



**COPE**™  
CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

REV 3.02

2<sup>nd</sup> Constitutional Amendment to the 2015 Constitution, adopted by the Congress National Committee on 25 February 2018, by mandate of the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Extra-Ordinary Congress of 16 December 2017.

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President

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General Secretary

# CONSTITUTION





# COPE

## CONGRESS OF THE PEOPLE

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# Constitution of the Congress of the People

Rev 3 - 16 December 2017

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## PREAMBLE

We, the Congress of the People, are united with our fellow citizens in pursuing a vision where we graduate to become a people with a common identity, a patriotic sense of national belonging and a great and abiding passion to build South Africa into a country that will enable all its citizens to enjoy equality, prosperity and freedom.

Our commitment to developing South Africa commences with its pledge to realise the dreams of our forebears as were first encapsulated in the Freedom Charter and as well as to take forward the values deriving therefrom which were subsequently embodied in the Constitution of South Africa.

In pursuit of that commitment we will remain bound at all times by the Constitution and will faithfully and staunchly advocate constitutional democracy in South Africa and within COPE as well, in order to foster a culture that promotes the rule of law, human dignity and accountability.

The defence of the Constitution of South Africa will therefore always constitute the cornerstone of for our actions.

We pledge ourselves to a South African electoral system where the ideal that “the people shall govern” is made manifest through such electoral reform as will make possible the direct election of the President, Premiers and Mayors by the people themselves.

In pursuance of this pledge, members of COPE will participate in electing the party’s respective candidates for the positions of President, Premiers and Mayors.

We also pledge our commitment to the principle of “equality before the law” as enshrined in South Africa’s Constitution. Furthermore, we undertake that our members will be disciplined, transparent and accountable at all times.

We pledge full commitment to a democratic state and to democratic processes in South Africa. To foster this democratic culture COPE will abide fully by internal democratic principles and processes that make our party more representative and inclusive by giving effect to gender equality and greater youth representation.

**This is OUR Belief, OUR Commitment and OUR  
Promise to South Africa.**

## CHAPTER ONE THE PARTY

### 1. CHARACTER OF THE PARTY

The Congress of the People is a social democratic party established after the attainment of our democracy which believes that South Africans can only live fulfilled lives in a society that intrinsically values justice underpinned by a constitutional democracy.

The Party is proactively committed to widening opportunities for all the people, particularly the poor and marginalised.

### 2. VISION OF THE PARTY

A prosperous South Africa whose people– united in their diversity – eliminate want in society and are at peace with themselves, the rest of Africa and the world!



### **3. MISSION OF THE PARTY**

To govern for a continuously improving quality of life for all South Africans and create conditions for the development of a sustainable middle-class quality of life for the majority, especially the poor and marginalised.

### **4. VALUES OF THE PARTY & ITS MEMBERS**

- (1) The Party is committed to the Social Democracy core values of Freedom, Equality and Solidarity.
- (2) The behavioral values of the members of the Party are to always be Constitutional, Reliable, Accountable and Incorruptible.

### **5. AUTHORITY OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The Congress of the People which adopted the Freedom Charter on 26th June 1955 is the political progenitor of the party-Congress of the People. In choosing to call ourselves "Congress of the People" we sought deliberately to create a nexus with that historic Congress of the People of People.
- (2) The Congress of the People is organised as a unitary structure with a single constitution where the national authority of the Party is the central authority in the Party with the right to delegate powers to any other constitutional structure of the Party and / or Party Chapter and / or Party committee and / or Member of the Party.

### **6. HIERARCHY OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The National Authority of the Congress of the People is the National Congress, which vests its authority in the Congress National Committee between National Congresses.
- (2) The Provincial Authority of the Party is subject to the National Authority and is vested in the Provincial Congress, which vests its authority in the Congress Provincial Committee between Provincial Congresses.

- (3) The Municipal Constituency Authority of the Party - hereinafter referred to as the Constituency Authority - is subject to the National Authority and is vested in the Constituency Congress, which vests its authority in the Congress Constituency Committee in between Constituency Congresses

### **7. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARTY**

- (1) Any constitutional structure that intends to litigate in any court in South African or elsewhere on behalf of the Party may do so only upon the written approval of such by the Congress National Committee. Such written approval by the CNC must clearly state which structure of the Party will be liable for the settlement of the legal fees and any other cost orders made by a court.
- (2) All members of the Party should exhaust all internal party remedies and independent mediation before approaching a relevant court for any relief.
- (3) Any constitutional structure and / or Member of the Party that acts in the name of the Party, but without the express authorisation by the Congress National Committee to do so, will be directly liable for any civil claim or demand as instituted by any organisation and / or person because of services rendered to the constitutional structure and / or the Member of the Party.

### **8. LOGO AND COLOUR OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The colours on the logo of the Party are inspired by the national flag of South Africa.
- (2) The cross in the centre reflects the centrality of our constitutional democracy and signal the importance of exercising our right and duty to vote.
- (3) The concentric circles represent the unity in diversity of the people of our country with the black outer circle asserting our being an integral part of Africa.



- (4) The positioning of the logo shall be such that the red colour is at the top and the blue at the bottom thus being in alignment with the national flag.
- (5) The official colour of the Party is bright yellow.



## CHAPTER TWO

### CONSTITUTIONAL AND COORDINATING STRUCTURES

#### 9. CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES OF THE PARTY

- (1) The Party constitutional structures shall be in alignment with the three spheres of governance in South Africa, these being national, provincial and municipal.
- (2) The Municipality (Metro and Local Municipality) shall be the basic constitutional structure of the Party – hereinafter referred to as the 'Constituency' - and shall be geographically in alignment with the Metro and Local Municipalities in accordance with the determination of the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB).

- (3) The Provincial constitutional structures of the Party shall be in alignment with the Provinces of the Country in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.
- (4) The Chapters – which are constitutional structures for the organisation of the following specific sectors of society;
  - (a) the Congress of the People Women's Movement (COPE WM)
  - (b) the Congress of the People Students' Movement (COPE SM)
  - (c) the Congress of the People Youth Movement (COPE YM)
  - (d) the Congress of the People Business and Professionals' Forum (COPE B&PF)
  - (e) any other Chapter or constitutional sub-structure as decided by the CNC.

#### 10. COORDINATING STRUCTURES OF THE PARTY

- (1) The following shall be coordinating structures of the Party-
  - (a) Structures organised in District Municipalities, Wards and Voting Districts (VD) for purposes of facilitating the coordination of the work of the party in those geographic units which shall be in alignment with the determination of the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB)
  - (b) Structures established by South Africans and Party members who ordinarily reside outside South Africa for purposes of organising their party work and/or in readiness for launching Party constitutional structures.
  - (c) Structures at a zone in Metros, ward, voting district or within a voting district, established by a Party Constituency due to a large size of a geographic area, too few residents, too many residents in a small geographic area or other factors, to coordinate the work of the party and integrate the



- dynamics of those areas into the general work of the party in the Constituencies of the Party;
- (d) any other additional coordinating structures other than those mentioned above.
  - (e) The CNC shall adopt Rules and/or Procedures for the functioning of coordinating structures referred to above.

### **CHAPTER THREE**

#### **CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF THE PARTY**

##### **11. CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The Congresses, Conferences and Meetings of the party are the vehicles through which the members of the party exchange views and express their will through decisions and resolutions on the party vision, ideological direction, policies, strategy and programmes of action;
- (2) The political mandates of Party leaders shall be established through the National Congress in ordinary or extra-ordinary seating, the Provincial Congresses, the Constituency Congresses, as well as from the membership of the party through direct elections.
- (3) All Congresses and Conferences of the party shall be convened by the respective authoritative committees (Congress National Committee, Congress Provincial Committees and Congress Constituency Committees (CNC, CPCs or ConCCs respectively) and be conducted in accordance with the rules as determined by the Congress National Committee.
- (4) Subject to the hierarchy of party as reflected above in this constitution, a Congress shall be the highest authority of the Party for, and within, the specific geographical boundary
- (5) The regularity of Congresses, Conferences and meetings of the Party shall be as follows:
  - (a) The National Congress shall be convened by decision of the CNC at least once within every five (5) years by the end of July in a year which precedes South Africa's National Elections
  - (b) The Provincial Congresses shall be convened by decision of the CNC at least once within every five (5) years between April and June in a year which precedes South Africa's Provincial Elections.
  - (c) The Constituency Congresses shall be convened by decision of the CNC at least once every five (5) years between January and March in a year preceding South Africa's Local Government Elections.
  - (d) The National/ Provincial/ Constituency/ Chapter Executive Committees of the Party shall, subject to resource availability, meet at least once a month physically to discuss progress in implementing the resolutions of the authoritative committees and other leadership related matters of the Party.
  - (e) The National/ Provincial/Constituency/ Chapter Organisational Committee shall, subject to resource availability, meet at least once every two months, and once every six months physically, to evaluate the organisational work and functioning of the Party and take appropriate action.
  - (f) The authoritative committees (Congress National / Provincial/ Constituency/ Chapter Committees) of the Party shall, subject to resource availability, meet at least once every three months in a year, and at least once physically, to evaluate, and plan for, the political work of the Party.
  - (6) The CNC shall provide for the regularisation of the Constituency structures and/ or Congresses in terms of this constitution before the next Local Government Elections.
  - (7) The CNC shall pass a special Resolution on the convening of Provincial and National Congresses in the first year of operation of this Constitution.
  - (8) Any constitutional meeting of the Party may take place by electronic means in line with a Policy/Rules or Procedures on Electronic Meetings adopted by the CNC.



## **12. FUNCTIONS OF A CONGRESS** are to:

- (1) Consider and adopt the Political Report of the Party for the specific Congress;
- (2) Consider and adopt the State of the Party Report of the Party for the specific Congress;
- (3) Consider and adopt the Financial Report the Party for the specific Congress;
- (4) Consider and adopt the vision of the Party as led by the elected President and Leader of the Party;
- (5) Adopt policies of the Party for the specific structure of the Party;
- (6) confirm or, in the case of the Provincial or Constituency structures, recommend any review or refining the ideological character , vision, mission, or the core values or policies of the Party;
- (7) consider and adopt the Report on the outcome of the leadership elections for that structure and announce the elected leadership team of the Party;
- (8) consider and approve the framework for the election manifesto of the Party in the relevant geographical area and sphere, the Chapters, and as appropriate, recommend these to the CNC;
- (9) consider and approve the Elections Strategy of the Party for the relevant geographical area and sphere of governance, the Chapters, and as appropriate, recommend these to the CNC;
- (10) Attend to any other matters as agreed to by Congress.

## **13. DELEGATIONS TO A PARTY CONGRESS OR CONFERENCE**

- (1) The number of delegates to any Congress or conference will be determined by the Congress National Committee having considered and agreed to:
  - (a) A process that will fairly reflect the membership base of the party

- (b) A process that will ensure the full, timely and equal opportunity, for delegates to meaningfully participate in the Congress;
- (c) A process that will facilitate quality discussions at the Congress
- (d) The finances of the Party.

## **14. VOTING**

- (1) It is the responsibility of the Congress National Committee to pursue and implement, in accordance with the availability of the necessary resources, the use of modern technologies to enable delegates at Congresses and Conferences of the Party to exercise their right to vote electronically on resolutions, provided that the electronic vote does not in any way compromise the secrecy of the vote.
- (2) The CNC shall adopt Rules and/or Procedures to facilitate speedy decision-making in between meetings by voting through Round Robin Resolutions and/or using electronic means.

## **15. QUORUM**

- (1) At all Congresses and Conferences the Party the quorum of members needed to declare the commencement of the official proceedings is 50% plus 1 of the expected delegates to the Congress, Conference;
- (2) In the case of a meeting of a constitutional structure of the Party the quorum to commence with the meeting shall be 50% plus 1 of the current members of that specific constitutional structure of the party. (Resignations, apologies and absenteeism will be excluded from consideration in determining the quorum).
- (3) At all Congresses, Conferences and meetings of the constitutional structures of the party, in order to succeed, any matter being voted on, other than a constitutional amendment, must have the approval of 50% plus 1 of the delegates or, in the case of a meeting, of the members of the constitutional structure present at the meeting.



- (4) The results must be announced immediately after the vote is taken.

## **16. VOTING FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

- (1) Only the National Congress may amend the Constitution of the Party.
- (2) A constitutional amendment must have the approval of two-thirds of the delegates to Congress to succeed.
- (3) The results must be announced immediately after the vote is taken.

## **CHAPTER FOUR** **Members, Leaders and Public** **Representatives of the Party**

### **17. MEMBERSHIP TO THE PARTY**

- (1) Membership is open to any South African who:
- (a) is a registered voter with the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC);
- (b) commits to supporting the objectives and the principles of the party laid out in the Constitution of the Party;
- (c) Meets with the requirements in the 'Schedule of Requirements to be a member of the Congress of the People' adopted by CNC;
- (d) Is not a current member of any other registered political party in South Africa;
- (e) Has completed the relevant documentation and pay the prescribed membership fee as determined by the CNC
- (f) Has not been expelled from the Party previously, except that anyone so expelled can apply for membership after a period of five (5) years of expulsion;
- (2) Membership of the Party shall be applied for on an individual basis and shall be the free and unforced

expression of the applicant's personal preference and aspiration;

- (3) The CNC has a right to deny membership to a person and were this to happen, the General Secretary will communicate this to the applicant through any of the means of communication available.

### **18. THE RIGHTS OF A MEMBER OF THE PARTY** are to:

- (1) Identify with, belong to and actively participate in the life of the Party;
- (2) Facilitate and take part in internal elections within the Party and be elected or appointed to any committee, structure, commission or delegation of the Party subject to the provisions of this Constitution;
- (3) Place at the disposal of the Party and the country his or her availability and readiness to serve;
- (4) Declare, his/her availability and readiness to serve, or be nominated as a candidate, and/or nominate a candidate as a leader of the Party or for the National, Provincial or Local Government Elections and confirming in the case of nomination his/her availability and readiness to serve.
- (5) Ensure that he / or she complies with the criteria as determined by the CNC to be elected as a public representative of the Party.

### **19. DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF THE PARTY** are to:

- (1) Keep their registration as a voter up to date, vote regularly and, encourage other South Africans to fulfil this important national duty;
- (2) Fulfil his/her civic duty and any other Party responsibilities;
- (3) Actively participate in the activities of his / or her constituency;



- (4) Ensure his/her continued overall political development to contribute to both the quantitative growth as well as qualitative development of the Party;
- (5) Deepen his/her understanding of the economic, social, cultural, political and other aspects of the country to influence the policies of the Party and to ensure that its social democratic policies relate to the challenges and aspirations of South Africans and the fulfilment of the vision of the Party;
- (6) Actively participate in the political programmes that advance the ideals of the Party, including the Chapters of the Party as appropriate, in a manner that is consistent with the democratic traditions and the values of the Party;
- (7) Observe and uphold the decisions of the constitutional structures of the Party;
- (8) Uphold the constitution of the Party and country;
- (9) Prevent all forms of intolerance especially racism, tribalism, sexism, religious and political intolerance or any other form of discrimination or chauvinism and combat propaganda detrimental to the ideals of the Party;
- (10) Conduct him/herself in a manner that upholds the dignity, and reflects the integrity, of the Party in whose name he / or she acts, and or in whose office he / or she serves;
- (11) When in a responsibility of trust and / or leadership, to refrain from using his/or her office to gain special privileges, treatment and benefits for oneself, one's family and / or one's friends or anyone related one in any way;
- (12) Refrain from acting, or purporting to act, in an official capacity in instances where his / or her independence and judgment is, or may be, affected by vested personal or private interest.
- (13) Never campaign, recruit or work in the interest of any other political party or organization affiliated to, or working in the interest of, another political party, unless so authorized by the CNC in writing.

**20. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP** shall be effective upon:

- (1) The death of a Member;
- (2) The written resignation of a Member;

- (3) The joining by the Member of another South African political party.;
- (4) The expiration of the membership period based on the membership fees as paid by the Member.
- (5) The registration of the Member as an Independent Candidate for any Local Government Election and / or as a candidate for a civic organisation that intends to register for any Local Government Election in which the Party is also registered to participate in without the written approval of the CNC;
- (6) The expulsion from the party if found guilty of, among others, bringing the party into disrepute by a Disciplinary Committee and the CNC has considered and adopted the report and the recommendation/s of the Disciplinary Committee

**21. LEADERSHIP IN THE PARTY**

- (1) A leader of the Party is a Member who was democratically elected by members of the Party in accordance with this Constitution and the rules as determined by the CNC; who meets the following criteria of leadership that the party committed to in its founding Manifesto –
  - (a) A commitment to serving the people, protecting and preserving public resources and assets and ensuring that corruption, waste and mismanagement are eradicated.
  - (b) A commitment to building the new South Africa on the basis of a value system which defines the identity of the South African nation, giving us pride in ourselves as a people, constituting part of what makes all of us – Proudly South African!
- (2) All elected officials of the Party shall account and report on the performance of their tasks in accordance with the 'Schedule of Duties of Elected Officials of the Congress of the People' adopted by the CNC
- (3) The Leaders of the Chapters shall present a Chapter report to the relevant Congress of the sphere of the Party;
- (4) If a Leader of the Party resigns from his / or her leadership position he / or she will not be eligible to declare himself / or herself available for any leadership position within the Party during the same term except where Rules



and or Procedures enabling permission for such to be granted by the CNC.

- (5) Any full-time and / or part time employee of the Party is not eligible to declare himself / or herself available for any leadership position of the Party, except if a period of a calendar year has passed since he / or she resigned from that employment position.
- (6) The CNC shall develop Rules and/or Procedures related to the employment and/or use of political leaders as support staff in the Party.

## **22. CEASING TO HOLD OFFICE AS A LEADER OF A PARTY STRUCTURE**

- (1) Any leader of the Party ceases to occupy his / or her leadership position upon:
  - (a) Resigning from that leadership position;
  - (b) Death;
  - (c) The lapse of membership;
  - (d) Being declared of unsound mind by a court in South Africa;
  - (e) Being convicted for an offence and sentenced to more than 12 months imprisonment without the option of a fine;
  - (f) Being declared an un-rehabilitated insolvent by a court in South Africa;
  - (g) By the decision of the two thirds majority vote of the (relevant structure) CNC in accordance with Rules and/or Procedures for removal of person from a leadership position
  - (h) Losing the confidence of a structure of the party through the successful passage of a vote of no confidence in line with the article on “Motion of no confidence in a leader of the Party” in this constitution
  - (i) If a motion of no confidence is passed against the leader. A motion of no confidence may only approved if two –thirds of the members of the respective committee vote in support of it and provided that such an action follows upon a recommendation of an independent investigation to take action against such a leader. Invitees representing a

structure. Conflict of interest. Schedules of crimes Link with DC against a member

- (j) The period of no confidence will lapse at the commencement of the next ordinary Congress.

## **23. PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARTY**

- (1) A public representative of the Congress of the People is a Member of the Party who has been sworn in to occupy a representative office in Parliament and / or a Provincial Legislature and / or a Municipality Council (hereinafter referred to as the “Legislatures”).
- (2) The Congress of the People may only be represented in the Legislatures by a Member of the Party whose membership fees were paid in advance and in full for the duration of the term in public office.
- (3) It is the responsibility of the public representative to ensure that the monthly public representative levies are paid on time every time.
- (4) A candidate of the Party may only be listed at the IEC as a candidate if he / or she has signed the “Code of Conduct for Public Representatives of the Congress of the People”.
- (5) A public representative of the Party may be removed from that office by the Congress National Committee on:
  - (a) Termination of his / or her membership;
  - (b) Three consecutive non-payment of his / or her monthly public representative levy;
  - (c) The outcome of a disciplinary hearing of the Party whose recommendations have been adopted by the CNC;
  - (d) Being unsuccessful in the “Congress of the People Public Representative Evaluation” for three consecutive times based on Rules and/or Procedures adopted by the CNC.

## **24. ELECTION OF LEADERS**

- (1) It is the responsibility of the CNC to formulate policy and adopt other measures, within available resources, to



- achieve and maintain the progressive realisation of the right of each member of the Party to participate directly in the election of the party leaders of the geographic area, and/or Chapter, as appropriate, through secret vote using electronic or any other means,
- (2) The leaders of the Party to be elected during a National, Provincial and/or Constituency Congress shall be:
- (a) The President who is also the Party Leader and Presidential candidate for the country, the Provincial Chairperson who is also the candidate for Premier of the Party in the province, and, the Constituency Party Chairperson and Mayoral candidate of the Party in the municipality holding the Congress and in which he/she is candidate, respectively;
- (b) Members of the executive committee for each of the structures in the three spheres of the party (Congress Executive Committee, Provincial Executive Committee or Constituency Executive Committee;
- (c) The Chairperson of the Congress National Committee
- (d) Members of the Organisational Division of the Congress National, Provincial or Municipal Committee;
- (e) Members of the Policy Division of the Congress National, Provincial or Municipal Committee;
- (f) The following, elected by the respective chapter members;
- (i) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Leaders of the Party for each of the Chapters - Women, Youth and Students-, and,
- (ii) Five members of the National, Provincial or Constituency Executive Committees for each of the Chapters- Women, Youth and Students;
- (iii) National, Provincial or Constituency Office Bearers for each of the Chapters
- (3) The elections of the leadership of the Party for a particular geographic area shall take place during the period of the Congress for that area with the focus being to elect leaders of the Party that are seen as equal to the task
- (4) As part of their election campaign, candidates for the Party Leader, Provincial Party Leader and Constituency Party Leader who shall also be candidates for the President, Premier or Mayor respectively, as well as the Chapter Party Leaders, shall present their respective vision, with a draft election manifesto, for the geographic area and/or the constituency representing the Chapter for which they are candidates.
- (5) The candidates for the National, Provincial and Constituency executive committees of the Party and the Chairperson of the CNC shall be eligible to be public representative candidates of the Party and shall, having met the conditions, be on the Party list of candidates to be submitted to the IEC for the sphere of governance for which they are leadership candidates.
- (6) The candidates for all other leadership responsibilities shall present their vision and plan for discharging the responsibilities for which they are candidates.
- (7) In addition to the above all candidates for leadership of the party shall present to the Party membership their vision for building the party structures in that area or chapter constituency.
- (8) All candidates for leadership of the party must undergo the process for the identification of, and meet the requirements for being, public representatives of the Party.
- (9) The CNC shall develop Rules and/or Procedures for free and fair campaigning for all candidates for leadership of the Party.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **Members, Leaders and Public Representatives of the Party**

#### **25. THE CONGRESS NATIONAL COMMITTEE (CNC)**

- (1) The Congress National Committee (CNC) is the highest decision-making structure of the Party in between National Congresses.
- (2) The composition of the CNC shall be:
- (a) The Chairperson of the Party;
- (b) Members of the Congress Executive Committee;
- (c) Members of the Organisational Division of the CNC;



- (d) Members of the Policy Division of the CNC;
- (e) The Provincial Chairperson and Provincial Secretaries or their Deputies, if they are not available, in a representative capacity with a right to vote;
- (f) The Chapter National Leaders and Chapter General Secretaries, or their deputies, if they are not available, in a representative capacity with a right to vote;
- (3) **FUNCTIONS OF THE CNC** shall be to:
  - (a) Ensure that the party is true to, and champions, its founding principle of being in defence of the South African Constitution and our constitutional democracy;
  - (b) build and lead the Party into a structure that provides South Africa with the best candidate for the President of the country and a team of reliable, accountable and incorruptible citizens;
  - (c) consider and adopt policy options for South Africa that are sound and sustainable and in line with the social-democracy values of Freedom, Equality and Solidarity;
  - (d) Implement the resolutions of the National Congress.
  - (e) Resolve on the convening of Congresses or Conferences of the Party and an annual extended CNC meeting.
  - (f) Determine the criteria for the eligibility of public representatives as well as the code of conduct and terms of reference for the evaluation of public representatives;
  - (g) Establish a National Electoral College, consisting of ten (10) independent persons - with the Chairperson having a casting vote- who will not avail themselves as candidates for that election and have no conflict of interest of any kind, that will evaluate candidates of the Party for the National and Provincial Elections;
  - (h) Finalise candidate lists for the National and Provincial Elections as well for the Local Government Elections and to submit these lists in time, to the Independent Electoral Commission ("the IEC") in line with the Rules and/or Procedures adopted by the CNC;
  - (i) Develop Rules and/or Procedures as stipulated in this constitution.
  - (j) Confirm, in consultation with the Congress Provincial Committees, Provincial Electoral Colleges that will propose to the CPC's candidates of the Party for the Municipal Councils during the Local Government Elections. This Electoral College will consist of ten (10) independent persons, with the Chairperson having a casting vote, who will not avail themselves as candidates for that election and have no conflict of interest of any kind;
- (k) Overrule unilateral decisions and / or intervene when affairs of the party are conducted inappropriately or irregularly at all levels of the Party;
- (l) Provide oversight over Members of Parliament representing the Party;
- (m) Consider for adoption recommendations of the CEC for the appointment of the whips of the Party in Parliament;
- (n) Consider for adoption recommendations of the CEC on the roles and responsibilities of all the public representatives, including the whips;
- (o) Align the CNC to the functions of the national government and assign to additional CNC members specific responsibilities in order that the respective functions at the national government are kept under constant scrutiny;
- (p) Conduct the National Congress election campaign in accordance with the "Rules of Fair Campaign Practices" as determined by the CNC;
- (q) Establish the number of delegates, standards and rules of procedure for Congresses and Policy Conferences to afford all members of COPE fair opportunities to participate in the decisions of these Congresses and Conferences;
- (r) Establish and implement rules for the dissolution of any constitutional structure of the Party;
- (s) Fill any vacant positions within the CNC with the exception of that of President of the Party;
- (t) Determine the membership fee and fee structure that will benefit all relevant structures of the Party;
- (u) Determine the monthly public representative levy, the procedure for the payment of such and the processes for dealing with those who default in this regard;
- (v) Suspend and / or remove a member of COPE, including a public representative who violates the "Code of Conduct" as adopted by the CNC;



- (w) Establish guidelines for substantive rules for ethical conduct by public officials and employees in national, provincial and local COPE-led governments, to ensure that the public is served by a party operating on the basis of integrity and high moral and ethical standards;
- (x) Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, to have general authoritative responsibility over the affairs of the Party guided by the resolutions of the party Congresses and Conferences.
- (y) Act upon all other matters as appropriate to carry out the provisions of this Constitution and the vision and objectives of the Party.

#### **(4) DUTIES OF THE CNC CHAIRPERSON**

- (a) Guided by the provisions of this Constitution, to lead the CNC in its general authoritative responsibility over the affairs of the Party in line with the resolutions of the Party at its Congresses, Conferences and meetings;
- (b) Oversee the development and attainment of the core and behavioural values of the Party.
- (c) Preside over all the meetings of the Congress National Committee, Congresses and Conferences of the Party;
- (d) Have the political responsibility for ensuring that the CNC implements the resolutions of the Congresses, Conferences and meetings of the Party;
- (e) Have the political responsibility for ensuring that the CNC convenes the Congresses, Conferences and meetings of the Party professionally and as decided;

#### **26. THE CONGRESS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (CEC)**

- (1) The Congress Executive Committee (CEC) is the main administrative authority of the Party and the principal body charged with implementing the resolutions of the Congress National Committee.
- (2) It is also the responsibility of the CEC to lead the organizational and policy development of the party and to

act within the best interest of the Party in between CNC meetings.

#### **(3) THE COMPOSITION OF THE CEC shall be:**

- (a) The President and Leader of the Party
- (b) The Deputy President
- (c) The General Secretary
- (d) The Deputy General Secretary
- (e) The Treasurer

#### **(4) DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT shall be to:**

- (a) Have the primary responsibility for leading the Party and to be its key representative both domestically and internationally;
- (b) Be the principal custodian of the policies of the Party in all spheres of the party's operations;
- (c) Call, and preside over regular meetings with the Provincial Leaders of the Party in the Legislatures to ensure that the policies of the Party guide the work of the Party in Parliament and all the Legislatures; and as appropriate guide the work of the Party when in government;
- (d) Guide the "Political Education Programme" for the members and supporters of the party;
- (e) Report to the CNC regarding the State of the Party in Parliament;
- (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as for the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined by the CNC;
- (g) Provide a Political Report to the CNC, the National Congress and the Policy Conference and any other Party event as appropriate.

#### **(5) DUTIES OF THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT shall be to:**

- (a) Deputise for the President;



- (b) Collaborate with the Chairpersons of the Provinces to ensure the effective establishment of Congress Provincial Committees;
- (c) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as for the performance of any other duties and tasks contained in this constitution or as determined and allocated by the CNC.
- (6) **DUTIES OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY** shall be to:
  - (a) Put effective measures in place for the smooth running of the Party;
  - (b) Upon recommendation by the CEC, issue notices to convened meetings for the specific purpose agreed by the committee;
  - (c) Maintain an accurate record of all minutes of the meetings convened by the CEC;
  - (d) Be the custodian of the records and documents of the party;
  - (e) Issue all correspondence on behalf of the CEC, NOB and CNC;
  - (f) Report to the CNC with reference to the administrative state of the party structures;
  - (g) Capacitate the sub-committees of the CNC to perform their functions;
  - (h) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined by the CNC;
  - (i) Provide an organisational report to the CNC, and State of the Party Report the National Congress and any Extra-Ordinary National Congress as appropriate.
- (7) **DUTIES OF THE DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY** shall be to:
  - (a) Deputise for the General Secretary;
  - (b) Establish a political and administrative desk for the public representatives of the party;
  - (c) Collaborate with the Secretary for Governance and Administration Cluster on the Evaluation of the Performance of Public Representatives,
  - (d) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks contained in this constitution or as determined and allocated by the CNC.
- (8) **DUTIES OF THE TREASURER** shall be to:
  - (a) Ensure that COPE remains financially viable.
  - (b) Develop and implement the Party's financial policies and plans;
  - (c) Annually present a financial report and audited financial statements to the CNC
  - (d) Present the Financial Report of the party to National Congress;
  - (e) Recommend to the CNC, and once approved implement, policies and plans for the establishment and maintenance of an effective, efficient and transparent system of financial management and reporting, risk management and internal controls;
  - (f) Recommend to the CNC, and once approved implement, frameworks and systems for ethical and transparent fundraising and investment;
  - (g) Establish and chair the National Finance Committee which shall be composed of all Provincial Treasurers and any other additional members that the Committee deems fit to invite;
  - (h) Open and administer the national bank account (s) of the Party in accordance with the rules as determined by the CNC;
  - (i) Approve the opening and administering of bank accounts by structures of the party at a provincial and municipal level and any other level as approved by the CNC;
  - (j) Receive financial reports from the Chief Whip and or accounting officer of COPE in Parliament and the Legislatures;
  - (k) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of his / or her functions as well as for the performance of any other duties and tasks contained in this constitution or as determined by the CNC.



## 27. THE ORGANISATIONAL DIVISION OF THE CNC

- (1) The function of the CNC Organisational Division (OD) is to build the party into a well-oiled machinery to advance its vision.
- (2) It shall have the responsibility as a collective to ensure that -
  - (a) The party structures and machinery function smoothly and efficiently in between the Congresses of the Party, as well as during and in between the national, provincial and local government and related elections;
  - (b) The party is visible in the media, in communities, in the core constituencies of the Party nationally as well as internationally and is responsive to the needs and aspirations of the different communities of South African society, especially the poor, rural, marginalized and vulnerable.
  - (c) The Party effectively mobilises South Africans to support its vision for South Africa and be active citizens in making it reality.

### (3) COMPOSITION OF THE CNC ORGANISATIONAL DIVISION (OD)

- (a) Secretary for Organisational Development
- (b) Secretary for Elections, Electorate Education and Voter Mobilisation;
- (c) Secretary for Information, Communication and Advocacy
- (d) Secretary for Organised Labour and Civil Society Liaison
- (e) Secretary for Business and Entrepreneur Community Liaison;
- (f) Secretary for Projects Oversight and Development

### (4) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT shall be to:

- (a) Ensure that a "Membership Orientation Manual" is readily available to all members of the party and is regularly updated;

- (b) Ensure the continuous training of COPE members on the Constitution, rule of law and the effective functioning of government and Party policies;
- (c) Create platforms for the members of COPE to be active citizens in the functioning of government and in advancement of the values of social democracy;
- (d) Oversee the dissemination of the policies of the party to all Cope members, including the Chapters of the party;
- (e) In collaboration with the Deputy President, provide training to the Provincial Executive Committees to effectively perform their functions;
- (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as for the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined by the CNC.

### (5) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR ELECTIONS shall be to:

- (a) Represent COPE at the IEC as the party's duly authorised person;
- (b) In collaboration with the National Chairperson and the Deputy President submit an election strategy, programme and budget for the National and Provincial Elections as well as for the Local Government Elections and any By-Elections.
- (c) Provide the CNC with updates regarding voter trends and concerns;
- (d) Develop and implement voter education and voter mobilisation programmes;
- (e) In cooperation with the Congress Provincial Committees develop and implement party agent training programmes;
- (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined and allocated by the CNC.

### (6) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY shall be to:

- (a) In collaboration with the General Secretary, actively build and strengthen relations with all media practitioners as well as political analysts;



- (b) In collaboration with the General Secretary, pursue a variety of means of building and maintaining the brand and image of COPE;
  - (c) In collaboration with the Deputy General Secretary, develop and implement programmes for the advocacy skills of all public representatives and spokespersons of the Party;
  - (d) Constantly provide positive news regarding COPE;
  - (e) Monitor the media and advise the National Office Bearers and the Congress National Committee about means to increase voter interest in COPE;
  - (f) Be the official Spokesperson of COPE and provide capacity to the other spokespersons of the party;
  - (g) Submit to the CNC a “Communication Strategy Report” for adoption and the implementation of a broader Communication and Advocacy Plan;
  - (h) Ensure that COPE utilises social media effectively and remains up to date with media instruments as they develop;
  - (i) Ensure the national production and distribution of the Party’s paraphernalia to all its constitutional structures;
  - (j) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined and allocated by the CNC.
- (7) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR ORGANISED LABOUR AND CIVIL SOCIETY LIAISON** shall be to:
- (a) Develop relations between the Party and civil society, sector forums, traditional leaders and cultural practitioners; faith-based leaders and religious practitioners; persons with disabilities and culture based organisations.
  - (b) Take overall responsibility for ensuring that the issues of the above-mentioned constituencies are taken into account in the development of party policies;
  - (c) Develop a database of members of the party and general public who are activists in the labor and civil society arenas so as to encourage them to contribute to the policy-making processes of the party in those areas;
  - (d) Attract the above-mentioned organizations so as to encourage their constituencies to vote for and support COPE;
  - (e) Report to the CNC regarding measures and possibilities for the strengthening of relations between the party and civil society and organised labor.
  - (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined and allocated by the CNC.
- (8) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR BUSINESS COMMUNITY LIAISON** shall be to:
- (a) Ensure that the CNC adopts a policy and a programme for local business establishments and community to assist in the development of the that sector;
  - (b) Facilitate a healthy and sustainable relationship between the party and the business community and seek to understand their issues so as to take them into account when shaping party policy;
  - (c) Working with the congress business and professionals chapter of the party develop a database of members of the party and general public who are in the business community so as to encourage them to contribute to the policy-making processes of the party in those areas;
  - (d) Ensure that the party, in all its formations, is well informed and participates effectively on matters related to the business community, especially small and medium size enterprises
  - (e) Ensure that information is provided to the business establishments and communities regarding developments in Parliament and / or Government that could affect their businesses;
  - (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as of the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined by the CNC.
- (9) DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND OVERSIGHT** shall be to:
- (a) Identify and develop projects where COPE members can contribute to the upliftment of communities;
  - (b) Guide the identification of needs in communities and sections of society and the designing of possible business plans as well as seeking of sponsors for projects to address the challenges identified;



- (c) Identify communities for, and develop a well-planned strategy of allocation of projects ensuring a fair and equitable allocation of project initiatives across the country prioritising the most needy;
- (d) Oversee the implementation of projects and provide regular updates to the party
- (e) Initiate and monitor campaigns as approved by National Congress and CNC;
- (f) Report to the CNC regarding the performance of all his / or her functions as well as for the performance of any other duties and tasks as determined by the CNC.

## **28. THE CONGRESS COORDINATING COMMITTEE (CCC)**

- (1) The Party shall meet regularly as a Congress Coordinating Committee (CCC) to coordinate the organizational work of the Party as mandated by Congress or the CNC.
- (2) The CCC shall comprise of the following:
  - (a) The Congress Executive Committee
  - (b) The Members of the CNC Organisational Division
  - (c) The CCC shall be chaired by the President of the Party.

## **29. THE CNC POLICY DIVISION**

- (1) The CNC Policy Division shall be composed of:
  - (a) Secretary for the Economic Cluster;
  - (b) Secretary for the Land and Agriculture Cluster;
  - (c) Secretary for the Social Cluster;
  - (d) Secretary for the International Relations Cluster;
  - (e) Secretary for the Safety and Security Cluster and
  - (f) Secretary for the Governance and Administration Cluster.
- (2) The duties of the CNC members of the policy division shall be Cluster specific with their main purpose being to:
  - (a) Politically advance the values and principles of social democracy that the Party advocates and is committed to;

- (b) Monitor all the Bills in Parliament relating to the specific Cluster and propose bills to be introduced by the party and actively inform South Africans about them;
- (c) Monitor all the policies, projects and programmes of Government in the specific cluster and to actively inform South African citizens on how they can benefit from, or be adversely affected by, these policies, projects and programmes of Government;
- (d) Be the spokesperson of the Party on the relevant cluster related issue and Advocate the Party's policy on these;
- (e) Advise the CNC on policy positions for the relevant cluster and to lead policy work on the specific cluster.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **Establishment of Provincial Structures**

## **30. THE CONGRESS PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE (CPC)**

- (1) The Congress Provincial Committee (CPC) is the highest decision-making structure of the Party between Provincial Congresses.
- (2) The CPC shall be composed of:
  - (a) The Provincial Chairpersons and Party Leaders, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the President and Leader of the Party as well as with the Chairperson of the CNC in performing their responsibilities within the province where they are located;
  - (b) Members of the Provincial Executive Committee, (PEC),
  - (c) Members of the Organisational Division of the CPC;
  - (d) Members of the Policy Division of the CPC;
  - (e) The Constituency Party Chairperson of the municipalities located in the province, or their deputies, if they are not available;
  - (f) The Women's Movement Provincial Leader and Women's Movement Provincial Secretary, or their deputies, if they are not available;



- (g) The Students' Movement Provincial Leader and Students' Movement Provincial Secretary, or their deputies, if they are not available; and,
- (h) The Youth Movement Provincial Leader and Provincial Youth Movement Secretary, or their deputies or their deputies, if they are not available.
- (3) The functions of the CPC shall, within the province, be like those of the Congress National Committee.

### **31. THE PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PEC)**

- (1) The composition of the Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) and the duties of its members shall be:
  - a) the Provincial Chairperson, Party Leader and Premier candidate, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the Party Leader and Presidential candidate of the Party in performing his or her responsibilities within the province where they are located;
  - b) the Provincial Deputy Party Leader, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the national counterpart in performing his or her responsibilities within the province where they are located;
  - c) the Provincial Secretary, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the national counterpart in performing his or her responsibilities within the province where they are located;
  - d) the Deputy Provincial Secretary who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the national counterpart in performing his or her responsibilities within the province where they are located;
  - e) the Provincial Treasurer who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the national counterpart in performing his or her responsibilities within the province where they are located;

### **32. THE CPC ORGANISATIONAL DIVISION**

- (1) The composition of the CPC Organisational Division shall be similar the Organisational Division of the Congress National Committee (CNC) and its members shall perform similar duties to, and work with, their national counterparts in performing their responsibilities within the province where they are located.
- (2) The CPC Organisational Division shall be chaired by the Provincial Chairperson;

### **33. THE PROVINCIAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE (PCC)**

- (1) The Party shall meet regularly as a Provincial Coordinating Committee (PCC) - to coordinate the organizational work of the Party as mandated by Provincial Congress, the CPC or the CNC.
- (2) The PCC will comprise of the following:
  - (a) the Provincial Executive Committee and
  - (b) the members of the CPC Organisational Division
- (3) The PCC shall be chaired by the Provincial Chairperson of the Party.

### **34. THE CPC POLICY DIVISION**

- (1) The functions of the CPC Policy Division shall be like those of the Policy Division of the Congress National Committee but performed within the province.
- (2) the composition of the CPC Policy Division shall be like that of the Policy Division of the Congress National Committee and its members shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the national counterparts in performing their responsibilities within the province where they are located, except that it shall be chaired by the Provincial Chairperson;



## **CHAPTER SEVEN**

### **Establishment of the Municipal Structures – the basic Constituencies – of the Party**

#### **35. THE CONGRESS CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (ConCC)**

- (1) The Congress Constituency Committee (ConCC) is the highest decision-making structure of the Party between Constituency Congresses.
- (2) The Congress Constituency Committee shall be composed of:
  - (a) The Constituency Chairperson, who presides over the Congress Constituency Committee, and who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterpart in performing his/her responsibilities within the constituency where they are located;
  - (b) The Constituency Executive Committee, (ConEC), chaired by the Constituency Party Leader;
  - (c) Members of the ConCC Organisational Division of the CCC;
  - (d) Members of the ConCC Policy Division;
  - (e) One Convenor of the officially recognised coordinating structures in the Constituency, or the coordinator;
  - (f) The Constituency Women's Movement Leader and Constituency Women's Movement Secretary, or their deputies, if not available;
  - (g) The Constituency Students' Movement Leader and Constituency Students' Movement Secretary, or their deputies, if not available, and,
  - (h) The Constituency Youth Movement Leader and Constituency Youth Movement Secretary, or their deputies, if not available;

#### **36. THE CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ConEC)**

- (1) The ConEC shall be composed of:

- (a) the Constituency Chairperson and Party Leader who shall be the Mayoral candidate, and, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the Provincial Chairperson in performing their responsibilities within the municipality where they are located;
- (b) The Constituency Deputy Party Leader, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterpart in performing their responsibilities within the municipality where they are located;
- (c) the Constituency Secretary, who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterpart in performing their responsibilities within the municipality where they are located;
- (d) the Deputy Constituency Secretary who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterpart in performing their responsibilities within the municipality where they are located;
- (e) the Constituency Treasurer who shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterpart in performing their responsibilities within the municipality where they are located

#### **37. THE ConCC ORGANISATIONAL DIVISION**

- (1) The composition of the ConCC Organisational Division shall be similar the Organisational Division of the Congress Provincial Committee (CPC) and its members shall perform similar duties to, and work with, their provincial counterparts in performing their responsibilities within the Constituency where they are located
- (2) The ConCC Organisational Division shall be chaired by the Constituency Chairperson;

#### **38. THE CONSTITUENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE (ConCordCom)**

- (1) The Party shall meet regularly as a Constituency Coordinating Committee (ConCordCom)- to coordinate the organizational work of the Party as mandated by



Constituency Congress, the ConCC the CPC or the CNC as the case may be.

- (2) The ConCordCom will comprise of the following:
  - (a) the Constituency Executive Committee (ConEC) and
  - (b) the members of the Congress Constituency Committee- (ConCC) Organisational Division
- (3) The ConCordCom shall be chaired by the Constituency Chairperson of the Party.

### **39. THE ConCC POLICY DIVISION**

- (1) The functions of the ConCC Policy Division shall be like those of the CPC Policy Division but performed within the Constituency.
- (2) The composition of the ConCC Policy Division shall like that of the Policy Division of the Congress Provincial Committee and its members shall perform similar duties to, and work with, the provincial counterparts in performing their responsibilities within the Constituency where they are located, except that it shall be chaired by the Constituency Chairperson;

## **CHAPTER EIGHT**

### **Establishment of the Chapter Structures of the Party**

### **40. CHAPTERS OF PARTY**

- (1) The Chapters of the Congress of the People are constitutional sub-structures of the Party which exist within the overall structure of the Party in the three spheres of governance of which they shall be an integral and subordinate part.
- (2) Members of the Party who are women, or are under the age of 35 years or are registered Students will automatically be members of the Women's Movement, Youth Movement or Students movement respectively without the need to apply for such membership

- (3) Members of the Party who qualify may voluntarily participate in the activities of those Chapters and stand for elections provided that one may not be in leadership in more than one constitutional structure of the Party at a time, including Chapters;
- (4) The CNC shall adopt Rules and/or Procedures for learners, who wish to become members of the Party but do not qualify due to being under the age of eighteen years old, to join the COPE Student's Movement or another Chapter of the Party if not a student;
- (5) The function of the Chapters shall be to provide their members with an enabling environment for their development and active participation in the affairs of the party, thus facilitating their full and meaningful participation in matters of the country as equal citizens;
- (6) The Chapters shall be responsible for taking the vision of the Party to their constituencies and to carry out the duties and functions of the Party within those constituencies in accordance with the rules as determined by the CNC thus contributing to fulfilling the ideals of the Party.
- (7) The Chapters shall not be autonomous entities and shall be subjected to the authority, and be governed by the constitution, of the Party, should they so wish, they may have their own constitutions, not in conflict with the constitution of the Party and which has been adopted by the CNC.
- (8) To manage their affairs, the Chapters may, subject to the financial policies of the party, have their own bank accounts, allocated office space and such other tools necessary for their effective, professional and efficient functioning.
- (9) The Chapters may, and should, pronounce themselves on matters specifically related to their constituencies, provided that these pronouncements are not in conflict with the policy or ideological positions of the party.
- (10) No Chapter or member of a Chapter may make public pronouncements on behalf of the Party unless so approved by the Party structure which they seek to represent.



- (11) The Chapters may present any policy or other proposals regarding the Party through their participation in the decision-making structures of the Party, in which the Chapters participate in an ex-officio and representative capacity with a right to vote.
- (12) Members of the Chapters may, as fully-fledged members of the Party, participate in the structures of the Party and influence its policies.
- (13) Where there is a conflict between the decisions of the Chapters and those of the corresponding constitutional structure of the Party, the corresponding party structure shall have the final say subject to the decision of the higher constitutional structure of the Party or Chapter upon appeal.
- (14) Decisions and Resolutions of a Chapter in a sphere of governance may be nullified or changed by the corresponding, or a higher, constitutional structure of the Party or Chapter, if there is compelling evidence that such decision or resolution is outside the scope of the Chapter, or is contrary to the policies or ideology of the Party or may put the Party into disrepute.

#### **41. THE CHAPTER STRUCTURES OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The Executive Committees of the Chapters shall be composed of the following members who shall be elected by the members of the Chapters in the corresponding and respective geographic areas;
- (2) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Leader, who shall also serve on the Congress National or Provincial or Municipal Committee of the Party as the case may be, in a representative capacity, as ex-officio members with the right to vote;
- (3) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Secretaries, who shall also serve on the Congress National or Provincial or Municipal Committee of the Party as the case may be, in a representative capacity, as ex-officio members with the right to vote;

- (4) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Secretary for Information, Communication and Advocacy;
- (5) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Secretary for Elections and Voter Mobilisation;
- (6) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Secretary for Political Education and Policy Development; and
- (7) The Chapter National, Provincial or Constituency Secretary for Campaigns, Projects and Programmes.

#### **42. THE COPE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT OFFICE BEARERS COMMITTEES**

- (1) The National/ Provincial/ Constituency Office Bearers Committee of the COPE WM shall be composed of the following for each of the spheres of the structures of the Party as appropriate;
  - a) The Deputy Women's Leader: Young Women's Constituency matters
  - b) The Deputy Women's General Secretary: Young Women's Constituency matters
  - c) The Deputy Women's Leader: Urban Women's Constituency matters
  - d) The Deputy Women's General Secretary: Urban Women's Constituency matters
  - e) The Deputy Women's Leader: Rural Women's Constituency matters
  - f) The Deputy Women's General Secretary: Rural Women's Constituency matters

#### **43. THE COPE STUDENTS' MOVEMENT OFFICE BEARERS COMMITTEES**

- (1) The National/ Provincial/ Constituency Office Bearers Committee of the COPE SM shall be composed of the following for each of the spheres of the structures of the Party as appropriate;
  - a) The Deputy Students Leader: High School constituency



- b) The Deputy Students' General Secretary: High School constituency
- c) The Deputy Students' Leader: Technical and Vocational Education and Training College (TVET) College Constituency
- d) The Deputy Students' General Secretary: Technical and Vocational Education and Training College (TVET) College Constituency
- e) The Deputy Students' Leader: University Constituency
- f) The Deputy Students' General Secretary: University Constituency

#### **44. THE COPE YOUTH MOVEMENT OFFICE BEARERS COMMITTEES**

- (1) The National/ Provincial/ Constituency Office Bearers Committee of the COPE YM shall be composed of the following for each of the spheres of the structures of the Party as appropriate;
  - a) The Deputy Youth Leader: Junior Youth Constituency (18-25 years old)
  - b) The Deputy Youth General Secretary: Junior Youth Constituency (18-25 years old)
  - c) The Deputy Youth Leader: Intermediate Youth Constituency (25-30 years old)
  - d) The Deputy General Secretary: Intermediate Youth Constituency (25-30 years old)
  - e) The Deputy Youth Leader: Senior Youth Constituency (30-35 years old)
  - f) The Deputy General Secretary: Senior Youth Constituency (30-35 years old)

## **CHAPTER NINE General Provisions**

### **45. DISCIPLINARY AND APPEALS COMMITTEES**

- (1) The CNC shall adopt a policy for the Code of Conduct and disciplinary procedure for all members, leaders and public representatives of the Party.
- (2) This disciplinary policy shall require the establishment of independent Disciplinary and Appeals Committees to adjudicate on matters that deal with conduct and violation of this constitution.
- (3) These disciplinary committees must make recommendations to the CNC and CPC's for the appropriate measures to be taken against the relevant accused members of the Party and upon the adoption of the said recommendation to determine the outcome at the end of the full process.

### **46. THE HEAD OFFICE OF THE PARTY**

- (1) The CNC shall decide on a name for the head office of the Party in accordance with principles on naming Party structures, projects and programmes in this constitution and any other additional considerations it may decide upon.