



CONSTITUTION

OF

**SEYCHELLES NATIONAL ALLIANCE PARTY**

## PREAMBLE

“Our country and its people have gone through an intense political transformation over the last half of the century in search of peace and prosperity in a democratic and sovereign small island state. However, it was a journey of political turmoil marred by political, social and economic injustices that brought political division, polarity, lack of trust in the political leadership and institution, thus leaving our people at a crossroad of uncertainty. With the objective of redressing the situation and the opportunity given to participate in the next General Elections, the **Seychelles National Alliance Party (SNAP)** is formed and pledge therefore to unite our people, do what it takes to heal our divided country and bring justice and closure to those affected over the so many years, thus extinguishing the blaze of hatred which has cursed our nation for too long. The rule of law must be valued and separation of powers must not only be said but must be visible within the four pillars of our society; the Executive, the Legislature, the Judiciary and Freedom of Speech and right to information. On this platform, the **SNAP** in government will enter into a new social and economic reform to empower the less fortunate, working people and businesses, to create the environment for equal opportunity and prosperity for all and a dignified retirement and social security programme. We aim to provide high quality health care as a right for every Seychellois through a subsidized health Insurance programme. We aim to reform our judicial system to guarantee its independence to ensure obedience of the law, swift judicial process and that truly no one is above the law. The rights of our citizens as enshrined in our Constitution will be equally guaranteed for all and no discrimination against anyone or groups in whatever form and against fundamental political and civil rights, penalized by the law, will be tolerated. **SNAP** believes that education is a critical public good and therefore in its quest to alleviate many social ills and reinforce social fabrics, will emphasized that education should start from home and other educational facilities and institutions will educate at higher level. Every child must have early childhood education and quality affordable child care. Secondary education would be competitive and to the highest level for the academics while leveraging our geographical comparative advantage as potential regional Centers of Excellence such as Blue Economy, tourism and other emerging sectors. Ideally, we will endeavor to build opportunity to everyone and eventually localize as many positions as allowable in both public and through consultations with private sectors. With more and better jobs, we will adjust the remunerations to fit the job as economically permissible and ensure job security. **SNAP** will honour our women and men in both the Police Force and the Defense Forces and our veterans who respectively continue to fulfill their responsibilities and who have

contributed much in the past. We will strive for better security for the people and their properties and we will continue to adapt to the needs and aspirations of our society and maximize on the use of available resources inclusive of manpower to fight crimes and any emerging threats and to protect our sovereignty and ensure utmost security within our Exclusive Economic Zone and territory. The **SNAP** will build on existing relations with local and foreign partners and stakeholders, respect international declarations, conventions and norms, uphold and maintain our independence as a sovereign state, territorial integrity, and democratic principles and reserve our non-allied stance. **SNAP** take pride in conserving our environment, culture and tradition which are also an attraction to our visitors. Therefore, we will direct much resources and implement policies to enhance and protect the uniqueness of our environment and island life and we will collaborate with national and international partners in our pursuit to ensure cleaner footprint for generations to come and protect our heritage as Seychellois. **SNAP** will forge a more inclusive, resilient, brighter and more equitable society without any fear and where every man is indeed free. We pledge to keep our democratic values, our purpose and promises for a better government to all. In this endeavor, we welcome everyone who desire to participate in this National Alliance for the greatness of Seychelles and restore the soul of our nation. We pray for the divine protection of God the almighty upon our Seychelles and its people.

## **Article 1. PARTY NAME**

The name of the political party shall be **Seychelles National Alliance Party**, hereinafter referred to as “the Party” and **SNAP** shall be used as the acronym.

The logo and the colours of the Party are as described in the attached schedule.

## **Article 2. PARTY HEADQUARTERS**

The Party shall have its registered headquarters at Providence, Mahe or at such other place as the Executive Committee shall decide from time to time.

## **Article 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aims and objectives of the Party shall be;

- i. To build a strong, credible and trustworthy political party to participate in Presidential and General Elections for the National Assembly.
- ii. The recruitment of members by personal contacts, campaigns, activities, social events and advertisements.
- iii. To raise funds to support the Party operations and activities with the aim of reinforcing the Party structure, objectives and programmes.
- iv. To form a government comprising of leaders of integrity who will promote and adhere to the highest ethical conduct, democratic norm and respect for fundamental human rights.
- v. To protect, defend and promote the Seychellois heritage, culture, tradition and moral values and fulfil our aspiration to live in fraternal harmony.
- vi. The preservation of our natural environment and protection of our lands, seas, fauna and flora from destruction by whoever is seeking to damage them for short term financial gain, and undertaking all that is possible to reverse the damage that has been caused by reckless constructions, exploitations of resources and disastrous projects.

- vii. To ensure that the wellbeing and happiness of our people are cardinal factors that will guide all decisions and actions of government and which should never be sacrificed at the altar of development which brings wealth to a few and misery to many with irreversible loss of the beauty and charm of our land that is our unique heritage and pride.
- viii. The transformation of Seychelles into a country where in our rich diversity, we shall be living in an atmosphere of freedom, a sensation of peace and a feeling of trust in the rule of law which guarantees justice, equality and security of persons and properties.

#### **Article 4. MEMBERSHIP**

1. Any citizen of Seychelles whether living in Seychelles or abroad, who is 18 years of age or over, meets the other eligibility criteria and accepts the objectives and principles of the Party, may become a member of the Party.
2. Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration and approval.
3. The Secretary-General shall issue a membership card to all members of the Party and keep a register of members.
4. Each Party member shall pay an annual membership fee as determined by the Executive Committee from time to time and failure to pay membership fee shall deprive the defaulting member of the right to vote at a Party Convention.
5. Members are bound by the Constitution of the Party and membership may be terminated by the Executive Committee for violation of the Constitution or behaviour that damages the reputation of the Party or disrupts its programme, provided that a member under consideration has been given written notice of the intention to terminate his/her membership and an opportunity of appearing before the Executive Committee to be heard.

6. A member of the Party shall have the rights to;
  - a. participate in the activities of the Party
  - b. campaign on behalf of the Party
  - c. contest for membership of the Executive Committee
  - d. put his candidature in Party nominations for Presidential Elections, general elections and by-elections
  - e. access Party documents and records.
  
7. A member of the Party has the duties to;
  - a. inform himself or herself on the aims, objectives, policies and programmes of the Party
  - b. explain the aims, objectives, policies and programmes to other members and non-members
  - c. uphold the principles and defend the policies and programmes of the Party
  - d. observe discipline, behave honestly and refrain from any action that will injure the reputation of the Party
  - e. not publish material or make statements that undermines the credibility of the Party and its programmes and policies.

## **Article 5. PARTY STRUCTURE**

The Party structure shall comprise of the following;

- a. Convention of members
- b. Party Leader
- c. Executive Committee
- d. District Representatives
- e. Associations of Members
- f. Such other organs as may be established by the Executive Committee.

## **Article 6. PARTY CONVENTION**

1. The Party Convention shall be the supreme body of the Party and shall be composed of the Party Leader, Executive Committee, District Representatives, Associations of Members and Party members.
2. A Party Convention shall be held at least every two years and the Executive Committee may call an Extraordinary Convention at any time to deal with any matters arising between Conventions.
3. The place, date and time of Party Conventions shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee and members shall be given notice thereof by means that are most appropriate at least three weeks prior to the Conventions.
4. A quorum for the Convention shall consist of members present.
5. Conventions shall be presided by the Party Leader or the Chairperson in the absence of the Leader.
6. Matters before the Convention shall be decided by a simple majority of members present and in the event of a tie, the person presiding shall have a casting vote.
7. Votes at a Convention shall be by secret ballot or by any means specified by the Executive Committee for particular items on the agenda save for the election of the Executive Committee and candidates for General Elections or Presidential Elections which shall always be by secret ballot.
8. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for organising the Conventions, circulating Convention information in advance and determining procedures for voting and conduct of the meeting in accordance with democratic principles.
9. All Party members present at the Convention shall be entitled to one vote and shall be allowed to participate in debate and bring forth any concern or motion relevant to the agenda.

10. The Executive Committee may invite non-members who have made a special contribution to the Party or who have special skills or experience, to attend the Convention but such individuals will have no voting rights.

11. The Convention shall;

- a. receive the report of the Secretary-General on the works of the Executive Committee and the Party and programmes of the Party
- b. receive the audited financial statement of the Party for the previous years presented by the Party Treasurer
- c. appoint the auditors of the Party
- d. elect the Party Leader
- e. elect the Executive Committee
- f. consider proposed amendments to the Party Constitution
- g. have the right and power to review, ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by previous Conventions or the Executive Committee
- h. appoint any commission or committee and assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee
- i. deal with any other matters brought before it by the Executive Committee.

## **Article 7. PARTY LEADER**

1. The Party Leader is the head of the Party.
2. The Convention shall elect the Party Leader who shall hold office until the next Convention.
3. The first Party Leader may be appointed by the founding members to hold office until the first Convention.
4. The Party Leader shall;



- a. represent the Party in discussions with public authorities, private bodies and the Government of Seychelles
  - b. attend functions, meetings and other events overseas
  - c. meet with foreign delegations in Seychelles and overseas
  - d. represent the Party in all dealings and general interactions with affiliated bodies overseas
  - e. attend Party Conventions to present a report falling under the purview of the Party Leader
  - f. have the right to attend Executive Committee meetings and receive notice thereof to guide the Committee on political strategies and socio-economic issues
  - g. be the Party representative for interviews with the media and in campaign programmes, advertisements and other publications.
5. In the event that the Party Leader is unable to discharge any of the duties and functions of the office, the Chairperson shall attend thereto.
  6. In the event that a Party Leader ceases to hold office due to death, resignation or otherwise after being elected by the Convention, the Executive Committee may appoint a new Leader to hold office until the next Convention.
  7. The Party Leader may be removed from office at any time by an Extraordinary Convention called for that purpose.
  8. The Chairperson may be appointed as the first Party Leader by the founding members and also be elected as Party Leader by the Convention and in that instance the duties and functions of Party Leader and Chairperson shall merge.

## **Article 8. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of;
  - a. Chairperson
  - b. Vice Chairperson
  - c. Secretary-General
  - d. Treasurer
  - e. Seven other members.
2. A maximum of five more members may be co-opted as Executive Committee members by the Executive Committee.
3. The Chairperson shall preside over the Executive Committee meetings and in the absence of the Chairperson the Vice Chairperson shall preside.
4. A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be one half of the elected Executive Committee members.
5. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall be by a simple majority and in the event of a tie, the person presiding shall have a casting vote.
6. In case of prolonged absence, resignation, dismissal or death of an office bearer, the Executive Committee shall co-opt an elected member of the Executive Committee to fill the vacant post until the next Convention.
7. The functions and responsibilities of the Executive Committee shall be as follows;
  - a. responsible for the general administration and management of the affairs of the Party according to its policies and programmes
  - b. fulfil the resolutions of the Convention
  - c. organise and be generally responsible for the activities of the Party
  - d. oversee activities of District Representatives and affiliated Associations

- e. establish the Party Headquarters and its administration structure
  - f. review the annual report of the auditor and the financial management of the Party for the previous accounting year
  - g. consider the membership applications to the Party
  - h. decide on all matters that are not reserved for the Convention.
8. The Executive Committee shall meet at least every two months or more often if deemed necessary.
9. The Secretary-General is obliged to call an Executive Committee meeting if requested by at least 1/3 of the members of the Executive Committee.
10. The mandate of the Executive Committee will be for a period of two years.
11. An elected member of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by the Party Convention before the expiration of the Executive Committee mandate.
12. A co-opted member may be removed by a 2/3 majority of votes of the Executive Committee.
13. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for recommending nominations for office bearers and Executive Committee members for elections at a Party Convention.
14. The first office bearers of the Party for the purpose of registration of the Party, shall be appointed by the founding members of the Party who thereafter shall proceed to elect the other members of the Executive Committee to hold office until the first Party Convention.

## **Article 9. FUNCTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS**

1. The **Chairperson** shall preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and have oversight of the management and administration of the Party.

2. The **Vice Chairperson** stands in for the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson.
3. The **Secretary-General** shall;
  - a. assist the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson in the general administration of the Party
  - b. keep the minutes of the Convention and the Executive Committee meetings as well as other records of the Party
  - c. be in charge of the secretariat and responsible for its proper and effective administration
  - d. be responsible for the correspondences and publications of the Party and for sending out notices of Conventions, Executive Committee meetings and other activities of the Party
  - e. monitor compliance with resolutions of the Convention and Executive Committee and ensure that organs of the Party carry out their duties properly and efficiently
  - f. prepare periodic and annual reports on the works of the Party and such other documents which may, from time to time, be required by the Executive Committee
  - g. in the absence of the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson, assume the functions of the Chairperson
  - h. be entitled to receive reports on the activities of organs of the Party and in turn report such activities to the Executive Committee.

4. The **Treasurer** is the custodian of the funds and properties of the Party and shall;
  - a. administer all monies received on behalf of the Party in a transparent and accountable manner
  - b. ensure that full and true records are kept for all monies received, invested and spent by the Party
  - c. keep books of accounts as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of the Party at any time
  - d. present to the Convention the audited accounts of the Party showing the Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet of the Party for previous years
  - e. submit periodic financial reports to the Executive Committee at regular intervals as decided by the Executive Committee and follow directives given by the Executive Committee
  - f. under the guidance of the Executive Committee, work out and execute plans for fund raising
  - g. keep an accurate record of fees paid by Party members
  - h. maintain a register of all party assets and do regular inventories to safeguard such assets.

#### **Article 10. PARTY SECRETARIAT**

The Party Secretariat shall be headed by the Secretary-General assisted by personnel appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be the overall administrative organ of the Party under the direction of the Chairperson and Executive Committee.

## **Article 11. DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

1. The Party shall have District Representatives who will be;
  - a. the Party member of the National Assembly for the district
  - b. a proportionally appointed Party member of the National Assembly resident in a district
  - c. a Party member elected by members registered in an electoral district to be their representative.
2. The District Representatives will represent the Party at district level and be responsible for organising all Party activities in the district.

## **Article 12. DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS**

1. The district organisations of Party members are the primary organisations through which the rights of members are exercised.
2. District organisations can take any form as decided by Party members in that district under the guidance of the Executive Committee and will be headed by the District Representative.
3. The District Organisations will;
  - a. assist the District Representative with Party activities in the district
  - b. organise the participation of a delegation to the Party Convention or other meetings and activities at national level
  - c. comply with such directives as to their governance, financial management and reporting as may be given by the Executive Committee
  - d. report to the Executive Committee in such manner and at such times as required by the Executive Committee.

### **Article 13. AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS**

1. There shall be organised on a national level, Associations of Members to promote the interests and aspirations of particular groups of members which may include;
  - a. Women Associations
  - b. Youth Associations and
  - c. any other Associations which could support the interest of any group of members.
2. All Associations of Members shall engage in activities that uphold the principles and policies of the Party under the guidance of the Executive Committee.
3. On a regular basis the Associations of Members shall report to the Executive Committee in such manner as may be directed by the Executive Committee.
4. The procedures for the meetings of the Associations of Members shall be determined by the members thereof in consultation with the Executive Committee.
5. The management of the Association of Members shall be organised by and be under the control of a committee of members of the Association with its secretary and treasurer and headed by a Chairperson elected by the members of the Associations.
6. The Party may enter into affiliation with organisations and associations overseas which have the same ideology and principles as the Party and the Executive Committee is authorised to execute any agreement or memorandum of understanding with such overseas bodies as it deems appropriate to support the objects and programmes of the Party.

## **Article 14. FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS**

1. The funds of the Party shall comprise of membership fees, revenue from organised activities, donations and any other funds approved by the Executive Committee.
2. Donations may only be accepted by the Party provided that such donations are free from any conditions that might compromise the Party and its aims and objectives.
3. All funds received shall be acknowledged and recorded by the Treasurer.
4. The Party shall have a bank account into which all funds received by the Party shall be deposited and all transactions on the account shall be signed on behalf of the Party by the Treasurer or another office bearer designated to sign in his place, and counter-signed by a designated member of the Executive Committee.
5. Funds raised by District Organisations shall be accounted for by the District Representative who shall keep proper records of all financial transactions and for which purpose a bank account may be opened in the name of the Party.
6. The Executive Committee may request the District Representatives and their respective treasurers to account for any financial matter.
7. From the Party funds, the Party Treasurer shall allocate a sum of money as may be determined by the Executive Committee for the administration of the secretariat and from time to time such sum of money fixed by the Executive Committee for Party activities.
8. The financial accounts of the Party shall be audited and the financial year of the Party will be a calendar year.

## **Article 15. PUBLICATIONS**

The Party may publish its own newspaper and other literature as approved by the Executive Committee.



## **Article 16. BY - LAWS**

1. The Executive Committee has the authority to make By-laws for the implementation of provisions of this Constitution and to regulate proceedings and procedures applicable for the proper functioning of various organs of the Party.
2. To be valid, By-laws must be consistent with the Constitution and not contradict any of its provisions.
3. By-laws made by the Executive Committee shall be put down in writing and made available for viewing by all Party organs and individual members.
4. The Executive Committee shall have the power to amend any By-laws and any such amendment shall be put down in writing and made available in the same manner as any By-law.
5. Any member may propose By-laws or any amendments to By-laws to the Executive Committee by a written notice to the Secretary-General which shall be tabled for consideration at the next Executive Committee meeting.

## **Article 17. AMENDMENTS**

1. This Constitution may only be amended by a Convention.
2. Proposals from members for amendments to this Constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General at least thirty days prior to a Party Convention.
3. A proposed resolution to amend this Constitution shall require a majority vote of the members present at a Convention to be passed.

