

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984



ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

Dissolution of Political Parties, etc.

1. Dissolution of political parties.
2. Dissolution, etc. of States creation movements and other like bodies.
3. Prohibition of the formation of new political parties and similar associations, etc.
4. Banning of party slogans, etc.
5. Powers of the police or armed forces in relation to political parties or associations, etc.
6. Unlawful processions.
- Assets and Liabilities of dissolved Parties, etc.*
7. Assets and liabilities of a political party or association, etc.
8. Forfeiture of seized articles to Federal Military Government.
9. Forfeiture of assets and liabilities of political parties named in the Schedule to this Decree.
10. Discharge of liabilities.
11. Printed documents, etc.
12. Power to dissolve tribal unions or

cultural organisations in a district or town.

Offences and trial thereof

13. Offences, penalties and jurisdiction of Tribunal, etc.
14. Establishment of Tribunals.
15. Rules of procedure and institution of proceedings.
16. Power to issue search warrants.

Supplementary

17. Exceptions as to *bona fide* unions, societies or associations formed for certain purposes.
18. Exclusion of rights.
19. Interpretation.
20. Citation and commencement.

SCHEDULES

Schedule I—Dissolved Political Parties.

Schedule 2—Political Parties (Dissolution) Tribunal Rules of Procedure.

Decree No. 9

[31st December 1983]

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows :—

Commence-
ment.

Dissolution of Political Parties, etc.

1.—(1) Every political party named in Schedule 1 to this Decree is hereby dissolved.

Dissolution
of political
parties.

(2) The Head of the Federal Military Government shall have power to designate any association of three or more persons which, in his opinion, has identical or similar objectives to that of a political party and such association shall, for the purposes of this Decree, be deemed to be dissolved as from the date of the notice of such dissolution in the *Gazette*.

(3) A political party or association shall cease to carry out any activities, duties or functions for which it was formed or as may be conferred on the political party or association by any enactment (including the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979) or its constitution or rules or regulations.

(4) No person shall manage, take part in or encourage the management of such political party or similar association.

(5) No person shall take part in any meeting of such political party or association whether or not such meeting takes place in public or in private premises.

(6) No person shall take part in any procession conducted by any such political party or association or any person associated with the association or acting in furtherance of the aims of such political party or association.

Dissolution,
etc. of States
creation
movements
and
other like
bodies.

2. All movements and organisations (howsoever known or designated) established for the creation of more States or local governments in Nigeria or for boundary adjustments or otherwise meant to promote ethnic differences or likely to destroy or disrupt the unity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are hereby, without any further assurance, dissolved, and accordingly, the provisions of this Decree shall, subject to such modifications (whether by way of addition, alteration or omission) as may be necessary, apply in relation to any such movement as they apply in respect of a political party under this Decree.

Prohibition
of the
formation
of new
political
parties and
similar
associations,
etc.

3.—(1) As from the date of commencement of this Decree, no new association within the meaning of this section shall, by whatever name or title it may be called, be formed.

(2) No person shall form or manage, take part in or assist in the formation or management of any such new association.

(3) Any new association formed after the date of commencement of this Decree shall be deemed to be a political party or association within the meaning of this Decree and may be so designated in accordance with section 1 (2) of this Decree.

(4) In this section, "new association" means any new association of three or more persons having an identical or similar objectives to that of a political party or any association mentioned in section 1 or 2 of this Decree.

Banning of
party
slogans,
etc.

4.—(1) No person shall, with a view to furthering any political interest whatsoever, or to causing annoyance, public disorder or a breach of the peace—

(a) display or advertise in any form whatsoever, signs or symbols of any political party or association, its flags, insignia or emblems ; or

(b) whether by spoken words or in writing or any other form whatsoever, utter or shout publicly any political slogan, political name or nick-name of any member of the community or of any member of a political party or association.

(2) Any person who displays or advertises signs or symbols, flags, insignia or emblems of a political party or association, or utters or shouts any political slogan, political name or nick-name of any member of the community or of a member of a political party or any association shall be deemed to have done so with the intent stated in this section, unless he shall prove the contrary.

5.—(1) Any member of the armed forces or the Police Force authorised in writing by the designated officer may enter, with the assistance of such number of other members of the armed forces or the Police Force or other persons as may be deemed necessary in any appropriate case, any house, building or any place whatsoever in which such designated officer has reason to believe that a meeting of a political party or any association or of persons who were or are members of such association is being held.

Powers of the police or armed forces in relation to political parties or associations, etc.

(2) Any such police officer or member of the armed forces may—

(a) arrest any person found in such house, building or place, whom he has reasonable cause to believe is or was connected with such political party or association or is connected with the purposes of such political party, association or meeting ;

(b) search such house, building or place ;

(c) seize all insignia, banners, books, papers, documents and other chattels of the political party or association, which he may have reasonable cause to believe belonged to any such political party or association or to be in any way connected with the purposes of the political party, association or meeting.

6.—(1) Any procession of three or more persons which, in the opinion of the designated officer is of a political nature shall, notwithstanding anything in any other enactment, be deemed to be an unlawful procession, and such designated officer shall, after making or causing to be made a command in the name of the Head of the Federal Military Government in such words as he thinks fit to the persons in the procession to disperse peaceably, thereafter take such steps as are reasonably necessary to disperse them if, within five minutes after the command, they fail to commence to disperse.

Unlawful processions.

(2) Any persons who, being so assembled, continue together to the number of three or more, and do not disperse themselves within the space of a quarter of an hour after the giving of the command, are guilty of an offence, and each of them is liable on conviction, to imprisonment for a term of three years.

Assets and Liabilities of dissolved parties, etc.

7.—(1) The following provisions shall apply in relation to the assets and liabilities of a political party or association.

Assets and liabilities of a political party or association, etc.

(2) Every party leader and treasurer of a political party or association, or any branch thereof shall, within thirty days from the date of commencement of this Decree or such extension of that period as the designated officer may permit, file with the designated officer the following, that is to say—

(a) a list of the assets of the political party or association, including cash in hand or in bank, stocks and shares and other choses in action, and such other movable or immovable property of such political party or association in the possession or control of the political party or association or a member of such political party or association or any other person ;

(b) the full details of any existing liabilities of the political party or association ;

(c) a list of the officers of the political party or association as from 1st October, 1979 including trustees, patrons, guarantors and such other persons as may be specified by the designated officer (whether or not the scope of duty of such officers of the political party or association, trustees, patrons or guarantors extends throughout the Federation).

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (5) no person shall, after the commencement of this Decree, transact any business, or in any manner whatsoever deal with any assets of any political party or association in the possession or control of any person, except with the prior written permission of the Head of the Federal Military Government.

(4) The Head of the Federal Military Government or any person authorised by him in writing in that behalf shall have power to appoint such suitable person or persons as he may deem fit, who shall have power to make recommendations to the Federal Military Government as to the discharge of any debts or liabilities of the political party or association, and as to the disposal of any assets of the political party or association.

(5) The provisions of subsection (3) of this section shall not apply to any *bona fide* approved educational institution owned or operated by a political party or association until a period of 30 days from the making of this Decree.

Forfeiture
of seized
articles to
the Federal
Military
Government.

8. Any insignia, banners, books, papers, documents, flags, emblems or other chattels belonging to any political party or association seized by the police or a member of the armed forces at any meeting in accordance with section 5 (2) (c) of this Decree or during any procession, shall, notwithstanding section 6 of this Decree, be forfeited to the Federal Military Government and such articles shall be delivered to the designated officer or to the nearest police station, and shall be dealt with in such manner as the Head of the Federal Military Government may thereafter direct.

Forfeiture of
assets and
liabilities
of political
parties
named in
Schedule 1
to this
Decree.

9.—(1) The assets and liabilities of any of the political parties named in Schedule 1 to this Decree shall be dealt with and disposed of and, as the case may be, be discharged as prescribed in the following provisions of this section.

(2) Subject to the following provisions of this section, the assets of any of the said political parties are hereby forfeited to the Federal Military Government and for enabling effect to be given to the provisions of this subsection—

(a) assets in cash lodged in any bank shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Federation ;

(b) assets in the form of negotiable securities or choses in action (howsoever described) shall be registered by the person duly authorised in that behalf in the name of the Federal Military Government ;

(c) assets in the nature of immovable properties shall be registered by the person duly authorised in that behalf (by whatever name known) without any further assurance and without payment of any fee in the name of the Federal Military Government ; and

(d) assets in the nature of immovable property shall be disposed of by the Government of the State in which the property is situated ;
and effect shall be given to the provisions of this section on the production of any instrument in writing signed by the designated officer and on the delivery of the same to any person duly authorised to receive it or apparently in possession or control of such assets, or in charge of the office or place where the assets are lodged.

(3) In subsection (2) of this section "person duly authorised" includes the registrar of companies, registrar of business names or registrar of titles or registrar of deeds of land, howsoever designated.

(4) Any assets which shall hereafter, as from the commencement of this Decree, be filed with the designated officer or of which he shall become aware, being assets of any of the said political parties, shall in like manner be forfeited and disposed of as aforementioned.

10.—(1) It shall be the responsibility of the Federal Military Government to dispose of all claims in respect of any preferred liabilities out of those assets that are available at the commencement of this Decree.

Discharge
of
liabilities.

(2) All claims in respect of any preferred liability of any political party shall in the first instance be addressed to the designated officer who shall be responsible for forwarding the claims to the Federal Military Government.

(3) On any application for the purposes of any claim in respect of any preferred liability, the Federal Military Government shall consider—

(a) the sources of such assets ; and

(b) the details of any claims to ownership.

(4) For the purposes aforesaid, the Federal Military Government may, as suitable and subject to the provisions of this Decree, apply with any necessary modifications the provisions of any law, rule or regulations of a State as to the procedure for the processing of such claims and for the mode of discharging any such liability.

(5) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any enactment, no claim, other than a claim in respect of any preferred liability, which shall be paid in full and in the order in which it is received by the designated officer, shall be entertained by him, and any such liability (not being any preferred liability) shall be written off by that officer or any person affected by this Decree as a bad debt.

(6) The reference in this section to a "claim in respect of any preferred liability" is a reference to any claim for the discharge of any liability of a political party or association by the Government of the Federation or the Government of a State or any governmental agency, whether of the Federation or of a State and the words "preferred liability" shall be construed, accordingly.

11. Notwithstanding section 10 of this Decree, all such insignia, banners, books, papers, documents, flags, emblems or other similar chattels or paraphernalia belonging to any political party or association in the possession or control of the designated officer or the Federal Military Government pursuant to the provisions of this Decree shall be delivered by the designated officer and be deposited with the National Archives of Nigeria (established under section 3 of the Public Archives Act) and kept permanently therein for safe custody and preservation.

Printed
documents,
etc.

Cap. 163.

12. The Head of the Federal Military Government shall, notwithstanding sections 1, 2 and 3 above, have power to dissolve, by an order published in the *Gazette*, any tribal, cultural or social association of three or more persons existing before or after the commencement of this Decree, not being a political party or association which, in his opinion is carrying on any activity similar to a political party or association or which is used as a platform for such activity ; and the provisions of this Decree shall apply in relation to such tribal, cultural or social association as they apply to a political party.

Power to
dissolve
tribal
unions or
cultural
organisa-
tions in a
district or
town.

Offences and trial thereof

Offences
and
penalties.

13. Any person who contravenes the provisions of the following, that is to say—

(a) sections 1 (4), 3 (2) and 7 (3) of this Decree, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 5 years ;

(b) sections 1 (6) and 3 of this Decree, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction, to imprisonment for a term of not less than 3 years ;

(c) sections 1 (5) and 4 (2) of this Decree, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than 2 years ;

(d) paragraph (a) of section 7 (2) by wilfully concealing assets or failing to furnish a list of assets shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term of not less than three years, and in addition the tribunal convicting him may order forfeiture of all or any of the assets not disclosed to the Federal Military Government or the Government of a State in accordance with sections 8 and 9 of this Decree.

Establish-
ment of
tribunals.

14.—(1) Any offender under this Decree may be brought before the tribunal constituted for the trial of offences under this Decree and such tribunal shall have and may exercise jurisdiction for the trial of any such offence under this Decree, and shall impose the penalties provided for in this section, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any other enactment.

(2) A tribunal for the trial of offences under this Decree shall be constituted by the Head of the Federal Military Government and shall comprise—

(a) a serving or retired Judge of a High Court or a court of equivalent jurisdiction as the Chairman thereof ; and

(b) three officers of the armed forces not below the rank of major or its equivalent as the other members :

Provided that no person who has taken part in the search for, pursuit or apprehension of any person to be tried under this Decree or who has taken part in the investigation of the offence to be tried shall sit as a member of a tribunal constituted for the trial of that person.

Rules of
procedure
and
institution
of
proceedings.

15.—(1) The rules of procedure to be adopted in prosecutions for offences under this Decree before a tribunal and the forms to be used in such proceedings shall be as set out in Schedule 2 to this Decree.

(2) Prosecutions for offences under this Decree shall be instituted before a tribunal in the name of the Federal Republic of Nigeria by the Attorney-General of the Federation or such officer in the Federal Ministry of Justice as he may authorise so to do and, in addition thereto, he may after consultation with the Attorney-General of any State in the Federation, authorise the Attorney-General of the State or any officer of the Ministry of Justice concerned to undertake any such prosecution or assist therein.

Provided that the question whether any or what authority has been given in pursuance of this subsection shall not be inquired into by any person other than the Attorney-General of the Federation.

(3) Any person accused of any offence under this Decree shall be entitled to defend himself in person or by a person of his own choice who is a legal practitioner resident in Nigeria.

16. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other enactment conferring power to search, if the Chairman of a tribunal is satisfied that there is reasonable ground to suspect that there may be found in any building or other place whatsoever, any money or other property or any books, records, accounts, statements or information in any other form whatsoever, which, in his opinion, are or may be, he may issue a warrant under his hand authorising any police officer or any member of the armed forces or any security agencies to enter, if necessary by force, the said building or other place and every part thereof, and to search for, seize and remove any such thing as aforesaid found therein.

Power to
issue search
warrants.

Supplementary

17.—(1) Subject to subsection (2) of this section, nothing in this Decree shall apply to any town development union (membership of which is open to all the inhabitants of the town) or to any society or association of 3 or more persons formed for the advancement of sports, religion, culture, charitable or co-operative purposes or under the Trade Unions Act 1973, or other similar society or association having a non-political objective.

Exceptions
as to bona-
fide unions,
societies or
associations
formed for
certain
purposes.
1973 No. 31.

(2) The benefit of subsection (1) above shall not apply to any union, society or association mentioned in that subsection which engages in or carries on any activity similar to that of a political party or association or is used as a platform for engaging in or carrying on such activity.

18.—(1) The provisions of this Decree shall apply notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any enactment (including the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979); and nothing in this Decree shall give rise to any claim or right by any person or association—

Exclusion of
rights.

(a) in respect of any act, matter or thing whatsoever done or purported to be done under this Decree;

(b) for the determination of any question whatsoever connected therewith before a court of law; and

(c) against any person or authority acting or purporting to act in accordance with any of the provisions of this Decree.

(2) No civil proceedings shall be instituted against the Federal Military Government or any Military Governor of a State or any person authorised in that behalf for the recovery of or compensation for any asset (movable or immovable) disposed of or forfeited pursuant to or in accordance with the provisions of this Decree.

19. In this Decree—

Interpre-
tation.

“designated officer” means the Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, the Inspector-General of Police or such other member of the armed forces or the Police Force or other person who may in writing be authorised by the Chief of Army Staff, the Chief of Naval Staff, the Chief of Air Staff or the Inspector-General of Police to perform any or all the functions conferred on a designated officer by or under this Decree; and

“political party or association” means any body, corporate or unincorporate, of three or more persons, pursuing or united in pursuing

a political cause or objective or having as its aim or one of its aims a political cause or objective (by whatever name such association may be called), and includes any political, tribal or cultural association or any other society or association from time to time designated under the provisions of this Decree by the Head of the Federal Military Government by notice published in the *Gazette* and includes any movement or organisation referred to in section 2 of this Decree ;

"State" includes the Federal Capital Territory.

Citation and
commence-
ment.

20.—(1) This Decree may be cited as the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

(2) This Decree shall be deemed to have come into force on 31st December 1983.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

(Section 1)

DISSOLVED POLITICAL PARTIES

1. Great Nigeria Peoples Party
(GNPP)
2. National Party of Nigeria
(NPN)
3. Nigeria Advance Party
(NAP)
4. Nigeria Peoples Party
(NPP)
5. Peoples Redemption Party
(PRP)
6. Unity Party of Nigeria
(UPN)

SCHEDULE 2

(Section 15)

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) TRIBUNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Commencement and Conduct of Trial

Institution
of
Proceedings.

1. The trial of offences under this Decree shall commence by way of an application, supported by evidence on affidavit, made to the tribunal by the prosecutor.

2. Where after perusal of the application and the evidence on affidavit or any further evidence in such form as the tribunal may consider necessary, the tribunal is satisfied that any person appears to have committed any offence under this Decree it shall cause that person to be brought before the tribunal on such date and at such time as it may direct.

Order on an accused to appear.

3.—(1) When the tribunal is ready to commence the trial the accused shall be brought before it and the tribunal shall read or cause to be read to him the substance of the complaint against him and he shall be asked whether he is guilty of the offence or offences charged.

Commencement of trial.

(2) If the accused pleads guilty the plea shall be recorded and he may in the discretion of the tribunal be convicted thereon.

4. If the accused pleads not guilty or makes no plea or refuses to plead the tribunal shall proceed to try the case.

Plea of not guilty or no plea.

5.—(1) After a plea of not guilty has been taken or no plea has been made the prosecutor may open the case against the accused, stating briefly by what evidence he intends to prove the guilt of the accused.

Presentation of case for prosecution.

(2) The prosecutor shall then examine the witnesses for the prosecution who may be cross-examined by the accused or his counsel and may thereafter be re-examined by the prosecutor.

6.—(1) After the conclusion of the presentation of evidence by the prosecutor the tribunal shall ask the accused—

Procedure after presentation of evidence by the prosecution.

(a) whether he wishes to give evidence on his own behalf ; and

(b) whether he intends to call witnesses other than witnesses to character.

(2) If the accused says that he does not intend to call any witnesses other than witnesses to character, the prosecutor may sum up his case against the accused and the tribunal shall then call upon the accused to enter upon the defence.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2) of this rule, the tribunal may, after hearing the evidence for the prosecution, if it considers that the evidence against the accused or any of several accused is not sufficient to justify the continuation of the trial, record a finding of not guilty in respect of such accused without calling upon him or them to enter upon the defence and such accused shall thereupon be discharged and acquitted and the tribunal shall then call upon the remaining accused, if any, to enter upon the defence.

(4) If the accused or any one of several accused says that he intends to call any witness other than a witness to character, the tribunal shall call upon the accused to enter upon the defence.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (4) of this rule, the tribunal may, before calling upon the accused to enter upon the defence, call upon the prosecutor to sum up his case against any one or more of the accused against whom it considers that the evidence is not sufficient to justify the continuation of the trial and, after hearing the summing up, if any, may in its discretion record a finding of not guilty in respect of any such accused or call upon any of them to enter upon his or their defence.

Defence.

7. When the tribunal calls upon the accused to enter upon the defence the accused or his counsel may open his case stating the facts or law on which he intends to rely and making such comments as he thinks necessary on the evidence for the prosecution, and the accused may then give evidence on his own behalf, examine his witnesses, if any, and, after their cross-examination and re-examination, if any, the accused or his counsel may sum up his case.

Right of prosecutor to reply.

8.—(1) If the accused or any of the accused calls any witness other than to character or any document other than a document relating to character is put in evidence for the defence the prosecutor shall be entitled to reply.

(2) If the accused has called only evidence to character, the prosecutor may at the close of the case for the defence adduce evidence of previous convictions of the accused, if any.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this rule, in any case, with the leave of the tribunal, the prosecutor may be heard in reply on a point of law or, where none of the accused has adduced evidence other than to character but any of them has introduced new matter in his statement to the tribunal, on such new matter.

Consideration of finding.

9. When the case for the defence and the reply of the prosecutor, if any, are concluded and the tribunal does not desire to put any further question to the accused, the tribunal shall retire or adjourn to consider its finding.

Announcement of finding.

10. After the tribunal has made its finding the Chairman shall announce that finding and, where the accused is found guilty, it shall impose the appropriate penalty prescribed by this Decree and issue a committal warrant accordingly.

Notes of evidence to be taken.

11.—(1) The Chairman of the tribunal shall in every case take notes in writing of the oral evidence, or so much thereof as he considers is material, in a book to be kept for that purpose and such book shall be signed by the Chairman and by two other members of the tribunal.

(2) The record so kept as aforesaid or a copy thereof purporting to be signed and certified as a true copy by the Chairman shall, without further proof, be admitted as evidence of such proceedings and of the statements made by the witnesses.

*Supplemental***Issue of summons for witness.**

12. If the tribunal is satisfied that any person is likely to give material evidence for the prosecution or for the defence the tribunal may issue a summons to such person requiring him to attend, at a time and place to be mentioned therein, before the tribunal to give evidence respecting the case and to bring with him any specified documents or things and any other documents or things relating thereto which may be in his possession or power or under his control.

Warrant for witness after summons.

13. If the person to whom any such summons is directed does not attend before the tribunal at the time and place mentioned therein, and there does not appear to the tribunal on inquiry to be any reasonable excuse for such non-attendance, then after proof to the satisfaction of the tribunal that the summons was duly served or that the person to whom the summons is

directed wilfully avoids service, the tribunal, on being satisfied that such person is likely to give material evidence, may issue a warrant to apprehend him and to bring him, at the time and place to be mentioned in the warrant, before the tribunal in order to testify as aforesaid.

14. It shall be the duty of the tribunal to make or cause to be made such local inspection as the circumstances of the case may require.

Local inspection.

15. Subject to the express provisions, if any, of these rules the forms contained in the Annex hereunder may, in accordance with any instruction contained in the said forms, and with such variations as the circumstances of the particular case may require be used in the cases to which they apply, and, when so used, shall be good and sufficient in law.

Forms.

16. Where these rules contain no provision in respect of any matter relating to or connected with the trial of offences under this Decree the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code or, depending on the venue the Criminal Procedure Act shall, with such modifications as the circumstances may require, apply, in respect to such matter to the same extent as they apply to the trial of offences generally.

Application of Criminal Procedure Code or Act.

17. In these rules "the prosecutor" means the Attorney-General of the Federation or any person authorised by him pursuant to section 15 of this Decree.

Interpretation.

ANNEX

(Rule 15)

FORMS

FORM 1

APPLICATION TO COMMENCE TRIAL OF AN OFFENCE UNDER THE POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

.....State

To : The Chairman,
Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984

.....
.....
.....

Pursuant to section 15 of the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984 I hereby apply for the commencement of a trial for the offence of

(i)

.....under section
.....of the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984 against the under-mentioned person :—

(ii)

2. In support of this application I attach hereto.....copies of evidence on affidavit for the consideration of the Tribunal.

3. If this application is granted, I shall be relying on the facts disclosed in the affidavits and any further evidence the Tribunal may consider necessary at the trial. I attach hereto four copies of the charge against the accused. A list of the deponents and their addresses is also attached for the purpose of issuing witness summons on them.

.....
Prosecutor

.....
(i) Insert the offence.

(ii) Insert the name of accused.

FORM No. 2

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

SUMMONS TO ACCUSED

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

To A.B. of.....

Complaint has been made this day by.....

.....for that you on the
.....day ofat
in the.....did

You are therefore summoned to appear before the tribunal mentioned above sitting at

onto answer the said complaint.

DATED theday of19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

FORM No. 3

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

WARRANT FOR APPREHENSION OF ACCUSED

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

..... Accused

To Police Officer

Complaint has been made on of

by that

hereinafter called the accused, on the day of

..... did

You are hereby commanded to bring the accused before the tribunal mentioned above sitting at on to answer the said complaint and be dealt with according to law.

DATED the day of 19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

.....
State concisely the substance of the offence.

FORM No. 4

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

SUMMONS TO WITNESS

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

..... Accused

To (i).....

(ii).....

has been charged by (iii)

at..... in.....

that he did (iv)

and it appearing to me on the application of (iii).....

..... that you are likely to give material evidence therein on behalf of the prosecutor (or accused).

You are therefore summoned to appear before the tribunal named above sitting at..... on the..... day of.....

19..... at the hour of..... in the noon, to testify what you know in such matter.

DATED the..... day of..... 19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

(i) Insert name of witness

(ii) Insert name of accused.

(iii) Insert name of prosecutor or, if applicable, the accused.

(iv) State concisely the substance of the offence.

FORM No. 5

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

WARRANT FOR APPREHENSION OF WITNESS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

To.....

A. B. has been charged by.....

for that he on the.....

day of..... at.....

in the..... State

did _____

And it appearing to me by the oath of _____
that E.F. is likely to give material evidence concerning the said matter, and
that it is probable he will not attend to give evidence unless compelled to
do so.

You are therefore hereby commanded to bring him before the tribunal
named above sitting at _____
forthwith to testify what he knows concerning the said matter.

DATED the _____ day of _____ 19 _____

Chairman of the Tribunal

FORM No. 6

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

WARRANT FOR APPREHENSION OF A WITNESS

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties
(Dissolution) Decree 1984.

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

Accused

To _____ Police Constable or to each and all the Constables
of _____

(i) _____ was duly summoned to
appear before the tribunal named above sitting at _____
on _____ at the hour of _____
in the _____ noon, to testify what he knows concerning a
certain complaint against _____

And he has neither appeared thereto, nor offered any just excuse for his neglect.

And it has been proved on oath that the summons has been duly served on him (and that a reasonable sum has been paid (or tendered) to him for his costs and expenses in that behalf).

You are therefore hereby commanded to bring him before the tribunal named above sitting at.....forthwith to testify what he knows concerning the said matter.

DATED the.....day of.....19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

FORM No. 7

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

WARRANT FOR COMMITMENT OF WITNESS

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

.....Accused
To.....and to the
Superintendent of.....Prison

(i)having appeared or
been brought before the tribunal named above sitting at.....
on the day.....19..... to testify what he knows concerning a
certain matter against (ii).....refused to take an oath
(or having taken an oath) refused to answer any (or a certain) question put
to him concerning the matter and did not offer any just excuse for his refusal.

You the said Police Officer are hereby commanded to convey the said
.....safely to the prison, and deliver him to the
Superintendent thereof, together with this warrant and you, the
Superintendent of the said prison, to receive him into your custody and
keep him for the period of.....unless he in the meantime
consents to be examined and to answer concerning the matter.

DATED the..... day of..... 19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

.....
(i) *Insert name of witness.*

(ii) *Insert name of accused.*

FORM No. 8

POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

COMMITMENT ON REMAND

In the Tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

..... Accused.

To Officer-in-charge of

..... Police Station and the
Superintendent of prison.

(i) hereinafter called the accused being
brought before the tribunal named above, sitting at charged
with having (ii)

The hearing of the case being adjourned :

You the said Police Officer are hereby commanded to convey the
accused from police custody at to the said prison,
and there to deliver him to the Officer-in-charge/Superintendent thereof,
together with this Warrant, and you, the Officer-in-charge/the Superintendent
of the said prison to receive him into your custody, and keep him until the

..... day of 19..... and on that day to convey him
before the said tribunal at the hour of in the
noon to be further dealt with according to law.

DATED the day of 19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

(i) *Insert name of Accused.*

(ii) *State the Offence or Offences.*

**Delete whichever does not apply.*

FORM No. 9

¶ POLITICAL PARTIES (DISSOLUTION) DECREE 1984

In the tribunal for the trial of offences under the Political Parties (Dissolution) Decree 1984.

WARRANT OF CONVICTION

Between

The Federal Republic of Nigeria

and

..... Accused.

(i) having appeared before the tribunal named above sitting at is this day convicted for that he, on the day of 19..., at within the did

(ii)
And it is adjudged that the accused, for his said offence be sentenced to (iii) and the accused shall until the conviction be kept in custody at (iv)

DATED the day of 19.....

.....
Chairman of the Tribunal

- (i) *Insert name of accused.*
- (ii) *State offence or offences for which accused is convicted.*
- (iii) *Insert the tribunal's sentence.*
- (iv) *Insert place of custody.*

MADE at Lagos this 2nd day of April 1984.

MAJOR-GENERAL MUHAMMADU BUHARI,
*Head of the Federal Military Government,
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria*

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the above Decree but is intended to explain its purpose)

The Decree provides for the dissolution of political parties and other similar associations and forfeiture and disposal of, and the discharge of, all the assets and liabilities of the dissolved political parties and associations.

Only claims in respect of the liabilities of such societies by the Government of the Federation or the Government of a State and governmental agencies are to be entertained under the Decree, and all other liabilities shall be written off as bad debts.

The Decree also provides that all insignia, banners, books, papers, documents, flags, emblems or other chattels or paraphernalia of the political parties and other associations are to be forfeited to the Federal Military Government and are to be deposited in the National Archives of Nigeria for safe custody and preservation.

Provision is also made for the establishment of tribunals to try offences under the Decree.