. To make recommendations on requests for re-admission of expelled or resigned members in the RDP.
8. To make recommendations on the interpretation of the present constitution and the party political program of the RDP and propose resolutions thereon.
9. To act on the resolutions of conflicts in the RDP and intervene in other disciplinary processes upon requests made by the national organs of the RDP.
10. To be accountable to the National Executive Committee.

## CHAPTER 6

### Elections

#### Article 15

##### **RDP Commission on Elections**

There shall be an RDP Commission on Elections which shall be headed by a Director appointed by the National Executive Committee of the RDP and shall execute its functions under rules and regulations established by the National Executive Committee.

#### Article 16

##### **Duties and Functions of the RDP Commission on Elections**

The RDP Commission on Elections shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP rules and regulations on presidential, national, regional and local authority elections.
2. Planning management and execution of the RDP program on state elections.
3. Identification, selection, training and deployment of RDP election officials.
4. Liaise with the Electoral Commission of Namibia in order to obtain all information pertaining to state elections.
5. Procurement, acquisition and distribution of all election materials.

6. Ensure adequate logistical arrangements relating to state elections.
7. Ensuring the safety and security off all election materials.
8. Be responsible for all matters relating to state elections.
9. To be accountable to the National Executive Committee.

## CHAPTER 7

### The RDP Electoral College

#### Article 17

##### Electoral College

There shall be an Electoral College of the RDP which shall be responsible for the following:

1. To elect the RDP candidates for the National Assembly.
2. The Electoral College shall function under specific rules approved by the Central Committee.
3. The Electoral College shall be headed by a competent, independent and impartial body.

#### Article 18

##### The Composition of the Electoral College of the RDP

The composition of the Electoral College of the RDP shall be as follows:

1. All the members of the Central Committee.
2. Ten (10) delegates from each of the Regional Committees.
3. Twenty (20) delegates from the RDP Youth League.
4. Twenty-five (25) delegates from the RDP Women's League.

## CHAPTER 8

### The RDP Discipline

#### Article 19

#### Disciplinary Sanctions

1. Any RDP cadre who violates its constitution or its political program, who does not obey the code of conduct, resolutions or norms as established, who abuses his or her functions in the RDP, or in any other way behaves in a manner that degrades the good name or prestige of the RDP is liable to the RDP disciplinary sanctions.
2. The fundamental objective of the application of any sanction is the education of RDP cadres aiming at strengthening or reinforcing the RDP unity and safeguarding the ideological purity of the RDP. Therefore, the sanctions are applied in the spirit of fraternity and justice with the objective of rehabilitating the guilty cadre and strengthen the unity and discipline of the RDP.
3. The application of the sanctions shall be in accordance with the gravity of the committed offence and responsibility of the cadre and are as follows:
  - a. Written warning.
  - b. Temporary loss of the right to vote or be voted for positions of leadership in all organs and structures of the RDP.
  - c. Suspension from RDP activities for a period not exceeding one (1) year.
  - d. Expulsion from the RDP.

4. The application of sanctions must be preceded by a prudent and meticulous investigation of the accusations laid down and it should be only after the accusations have been duly proved correct that the decision to apply sanctions shall be taken and this must be preceded by a fair and adequate hearing where the accused member has been granted a fair hearing and has been guaranteed an appropriate legal defence.

## **Article 20**

### **Norms of Application of Sanctions**

The norms of application and ratification of disciplinary sanctions shall be subject to a regulation approved by the Central Committee of the RDP.

## **Article 21**

### **Substitution of Sanctions**

1. In the case of an offence of lesser gravity, the RDP sanctions may be substituted by a form of private or public self-criticism by the cadre involved.
2. In daily interactions of RDP members, however, RDP members who may get involved in the practice of committing minor crimes shall be subjected to individual or collective warning without necessarily resorting to the RDP sanctions.

## **Article 22**

### **Incentives or Stimulus**

RDP members or RDP organs who distinguish themselves or excel in their RDP activities or RDP work shall be encouraged by giving them incentives or stimulus in accordance with the provisions of the RDP internal rules.

## CHAPTER 9

### The RDP and the State (Government)

#### Article 23

#### The Party Autonomy

1. As stated in Article four (4) of this constitution, the RDP is a political party which is independent of the state or any other political organization and shall operate independently, strictly under the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia and other laws of the state.
2. Operating under the system of multi-partyism, the RDP will uphold and fully respect the principle of separation between the state and the political parties operating within Namibia.

## CHAPTER 10

### The RDP and its Organizations

#### Article 24

##### The RDP Youth Organization

The youth organization of the RDP is the reservoir of the future RDP leaders and the main transmitting belt of RDP policies to the Namibian people. The RDP youth organization shall function in accordance with its own autonomous constitution and shall cooperate with the RDP in the elaboration of the appropriate policy for the youth.

#### Article 25

##### The RDP Women Organization

The women organization is, in particular, the transmitting belt of the RDP policies to the most downgraded sections of the population in different areas of the country. Like the youth organization, the women organization shall function under its own autonomous constitution and shall cooperate with the RDP in the elaboration of practical and appropriate policy for the women.

# CHAPTER 11

## The RDP and Civic and Faith Organizations

### Article 26

#### The RDP and Faith Organizations

1. Religion occupies an important space and plays a significant role in our society influencing, to a considerable extent, the conscience and behaviour of a large number of people.
2. The RDP upholds the establishment of a secular and democratic state that recognizes and guarantees freedom of conscience to all citizens, the equality of all people before the law, independently of professing or not professing any religious faith, creed, equality among religious institutions and their freedom of action within the confines of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia and other complementary laws of the state.
3. For the objective of uplifting the material and spiritual wellbeing of the Namibian citizens, in the interest of unity and socio-economic progress of the country, RDP heartily upholds greater cooperation, active and permanent participation of faith based institutions in the social / economic spheres, particularly in the fields of social assistance, health, education and culture.

### Article 27

#### The RDP and Civic Organizations

1. The RDP believes that civic and professional organizations that mobilize and serve important sectors of the population constitute one of the guarantees for

- active and effective participation of civil society in the discussion and execution of state policies in relation to all domains of socio-economic activity in the country.
2. It is through the work and activities of its members within such social and professional organizations, and other non-governmental organizations that the RDP is able to stimulate patriotic enthusiasm and creative capacity and ability of the Namibian citizens.

## CHAPTER 12

### Structural Organization of the RDP

#### Article 28

##### General Structure of the RDP

1. The RDP shall have organizational structures at national, regional, district, branch and grass-root levels.
2. The primary or base organ of the party shall constitute the Assembly of RDP Members.
3. The Assembly of Members shall be organized at residential areas or, in exceptional cases, at any section of the Namibian population that has been decided by the Central Committee of the RDP.
4. RDP members residing abroad may organize themselves into RDP committees in accordance with specific regulations and taking into consideration the particularities of the countries they reside in.
5. The Central Committee may establish particular forms of organization which shall function with a specific attribution at any section of population considered important politically, economically and socially.
6. The Central Committee of the RDP may establish special ad hoc committees tasked with the responsibility of analysing matters relating to important sections of the political, economic or social structures of the country at all levels of RDP structures.

## **Article 29**

### **Levels of Party Organization**

1. The supreme organs of the RDP are:
  - a. The Convention – at national level.
  - b. The Conference – at regional, district and branch levels.
  - c. The Assembly of Members – at primary or grass-root levels.
2. At the RDP Convention and conferences, RDP cadres elect the committees at their respective levels (the Central Committee, Regional Committee, District Committee and Branch Committee), which are the executive organs responsible for the day to day activities of the RDP at those levels and are answerable to the Convention and the conferences, respectively, for their work.
3. At primary or grass-root levels, the party members elect the chairperson, the deputy chairperson, the secretary and the deputy secretary of the Assembly of RDP Members.
4. The Assembly of RDP Members elects the delegates to the Branch Conference.

## **Article 30**

### **Levels of RDP Decision Making**

1. The decisions of the party shall be taken by the competent organs of the party in accordance with the importance of the issues.
2. Problems relating to the political line of the party as

well as all the questions of national magnitude shall be appreciated and resolved at national level by the National Convention, the Central Committee or by the National Executive Committee.

3. Problems of local nature shall be appreciated and resolved by the regional, district or branch organs in accordance with the gravity of the issue as long as the decisions taken shall not contradict the resolutions taken by superior organs of the party and the provisions of the RDP constitution and the RDP Political Program.

## **Article 31**

### **Elections**

There shall be periodic internal elections, which shall be based on the following principles and procedures:

1. The electoral procedures and the conduct of internal elections shall be prescribed in the RDP electoral guidelines to be approved by the Central Committee.
2. Every member of the RDP shall have the right to elect or be elected to organs and structures of the RDP or to positions of leadership.
3. The internal elections to leading organs of the RDP must be held by secret ballot without subjecting the voters to undue pressures in order for them to vote for this or that candidate but offering the opportunity for the voters, if they so wish, to put any questions to the candidate.
4. Party members who are guilty of violating the internal elections principles and procedures will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct of the RDP.

## **Article 32**

### **The National Convention**

1. There shall be a National Convention of the RDP.
2. The National Convention shall be the supreme organ of the party.

## **Article 33**

### **Composition of the National Convention**

1. The National Convention shall be composed of:
  - a. All members of the Central Committee.
  - b. Ten (10) delegates from each of the thirteen (13) regions elected by regional conferences from amongst delegates to such regional conferences.
  - c. Three (3) delegates elected from each RDP district by district conferences from amongst delegates to such district conferences.
  - d. Twenty (20) delegates from the RDP Youth League.
  - e. Twenty five (25) delegates from RDP Women's League.
2. The Central Committee may still if it considers it necessary invite to the National Convention any member of the RDP or any professional in order for such a person to provide information or clarification regarding issues on the agenda of the National Convention. Such a person shall not have the right to vote or to be voted for.
3. The Central Committee shall submit the agenda of the National Convention to the different structures of the RDP sixty (60) days prior to the holding of the Convention.

4. The decisions of the RDP must be made or taken by competent organs of the RDP taking into account the importance of the matter in question.
5. Problems relating to the RDP political line as well as issues of national importance must be analysed and solved at national level by the National Convention or by the Central Committee of the RDP.
6. Problems of local nature must be analysed and solved by RDP organs at regional, district, or branch levels as long as the decisions taken do not contradict the resolutions taken by senior organs and the provision of RDP constitution and RDP political program.

## **Article 34**

### **Powers and functions of the National Convention**

The National Convention of RDP shall have the power to:

1. Discuss and evaluate the report of the Central Committee.
2. Establish, review, amend and approve the constitution and the Political Program of the RDP.
3. Formulate RDP policy for the next five (5) years.
4. Elect the President, Vice President, Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General of the RDP.
5. Elect full members of the Central Committee.
6. Decide on appeals and queries submitted by RDP members or, RDP organizations.
7. Decide on all other matters that are part of the agenda of the National Convention of the RDP.

## **Article 35**

### **The Holding of the National Convention**

The National Convention shall be convened by the Central Committee after every five (5) years. The holding of the convention shall be announced at least six (6) months in advance.

## **Article 36**

### **The Quorum of the National Convention**

The quorum of the Convention shall be a simple majority or a fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 37**

### **The Extraordinary National Convention**

1. In the period between two national conventions, the RDP Central Committee or the National Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary National Convention to discuss specific important matters of concern to the RDP members.
2. The Extraordinary National Convention shall be convened by two thirds of the memberships of the Central Committee or two thirds of the regional committees or both.
3. The quorum of the Extraordinary National Convention shall be simple majority or (50% + 1) fifty percent plus one delegate entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 38**

### **The Central Committee**

1. There shall be a Central Committee of the RDP.
2. The Central Committee shall be the highest organ of authority between two national conventions.
3. The Central Committee shall be elected by the RDP National Convention.

## **Article 39**

### **Composition of the Central Committee**

The Central Committee shall be composed as follows:

1. Sixty five (65) full members including the President, Vice President, the Secretary General, and the Deputy Secretary General.
2. Seven (7) alternate members to be appointed by the Central Committee on the recommendation of the National Executive Committee.
3. The alternate members of the Central Committee shall not be eligible to vote or to be voted for.

## **Article 40**

### **Filling of vacancies in the Central Committee**

In the event of a vacancy in the Central Committee, the Central Committee shall elect from amongst the alternate members of the Central Committee to fill the vacancy.

## **Article 41**

### **Powers and Functions of the Central Committee**

The Central Committee shall be responsible for the following:

1. Ensure that the policy of the RDP is adhered to strictly and that the decisions, resolutions and other directives of the National Convention are implemented.
2. Discuss and evaluate the report of the National Executive Committee.
3. Elect members of the National Executive Committee.
4. Elect members and chairpersons of the RDP standing and ad hoc committees.
5. Appoint the Director of the RDP National Commission on Elections.
6. Appoint the Chairperson of the RDP Discipline and Audit Commission.
7. Establish the rules, organization and management of the Central Committee, Executive Committee, the Secretariat and all RDP committees.
8. Decide on any adjustments or modifications that are necessary to be introduced in the structure and the functioning of the RDP provided that such adjustment or modification is not in contradiction with the RDP constitution and the RDP political program.
9. Approve the regulations which may be necessary for the best application of the RDP statutes.
10. Decide on the participation of the RDP in elections.
11. Recommend candidates for the RDP President, Vice President, Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General to the RDP National Convention.
12. Recommend up to forty (40) RDP cadres for Central Committee candidature at the National Convention.

13. Decide on the national presidential candidate to be supported by the party.
14. Decide on the policy on alliance or affiliation of the RDP or its wings to regional and international organizations.
15. Approve the electoral program of the RDP at all levels of the RDP.
16. Monitor the execution of the policy of the government and the legislative.
17. Approve the political, social, economic and cultural development of RDP government activity.
18. Approve and control RDP national budget.
19. Execute other tasks decided by the National Convention or provided for in the RDP statutes or regulations.

## **Article 42**

### **Requirements of Central Committee Members**

In order to be elected to the Central Committee, RDP members must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Belong to a primary organ of the RDP.
2. Be a committed and tested member of the RDP for at least five (5) years, except for the first National Convention.
3. Be an ardent and devout defender of the policies of the RDP.
4. Be of exemplary behaviour, patriotic, competent and dedicated to the work of the RDP and for the cause of the Namibian people.
5. Possess good leadership quality and organizational skills and capacity.
6. Be honest, modest and of good ethics in society

and should not have been declared insolvent by a competent court of law.

## **Article 43**

### **Meetings of the Central Committee**

1. The Central Committee shall meet in ordinary sessions every six (6) months and as often as may be necessary.
2. The Central Committee shall be convened by the National Executive Committee.
3. The quorum of the Central Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) member eligible to vote or to be voted for.

## **Article 44**

### **The National Executive Committee**

1. There shall be a National Executive Committee of the Central Committee of the RDP.
2. The National Executive Committee shall be the organ of authority which directs RDP activities in the period between meetings of the Central Committee.
3. The National Executive Committee shall be the technical management body steering the daily activities of the Central Committee.
4. The National Executive Committee shall in all activities be guided by the decisions, resolutions and directives of the RDP National Convention and the RDP Central Committee.

## **Article 45**

### **Composition of the National Executive Committee**

The National Executive Committee shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members of the Central Committee and shall include the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General.

## **Article 46**

### **Powers and Functions of the National Executive Committee**

1. The National Executive Committee is the technical body of the Central Committee assisting the Central Committee in executing its daily work.
2. The National Executive Committee shall discuss and evaluate the reports of the Secretary General.
3. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for recommending the annual budget of the RDP and for submitting to the Central Committee for approval.
4. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for executing the RDP policy on cadre-ship formation.
5. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for appointing an external auditor to audit the RDP's financial records and accounts.
6. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for supervising and control of the use and management of the RDP funds and assets at headquarters, regional offices, district offices and branch offices of the RDP.

7. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for implementing all decisions, resolutions and directives of the National Convention and Central Committee.
8. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for convening extraordinary meetings of the Central Committee as well as those of the regional conferences.
9. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for submitting periodic reports to the Central Committee on its activities.
10. The National Executive Committee shall refer all issues pertaining to serious misconducts, including the violation of the RDP constitution and RDP Political Program to the Party Discipline and Audit Commission.
11. The National Executive Committee shall appoint RDP heads of departments.
12. The National Executive Committee shall be answerable to the Central Committee.

## **Article 47**

### **Meetings of the National Executive Committee**

1. The frequency of meetings of the National Executive Committee shall convene monthly and as often as may be necessary.
2. The quorum of the National Executive Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1).

## **Article 48**

### **The Secretariat of the National Executive Committee**

1. There shall be a Secretariat of the National Executive Committee.
2. The Secretariat shall be a technical management body that assists the National Executive Committee in carrying out its daily activities.

## **Article 49**

### **Composition of the Secretariat of the National Executive Committee**

1. The Secretariat shall be composed of a specific number of members of the RDP that shall be determined by the National Executive Committee and which shall include:
  - a. The Secretary General of the RDP.
  - b. The Deputy Secretary General of the RDP.
  - c. All Heads of Departments.
  - d. Secretaries of the wings of the RDP.
2. The Secretariat shall function under rules formulated by the National Executive Committee.

## CHAPTER 13

### The RDP national office bearers

#### Article 50

#### The President of the RDP

There shall be a President of the RDP. The President of the RDP shall be elected at the National Convention for a term of office of five (5) years.

#### Article 51

#### Powers and Functions of the President

The President shall have the following powers and functions:

1. He or she shall be the leader of the party directing the general strategy of the RDP.
2. He or she shall ensure the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the National Convention, the Central Committee and National Executive Committee.
3. He or she shall direct the general policy of the RDP on foreign affairs.
4. He or she shall preside over the meetings of the National Convention, the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee.
5. He or she shall represent the RDP at national and international functions.
6. He or she shall execute other tasks outlined in the RDP constitution and political program.
7. He or she shall perform any other task assigned to him

or her by the National Executive Committee or by the Central Committee of the RDP.

8. The President shall be accountable to the Central Committee and its National Executive Committee.
9. The President shall have a casting vote at the meetings of the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee of the RDP.

## **Article 52**

### **The Vice President of the RDP**

There shall be a Vice President of the RDP. The Vice President of the RDP shall be elected at the National Convention for a term of office of five (5) years. The Vice President shall perform the following duties and functions:

1. The Vice President shall be the principal assistant of the President of the RDP in the discharge of his or her duties.
2. The Vice President shall perform all such functions as may be delegated to him or her by the President.
3. The Vice President shall exercise the same powers and functions of the President as President in the absence of the President.
4. The Vice President shall be accountable to the Office of the President of the RDP.

## **Article 53**

### **The Secretary General of the RDP**

There shall be a Secretary General of the RDP who shall be the chief executive officer of the party. The Secretary General of the RDP shall be elected at the National Convention for a term of office of five (5) years.

## **Article 54**

### **Duties and Functions of the Secretary General of the RDP**

The Secretary General shall perform the following duties and functions:

1. He or she shall assist the President in the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the National Convention, the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee.
2. He or she shall direct the work the RDP with regard to the structural organization of the RDP and RDP building in general.
3. He or she shall prepare periodic reports to the National Executive Committee and Central Committee on the activities of RDP.
4. He or she shall sign and issue RDP membership cards to new members.
5. He or she shall prepare the Central Committee report to the National Convention.
6. He or she shall maintain regular registry of RDP membership.
7. He or she shall keep the registry of RDP assets.
8. He or she shall issue invitations in respect of meetings of the National Convention, Central Committee, National Executive Committee and National Secretariat by letter or other approved methods.
9. He or she shall keep records of minutes of meetings of the National Convention, Central Committee, National Executive Committee, National Secretariat, as well as all correspondences of RDP.
10. He or she shall receive periodic reports from the RDP regional secretaries, heads of departments and heads of RDP wings.

11. He or she shall be in constant contact with the grassroots structures through the regions and through the wings of RDP.
12. He or she shall chair the meetings of the National Secretariat of RDP.
13. He or she shall perform any other task assigned to him or her by the Central Committee, National Executive Committee and the National Secretariat or by the RDP President.
14. The Secretary General shall be accountable to the Office of the President, the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee.

## **Article 55**

### **The Deputy Secretary General of the RDP**

There shall be a Deputy Secretary General of the RDP who shall be elected at the National Convention for a term of office of five (5) years. The Deputy Secretary General shall perform the following duties and functions:

1. The Deputy Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General in the execution of his or her functions
2. The Deputy Secretary General shall perform all such functions as may be delegated to him or her by the Secretary General.
3. The Deputy Secretary General shall exercise the same powers and carry out all the duties and functions of the Secretary General as Secretary General in the absence of the Secretary General.
4. The Deputy Secretary General shall be accountable to the Office of the Secretary General of the RDP.

## **Article 56**

### **Secretaries of Departments**

1. There shall be secretaries of the Central Committee who shall be responsible for heading RDP departments.
2. The secretaries shall be appointed by the National Executive Committee for a term of office of five (5) years.
3. The secretaries shall be accountable to the Central Committee and its National Executive Committee.

# CHAPTER 14

## Intermediary Structures of the Party

### Article 57

#### The RDP Departments

There shall be the following departments of the RDP which shall initiate the formulation of RDP policies on political, social, economic and cultural spheres, and coordinate the implementation of the resolutions, decisions and directives of the National Convention, the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee. The departments are as follows:

1. Department of Party Organization and Political Orientation.
2. Department of the Treasury.
3. Department of Information Communication Technology and Publicity.
4. Department of Legal and Government Affairs.
5. Department of Transport and Logistics.
6. Department of Economic and Development Planning.
7. Department of International Relations.
8. Department of Education and Training.
9. Department of Housing and Human Settlement.
10. Department of Culture, Arts and Sport.
11. Department of RDP Veteran Affairs.
12. Department of Land, Agriculture and Food Security.
13. Department of Health and Social Welfare.
14. Department of Research, Science and Technology.
15. Department of Labour and Mass Organizations.
16. Department of Environment Protection and Tourism.
17. Department of Energy and Mineral Resources.

## **Article 58**

### **Department of Party Organization and Political Orientation**

There shall be a Department of Party Organization and Political Orientation which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on RDP organization and political orientation.
2. Establishment of RDP organizational structures at all levels.
3. Undertaking political education and training of RDP cadres.
4. Establishing party institutions for cadre-ship formation.
5. Providing interpretation of the constitution, the political program and the election manifesto.
6. Fostering inter-party relationship and cooperation.
7. Promoting inner-party democracy and cooperation amongst RDP members.
8. Evaluating the implementation of RDP political program and election manifesto.
9. Providing ideological guidance to the organizations of the RDP.
10. Undertaking any task relating to the building of the RDP and its organizations.

## **Article 59**

### **Department of the Treasury**

There shall be a Department of the Treasury which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on financial matters and strategies for raising funds.
2. Administration, management and control of RDP finances at all levels.
3. Accounting of all RDP finances
4. Preparation, tabling and submission of RDP management accounts budget and audited financial statements.
5. Receiver of party gifts and custodian of the RDP registry of all RDP assets, including contracts, agreements, articles of association, licences, brands, labels, barcodes and trademarks.
6. Ensuring that membership fees and other approved contributions by RDP members are paid promptly.
7. Undertaking any other task relating to finance.

## **Article 60**

### **Department of Information Communication Technology and Publicity**

There shall be a Department of Information Communication Technology and Publicity which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on information communication technology (ICT) and publicity.
2. Assessment of ICT requirements of the RDP.
3. Analysis of ICT options in terms of cost effectiveness in accordance with international standards.
4. Providing regular updates of RDP's information in accordance with new development in the ICT industry.
5. Broadening research and development of ICT with a view to keep pace with global standards.

6. Preparation, production and dissemination of information.
7. Publication of the party official information bulletin.
8. Establishment of the RDP archives, libraries and bookshops.
9. Serving as the conduit for RDP information to the members in particular and to the general public.
10. Production and distribution of RDP materials.
11. Liaising with the media.
12. Undertaking any other tasks relating to ICT and publicity.

## **Article 61**

### **Department of Legal and Government Affairs**

There shall a Department of Legal and Government Affairs which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on legal and government matters.
2. Ensuring that RDP statutes are in conformity with the constitution of the Republic and Namibia and all other laws of the state.
3. Investigating whether the present statutory laws of Namibia respond to the present, social, economic, political, cultural and spiritual needs of the people.
4. Establishment of a mechanism of ensuring that the RDP rules, regulations and procedures are adhered to by RDP members.
5. Dealing with all matters pertaining to national, regional and international rules and regulations.
6. Performing any other tasks relating to the legal system in Namibia.

## **Article 62**

### **Department of Transport and Logistics**

There shall be a Department of Transport and Logistics which shall be responsible of the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on transport, logistics and communications.
2. Identification of all transport and other logistical needs of the RDP at national and local levels.
3. Procuring the modes of transport and other communication equipment.
4. Allocation of means of transport for use by the RDP.
5. Ensuring the logistical organization of the RDP.
6. Undertaking any other tasks relating to transport and logistics.

## **Article 63**

### **Department of Economic and Development Planning**

There shall be a Department of Economic and Development Planning which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on economic development and industrialization modelled on the principles of a mixed economy.
2. Identification of viable sources of income for the RDP.
3. Development of an integrated plan for the promotion of employment creation, economic growth and poverty eradication.
4. Researching and promoting value addition and industrialization in various economic sectors.

5. Establishment of a resource centre for conducting research in various sectors of the national economy.
6. Establishment of social welfare nets for RDP members.
7. Promotion of a prudent, systematic and effective use of resources to empower and satisfy the basic needs of RDP members.
8. Promotion of internal and external commercial trade.
9. Undertaking any other task relating to economic and development planning.

## **Article 64**

### **Department of International Relations**

There shall be a Department of International Relations which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on international relations.
2. Promotion and strengthening of friendship, cooperation and ties of solidarity with other progressive and democratic parties, organizations and movements throughout the world.
3. Establishment and maintenance of strategic contacts with the objective of promoting and preserving peace and international security.
4. Undertaking any other task relating to international relations.

## **Article 65**

### **Department of Education and Training**

There shall be a Department of Education and Training which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on education and training.
2. Formulation of strategies for an effective and competitive education system for Namibia.
3. Advocacy and promotion of the establishment of vocational institutions throughout the country.
4. Promotion of science and technology in the education system.
5. Advocacy and promotion of the implementation of free education from pre-primary to secondary level.
6. Promotion of effective strategies in granting bursaries at tertiary level.
7. Establishment of deliberate training programs relevant to the economic needs of the country.
8. Establishment of deliberate institutions of learning to cater for different intellectual and academic abilities.
9. Development and promotion of indigenous languages, including their literacies and numeracies.
10. Undertaking any other task relating to education and training.

## **Article 66**

### **Department of Housing and Human Settlement**

There shall be a Department of Housing and Human Settlement which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on housing in Namibia.
2. Assessment of housing needs of the people of Namibia, particularly in informal settlements and rural areas.
3. Undertaking a comprehensive research on affordable construction materials suitable to Namibian conditions.

4. Identification of reliable funding sources and secure funding for housing development.
5. Undertaking any other task relating to housing and human settlement.

## **Article 67**

### **Department of Culture, Arts and Sport**

There shall be a Department of Culture, Arts and Sport which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on culture, arts and sport.
2. Conceptualization and contextualization of RDP songs, poetry, dances and artefacts as well as RDP slogans.
3. Preservation of RDP history and heritage.
4. Promotion of cultural exchange programs at national, regional and international levels.
5. Promotion of the development of all Namibian languages including their different literacies, numeracies and orthographies.
6. Promotion of physical education and recreation for RDP cadres and the youth in general.
7. Promotion of music in general and RDP music in particular.
8. Promotion of the development of all sports codes.
9. Undertaking any other tasks relating to the promotion and development of culture, arts and sport in Namibia.

## **Article 68**

### **Department of RDP Veteran Affairs**

There shall be a Department of RDP Veteran Affairs which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on RDP veterans (the successive generation of RDP cadres since the inception of RDP).
2. Impartation of the wisdom and experience of RDP veterans to the youth.
3. Caring for the material and spiritual needs of RDP veterans.
4. Intoning and imparting on young generations the heroic deeds and accomplishments of our forbearers.
5. Promotion of a just system of recognizing and awarding honour to those who resisted colonialism and those who participated in the national struggle for liberation and those who contributed to social, economic, political and cultural emancipation of the Namibian people.
6. Undertaking any other task relating to matters concerning RDP veterans.

## **Article 69**

### **Department of Land, Agriculture and Food Security**

There shall be a Department of Land, Agriculture and Food Security which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework for the development of agriculture.
2. Formulation of RDP policy framework for food security.

3. Ensuring water conservation and its optimal utilization.
4. Formulation of RDP policies for land reform program and land redistribution in order to enhance higher productivity for economic growth.
5. Formulation of RDP policies fostering cooperation on water utilization between neighbouring states on shared water courses.
6. Developing RDP policies and strategies aimed at increased productivity and income generation for both communal and commercial farming sectors.
7. Formulation of RDP strategies on value addition to agricultural products and in order to broaden their markets.
8. Formulation of RDP policies on fisheries management and equitable distribution for the accrued benefits.
9. Formulation of RDP policies for the development of aqua-culture and develop their markets.
10. Undertaking any other task relating to land, agriculture and food security.

## **Article 70**

### **Department of Health and Social Welfare**

There shall be a Department of Health and Social Welfare which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of effective health and social welfare policies of the RDP.
2. Ensuring the implementation of the policies on all health institutions.
3. Aligning national health and welfare policies and standards with regional and international best practices.

4. Formulation of RDP policies on primary health care system.
5. Evaluation and monitoring of the appropriateness, effectiveness and performance of their impact on public health system.
6. Formulation of appropriate policies for the provisions of social welfare system to benefit the most vulnerable members of society.
7. Formulation of appropriate policies for combating HIV/AIDS and other epidemics.
8. Undertaking any other task relating to health and social welfare.

## **Article 71**

### **Department of Research, Science and Technology**

There shall be a Department of Research, Science and Technology which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP of policy framework on research, science and technology.
2. Undertaking research on various social economic fields with the objective of enhancing and accelerating economic development.
3. Establishment of research institutions for various specialized fields in the country.
4. Promotion of science and technology in all spheres of economic development.
5. Identification of viable technological options for application for Namibia's economic development.
6. Establishment of cooperation with other research institutions.
7. Undertaking any other task relating to research, science and technology.

## **Article 72**

### **Department of Labour and Mass Organizations**

There shall be a Department of Labour and Mass Organizations which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy framework on labour and mass organizations.
2. Building and maintaining good relations between the RDP and legitimate representatives of the progressive and democratic workers unions, students and youth, women organizations and professional organizations as well as all NGO's and religious organizations.
3. Educating and advising the RDP on all labour matters with a view to proactively avert labour crisis which may jeopardize the economy of the country and the just interest of the workers in general.
4. All labour matters in the RDP.
5. Undertaking any other all other task relating to labour matters.

## **Article 73**

### **Department of Environment Protection and Tourism**

There shall be a Department of Environment Protection and Tourism which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policy on biotic and a-biotic conservation.
2. Formulation of conducive and suitable policy for nature conservation and environment management.
3. Formulation of RDP policy and strategy for the promotion and the development of tourism.

4. Alignment of nature conservation and tourism policies with regional and international conventions, standards and best practices.
5. Formulation of RDP policies and strategies on sustainable utilization of renewable and non-renewable natural resources.
6. Formulation of RDP policy and strategy aiming at discouraging and combating of deforestation, soil erosion and pollution.
7. Formulation of suitable RDP policy for the protection of the environment, to combat and mitigate the effects of climate change and global warming.
8. Evaluation of the desirability and effectiveness of the impact of nature conservation policies and strategies.
9. Promotion of Namibia as the best tourism destination locally, regionally and globally.
10. Implementation of programs aiming at educating the society on the importance of nature conservation, environment protection and tourism.
11. Promotion of research and development on nature conservation, environment protection in Namibia.
12. Exploration of opportunities for bilateral and multilateral cooperation on nature conservation, environment protection and tourism.
13. Undertaking any other task relating to nature conservation, environment protection and tourism promotion.

## **Article 74**

### **Department of Energy and Mineral Resources**

There shall be a Department of Energy and Mineral Resource which shall be responsible for the following:

1. Formulation of RDP policies on the protection of Namibia's mineral resources.

2. Formulation of RDP policies on exploration and development of Namibia's mineral resources.
3. Formulation effective policies aiming at exploiting the mineral resources for the benefit of the people of Namibia.
4. Formulation of policy aiming at protecting the environment in relation to mining activities in the country, including the restoration of sites after mining activities in the area in conformity with environment protection practices.
5. Formulation of RDP policy for the development of the mining industry.
6. Promotion and development of small scale mining activities in the country and to empower the Namibian people to own the industry.
7. Formulation of RDP policy aiming at human resources development and technical capacity in the mining industry.
8. Designing a policy that accrues maximum benefit from mineral products for the country.
9. Designing a policy that encourage mineral resources beneficiation and value addition and to minimize the exportation of minerals in raw materials.
10. Formulation of attractive policy for foreign and local investment drive to Namibia as the best investment destination in the mining industry.
11. Designing a policy for the development of precious and semi precious as well as for dimensional stones both for on-land and off-land mining activities.
12. Formulation of a policy for exploration and development of mining activities of radioactive minerals and to ensure environment protection.
13. Formulation of policy on the transportation of radioactive materials in accordance with best international practices and standards.

14. Formulation of policy and strategy for conservation and protection of mineral resources for generations to come.
15. Formulation of a national energy policy.
16. Assessment of national energy needs and potentials.
17. Implementation of sustainable energy policy for self-sufficient program to meet demand.
18. Exploration of opportunities for cooperation in the energy sector both regionally and internationally.
19. Identification of the most cost-effective and environmentally friendly energy development and usage.
20. Formulation of a policy for effective energy waste management and recycling of waste products.
21. Formulation of an effective energy program for the development of the energy industry.
22. Alignment of national energy policy with international standards and best practices.
23. Formulation of a program for the development of renewable and non renewable energy resources.
24. Development of energy research and institutional capacity for energy strategies and programs.
25. Undertaking any other task relating to energy and mineral resources.

## CHAPTER 15

### Regional, District and Branch organs of the RDP

#### Article 75

#### Regional, District and Branch Organs

1. There shall be regional, district and branch organs which shall enjoy ample authority to take initiatives within their administrative areas, provided that such initiatives shall not contradict the constitution and the political program of the RDP.
2. The regional, district and branch structures of the RDP shall guide RDP activities at their levels in accordance with the decisions and resolutions of the RDP National Convention, the Central Committee, and the RDP National Executive Committee and shall ensure the correct application of such decisions and resolutions at those levels.
3. The RDP regional, district and branch organs shall be as follows:
  - a. The RDP Regional Conference.
  - b. The RDP Regional Committee.
  - c. The RDP Regional Executive Committee.
  - d. The RDP District Conference.
  - e. The RDP District Committee.
  - f. The RDP District Executive Committee.
  - g. The RDP Branch Conference.
  - h. The RDP Branch Committee.
  - i. The RDP Branch Executive Committee.
  - j. The RDP Assembly of Members.

## **Article 76**

### **Regional, District and Branch Conferences**

1. The conferences shall be the supreme organs of the RDP at regional, district and branch levels.
2. The conferences shall be constituted by elected representatives of the organs at the corresponding levels.
3. The conferences shall elect the regional, district and branch secretaries and the deputy secretaries.
4. The conferences shall elect the RDP Regional Committees, the district committees and the branch committees.
5. The conferences shall discuss and approve reports on the activities of their respective committees.
6. The regional, district and branch conferences shall be convened, as a rule, by their corresponding committees two (2) times during the periods between two (2) RDP national conventions.

## **Article 77**

### **Regional, District and Branch Committees**

1. The regional, district and branch committees shall be the highest organs of authority of the RDP during the periods between two (2) regional, district and branch conferences.
2. Persons who have been RDP members for at least three (3) years shall be eligible to be members of regional committees.
3. Persons who have been members of the RDP for at least two (2) years shall be eligible to be elected to the district committees.
4. Persons who have been members of the RDP for at

least one year shall be eligible to be elected to branch committees.

5. A Regional, District and Branch Conference may, in special cases and on the recommendation of their respective committees, elect RDP members with less time in the RDP than what is established above.
6. Sessions of the regional committees shall be held four (4) times a year and as often as may be necessary.
7. Sessions of the district and branch committees shall be held six (6) times a year and as often as may be necessary.

## **Article 78**

### **Regional, District and Branch Executive Committees**

The regional, district and branch executive committees shall be the highest organs of authority of the RDP during the periods between meetings of the regional, district and branch committees.

## CHAPTER 16

### Composition, Powers and functions of the Regional, District and Branch Organs and Regional, District and Branch Secretaries of the RDP

#### Article 79

##### Regional Conference

The Regional Conference shall be the highest organ of the RDP in the region and shall be composed as follows:

1. All members of the RDP Regional Committee.
2. Five (5) delegates to be elected by each district in the region.
3. Ten (10) representatives from each of the RDP wings in the region.

#### Article 80

##### Powers and Functions of the Regional Conference

1. The RDP Regional Conference shall be competent to discuss and decide on matters of regional concern and may make recommendations thereon to the RDP Central Committee through the National Secretariat.
2. The RDP Regional Conference shall elect the Regional Committee from amongst its delegates through secret ballot.
3. The RDP Regional Conference shall elect from its delegates the RDP Regional Secretary and the RDP Deputy Regional Secretary by secret ballot for a term of office of three (3) years.
4. The RDP Regional Conference shall consider and

- adopt reports submitted to it by the RDP Regional Committee on the activities of the RDP in the region.
5. The RDP Regional Conference shall be convened by the Regional Executive Committee after every three (3) years.
  6. An Extra-ordinary Regional Conference of the RDP may be called on the initiative of the National Executive Committee, Regional Committee or by two (2) thirds majority of the district committees.
  7. The Regional Conference shall have the power to nominate up to six (6) candidates for election to the Central Committee at the National Convention.
  8. The quorum of the Regional Conference shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the delegates eligible to vote

## **Article 81**

### **Regional Committee**

1. There shall be a Regional Committee for each administrative region of the RDP which shall be the highest organ of authority between two regional conferences.
2. The RDP Regional Committee shall be composed of forty-nine (49) members, including all members of the Regional Executive Committee, all district secretaries in the region, and two (2) representatives from each of the RDP wings.

## **Article 82**

### **Powers and Functions of the Regional Committee**

1. The RDP Regional Committee shall be responsible for the implementation in the region, of the decisions,

- resolutions, and directives of the National Convention, the Central Committee, the National Executive Committee, and the Regional Conference.
2. The RDP Regional Committee shall be responsible for the political organization of the masses of people towards broad participation in the activities of the RDP.
  3. The RDP Regional Committee shall elect from amongst its members the RDP Regional Executive Committee by secret ballot.
  4. The RDP Regional Committee shall have the power to report to the National Executive Committee any issue of serious misconduct by any RDP member, other than a member of the Central Committee for serious misconduct or violation of the RDP constitution and the RDP political program.
  5. The RDP Regional Committee may appoint such sub-committees as may be necessary for better implementation of the policies and programs of the RDP in the region.
  6. The quorum of the meeting of the RDP Regional Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.
  7. The RDP Regional Committee shall be accountable to the RDP Regional Conference.

## **Article 83**

### **Regional Executive Committee**

There shall be a Regional Executive Committee for each administrative region of the RDP which shall be composed of twenty-one (21) elected members, including Regional Secretary, the Deputy Regional Secretary and secretaries of the RDP wings. These officers are as follows:

1. Regional Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
2. Regional Secretary for Finance.
3. Regional Secretary for Information and Publicity.
4. Regional Secretary for Economic Development.
5. Regional Secretary for Legal and Government Affairs.
6. Regional Secretary for Education and Training.
7. Regional Secretary for Health and Social Welfare.
8. Regional Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security.
9. Regional Secretary for Transport and Logistics.
10. Regional Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
11. Regional Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement.
12. Regional Secretary.
13. Deputy Regional Secretary.
14. Regional Secretary for the RDP Youth League.
15. Regional Secretary for the RDP Women's League.

## **Article 84**

### **Powers and Functions of the Regional Executive Committee**

1. The Regional Executive Committee shall assist the RDP Regional Committee with the implementation, at the regional level, of the decisions, resolutions and directives of the National Convention, the Central Committee, the National Executive Committee, the Regional Conference and the Regional Committee.
2. The Regional Executive Committee shall establish a Regional Secretariat to assist it in the day to day administration of the RDP at the regional level.
3. The Regional Executive Committee shall establish an Internal Finance Committee to advise the RDP at regional level on the appropriate management of

RDP finances.

4. The Regional Executive Committee shall have the power to convene the meetings of the RDP Regional Committee.
5. The quorum of the RDP Regional Executive Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.
6. There shall be a Regional Secretariat of the Regional Executive Committee for each RDP administrative region which shall assist the Regional Executive Committee in the daily administration of the party.
7. The composition of the Regional Secretariat shall be established by the Regional Executive Committee and shall include all the heads of department at regional level and the Regional Secretary, the Deputy Regional Secretary, and the secretaries of the RDP wings.

## **Article 85**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary**

The Regional Secretary shall be the party leader in the region who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Ensuring that the decisions, resolutions and directives of the National Convention, Central Committee and the National Executive Committee are adhered to and implemented.
2. Ensuring the drawing up of a three-year regional action plan and annual work plans which encompass the tasks and activities of all regional officers.
3. Coordinating all regional party activities regarding the work of all regional officers.
4. Convening and chairing the meetings of the Regional

- Conference, Regional Committee and the Regional Executive Committee.
5. Ensuring an effective and efficient flow of information within the region and between the region and the Office of the Secretary General.
  6. Supervising the work of all district secretaries in the region.
  7. Compiling and submitting monthly reports to the Office of the Secretary General regarding the work of party.
  8. Compiling and submitting annual reports to the Office of the Secretary General regarding the party work.
  9. Performing any other task assigned by the National Executive Committee, Regional Committee and the Regional Executive Committee.
  10. The Regional Secretary shall be accountable to the Office of the Secretary General, the Regional Committee and the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 86**

### **Duties and Functions of the Deputy Regional Secretary**

The Deputy Regional Secretary shall be the principal assistant to the Regional Secretary who shall act as the Regional Secretary in the absence of the Regional Secretary. He or she shall be accountable to the Office of the Regional Secretary.

## **Article 87**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Establishment of RDP organizational structures.
2. Planning and execution of the regional mobilization program.
3. Undertaking political education and training of RDP cadres.
4. Ensuring the wellbeing of RDP cadres and their promotion.
5. Providing interpretation of the constitution, the political program, the election manifesto and any other party documents.
6. Promoting inner-party democracy and cooperation amongst RDP members.
7. Evaluating the implementation of RDP political program and election manifesto.
8. Providing ideological guidance to the organizations of the RDP.
9. Undertaking any task relating to the building of the RDP and its organizations.
10. The Regional Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation shall be accountable to the Office of the Regional Secretary.

## **Article 88**

### **Duties and functions of the Regional Secretary for Finance**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Finance who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Administration, management and control of regional party finances.
2. Drafting of the regional budget.
3. Planning and execution of a regional fundraising program.
4. Controlling of the marketing of party materials.

5. Soliciting of funds from RDP cadres and RDP sympathisers.
6. Exploring innovative ways of raising party funds.
7. Co-signing cheques issued by the region.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly financial reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Compilation and submission of annual financial reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
10. Performing any other finance related tasks as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
11. The Regional Secretary for Finance shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 89**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Information and Publicity**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Information and Publicity who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Preparation, production and distribution of RDP information materials.
2. Collecting and distributing RDP official information bulletins.
3. Establishment of RDP regional archives, libraries, bookshops.
4. Serving as the conduit for RDP information to the party members and the general public.
5. Liaising with the media.
6. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
7. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
8. Performing any other task related to information and publicity as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.

9. The Regional Secretary for Information and Publicity shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 90**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Legal and Government Affairs**

There shall a Regional Secretary for Legal and Government Affairs who shall be responsible for the following:

1. To be in charge of all issues related to legal and government affairs in the region.
2. To be the liaison officer between the RDP and the government of the republic of Namibia at regional level.
3. Researching and exposing all loopholes that can be exploited to rig the election process and the elections themselves.
4. Assessing and exposing the conduct of the government in the provision of infrastructures, materials and services to the people.
5. Assessing and exposing all discriminatory practices in the recruitment of people into government, state owned enterprises or public service.
6. Assessing and exposing all discriminatory practices targeted to deny Namibian citizens opportunities on the basis of political, tribal or regional and other affiliations.
7. Educating RDP members and the public at large on their civil rights.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.

10. Performing any other task related to legal and government affairs as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
11. The Regional Secretary for Legal and Government Affairs shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 91**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Transport and Logistics**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Transport and Logistics who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Identification and procurement of all transport and other logistical equipment and materials at regional level.
2. Allocation, management and control of the means of transport for use by RDP members for RDP regional programs and activities.
3. Be responsible for the arrangement of venues, transport, equipment and other logistical materials for RDP regional events, including RDP rallies, RDP meetings, RDP fundraising activities other social events.
4. Establishment and administration of the inventory of all RDP logistical property and assets in the region.
5. Maintenance of RDP transportation log-books, including schedule services and repairs of vehicles.
6. Ensuring the maintenance of all logistical equipment and materials.
7. Safekeeping of all transport and other logistical equipment and materials.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.

9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
10. Performing any other task related to transport and logistics as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
11. The Regional Secretary for Transport and Logistics shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 92**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Economic Development**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Economic Development who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Identification of viable sources of income for the RDP.
2. Development of an integrated plan for the promotion of employment creation and poverty eradication.
3. Researching and promoting value addition in various economic sectors.
4. Establishment of social welfare nets for RDP members.
5. Promotion of a prudent, systematic and effective use of resources to empower and satisfy the basic needs of RDP members.
6. Identification of intra-regional trade opportunities.
7. Promotion of intra-regional commercial trade.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
10. Performing any other task related to economic development as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.

11. The Regional Secretary for Economic Development shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 93**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Education and Training**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Education and Training who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Advocacy for the establishment of sufficient and free pre-primary, primary and secondary schools in the region.
2. Advocacy and promotion of the establishment of sufficient vocational training institutions in the region.
3. Promotion of effective strategies in granting bursaries at tertiary level.
4. Investigating opportunities for granting financial assistance to economically disadvantaged pupils at primary and secondary schools.
5. Identification of pupils of different categories of mental capacities and academic abilities for recommendation for placements in appropriate institutions of learning.
6. Assessing the performance of the education and training system, particularly the conduct and performance of education professionals.
7. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
8. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Performing any other task related to education and training as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
10. The Regional Secretary for Education and Training

shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 94**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Evaluation of the peoples' need for land for agricultural production.
2. Assessment of the effectiveness of land distribution and administration by traditional authorities and the Land Board.
3. Assessment of the adequacy and equity of government agricultural subsidies and extension services in the region.
4. Identification and exposure of any discriminatory practices in the land distribution and administration by traditional authorities and the Land Board based on gender, ethnicity, regionalism, religious and political affiliations or any other unlawful justifications.
5. Evaluation of government emergency interventions, including drought relief programs, animal health programs and other disaster management programs.
6. Recommend the most effective land distribution, administration and utilization methods in order to maximise production for food security at household level.
7. Education of communal farmers about the benefits of organizing themselves into associations, unions and cooperatives in order to enhance production and marketing as well as the effectiveness of agricultural

- extension services.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
  9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
  10. Performing any other task related to agriculture and food security as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
  11. The Regional Secretary for Agriculture and Food Security shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 95**

### **Duties and Functions of the Regional Secretary for Health and Social Welfare**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Health and Social Welfare who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Identification of the people's health and welfare needs in the region.
2. Assessment of the adequacy of health infrastructure, materials, equipment and medical personnel in the region.
3. Assessment of the adequacy of the administration of social welfare programs.
4. Advocacy for educational programs aimed at promoting preventive measures, including primary health care, HIV /Aids and other epidemics.
5. Alerting the community on the availability of social welfare programs and their requirements.
6. Identification and exposure of any discriminatory practices in the provision of health and social welfare based on gender, ethnicity, regionalism, religious and political affiliations or any other unlawful justifications.

7. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
8. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Performing any other task related to health and social welfare as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
10. The Regional Secretary for Health and Social Welfare shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 96**

### **Duties and Functions for the Regional Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Promotion of the diverse culture of Namibia in the region.
2. Conceptualization and contextualization of RDP songs, poetry, dances and artefacts as well as RDP slogans.
3. Promotion of the development of all relevant sports codes in the region.
4. Promotion of cultural exchange programs at regional and national levels.
5. Preservation of RDP history and heritage.
6. Promotion of physical education and recreation for RDP cadres and the youth in general.
7. Promotion of RDP music and music in general.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.

10. Performing any other task related to culture, arts and sport as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
11. The Regional Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 97**

### **Duties and Functions for the Regional Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement**

There shall be a Regional Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement who shall be responsible for the following:

1. Assessment of the people's housing needs in the region, particularly in the informal settlements and rural areas.
2. Assessment of the transparency of the provision of land for housing by town and village councils, as well as the traditional authorities.
3. Undertaking a comprehensive research on affordable local construction materials for housing.
4. Identification of reliable funding sources for the construction of houses.
5. Education of the community on the availability of funding for the construction of houses.
6. Identification and exposure of any discriminatory practices in the provision of land for housing based on gender, ethnicity, regionalism, religious and political affiliations or any other unlawful justifications.
7. Recommending the most appropriate strategies for alleviating homelessness in the region.
8. Compilation and submission of monthly reports to the Regional Executive Committee.

9. Compilation and submission of annual reports to the Regional Executive Committee.
10. Performing any other task related to housing and human settlement as assigned by the Regional Executive Committee.
11. The Regional Secretary for Housing shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee.

## **Article 98**

### **District Conference**

1. There shall be a District Conference for each administrative district which shall be the highest organ of the RDP in the district.
2. The composition of the District Conference shall be as follows:
  - a. All members of the District Committee.
  - b. Two (2) delegates from each of the branches in the district.
  - c. Two (2) representatives from each of the RDP wings in the district.

## **Article 99**

### **Powers and Functions of the District Conference**

1. The District Conference shall be competent to discuss social, economic, political and cultural matters at district level and may make recommendations thereon to the RDP Regional Committee.
2. The District Conference shall receive, consider and adopt reports from the District Committee regarding the activities of the RDP in the district.
3. The District Conference shall elect by secret ballot

the District Secretary and his or her Deputy Secretary for a term of office of two (2) years.

4. The District Conference shall elect the District Committee from amongst its delegates through secret ballot.
5. The quorum of the District Conference shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the delegates entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 100**

### **District Committee**

1. There shall be a District Committee for each administrative district which shall be the highest organ of the RDP in the district during the period between two district conferences.
2. The District Committee shall be composed as follows:
  - a. Twenty (20) members elected by the District Conference.
  - b. The District Secretary and his or her deputy.
  - c. All branch secretaries in the district.
  - d. Two (2) representatives from each of the RDP wings in the district.
3. The District Committee shall be elected by secret ballot by the District Conference from amongst its delegates to the Conference for a term of office of two (2) years.

## **Article 101**

### **Powers and Functions of the District Committee**

1. The District Committee shall be responsible for the implementation in the district, of the decisions,

resolutions, and directives of the National Convention, Central Committee, the National Executive Committee, Regional Conference, Regional Committee and District Conference.

2. The District Committee shall be responsible for political organization of the masses of people towards broad participation in the activities of the RDP and of the government.
3. The District Committee shall be accountable to the District Conference.
4. The quorum of the District Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 102**

### **District Executive Committee**

1. There shall be a District Executive Committee for each administrative district of the RDP.
2. The District Executive Committee shall be composed of nineteen (19) members, including the following officers:
  - a. District Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
  - b. District Secretary for Finance.
  - c. District Secretary for Information and Publicity.
  - d. District Secretary for Education and Training.
  - e. District Secretary for Health and Social Welfare.
  - f. District Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security.
  - g. District Secretary for Economic Development.
  - h. District Secretary for Transport and Logistics.
  - i. District Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
  - j. District Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement.

- k. District Secretary.
  - l. District Deputy Secretary.
  - m. District Secretary for the RDP Youth League.
  - n. District Secretary for the RDP Women's League.
3. The District Executive Committee shall be elected through secret ballot by the District Committee with the exception of the District Secretary and District Deputy Secretary who shall be elected by the RDP District Conference.

## **Article 103**

### **Powers and Functions of the District Executive Committee**

1. The District Executive Committee shall coordinate and supervise the activities of the District Committee. The District Executive Committee shall establish a District Secretariat to assist it in the daily administration of the RDP at the district level.
2. The District Executive Committee shall establish an Internal Finance Committee to advise the RDP at regional level on the appropriate management of RDP funds.
3. The District Executive Committee shall have the power to convene the meetings of the RDP District Committee.
4. The quorum of the RDP District Executive Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.
5. There shall be a District Secretariat of the District Executive Committee for each RDP administrative district which shall assist the District Executive Committee in the daily coordination of RDP activities at district level.
6. The composition of the District Secretariat shall be

established by the District Executive Committee and shall include all the heads of department at district level, the District Secretary, his or her Deputy, and the secretaries of the RDP wings.

## **Article 104**

### **Duties and Functions for the District Officers**

The terms of references of the district secretaries for the applicable portfolios are similar to those applying to the RDP secretaries at the regional level. The only difference is the level at which the functions are applied, namely, at the district level.

## **Article 105**

### **Branch Conference**

1. There shall be a Branch Conference for each RDP Branch which shall be the highest organ of RDP at the branch level.
2. The Branch Conference shall be composed of:
  - a. All members of the Branch Committee.
  - b. Five (5) delegates from each of the Assemblies of RDP Members.
  - c. Two (2) delegates from each of the RDP wings in the branch.

## **Article 106**

### **Powers and Functions of the Branch Conference**

1. The Branch Conference shall be competent to discuss and decide on matters of branch concern and may make recommendations thereon to the District Committee.

2. The Branch Conference shall elect the Branch Committee through secret ballot from amongst the delegates to the Branch Conference.
3. The Branch Conference shall elect the Branch Secretary and the Branch Deputy Secretary through secret ballot from amongst the delegates to the Branch Conference.
4. The Branch Conference shall consider and adopt reports submitted to it by the Branch Committee on the activities of RDP within the branch.
5. The Branch Conference shall elect by secret ballot four (4) delegates to the District Conference.
6. The Branch Conference shall meet once every year.
7. An Extra-ordinary Branch Conference may be convened by the Branch Committee to discuss any urgent matter of great concern to the RDP in the branch.
8. The quorum of the Branch Conference is a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% +1) of the delegates entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 107**

### **Branch Committee**

1. There shall be a Branch Committee for each administrative branch of RDP which shall be the highest organ of RDP between two branch conferences.
2. The composition of the Branch Committee shall be as follows:
  - a. Twenty (20) members elected by the Branch Conference.
  - b. Two (2) representatives from each of the RDP wings in the branch.
3. The Branch Committee shall be elected by secret

ballot by the Branch Conference from amongst its delegates to the Conference for a term of office of two (2) years.

## **Article 108**

### **Duties and Functions of the Branch Committee**

1. The Branch Committee shall be responsible for the implementation in the branch of the decisions, resolutions and the directives of the National Convention, the Central Committee, the National Executive Committee, the Regional Conference, the Regional Committee, the Regional Executive Committee, The District Conference, the District Committee, the District Executive Committee, and the Branch Conference.
2. The Branch Committee shall be accountable to the Branch Conference.
3. The Branch Committee shall be responsible for the political organization of the people towards broad participation in the activities of RDP.
4. The Branch Committee shall meet four (4) times a year and as often as may be necessary.
5. The quorum of the Branch Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% +1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 109**

### **Branch Executive Committee**

1. There shall be a Branch Executive Committee for each administrative branch of RDP.
2. The Branch Executive Committee shall be composed of thirteen (13) members, including the following:

- a. Branch Secretary.
  - b. Branch Deputy Secretary.
  - c. Branch Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
  - d. Branch Secretary for Finance.
  - e. Branch Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
  - f. Two (2) representatives from each of the RDP wings in the branch.
3. The Branch Executive Committee shall be elected through secret ballot by the Branch Committee for a term of office of one (1) year and shall include the Branch Secretary and the Branch Deputy Secretary who shall be elected by the Branch Conference.
  4. The Branch Executive Committee shall coordinate the activities of RDP in the period between two meetings of the Branch Committee in the implementation of the decisions, resolutions and the directives of the National Convention, the Central Committee, the National Executive Committee, the Regional Conference, the Regional Committee, the Regional Executive Committee, The District Conference, the District Committee, the District Executive Committee, the Branch Conference and the Branch Committee.
  5. The quorum of the Branch Executive Committee shall be a simple majority or fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the members entitled to attend and vote.
  6. There shall be a Branch Secretariat of the Branch Executive Committee for each RDP administrative branch which shall assist the Branch Executive Committee in the daily coordination of RDP activities at branch level.
  7. The composition of the Branch Secretariat shall be established by the Branch Executive Committee and shall include all the heads of department at branch level, the Branch Secretary, his or her Deputy, and the secretaries of the RDP wings.

## **Article 110**

### **Duties and Functions for the Branch Officers**

The terms of references of the branch secretaries for the applicable portfolios are similar to those applying to the RDP secretaries at the regional level. The only difference is the level at which the functions are applied, namely, at the branch level.

## CHAPTER 17

### RDP Primary or Grass-roots Organization

#### Article 111

#### RDP Assembly of Members

1. The primary or base organ of the party shall be the Assembly of Members.
2. The Assembly of Members shall be constituted at residential areas in every branch.
3. The number of Assemblies of Members shall not be less than ten (10) and not more than thirty (30) in each branch.
4. The number of RDP members in attendance of any Assembly of Members' meeting where elections are held shall not be less than twenty-five (25) people.
5. Each Assembly of Members shall elect five (5) delegates to the Branch Conference.
6. The Assembly of Members shall work out an annual program of activities.
7. The Assembly of Members shall evaluate and assess the work of the previous year regarding progress on social, economic, political and cultural developments, including education, health, housing, employment, infrastructures, food security, energy, water, entrepreneurship, subsidies, natural disasters and emergency interventions, HIV / Aids, crime, corruption and any other developmental matters.
8. The Assembly of Members shall discuss all developmental issues and make recommendations to the Branch Executive Committee.
9. Each Assembly of Members shall elect the Secretary for a term of office of one (1) year through secret ballot.
10. The Secretary of the Assembly of Members shall report monthly to the Branch Secretary.

# CHAPTER 18

## RDP Regional Officers

### Article 112

#### Regional, District and Branch Officers

There shall be the following regional, district and branch officers of the RDP:

1. Regional Secretary
2. Regional Deputy Secretary
3. Regional Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
4. Regional Secretary for Finance.
5. Regional Secretary for Information and Publicity.
6. Regional Secretary for Economic Development.
7. Regional Secretary for Legal and Government Affairs.
8. Regional Secretary for Transport and Logistics.
9. Regional Secretary for Education and Training.
10. Regional Secretary for Health and Social Welfare.
11. Regional Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security.
12. Regional Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
13. Regional Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement.
14. District Secretary.
15. District Deputy Secretary.
16. District Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
17. District Secretary for Finance.
18. District Secretary for Information and Publicity.
19. District Secretary for Economic Development.
20. District Secretary for Transport and Logistics.
21. District Secretary for Education and Training.
22. District Secretary for Health and Social Welfare.

23. District Secretary for Land, Agriculture and Food Security.
24. District Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
25. District Secretary for Housing and Human Settlement.
26. Branch Secretary.
27. Branch Deputy Secretary.
28. Branch Secretary for Party Organization and Political Orientation.
29. Branch Secretary for Finance.
30. Branch Secretary for Culture, Arts and Sport.
31. Secretary of the RDP Assembly of Members.

## CHAPTER 19

### Terms of Office of, and other Provisions for, National Leaders

#### Article 113

##### Incumbency and other Provisions

1. The term of office of all national leaders shall be five (5) years.
2. All national leaders shall be elected through secret ballot.
3. Any national leader may be suspended from office by resolution of the Central Committee supported by two thirds majority of all the members of the Central Committee voting through secret ballot.
4. The Central Committee shall recommend the removal from office of any national leader.
5. The secretaries of the RDP wings shall be endorsed by the National Convention of the RDP.
6. The RDP National Executive Committee shall be responsible to work out the remuneration and benefits of all RDP employees and national leaders who shall work full time for RDP.

#### Article 114

##### Incapacitation of the RDP President

In the event of a definite incapacitation of the President of RDP the National Executive Committee of the RDP shall confirm the Vice President as the interim leader of the RDP pending the convening of an Extraordinary National Convention to elect the President of the RDP within a period of sixty (60) days counting from the time of incapacitation.

## CHAPTER 20

### RDP and its Organizations

#### Article 115

##### RDP Wings

There shall be the following wings of the RDP:

1. Rally for Democracy and Progress Youth League, hereafter, referred to as RDPYL.
2. Rally for Democracy and Progress Women's League, hereafter referred to as RDPWL.
3. The wings of the RDP shall be the conduit of RDP policy to the people in general and to the members of the wings in particular.
4. The wings shall address problems related to the social wellbeing of particularly their members.

#### Article 116

##### RDP Youth League

Any member of the Rally for Democracy and Progress who is of the age of eighteen (18) to thirty-five (35) years shall be eligible to become a bona fide member of the RDPYL.

#### Article 117

##### Duties and Responsibilities of the RDPYL

The RDPYL shall be responsible for the following:

1. All matters related to political, economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the Namibian youth.
2. Organization and mobilization of the Namibian youth to support the aims and objectives of the RDP.
3. Directing the implementation of decisions, resolutions and directives of the RDP.
4. Mobilization of the Namibian people, particularly the youth to join the RDP.
5. Supporting international democratic and progressive youth movements in pursuit of democracy, peace, prosperity and social justice for all mankind.
6. Promoting cooperation, friendship and establishing ties of solidarity between the Namibian youth and other democratic and progressive youth organizations in the world.
7. Striving to protect the Namibian child from any type of political, economic and cultural abuse.
8. Initiating viable projects which can be of intellectual, cultural, economic and political benefit to the young people of Namibia.

## **Article 118**

### **RDP Women's League**

Any female member of the RDP who is of the age of eighteen (18) years and above shall be eligible to become a member of the RDPWL.

## **Article 119**

### **Duties and Responsibilities of the RDPWL**

The RDPWL shall be responsible for the following:

1. Advancing RDP policies amongst the Namibian women.

2. Organization and mobilization of the Namibian women to support the aims and objectives of the RDP.
3. Directing the implementation of decisions, resolutions and directives of the RDP.
4. Mobilizing the Namibian people, particularly the women to join the RDP.
5. Supporting international democratic and progressive women movements in pursuit of democracy, peace, prosperity and social justice for all mankind.
6. Promoting cooperation, friendship and establishing ties of solidarity between the Namibian women and other democratic and progressive women organizations in the world.
7. Attending to matters related to the political, economic, social and cultural wellbeing of the Namibian women.
8. Promoting the role of Namibian women in the political sphere of the country.
9. Providing correct interpretation of the RDP constitution and political program and policies for the Namibian women.
10. Designing and executing development programs aimed at advancing the emancipation of the Namibian women.
11. Promoting cooperation and friendship and establishing ties of solidarity between RDPWL and other democratic and progressive women organizations in Namibia and the world.
12. Initiating viable projects that can be of intellectual, cultural, economic and political benefit to the women of Namibia.
13. Promoting and advancing the wellbeing of the Namibian child.

## CHAPTER 21

### The Identity of the RDP

#### Article 120

##### RDP Symbols and Motto

There shall be the following RDP symbols:

1. The RDP Flag.
2. The RDP Emblem.
3. The RDP Motto.

#### Article 121

##### The RDP Flag

The official flag of the RDP comprises five (5) colours denoting the following:

1. The Blue colour representing the ocean and the sky.
2. The White colour representing peace.
3. The Yellow colour representing inclusiveness and the power of persuasion.
4. The Black colour representing the ideals of Pan-Africanism.
5. The Green colour representing the land and its resources.

#### Article 122

##### The RDP Emblem

The official emblem of the RDP comprises two young

persons, female and male, holding hands, symbolizing the unity and equality among the Namibian people.

## **Article 123**

### **The RDP Motto**

The motto of the RDP shall be Democracy and Social Progress.

## CHAPTER 22

### RDP Final Provisions

#### Article 124

##### Duration and Dissolution of the RDP

1. The RDP party shall have an undetermined time of duration.
2. The party can only dissolve itself if two thirds of the delegates at the National Convention, specifically convened for that purpose, vote in favour of dissolution.
3. In the event of dissolution, the National Convention shall establish a Liquidation Commission and that Commission shall decide on the destiny or fate of the RDP property and funds which, under no circumstances, shall be distributed to RDP members.
4. In the event of such dissolution, the property and funds of the RDP shall be bequeathed to Namibian children educational welfare organizations such as kindergartens and orphanages.

#### Article 125

##### Fusion or Incorporation

1. The RDP may decide by two thirds of the National Convention delegates to fuse or incorporate with one or more political parties.
2. In the event of a fusion or incorporation, the RDP property and finances shall be transferred to the resulting political entity.

## **Article 126**

### **Coalition**

1. The RDP may enter into coalition with one or more political parties in accordance with the provisions of the country's laws.
2. The decision to enter into a coalition shall be taken by the Central Committee by a vote of two thirds majority of the Central Committee members with voting power.

## **Article 127**

### **Affiliation and Cooperation with International Political Organizations**

1. The RDP may affiliate and cooperate with international political organizations whose aims and objectives are not contrary to the RDP constitution, the RDP political program and the laws of the Republic of Namibia.
2. The decision on affiliation and cooperate with such organizations shall be taken by the RDP Central Committee by a vote of two thirds majority of Central Committee members entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 128**

### **Interpretation of the RDP Constitution**

The provisions of the present RDP constitution shall be interpreted and applied in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the Republic of Namibia, the legislation on political parties and other supplementary laws of the state.

## **Article 129**

### **Doubts and Omissions**

Any doubts or omissions in the present RDP constitution shall be resolved by the RDP regulation, the RDP Central Committee or by the RDP National Convention.

## **Article 130**

### **Review of the RDP Constitution**

The RDP constitution shall be amended by a resolution of the RDP National Convention supported by a two thirds majority of the delegates entitled to attend and vote.

## **Article 131**

### **Quorum**

Except in the event of great urgency, the RDP organs shall start their deliberations if a simple majority is present.

## **Article 132**

### **Official Adoption of the RDP Constitution**

1. The RDP constitution shall be adopted immediately after its approval by the first National Convention.
2. All the fundamental principles outlined in this constitution, namely, the principle of electivity of RDP organs and RDP leaders, the principle of accountability of RDP organs and RDP leaders, the

principle of subordination of junior organs of the RDP to senior organs and the subordination of junior leaders to senior leaders of the RDP, the principle of respecting and honouring the verdict of a democratic process of elections within the RDP, the principle of collective leadership, and the principle of RDP control and RDP discipline shall be inviolable.

# Together We Can Do Better!









**Together  
We Can  
Do Better!**

