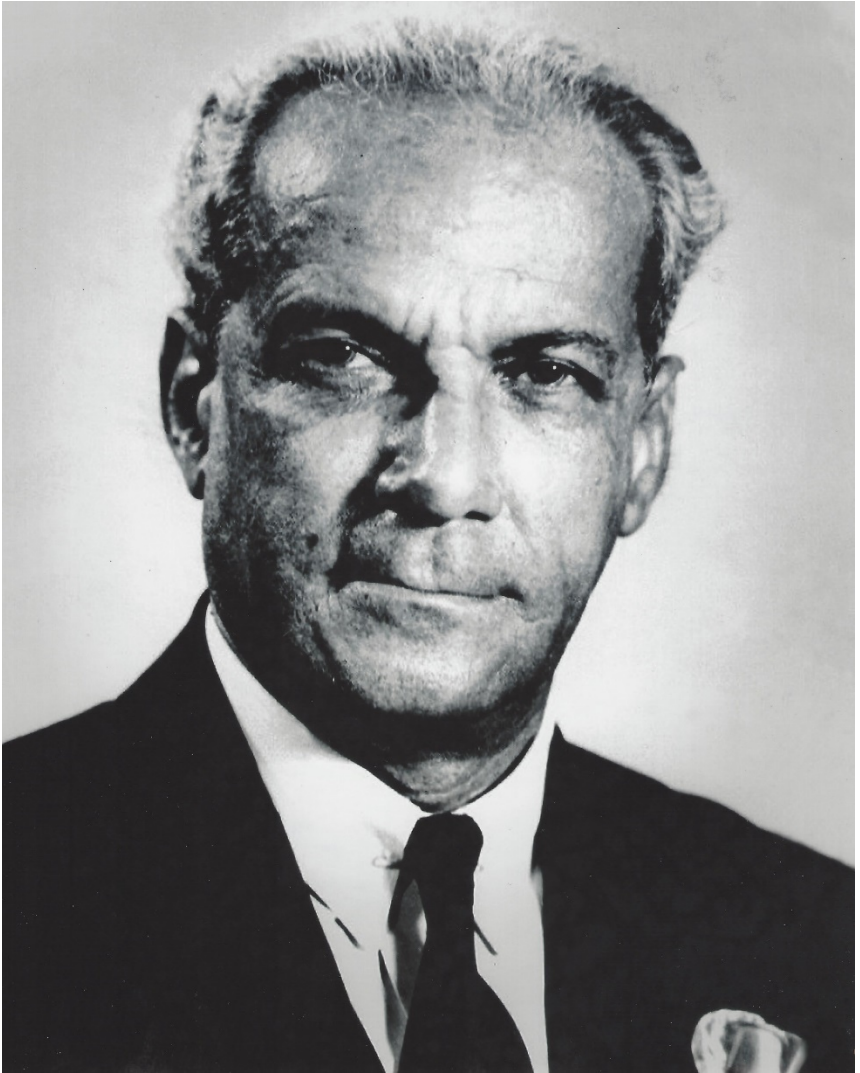


**THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE**



PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY



**The Constitution
of the
People's National Party**

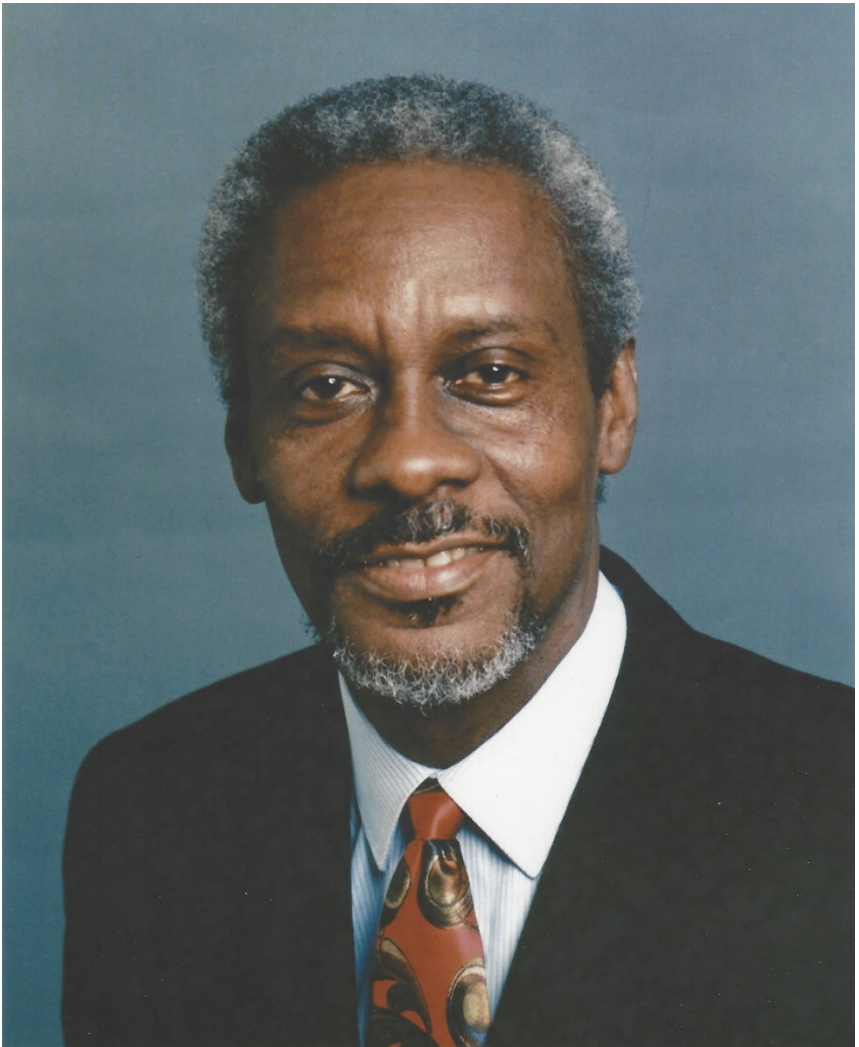
Mission Statement

“A world class Party with the organisational capacity to reach out to all groups and create broad based national alliances:

A party with systems which ensure the integrity of its members and organisational structures:

A Party with the internal machinery to facilitate debate on national policy”









Message for the PNP 2019 Constitution

This **new edition of the People's National Party's (PNP) Constitution 2017** marks a major milestone in the history of our movement.

The Party's Constitution, framed by the committee and chaired by our founding leader Norman Washington Manley in 1938, clearly established the PNP as a decentralised political party within a framework of participatory democracy. Indeed, the PNP's Constitution became a model for other political parties in the Caribbean and wider progressive movements including the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa – the party that was ultimately led by Freedom Fighter and former President Nelson Mandela. Even as we take pride in the work of our Founding Fathers and Mothers, we take note of the fact that the profound changes in Jamaican society over the past seven decades require amendments to the constitution.

It is for this reason that following my election as Party President in 2017, I mandated the PNP's Structures Review Committee to thoroughly review and update the Constitution to more effectively guide and regulate the internal life of the Party so as to ensure the movement's vibrancy and continued growth.

New areas to note include measures to drive the organizational integrity and strength of the People's National Party:

- **Servicing of Party Groups:** Our Members of Parliament, Councillors and Candidates will now have to attend Party Group meetings in their respective Constituencies and Divisions.
- **Automatic Auditing of Party Groups**, triggered by having sixty groups in a constituency.
- **Leadership Training for Group Officers and Delegates** in a mandatory Political Leadership Programme.

- **Defined Role and Responsibilities of PNP Elected Representatives and Political Leaders:**
 - For the first time in the history of our organization, Party members, the wider Jamaican electorate and others now have a codified standard on which to assess our elected representatives, our Members of Parliament and Councillors, as well as our political leaders.

- **As we drive for accountability in the organization, there will be sanctions for non-performance and or breaches.**

In addition to the updates to our Constitution, the **Sexual Harassment Policy**, led by the PNP Women’s Movement and the Gender Commission, will be operationalized in the Party’s bylaws and regulations. As a progressive party, this is also important.

Comrades, these amendments to our Constitution are critical building blocks in the transformation of the People’s National Party to make it a more effective organization, nimble, accountable and ready to lead Jamaica in the 21st century.

It is now up to us to ensure our Constitution continues to ground our organization and be our guide as we seek to fulfil the mission of our Party in building a successful Jamaica based on the principles of social justice, integrity and equality of opportunity.

Cde Peter D. Phillips

Party President

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Structures Review Committee I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to all the volunteers who, diligently retyped and proof read the 2008 edition of the constitution that has been updated and is evidenced by this 2017 edition.

I must express thanks to Region Five in particular, and to all the delegates who actively participated in the review process.

Thanks, must also be expressed to the Editing Committee, comprising Michael Vacciana–Legal Advisor, Garth Soares and Norman Minott, as well as Comrade Julian Robinson–General Secretary.

Finally I would like to thank the Jamaica Information Service for allowing us to use the photographs of our presidents.

Cde. Paul Burke

Chairman

Structures Review Committee (2017)

Table of Contents

A. Name.....	13
B. Objectives	13
C. Membership.....	14
D. Financial Subscription.....	19
E. The Party Group	21
F. The Divisional Organization	33
G. The Constituency Organization.....	39
H. Selection of Provisional Candidates for Municipal Corporations and the House of Representatives.....	51
I. The Regional Organization.....	53
J. Annual National Party Conference.....	58
K. Party Officers.....	60
L. The National Executive Council	60
M. Special Membership Rights to the National Executive Council and the Executive Committee.....	63
N. The Parliamentary Group	64
O. The Executive Committee	64
P. Trustees.....	67
Q. Reserve Powers	67
R. Veto Powers.....	67
S. Discipline.....	68
T. Chairman’s Vote.....	69
U. Resolutions For The National Annual Conference	70
V. Alterations of Constitution	70
W. Annex I	72
X. Schedule Form of Group Constitution	72

Y. Annex II – Standing Orders of Annual Conference 75
Z. Annex III -- Contact Information 78

A. Name

1. The name of the Organization shall be People's National Party.

B. Objectives

National

2. To:

- (a) secure and extend the liberties, to secure the interests and to develop the national life and prosperity of the people of Jamaica as a whole by all constitutional means through construction of a socialist society.
- (b) work for and promote the political, economic, social and cultural progress of the country as a whole in accordance with the fundamental aims of the Party to build a Jamaica based on the principles of Democratic Socialism.
- (c) promote predominantly the interest of the people as a whole by the organisation of Jamaica into a country of small settlers, farmers and workers and the development of the industrial, social and other services necessary for the maintenance of such a social structure.
- (d) develop the political life of the country by guiding, informing and expressing public opinion through public meetings and Party literature.
- (e) nominate and support for election to the House of Representatives and to Municipal Corporations, members of the Party pledged to support the programmes and decisions of the Party in their respective bodies.
- (f) exercise effectively the democratic rights and powers provided by the existing Constitution so as to secure the development of a planned policy for the social and economic future of the country.

- (g) protect, maintain and promote Jamaica's status as an independent nation and to seek to preserve at all times the democratic rights of the people as are set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedom and as entrenched in the Jamaican Constitution.

Inter-Commonwealth

- (h) cooperate with labour and socialist organizations within the Commonwealth with a view to promoting the purposes of the Party, and more particularly, to take common action with such organizations in the Caribbean Region for the promotion of a higher standard of social and economic life for the population of the respective countries of the region as a whole.

International

- (i) cooperate with labour and socialist organizations in other countries, for the improvement of the social and economic standards and conditions of the peoples of the world.

C. Membership

3. Membership of the Party shall be open to all persons resident in Jamaica or of Jamaican parentage above the age of eighteen (18) years, other than members of the PNP Youth Organization as set out in Clause 28, who accept the programmes and policies of the Party based on the principles of Democratic Socialism, who agree to conform to the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party and who are accepted as members in the manner prescribed by the Constitution.
4. All Applicants shall complete and sign the prescribed Membership Application Form M001 as prescribed in Schedule 1 of the Bylaws, which shall be witnessed by two registered members of the Group, one to include an Officer of the Group.
5. This will include her/his full name and date of birth and the applicant shall also provide her/his current EOJ Elector Registration

Identification Card, of which the Elector Registration Number shall be noted.

6. The membership of any person whose name does not appear on the National Voters List for more than seven months, will be automatically suspended, unless a satisfactory explanation, acceptable to the Regional Management Committee, as set out in the Party Bylaws and Procedures.
7. Subject to Clause 8, membership may be obtained:
 - (a) by becoming a member of a Party Group in the manner and on the conditions set forth in the schedule and in Clause 42 below;
 - (b) by direct application to the General Secretary of the Party as set out in Clauses 21 - 22 below.
 - (c) by becoming a member of an affiliated society recognized as such, in accordance with Clauses 29 - 31 below.

Provisional Membership

8. An application through a Group, an Affiliate, or by direct application to the General Secretary, may be accepted provisionally for seven (7) months in the first instance.
9. The Party's Executive Committee shall develop an appropriate programme of orientation for new members so that all new members can complete the orientation process within seven (7) months.

Full Membership

10. A member who joins the Party through a Group may move from provisional membership to full membership after attending a minimum of three group meetings or after the initial seven month period from date of application as indicated on the Central Register of the Party, whichever is later.
11. A person joining by direct application or through an Affiliate, shall be eligible for full membership upon the full payment of the annual subscription as determined by the Executive Committee, subject,

however, to the provisions of Clauses 8-10, 16-18.

12. On becoming eligible for full membership, the applicant shall subscribe to the Party's Pledge as set out in the Bylaws.

Re-Verification of Membership

13. As of January 2015, all members shall be required to be re-verified once every five years, using the prescribed form M002 in Schedule 1 of the Bylaws. This re-verification exercise commencing, as of January 2015, is mandatory in order to continue the member's registration as a member of the People's National Party.

Membership of a Party Group

14. A member can only be a member of one Party Group at a time.
15. Membership is transferable from one Party Group to another using the prescribed form, M003, Schedule 1 of the Bylaws.

Direct Application

16. All direct applications shall be completed on the prescribed form, M004, Schedule 1 of the Bylaws and shall include recommendations from two members in good standing, one of whom should be a councillor, a member of a constituency committee or a member of the National Executive Council.
17. Within a period of no more than sixty (60) days of receipt of the application, the General Secretary shall advise the applicant in writing as to the status of her/his application.
 - (a) On receipt of a direct application for membership, the General Secretary shall advise the respective organ of the application, which is Regional Management Committee and the Constituency Committee of the constituency in which the applicant resides, or in the case of an applicant who resides overseas, the Party affiliate, (if any) in the country of the applicant's residence.
 - (b) Any response from the relevant organ shall be communicated in writing within thirty (30) days to the General Secretary.

18. The General Secretary shall forward each direct application together with a recommendation to the Executive Committee of the Party and if the Executive Committee rejects the application, it shall so notify the applicant, who may within one month of being so notified appeal to the National Executive Council which may either confirm or reverse the Executive Committee's decision and the decision of the NEC shall be final.

Eligibility and Rights, Group, Affiliates and Direct Members

19. Only on obtaining full membership, that is after being a registered and financial member for a minimum of seven months, shall any individual be eligible to hold any elected position at the division, constituency, regional or national level, except as indicated in Clauses 25 - 27.

20. Members who belong to a Party Group or who are accepted by direct application to the General Secretary, or through an affiliated Organization shall have the rights, privileges and obligations conferred on the members of such entities by this Constitution.

Direct Members

21. Persons who are members by direct application and have attained full membership as set out under Clauses,11, and 12, above may:

- a) attend divisional conferences appropriate to their place of residence and are entitled to a vote on all matters
- b) attend constituency and All-Groups meetings appropriate to their place of residence; and
- c) select delegates to attend and vote at Constituency, Regional or National Annual Party Conferences at which members are entitled to vote under this Constitution, and selection of such delegates shall be on the basis of one delegate for each twenty (20) direct members.
- d) To be able to select representatives to their respective divisional committee on the basis of a maximum of one representative to

the Divisional Committee, providing there is a minimum of ten (10) members.

22. These rights, as specified in Clause 21 shall be suspended if the member fails to pay the prescribed subscription, or fails to attend such minimum number of meetings as may be determined from time to time by Annual Conference.
23. Each Region is responsible for convening a minimum of two meetings per year for direct members within their Region and such meeting to be referred to as an Assembly of Direct Members, which shall be held in November and March and any other month as may be determined by the Region and or the Executive Committee.
24. The Party Secretariat shall provide to the respective Regions, Constituency and Divisional Organizations, a full list of all their direct members, both financial and non-financial, usually in the months of February and October in each year, prior to the Assembly of Direct Members, required to be held in March and November each year, the date for which shall be set by the Executive Committee.

Provisional Party Members – Exemptions

25. Provisional members may be eligible to be nominated for and hold any position at the divisional or constituency level, providing an approval of a resolution requesting same and providing the rationale for such a request, by fifty percent, plus one of the constituted membership of the Regional Management Committee and providing that this approval takes place within three months of that person being elected.
26. Provisional members may be eligible to be nominated and hold any position at the regional level, providing an approval of a resolution requesting same and providing the rationale for such a request, by the Executive Committee of the Party, a process which must be completed within one month of that person being elected.
27. The Party Executive shall determine candidate criteria and the training programme for provisional members as provided in the Bylaws.

The PNP Youth Organization

- 28.** Persons upon reaching the age of fifteen shall be eligible to join the PNP Youth Organization. The Party shall set out in the Bylaws, the terms and conditions of such membership.

Affiliation

- 29.** Any society or organization wishing to become affiliated to the Party shall apply in writing to the General Secretary stating the names of its officers, supplying a copy of its constitution and its rules and shall undertake and agree to be bound by and conform to the programme and policies of the Party based on the principles of Democratic Socialism and to the Constitution, Bylaws and the Standing Orders of the Party.
- 30.** It shall be the duty of the National Executive Council to decide all questions and conditions of affiliation and where the terms of affiliation involve representation on the governing bodies of the Party, such terms shall not take effect unless approved by the Annual Party Conference. Any society or organization, which is disaffiliated, shall have the right to appeal to the next Annual Party Conference.
- 31.** The extent, if any, to which affiliated society or organizations may participate and/or be represented in the affairs of the Party, shall be governed solely by the terms of affiliation as decided by the National Executive Council.

D. Financial Subscription

- 32.** The Executive Committee shall, once in every two years, review the amount of financial subscription for:
- (a) Group Member monthly obligatory subscription payable by members.
 - (b) Direct Members -- annual subscription payable by members.
 - (c) Constituency Committee -- annual subscription payable by members.
 - (d) National Executive Council -- annual subscription payable by

members.

- (e) Executive Committee annual subscription payable by members, who shall be exempted from paying subscription as members of the National Executive Council.
- 33.** All members shall subscribe to the Party funds such amounts as shall be determined by the Executive Committee for each category of membership and any such member who is more than seven months in arrears shall be deemed to be non-financial.
- 34.** Each Party Group may collect in addition to the obligatory subscription, a voluntary subscription from its members and the Group shall:
- (a) retain one-quarter of the obligatory subscription and shall forward each month, the remaining three-quarters to the Central Office of the Party;
 - (b) forward a maximum of one-quarter of the voluntary subscriptions collected in accordance with (a) above to the Constituency Committee concerned or, where no Constituency Committee is established, to the Executive Committee of the Party, which shall then retain the same as Party funds.
- 35.** The Executive Committee of the Party shall determine the percentage of subscriptions received which shall be returned to the respective Regional Organizations.
- 36.** Affiliated societies or organizations shall subscribe to the Party funds such amounts as shall be determined by the Executive Committee and an affiliated organization which is more than seven months in arrears with its subscription shall be deemed to be non-financial
- 37.** A non-financial member being a person shall not be eligible to hold any office in the Party or to be a delegate to any conference or a representative to any Constituency Committee or to the Regional Executive Council or to the National Executive Council. See also Clause 79.
- 38.** Every member appointed as a delegate or representative shall be required to produce satisfactory proof of her/his membership and financial standing and on failure to do so may be excluded from

attendance by the Conference, Constituency Committee, Regional Executive Council or National Executive Council, as the case may be.

39. The constituency organization and all members of the National Executive Council, the Executive Committee and the Constituency Committee are required to meet such financial obligations and requirements as shall be determined from time to time by Annual Conference.

Quorums

40. Quorums at the scheduled meetings of the Party Group and meetings and conferences of the Division and Constituency, the Regional Management Committee and the Regional Executive Council, shall be one-quarter, plus one, of the constituted elected membership.
41. In an extraordinary meeting, an officer at the respective level shall be present and in the case of meetings at the Group, Divisional or Constituency levels, the meeting shall first be sanctioned by the higher body or the Regional Organization.

E. The Party Group

42. The basic unit of the Party organization shall be a Group which shall consist of not less than six (6) members and shall be approved by the Constituency Committee of the constituency in which the Group is situated or, in default, by the Executive Committee of the Party.
43. Meetings of members shall be held at least once per month.
44. The principal functions of the Group are:
 - (a) recruitment;
 - (b) political education;
 - (c) community outreach;
 - (d) the carrying out of electoral work on behalf of the divisional and constituency organization;
 - (e) leadership training;

- (f) policy discussion and formulation;
- (g) participation in the Party's internal democratic processes and decision making;
- (h) fund raising;
- (i) assisting in the welfare of its members;
- (j) facilitating social, cultural and recreational activities for members and Party supporters.

Group Responsibilities

- 45. The Group shall hold at least one special activity per quarter, relating to any of its functions as set out in Clause 44 a - f, & h - j.
- 46. Failure of a Group to submit its annual report on the prescribed reporting form, G001, Schedule 2 of the Bylaws at its Annual Divisional Conference or failing the holding of such a conference to the Annual Constituency Conference or as directed by the Regional Management Committee, will result in the loss of accreditation, subject to appeal to its regional and national bodies.
- 47. The monthly Group Status Report shall be made available to Divisional Officers and Constituency Officers for their respective structures.

Regulations Governing the Formation and Status of Groups

- 48. Immediately upon formation, the name and mailing address of the Group and if available the names and email addresses of the members shall be forwarded to the Constituency Committee or, in default, to the Executive Committee of the Party for approval and registration as a Provisional Group.
- 49. An application for the approval of the formation of a Group shall be on the prescribed form, G002, Schedule 2 of the Bylaws and shall be delivered to an Officer of the Constituency in which the Group is situated or to the Party Secretariat and immediately on receipt of such application, a Group Application Delivery Receipt shall be issued bearing the date on which the application was so delivered, hereinafter to be known as the Group Application Delivery Date Receipt, G003, as prescribed in Schedule 2 of the Bylaws.

50. The Group, when approved, shall be deemed to come into existence on the Group Application Delivery Date Receipt and if the Group is unable to produce the Group Application Delivery Receipt, the burden of proving such date on which the application was delivered shall be on the Group.
51. In the event of the Constituency Committee being notified of the formation of the Group, the Constituency Secretary shall immediately advise the Executive Committee of the Party.
52. In the event of a Group Application being directly delivered to the Party Secretariat, it shall be the responsibility of the Party Secretariat to forward such Application to the Constituency Committee.
53. If the Constituency Committee refuses to approve a Group, the Group shall have the right to appeal to the Executive Committee whose decision shall be final.

The Approval Process

54. The maximum number of Groups to be registered in each constituency shall not exceed the number of polling divisions within the constituency. The 'area' to be covered by each Group shall be decided by the Constituency Committee where necessary, or in default, by the Executive Committee of the Party
55. The following shall apply in relation to the approval of Party Groups:
 - (a) the Constituency Committee shall use the prescribed Party form, G004 Schedule 2 of the Bylaws, to approve the registration of the Group. Members present shall sign the prescribed form indicating their participation and whether or not they approve or disapprove the registration of the Group.
 - (b) where a meeting of the Constituency Committee is not a regular scheduled meeting, the Constituency Committee shall give to the members seven clear days notice in writing or electronic means of any such meeting, which shall be a special Constituency Committee meeting.
 - (c) it shall be the responsibility of the Constituency Committee to ensure that the form is delivered to the Party Secretariat within a

maximum of fourteen (14) days of approval or disapproval, as the case may be.

- (d) the Group, shall receive from the Constituency Committee, or as the case may be, from the Executive Committee, a written response to its application for approval within forty-five days of the Group Application Delivery Date, a copy of which shall be sent to the Divisional Committee of the Division in which the Group falls.

Automatic Auditing of Groups

- 56. The Organizing Commission and the National Audit Committee shall conduct an audit of Groups within sixty (60) days, in the event that the number of registered Groups has reached fifty in the Constituency or twenty in a Division. This will automatically trigger an audit to be carried out by the National Audit Committee, at least once every three years, or;
 - (a) in the case of a municipal division, there are more than ten Recognized Groups; or
 - (b) ten (10) or more additional Groups have been recognized since the last such audit; or
 - (c) in the case of a constituency, more than twenty (20) Groups have been recognized since the last such audit.

- 57. The Organizing Commission shall make its findings and recommendations known to the respective Region and the Executive Committee, on the basis of which, the Executive Committee shall decide on the appropriate action to be taken.

Approval of Group's Constitution and Rules

- 58. Each Group is entitled to have its own constitution and rules of procedure provided they are not in conflict with the Party's Constitution and in the event that such a Group develops its own rules, such rules shall be submitted to the Constituency Committee for approval and shall provide for the following;

- (a) an Annual General Meeting to be held between the months of January and March in each year, at which the officers and committee members, if any, are elected.
- (b) in the case of Groups so entitled, the election of delegates to the Annual Constituency, Regional and Party Conferences. See Clause 97.

59. Where a Group does not adopt its own constitution, the Model Group Constitution set out in the Schedule hereto shall apply, in so far as its terms are consistent with the rights and privileges of the classes of Groups as defined in this Constitution.

Annual General Meeting

- 60.** Each Group shall hold its Annual General Meeting between the months of January and March of each year.
- 61.** The Secretary of the Group shall give the members at least fourteen days' notice in writing or electronic messaging, of the convening of the Annual General Meeting.
- 62.** The required quorum for an Annual General Meeting shall be fifty percent (50%) of the financial Group members but in any event such members shall not be less than three in number.
- 63.** At the Annual General Meeting, the Group shall elect its officers and committee members.
- 64.** Recognized Groups so entitled, shall have the option to elect their delegates to the Annual Constituency, Regional and National Party Conferences.
- 65.** Groups shall complete and submit the prescribed Annual General Meeting Report Form, G005, Schedule 2 of the Bylaws to the Party Secretariat, no later than April 21 each year.
- 66.** A Group may submit a request for an exemption for failing to hold its Annual General Meeting within the prescribed period by providing an acceptable explanation to the Organizing Commission and General Secretary and which is supported by the Constituency Committee and such a Group shall commit to holding its Annual General Meeting no later than April 30th of that year and submit the

prescribed Annual General Meeting Report Form within two weeks of the date of the meeting.

67. A Group which has not held and reported on its Annual General Meeting as set out in Clauses 60 and 65 and has not obtained an exemption as set out in Clause 66, shall not be accredited and shall not be entitled to have delegates at any Conference of the Party during the period of default, but shall be allowed to send observers. So, however, that this section shall not apply to Divisional Conferences where members are delegates in their own right.

Reports and Categorization of Groups.

68. Quarterly reports, on the prescribed form, G006 Schedule 2 of the Bylaws, shall be forwarded to the Constituency Committee by the Group Secretary or, in default, by a Group Officer, showing the;
- (a) names and number of members
 - (b) financial status of each member
 - (c) outline of activities undertaken by the Group
69. The General Secretary shall keep and maintain at the Central Party Office, a Register of all Groups and Party members. Reference to this Register shall decide the status of all Groups and members and the degree of representation to be allowed to them at Constituency, Regional or Party Conferences.
70. There shall be three categories of Groups.
- (a) Provisional Groups,
 - (b) Recognized Groups and
 - (c) Recognized and Accredited Groups.
71. A Provisional Group shall be an approved Group consisting of at least six (6) persons eligible for membership in the Party and who join the Party through a Group which conforms with the provisions of Clauses 42 - 44.

72. A Recognized Group shall be a Group consisting of at least ten (10) persons eligible for membership in the Party and who join the Party and conform with the provisions of Clauses 42- 44, 73-74.
73. An Accredited Group shall be a Group that has held and reported on its Annual General Meeting as set out in clause 60 and also conforms with the provisions of clause 72.

Application for Recognized Status

74. A Provisional Group which has been active for at least seven months and has a membership of at least ten persons may apply to the General Secretary, through the Constituency Committee in which the Group is situated, or in default, directly to the General Secretary for registration as a Recognized Group.
75. Upon receipt of such application, the General Secretary shall, within a period of thirty days of the receipt of the application, notify the constituency committee or, if the constituency committee is not functional, the Regional Management Committee shall be notified of the application; and the Constituency Committee, within thirty (30) days, shall forward to the General Secretary any objections or comments to the granting of recognition status to the Group.
76. After thirty (30) days of such notification, the General Secretary shall proceed to consider the application, taking into account any such objections or comments.
77. Subject to satisfactory proof of *bona fide* existence being furnished, including the minutes of three recent Group meetings, its membership, attendance records and its activities, the General Secretary shall, in consultation with the Organizing Commission, register the Group as a Recognized Group.
78. The General Secretary shall seek to have the application determined within seventy-five (75) days of the receipt of the application, unless circumstances otherwise dictate.

79. A Group which in the opinion of the Constituency Committee or the Executive Committee has become defunct shall be removed from the Register of Groups by the Executive Committee after investigation and consultation with the Constituency Committee.

Subscription of Members and Group

- 80.** No member shall hold any office in a Group or be elected as a delegate to any conference unless that member is a financial member and any officer or delegate who ceases to be a financial member shall also cease to be an officer or delegate as the case may be. See also Clause 37.
- 81.** The Group shall be responsible for collecting the maximum amounts obtainable for the Party funds.
- 82.** The Treasurer of the Group shall, at the request of the Constituency Committee or the Executive Committee, produce all books, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to the finances of the Group, and shall comply with any request of the Executive Committee for a change in the system of financial record keeping.
- 83.** If a Group fails for a period of seven consecutive months to make the remittances in respect of obligatory subscriptions required by the provisions of Clause 33 and 34 for at least six (6) members, the Central Office of the Party shall give notice in writing of such failure to the Secretary of the Constituency Committee in whose area the Group is situated or, where no Constituency Committee is established, directly to the Group.

Abeyance

- 84.** If, within two months of such notice, obligatory subscriptions for at least six members for seven months are not remitted, or the Group fails to give a satisfactory explanation of its non-payment, such a Group will be considered to be in abeyance, and the Register of Groups shall be noted accordingly.
- 85.** Every Group recorded in the Register as being in abeyance shall have no status within the Party unless and until it is reconstituted as a Provisional Group and application made for registration as such.

Provided, however, that the financial members of any such Group (or of any Group removed from the Register as being defunct shall be deemed to continue as financial members of the Party until the expiration of the periods covered by the respective obligatory subscriptions previously paid by them and should they join any other Group of the Party, they shall not be compelled to pay any additional subscription in respect of such periods.

Officers of the Group

- 86.** The names of the officers shall be submitted to the Constituency Committee or, in default, to the Executive Committee of the Party for approval within one month of registration. Such officers are the chairman, the vice chairman, the secretary and the treasurer.
- 87.** Officers declared by the Constituency Committee or the Executive Committee as being unsatisfactory shall be removed by the Group or by the Constituency Committee or the Executive Committee as the case may be.
- 88.** No Group officer shall receive payment for his/her services without the permission of the Constituency Committee.

Political Education & Training Requirements

- 89.** Group, Divisional and Constituency Officers to be eligible to be re-elected to a position at that level shall have within one year of first being elected, participated in the appropriate political education course as prescribed by the Political Education Commission, or if there is no such communication, by the Regional Organization.
- 90.** Group Officers and members in order to be able to be delegates shall be required to participate in the political education courses on ‘Group Leadership Training, Political Organization and the Party’s Constitution’, within a year of being elected as Group Officers and thereafter, at least once every three years.
- 91.** Failure to participate and maintain the requisite standards within twelve months of the required date, shall make such an officer or

member ineligible to continue in that position until meeting the required standards.

92. The failure of the Party to implement such programmes shall not render any officer or delegate ineligible to serve in that capacity.
93. The Office of Director of Political Education and Training shall be established under the Secretariat to provide programme support and ensure compliance to the above.

Conference Representation – Group Delegates

94. No Provisional Group shall be entitled to send delegates to, or to participate in the vote upon any matter at any Constituency, Regional or Party Conference, provided however, that all such Groups shall be entitled to send observers who shall have no voting rights at such Conferences.
95. Subject to the provisions of Clauses 82 -- 84, every Recognized, Accredited and Financial Group shall be entitled to send a minimum of two delegates to every Annual Constituency Conference and a minimum of one delegate to the Annual Regional and Party Conferences. See Clause 97b.
96. Recognized, Accredited and Financial Groups in a Provisional Division, as determined by the assessment of the Party's Organizing Commission and the Region to which it belongs, shall be allowed a maximum of one delegate at Conferences of the Constituency, Region and Party and the Groups of a Recognized Division shall be allowed delegates in accordance with Clause 97.
97. Recognized and Financial Groups which have been registered as such for a period of one year or more and have held not less than three meetings for the conduct of business over that period, shall be entitled to representation at as follows:
 - a) For Constituency Conferences only, a Group will be allowed a maximum of four (4) delegates with the actual amount determined as follows:

- i) the Group Chairperson shall be an automatic delegate.
- ii) there shall be one additional delegate for the first ten (10) financial members
- iii) an additional delegate for ten financial members if the group has maintained financial membership of twenty (20) members over a period of one year ending on the date set for Group registration for Party Conference, and an additional delegate for an additional ten financial members if the group has maintained financial membership of thirty (30) members over a period of one year ending at the date set for Group registration for Party Conference.

b) Groups shall be allowed a maximum of two (2) delegates at the Annual Regional and Party Conferences.

98. Group delegate/s to Constituency, Regional and Party Conferences are to be democratically elected at a meeting of the Group having a certified mandate, on a prescribed Party form, stating the date of the group meeting and the names of delegates elected and signed by the members present at that meeting and forwarded to the relevant structure / authority no later than ten(10) days before such Conference. See Clauses 58 and 59.

99. A Group which has not held its Annual General Meeting as set out in Clauses 60 - 67, without providing an acceptable explanation to the Party's General Secretary and supported by its Constituency Committee shall not be entitled to have delegates at any Annual Constituency, Regional or Party Conference of the Party during the period of default, but shall be allowed to send observers.

Selection of and Change of Delegates at the Constituency and Regional Level

100. Groups shall be able to change their delegates to any Conference providing that this change is notified on the prescribed Party Form, G006, in Schedule 2 of the Bylaws and done at a constituted meeting of the Group, within the prescribed time set in the Constitution or varied by the NEC, providing that Groups are

provided with at least one month's notice of the submission requirements.

101. In the case of the Annual Constituency Conference and whereby the Group Chairman is an automatic delegate in her/his own right, this form with the other named delegate/s must be submitted to the Party Secretariat at least ten clear days before the Conference.
102. In the case of the Annual Regional Conference and Annual National Conference, this form must be submitted by the 31st July annually to the Party Secretariat.
103. In the event that a Group has not selected or submitted the names of their delegate/s to the Annual Regional and Annual National Conferences within the specified period, the delegates to be named in order of precedence, shall be Group Chairman, and secondly, the Vice Chairman.

Servicing of Party Groups by Elected Representatives and Provisional Candidates

104. Servicing means an elected representative and candidates attending a formal constituted Party Group Meeting and participating in its entire agenda.

Members of Parliament and Provisional Constituency Candidates

105. All Members of Parliament and provisional candidates must service each Group in the Constituency at least once every two years and failure to do so without an explanation acceptable to the Executive Committee, can render the Member of Parliament or provisional candidate ineligible to contest the next election.

Councillors and Provisional Councillor Candidates:

106. All Councillors and provisional Councillor candidates must service each Group in the Division at least once every year during their elected term of office. A report to include the attendance register of which must be provided to the respective Constituency Committee on a quarterly basis. Failure to do so without an explanation acceptable to their Regional Management Committee and or Executive Committee, can render the Councillor or provisional Councillor candidate ineligible to contest the next election.

F. The Divisional Organization

107. A Divisional Organization and a Divisional Committee shall be established in all Municipal Divisions in Jamaica.

108. There shall be two classes of Divisional Organizations to be known as 'Provisional Divisions', and 'Recognized Divisions'.

109. A Recognized Division shall have a minimum of five recognized and financial Party Groups and shall have been evaluated by the Party's Organizing Commission and their respective Region on an annual basis prior to the final National Executive Council meeting before the Annual Party Conference and adjudged to have completed a minimum of fifty percent of Party tasks set by the National Executive Council and Executive Committee.

110. Application for direct membership to the Party may be made through a Divisional Committee.

111. Meetings of the Divisional Committee shall be held at least

quarterly, with a minimum of four meetings annually. The quorum for the meeting shall be one-quarter plus one of the membership.

Annual Divisional Conference

- 112.** There shall be an Annual Divisional Conference, which shall be held in the months of April to June annually, or as decided by the National Executive Council or the Executive Committee.
- 113.** It shall be the duty of the Constituency Committee to formally notify in writing or electronically, to all registered Party Groups within a Division of the summoning of a Divisional Conference at least fourteen clear days before the holding of the Conference.
- 114.** At the Annual Divisional Conference all persons who are registered and are financial members of the Party, as determined by the Central Party Register, shall be delegates in their own right, thereby entitling them to participate and vote.
- 115.** Each registered Party Group shall forward an annual report to the Divisional Conference on the prescribed Annual Group Report Form, D001, Schedule 3 of the Bylaws detailing the work of the Party Group and such report shall include the following:
- (a) the number of Group meetings held during the period;
 - (b) the Group's recruitment of new members;
 - (c) its political education programme;
 - (d) payment of subscriptions and fund raising;
 - (e) community work and outreach;
 - (f) electoral work and canvassing;
 - (g) participation in and relationship with the Divisional, Constituency and Regional structures;
 - (h) relationship with the Party's elected representatives;
 - (i) other Group activities;
 - (j) concerns and recommendations.

116. The Divisional Conference shall receive a full written report,

prepared on the prescribed Party form, D002, Schedule 3 of the Bylaws detailing the work of the PNP Women's Movement and PNP Youth Organization within the Division, relating to:

- (a) the number of meetings held;
- (b) recruitment of new members;
- (c) its political education programme;
- (d) special programmes for women and youth;
- (e) participation in and relationship with the Divisional and Constituency organizations;
- (f) Relationship with the Party's elected representatives;
- (g) payment of subscriptions and fund raising;
- (h) community work and outreach;
- (i) electoral work and canvassing;
- (j) other activities;
- (k) concerns and recommendations;

117. Unless a postponement for the holding of a Divisional Conference is requested by the Constituency Committee and is specifically approved by the Regional Management Committee, the Annual Divisional Conference shall be held as prescribed in clause 112.

The Divisional Committee

118. The Divisional Committee shall have as officers, a Divisional Chairman, two Vice Chairmen, a Secretary and a Treasurer, elected at the Annual Divisional Conference. One Vice Chairman shall be assigned responsibilities for electoral and enumeration matters and the one Vice Chairman assigned responsibilities for community outreach and recruitment. In addition, each Group shall be entitled to have a representative on the Divisional Committee.

119. The Divisional Committee may co-opt members and with the right of those members to vote shall be limited to five persons should the co-opted members exceed that number; members co-opted to the Committee shall not have the right to vote at Conferences merely

by virtue of their co-option to the Committee.

120. The PNP Women's Movement and the PNP Youth Organization shall each be entitled to have two representatives on each Divisional Committee.
121. The Division shall be allowed one delegate for every ten divisional members accepted through direct application and who have met the financial obligations and other requirements set by the Party for qualification of membership to Constituency, Regional and Party Conferences.
122. The Divisional Committee shall meet at least once every two months. Mandatory meetings are required in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December in each year.
123. Each Division on obtaining ten registered and financial Groups shall have to complete a half-yearly report on the programmes and activities of the Groups within their Division and undergo an Annual Audit by the Party's Organizing Commission.
124. Each Group shall be entitled to have a maximum of two representatives on the Divisional Committee to include an Officer, usually represented by the Group Chairman, a Vice Chairman or Secretary.

Role and Responsibilities of Councillor and the Divisional Chairman

125. A Councillor, being a member of the Party, shall be the political head of the Division and principal spokesperson on behalf of the Party in the Division on all local government matters.
126. In the situation, that the elected representative is not a member of the Party, then the Divisional Chairman shall assume the role of supporting or monitoring such responsibilities.

- 127.** A Councillor shall automatically be a member of the Constituency Committee with voting rights.
- 128.** The Councillor, shall have the primary responsibility for the proper running of the Party affairs in the Division to include, but not limited to:
- (a) providing effective representation for all constituents regardless of political affiliation, religious persuasion, race, class, gender, geographical location and to provide the appropriate reports on a timely basis to the divisional and constituency organization.
 - (b) ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of state benefits and opportunities in a transparent and non-partisan manner.
 - (c) mobilizing constituents to support constituted law and order and to support the security forces in building strong, safe and secure communities and by extension, a safe and secure division.
 - (d) making all efforts to ensure that all state funded projects, programmes and policies are implemented and managed properly and that the citizens and taxpayers get full value for money.
 - (e) maintaining contact and building effective relationships with community development committees, citizens associations, educational institutions, youth and sports clubs, women groups and civil society in general.

Political Responsibilities

- 129.** In a Division, where the elected representative is not a Party member, the Divisional Chairman shall assume the political responsibilities, by:
- (a) full compliance with the Constitution and Rules of the Party and to its democratic principles and practices.
 - (b) the building and maintenance of a strong and stable organization, to include the co-ordination of enumeration and canvassing, thereby, maximizing the Party's electoral chances.
 - (c) maintaining contact and building effective relationships with all Party Groups.

Caucus of Councillors

- 130.** The Caucus of (Municipal) Councillors, comprising Councillors who are members of the Party, shall be required to meet at least once monthly, usually just prior to any regular monthly meeting or special meeting of the Municipal Corporation of which they are members, for the purpose of discussing the business of the Municipal Corporation, determining positions to be taken by the Party Councillors and to formulate political strategies
- 131.** The attendance of Councillors at their Caucus Meetings is to be reported on a monthly basis to the respective Regional Organization.
- 132.** Councillors and in the case of Portmore, the Mayor, if being a member of the Party, who do not have a two-thirds attendance record at their Caucus Meetings, or any Monthly Meeting of their Municipal Corporations, and who do not provide reasons satisfactory to their respective Regional Organizations, may be barred from offering themselves as future candidates of the Party.
- 133.** The Region in consultation with the respective Caucus, in the period leading up to a local government election can determine if Provisional Councillor Candidates should participate as observers.

G. The Constituency Organization

Provisional and Recognized Constituencies

- 134.** There shall be two classes of Constituency Organization to be known as ‘Provisional Constituencies’ and ‘Recognized Constituencies’.
- 135.** A Provisional Constituency shall be a constituency in which there are less than twenty (20) recognized and financial groups ascertained by reference to the Register of Groups.
- 136.** A Recognized Constituency shall be a constituency which:
- (a) has at least twenty (20) recognized and financial Groups ascertained by reference to the Register of Groups and which have met all the financial obligations and requirements as determined by Annual Party Conference and the National Executive Council from time to time;
 - (b) has a minimum of one registered financial and functional Unit of the PNP Youth Organization and Group of the PNP Women’s Movement;
 - (c) has been evaluated by the Party’s Organizing Commission and its Region on an annual basis prior to the final National Executive Council meeting before the Annual Party Conference and adjudged to have completed a minimum of fifty percent of Party tasks set by the National Executive Council and Executive Committee;
 - (d) in each of its Divisions, has a minimum of two (2) recognized and financial Groups;
- 137.** On the application of a Constituency which is unable to meet its financial obligations and requirements due to special circumstances, the Executive Committee shall consider the application and the special circumstances and, if it is satisfied that the special circumstances have been established, grant a waiver to the constituency with respect to the payment of the whole or any part of the financial obligations and requirements as the Executive Committee may deem fit.

- 138.** Any application for a waiver shall be made by the Constituency to the Executive Committee before the 31 day of May in any year and the application shall be submitted by the constituency through the Regional Executive Council, which shall consider the merits of the application and make its recommendation within a thirty day period to the Executive Committee through the General Secretary.
- 139.** If, in any Recognized Constituency, the number of recognized and financial Groups referred to in Clause 136 (a), or the number of registered financial and functional Group/Units (referred to at Clause 136 (b) falls below the required minimum, the Central Office of the Party shall give notice in writing to the secretary of the Constituency; and if, within three months of the date of such notice, the number in each case is not restored to the required minimum, the Constituency shall cease to be a recognized Constituency and shall be regarded as a Provisional Constituency.
- 140.** Whenever the Electoral Commission of Jamaica (ECJ) creates a new constituency, that constituency shall be provisional and shall be governed as such until the provisions to become a recognized constituency are met.

Annual Constituency Conference

- 141.** In every Recognized Constituency, an Annual Constituency Conference shall be held, at which a Constituency Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Treasurer, representatives to the National Executive Council and not more than seven other members shall be elected to form a Constituency Committee and such elected persons shall have the right to participate in and vote at Constituency Conferences, see clause 144.
- 142.** Subject to Clause 147, it shall be the duty of the Constituency Committee in each Recognized Constituency to convene the Annual Constituency Conference and to submit a report thereon to the Executive Committee of the Party, provided that an Annual Constituency Conference shall not be held during the period

between the Annual Conference of the Party and the meeting of the National Executive Council, for the purpose of electing the eleven (11) members from their number to serve as members of the Executive Committee, pursuant to Clause 229.

- 143.** It shall be the duty of the Constituency Committee to formally notify the Executive Committee and all the registered Party Groups within that constituency of the convening of a Constituency Conference at least fourteen (14) clear days before the holding of the Conference and it shall also submit a list of the officers and Constituency Committee members elected, immediately after the Annual Conference.
- 144.** Unless a written request for postponement is specifically approved by the Party's Executive Committee, the Annual Constituency Conference shall be held prior to the Annual Party Conference.
- 145.** In the event that a constituency has not held its annual constituency conference by the required time without the approval of the Executive Committee, none of its NEC representatives, including the Member of Parliament, shall have voting rights, but will become NEC observers for the ensuing political year.
- 146.** A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of four (4) Vice Chairmen may be elected by the Constituency Conference, provided that one Vice Chairman will have the specific responsibility for political education and leadership training and the other will have specific responsibility for electoral and enumeration matters.
- 147.** The Constituency Conference shall have the right to determine whether portfolio responsibilities for any or all of the vice chairpersons elected are assigned by the Annual Constituency Conference or the Constituency Committee.

- 148.** In the event of failure to elect a Constituency Committee or there being insufficient Recognized Groups for the holding of a Constituency Conference, the Executive Committee, after consultation with the respective Regional Organization, may name a Provisional Constituency Committee.
- 149.** As soon as a Provisional Constituency becomes a Recognized Constituency, it shall be the duty of the Provisional Constituency Committee and, in default, the Executive Committee to convene an Annual Constituency Conference and the Provisional Constituency Committee shall continue to hold office only until a Constituency Committee is in place.
- 150.** Where the number of Groups in any Provisional Constituency does not allow for a minimum of (twenty) 20 delegates from that constituency to an Annual or a Special Party Conference, the Provisional Constituency Committee may fill the numbers by the selection of representatives with observer status who shall be entitled to participate in any discussion but not to vote at such a Conference, provided that no person shall be eligible to serve as an observer unless he/she is a financial member of the Party in good standing.

Special Constituency Conference

- 151.** A Special Constituency Conference may be convened to deal with any matter not otherwise expressly provided for in this Constitution, either on the instructions of the Constituency Committee or on the written request of at least (thirty) 30 members drawn from at least five (5) groups.

Election of and Rights of Representatives to the National Executive Council

- 152.** Every Recognized Constituency shall, at its Annual Constituency Conference, elect two (2) members to serve as representatives to the National Executive Council, and the members so elected shall be

entitled to all the rights and privileges of members of the National Executive Council so soon as their elections have been notified and their credentials established to the General Secretary or, in default, to the Executive Committee of the Party, provided that no such representative shall be elected during the period between the Annual Party Conference and the meeting of the National Executive Council for the purpose of electing the eleven (11) members from their number to serve as members of the Executive Committee pursuant to Clause 229.

- 153.** In the event that a representative of a Recognized Constituency is elected to the Executive Committee pursuant to Clause 229, there shall be deemed to be a vacancy in the office of a representative of a Recognized Constituency.
- 154.** In the event of a vacancy in the office of a representative of a Recognized Constituency, the Constituency Committee shall fill the vacancy until such time as the next Annual Constituency Conference.
- 155.** Every Provisional Constituency shall be entitled to one representative on the National Executive Council, and it shall be the duty of the Regional Executive Council or the Regional Managing Committee to appoint such representative in advance of the Annual Party Conference.
- 156.** The representative so appointed shall be entitled to attend the next Annual Party Conference as an observer only, unless otherwise entitled to attend as a delegate, and his rights and privileges as a member of the National Executive Council shall not take effect until the first meeting of the National Executive Council to be held after the Annual Party Conference. So however, and save as otherwise provided by these Rules, she/he shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed, provided always that, in the event of the

Provisional Constituency becoming a Recognized Constituency, he/she shall only continue to hold office until such time as the General Secretary or the Executive Committee is notified of the election of two (2) members to serve as representatives of that Recognized Constituency on the National Executive Council, pursuant to Clause 150.

157. In the event of a vacancy in the office of a representative of a Provisional Constituency, the Regional Executive Council shall appoint a representative to fill the vacancy.

The Constituency Committee and Functions

158. Meetings of the Constituency Committee shall be held at least six times during the political year, with at least one meeting held each quarter.
159. In every Recognized Constituency, an Annual Constituency Conference shall be held between the months of June and August and no later than the date that the Annual National Conference is held for that year, at which a Constituency Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Secretary, Treasurer, representatives to the National Executive Council and not more than seven other members shall be elected to form a Constituency Committee and these elected persons shall have the right to participate in and vote at Constituency Conferences.
160. It shall be the duty of the Constituency Committee to formally notify the Party's Executive Committee and all the registered Party Groups within that constituency of the convening of a Constituency Conference at least fourteen (14) clear days before the holding of the Conference and such notification shall be in the form of letters or electronic messages.
161. The Constituency Committee shall submit to the Party Secretariat and the Regional Secretary, a list of the Officers and Constituency Committee members elected, immediately after the Annual Constituency Conference and in no instance shall this be later than fourteen (14) days.

- 162.** The Party Member of the House of Representatives and Councillors, shall be delegates at all Constituency Conferences and automatic members of the Constituency Committee, with all rights and privileges.
- 163.** A Divisional Chairman, who is not a Councillor, shall automatically be co-opted to the Constituency Committee with voting rights on the Constituency Committee and will automatically be a delegate at Constituency Conferences by virtue of their position on the Constituency Committee.
- 164.** The Annual Constituency Conference or any Special Constituency Conference called for the purpose may include on the Constituency Committee, in addition to the persons elected, representatives of geographical areas (e.g., zones or group areas) on the basis of one for each area, to be selected by the recognized Group or Groups within that area in such a manner as the Constituency Conference or Constituency Committee shall decide.
- 165.** Representatives from geographical areas, who are included on the Constituency Committee shall have the right to vote at Constituency Conferences except on issues concerning the election of Constituency officers or the selection of Party candidates for the House of Representatives and Municipal Corporations.
- 166.** The Party member of the House of Representatives and members of the Municipal Corporations representing Divisions in the Constituency shall be ex-officio members at all Constituency Conferences and of the Constituency Committee with voting rights.
- 167.** The Constituency Committee may co-opt members provided that the right to vote shall be limited to five persons, should the co-options exceed that number.

- 168.** Members co-opted to the Constituency Committee shall not have the right to vote at Constituency Conferences merely by virtue of the co-option to the Committee.
- 169.** All elected officers of a Constituency Committee, shall be delegates in their own right at their Annual Regional Conference.
- 170.** The PNP Women’s Movement and the PNP Youth Organization shall each be entitled to have one representative on each Constituency Committee.
- 171.** Where a Municipal Corporation crosses the boundary of a constituency, the National Executive Council or the Executive Committee shall determine in which constituency the member for such a division shall be qualified under this Clause.

Eligibility

- 172.** No person shall hold any office in a constituency Organization or be eligible to serve on a Recognized or Provisional Constituency Committee or as a representative to the National Executive Council unless he/she is a financial member and any person ceasing to be a financial member shall cease to hold office.
- 173.** Recognized Constituencies of not less than two years standing, complying with the provisions of Clause 175 – 179 and which is active and functional, shall, at Selection Conferences, select the Party’s provisional candidate for the constituency for the House of Representatives, subject to the provisions of Clauses 186 to 190.
- 174.** A Recognized Constituency may select a provisional candidate for the House of Representatives or provisional candidates for Municipal Divisions and such a Constituency may, prior to nomination day, remove any such person and substitute another in his/her place, subject to the provisions of Clauses 186 - 190.

Selection Conferences and the Selection of Provisional Candidates

- 175.** Party provisional candidates to represent a division in a parish or municipality shall be selected by all registered and financial members within the Division or area for which the member is to be elected, provided that there are in existence in the division not less than five (5) Recognized Groups, each of not less than one year's standing and subject to the provisions of Clauses 189 - 194.
- 176.** A Party provisional candidate to represent a Constituency shall be selected by all registered and financial members within that constituency, provided that there are in existence at least twenty (20) Recognized Groups with a minimum of one Recognized Group in the division of the constituency, each of not less than one year's standing and subject to the provisions of Clauses 189 - 194.
- 177.** Where there is no constituency organization in place, any selection of provisional candidates, which should have been made by the Constituency Conference, shall be made by the National Executive Council.
- 178.** No person shall be selected as a provisional candidate for the House of Representative or for a Municipality by a Constituency or Divisional Conference, or by the National Executive Council, unless she/he is a financial member of the Party and accepts and conforms to the Constitution, the programmes and policies of the Party based on the principles of Democratic Socialism and undertakes to accept and act in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Party.
- 179.** Any person selected as a provisional candidate under Clause 178 shall, as a condition of her/his candidature, make a pledge in such form, as prescribed by C001, Schedule 4 of the Bylaws or manner as may be prescribed by the National Executive Council.

Appointment of Cluster Managers

- 180.** The Cluster Managers are required to ensure the proper and efficient management of the assigned polling divisions within their cluster, that is to say, supervise the Party's electoral work programme for the ensuing political year.

181. The Constituency Committee in consultation with its respective Divisional Committees shall appoint Cluster Managers for each Cluster of Polling Stations as determined by the Electoral Office of Jamaica and the appointment of Cluster Managers shall be reviewed annually, usually in October of each year or as decided by the National Executive Council:

- (a) Cluster Managers must be members of the Party, but can be Provisional in the first instance.
- (b) The names of Cluster Managers shall be submitted to the Party Secretariat and Regional Organization by the 30th November, in each year on the prescribed form C002, Schedule 1 of the Bylaws.
- (c) The changes of any appointment of Cluster Managers shall be submitted on the prescribed form, C002, Schedule 4 of the Bylaws to the Regional Organization and copied to the Party Secretariat, within thirty (30) days prior to any Conferences, be it selection or annual conferences, that is to say any selection or annual conference at the Divisional or Constituency levels.
- (d) The Constituency Committee, either on a constituency or divisional level, shall hold a minimum of two (2) Expanded Committee meetings per political year to address electoral matters, which shall include all Cluster Managers and for which a report of these meetings shall be sent to the Party's Organizing Commission and Regional Organization.
- (e) A Cluster Manager shall undergo the prescribed training programme and possess a certificate of competence. within one year of being appointed to such a position.
- (f) Cluster Managers shall be delegates in their own right at their respective annual divisional and constituency conferences, providing that they are financial members.
- (g) The qualifications, role and responsibilities of Cluster Managers are as set out in the Bylaws and Procedures.

182. The Constituency Committee shall hold a minimum of two (2) Constituency Committee meetings per political year which shall include all Cluster Managers as set out in the Bylaws.

The Constituency Electoral Committee

- 183.** Each Constituency shall establish an Electoral Committee according to the terms of reference as set out in the Bylaws and Procedures and which shall be chaired by the Vice Chairman responsible for Electoral Affairs and Enumeration, whose role and qualifications are set out in the Bylaws and Procedures.
- 184.** The Electoral Committee shall be required to meet quarterly either on a divisional or constituency basis and shall comprise of the following persons:-
- (a) The Constituency Vice-Chairman responsible for Electoral Affairs
 - (b) The Party's elected representatives in the constituency, if any.
 - (c) Constituency and Divisional Chairmen
 - (d) The Constituency Secretary
 - (e) Divisional Vice-Chairmen responsible for Electoral Affairs
 - (f) All Cluster Managers
 - (g) Representatives from the PNP Women's Movement, PNP Youth Organization and affiliates.
 - (h) Provisional Candidates; and
 - (i) All those persons that have been Co-opted.
- 185.** The Electoral Committee shall be required to report at least quarterly to the Constituency Committee, the Regional Management Committee and if required, to the Party's Organizing Commission and as set out in the By- Rules and Procedures.
- 186.** The Regional Management Committee shall have the right to convene a meeting when deemed necessary.

The Member of Parliament – Role and Responsibilities

- 187.** The Member of Parliament, being a member of the Party, will be the political head of the constituency and principal spokesperson on behalf of the Party in the constituency.
- (a) where the elected representative is not a member of the Party, then the Constituency Chairman shall assume the role of monitoring such responsibilities, as set out below.

- (b) The Member of Parliament will automatically be a member of the Constituency Committee and also of the Divisional Committees within the constituency, for which they will have an-officio status with voting rights.
- (c) The Member of Parliament, who is a member of the Party shall have the primary responsibility for the proper running of the Party affairs in the constituency to include, but not limited to:-
 - (i) leading the social and economic development of the constituency aimed at improving a better quality of life for all;
 - (ii) providing effective representation for all constituents regardless of political affiliation, religious persuasion, race, class, gender, geographical location and to provide the appropriate reports on a timely basis to the divisional and constituency organization;
 - (iii) ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of state benefits and opportunities in a transparent and non-partisan manner.
 - (iv) mobilizing the constituents to support constituted law and order and to support the security forces in building strong, safe and secure communities thereby leading to a safe and secure constituency.
 - (v) making all efforts to ensure that all state funded, projects, programmes and policies are implemented and managed properly and that the citizens and taxpayers get full value for money: and
 - (vi) maintaining contact and building effective relationships with community development committees, citizens associations, educational intuitions, youth and sports clubs, women's groups and civil society in general.

Political Responsibilities

188. In constituencies, where the elected representative is not a Party member, the Constituency Chairman shall assume the political responsibilities, by that is to say:

- (a) full compliance with the Constitution and Rules of the Party and to its democratic principles and practices.
- (b) the building and maintenance of a strong and stable organization, maximizing the Party's electoral chances.
- (c) Maintaining contact and building effective relationships with all Party Groups.

H. Selection of Provisional Candidates for Municipal Corporations and the House of Representatives

189. All persons who are registered financial members of the Party, as determined by the Central Register of Groups and Members, shall be delegates in their own right and thereby entitled to participate in and vote at their respective divisional and constituency candidate selection processes.

190. Delegate Status for Annual Divisional, Annual Constituency, Annual Regional and Annual National Conference and for the Selection of Candidates for Municipal Corporations and the House of Representatives.

191. All persons who are registered financial members of the Party, for a minimum period of seven months, as determined by the Central Register of Groups and Members, shall be delegates in their own right and thereby entitled to participate in and vote at their annual conferences and at their respective divisional and constituency candidate selection processes, providing that such members are financial in terms of their paid membership subscription within a maximum sixty day period prior to the 1st of April in respect to the annual Divisional Conferences; the 1st of June in respect to the Annual Constituency Conferences; and 1st of August in respect of Annual Regional Conference and Annual National Conference.

192. Only persons currently registered by the Electoral Office of Jamaica (EOJ) as electors, shall be able to participate in selection

conferences of their respective divisions and constituencies when there is a candidate selection conference.

- 193.** This Clause 192, shall not apply to members who have consistently maintained their financial membership in the constituency and or division, for a period of not less than two years.
- 194.** Where it is impossible in a Recognized or Provisional Constituency, to select a divisional candidate by reason of the insufficiency of Recognized Groups of the requisite standing within a division, the delegates of the Recognized Groups in the constituency, on the recommendation of the Regional Organization and approval by the Executive Committee, may hold an indicative exercise to recommend the candidate. This will not be considered as a candidate selection conference.

Application by a Provisional Member to be a Provisional Candidate

- 195.** A provisional member offering them self as an aspirant to be a provisional candidate, whether at the municipal or national level, shall only be able to be nominated after receiving exemption by the Executive Committee, which shall be done by a resolution and through secret ballot, approved by the majority of the constituted membership of the Executive Committee;
- 196.** The selection of provisional candidates shall be based on the candidate criteria, nomination procedures and selection process as established by the National Executive Council as set out in the Bylaws.

Eligibility to Nominate as a Provisional Councillor Candidate

- 197.** A Party member elected as a Councillor as a consequence of selection by a Recognized Division, shall not be eligible for re-selection as the Party's candidate if, at any time after the date of her/his election, the number of Recognized Groups in the Division falls below five (5) and remains below that number for a period of one (1) year. So that member, however, in exceptional

circumstances and for good cause shown by the member concerned, the National Executive Council may exempt her/him from the provisions of this Rule on such terms as it may deem fit.

- 198.** A Party member, elected as a Councillor from a Provisional Division shall not be eligible for re-selection as the Party's candidate if, at the end of two years after the date of her/his election, the Division has not become a Recognized Division. So that member however in exceptional circumstances and for good cause shown by the Member concerned, the National Executive Council may exempt her/him from the provisions of this Rule on such terms as it may deem fit.

Eligibility to Nominate as a Provisional Parliamentary Candidate

- 199.** A Party member elected to the House of Representatives as a consequence of selection by a Recognized Constituency shall not be eligible for re-selection as the Party's candidate if, at any time after the date of her/his election, the number of Recognized Groups in the constituency falls below twenty (20) and remains below that number for a period of one (1) year. Provided, however, that in exceptional circumstances and for good cause shown by the Member concerned, the National Executive Council may exempt her/him from the provisions of this section on such terms as it may deem fit.

- 200.** A Party member, elected as a Member of Parliament from a Provisional Constituency shall not be eligible for re-selection as the Party's candidate if, at the end of three years after the date of her/his election, the constituency has not become a Recognized Constituency. Provided, however, that in exceptional circumstances and for good cause shown by the Member concerned, the National Executive Council may exempt him / her from the provisions of this Clause on such terms as it may deem fit.

I. The Regional Organization

Regional Executive Councils (REC)

- 201.** There shall be six (6) Regional Executive Councils (REC), one for each of the following Regions:

Region I, comprising the parishes of Trelawny and St. Ann.
Region II, comprising the parishes of St. Mary, Portland and St. Thomas.
Region III, comprising the parishes of Kingston and St. Andrew.
Region IV, comprising the parishes of St. Catherine and Clarendon.
Region V, comprising the parishes of Manchester and St. Elizabeth.
Region VI, comprising the parishes of Westmoreland, Hanover and St. James.

202. The duties of each Regional Executive Council shall include the following:

- (a) to maintain stable constituency organizations and to report to the National Executive Council (NEC) on the state of these organizations;
- (b) to be responsible for the training of Group Officers;
- (c) to ensure that the Groups and the general public within each Region are constantly and properly kept informed on Party and government programmes, policies and initiatives;
- (d) to ensure that the Groups and the general public are constantly engaged in discussions for the purpose of mass involvement of local, public and civic bodies in Government / Party policy formulation;
- (e) to make submissions to National Executive Council and its various committees;
- (f) to assist in fund-raising ventures and to ensure stable financing of Party organizations;
- (g) to ensure the proper selection of candidates for elections;

- (h) to settle disputes within each Region and, where necessary, make recommendations to the Executive Committee and the Region's Internal Affairs Committee;
- (i) to receive, discuss and submit resolutions to the National Executive Council and Annual National Conference;
- (j) to nominate Provisional Constituency and Divisional Committees, subject to endorsement by the Executive Committee.
- (k) to convene a minimum of two meetings per year for direct members within their Region and such meeting to be referred to as an Assembly of Direct Members, which shall be held in November and March and any other month as may be determined by the Region and or the Executive Committee.

203. The membership of each Regional Executive Council shall consist of:

- (a) the officers of the Region;
- (b) all National Executive Council members in the Region;
- (c) all constituency officers of Constituencies within the Region;
- (d) all elected Constituency Committee members;
- (e) all Councillors who are members of the People's National Party.
- (f) Chairman of Divisional Committees.
- (g) all Provisional Candidates within the Region;
- (h) constituency organizers within the Region on the basis of not more than one from each constituency;
- (i) representatives chosen by the PNP Youth Organization on the basis of not more than one from each constituency within the Region;
- (j) representatives chosen by the PNP Women's Movement on the basis of not more than one from each constituency within the Region;
- (k) representatives chosen by the National Workers Union on the basis of not more than one from each constituency within the Region;

Annual Regional Conference

- 204.** Each Region shall hold an Annual Regional Conference of Group Delegates, at which the delegates shall elect representatives to the National Executive Council on the ratio of one representative for each constituency within the Region.
- 205.** Each Region shall, at the Annual Regional Conference, elect its Regional Chairman who shall also be the Region's representative to sit on the Executive Committee.

Regional Management Committee

- 206.** There shall be a Regional Management Committee, under the chairmanship of the Regional Chairman, and the other officers shall be elected annually by the Regional Executive Council at its first meeting after the Annual Regional Conference.
- 207.** The Regional Management Committee shall hold a minimum of eight meetings per year. Meetings shall be held in the months of January, March, April, June, July, September, October and November in each year.
- 208.** Each Regional Management Committee shall appoint an attorney-at law to be known as the Regional Legal Advisor and who shall also be an Officer of the Regional Management Committee.
- 209.** The Regional Legal Advisor shall be appointed annually by the Regional Management Committee and such appointment should take place at its first meeting after its first Regional Executive Council meeting following the Annual Regional Conference.

Composition of Regional Management Committee

- 210.** The Regional Management Committee shall comprise:
- (a) The Regional Chairman
 - (b) A minimum of three and a maximum of four Regional Vice Chairmen, providing that they shall be assigned portfolios for

electoral and enumeration matters; recruitment and outreach; and political education and training. The fourth vice-chairman, if so elected, shall be assigned a portfolio responsibility as determined by the Regional Management Committee

- (c) A Regional Secretary,
- (d) A Treasurer
- (e) The Regional Legal Advisor, who shall be appointed by the Regional Management Committee as set out in Clauses 208, 209.
- (f) All NEC Members elected at the Annual Regional Conference on the basis of one NEC representative per constituency within the Region, or alternatively as may be determined by the respective Regional Management Committee, all NEC Members within the Region.
- (g) All Constituency Chairmen and or Constituency Secretaries within the Region.
- (h) Members of Parliament.
- (i) The Chairman of the PNP Parish Caucus of Councillors, as well as representatives for one in every one to five elected PNP Councillors in each municipality.
- (j) The Mayor of Portmore in Region 4, being a member of the Party.
- (k) All Party National Officers who shall be ex-officio members with voting rights in their own Region;
- (l) Regional Chairmen from the PNP Women Movement and PNP Youth Organization, with the Region also having the option to invite the parish chairs.
- (m) A representative from the National Workers Union, providing that she/he is a member of the People's National Party

(n) A maximum of four co-options with voting rights.

(o) The Regional Management Committee may invite and or co-opt constituency and divisional provisional candidates as observers.

211. The duty of the Regional Management Committee shall be to carry out the decisions of the Regional Executive Council.

212. Each Region shall establish a Disciplinary and Internal Affairs Committee as set out in the Bylaws at the first Regional Managing Committee meeting after its Annual Regional Conference or at its first Regional Executive Council meeting, subject to Clause 215.

Training and Development, Appraisal and Performance, Discipline

213. The Regional Organization, in collaboration with the Party Secretariat and the Political Education Commission, shall be responsible for the training of Group, Divisional and Constituency Officers, all of whom must participate in a minimum of one political education seminar per year to be eligible to be re-nominated for any position as an officer at their respective level.

214. Each Region shall establish a Regional Appraisal and Evaluation Committee to evaluate the political work and performance of all elected representatives, as directed by the Region and or the Organizing Commission of the Party.

215. Regional Officers shall elect the Chairman and members of the Regional Disciplinary and Internal Affairs Committee, the minimum being three and a maximum of seven members, all of whom shall have been financial members for a minimum period of three years and such membership must be ratified by the Regional Management Committee.

J. Annual National Party Conference

216. The supreme authority of the Party shall be the Annual National Party Conference, which shall be held in the month of September at such time and place as the National Executive Council shall decide.

217. The National Annual Conference shall transact the following business:

- (a) elect the President and the four Vice Presidents;
- (b) receive and deal with the annual report of the Party;
- (c) receive and deal with the financial statement of the Party;
- (d) deal with matters of Party policy;
- (e) receive and deal with the annual report of the Parliamentary Group;
- (f) receive and deal with such amendments to the Constitution of the Party as may be proposed;
- (g) receive and deal with resolutions;
- (h) discuss and deal with issues of Organization;
- (i) such other business as the National Executive Council may approve.

218. All members of the National Executive Council and Party members of Municipal Corporations shall be entitled to attend as delegates

219. A Special Party Conference may be convened by the President of the Party, the Executive Committee or on the written request of one fourth of the members of the National Executive Council.

Nominations for Officers for Annual Party Conference

220. The National Executive Council shall set out the terms and conditions in the Bylaws and Procedures for the nomination for Party Officers to be elected at the Annual Conference, which are that of the President and the four Vice Presidents, providing that;

221. The nomination period, to be approved by the Executive Committee, shall be a minimum of five working days and a maximum of seven working days, which shall take place prior to the Annual Two-Day NEC, usually held in July.

222. Prior to the designated start of the nomination period, all incumbents must declare in writing to the General Secretary, at least one week (seven clear days), their intention to contest and should they

withdraw from the contest after the nomination period, that further nominations be accepted under the terms and conditions as set out by the Executive Committee.

- 223.** A member being nominated for the post of Party President and or Vice President must have had membership in the Party for a minimum five year period, be a member of a Recognized Constituency Committee, Regional Management Committee or NEC Member and must have at least twenty four members signing their nomination papers, twelve of whom must be current members of the National Executive Council from at least three Regions.

K. Party Officers

- 224.** The officers of the Party shall be the President, the four (4) Vice Presidents, the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretaries, the National Treasurer and the Legal Advisor.
- 225.** The President shall be the leader and the political head of the Party.
- 226.** The Chairman shall preside at the Annual Conference and at meetings of the National Executive Council and the Executive Committee.
- 227.** The officers of the Party shall meet from time to time as the President of the Party shall determine in order to discuss matters relating to the proper functioning of the Party and to make such recommendations as may be appropriate.

L. The National Executive Council

- 228.** The National Executive Council shall consist of:
- (a) the officers of the Party;
 - (b) the Regional Chairmen elected by the Annual Regional Conferences and the six (6) Regional Secretaries;
 - (c) the sixty-three (63) members elected by the Annual Regional

- Conferences in accordance with Clause 242;
- (d) the members of the Parliamentary Group;
 - (e) the persons co-opted to the Executive Committee under Clause 242 subject to the Council's approval;
 - (f) two members from each Recognized Constituency as provided for in Clauses 150 -152 and 154;
 - (g) one member from each Provisional Constituency as provided for in Clauses 153 - 155;
 - (h) four (4) persons selected by the President of the Party, who in the President's view, will meaningfully contribute to the work of the Council and who shall enjoy the same rights and privileges as all other members;
 - (i) six (6) representatives from the PNP Women's Movement Regional Organizations and fourteen (14) representatives, one each from the parish organizations;
 - (j) the PNP Youth Organization's six (6) Regional Chairmen and the fourteen (14) members, who are the principal officers of each Parish Organization, and who must all be under thirty years old when elected or reelected to that position;
 - (k) one Councillor for each Region to be selected by the PNP Councillors from that Region;
 - (l) where the terms of affiliation of any affiliated Organization so provide, such representatives of that Organization as may be appointed, in such manner and in such numbers and with such voting rights as may be decided by the National Executive Council subject to the approval of the Annual Conference of the Party.

229. A meeting of the National Executive Council shall be convened as early as possible after each Annual Party Conference for the purpose of electing a Chairman, a Deputy Chairman, and eleven (11) other persons to serve as members of the Executive Committee.

The General Secretary

230. The General Secretary and Deputy General Secretaries shall, in the first instance, be elected by the National Executive Council and, once elected, shall thereafter hold office at the pleasure of the National Executive Council, provided that any officer may be removed on the presentation of a written notice of motion given at a meeting of the National Executive Council and an affirmative acceptance of such resolution at the expiration of one month by a majority vote of the members present.

The Deputy General Secretaries

231. No less than two and no more than four Deputy General Secretaries shall be elected by the National Executive Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee after consultation with the Officers of the Party, provided that if more than two are elected, at least two of the Deputy General Secretaries shall be given the responsibility of political Organizing.

232. The National Executive Council shall meet every other month with a minimum of six meetings during the political year, one of which will be a final meeting, usually in the month of July, to prepare and approve the reports to the Annual Party Conference along with the agenda of the Conference and scheduled meetings of the National Executive Council shall be held in September, November, January, March, June and July and at any other time as determined by the Executive Committee.

233. The quorum for a meeting of the National Executive Council shall be twenty-five (25) members and any member who shall be absent for three consecutive meetings without an excuse acceptable to the National Executive Council shall automatically lose the right to attend and participate in such meetings.

234. The duties and powers of the National Executive Council shall include the following:

- (a) to ensure the establishment of constituency organizations, to maintain and develop the Organization of the Party, generally, and to receive reports from the Regional Executive Councils from time to time on the state of work in the constituencies;
- (b) to protect and enforce the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party and to take any action it deems necessary towards that end;
- (c) to maintain contact with the Parliamentary Group on all matters relating to the work and progress of the Party and to receive an annual report of the work of the Parliamentary Group for submission to the Annual National Conference;
- (d) to address matters concerning the funding of the Party;
- (e) to present to Annual Conference a report covering the work of the Party for the year.

M. Special Membership Rights to the National Executive Council and the Executive Committee

235. A member of the Party who has served for ten years or more as an Officer of the party and who has retired from that position shall, upon the recommendation of the Officers of the Party to, and acceptance by, the National Executive Council, have membership rights at the Executive Committee for a maximum period of five years and on the National Executive Council for a maximum period of ten years.

236. A member of the Party who has served for four terms or twenty years in the Parliament shall, upon the recommendation of the Officers of the Party, have membership rights on the National Executive

Council for a period of ten years.

N. The Parliamentary Group

237. All members of the Party who are members of the Jamaican Parliament shall be members of the Parliamentary Group.

O. The Executive Committee

238. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- (a) the Officers of the Party in accordance with Clause 224;
- (b) the Leader of the House of Representatives when the Party forms the Government of the country, or the Leader of Opposition Business when the Party forms the Opposition in Parliament;
- (c) the six (6) Regional Chairmen;
- (d) eleven (11) members elected by the National Executive Council from their number;
- (e) three (3) representatives of the Parliamentary Group, one of whom shall be the Secretary thereof or the person acting in that capacity for the time being;
- (f) two (2) representatives from the PNP Youth Organization;
- (g) two (2) representatives from the PNP Women's Movement;
- (h) two (2) Councillors to be selected by an All Island Caucus of PNP Councillors;
- (i) where the terms of affiliation of any affiliated Organization so provide, such representatives of that Organization as are appointed in such manner and in such numbers as may be decided by the National Executive Council under Clause 30.

239. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice per month, at

least twenty-four times per year between each Annual Party Conference, and shall do all acts and things necessary for the carrying on of the Party and the furtherance of the aims and objectives, and any member who shall be absent for three consecutive meetings without an excuse acceptable to the Executive Committee shall automatically loses her/his right to attend and participate in such meeting.

- 240.** During the period after the National Annual Party Conference and before the election of eleven (11) members from the National Executive Council to become members of the Executive Committee, the Officers elected at the Party Conference along with the Secretary, Deputy General Secretaries, Treasurer and Legal Advisor for the preceding period along with the Regional Chairmen, shall have and exercise all the powers of the Executive Committee
- 241.** The Executive Committee shall elect the Treasurer and the Legal Advisor of the Party at its first meeting after the Annual Party Conference.
- 242.** The Executive Committee shall have the right to co-opt members to the Committee but the number of co-options may not exceed six (6) persons, provided that two (2) such persons shall represent overseas organizations that are affiliated to the Party.
- 243.** The Executive Committee shall act as a Committee of the National Executive Council, exercising the powers of that Council and reporting on its work at each meeting of the Executive Committee. The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be seven (7) elected members.
- 244.** Where a member of the Executive Committee fails to meet the financial obligations and requirements as determined by the Annual Party Conference from time to time, such member shall become ineligible to be a member of the Executive Committee for the succeeding political year, except she/he has obtained a waiver in the manner hereinafter stated.

- 245.** The Executive Committee may, on application of a member for a waiver who claims in special circumstances to be unable to meet the financial obligations and requirements in full, or at all, consider the application and the special circumstances stated therein in such a manner as it may determine and, if satisfied that the circumstances established are sufficient, grant a waiver to the member with respect to meeting the whole or any part of the financial obligations and requirements as the Executive Committee may deem fit.
- 246.** Any application for waiver shall be submitted by the member through the Regional Executive Council which shall consider the merits of the application and make its recommendations thereon to the Executive Committee of Party through the General Secretary.
- 247.** The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to:
- (a) carry out the plans and instructions of the National Executive Council;
 - (b) subject to (a) above and between meetings of the National Executive Council, to exercise all rights and to perform and fulfil all the duties and obligations of the National Executive Council;
 - (c) report to each regular meeting of the National Executive Council on the work of the Party for the current period and to submit a proposed policy for the ensuing period;
 - (d) receive reports from the Constituency Committees and (subject to the oversight of the National Executive Council), to control and direct any policy of a Constituency Committee which, in its opinion, is likely to affect the Party as a whole or any parish or other constituency;
 - (e) approve the Provisional Constituency Committee as provided for in Clause 148.
- 248.** The Executive Committee shall establish an Organizing Commission which shall present to the Annual Party Conference the tasks, work and programmes required for recognition of constituency and divisional organizations for the ensuing year and

to the first National Executive Council Meeting after the Annual Party Conference for final approval and implementation.

249. The Organizing Commission shall, on an annual basis within a time period to be determined by the National Executive Council, along with the respective Regional Organization, carry out a process of evaluation of the work of the Party at the constituency and divisional levels.

P. Trustees

250. The Executive Committee shall appoint no less than two nor more than three (3) trustees who shall hold office until their death, resignation or removal from office by the Executive Committee. The property of the Party, other than cash which shall be under the control of the Treasurer, shall be vested in the Trustees who shall deal with such property as directed by the Executive Committee and the Treasurer shall be indemnified against any damage, loss, risk or expense in the control of the property of the Party.

Q. Reserve Powers

251. The Executive Committee shall interpret all matters on which these Rules or the Standing Orders are silent or ambiguous.

252. In relation to any matter not provided for fully or at all in these Rules, the Executive Committee may from time to time prescribe such regulations or Bylaws as it thinks fit.

R. Veto Powers

253. The National Executive Council shall have power to veto the candidature of any person chosen to stand as the Party's candidate in elections to the House of Representatives or to a Parish Council or Municipality.

254. Where there is no constituency Organization to select a candidate

for election to the House of Representatives or a Municipality, the National Executive Council may do so after consultation with the local groups in the constituency where there is no constituency committee.

S. Discipline

- 255.** The National Executive Council may, on its own initiative or on the report of any Party member, inquire into the conduct of a Party member and may suspend or expel any such member for conduct which, in the opinion of the Council, is contrary to the interest of the organization, Party programmes, policies or principles of the Party.
- 256.** Without prejudice to the foregoing, there shall be established a Disciplinary Committee of the Party comprised of five (5) persons, three of whom shall comprise a panel when an inquiry or investigation is deemed necessary.
- 257.** The members of the Disciplinary Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee as soon as practicable after each Annual Party Conference.
- 258.** Except in cases where the Executive Committee or the National Executive Council takes summary action, breaches of Party discipline shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for investigation and report.
- 259.** The three members of the panel to enquire into each matter shall be chosen by the Executive Committee and the person charged shall have the right to object to anyone of the three selected, in which event, the Executive Committee shall choose one of the other two members of the Disciplinary Committee to take the place of the member to which objection is made.
- 260.** The Disciplinary Committee shall after each enquiry make a report to the Executive Committee which shall, after considering the report may make such orders as it thinks fit.
- 261.** Any member suspended or expelled shall have the right to appeal to the next session of the Annual Party Conference, provided that

notice of such appeal is lodged within thirty days of the decision of the National Executive Council.

- 262.** No Member of the House of Representatives or of any Municipal Corporation may resign her/his seat without first consulting the Executive Committee of the Party and, if the proposed resignation is not for personal reasons but only for reasons of political policy or tactics, the Executive may refuse to allow the resignation to take effect and any person resigning without prior consultation or after refusal of the Executive Committee, in any case where the Executive has a right to refuse, shall be liable to disciplinary action.
- 263.** No person who has contested a seat for the House of Representatives or for any Municipal or as a candidate in opposition to a candidate of the People's National Party may continue, or be subsequently admitted, as a member of the Party, except with the specific approval of the Executive Committee which may reject the application or accept it on such terms as it may decide.
- 264.** It is a breach of Party discipline for any Member of Parliament, or a Municipal Corporation to refuse or neglect or fail to meet such financial obligations and requirements as may be determined by the National Annual Party Conference from time to time.

T. Chairman's Vote

- 265.** On the National Executive Council and on all committees, the Chairman of the NEC and of any Committee shall have as an original vote and in the case of a tie, shall have a casting vote.

Life Membership

At The Constituency Level

- 266.** Life Membership of the constituency may be awarded to or conferred upon a person, who has a minimum of twenty (20) years active membership and who is deemed to have given long and outstanding service at that level, on the approval of a resolution moved by the Constituency Committee at the Annual Constituency Conference.

At The Regional Level

267. Life Membership of the Region may be awarded to or conferred upon a person who has a minimum of twenty (20) years active membership and who is deemed to have given long and outstanding service at that level, on the approval of a resolution moved by the Regional Management Committee at the Annual Regional Conference.

At The National Executive Council Level

268. Life Membership of the National Executive Council may be awarded to or conferred upon a person who has a proven minimum of thirty (30) years active membership in the Party and who is deemed to have given long and outstanding service at that level, on the approval by secret ballot of a resolution moved by the Executive Committee at the National Executive Council.

At The Executive Level

269. Life membership of the Executive Committee may be awarded to or conferred upon former Officer of the Party who has given a minimum of thirty (30) years outstanding service to the Party on the approval by secret ballot, of a resolution moved by the Executive Committee at the National Executive Council.

U. Resolutions For The National Annual Conference

270. Resolutions for the Annual Party Conference shall be submitted to the General Secretary not later than sixty (60) days before the first session of such Conference, provided that the National Executive Council or the Executive Committee may vary the time.

V. Alterations of Constitution

271. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority in favour of a resolution at the Annual Party Conference, notice of which must be given at least one month before the first session of the Conference to all groups unless such notice is waived by the Executive

Committee or the National Executive Council.

272. The Constitution shall be reviewed once every five years.

273. The Party's Standing Orders and By Rules shall be reviewed every two years by the National Executive Council, which shall have the authority to amend the Orders and By Rules by a simple majority of the National Executive Council.

W. Annex I

X. Schedule Form of Group Constitution

1. NAME

Group of the People's National Party (hereinafter called the Group)

2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GROUP ARE:

- (a) give effect at all times to the principles from time to time approved by the Annual Party Conference and to carry out the directions of the National Executive Council and the Executive Committee of the Party, the Regional Executive Council and the Constituency Committee.

- (b) promote political, economic, social and cultural progress within the group area in accordance with the fundamental aims of the Party, based on the principles of Democratic Socialism.

- (c) unite the political forces within the group area and to secure the return of the Party representatives to the House of Representatives and to Parish Council and Municipal bodies.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

Membership shall be confined to persons born in Jamaica, resident in Jamaica, or of Jamaican parentage and who subscribe to the conditions of membership.

4. CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Every member shall:

(a) accept and conform to the programmes, policy and principles of Democratic Socialism, and to the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party and of this Group.

(b) reside in the group area or be registered as a voter under a qualification existing in the group area.

(c) sign the prescribed form of application for membership to the Party.

5. MANAGEMENT:

(a) The management of the Group shall be the responsibility of a managing committee of not less than six (6) persons who shall be elected annually by the members.

(b) The members of the Group shall elect, annually, a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer. The secretary and the treasurer may be the same person.

(c) The quorum of the Managing Committee shall be three persons for meetings.

6. FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:

Fees and contributions shall be governed by Clause 32 and 33 of the Party's Constitution.

7. MEETINGS:

(a) The Managing Committee shall convene an Annual General Meeting of the members of the Group for electing its officers and for dealing with such other business as shall be before the meeting.

(b) The Managing Committee shall from time to time, at least once per month, convene meetings of the Group for general purposes.

8. DELEGATE REPRESENTATION:

(a) The Group shall be entitled to send to its Constituency Conference one delegate for every ten (10) members in addition to its Group Chairperson. The Group shall be entitled to at least two but not more than four delegates. See Clause

(b) Every delegate to a Party Conference or Constituency Conference shall be a member in good standing within a group of the Party.

9. GENERAL:

(a) The General Provisions of the Constitution and Standing Orders of the Party shall apply to the Group.

(b) The Group shall not enter into any affiliation with or give support to any other political organization except with the permission of the Executive Committee of the Party.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Managing Committee, based on the principles of Democratic Socialism, to take all the necessary steps to safeguard the Constitution, programme and policy of the Party within the group area.

(d) The Managing Committee may, on its own initiative or on the report of any group member, inquire into the conduct of a group member and suspend or expel such member for any conduct which, in the opinion of the Managing Committee, is contrary to the interest of the Party, its programme, its policies or its Democratic Socialist principles.

(e) Any member suspended or expelled shall have the right to appeal to the National Executive Council and a further right of appeal to the Annual Party Conference, provided that notice of such appeal be given within thirty days of a decision by the National Executive Council.

In relation to any matter not provided for fully, or at all, in these Rules, the Executive Committee may, from time to time, prescribe Rules as it thinks fit, subject to the approval of the National Executive Council.

Y. Annex II – Standing Orders of Annual Conference

Standing Orders of National Annual Party Conference

1. The Executive Committee on the Party shall convene the Annual Party Conference in the month of September in each year in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and these Standing Orders. A Special Party Conference may also be convened as provided for in the Constitution.

2. When a Special Party Conference is called at short notice, secretaries of the groups and affiliated organizations, shall on receiving the notice, immediately take steps to secure representation of their groups or organizations at the Conference.

3. The names and addresses of delegates appointed by groups and affiliated organizations shall be submitted to the General Secretary no later than ten (10) days before the opening of the first session of the Annual Party Conference. In the case of a Special Party Conference, the Executive Committee may appoint the date by which such names and addresses shall be submitted to the General Secretary.

4. Notice of resolutions for the Annual Party Conference shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretary not later than the 15 day of June in each year, for inclusion in the Agenda for the Conference and such resolutions shall be forthwith sent to the groups and affiliated organizations. In the case of a Special Party Conference the Executive Committee may appoint a date prior to which such notice shall be forwarded to the General Secretary.

5. Notice of amendments to the resolutions on the Agenda (without consequential amendments to a main amendment) shall be forwarded in writing to the General Secretary not later than the 31st day of July in each year. In the case of a Special Party Conference, the Executive Committee may appoint a date prior to which such notice shall be forwarded to the General Secretary.
6. The Party Conference shall not consider any business, which does not arise out of a resolution on the Agenda, unless recommended by the Executive Committee or a Conference Arrangements Committee to be appointed by the National Executive Council.
7. Every delegate present at the Annual Party Conference shall be entitled to vote and the Chairman shall, in addition to his original vote, have a casting vote.
8. Voting at any Special Party Conference shall be on the same basis as that on which voting took place at the preceding Annual Party Conference.
9. The Chairman shall take the chair, and formally open the business of the meeting. In the event of the absence of the Chairman, the members shall proceed to elect a chairman from among themselves.
10. Members shall rise to address the Chair and be limited to five minutes for speaking on each subject unless they obtain the consent of the Chairman. A member shall not speak except in reference to a resolution or amendment, nor speak twice on one subject unless he be a mover of an original motion when he has a right of reply. The Chairman and the General Secretary are exempt from this Order. Asking or answering a question by permission of the Chair shall not be considered a speech.
11. In the event of a motion "that the question be now put" being moved, seconded and carried, the resolution shall then be put to a vote. Thereupon, all other propositions on the subjects then under

discussion shall be considered as having being disposed of. Once a subject has been discussed and voted on, it shall not, again, be introduced during the Conference except with the consent of a majority of the Conference.

12. The ruling of the Chairman on all matters shall be strictly obeyed. The General Secretary shall be secretary to all committees appointed by the Conference.
13. An Agenda of the business of the Conference shall be supplied to each delegate and shall be adhered to until its completion unless a motion to suspend the Standing Orders be made and carried by a majority of those present.
14. The Conference shall have power to appoint committees for the furtherance of its business.
15. A majority of the members present may suspend and exclude from the meeting any member who is insubordinate or who improperly conducts himself / herself and a member so suspended and excluded may be reinstated on tendering an apology, which is acceptable to the Conference.

Z. Annex III -- Contact Information

Amended at the 79th Annual National Conference, September 2017.

Published September 2019

Contact Information

People's National Party

89 Old Hope Road

Kingston 6

www.pnp.org.jm

structures@pnp.org.jm