



THE

MANIFESTO

OF

THE PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY

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Preamble

The founding fathers of Independent Nigeria had a vision of establishing a great African nation that would be the pride of the black man in Africa and the diaspora. It was to be a nation that would earn not only the respect but also the admiration and envy of the international community in every field of human endeavour.

2. These leaders were great pragmatic men and women from varying ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds. As they grew to know one another more and more they also came to appreciate the enormous difficulties of uniting some 250 ethnic groups.

3. Therefore, with the encouragement of the British colonial overlords they fashioned a federal constitutional arrangement, which while preserving the corporate existence of Nigeria, took account of the divergent interests of the various federating units and peoples to have full control of those matters that touched them most and which were best attended to at the local levels. On national issues they accepted compromise, dialogue and the spirit of give and take as the best way to resolve such issues.

Ardent lovers of Nigeria though they were, the years immediately following independence in 1960 nonetheless saw political dissension, bitter intra and inter party strife and ethnic conflicts.

In time, all these gave excuse for the military to break out of their traditional mould to make the unfortunate and ill-advised incursion into direct governance by staging a coup that overthrew civilian government on 15 January, 1966. Since Nigeria has had no respite and has staggered from one crisis to another.

4. Military incursion into governance progressively brought out the worst weaknesses in our people and in the military itself. The morals and conduct of our people collapsed to abysmal levels and rampant corruption in all its forms became the norm while integrity became a subject of derision. The spirit of fair play whether in official dealings or in interpersonal relations was destroyed. The basic African decency of reciprocal regards between the old and young, good neighbourliness

between hitherto tolerant communities were blighted by officially sponsored propaganda and media blitz.

5. Consequently, Nigeria is not only highly unstable but also experiencing a serious decline in public morality. This decline in political morality and integrity in public office has eroded the commitment of political leaders to the country and destroyed the faith of common people in any form of political leadership. A politician no matter his quality or length of service cannot win an election today without heavy monetary inducement. The double tragedy of lack of commitment to the country and lack of faith in the leadership has made Nigeria a country from which almost everyone is prepared to take, and few are prepared to give.

The Party shall in the selection of candidates for public office and in appeal to the public emphasize ability, commitment to the common man's welfare and accountability in the conduct of future politics. A new type of leadership must develop. It must be forward looking and it must be inspiring and possessing a sense of mission. In essence, the country must learn once more to choose the honest and not the dishonest, the disciplined and not the erratic, the selfless and not the selfish. These choices are not negotiable. We are committed to fight, by all means necessary, the twin evils of mismanagement and corruption in our national life to restore public morality. We shall urgently restore public law and order, justice and equity and encourage the spirit of reconciliation in both temporal and spiritual matters.

Great leadership inspires respect. Inspiring leadership ensures acceptance by the fellowship, a caring leadership can positively influence social reorientation within the nation. And we will provide that leadership.

6. It is now indisputable that the people of Nigeria are united in their desire to be governed only by their democratically elected representatives. The party believes that only urgent restoration of participatory democracy, social justice and good governance by a government formed by a strong responsive political party led by patriotic men and women of the highest integrity and outstanding ability and knowledge can save Nigeria from the disaster into which it had been plunged.

7. The leadership of the civil population recalls the hopes and aspirations of the founding fathers and resolve to put aside their differences and work together within one strong political party to fulfill the yearnings of the people for the restoration of democracy and the establishment of good governance.

The Party would avoid mistakes of the past, namely, politics of winner's takes all losers loses all, politics of exclusion, and cash and carry politics. All theses must be replaced by a new approach and a new outlook to national politicking. No Nigerian group will be excluded from power and public office. We will strive to reconcile all the forces alienated by recent political events and try to heal divisions and destruction of our harmony caused by the ruthless competition for power in the recent past.

The Party shall strive through dialogue to ensure the entrenchment of true justice for all in our body polity and for the emergence of a credible leadership that will give purpose and direction to Nigeria.

8. To achieve this purpose the leadership and followership of like minded associations and groups have agreed to fuse into one formidable, national, broad-based, people-oriented and principled political party with the widest grassroots support , to work for the restoration of democracy and good governance in Nigeria.

9. Accordingly, leaders and members of these associations and groups held a well-attended meeting at the Sheraton Hotel, Abuja on Wednesday 19th August, 1998 and passed the resolution below to give effect to their agreement.

**RESOLUTION ON PARTY FORMATION PASSED AT SHERATON HOTEL, ABUJA:
WEDNESDAY 19TH AUGUST, 1998.**

A. PREAMBLE

After to so many years of military rule, our democratic institutions have become so weak and ineffective that the greatest challenge facing this generation of leaders of civil society is how best to ensure genuine restoration of democracy and good governance in Nigeria. We recognize that a viable democratic system requires an

active civil society with properly organized political institutions, especially political parties.

Therefore, to restore democracy in Nigeria, all patriotic citizens must come together to rebuild the foundations of civil society, accordingly, civilian politicians at this stage of our struggle for democracy, human rights and social justice, are convinced that what is required for the decisive battle for democracy in Nigeria is a national, broad-based and formidable political party.

B. RESOLUTION

Realizing the need:

1. To ensure a speedy restoration of genuine democracy and good governance to Nigeria.
2. To build a qualitatively better society based on the principles of democracy, human rights and social justice, under the rule of law;
3. To evolve a liberated, secure and developed Nigerian Nation with faith and confidence in itself, and distinguished by the sustained pursuit of a culture of excellence;
4. To facilitate a rapid and sustainable development process through sound education; basic health-care; abundant food production; rapid industrial growth; good housing; gull employment; improved infrastructure; efficient transport; regular power supply; and basic services.
5. To restructure Nigeria in the spirit of true federalism, so as achieve a just and equitable distribution of power; wealth, and opportunities.
6. To resolve such fundamental matters as proper devolution of powers, power shift and power sharing in a federal structure, so as to create the socio-political conditions conducive for our living together in peace, unity and social harmony;
7. To promote a system of good and effective governance, characterized by fair, open, competent, honest and highly responsive public administration;

8. To defend the sanctity of democratic elections, and to enthrone a more respectable system of party politics;
9. To establish a moral and ethical society guided by such core values as honesty, integrity and justice;
10. To rebuild the foundations of civil society so as to ensure the growth protection and defence of the ideals of democracy and good governance, against unpatriotic elements who may wish to overthrow the constitutional order;
11. To design an effective strategy for eradicating poverty and for establishment a prosperous Nigerian society with a diversified and integrated national economy;
12. To save ourselves, our children and generations yet unborn from hunger, poverty, disease, ignorance, corruption, oppression, exploration and social injustice;

We hereby solemnly **RESOLVE** to form a credible, nationwide people-oriented and principled political party, enjoying the widest support throughout the Federal Republic of Nigeria, so help us God!

Agreed By:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. All Nigeria Congress (ANC) | |
| 1..... | 2..... |
| 2. Peoples Consultative Forum (PCF) | |
| 1..... | 2..... |
| 3. Social Progressive Party (SPP) | |
| 1..... | 2..... |
| 4. Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) | |
| 1..... | 2..... |
| 5. Peoples National Front (PNF) | |
| 1..... | 2..... |

DATED: WEDNESDAY AUGUST, 19TH 1998.

1. COVENANT WITH THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA

We of the Peoples Democratic Party affirm our belief in the supremacy of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the sovereignty of the Nigerian people. Having examined the relevant provisions of the Constitution of Nigeria, we hereby affirm our commitment to strict observance and enforcement to the provisions. As a political party, we shall conform to the spirit and letter of the provisions.

DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES AND MISSION STATEMENT

We shall remain strongly committed to:

- (1) Democracy and good governance;
- (2) Freedom, human rights and human dignity;
- (3) Justice, equity, and the rule of law;
- (4) Integrity and transparency in the conduct of public affairs
- (5) Sustainable development; through sound education; basic health-care; abundant food production; rapid industrial growth; good housing; full employment; improved infrastructure; efficient transport; regular power supply and basic services.

Mission Statement

Faced with the tragic consequences of poverty and under-development, our mission is to qualitatively transform the Nigeria economy and society. Therefore, we shall tirelessly work for:

- (a) The creation of a dynamic economy designed to serve the people's interest, and in which market forces are combined with the forces of partnership, solidarity and cooperation to create and produce goods and services for all;
- (b) The establishment of free and democratic society, in which the powers and actions of Government are lawful, and where those in authority are held accountable to the people;

- (c) Building a just society, which provides basic needs, ensures equal opportunities for self-development through education and gainful employment; defends the dignity of the human person; judges its strength by the condition of the weak; provides security against fear; and delivers the masses from the tyranny of poverty oppression and abuse of power;
- (d) Sustained implementation of people-oriented programmes with particular emphasis on:
 - (i) War Against Poverty
 - (ii) Integrated rural development
 - (iii) Rapid Industrial Growth
 - (iv) Excellence in Education, Science and Technology
 - (v) Rebuilding and Expanding Basic Infrastructure.

OBJECTIVES

The Party shall be committed:

- a. To the principle of participatory democracy that lays emphasis on the welfare of our people
- b. To the principles of social justice and the equality of opportunities for all citizens
- c. To promote and defend the Nigerian Federal system of government
- d. To the principles of public accountability in order to restore confidence in the institutions of government discipline and leadership by example as a basis of public life and personal integrity as an important moral value in the conduct of public affairs.
- e. To ensuring that those put in positions of power, including the president, will regard themselves as holding such power in trust for the people.
- f. To fostering the spirit of oneness among our people by treating all Nigerians fairly and equitably, regardless of their social, political or economic status.
- g. To the preservation of Nigeria as a secular state whilst guaranteeing freedom of religion and conscience.

Strategy

Our strategies for achieving the above objectives shall include:

- a. Participating fully in free and fair electoral processes:
- b. Upholding the sanctity of elections and the supremacy of the will of the people:
- c. Being responsive to public opinion
- d. Operating the politics of inclusion by accommodating people of diverse opinions and political persuasions in governance;
- e. Providing honest and transparent governance in the country while in power;
- f. Supporting and accepting peaceful changes in government through the electoral process;
- g. Respecting and defending the democratic institutions in the country.

2 POLITICAL OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVES

The political objectives of Peoples Democratic Party are as follows:

- a. To seek political power for the sole purpose of promoting the security, safety and welfare of all Nigerians.
- b. To promote and establish political stability in Nigeria and foster national integration.
- c. To promote good government and set a pattern of political management which encourages probity and emphasizes participatory democracy.
- d. To guarantee the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all citizens and persons resident in Nigeria.
- e. To promote and nurture democratic ideals and traditions on a sustainable basis.
- f. To provide the political environment that is conducive to economic growth and national development through private initiative and free enterprise.
- g. To afford equal opportunities to hold the highest political, military, bureaucratic and judicial offices in the country to all citizens.
- h. To protect, defend and safeguard the interests of the minorities.

Strategy

The Party shall:

- a. Endeavour to seek political power by sponsoring its members for elective and appointive political offices in healthy, fair and free competitions devoid of sentiments.
- b. Be magnanimous in victory and gallant in defeat; and reject the politics of winners takes all and losers loses all;
- c. Establish a code of conduct on public affairs for all its members particularly public office holders and enforce the code through clearly defined sanctions;
- d. Encourage the mass participation of Nigerians in the management of their public affairs.

3. THE INDIVISIBILITY OF THE NIGERIAN POLITY

OBJECTIVES

- A.** The PDP believes in the perpetual unity of Nigeria under the federal system of government. It shall therefore, continuously promote political tolerance, accommodation and compromise, religious harmony, as well as inter-ethnic and intra-ethnic accommodation and co-operation.
- B.** The party shall also promote geo-political balancing as a fundamental principle of power-sharing in the country
- C.** The party shall uphold the principle of power shift in our party at all levels

Strategy

The PDP in government shall:

- a. Apply the zoning and rotational principles in the sharing of political power at all levels of government and within the party;
- b. Operate the federal-character principle;
- c. Involve all interest group in the running of its government; and
- d. Pursue programmes that shall guarantee the socio-political and economic rights of all Nigerians.

4. THE JUDICIARY AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

OBJECTIVES

- a. Uphold the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- b. Uphold the principles of separation of power as enshrined in the constitution;
- c. Uphold the Independence of the Judiciary;
- d. Defend and enforce fundamental human rights and the rule of law without let or hindrance; and
- e. Pursue the speedy dispensation of justice at all times as “justice delayed is justice denied”.

Strategy

A PDP government shall at all times be guided by the provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as it relates to the Judiciary. Towards this end, the party shall:

- a. Ensure that only Nigerians of proven integrity with relevant professional qualifications and track record are appointed to serve in the nation’s judiciary;
- b. Protect the absolute independence and integrity of the judiciary by avoiding interference in its financial and administrative management.
- c. Provide adequate office and residential accommodation and other facilities and material incentives that will ensure and guarantee quick and fair dispensation of justice; and
- d. Ensure probity and public accountability in the administration of justice.

ECONOMY

OBJECTIVES

The economy of Nigeria has been in the doldrums for nearly two decades. Successive regimes have attempted to put it back on sound footing through a mixture of policy measures, but the economy has failed to respond adequately and appropriately to these measures thereby causing unintended hardship to the people of Nigeria.

The economic objectives envisaged by the party will strive to achieve a self-reliant economy that will depend on the strength of the nation's resources and on the efforts of our peoples. Consequently, the following shall be the party's objectives;

- a. The state will play a leading role in the economy in order to achieve a self-reliant and just society.
- b. The policy of privatization in the Nigerian economy shall be encouraged and expanded;
- c. Poverty alleviation;
- d. Self-sufficiency in food production;
- e. Full and gainful employment for all citizens;
- f. Diversification of the economy in order to reduce reliance on oil;
- g. Improve an efficient tax collection systems; and
- h. Reduction of the gap between the rich and the poor thereby creating the middle class that will strengthen democracy.

6.

AGRICULTURE

OBJECTIVES

PDP Principal programme shall be the development of agriculture. Our agricultural objectives shall aim at”

- a. Self-sufficiency in food production throughout the year;
- b. Making agriculture profitable;
- c. The promotion of agriculture as a major source of industrial raw materials, and foreign exchange earner;
- d. Providing infrastructure for storage;
- e. Creating and strengthening necessary institutions;
- f. The protection of farmers against all hazards.

Strategy

A PDP government shall:

- a. Facilitate the access to cheaper and better agricultural inputs, including farm tools, chemicals, fertilizers, improved seedlings, and livestock breeds;
- b. Encourage plantation agriculture, especially in the area of arable and economic tree crop production.
- c. Stimulate the massive production of farm animals particularly poultry birds, cattle and others;
- d. Promote fish, aquatic and livestock production;
- e. Embark on massive irrigation schemes by emphasizing small scale dams to provide irrigation water as well as promote aqua culture;
- f. Stimulate agricultural research through a package of incentives to the Universities Agriculture as well as other agricultural research institutions.
- g. Facilitate the access of farmers to agricultural loans;
- h. Encourage pastoral livestock farming by embarking on:
 - i. Pasture and range development and management
 - ii. Water point provisions in strategic pastoral locations;
 - iii. The promotion of the production of livestock feeds on an all-year-round basis;
- i. Increase the supply of agricultural extension System services through the massive training and encouragement of extension personnel; and
- j. Revitalize and modernize the farm settlement System to increase agricultural productivity; check rural-urban migration and make farming attractive as profitable and prestigious occupation, to farmers, young school leavers, etc.
- k. Bring more land under cultivation and irrigation.

7.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVES

The Party shall be committed to the following objectives:

- a. Integrated Rural Development;

- b. Reduction in the level of rural poverty;
- c. Reversal of Rural-Urban Migration;
- d. Re-introduction and expansion of extension services in the rural areas; and
- e. Expansion of mass literacy programmes, development of rural roads, water supply, community health-care, electrification and communication.

Strategy

The Party shall:

- a. Encourage the establishment of small-scale and cottage industries;
- b. Increase funding for integrated rural development programmes;
- c. Improve the co-operative society system in the rural areas; and
- d. Cooperate with NGOs and multi-lateral agencies in the empowerment of rural communities.

8. INDUSTRIALIZATION

OBJECTIVES

Industrialization is one of the principal programmes of the party. Our objectives shall emphasize:

- a. Private entrepreneurship;
- b. Small-scale and intermediate industries;
- c. Involvement of the public sector in direct, industrial ventures of strategic and capital intensive nature;
- d. Provision of industrial infrastructure and other enabling environment; and
- e. Promotion of industries using locally available raw materials.

Strategy

A PDP government shall embark on the following industrial programmes and schemes:

- a. Privatization of those public enterprises for which private entrepreneurship and capital available locally.
- b. Establishment of a Directorate for Small-scale intermediate industries;

- c. Strengthening of the National Economic Reconstruction Fund and Nigerian Bank of Commerce and Industry to make them more responsive to the needs of small-scale and medium industries;
- d. Lowering of interest rates to encourage industrial investment;
- e. Provision of tax holidays for newly established industrial ventures that use local raw materials or located in non-industrial zones.
- f. Intensification of the Government's direct involvement in the steel, mining and petro-chemical industries in joint ventureship with private entrepreneurs;
- g. Establishment of heavy industrial equipment manufacturing plants in collaboration with private entrepreneurs;
- h. Strengthening of the Nigerian Industrial Development Bank to make it more responsive to the needs of large-scale industrial entrepreneurs; and
- i. Promotion of labour-intensive industries in order to reduce unemployment, promotes local technology, and hence, raises the country's aggregate national productivity.

9.

HEALTH

OBJECTIVE

The party shall present a comprehensive health-care policy for the country, the essential aim of which shall be:

- a. Health-care for all citizens;
- b. Free medical services in all institutions of learning; and
- c. Free medical services to the aged and the handicapped.

Strategy

PDP in government shall:

- a. Ensure that all Nigerians, particularly the young and the aged, shall have access to free medical services;
- b. Provide free immunization to all children;

- c. Progressively establish primary health centre, equipped with pharmacies, within the reach of every Nigeria, particularly the rural dwellers.
- d. Progressively provide General Hospitals in all Local Government headquarters; specialist hospitals in all State Capitals.
- e. Encourage research into traditional medical, practices and integrate these practices into the orthodox medical system.
- f. Equip and expand the teaching Hospitals in the country;
- g. Embark on mass training of paramedical personnel to meet the needs of our rural populace;
- h. Encourage more students to train as medical doctors;
- i. Provide special incentives for medical practitioners and other medical Personnel with particular emphasis in those located in remote areas;
- j. Stimulate the local production of medical drugs and other supplies;
- k. Encourage family planning by providing family planning services and materials free of charge;
- l. Regulate private hospitals, medical clinics, and pharmacies to protect Nigerians against exploitations; and
- m. Make and enforce stringent laws against the manufacturing and sale of fake and adulterated drugs; and promote a healthy physical environment by intensifying the present periodic environmental sanitation exercises.

10. **EDUCATION**

OBJECTIVES

Education is an important social instrument for national unity amongst the diverse peoples of Nigeria. The party in government shall:

- a. Ensure that the educational system is improved upon;
- b. Ultimately provide free, functional education at all levels;
- c. Integrate into the formal education system the political education of the citizenry with emphasis on the provision of the Constitution, the state and democratic principles;

- d. Foster and expand education all levels and fields of knowledge; and
- e. Encourage private and voluntary organizations to establish schools subject to compliance and adherence to existing government policies.

Strategy

PDP in government shall pursue the following:

- a. Promotion of pre-primary education by encouraging the establishment of private Nursery schools in such a way that every Nigerian child shall have the opportunity to start education at the nursery levels;
- b. Provision of:
 - i. Free and compulsory primary education;
 - ii. Free and compulsory junior secondary education; and
 - iii. Free qualificative senior secondary education
- c. Expansion of the Unity School system as models and as instruments of fostering national unity;
- d. Greater involvement of private individuals and agencies in the delivery of education services, subject to government regulation;
- e. Establishment of adult and continuing education centre to promote mass literacy among Nigerians.
- f. Provision of technical educational institutions with well-equipped workshop and adequate and well-trained-teachers;
- g. Encouragement of the establishment of private universities, polytechnic and colleges of education subject to government regulation;
- h. Adequate funding of university education;
- i. Raising of the social and economic status of educational personnel through improved conditions of services;
- j. Free University education for all student of science, technology and medicines;
- k. Provision of Federal Government Scholarship on merit;
- l. Provision of library, laboratory and workshop facilities in all schools and colleges;

- m. Encouragement and promotion of the running of consultancy units in all universities.
- n. Guaranteeing of all academic freedom in the university system;
- o. Encouragement of entrepreneurs to provide hostels accommodation affordable to university students;
- p. Aggressive training of teaching personnel and enforcement for the requirement that the National Certificate in Education shall be the minimum qualification for primary school teachers;
- q. Provision of special facilities for the schooling of the children of nomads; and
- r. Provision of adequate educational facilities and manpower for the handicapped

11. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the party shall be:

- a. The provision of adequate industrial base for rapid technological development and promotion of scientific and technological literacy among Nigerians;
- b. The acquisition, adoption, utilization and appreciation of scientific and technological invention and methods in everyday activities; and
- c. The encouragement and promotion of appropriate technologies necessary for sustainable development.

Strategy

The strategies shall be to:

- a. Provision facilities and create conducive environment for the promotion of scientific and technological literacy among Nigerians;
- b. Encourage existing scientific and technological research institutions to develop simple tools for industrial plants using locally available raw materials;
- c. Promote acquiring spirit and inventive process in all levels of the nation's educational systems;

- d. Encourage the development of scientific and technological attitude and culture among Nigerians; and
- e. Accelerate the completion of the iron, steel, gas and petro-chemical plants currently under construction in the country.

12.

DEFENCE

OBJECTIVES

The party's objectives on defence shall be consistent with the provisions of the Constitution in this regard. Specifically, our objectives are:

- 1. National security in all its ramifications;
- 2. Creation and maintenance of armed forces capable not only of discharging the afore-stated responsibility, but also using them to support our foreign policy objectives and
- 3. Recruitment into the Armed Forces shall reflect the Federal Character.

Strategy

The party shall within the context of the country's strategic posture, the nature and sources of threat and budgetary constraints:

- j. Ensure a high standard of professionalism through constant training.
- k. Provide sufficient funds that will enable the Defence industries Corporation produce various types of weapons for defence, deterrence, and retaliation; and
- l. Pursue, as a deliberate policy of self-reliance, the policy of local production of arms, military equipment and command, control and communication system that will enhance the combat readiness of our armed forces and boost their morale and enhance their capability.

13. TRANSPORT

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the party shall be:

1. Efficient transportation system throughout the country; and
2. Modernization of all existing modes of transportation in the country (Road, Rail, Air, Water) Maritime.

Strategy

Our strategy in each subsector shall be as follows:

a. Road Transportation

PDP in government shall:

- i. Introduce and sustain the culture of road maintenance by establishing a system of routine maintenance of roads such that the roads are repaired at the first sign of damage or potential damage;
- ii. Ensure that all Local Government Headquarters and major towns are accessible through tarred roads;
- iii. Embark on an aggressive development of roads; highways and feeder roads;
- iv. Improve and expand the Mass Transit Programme of the Government.
- v. Promote vehicle manufacturing in Nigeria.

b. Water Transportation

- i. Facilitate water transportation by embarking on dredging channelization and canalization; and the constructions of weirs;
- ii. Ensure the easy availability of water transportation vehicles and spare parts;
- iii. Strengthen the Nigerian National Shipping Lines; and
- iv. Provide adequate and well-maintained modern seaport facilities.

c. Air Transportation

PDP government shall:

- i. retain the Nigeria Airways as a national carrier and make it efficient and Commercially viable;
- ii. encourage private investment in the air transport subsector;
- iii. provide modern facilities and equipment in all the airports in the country; and
- iv. provide regular maintenance of the airports and their equipment and facilities.

d. **Railways**

the party shall revitalize Nigeria's railway system

- i. adequate funding of the Nigerian Railway Corporation to make it more efficient;
- ii. involve the private sector in the delivery of railway services; and
- iii. motivate rail workers through the introduction of a package of incentives.

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COMMUNICATION

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the party shall be:

1. total re-organization of the country's postal system with a view of guaranteeing its efficiency; and
2. national security with the privatization of NITEL and NIPOST

Strategy

The party shall ensure:

- i. total reorganization of the country's postal system with a view to guaranteeing its efficiency; and
- ii. national security with the privatization and or commercialization of NITEL, NIPOST

15.

INTERNAL SECURITY

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the party shall include:

- a. promotion of policies aimed at guaranteeing security of lives and safety of property;
- b. ensuring discipline, probity and accountability among security agents;
- c. improving police-community relations;
- d. promotion of professionalism within the police, prison security agencies;
- e. provision of a more humane prison system.

Strategy

PDP Government shall endeavour to stem the wave of violent crimes in the country by:

- a. equipping the Nigeria Police Force with modern equipment;
- b. providing more relevant professional training opportunities to the force, at local and international training institutions;
- c. motivating the police force with enhanced conditions and environment of service;
- d. providing enlightenment and educating programme about the actual roles of the police and their relationship with the civil society;
- e. providing enlightenment programme for the public on how to complement the work of members of the police force;
- f. reorganizing the prison system to ensure:
 - i. decongestion of prisons and improved accommodation for inmate and
 - ii. the provision of more positive rehabilitation programme.

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ENERGY

OBJECTIVES

It shall be the goal of the PDP government to supply electricity to all cities, towns, villages and settlement in Nigeria land and encourage private participation in the search for and use of alternative sources of environmentally sustainable energy.

Strategy

- a. involve the private sector in the generation and distribution of energy
- b. equip and motivate the National Electric Power plc to more effectively play its leading role in the energy sector
- c. maintain and equip the country's energy generation and distribution plants to enable them supply uninterrupted energy for industrial and domestic use;
- d. promote the supply of energy through the solar system;
- e. intensify the implementation of rural electricity supply schemes; and
- f. ensure the linking of all Local Government Headquarters to the National Grid.

17

WATER SUPPLY

OBJECTIVES

Our objectives shall be:

- a. to provide the people of Nigeria drinking water in urban, semi-urban and rural areas;
- b. to provide water for large stock needs of the country; and
- c. to provide surface water for irrigation.

Strategy

PDP government shall adopt the following strategies:

- a. the tapping of underground water; and
- b. the protection of domestically usable surface water against pollution and contamination;

PDP government shall therefore:

- a. ensure the supply of potable water to all urban and rural communities in the countries;
- b. to construct dams for irrigation, hydro electric energy and treatment plants;
- c. to ensure that introduction of water and sanitization programme throughout the country; and
- d. encourage the local production of water treatment chemicals.

OBJECTIVES

PDP shall vigorously strive:

1. to improve the working conditions of the Nigeria labour force;
2. to ensure that workers benefit from the huge profits being declared by the private sector and
3. to ensure that workers are reasonably remunerated by the public sector

Strategy

The following steps will be taken:

- a. review of the current monthly minimum wage in line with the prevailing economic realities;
- b. review of the current remuneration of workers, including fringe benefits;
- c. enforcement of labour discipline and productivity;
- d. overhaul of the Industrial Arbitration Court.
- e. Prompt payment of salaries and allowances;
- f. Review of the pension rate of retired workers to the progress of the nation;
- g. Encouragement of trade union activities, especially the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC);
- h. Representation of labour in all organs of government dealing with the affairs of working people;
- i. Organization of workers in the industries into Workers Assemblies, Workers Councils, and Management Committees; and
- j. Free movement of labour throughout all the States of the Federation.

OBJECTIVES:

PDP government shall aim at the judicious exploitation of Nigeria's natural mineral resources. In particular, it shall emphasize the activities in the solid-minerals sub-sector and restructure the liquid minerals industry.

Strategy:

PDP Government shall:

- a. Identify all solid-minerals deposit in Nigeria, ascertain the commercial quality of each deposit, and set out a rational schedule of the exploitation;
- b. Involve the private sector in the exploitation of the country's mineral resources especially the exploitation for solid minerals;
- c. Reorganize and strengthen the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation to enable it have a full grip in managing the petroleum industry; and
- d. Speed up the process of converting the country's wasting natural gas to productive and commercial use and, make it become a major source of industrial input and foreign exchange earnings.

OBJECTIVES:

The party recognizes that the development of Nigeria's iron and steel industry is an essential requirement to the creation of a solid industrial base in Nigeria. Iron and steel are necessary for the local manufacturing of heavy, intermediate and light industrial machinery equipment, tools and spare parts. The party shall therefore work for the speedy completion of the on-going iron and steel project in the country and ensure maximum capacity utilization in the existing ones.

Strategy

PDP government shall:

- a. Speed up the completion of the Ajaokuta Steel complex;
- b. Ensure that the country's steel rolling mills operate at full capacity;
- c. Initiate new industrial plants based on the use of the country's iron ore and allied deposits; and
- d. Internationalize the standard of the products of the iron and steel plants to enable the country earn foreign exchange from the country.

21. YOUTH AND SPORTS

OBJECTIVES:

To integrate sporting and cultural activities into a system of national mobilization, education and development of the youth both as symbols of national character and identity and as future leaders. As a basic element of this general objective, the mental, physical, and moral development of our youths shall be given priority attention. Existing youth development programmes shall be strengthened and new ones created.

- i. Make Nigerian youths realize their maximum potentials;
- ii. Inculcate moral discipline in our youths and insulate them from obscene literature, films etc.;
- iii. Promote interaction among youths for national understanding and integration; and
- iv. Enact laws against child abuse and child labour.

Strategy:

PDP in government shall reorganize the NYSC scheme to embrace all graduates of post secondary institutions; and shall promote and encourage societies/clubs such as Boy Scout, Debating society, etc, for the physical and intellectual development of their members.

22.

THE NIGERIAN CULTURE

OBJECTIVES:

Our party recognizes the Nigerian culture as the totality of complex of attainments, beliefs, customs and traditions which form the country's collective identity. It is the culture of Nigeria that distinguishes her from other people and gives her peculiar qualities and character. Culture is therefore an instrument of national identity. As such, any country that loses her culture also loses her identity.

Our party also recognizes that culture is a dynamic way of life which must be continuously refined. The Nigerian culture must project Nigerians not only as people of clearly recognizable identity but also as people that have fineness of taste thought and gracious urbanity of manners.

The objectives, therefore, shall be aimed at:

- a. Promoting and integrating the diverse culture of the peoples of Nigeria in such a way as to achieve a truly national cultural identity for the country; and
- b. Making of Nigerian civilization the central and dominating civilization of Africa and the world.

Strategy:

PDP government shall through a deliberate and carefully packaged programme:

- a. Progressively integrate the diverse culture of the people of Nigeria.
- b. Promote only those aspect of our culture that are conducive to fostering national unity and gradually phase out all of its unfavourable aspects;
- c. Employ culture as an instrument for moulding Nigeria's social and political behavior;
- d. Employ culture to promote the country's traditional values of honesty integrity and hospitality;, as well as intra and inter ethnic understanding, religious harmony and socio-political solidarity; and
- e. Internationalize the country's cultural values and hence, the political values arising therefrom, particularly within the continent of Africa.

OBJECTIVES

Women are an important group of Nigerians whose participation in national politics has been minimal due largely to cultural inhibition and barriers. The relevance of women, their numerical strength and their multiplier effects in the mass mobilization of the Nigerian people for the attainment of educational, health, and socio-economic objectives are recognized by the party. Accordingly, the party government shall pursue policies enshrined in the Beijing Declaration.

Strategy

Our government shall:

- a. Ensure gender equality in employment and socio economic advancement, and promote greater women involvement and effective participation in politics;
- b. Embark on an aggressive crusade of greater political awareness and mass mobilization of Nigerian women for participation in a sustainable national development;
- c. Ensure adequate women representation in all the organs and institutions of the party and of its government through encouraged participation of women in electoral contests and through political appointments; and
- d. Strengthen women societies to enable it become more effective in engineering the process of economic and political empowerment of Nigerian women.

We of the PDP recognize that the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria guarantees the fundamental human rights of every Nigerian citizen. These include:

- a Right to life
- b Right to dignity of human persons
- c Right to eradicate corrupt practices
- d Right to personal liberty

- e Right to fair hearing
- f Right to private and family life
- g Right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- h Right to freedom of expression and the press
- I Right to peaceful assembly and association
- J Right to freedom of movement
- K Right to medical consultation
- L Right to freedom from discrimination
- M Right to primary education
- N Right to acquire and own immovable property anywhere in the Federation

We of the PDP shall respect these rights. In doing so, however, we shall ensure that every Nigerian enjoys and exercise these rights within the limits imposed by the laws of Nigeria.

Strategy

PDP government shall:

- A ensure that every Nigerian does not only enjoy his or her fundamental rights, it shall also ensure that he or she does so without undue government interference;
- B Simplify the processes of seeking redress in the event of the violation of any of the rights;
- C Support the Human Right organizations in Nigeria to enable them complement the efforts of the government in promoting human rights awareness and education, and in checking human rights abuses; and
- D encourage and assist the Human Rights Organizations in the country in conducting their affairs in a responsible and mature manner.

OBJECTIVES

It shall be the policy of the PDP government to ensure that every Nigerian lives in an environment which is conducive to good health and soundness of body and mind. The party shall in particular, address the ecological problems associated with mining and oil exploitation in the country.

Strategy

PDP government shall:

- A maintain the present system of monthly environmental sanitation exercise in Nigeria;
- B ensure the regular and proper disposal of household and industrial wastes;
- C establish and implement programmes aimed at checking environmental pollution and degradation;
- D strengthens the Federal Environmental Protection Agency to make it more effective in engineering a sound environment for all Nigerians;
- E ensure adequate fiscal allocation to the Ecological fund and National Emergency and Disaster Relief Agency;
- F improve the physical environment of Nigeria's cities and towns through beautification; and
- G promote environmental ethnics and aesthetics among Nigerians.

OBJECTIVES

PDP is aware that civil servants are at this point in time poorly paid and poorly motivated. We are concerned that the purchasing power of the average civil servant

has become so low that many civil servants live below the poverty line. We are therefore committed to the alleviation of the plight of the civil servants through improved conditions of service. The party shall also promote efficiency, dedication and loyalty in the civil service.

Strategy

Our government in office shall;

- A ensure that the total remuneration of every civil servant shall be such as would enable him or her to have meaningful disposable income;
- B ensure that personal housing and vehicle shall not be beyond the reach of the average civil servant;
- C create opportunities for rapid career advancement and attractiveness in the Nigerian Civil Service;
- D establish a dynamic, self-adjusting wage system in the country, such that periodic salary reviews shall become unnecessary; and
- E restore security of service to the Nigerian Civil Service system.

27

TRADITIONAL RULES

OBJECTIVES

PDP regards the institution of traditional rulership not only as the custodian of Nigeria's culture and traditions or merely as ceremonial heads of the people, but also and more significantly, as one that symbolize the community of governance in Nigeria. We therefore, also regard the authorities and influence of traditional rulers as complementary to those of the government. The party government shall, therefore respect traditional rulers, restore their dignity and support them morally and materially in the discharge of their responsibilities.

Strategy

Our party in government shall;

- a. Implement the roles assigned to traditional rulers in the Nigerian constitution;

28. HOUSING

OBJECTIVES

The Party shall believe that accommodation and to live in an environment that is conducive is vital to high productivity, comfort and security.

Strategy

The party's main strategies in attaining its lofty objectives in housing are as follows:

- a. Simplifying process of acquiring land for building purpose;
- b. Initiating research into and development of local building materials with a view to reducing cost of same;
- c. Providing home ownership guaranteed loans at low interest rates to assist individuals build and own their homes;
- d. Encouraging corporate bodies, companies, industries and parastatals to provide housing for their staff on owner-occupier basis with liberal terms for repayment;
- e. Encouraging the setting up of private-owned real estate development companies to build houses for sale to the public at affordable prices;
- f. Formulating and implementing a resettlement policy to take care of people displaced either as a result of government projects or natural disasters or ecological factors;
- g. Strengthening the federal, Mortgage Banks to allow it meet the financial requirements of individual Nigerian home owners;
- h. Improving and beautifying the environment by establishing open spaces, parks and gardens for recreational purposes in cities, towns and within

housing estates established by government or government agencies and by the private sector.

29

TOURISM

OBJECTIVES

Our party in government shall give pride of place to the exploitation of our tourist potentials in the country.

Strategy

- i. Reorganize the National Tourism Board as a full fledged parastatal to encourage tourism;
- ii. Encourage the active participation of private entrepreneurs and non governmental organizations in the development of our tourist industry; and
- iii. Harmonize the activity of the board, state government and private operators to evolve a coherent national policy dealing with all aspects of tourism in the country.

The objectives of our party is to ensure easy access by all Nigerians to land.

Strategy

- i. Ensure access to land for agricultural purpose for farmers;
- ii. Protect small-scale farmers against large commercial farmers;
- iii. reclaim, rehabilitate land devastated by diversification, soil erosion, flood, mining, wrong usage and other national or man made factors, and protection of further degradation of any land; and
- iv. place greater emphasis on afforestation for both desert and erosion control through mobilization and active participation by the community, if necessary, to establish, management committees for land utilization and rehabilitation.

31.

FOREIGN POLICY

OBJECTIVES

The revolutions in communication and the interdependency of world economies have turned the whole world into a large global village, making regional, continental cooperations inevitable in the contest of the global interdependence, Nigeria's vital national interest must provide the pivot around which her foreign policy revolves. Our government shall pursue a foreign policy aimed at protecting Nigeria's interest, boosting her international image and promoting her economic independence. This policy shall be backed up by economic and political engineering that will ensure international respect for the country.

The main thrust of the policy shall stress self-confidence and boldness of action.

Strategy

PDP government shall implement its foreign policy on the basis of:

- a. Commitment to the principles of ECOWAS; OAU and United Nations Charters, as well as those of other international organizations of which Nigeria is a member;
- b. Commitment to the political and economic emancipation of the black people in the diaspora;
- c. Promotion of greater economic and political cooperation and interdependence among neighbouring countries;
- d. Provision of diplomatic and economic leadership in Africa in general and West African in particular; and
- e. Promotion of world peace and international understanding by playing a leading role in world matters particularly those directly affecting the interest of the country.