

THE MANIFESTO

OF

**ALLIED CONGRESS PARTY OF NIGERIA
ACPN**

MISSION STATEMENT
OF
ALLIED CONGRESS PARTY OF NIGERIA (ACPN)
(THE NATIONAL AGENDA)

PREAMBLE

The Allied Congress Party of Nigeria, is a political party of Nigerians who have shown genuine concern the plight of our great country, who are determined o work together, conscious of our varied background and ethnic origins, prepared to offer selfless service, and provide a new direction for peaceful co-existence in the country. We are committed to the re-engineering of our political, economic and social foundations to eschew politics of bitterness and build a new, united and prosperous. Country under a good democratic government.

The ACPN will bring together the moderates and liberal democrats from the right and from the left of the political spectrum to evolve a new, dynamic and people oriented philosophy of selflessness, service, sacrifice and accountability for the country. We believe that the way forward is now for Nigerians to support the transition programme and to cooperate with Government for its successful implementation so that we can have peaceful, stable and sustainable democratic governance thereafter, with the following as our guiding principles:

- i. That there is a new credible national political leadership that takes Nigeria as one constituency and believes in her unity and corporate existence.
- ii. That the recently announced six zonal geo-political structure and the principle of rotation are sine qua non sustainable political stability for the country.
- iii. That the idea of a broad-based, inclusive Government be vigorously pursued and encouraged

- iv. Membership of the Allied Congress Party of Nigeria (ACPN) is open to every Nigerian citizen, irrespective of place of origin, status, ethnic group, gender or religions.
- v. Commitment to the enthronement of popular and participatory democratic governance with the objective of restoring and sustaining an enduring political stability, economic and social progress based on the following essential elements.

Right of choice; freedoms from ignorance and want; empowerment and capability; Respect for the Rule of Law and Equality Before the Law; Promotion and Defence of Human Rights; Creation of Appropriate Political Machinery; Sustained Political Communication to Create Trust and Confidence amongs Leaders and the Populace; Accountability of the Leadership to the Followership; Decentralization of Political Power and Authority; Periodic and Orderly Succession through Secret Ballot

Accordingly, this document sets out the aims, objectives and contents of the Manifesto of the Allied Congress Party of Nigeria comprising:

- a) The Mission Statement embodying the Party's National Agenda, its philosophical foundations and the basic principles which will guide the Actions and Policies of the party in government.
- b) Affirmation of Commitment to the Constitutional Provisions on fundamental objectives and directive principles State Policy.
- c) The Sectoral Policy Objective and Programmes of the Party with appropriate strategies for effective implementation.

The Allied Congress Party of Nigeria (ACPN) is convinced that the overall import of a democratic government is whether it can effectively enhance the capability and capacity of the people to manage and control changes as well as promote national development: The Party, therefore believes• that through the programmes and strategies enunciated in this Manifesto and National Agenda, which are consistent with the provisions of the Constitution, it will be possible to mobilize the entire citizenry in the process of political and economic transformation of the country, to enable us meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century.

BACKGROUND

Our country Nigeria has come a long way since independence on 1st October, 1960. The period spanning over three decades has witnessed a geometric series of dashed, hopes and failed expectations. Established political culture with sound democratic governance is yet to take roots in our country. This worrying situation is compounded by the decline in our social, moral and economic life. The 1994/98 experience has compounded issues in all sectors of human endeavours. Events of 1998 however may be described as intervention by God aimed at saving the country, while not condemning any particular administration, we believed that all Nigerians particularly the elit-politicians, military, traditional rulers the academic etc are to blame for allowing ourselves to be impoverished in the midst of abundant natural resources that abound in the country.

At this point in the annals of our history, patriotic men and women who have dedicated themselves to the pursuit of excellence in their private and public life, and above all, in the service of their country have established for themselves and others of the same disposition, the **ALLIED CONGRESS PARTY OF NIGERIA (ACPN)** as a political part to be used as a vehicle for political power to turning our country around to the path of planned and orderly development, peace and unity.

In pursuance of these objectives, our organization would enlist all Nigerians with sufficient patriotic and selfless instincts to come together to move the nation forward. We, therefore, present our party's philosophy based on five principles which define our ideology:

- i. Belief in God
- ii. National Unity
- iii. Just and Egalitarian Society
- iv. Social Justice and Economic Progress
- v. Representative and Functional Political Democracy

I. BELIEF IN GOD

The principle re-affirms the Nigerian peoples belief in the existence of God and the fact that The fear of God is the beginning of all wisdom. It re-emphasizes that the worship of God according to one's religion and the pursuit of sacred values wilt lead to a peaceful and prosperous Nigeria

II. NATIONAL UNITY

The principle embodies the concept of patriotism and nationalism. It establishes the need to always foster national unity and social integration while recognizing our diversities. The principles of nationalism demands that Nigerian subordinate personal and sectional interest to the higher interest of one nation. Our social difference in daily life should not be allowed to adversely affect the national Integrity of the nation rather it should strengthen it

III. JUST AND EGALITARIAN SOCIETY

The principle of just and egalitarian society emphasizes that our government will treat all Nigerians with dignity as human beings In this regard economic, social and political opportunities will be created for the development of all citizens, irrespective of social status, ethnic origin and gender It is our belief that our sense of justice, equality and fair play snail always apply to aspects of togetherness particularly the sharing of the national resources and leadership at all levels of governance.

IV. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS

The principle of social justice, welfare and economic progress establishes the need for equitable spread of national wealth and opportunities for all Nigerians. Our natural and human resources should therefore be utilized for the greatest possible good and well being of the people.

Social justice also emphasize the protection of the weak. Each and every citizen should have the opportunity to actualize his/her potentials, and be rewarded accordingly

V. REPRESENTATIVE AND FUNCTIONAL POLITICAL DEMOCRACY

The principle of representative and functional democracy demands that the people are allowed to vote and be voted for; under this concept of value system and basic needs of the people are guaranteed. This preserves and strengthens national unity and the pursuit of social justice.

These sacred values of our organization would guide us in our concerted effort to provide a good democratic government to our people.

We will bring together the moderates from the right and the moderates from the left, and evolves a **NEW CENTRE PHILOSOPHY** of selflessness, service, sacrifice and accountability for the country. It is our belief that the sacred relationship between the people and their elected leaders is covenant which is sacrosanct and which must be respected at all times by the leaders and the people.

OBJECTIVES

This organisation would work for the promotion and protection of an enduring democratic system with credible National Political leadership comprising honest, selfless and professional political class whose government would guarantee the following;

1. Fundamental human rights, freedom of worship and association, freedom of the press, the enforcement of discipline and the entrenchment of new moral code and the rule of law
2. Broad-based open market economy, providing opportunities for developing our abundant natural resources and harnessing the economic potentials of individuals and groups through the creation of an enabling environment for the promotion of both private and public, entrepreneurship
3. Operation of true Federalism with appropriate devolution of powers to each tier of government and the recognition of the principles of Federal character in all aspects of governance:
4. Peaceful co-existence as a basic for enduring democracy, political stability national security, economic progress and social emancipation

5. The constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria will be a sacred document. Our government will be conducted in strict compliance with the letters and spirit of the constitution

In consideration of the above objective, the Allied Congress Party of Nigeria therefore, present our MANIFESTO comprising the POLITICAL, the ECONOMIC, and the SOCIAL COMMITMENTS to Nigerians, in our determination and resolve to build a new nation.

I. POLITICAL COMMITMENT

Recognizing that God our creator has blessed Nigeria with:

- (i) Diverse people that are energetic, intelligent, resourceful and dynamic.
- (ii) Abundant natural and human resources, which should qualify us as a rich and developing nation.
- (iii) A congenial environment that is relatively free of natural disasters and swings in climatic conditions.

AND

Realizing that after 35 years of freedom from colonial rule, this country is still faced with serious problems of political stability, peace, justice and fair play in our national polity. Our group of concerned patriotic and committed citizens of Nigeria, has decided to enter into a covenant with the people of Nigeria and with God, to assiduously and faithfully work for the attainment of the following:

- i. Credible national political leadership that would unite the country, create wealth, eliminate poverty and make her attain her rightful place in the comity of nations.
- ii. Honest, selfless and professional new political class, that is morally upright and committed to serve, to make the required changes and ready to make the necessary sacrifices for national development. A covenant of selflessness, service, sacrifice and accountability.
- iii. An internal political focus and relations for the benefit of all Nigerians

- iv. The Guarantee of fundamental human rights for all Nigerians and aliens in our midst and to enthrone respect for the rule of law and order.
- v. Provision of equal opportunities for all citizens irrespective of their ethnic, religious, gender geographic and social backgrounds to attain highest potentials.
- vi. Universal belief in democratic principles and to seek the mandate of the people to serve and to be accountable to them at all times.
- vii. Good governance that is honest, transparent responsible and imbued with fear of God to guarantee accountability and selfless service to the country always
- viii. Leadership by example

2. ECONOMIC COMMITMENT

Our economy has witnessed serious macroeconomics distortions and dislocations over the years. Spiraling inflation, unemployment, gross p3CitY under-utilisation in our industries and the over-independence on oil revenues have remained with us for a very long time now. To address these central problems which underline other economic difficulties we covenant to diversify the National Economy by encouraging development in non-petroleum producing sectors in order to reduce dependence on oil as main source of our national incomes as follows:

- i. Increase efficiency and producibility in agriculture, mining and manufacturing sector.
- ii. Embark on gas development, conversion and utilization programmes
- iii. Promote exports through various incentives, support massive applied scientific research and development for production of necessary goods for economic emancipation
- iv. Encourage the establishment and development of small and medium scale enterprises as engines of economic growth.
- v. Create a suitable environment for foreign investment to flow into the country
- vi. Strengthen the Naira so that it may freely find its true value in the international currency market.

- vii. Formulate and implement disciplined budget, fiscal and monetary policies.
- viii. Work assiduously to eradicate corruption, fraud, embezzlement and the so-called “Nigerian Way” and to enthrone a new culture of integrity, transparency and accountability.
- ix. Put the organized private sector into more confidence so that they can be genuinely involve in the revamping and management of the national economy.
- x. Turn the abundant arable land of this country to be the food basket of Africa and even the world.
- xi. Encourage industrialists to develop local substitute for imported raw materials and to use the raw materials from our enhanced agricultural production as catalyst for our industrial revolution
- xii. Cut out waste in public finance
- xiii. Set out targets for growth rates in the economy
- xiv. Enlist the interest of labour unions in all activities so that a peaceful relations can be created in the country
- xv. Put in place an energy policy that will ensure efficient exploitation, distribution and management of all energy resources.
- xvi. Build a strong infrastructure of roads, electricity, water transportation, railways and telecommunication and pay special attention to the building of a modern standard gauge railway system across the length and breadth of the country to ensure the easy movement of men and materials across the nation at affordable prices.
- xvii. Encourage and promote private entrepreneurship as a way of activating the latent potentials of our people to participate more in the national economy.
- xviii. Take appropriate measures to reduce our huge external debt as soon as possible.
- xix. Review, harmonise and consolidate salary structure in our public service system to narrow and/or close the gap with the private sector in order to streamline Conditions of service generally in the country and attract best brains to the public sector.
- xx. Provide greater tax relief to low income earners and embark on efficient tax assessment and collection system

- xxi. Establish open and transparent system of handling all public financial matters.

3. SOCIAL COMMITMENT

Presently, our nation is in a state of social disequilibrium. To put our country back on the path of progress and glory our party therefore covenant with the Nigeria people:

- i. To establish and implement a new national moral orientation programmes to re-orientate all our citizens in order to rekindle our spirit of patriotism, embrace our social responsibilities, reaffirm our beliefs in democratic government and to build a strong civil preference for constitutional governance at all times.
- ii. To provide free and compulsory education at primary and secondary school levels in all public schools, to encourage private participation in education at all level; and to provide adequate support and funding for qualitative, results- oriented tertiary education to meet the requirements of our national goals and to establish centres of excellence in education and scientific research for the benefit of all Nigerians and stem brain drain.
- iii. To emphasise the primary health care delivery system as a means of providing health services for the rural population and adequately equip and maintain secondary and tertiary health care delivery system for the country in order to eliminate the overseas treatment syndrome and to encourage the development of any cogent traditional treatment of specific ailments.
- iv. To improve and provide good condition of service for all Nigerian workers since they are the backbone of good governance and administration.
- v. To ensure security of life and property in our land and to make our streets and highways safe both in the day and at night, and to protect and strengthen our territorial integrity and security.
- vi. To give opportunities that will encourage and ensure active women participation in the social, economic and political development of the nation.

- vii. To mobilize the abundant energy and talent of our youths to productive ventures in order to abolish youth unemployment, juvenile delinquency and drug abuse and to actively encourage sports development nationwide.
- viii. To promote and support the National and State Housing Programmes to provide every Nigerian family with decent shelter.
- ix. To provide gainful employment for all Nigerians
- x. To promote public morality through the enhancement of the operations of the Public Complaint Commission.
- xi. To promote a free, responsible and accountable and to enlist their participation to build a new Nigeria.
- xii. To develop our cultural heritage and the Arts and transform them as vehicle of industrial and economic growth and development as well as for the mobilization of the entire citizens.
- xiii. To promote domestic and international tourism for the projection of our national image and national integration as well as economic growth.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing Mission Statement has spelt out clearly the Party's National agenda, its philosophy of governance, and broad policy guidelines for dealing with the problems of the polity, economy and society in our great country. It is on the basis of these objectives and principles, that we accept the challenges to provide the required credible political leadership for Nigeria, for the benefit of all our people and to the greater Glory of God.

The Party is committed to the faithful implementation of the Agenda in order to build bridges of unity across the length and breath of the country, eschew politics of bitterness and hatred, eradicate fear and skepticism in our body polity and set the country on the path of political stability, economic progress and social justice for the common good and welfare of our people.

AFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

Consistent with the aims, objectives, broad policy guidelines, and principles of democratic governance embodied in our Mission Statement, the Allied Congress Party of Nigerian (ACPN) strongly affirms its commitment to observe, conform to, apply and enforce the provisions of chapter II of the constitution o the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999, relating to the Fundamental Objectives and Directive, Principles of State Policy, to wit;

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE

The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a state based on the principles of democracy and social justice. Sovereignty belongs to the people of Nigeria from whom government through the Constitution derives all its powers and authority. The security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose and responsibility of government, and the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in accordance with the provision of the constitution.

The composition of the Government at Federal, State or local levels, and any of their agencies, and the conduct of their affairs, shall recognize and reflect the Federal Character principle, and the diversity of the people within their areas of authority in order to promote national Unity, sense of belonging and loyalty among the people of the Federation.

POLITICAL OBJECTIVES AND THE INDIVISIBILITY OF THE NIGERIA POLITY

The Allied Congress Party of Nigeria cherishes the firm and solemn resolve of the people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to live in unity and harmony as one indivisible, indissoluble, democratic and sovereign nation under God. The party acknowledges that the constitution which is supreme, is to promote good government and welfare of all persons in our country on the principles of freedom, equality and justice as well as to promote inter-

African solidarity, world peace, international cooperation and understanding.

Nigeria shall be a Federal consisting of State and the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. The country shall be governed through a three tier structures of government i.e. Federal, State and Local Government. The party re-affirms its commitment to the constitutional provisions on political objectives, acknowledging “Unity, Freedom, Equality and Justice” as the Motto of the country The Party in Government will work assiduously to promote national integration in all its manifestations, by faithfully implementing the various constitutional provisions under the political, economic, ‘social’,’ educational and foreign policy objectives of the directive principle of state policy.

SECTORAL POLICY OBJECTIVES AND IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES.

ECONOMY

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND POLICY OBJECTIVES

1. The Nigerian economy, although under-developed, is relatively -open, mixed and. market- oriented with strong trade and commercial links with the world economy. It is recognized that an economy that is highly open, is subject to external disturbances which militate against its internal development. Thus, in spite of efforts to promote the growth and development of the Nigerian economy, a number of economic problems have remained intractable. For some years now, the Nation has been plagued by inflation, high population growth, inadequate foreign exchange, deterioration in health and educational facilities and standards, government fiscal deficits, low-level of agricultural production, weak financial structures, inefficient parastatals, poor tax system, low capacity utilization in industry, heavy debt overhang, increasing unemployment and he erosion of the standard of living of most Nigerians
2. The Allied Congress Party of Nigeria shall have its primary objective to he the resuscitation and transformation of the National economy by

formulating appropriate policies and creating an enabling environment for sustained economic growth and development. We recognize that for Nigeria to move out of the persistent economic doldrums, there are certain fundamentals of national economic management that cannot be compromised, and these include; political stability, macro-economics, political leadership that is committed to development, transparency and accountability in public sector management

3. The central focus of our economic policy will be to facilitate greater entrepreneurial development and participation by Nigerians in the economic activities of the country to enable our people assume greater responsibilities for the achievement of their individual and collective development goals. Thus, while the state will continue to exercise a measure of control over some major sectors of the economy, in the public interest, appropriate incentives and policy guidelines be put in place to encourage individuals, private sector groups and institutions to participate effectively in the Nations development process.
4. The Party has identified 15 key Development problems of Nigeria as, Growth, Productivity, Unemployment, inequality, inflation, Mass illiteracy, Fiscal imbalances, External Debt, mismanagement, Education and Technology, Population and Health, infrastructure and Over-dependency. The party will undertake a comprehensive review of these problems as basis for designing a Medium Term Economic Recovery Programme with the objectives of;
 - i. Alleviation of poverty through urgent resuscitation as well as diversification of the economy and expansion of production and productive employment in sectors of the economy.
 - ii. Attainment of self-sufficiency in food production and supply and the satisfaction of basic needs.
 - iii. Entrenchment of people oriented development in terms of popular participation, employment generation, and protection of the environment.

- iv. Promotion and development of effective and relevant technology and the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing infrastructures and public utilities.
- v. Provision of a stable and favourable environment for growth of a competitive and productive private sector.
- vi. Development of a big-term programme, through a perspective plan to ensure total economic reconstruction.

DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

- 5. The obvious results from the economic problems identified above is the deteriorating quality of life of our people and the continuing development marginalization of our country as reflected in: the dominance of monocultural economy, propelled by oil; inability to feed ourselves without resort to certain food imports; absence of indigenous technology, machinery, spare parts and defence needs, preponderance of importation of used consumer durable items, some of which are scraps. The party, is, therefore, committed to the implementation of strategies that would promote economic self-reliance by taking a combination of measure summarized as follows:
 - i. Activate and sustain GROWTH momentum in the economy through sectoral investment prioritization; increase investment in major industries, including oil, gas, petro-chemicals to provide foreign exchange and raw materials for other sectors; encourage private entrepreneurship, focus attention on small and medium enterprises, invest in agriculture, especially to rural development, invest aggressively in infrastructures.
 - ii. Enhance PRODUCTIVITY by institutionalizing effective incentive and merit systems that reward superior performance in both public and private sector management, intensify on the job training and retaining, encourage the setting-up of statistical and monitoring mechanism to measure productivity in public enterprises.

- iii. Direct measure in the short and long-term to address POVERTY to include: educational and skill upgrading/conversion programme to equip the poor for work in a diversified economy; reform of the informal sector where most of the poor find livelihood generally embark on paid and self-employment generating schemes
- iv. Deal with UNEMPLOYMENT by undertaking comprehensive survey of all sectors of the economy to estimate their employment elasticities to guide employers of labour; carry out surveys of Nigeria's wage structure to determine their employment implications: resuscitate state and local authorities to remove any impediments to labour mobility across states of the federation; improve market information system, evolve policies that reactivate ailing industries.
- v. In order to combat INEQUALITY apply the Federal Character principle to pull-up any disadvantaged groups without sacrificing efficiency, incentive and merit; provide egalitarian access to primary and secondary education; stream line the social security system: create economic opportunities by committing the country to full employment and high productivity.
- vi. To tackle the problems of INFLATION; commit the Nation to fiscal discipline and prudence so as to avoid unsustainable central bank financed fiscal deficit; strengthen the institutional capacity of the central bank and enhance its relative autonomy; further deregulate the economy to encourage greater competition, encourage boosts in productivity so that aggregate output will have ameliorating influence on general price level; embark on local raw materials based industries, and encourage local fabrication of spare parts to save foreign exchange; reform the bureaucracy and tax system.
- vii. In order to eradicate MASS ILLITERACY; strengthen existing mass literacy programmes, embark on aggressive illiteracy reduction education schemes, especially for women and the disabled; implement the constitutional provision of compulsory formal primary

and junior secondary education throughout the country, encourage the local publishing industry; and the establishment of more public and community libraries.

- viii. In order to overcome the problem of FISCAL CRISIS, policy strategy will be directed to both income and expenditure area, including; diversification of revenue sources through appropriate investment policies; increase in tax proceeds by continuing reform in tax and austerity so that the deficit does not get out of hand; institute transparency and accountability in budgetary operations of all agencies and institutions; formulate plans for their completion to prevent abandoned projects syndrome.
- ix. In order to deal with EXTERNAL DEBT problems, undertake fundamental review of the machinery of debt management in the country; evaluate regularly how debt financial projects are failing; explore other debt rescheduling priority development programmes; encourage debt forgiveness/cancellation options and legislate strict guidelines for incurring national debt and its servicing by government agencies and the private sector.
- x. To enhance MANAGEMENT effectiveness in both private and public sectors, in order to reduce the incidence and resource Mismanagement and failure, spell out the risk of managerial failure at institutional level and prescribe sanction; encourage public sector management to embrace modern management techniques currently practiced in the private sectors e.g. Total Quality Management (TQM); encourage greater on the job training in technical areas; evaluate how Nigerians cultural factors affect management practices; bring up ethical issues to the attention of public and private managers.
- xi. In order to secure reform in EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY, undertake the review of the 6-3-3-4 system of education and implement the compulsory education programme in the first Nine

years of schooling; commit greater budgetary allocation to education; give special encouragement to science and technical teachers at all levels of education; consider special funding at tertiary education level to sustain quality teaching and research parastatals; give appropriate incentives to encourage research and development initiative in industries.

- xii. To deal with problem of POPULATION AND HEALTH, promote mass education to reduce illiteracy and ignorance, which can influence fertility growth and enhance healthy living habit improve nutrition and disease control, ensure optimal management of available urban space to control city growth compatible with municipal services, take measures to develop new cities in the local government area headquarters.
- xiii. To deal with the problem of INFRASTRUCTURE, make strenuous efforts to create a healthy competition through commercialization and privatization especially efficiency of other non-utility agencies by charging cost-recover fees where possible; reconstruction of dilapidated infrastructure in different parts of the country.
- xiv. To tackle ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION and ensure sustained environment protection, investigate encroachment and oil pollution and provide funds for remedial action; strengthen public awareness of good environmental practices.
- xv. In order to control OVER-DEPENDENCE, economic measures will be taken to attain self- reliance in food production, provision of raw materials, provision of basic defence needs, mastery of indigenous technology; consolidating the manufacturing base, economic diversification especially, the agriculture sector enhance the capacity of indigenous experts and professional as investment in human capitals.

The party believes that appropriate measures taken to resolve the foregoing development problems will usher in a period of national prosperity. What emerged in the post independence era as politics of bitterness was symptoms of the country's fundamental under-development. It will take a visionary and committed political leadership, to steer the nation out of its development doldrums The ALLIED CONGRESS PARTY OF NIGERA is well equipped and prepared to offer the nation that political leadership that is development oriented.

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. It is estimated that the contribution of agriculture to the Nation's Gross Domestic Product ((DP) declined steadily from 63.3 percent in 1960 to 38.6 percent in 1995. Also an estimated 80 percent of Nigeria's population live in rural areas. Agricultural (including Livestock, forestry, fisheries) forms the bulk of economic activities of the rural population. The rural sector consist of various economic activities outside the urban economy. Rural development is a process of increasing the level of per capital income in the rural areas as well as the standard of living of the rural population, through improvement in food production and nutrition level, health, education, housing, recreation and security. Since most of the rural populations are involved in agricultural related activities; an increase in agricultural production and productivity will have a multiplier effect on the economic condition of rural dwellers through increase in their incomes and employment.

2. OBJECTIVE

In recognition of the important role of agriculture in national development, the Party will be guided by the following objectives in the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector;

- (a) Ensuring self-sufficiency in food production
- (b) Provision of raw materials for local agro-allied industries
- (c) Diversification of export crops production to increase foreign exchange earnings

- (d) Improve rural and farm infrastructure for storage, processing and marketing of produce; and
- (e) Increase rural employment and improve agricultural production skills and techniques.

3. STRATEGIES

Accordingly, the Party will pursue policies designed to improve significantly, agriculture and food production as well as rural development through programmes such as:

- i. Massive cultivation of rice, cassava, beans, yams, millet, maize, guinea corn, etc for both home and export markets.
- ii. Massive supply of fertilizers and creating greater awareness in the Use of fertilizers and improved seeds at subsidized rates.
- iii. Increased use of machines in farm operations.
- iv. Reorganization of existing agricultural and rural development special agencies, credit and insurance institutions for greater effectiveness.
- v. More capital investment in irrigation and construction of dams for water supply in the arid zones of the country, to guarantee all season farming.
- vi. Expansion and rationalization of agricultural research institutes to make them more result oriented
- vii. Assistance to the small-scale farmers to increase productivity, as well as encouragement of large-scale plantation for major export crops like cocoa, groundnut, cotton, rubber and oil palm.
- viii. Encourage commercial livestock and fisheries development as well as strengthening afforestation and environmental protection schemes.

INDUSTRIALIZATION

OBJECTIVE

The process of industrialization is necessary to promote and accelerate economic and social development in the country. The Party will continue to

accord a major role to industrialization in the National development Plan in recognition of its impact on meeting the basic needs of the population, ensuring the integration of the economy and the modernization of society. The industrialization process constitutes a fundamental objective in the total range of activities aimed at reducing the country's under-development and economic dependence. Over time, the high hopes in the manufacturing sector's capacity to make significant impact on the economy have not been realized. The industrial development policy of the Party will, therefore, be to provide necessary incentives and a congenial environment for the private sector to function as engine of growth, while Government should continue to improve and expand on the provision of essential infrastructures.

In the light of foregoing, the objectives of the industrialization process will be as follows:

- i. Promote a planned and balanced economic development including the establishment and diversification of industries and dispersal of industrial projects on infrastructural facilities throughout the federation.
- ii. Satisfaction of basic needs of the population through competitive production, distribution and exchange of goods and services.
- iii. Creation of jobs.
- iv. Establish a base for developing other economic
- v. Creation of a basis for assimilating and promoting technological progress through technical skill development.
- vi. Modernization of society
- vii. Development of indigenous manufacturing industries for the production of goods for national development

STRATEGY

In order to implement the above objectives a number a number of strategies would be pursued as follows:

- i. Provision of a stable macro-economic environment

- ii. Simplification of the regulatory environment and even-handed enforcement
- iii. Improvement of Infrastructure capacity and utilities through greater public investment
- iv. Ensure adequate maintenance of existing infrastructures to improve capacity utilization.
- v. Encouragement of foreign direct investment
- vi. Industrial production which promote aggressive export policy apart from the satisfaction of domestic requirements.
- vii. Promote and encourage the establishment and development of small and medium scale enterprises as engine of economic growth.
- viii. Encourage industrialists, through incentives, to develop local substitutes for imported raw materials.
- ix. Up-grade and modernize industrial capacity for competitive production of basic consumer and capital goods.

HEALTH

OBJECTIVES

The primary policy objectives in the health sector are to:

- i. Ensure that there are adequate and functioning medical and health care facilities in all parts of the country and that every citizen has access to these facilities at affordable cost.
- ii. Encourage the various levels of government to provide adequate preventive and curative health services to all citizens.

STRATEGY

In order to guarantee adequate health care delivery to all and sundry, the following implementation strategies shall be adopted by the various tiers of government and other relevant agencies.

- i. Improve the budgetary allocation for health care services at federal, state and local government levels.

- ii. Improve the amount of subventions to teaching and specialist hospitals to enable them rehabilitate deteriorating facilities and equipment, undertake proper maintenance and upgrade their capacity to provide the type of health care service for which they were established.
- iii. Review the remuneration and other incentives for the various grades of medical and health personnel in order to improve their morale and motivate them to higher levels of performance and commitment.
- iv. Encourage State Government to establish General Hospitals in the Local Government Areas where none exists at the moment,
- v. Ensure that all Local Government Area provide Health Centres and Clinics to bring Health Care Delivery Services nearer to the people especially in the rural communities.
- vi. Recognize and encourage the provision of Health care Delivery by corporate bodies, industries establishment, private individuals, voluntary agencies and communities to supplement the effort of Government.

EDUCATION

OBJECTIVE

The Party acknowledges the Constitutional Provision on Education under the Fundamental Objectives and Directives Principles of State Policy as follows:

- i. Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels.
- ii. Government shall promote science and technology
- iii. Government shall strive to provide free primary and secondary education.
- iv. Government shall promote the learning of indigenous languages.

The Party considers education as a cultural process to raise the worth and dignity of mankind. Education is a life long activity taking place within the family, the society and the schools. We believe education is the mutual responsibility of the family, society and government.

Our philosophy on education is based on believe that education needs to be integrated with the technological and industrial systems of the country. The quality of our education should improve in accordance with the advancement of science and technology. Our emphasis on educational development should be on quality improvement of every level and type of education. There should be expansion of educational opportunities at the secondary school level in order to provide adequate places to absorb the products of free and compulsory education at the primary level. The Party in government shall pursue a Community based education policy to maximize opportunities. Accordingly, the Party in government shall be guided by the following objectives in educational development:

- i. Review and streamline the 6-3-3-4 system of education to deal with the problems experienced since its introduction several years ago.
- ii. Encourage the active participation of the organized private sector, parents, the community and voluntary organizations in the provision of educational opportunities.
- iii. Ensure political and moral education for the citizenry.
- iv. Provide a supportive and conducive environment for learning at all levels of education
- v. Promote equal educational opportunities for all citizens
- vi. Ensure the regular and prompt payments of teachers' salaries
- vii. Legally register and recognize teaching as a profession.
- viii. Support the education of the disabled

- ix. Provide increased resources, teaching and non teaching, and other infrastructures for mass literacy programmes in all parts of the country.

STRATEGY

In order to implement the above objectives, the following strategies shall be pursued;

1. PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION

Private individuals, corporate bodies and voluntary agencies shall be encouraged to participate in the provision of pre-primary education under government guidelines to ensure quality control.

2. PRIMARY EDUCATION

Every child of the primary school age shall be given a compulsory access to education through the use of indigenous language at this level of education. Minimise the number of school dropouts from this level of education, and encourage the formation of Parents/Teachers Association.

3. SECONDARY EDUCATION

Education at this level shall be functional and comprehensive. School drop-outs shall be prepared for vocational training, strengthen the schools inspectorate service to ensure the maintenance of prescribed minimum standards in facilities, equipment, curriculum, staffing and educational management

4. TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Encourage technical education for technological development. The need for partnership with the industries shall be stressed. To this end, industries shall be encouraged through incentives to participate in the development of technical and vocational education.

5. UNITY SCHOOLS

The people shall be sensitized on the need for national integration through Unity schools. Children from the diverse ethnic backgrounds of communities shall be admitted, with no regard to ethnic origin, religion, gender or class. Communities shall be encouraged to participate in the financing of unity schools, especially P.T.A.

6. SPECIAL EDUCATION

The handicapped shall be educated in order to promote the idea of self-help and meaningful living. More special schools shall be built to achieve this goal, and educational facilities shall also be extended to the nomadic herdsmen and migrant fishermen.

7. HIGHER EDUCATION

This level of education shall be further developed to be responsive to the needs of the labour market. Parents, the community and the industrial sector shall be encouraged to actively participate in the funding of higher education. This issue of university autonomy, improved funding and the conditions of service for all categories of staff will be carefully reviewed and resolved in order to restore stability and high standards to the Nation's higher education system.

8. TEACHER EDUCATION

Teacher education shall be promoted through:

- Staff development fellowship, which shall be supported by the government
- Improved facilities for the further training of teachers.

9. NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

The goal is the eradication of illiteracy in order to wipe out ignorance and disease. Accordingly, adult, vocational and special literacy programmes shall be set up for nomads, migrants, fishermen, school drop-outs, and other citizens who were not able to take advantage of formal education.

10. FUNDING EDUCATION

The funding of education shall be made a joint venture between the government, industrial sector, parent and the community. The Party in Government shall encourage and create more opportunities for the active participation of the organized private sector in the funding of education. The education tax shall be enforced. Relevant industries shall be encouraged to fund research and development activities in the universities and other tertiary institutions. The community shall be encouraged through positive policies to become active participants in the funding.

INTERNAL SECURITY AND NATIONAL DEFENCE

OBJECTIVE

1. Internal security, in all its responsibility is viewed by the Party as a collective responsibility requiring the coordinated efforts and services of specialized civil, para military, and the Military Institution and other intelligence Agencies. These institutions and agencies include:
 - i. The Police which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order
 - ii. The customs which is involved in checking illegal importation of contraband and prohibited goods e.g. arms capable of endangering public safety.
 - iii. Immigration which undertakes border patrols, and is responsible for checking the entry of illegal aliens at the borders and port of entry.
 - iv. Prisons establishment as punishment and reform institutions to keep convicted offenders and criminals away from the public.
 - v. Security intelligence Agencies, responsible for intelligence information gathering and analysis to alert Government Authorities.
 - vi. The Armed Forces, which is the military establishment, responsible for national defence, comprising Army, Navy and Airforces.
 - vii. The Populace the entire citizenry are expected to remain mobilized and security conscious, to safe-guard national integrity.

2. Subject to constitutional provisions, the Party's policy objectives on Internal Security and National Defence shall be:
 - i. The maintenance of national security and enforcement of law and order to secure public safety and safe guard the security of life and property in all parts of the country, including combating crime and other offences, which endanger public peace and internal security of the nation.
 - ii. Organisation and maintenance of well trained, highly efficient, professionally-oriented properly motivated and well-equipped Armed Forces, committed to the discharge of their traditional functions and the defence of the Constitution, and generally including:
 - a) Protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Nation by defending the country against internal subversion and external aggression
 - b) Act as deterrence factors in sustaining internal security and promotion of the Nation's foreign policy objectives.
 - c) Contribute to the protection and security of mankind by serving in Internal Peace Keeping Operations.
 - d) Undertaking special rescue operations of national significance whenever called upon to do so.

STRATEGY

In furtherance of the above policy objectives and to enable the specialized security and law enforcement agencies and the armed forces to discharge their duties faithfully and satisfactorily, the Party in Government will take the following measure

- i. Review carefully the current organizational and operational problems of the various spociazed agencies police, I m mi g rat on customs prisons, security services, and determined their basic needs arid requirements, interms of facilities, equipment, accommodation, transport and logistics, funding, staffing and other motivational factors, with a view to taking prompt remedial measures to strengthen their operational performance, competence and capability.

- ii. Ensure the highest standards of professionalism within the Nigerian Armed Forces, through properly planned career development, education and training, including overseas exposure, where necessary to enable the officers and men to continuously up-date and up-grade their knowledge, skills and experience, compatible with modern trends in military sciences and technology.
- iii. Acquire and ensure proper maintenance of suitable weapons and arms, to guarantee effective deterrence, and rapid response, to any external threats to our nation's territorial integrity and enhance the combat readiness of the Armed Forces.
- iv. Reduce over-dependence. on the use of imported weapons and enhance self-reliance, by encouraging local production of arms and military equipment, and thereby utilizing the available specialized skills and experience of technically qualified military personnel, using the facilities of the Defence Industries Corporation or other establishments which could be set up for that purpose.
- v. Take measures to improve the living conditions of the members of armed forces by providing suitable barracks accommodation for them, and continuously, monitoring the adequacy of welfare schemes to sustain morale and enhance professionalism.
- vi. Explore the possibility of engaging the engineering based professional corps of the military, to assist civil authorities in the execution of certain public works project, in order to take advantage of their technical skills and experience, as well as in keeping essential services functioning during periods of national crisis.

HUMAN RIGHTS

OBJECTIVES

The Party in Government is committed to policy objectives to uphold and enforces the Fundamental Human Rights as enshrined in chapter IV of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1995 as follows.

The right to life; dignity of the human person; right to eradicate corrupt practices; right to personal liberty; fair hearing: private family life; freedoms of thought, conscience and religion; freedom of expression and the press; right to peaceful assembly and association; freedom of movement; medical consultation; freedom from discrimination; right to acquire and own immovable property any where in the federation.

STRATEGY

In order to uphold the above human rights, the party will;

- (a) Provide necessary support to enable the recently established National Human Rights Commission to discharge its functions properly.
- (b) Ensure the effective functioning of the Code Conduct Tribunal and the Public Complaints Commission.
- (c) Guarantee the independence of the Judiciary.
- (d) Equip the Police and other Law Enforcement Agencies to enhance their operational performance in maintaining public peace and internal security.
- (e) Encourage the press and other Mass Media Agencies to perform their role in such a manner as to promote democratic culture in the country and demonstrate sensitivity to matters of national interest,
- (f) Re-orientate and sensitizes the citizenry to appreciate the fact that civil and political rights demand self discipline, responsibility and obligations.

ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVES

Issues on environment relate to conservation, pollution, protection and sustainable development. The major environmental problems in Nigeria

include; refuse disposal and management, desert/sea encroachment erosion and deforestation, industrial pollution as well as oil and gas pollution. Accordingly, the policy objectives of the party shall be;

- i. The projection and improvement of the environment to safe-guard our water, air and land resources, including forest, marines and wild life of the country.
- ii. To secure for all Nigerians a quality of environment adequate for their health and wellbeing.
- iii. Identify and bring under control those factors which degrade the environment in oil and solid minerals producing areas.
- iv. To restore, maintain and enhance the ecosystems and ecological process essential for the functioning of the biosphere.
- v. To preserve the biological diversity and the principle of optimum sustainable yield in the use of living, natural resources and ecosystems.

STRATEGIES

- i. Undertake a massive programme of environmental education and training in order to create public awareness, develop environmental consciousness and promote the understanding of essential linkages between environment and development, as well as encourage individual and community participation in environmental improvement effort.
- ii. Provide the necessary equipment, facilities and technical personnel to enable the Federal Environmental Protection Agencies (FEPA) to discharge with greater effectiveness its regulatory, monitoring, surveillance, and control function in all parts of the country
- iii. Ensure better planning of towns and villages for space allocation of facilities
- iv. Promote environmental conservation and take care of the flora, fauna and other resources of the land.
- v. Encourage the proper sitting and maintenance of green areas in every community for leisure and recreational purposes.

- vi. Resuscitate and increase budgetary allocation to the ecological fund, for the purpose of financing erosion control, oil pollution and desert encroachment in the affected parts of the country.

CULTURE, ETHNICITY, STATIM, CORRUPTION

OBJECTIVE

Culture is at the core of the life of every modern nation. The nation's heritage consists of its cultural resources, its material and non-material culture. These are what give it the dignity, its identity and defines the way of life of its people in the past and at present. It is the projection of the totality of a people's way of life.

Accordingly, the Party's objective will be to;

- (i) Protect, preserve and promote our cultural heritage which enhances human dignity.
- (ii) Encourage the development of technological and scientific studies which enhance cultural values.

The problems of ethnicity and statim derives from mistrust of other groups and fear of domination, to prevent possible marginalization and social deprivation. The incidence of corruption is traceable to excessive greed, poverty and inordinate ambition, as well as ineffective or nonexistence machinery for public accountability.

STRATEGY

In order to promote the Nation's cultural heritage, and fell with the problems of ethnicity, statim, and corruption, the Party is Government will;

- i. Promote cultural exchange programmes among States as strategy for national unity.
- ii. Encourage international exhibitions of the Nation's cultural heritage and resources.
- iii. Use the country's educational system as potent medium for transmitting cultural values and norms.

- iv. Encourage free inter-state mobility of people, goods and services to facilitate national integration.
- v. Establish residence rights for every citizen in all parts of the country.
- vi. Encourage inter-marriages among persons from different places of origin and ethnic groups.
- vii. Promote association that cut across religion, ethnic, linguistic or other sectional barriers.
- viii. Re-introduce moral education in schools
- ix. Design and implement credible national guidance and orientation programmes, to develop citizen consciousness in National Ethnics and Values of discipline, integrity, dignity of labour, social justice, religious tolerance, self-reliance and patriotism.
- x. Ensure that salaried personnel in public and private employment are paid adequate remuneration that enable them to maintain and sustain decent standard of living in order to reduce corrupt tendencies.
- xi. Institute measure programmes to alleviate inequality and poverty among the populace.
- xii. Ensure the emergence of professional political leaders at various levels, who can be trusted and are imbued with the ethnics and values of self-discipline honesty. integrity, selflessness and sacrifices and have respect for transparency and accountability, capable of providing leadership by example.

WOMEN IN POLITICS AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVES

Women, by virtues of their population and national endowment, constitute a very important segment of the Nation. The Party, therefore, recognizes the multiple role of women, as wives, mothers, citizens and workers, as well as their collective role in various aspects of national development, including economic and political development.

Over the years, Nigerian women have participated in the end economic life of the country, however the degrees of such participation is not very

significant relatives to their population. The policy objective of the Party, therefore, is that greater opportunities should be provided to enable more women at various levels to be brought into the mainstream of the political, economic, social and cultural activities in different parts of the country.

STRATEGIES

Accordingly, the Party in Government, in recognition of the experience, skills, disposition and potential of women, will be guided in its women development policy by the following strategies;

- i. Strengthen the institutional capacity of Women Commission and Agencies at Federal and State levels to enable greater effectiveness in their coordination of women development matters in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Women and Social Development.
- ii. Provide orientation programmes aimed at securing greater political awareness of women in their effective participation in decision making process at various levels.
- iii. Take appropriate measures to empower and integrate women into the overall development process, including their participation in agriculture, handi-crafts, small-scale ventures, health and family life, industries and commerce.
- iv. Give special attention and effective support to recognized professional Women Organizations and encourage them to reach out to the disadvantaged urban women in the informal sector as well as rural women, the villages and communities.
- v. Increase and diversify formal education and training opportunities of women and girls, within the context of overall national planning for manpower needs, to equip them for greater participation in the political and economic life of die nation.
- vi. Combat illiteracy among women by providing functional literacy and adult education programme in local languages, with a view to increasing awareness of their civic responsibilities and various political and economic opportunities around them.

- vii. Encourage the formation of Women Association that cut across ethnic, linguistic, religious or other sectional barriers, as a strategy for promoting women mobilization, empowerment and national integration.
- viii. Encourage women organisation to make extensive use of discussion forum and mass media communications to educate and enlighten public opinion on the values and potentials of women as partners-in-progress in the political, social and economic process of the Nation.
- ix. Ensure that political parties and government authorities, at different levels, involve duly qualified and capable women in higher administrative and policy-making responsibilities.
- x. Encourage those Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) whose primary activities focus on the development and advancement of women in Nigeria.

THE JUDICIARY

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensure that in the exercise of judicial powers vested in the structure of courts, the Judiciary upholds the constitution and in particular, conform to, observe and apply the Constitutional Provisions on the Fundamental Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy.
2. Strengthen the independence of the Judiciary by making it self-counting;
3. Enhance the access of citizens of the Courts;
4. Ensure that the operations of the Judicial system, at all levels, command the respect, trust and confidence of the populace and that integrity and equity are demonstrated in the decisions and judgment of the Courts.

STRATEGY

In furtherance of the above policy objectives, the Party in Government shall;

- i. Endeavour to create and sustain conducive and stable environment to enable the proper discharge of their constitutional functions by the Courts.
- ii. Strengthen the Judiciary to improve overall efficiency by adopting a strategy of Non interference in the exercise of the Powers of the National Judicial Council and Judicial Service Commission, to make appointments or exercise disciplinary control over persons.
- iii. Provide more court buildings, facilities and equipment as well as residential accommodation for judicial officers to enhance their operational effectiveness.
- iv. Expand and improve the facilities of the Judicial Institute to enhance its capacity to provide continuing professional education and training to all categories of Judicial Officers in order to up grade and up-date their knowledge, skills and experience necessary for the effective discharge of their judicial functions.
- v. Widen the scope and coverage of the Legal Aid Scheme to accommodate a greater number of citizens who deserve to benefit from the service.

MASS MEDIA IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

National development and the welfare of the citizens constitute the primary objectives of democratic governance. The media should be partner-in-progress with democracy, because a viable and articulate press is essential for the creation and sustenance of democracy. Accordingly, the Party acknowledges the Constitutional Provision on the obligations of the mass media, to wit, that the press, radio, television and other agencies of the mass media shall, at all times, be free to uphold the fundamental objectives and highlight the responsibilities and accountability of the Government to

the people. In order to further the interest of democracy, the Party accepts the objectives and functions of the mass media to be as follows:

- i. To convey information to the people with a view to letting them know how the mandate they gave their representatives is being discharged.
- ii. To provide a forum through which the governed could then react to government policies and activities.
- iii. To provide such analysis as would enable the people to secure an adequate understanding and background of events.
- iv. To assist in the articulation and pursuit of the national interest.
- v. To provide informed criticism and viable alternatives to public policies.
- vi. To help strengthen the economic, social and political fabric of the nation.
- vii. To monitor the performance of government with a view to preventing deviation from expressedly stated objectives.
- viii. To provide the medium for transmitting knowledge and for educating the populace..

STRATEGIES

- i. The Party in Government will endeavour to create a conducive atmosphere to facilitate the realization of the above objectives through building and maintaining mutual trust and respect between government and Agencies of mass media.
- ii. Media practitioners will be encouraged to be more constructive in their critical appraisal of actions taken by individuals or groups, including government officials, which are presumed to be in the national public interest.
- iii. Develop a new approach to the education, training and re-orientation of journalists and other media practitioners to see themselves as agents of development in the Nigerian democratization process.
- iv. Institutionalize periodic briefing of the press by appropriate Public Functionaries as a means of keeping the media abreast with major

developments and policy decisions in the various arms of government, and thereby providing opportunity for them to properly inform and educate the people, as well as express constructive opinion on such issues of public interest.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVES

The Party acknowledges the constitutional provision that “in recognition of the role of science and technology as an indispensable agent of sustainable economic development, government should direct its policy towards the urgent development, maintenance and continuous updating of an appropriate effective and productive national science and engineering infrastructure.

Accordingly, the Party’s objectives in pursuance of scientific and technological development shall be to:

- i. Re-appraise and review the existing state of science, technology and engineering infrastructure in the country and adopt measures to ensure the proper development and improvement of the nations science and technology base, and the appropriate application of science and technology in spear-heading continuing improvements in various sectors of the economy e.g. including agriculture, transport and communication industry, including agro-allied Industries, health and sanitation, energy, education and manpower, housing, urban development and environment.
- ii. Popularization of science and scientific attitudes generally among the populace.
- iii. Accord priority to the continuous development and improvement of human resources for the creation of a knowledge-skills, innovation and productive capacities to absorb and adapt imported technology as well as develop appropriate focal and indigenous technology for the identification, exploration, and exploitation of our natural resources.

STRATEGY

In order to implement the above policy objectives, the following strategies shall be pursued;

- i. Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology to enable it provide enhanced professional leadership in the supervision, coordination of the varied activities of research agencies under the Ministry's surveillance.
- ii. Take steps to improve the budgetary allocations research institutes to enable them upgrade the specialized scientific and technological research capability and facilities, to deal more effectively, with the various national development problems.
- iii. Resuscitate the Science and Technology Development Fund in financing related activities and provide incentives to encourage greater investment in research and development activities by the Organized Private Sector, including multinational companies, to promote innovation and competitiveness in industry and other sectors of the economy.
- iv. Undertake surveys of sciences and technology manpower requirements in all sectors of the economy, as a strategy for implementing specialized manpower training and utilization schemes.
- v. Encourage applied and adaptive research and take measures to implement relevant research findings to meet identified national development needs.
- vi. Ensure local processing of available raw materials for value added through the production of basic semi-finished and finished goods to reduce over-dependence on imported fully manufactured goods.
- vii. Promote national competitions in schools and the organisation of science and technology fairs as forum for the exhibition of indigenous technology.

ENERGY

Nigeria is well-endowed with large quantities of primary energy resources such as oil, coal, and natural gas. Also available are the renewable sources of hydro, wood, solar and wind. Energy is an essential input to all aspects of modern age. is the ;ifewre of naustria and agricultural production, the

fuel for transportation as well as for the generation of electricity in conventional thermal power plants. The party recognizes the need to continue to harness and develop the various energy sources for the nation's energy requirements and accelerated economic growth.

OBJECTIVES

- a. The Party will undertake a comprehensive and integrated energy policy review and analysis, which will systematically assess the national energy resources and draw up appropriate strategies for continuous exploration, exploitation, and utilization of each energy component for its premium uses in the overall national interest.
- b. The Party will also ensure that energy resources will be duly protected and optimally harnessed as well as defined as optimum choice of energy-sources, technology, financing and pricing to meet local demand and increased energy for export.

STRATEGIES

- i. Developing and maintaining an inventory of our energy resources, regular current and projected needs including human and material resources
- ii. Guaranteeing the continuity and adequacy of energy supply in the short, medium and long terms, including appropriate conservation policies.
- iii. Giving due and timely consideration to security and environmental protection of the public and the working population from hazards arising from the exploitation, conversion, transportation and utilization of energy.
- iv. Improving and intensifying our technological performance capability in the energy sector consistent with self-reliance and the need to attain economic competitiveness.
- v. Providing active support to research and development activities in all areas that will lead to improve energy supply and consumption.

- vi. Ensuring optimal use of all energy resources by specifically emphasizing renewable energy resources in the rural areas due to their reduced maintenance needs and the use of nuclear energy for electricity generation with its by products far boosting agriculture, health care and industrial production.
- vii. Providing a co-ordinated framework for the implementation of all energy issues:

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

OBJECTIVES

Transport and communications constitute a very vital sector of the Nigerian economy on which depends.

- i. Development in other sectors of the economy
- ii. The socio-economic Integration of the country;
- iii. Inter-state commerce and international trade The Party's will, therefore, ensure the effective planning, co-ordination, modernization and maintenance of the various transport and communication systems. i.e. Roads, Rail, Maritime, Air, Inland Waterways, and Telecommunications in order to maximize efficiency and safety.

1. ROAD TRANSPORT

- a. Undertake a survey of the condition of all Federal highways and State Roads, including feeder roads, as a basis for embarking on appropriate reconstruction, rehabilitation and maintenance works
- b. The responsibility of private sector participation in highways and bridges construction shall be seriously considered.
- c. The Federal Urban Transport Programme shall be reviewed to make it more effective.
- d. Connection of all State Capitals through interstate highways to the FCT, Abuja.

(ii) **RAILTRANSPORT**

- (a) Revitalization of the railways system through modernization, rehabilitation of tracks, procurements of new rolling stock, and improvement of all operational and management techniques
- (b) Construction of a modern standard gauge railway system across the length and breadth of the country

(iii) **AIR TRANSPORT**

- (a) Improvement and modernization of aviation infrastructure, compatible with international safety standard.
- (b) Continuous encouragement to private airline operators, subject to their meeting the required conditions and safety standards,

(iv) **MARITIME TRANSPORT AND INLAND WATERWAYS**

- (a) Renovation and modernization of the ports to enable them cope with growing traffic
- (b) Encouragement of Nigerian nationals to participate in international shipping and maritime trade
- (c) Local manufacture and maintenance of vessels for water transportation.
- (d) Greater utilization of inland water ways as alternative mode of transporting goods in the country.

(v) **COMMUNICATIONS**

- a. Re-organization of the nation's telecommunications and postal system in order to achieve greater efficiency in their operations.
- b. Modernization of communications equipment and facilities and ensuring that all operators within the industry comply with approved guideline and regulations of the Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC)
- c. Encouragement of private participation and investment in the sector.

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY OBJECTIVES

- (a) The Party shall ensure the mobilization and effective utilization of the labour force (men, women and youths both trained and untrained) for national development and social progress
- (b) Continuous improvement of the working no condition of the labour force both in the private and public sector of the national economy.

STRATEGIES

- i. Reduce unemployment and create gainful employment opportunities for all persons who are able and willing to work, through improvements in agriculture, industry and commercial; activities, in the formal and informal sectors, as away of achieving better living standards for the bulk of the population.
- ii. Undertake realistic manpower assessment, projections. planning and programme and continues monitoring of its development and proper utilization.
- iii. Re-organised and strength the various skill development and employment agencies to make them more functional and results-oriented.
- iv. Promote effective industrial relations through the instruments of collective bargaining and joint consultation in the determination of fair remuneration and other conditions of employment and disputes settlement through the processes of conciliation, mediation and arbitration.
- v. Review, harmonise and consolidate salary structure in our public service systems to narrow and/or close the gap with the private sector to streamline conditions of service generally in the country and attract best brains to the public sectors.

SOLID MINERALS DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The policy objectives in the sector shall:

- i. Encourage comprehensive exploitation of our minerals resources.
- ii. Ensure that policy guidelines to regulate the exploitation of various types of solid minerals by both public and private operators are put in place.

STRATEGY

The main thrust of the policy objective is to regulate the entire spectrums of the solid minerals development sector. For the attainment of these objectives the following steps shall be taken:

- i. Establishment of incentive packages and other infrastructures for investor in this sectors.
- ii. Intensive geological efforts to explore, for exploitation, all the nation's mineral resources.
- iii. The Nigerian Coal Corporation and the Nigerian Mining Corporation shall be strengthened and adequately funded to enable them carry out their statutory functions effectively.
- iv. Detailed information on the nation's mineral resources to be put together for the use of all interested investors at home and abroad.
- v. Commercialization and privatization of public mining operations shall be encouraged.
- vi. "Production Sharing Joint-Venture Arrangement" with both local and foreign investors shall be vigorously pursued.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGY

The youth of the nation constitute an important human resource for national development. To this end, the party shall adopt policies and strategies that will enhance the position of the youth in national development as follows:

- i. Ensure the reduction in the number of school drop-outs and destitute among the youth, through the provision of functional education and training opportunities for all.
- ii. Ensure that youth socialize through sports and cultural activities in order to ensure a smooth transition from youth to adulthood.
- iii. Develop programmes that will enable positive personality development for the youth.
- iv. Sensitizes families to bring up the youth to be disciplined, hardworking and patriotic citizens.
- v. Ensure that the National Youth Services Corps Scheme is revitalized to facilitate the development of our youths.
- vi. Facilitate skill development and employment opportunities for the youth and encourage them to engage in meaningful self-employment, through assistance and support to the apprenticeship system in the formal sector of the economy.
- vii. Ensure that no youth is exploited or abused.
- viii. Promote the development of different associations like the Boys Scout, Girls Guides, Youth Farmers Club, for the cognitive, psychological, physical and intellectual development of the youths.
- ix. Adopt policies that shall wipe out criminality, drug and substance abuse among youths, as well as permissiveness through pornography.
- x. Encourage youth exchange programmes among all state and the Federal Capital Territory.
- xi. Encourage the establishment of rehabilitation centres for youth affected by drug abuse, parent desertion, disability and delinquency.

TRADITIONAL RULERS

The Party acknowledges the fact that the federalism involves unit in diversity. Therefore, in considering the role of traditional institution and rules, with the context of a republican nation, the Party believes that each component modernize its own peculiar institutions to meet the legitimate

yearnings of their people. Traditional rulers in order to protect their position as fathers of the nation should not be involved in partism politics.

Accordingly, the Party in Government would recognize the followings as the role and functions of Traditional Rulers:

- i. Offer advice to the various levels of government authorities on matters referred to them, in furtherance of national development.
- ii. Serve as and custodian of the values ethics, culture and traditional of their communities.
- iii. Act as agents of peace stability, continuity or social development in their communities.
- iv. Advise on community development plans and programme within their domain.
- v. Advise on matters relating to customary laws and practices, art and cultural affairs, inter-communities relations and chieftaincy matters.
- vi. Assists the law enforcement agencies in maintenance public order within their domain.
- vii. Assist in the mobilization of human and material resources towards national integration, development projects, community self-reliance and welfare of the people.

THE CIVIL SERVICES

OBJECTIVES

The Civil Service provides the machinery for the formulation and implementation of Government Policies and programmes. The Service provides administrative and technical support for the discharge of Ministerial responsibilities and other Government functions, and it is involved with the administration of services and programmes to the public. The Civil Service is, therefore an indispensable institution for the effective functioning and performance of Government. In recognition of the important role of the Civil Service in the machinery of Government, the Party will pursue the following policy objectives.

- i. To develop an effective Civil Service which is results-oriented, committed and sensitive to the needs of the public, the economy and society.
- ii. To evolve a Civil Service which is professional and sufficiently motivated.
- iii. To make Government business more competitive and service-oriented.

STRATEGY

In order to realize the above objective, the following strategy shall be pursued:

- i. Ensure a conducive environment of work, providing necessary facilities and equipment to improve operational performance.
- ii. Review the organizational structure of Civil Service to enable prompt consideration of issues and decision making, which tend to be hindered by avoidable bureaucratic processes.
- iii. Undertake training needs analysis of the entire as a basis for determining performance deficiencies, and institute appropriate training and staff development programmes aimed at improvement of skills, knowledge, experience and attitudinal re-orientation.
- iv. Introduce an adequate structure of remuneration and incentive for the Civil Service to secure necessary motivation and commitment.
- v. Enforce an acceptable degree of probity and accountability in the Civil Services.
- vi. Enforce the implementation of the Federal Character principle in appointments into the Civil Services.
- vii. Minimize unnecessary and too frequent reforms of the civil service, to create some measure of stability in the system, and ensure the proper implementation of previously approved reform measure, so that Civil Servants can develop the required confidence in the management of their career.