

**CONSTITUTION OF
LINYON DEMOKRATIK SESELWA**



**Lakaz Seselwa
Mont Fleuri, Mahe**

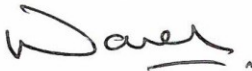
**Adopted at the Convention of
July 09, 2017**

FOUNDING DECLARATION

We, Leaders of Political Parties and Groups who came together for the second round of the Presidential election in December 2015, have agreed to form and register Linyon Demokratik Seselwa (LDS) as a Political Party to combine and co-ordinate our efforts for the National Assembly Elections of 2016 and further to that to play a full role in the political system of Seychelles.

The Founding Members include ourselves and one other person designated by each of us.

We have designated the necessary Office Bearers to register and establish the party and fulfill the requirements of the Political Parties (Registration and Regulation) Act .



Wavel Ramkalawan
Seychelles National Party



Patrick Pillay
Lalyans Seselwa



Alexia Amesbury
Seychelles Party for
Social Justice and Democracy



Phillipe Boullé
Independent Candidate



Robert Ernesta
Seychelles United Party



Roger Mancienne
Linyon Demokratik Seselwa

April 15, 2016

PREAMBLE

Linyon Demokratik Seselwa affirms its belief in God, in whose Divine wisdom and guidance it places its hopes for the future of the Seychellois nation and pledges itself at all times to uphold the sacredness of the individual conscience.

Article 1. NAME

The name of the party shall be **Linyon Demokratik Seselwa**, hereinafter referred to as the Party. The acronym LDS shall be used as the short form of the name.

Article 2. HEADQUARTERS

The Party shall have its registered headquarters at Lakaz Seselwa, Mont Fleuri Mahe, or at such place as the Party shall decide at an Executive Council meeting.

Article 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Party shall be:

- i. To maintain Seychelles as an independent state.
- ii. To promote, protect and defend a democratic Constitution for Seychelles.
- iii. To pursue economic and social development for the benefit of all Seychellois regardless of creed, colour, sex, race or political affiliation.
- iv. To uphold and defend all the basic rights of the individual Seychellois and any foreigner residing on Seychelles soil, as outlined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, the African Convention of

Human Rights and the Constitution of the Republic of Seychelles.

- v. To bring integrity, honesty and transparency into government.
- vi. When in opposition, to act as a strong and loyal opposition in the interest of our country and people
- vii. To establish a strong national government with the highest democratic standards, a clear national vision, and programs for the well-being of the Seychellois people.
- viii. To forge unity amongst like-minded political parties and their members.

Article 4 MEMBERSHIP

- i. Any Seychellois who is living inside or outside Seychelles, who is 18 years of age and accepts the aims and objectives of the Party, may become a member of the Party.
- ii. All applications for membership shall be submitted to the Executive Council for approval or rejection.
- iii. The decision of the Executive Council to accept or reject an application shall be final and not subject to appeal. The Party Secretary-General shall keep a register of the members of the party.

- iv. Each party member shall pay membership dues as determined by the Executive Council from time to time.
- v. A member who fails to pay his annual contribution shall cease to be a member of the Party. However, defaulting members may recover all their rights as members on paying their contribution and arrears.
- vi. A member may be expelled from the party for grave cause by the majority vote of the Executive Council. No member may be expelled unless given written notice of the cause for expulsion and opportunity of appearing before the Executive Council to be heard.
- vii. A member who leaves or is expelled from the party shall have no claim on past contributions to the Party.

Article 5 FUNDS

- i. The Party shall raise funds from membership fees, donations, sale of literature and all other sources approved by the Executive Council.
- ii. The Party may accept voluntary donations provided that such donations are free from any conditions that might undermine the aims and objectives of the Party.
- iii. All funds received shall be acknowledged by a receipt issued by the Party.
- iv. All funds received by the Party shall be deposited in a bank account and all applications for withdrawal shall be signed on behalf of the party by the Party Treasurer

or another Office Bearer designated to sign in his place, and counter signed by a designated member of the Executive Council.

- v. The Executive Council shall make sure that full and true accounts are kept of all monies received, invested and expended by the Party.
- vi. The Party accounts shall be audited once a year in time to be presented at the Party Convention.

Article 6 THE PARTY CONVENTION

- i. A Party Convention shall be convened annually:
 - a. to receive the reports and audited accounts of the Party for the previous year;
 - b. to appoint the auditors of the Party;
 - c. to discuss any matter concerning the Party;
 - d. to elect Members of the Executive Council in accordance with the Party Constitution
- ii. The date, place and time of the Party Convention shall be decided upon by the Executive Council and members shall be informed in any manner that is timely and practical.
- iii. The Party Convention shall include:
 - a. members of the Executive Council;
 - b. district representatives;
 - c. Party members from each electoral district, the

number of which shall be determined by the Executive Council from time to time.

- d. Such other persons as the Executive Council may wish to invite.
- iv. All delegates at the party Convention shall be members of the Party.
- v. The Party Convention shall have the power to:
 - a. Propose, discuss and decide on policies and programmes of the Party;
 - b. propose and consider amendments to the Party Constitution;
 - c. elect Members of the Executive Council in accordance with the Party Constitution;
 - d. deal with other matters concerning the Party.
- vi. The Executive Council may at any time summon an extraordinary Party Convention.

Article 7 THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- i. (a) The Executive Council shall be composed of the Founding Members and the designated Office Bearers

until the third Annual Convention of the Party and additional Members elected at a Convention.

(b) The Executive Council may co-opt up to five additional members to the Executive Council.

(c) Co-opted members shall have the same status as elected members.

- ii. The Executive Council shall have the responsibility of ensuring that the policies of the Party are executed.
- iii. The Executive Council shall have the responsibility for the general administration of the Party and shall determine its policies.
- iv. The Executive Council shall present an annual report of activities to the Party Convention.
- v. The Executive Council shall meet at least once a month or upon being summoned by the Party Leader or at least three members of the Committee.
- vi. A member of the Executive Council may be suspended from office upon a resolution approved by two thirds of the Executive Council.
- vii. A member of the Executive Council may be removed from office by the Party Convention on the recommendation of the Executive Council.

- viii. The Executive Council will be responsible for making nominations for office bearers and Executive Council members for election at a party convention.
- ix. The Executive Officers shall be:
 - a. The **Party Leader** who shall have the overall responsibility for running the party and shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Council and of the Party Convention.
 - b. The **Secretary-General** who shall be responsible for the general administration of the Party and its publications. The Secretary-General shall oversee the implementation of the decisions of the Party Convention and shall assist the Party Leader in carrying out his duties. In the absence of the Party Leader from the country, or as a result of his inability or incapacity to act, the Secretary-General shall replace him/her.
 - c. The **Party Treasurer** who shall be responsible for the financial administration of the Party.

Article 8 PUBLICATIONS

The Party may publish its own literature.

Article 9 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF A MEMBER

- i. Every member shall be entitled to

- a. take part in all Party activities in accordance with Party rules;
 - b. assist all meetings which he/she is entitled to attend;
 - c. propose nominations and vote at the said meetings;
 - d. stand for office according to the Party rules and regulations.
- ii. Every member shall be expected to:
- a. faithfully serve the Party and its elected leaders to the best of their ability;
 - b. pay his/her membership fees promptly;
 - c. conduct himself/herself at all times in a respectable and exemplary manner as expected by the Party;
 - d. attend all Party meetings which he/she is entitled to attend.

Article 10 AMENDMENTS

- i. This Constitution may be amended at a party Convention upon a majority vote of the members present
- ii. Written notice of any proposed amendment to this Constitution shall be given to the Executive Council at

least thirty days prior to the Party Convention at which it is to be discussed and decided upon.

Article 11 BYE - LAWS

- i. The Constitution shall be applied and carried out in accordance with the provisions of the bye-laws contained in the schedule hereto attached.
- ii. The Executive Council may, on following the procedure set out in the following paragraph repeal, replace, amend, alter or add to the bye-laws for the purpose of carrying out the objects and provisions of the Constitution.
- iii. Any amendment to the bye-laws shall be made on a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Executive Council present and voting at a meeting specially called for that purpose and for which written notice of the intended amendment shall have been given at least fifteen days previously.

SCHEDULE 1: BYE – LAWS

ARTICLE 1 PARTY CONVENTION

- i. The Executive Council shall fix the date, time and venue of a party Convention, having regard to the provision of the Constitution and of the Bye – Laws.
- ii. Without prejudice to the provision of Article 6 of the Party Constitution, at least two weeks notice of a Party Convention shall be given to the members. Such notice shall include the agenda of items to be considered at the Party Convention.
- iii. Notice may be given by any means that is effective and practical such as by announcement through the media, individual letters or electronic communication.
- iv. Except where it is specifically provided herein or by legislation, the quorum for the Party Convention shall be not less than 10% of the eligible members of the Party. If a quorum is not achieved, the Executive Council shall fix a new date, time and venue for the Party Convention to be held within thirty further days, at which meeting of the Party Convention twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum.
- v. An extraordinary Party Convention may be convened by giving notice as in iii. above not less than one week prior to the day on which the meeting is to be held.
- vi. The Party Leader shall preside over all Conventions. In his absence the Party Secretary shall replace him, and in

the absence of both, the Convention shall elect one of their number to preside at the meeting.

- vii. All business of the Convention, save as otherwise provided, shall be decided by a simple majority vote. In case of a tie, the person presiding shall have a second or casting vote.
- viii. Voting at the party Convention shall be by secret ballot or any means decided by the Executive Council as practical for the subject matter at hand, unless the Convention by simple majority decides otherwise.

ARTICLE 2 THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- i. The Party Leader shall preside over all meetings. In his/her absence the Secretary General shall replace him/her, and in case both are absent, the Executive Council shall elect one of their number to preside over the meeting.
- ii. One-half of the members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum. The decisions of the Executive Council shall be by a simple majority. In case of a tie, the person presiding shall have a second or casting vote.
- iii. When a vacancy of an Office Bearer occurs, the Executive Council shall appoint a member of the Council, who may be a member co-opted for the purpose, to fill in such a vacancy until the next Convention.

ARTICLE 3 FINANCE

- i. Every-member shall pay an annual membership fee which shall be determined by the Executive Council.
- ii. The Treasurer shall make sure that full and true accounts are kept of all monies received, invested and expended by the Party.
- iii. The Party's accounts shall be audited once a year in time to be presented at the annual Party Convention as provided for in Article 5 of the Constitution.
- iv. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to keep the Executive Council informed about the matters set out herein and to implement all steps recommended by the Council in respect thereof.
- v. The books of the Party shall be open to inspection by appointed auditors at any time.
- vi. The Party shall not invest in any property, stocks and shares without the prior approval of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 4 SIGNATURE OF DEEDS AND CHEQUES

All cheques and mandates drawn on banks, deeds, contracts and all documents shall be signed on behalf of the party by the Party Treasurer or, in his absence, by another designated office bearer, and countersigned by one other of the members of the

Executive Council designated as signatories. All deeds, contracts and other documents binding the Party shall be signed by the Party leader and one other member designated by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 5 AUDITORS

- i. The auditors of the Party:
 - a. Shall hold office from the time of appointment until the next annual meeting of the Party Convention, unless sooner suspended or vacates office through death or resignation;
 - b. may be suspended and if necessary replaced by the Executive Council provided sufficient explanation of the need for this is given at the next Party Convention.

ARTICLE 6 AMENDMENT OF BYE – LAWS

These Bye–Laws may be amended or added to by the Executive Council as provided in Article 11 of the Constitution.