# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW GENERATION PARTY

(NGP)

Quality Manager:	Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager
Authority:	Founding Members
Application:	Members of NGP
Reference:	THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PARTY (NGP)
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#### 1. PARTY IDENTIFICATION

#### 1.1. NAME AND ABBREVIATION

The name of the Party shall be 'New Generation Party' and the abbreviation shall be 'NGP'

#### 1.2. PARTY SYMBOL AND COLOR



The circular symbol represents a shield depicting: i) the protection of human rights; ii) the protection of the three arms of the State as represented by the three stars. The alphabet 'O' is for ONENESS. It also represents an equal voice in a governance structure that is all-encompassing and inclusive. The multiple shades of gray surrounding the shield represents the unity of a multiracial, multicultural new generation.

The Head Office of the PARTY is at Tavakubu Road, Tavakubu, Lautoka. P.O.Box 7563, Lautoka Post Office.

#### 2. VISION STATEMENT

A modern era driven by principled leaders that value respect for human rights, inclusivity and diverse voices in nation building.

#### 3. MISSION STATEMENT

Uniting and committing the people to rebuilding a Nation that protects human rights and values; where there is no repression or fear.

#### 4. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

## 4.1. HUMILITY

To acknowledge the diverse nature of our society, ethnically, culturally, religiously and otherwise to consider the differences in opinions in matters of national interest.

#### 4.2. ACCOUNTABILITY

Being responsible for actions taken and being able to explain, clarify and justify actions.

#### 4.3. TRANSPARENCY

To allow for informed understanding and access to information.

#### 4.4. INTEGRITY

To honor respectable moral principles.

#### 4.5. TRUTH

To assure the Fijian people that as a Government for the people and by the people, truth must always be a hallmark in everything that the Government says or does.

#### 4.6. PRUDENCE

To govern with care and thought for the future generation.

#### 4.7. COLLABORATION

To enhance teamwork in achieving meaningful goals.

#### 4.8. **UNITY**

To bring a spirit of oneness and diversity without discrimination and endeavour to prevent hatred while promoting societal resilience.

## 4.9. PEACE

To embrace humanity at the discretion of a peaceable multi-ethnic, multi-cultural society.

#### 4.10. SECURITY

To protect against wrongful manipulation and exploitation of human rights.

#### **5.** PURPOSES AND VALUES

- **5.1.** To re-establish moral integrity and ethical governance in leadership.
- **5.2.** To protect the fundamental rights, interests and welfare of our people.
- **5.3.** To uphold the Rule of Law that protects freedom, justice and peace.
- **5.4.** To promote political equality of all citizens through free and fair elections
- **5.5.** To promote freedom from inequality and injustice.
- **5.6.** To protect the dignity of every individual.
- **5.7.** To pay attention to family values.
- **5.8.** To promote a healthy lifestyle.
- **5.9.** To provide for proper medical care.
- **5.10.** To Improve Education.
- **5.11.** To ensure freedom of the press.
- **5.12.** To empower our women and girls.
- **5.13.** To empower our youth leaders.
- **5.14.** To create a vibrant environment for economic growth.
- **5.15.** To utilize available resources to effect maximum benefits.
- **5.16.** To usher in modern technological developments.
- **5.17.** To increase remittances.
- **5.18.** To always plan for the new generation.
- **5.19.** To give back to the universe.

#### 6. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- **6.1.** Develop strategic and ethical frameworks that continuously provide the environment for growth and learning now for the new generation.
- **6.2.** To address core issues of decomposed social values and challenges, the transformation from narcissistic behavior, promoting dignity, family values and empowerment of women and girls now for the new generation.
- **6.3.** To promote a healthy lifestyle in the advancement of recreational non-competitive sporting activities and means of healthy transportation and access to healthy food, clean water and air free from pollution now for the new generation.

- **6.4.** To better control technological advancements, media information and accessibility for improved quality of education, research and learning now for the new generation.
- **6.5.** To protect the nation from illegal scientific exploitations that invade the freedom and rights to life now for the new generation.
- **6.6.** Create the doorway for potential principled leaders in politics now for the new generation.
- **6.7.** Develop strategic partnerships with Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Charity Groups to promote social progress and reaching the fullness of life in a larger freedom now for the new generation.
- **6.8.** Maximizing the use of existing platforms for the better coordination of non government organizations in the provision of social services for Fijians now for the new generation.
- **6.9.** Addressing financial probity and corruption risks in multi-partner funds for delivering results on challenging development and humanitarian issues and in difficult situations now for the new generation.
- **6.10.** Awaken the conscience of resource owners of this land to recognize the divine mandate bestowed upon the 'Vanua' wherein the spirit of stewardship in the sanctuary of their culture, tradition and values are embraced now for the new generation.
- **6.11.** To formulate business models that would open for better opportunities, the peoples creation and economic participation through partnership now for the new generation.
- **6.12.** Reorganize, restructure modern housing development concepts that will facilitate expansion now for the new generation.
- **6.13.** To protect the nation from impending pandemics and threats to good health now for the new generation.
- **6.14.** To protect our natural resources from excessive industrial exploitation and ensure that a commodity development plan for agriculture, livestock and fisheries is prioritized to sustain a Food Security Framework now for the new generation.
- **6.15.** To build a network of world class hospital facilities and science laboratories for the region now for the new generation.
- **6.16.** To promote the Medical Tourism and Old Age Care industry in Fiji now for the new generation.
- **6.17.** To promote indigenous culture, traditions, values, heritage and language uniqueness as the main tourism attraction for the world to see in Fiji now for the new generation.

- **6.18.** To promote our cultural diversity and display it now for the new generation.
- **6.19.** To promote a clean healthy environment and reconciliation with creation now for the new generation.
- **6.20.** To empower youths and their accessibility to trade training schools and universities for the creation of employment opportunities locally and abroad now for the new generation.
- **6.21.** To support the Global Private Security Industry and fight against terrorism now for the new generation.
- **6.22.** To promote consensual dialogue through consultation now for the new generation.
- **6.23.** To not compromise with world accreditations and independent institutes of professional standardizations now for the new generation.
- **6.24.** To promote the aspects for human rights and stewardship now for the new generation.

#### 7. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Party is open to all Fiji citizens, irrespective of where they live. Membership categories are set out below.

#### 7.1. FOUNDING MEMBERS

The Founding Members of the Party assume the responsibility of taking the Party into its first general elections as confirmed by the Governance Advisory Council in their first official meeting after the Party Registration.

#### 7.2. HONORARY MEMBERS

The Honorary Members of the Party are former officials of the Party who have accepted the official invitation by the Founders of the Party to become members of the Governance Advisory Council.

## 7.3. FINANCIAL MEMBERS

Financial Members are supporters of the Party that pay a minimum membership fee.

#### 7.4. SUBSCRIBED MEMBERS

Subscribed Members are members of the public who subscribe to the official Party internet platforms.

#### 7.5. DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS

These are distinguished members of society who have accepted the official invitation by the Founders of the Party to be members of the Governance Advisory Council.

#### **8.** REGISTER OF MEMBERS

- **8.1.** All individuals who join the Party and pay the minimum annual membership fee shall be registered in the register of members to be maintained and updated by the Party Secretary.
- **8.2.** Such a register shall be made available by the Party Secretary to all Members of the Party or any member of the public upon request.

#### **9.** MEMBERSHIP FEE

**9.1.** The Party shall levy an annual minimum membership free of FJD5.00 for all members.

## 10. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERS

A member may resign from the Party by giving notice to the Party Secretary and to the Registrar of Political Parties. The resignation becomes effective within 14 days after the receipt of the resignation notice by the Party Secretary. A resignation notice may be made by letter or through an email from the member resigning.

#### 11. PARTY ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The Party Organization and Management structure shall be as follows:

- President
- 2. Vice-President
- 3. Party Secretary
- 4. Treasurer
- 5. Party Internal Auditor

#### 11.1. THE PARTY PRESIDENT

- **11.1.1.** There shall be a Party President of the Party who shall be elected by a majority vote of the General Assembly at a Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- **11.1.2.** He or she shall serve for four (4) years whose tenure can only be terminated in accordance with Clause 14 and may be re-elected;
- 11.1.3. The President shall be a person with extensive political background, an experienced and a well-grounded person at national and political landscape and has an exceptional knowledge of key sectors of the economy, is knowledgeable of the Party machinery, constitution, and has the the confidence of the party members;
- **11.1.4.** A Party President automatically becomes a member of the Governance Advisory Council;
- **11.1.5.** Roles, Responsibilities, Terms and Conditions of the Party President:
  - **11.1.5.1.** He or she is the Chairperson of the Annual General Assembly;
  - **11.1.5.2.** He or she works in consultation with the Party Leader on Party issues including the preparation of the Party Manifesto and Master Plan.

#### 11.2. THE VICE-PRESIDENT

- **11.2.1.** There shall be a Vice-President who shall be appointed by the Governance Advisory Council.
- **11.2.2.** Roles, Responsibilities, Terms and Conditions of the Vice-President:
  - **11.2.2.1.** The Vice-President carries out the roles and responsibilities of the Party President as delegated to her/him by the Party President.
  - **11.2.2.2.** The Vice-President shall carry out the roles and responsibilities of the Party President as and when the position of the Party President becomes vacant.

#### 11.3. THE PARTY SECRETARY AND AUTHORIZED OFFICER OF THE PARTY

- **11.3.1.** There shall be a Party Secretary who is appointed by the Governance Advisory Council, whose tenure can only be terminated in accordance with Clause 13.
- 11.3.2. The Party Secretary is also the Authorized and Registered Officer of the Party. His primary role is to fully comply with all statutory requirements of the Political Parties Act and other relevant legislation and shall also act as the Archival Officer and preserve historical information of the Party.

- 11.3.3. The Party Secretary is the authority for determining the validity of a grievance and/or for the promotion of mediation and resolution before any formal hearing if the Party Secretary believes that it is in the best interests of the parties in dispute to resolve their differences in a less confrontational manner; as per the Grievance Procedure in the Party Code of Conduct;
- **11.3.4.** The renewal of the tenure of the Party Secretary is at the discretion of the Governance Advisory Council.
- **11.3.5.** Roles, Responsibilities, Terms and Conditions of the Party Secretary:

The Party Secretary shall be responsible to the Executive Council for the day to day operational management and conduct of the Party which shall include but not limited to the following:

- **11.3.5.1.** Efficient operations of the Party office;
- **11.3.5.2.** Facilitate the right of members of the Party or the public to inspect the books or list of members:
- **11.3.5.3.** Facilitate the presentation of documents required by the Registrar including membership register, mergers and other reports;
- **11.3.5.4.** Responsible for the Party nomination rules and regulations with respect to selections of the Party Candidates and guidelines for the preparation of all Party List;
- **11.3.5.5.** Undertake the presentation of any report or document of the Party;
- **11.3.5.6.** Is responsible for the update of the Party website and information dissemination to subscribed members of the Party.
- 11.3.5.7. The Party Secretary shall apart from the Party Leader be the spokesperson for the Party in the public arena and in the media in relation to all administrative and organizational matters subject to the guidelines and directions the Party Leader may set from time to time;
- **11.3.5.8.** The Party Secretary shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining effective relationships and communications between the Executive Council and the Governance Advisory Council.
- **11.3.5.9.** The Party Secretary shall also be the Secretary for the Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager.
- **11.3.5.10.** To diligently carry out any task required by the Executive Council and provide timely reports as required.
- **11.3.5.11.** To carry out other administrative work for the Party.

**11.3.5.12.** The Party Secretary may appoint an Assistant Party Secretary as and when the need arises.

#### 11.4. THE TREASURER

There shall be a Treasurer of the Party appointed by the Governance Advisory Council and whose tenure can only be terminated in accordance with Clause 13.

- **11.4.1.** Roles, Responsibilities, Terms and Conditions of the Treasurer:
  - **11.4.1.1.** The Treasurer is responsible for the management of the Main Account of the Party;
  - **11.4.1.2.** The Treasurer is responsible for the safekeeping of traditional assets e.g Tabua, Mats and Masi that are traditionally presented to the Party;
  - **11.4.1.3.** The Treasurer shall implement the Financial Policy approved by the Governance Advisory Council;
  - **11.4.1.4.** The Treasurer may be in the form of a professional individual, a committee or a qualified separate legal entity as the Governance Advisory Council sees fit;
  - **11.4.1.5.** The Treasurer reports directly to the Governance Advisory Council through the Party Secretary and is responsible for the following:
    - **11.4.1.5.1.** He or she is responsible for the development of the Party asset management and procedures policies;
    - **11.4.1.5.2.** The timely preparation of the Party's Annual Budget for approval by the Executive Council;
    - **11.4.1.5.3.** Manage the budget within the allocations approved by the Governance Advisory Council;
    - **11.4.1.5.4.** Ensures the timely preparation of year end accounts and audit;
    - **11.4.1.5.5.** Diligently carry out any task or the role assigned by the Governance Advisory Council through the Party Secretary.

#### 11.5. THE PARTY INTERNAL AUDITOR

There shall be an Auditor of the Party appointed by the Governance Advisory Council and whose tenure can only be terminated in accordance with Clause 13.

- **11.5.1.** Roles, Responsibilities, Terms and Conditions of the Auditor:
  - **11.5.1.1.** The responsibility of the Auditor is to review and verify the accuracy of financial records on a regular basis;
  - **11.5.1.2.** The responsibility of the Auditor is to review all Party Policies and make recommendations for its development to the Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager;
  - **11.5.1.3.** Provide professional opinion on the state of the financial affairs of the Party;
  - **11.5.1.4.** Provide ongoing financial probity checks to investigate the financial background or members of the Party;
  - **11.5.1.5.** Ensure that compliance regulations of the Party are met to ensure the highest standards of professionalism and competence are kept in order to protect the reputation of the Party;
  - **11.5.1.6.** The Auditor provides support and guidance to the Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager;
  - **11.5.1.7.** He or she authorizes the implementation of policies for the Party;
  - **11.5.1.8.** Implement policies recommended by the Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager with the approval of the Governance Advisory Council;
  - **11.5.1.9.** Protect the Party from fraudulence and disreputable members by conducting ongoing due diligence on all Executives of the Party;
  - **11.5.1.10.** Ensure the reputation of the Party is upheld by financial integrity and responsible regulatory requirements, standards and policies;
  - **11.5.1.11.** The Auditor may be in the form of a professional individual, a committee or a qualified separate legal entity as the Governance Advisory Council sees fit.

#### 11.6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall be the supreme authority of the Party and shall meet annually under the chairpersonship of the President of the Party.

## 11.6.1. Role of the General Assembly

The General Assembly shall determine the platform of the Party from time to time, but shall not have control over:

- **11.6.1.1.** The day to day operation of the Party, which shall be under the responsibility of the Executive Council through the Party Leader;
- **11.6.1.2.** The internal affairs of the Parliamentary Caucus which is the responsibility of the Parliamentary Caucus.

## 11.6.2. Membership of the General Assembly

**11.6.2.1.** The General Assembly shall comprise all members of the Executive Council and members of the Governance Advisory Council.

#### 11.6.3. Quorum

The quorum for the meeting shall be fifty percent (50%) members of the General Assembly.

## 11.6.4. Annual General Meeting of the General Assembly

- **11.6.4.1.** The Annual Meeting of the General Assembly shall be held once a year at a date set by the Executive Council.
- **11.6.4.2.** The ordinary business of the Annual General Assembly shall be:
  - **11.6.4.2.1.** Confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Assembly;
  - **11.6.4.2.2.** Matters arising from the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
  - **11.6.4.2.3.** To receive and adopt the Report of the President, Party Leader and the Party Secretary regarding the activities of the Party during the last preceding financial year;

- **11.6.4.2.4.** To receive, discuss and adopt the Audited Financial Report;
- **11.6.4.2.5.** To deal with motions received by the Party Secretary;
- **11.6.4.2.6.** Other business.

## 11.6.5. Motions

- **11.6.5.1.** At least two (2) months prior to each General Assembly, the Party Secretary under the direction of the Governance Advisory Council shall communicate formally to all subscribed members, inviting motions for consideration at the General Assembly.
- **11.6.5.2.** All motions shall be received by the Governance Advisory Council at least one (1) month prior to the date of the General Assembly. Where appropriate, motions shall have supporting arguments attached.
- **11.6.5.3.** The Party Secretary shall consolidate these motions and table them at the General Assembly.
- **11.6.5.4.** Motions may still be tabled at the General Assembly meetings on the approval of the Chairperson only for urgent unforeseen matters.

#### 11.6.6. Notice for a meeting of the General Assembly

The Party Secretary must, at least twenty one days (21) before the date of the General Assembly meeting, give a public notice specifying the method, place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.

## 11.6.7. Notice of Special Resolution Outside of an AGM

If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a General Assembly meeting requires a special resolution of the Party, the Party Secretary must, at least twenty one days (21) before the date fixed for the holding of the General Assembly meeting, cause a public notice to be given to members specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.

#### 11.6.8. Decision making by the General Assembly

Any question arising at a General Assembly of the Party is to be determined by a visible transparent method.

## 11.6.9. Voting at General Assembly Meetings

- **11.6.9.1.** On any question arising at a General Assembly or a Special General Meeting of the Party, all members have one vote only.
- 11.6.9.2. In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a General Assembly or a Special meeting of the General Assembly, the Chairperson of the meeting shall exercise a second or casting vote.

## 11.6.10. Special Meeting of the General Assembly

- **11.6.10.1.** Meetings of the General Assembly may be held from time to time as summoned by the Executive Council. These meetings shall be called Special Meetings of the General Assembly or Special General Meetings (SGM).
- **11.6.10.2.** The quorum for the Special General Meeting shall be fifty percent (50%) members of the General Assembly.

#### 11.7. GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

## 11.7.1. Members of the Governance Advisory Council

- **11.7.1.1.** Distinguished Members
- 11.7.1.2. Founding Members
- **11.7.1.3.** Branch Presidents
- **11.7.1.4.** Party Leader
- 11.7.1.5. Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager

## 11.7.2. Powers, Roles and Responsibilities of the Governance Advisory Council

- **11.7.2.1.** Authorize implementation of policies for the Party;
- **11.7.2.2.** Manage the Investment Account of the Party;
- **11.7.2.3.** At its own discretion, provide opinion, suggest and/or advise the Party Leader through the Secretary of the Governance Advisory Council;
- **11.7.2.4.** At its own discretion, provide opinion, suggest and/or advise a member of the Executive Council through the Secretary of the Governance Advisory Council;

- **11.7.2.5.** At its own discretion, provide opinion, suggest and/or advise other members of the Governance Advisory Council through the Secretary of the Governance Advisory Council;
- **11.7.2.6.** Provide opinion, suggest and/or advise the other Councils of the Party on any matter relating to the Party;
- **11.7.2.7.** Ensure that Party Standards, Fundamental Principles, Purposes and Values, Rules and Regulations are followed;
- **11.7.2.8.** Monitor and Evaluate the performance of the Executive Council against set Goals and Objectives of the Party;
- **11.7.2.9.** Approve the Financial Policy, Communication and Media Strategies and other Standard Operating Procedures of the Party;
- **11.7.2.10.** The Governance Advisory Council shall hold online meetings from time to time as it sees fit:

## 11.7.3. Chairperson of the Governance Advisory Council

The Chairperson of the Council is appointed by the Founding Members. The Chairperson's tenure can only be terminated in accordance with Clause 13.

## 11.7.4. Secretary of the Governance Advisory Council

The Secretary of the Governance Advisory Council shall be the Party Secretary.

## 11.8. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council shall comprise the Party Secretary, Party Leader and the Members of the Party who have secured a seat in Parliament.

#### 11.8.1. Powers, Roles and Responsibilities of the Executive Council

Subject to the authority of the General Assembly, the role of the Executive Council are as follows:

- **11.8.1.1.** Set strategic direction and policy guidance for the work of the Party as a whole;
- **11.8.1.2.** Selection of Cabinet Members;
- **11.8.1.3.** Selection of Parliamentary Committee members;
- **11.8.1.4.** Nomination of the Party Whip in Parliament;
- **11.8.1.5.** Develop, manage and communicate the Party's Goals and Objectives, Policy and Programs to all communities in Fiji and abroad:

- **11.8.1.6.** Develop, manage and communicate the Party's Master Plan within the premises of the Party Fundamental Principles, Purposes and Values;
- **11.8.1.7.** At its own discretion, appoint managers and any other staff of the party as it sees fit;
- **11.8.1.8.** Formulate Party policies to ensure compliance with electoral and relevant national laws and regulations;
- **11.8.1.9.** It is responsible for conducting the business, administrative and organizational affairs of the Party in all aspects which responsibility shall include but not limited to the following:
  - **11.8.1.9.1.** Ensure the Code of Conduct for Political Parties and other relevant legislations are upheld;
  - **11.8.1.9.2.** Display leadership traits that reflect shared values for trust, friendship and collaboration that are necessary for strengthening solidarity and inter-personal bonds amongst all members of the Party;
  - **11.8.1.9.3.** Extract accountability from Party members and external stakeholders by visibly displaying exemplary custody of all assets and resources in its tenure:
  - **11.8.1.9.4.** Exercise good Corporate Governance on behalf of the Party through compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements in Fiji;
  - 11.8.1.9.5. Appoint Committees of the Executive Council for specific purposes including formulating policies to be determined from time to time. In appointing committee members, it should ensure that no one must benefit financially or otherwise:
  - **11.8.1.9.6.** To develop explicit Terms of Reference for each committee to avoid role duplicity and ensure that there is a specific timeline for completing of the the Terms of Reference;
  - 11.8.1.9.7. That following the General Election, it should ensure that the most appropriate organization structure and credible process of selection and recruitment of staff at the Party office as well as the Party Parliament Office is carried out within the first month of assuming the Parliament Office;
  - **11.8.1.9.8.** Should ensure that Quarterly Reports of the Party's Parliament Office is received by the Party Secretary for tabling at the meeting of the Executive Council;
  - **11.8.1.9.9.** Monitor, Review and Evaluate the Party Performance and Parliamentary Office to determine its impact, quality and effectiveness;

- 11.8.1.9.10. Shall establish and maintain Think Tanks through a database of resource personnel who are able to provide expert knowledge, advise and critical analysis via sound research methods to support the Party's strategic planning and decision making;
- **11.8.1.9.11.** Shall be instrumental in organizing awareness programmes to facilitate all voters understanding of the political environment:
- 11.8.1.9.12. Guiding the Party in every way possible including supporting the Party Leader in the planning and implementation of political campaigns, communications strategies, preselection procedures and programs, and preparation of all Party publications:
- 11.8.1.9.13. Liaise closely with the Party Leader and provide the oversight on the preparation and compilation of the Party Manifesto which should be completed at least eighteen (18) months before the next General Elections and that the amendment(s) to suit the political climate and or specific interest groups are completed six (6) months before the General Elections:
- **11.8.1.9.14.** Endorses the Party Parliamentary Office's Annual Work Plan within three months after the General Election and to approve any amendment to such Work Plan;
- 11.8.1.9.15. Is empowered to institute a full investigation of any member who is accused of misconduct which has brought or is likely to bring the Party into disrepute or where the misconduct includes a breach of this Constitution or any of its rules as promulgated by the Party from time to time.
- **11.8.1.10.** In the exercise of its powers, roles and responsibilities as itemized above, the Executive Council:
  - **11.8.1.10.1.** must abide by the laws of Fiji and the Fundamental Principles of the Party;
  - **11.8.1.10.2.** may delegate to the Party Secretary, the day to day business operations of the Party Office and/or the Parliamentary Office responsibilities.

## 11.8.2. Powers of Delegation of the Executive Council

The Executive Council may, where it deems necessary, delegate or revoke wholly or partly in writing to the Party Secretary or to the Governance Advisory Council such powers of the Executive Council may decide.

#### 11.8.3. Patrons of the Executive Council

The members of the Governance Advisory Council are patrons of the Executive Council. They are entitled to attend any and all Executive Council meetings with the invitation of the Party Leader and exercise their powers under <u>Clause 12.7.2.</u> The patrons do not have any voting rights in the Executive Council.

## 11.8.4. Voting in the Executive Council

Voting in the Executive Council is determined by the number of votes each member wins at the General Elections.

## 11.8.5. Party Leader

A Party Leader shall be appointed by the Governance Advisory Council. The Party Leader shall be the Chairperson of the Executive Council, The Party Leader's tenure can only be terminated in accordance with <u>Clause 13</u>. The Governance Advisory Council appoints an Acting Party Leader if or when the position of the Party Leader is terminated in accordance with <u>Clause 13</u>.

#### **11.8.5.1.** The role of the Party Leader shall include:

- **11.8.5.1.1.** reporting to the Governance Advisory Council and is accountable to the Executive Council on parliamentary and/or political matters;
- **11.8.5.1.2.** become a member of the Governance Advisory Council;
- **11.8.5.1.3.** oversight of all Party matters including strategic governance;
- **11.8.5.1.4.** The Party Leader is responsible for the progressive realization of the Party Purposes and Values, Goals and Objectives;
- **11.8.5.1.5.** responsible for the Public Relations / Community Relationship Building in all Fiji communities and abroad;
- **11.8.5.1.6.** addresses the Media on key issues regarding the nation and the Party;
- **11.8.5.1.7.** is the Chairperson of the Executive Council;
- **11.8.5.1.8.** Carries out his or her duties as described in the Party Code of Conduct;

- 11.8.5.1.9. take a lead role in preparing the Party for the General Election and shall consult the Governance Advisory Council in the preparation of the following which shall be finalized and adopted by the Executive Council:
  - **11.8.5.1.9.1.** Party Manifesto;
  - **11.8.5.1.9.2.** Master Plan;
  - **11.8.5.1.9.3.** Recruitment of Managers and secretariat staff as in Clause 12.8.1.7
  - 11.8.5.1.9.4. Campaign Strategies;
  - 11.8.5.1.9.5. Funding Strategies;
  - **11.8.5.1.9.6.** Communication and Media strategies during the campaign period;
- **11.8.5.1.10.** Manage the Operation Account of the Party;
- **11.8.5.1.11.** And any other task assigned by the Governance Advisory Council.

## 11.8.6. Executive Council Secretary

The Executive Secretary shall be the Party Secretary who does not have any voting right in the Executive Council.

#### 11.9. BRANCHES OF THE PARTY

- **11.9.1.** Formation of Party Branches
  - **11.9.1.1.** The formation of any Branch shall be recommended by the Governance Advisory Council for the approval of the Party Leader or the Acting Party Leader. The Executive Council shall be informed of such matters.
  - **11.9.1.2.** A Branch may be formed on any platform unless there are Fifty (50) or more financial members subscribed on the Party's communication platform that have agreed to the following :
    - **11.9.1.2.1.** Branch Committee comprising:
      - **11.9.1.2.1.1.** President
      - **11.9.1.2.1.2.** Secretary
      - **11.9.1.2.1.3.** Treasurer
      - **11.9.1.2.1.4.** Minimum of Three (3) Committee members.

- **11.9.1.2.2.** The office bearers shall serve for Four (4) years and may be extended if re-elected.
- **11.9.1.2.3.** Meetings, Quorums and Voting:
- **11.9.1.2.4.** The Branch Committee shall hold meetings at least three (3) times a year.
- **11.9.1.2.5.** The quorum shall be fifty percent (50%) of the office bearers above and ten (10) Financial Members subscribed on the Party's internet platform.
- **11.9.1.2.6.** Voting shall be limited to Financial Members subscribed on the Party's internet platform.

## **11.10.** Roles and responsibilities of the Party Branches

## **11.10.1.** Every Branch shall:

- **11.10.1.1.** Impart the Vision, Mission, Purposes, Values and the Fundamental Principles through genuine consultation, engagement and consensus:
- **11.10.1.2.** Support the implementation of the Party programmes;
- **11.10.1.3.** Display leadership traits that reflect shared values for trust, friendship and collaboration that are necessary for strengthening solidarity and inter-personal bonds amongst all members of the Party;
- **11.10.1.4.** Extract accountability from Party members and external stakeholders by visibly displaying exemplary custody of all assets and resources in its tenure;
- **11.10.1.5.** Exercise good governance on behalf of the Party through compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements;
- **11.10.1.6.** Exercise best practices in prevailing financial discipline through compliance and prudence in all aspects of financial practice and management of the Party;
- **11.10.1.7.** Comply with the Party Code of Conduct;
- **11.10.1.8.** Monitor, review and evaluate the Branch performance and determine its impact, quality and effectiveness;
- **11.10.1.9.** Assist the Party organize awareness programmes with the support of the Party Secretary to facilitate understanding of the political environment:
- **11.10.1.10.** At its own discretion, provide opinion, suggest and/or advise the Governance Advisory Council;

#### 12. COMPLIANCE, ETHICS AND QUALITY MANAGER

The Governance Advisory Council shall appoint a Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager. The Manager may be in the form of a committee or a qualified person or separate legal entity as the Governance Advisory Council sees fit.

## 12.1. Roles and Responsibilities of the Compliance, Ethics and Quality Manager

- **12.1.1.** Investigate instances of breaches to the **NGP Code of Conduct**, Fundamental Principles, rules, values, Service Agreement and regulations of the Party as referred to the Manager by the Governance Advisory Council, Executive Council or through a whistleblower.
- **12.1.2.** Investigate instances of breaches of the Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy;
- **12.1.3.** Make recommendations to the Governance Advisory Council as a result of their investigation;
- **12.1.4.** Review the Codes and policies of the Party to ensure that they are compliant with relevant national laws and international conventions:
- **12.1.5.** Give compliance certificates to Executive Council members and Personnel in accordance with the Anti-Corruption and Anti-bribery Policy;
- **12.1.6.** Give advice to the Executive Council and the Governance Advisory Council on Codes or policies that need to be put in place to ensure the effective and efficient management of the Party and Party resources;
- **12.1.7.** Receive recommendations of the Auditor for policy development;
- **12.1.8.** Publish updated policies and advise the Governance Advisory Council of its implementation;
- **12.1.9.** Administer the Ethics Hotline;
- **12.1.10.** Manage the Party whistleblowing platform.

#### 13. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARTY

- **13.1.** A person will immediately cease to be a member if she or he:
  - **13.1.1.** dies;
  - **13.1.2.** Is of unsound mind, or otherwise becomes unfit;
  - **13.1.3.** absent without leave;
  - **13.1.4.** unable to act according to the Fundamental Principles of the Party;
  - **13.1.5.** Does not comply with regulatory standards of the Party:

- 13.1.6. Is or becomes a bankrupt who has not obtained a final order of discharge, or whose order of discharge has been suspended for a term not yet expired, or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled; or
- **13.1.7.** Is or has been convicted of an offense:
  - **13.1.7.1.** involving dishonesty; or
  - **13.1.7.2.** under the Electoral Act; or
  - **13.1.7.3.** of a serious violent or sexual nature against another person
- **13.1.8.** resigns in accordance with Clause 13.2
- **13.1.9.** Is removed from the Party in accordance with Clause 13.3
- 13.2. Any member of the Party may resign from the Party by delivering to the Party Secretary a notice in writing to that effect and such resignation will be effective from the date on which the Party Secretary receives that notice.
- 13.3. Any member may have his or her membership of the Party reviewed for conduct which is incompatible with the purposes, values and the Fundamental Principles of the Party or is likely to bring the Party into serious disrepute, provided that before any such decision to terminate any membership is made:
  - **13.3.1.1.** the member is notified in writing by the Party Secretary with the advice of the Party Leader of its intention to review his or her membership on such grounds, not less than 7 days prior to the Governance Advisory Council meeting at which the Council will undertake such review:
  - **13.3.1.2.** the member is provided with the opportunity at such meeting of the Governance Advisory Council to explain and defend his or her conduct:
  - **13.3.1.3.** any such decision made by the Governance Advisory Council must be by a two thirds majority of total votes of the Governance Advisory Council provided that any member whose conduct is in question is not entitled to vote.

## 14. GRIEVANCE AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

- 14.1. Any aggrieved member in regards to the affairs of the Party or other matters shall put a notice of the grievances to the Party Secretary who shall appoint an Investigating Executive as an Arbiter to discuss the case of the aggrieved member and make recommendations to the Party Leader who will then carry out procedures set out in the 'The NGP Code of Conduct';
- **14.2.** No grievance matter shall be taken to any Court of Law before all internal procedures are exhausted.

#### 15. ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

#### 15.1. Investment Account

- **15.1.1.** The Party shall maintain an Investment Account at such Bank as the Governance Advisory Council shall decide;
- **15.1.2.** The Governance Advisory Council shall manage the Investment Account of the Party.
- **15.1.3.** Cheques, withdrawals and authorities shall be signed or endorsed as the case may be, by such person or persons as the Governance Advisory Council may decide.

## 15.2. Operation Account

- **15.2.1.** The Party shall maintain an Operating Account at such Bank as the Governance Advisory Council shall decide;
- **15.2.2.** The Executive Council shall manage the Operating Account of the Party.
- **15.3.** The Governance Advisory Council shall approve financial policies;
- 15.4. The Governance Advisory Council shall, as soon as practicable, not later than six (6) months after the end of the financial year, submit to the General Assembly an annual report on its activities during the year, together with two certified copies of the audited financial statements of the Party and the Auditor's Report for that year for approval by the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly.
- **15.5.** The Financial Year of the Party shall be the Calendar year.

#### 15.6. Independent Auditor

The Governance Advisory Council shall appoint an independent Auditor who has a responsibility to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Party financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether caused by error or fraud. The Independent Auditor in this case is not the Party Internal Auditor.

#### 16. MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS

16.1. Cash and non-cash assets of the Party are managed by the Governance Advisory Council. The Executive Council shall request funds from the Governance Advisory Council through the Party Leader for cash disbursement into the Party Operation Account of which the Executive Council shall carry out its responsibilities in Clause 12.8.1

#### 17. FINANCING OF THE PARTY

- **17.1.** The funds of the Party shall be raised by all or any of the following means:
  - **17.1.1.** Membership fee;
  - **17.1.2.** Voluntary contributions
  - **17.1.3.** Donations
  - **17.1.4.** Bequests and grants from lawful source;
  - **17.1.5.** Organized fundraising events;
  - **17.1.6.** Proceeds from any investment, project or undertaking in which the Party has an interest;
  - **17.1.7.** Government grant
- **17.2.** All fundraising events in the name of the Party shall be under the authority of the Governance Advisory Council through the Party Secretary.
- 17.3. All funds raised shall be lodged into the Investment Account of the Party.
- **17.4.** The Governance Advisory Council shall disburse operational expenses of the Executive Council into the Operation Account.

#### 18. ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER PARTIES

- **18.1.** The Party may coalesce with any other Political Party or Parties, before or after the elections to form a government or to form the Opposition, provided there is agreement on policies and plans as approved by the Governance Advisory Council;
- **18.2.** Any coalition partner must accept the Fundamental Principles of the Party;

#### 19. ELECTION CANDIDATES

#### 19.1. Selection

The Governance Advisory Council shall select members vying as Party candidates at the General Election.

#### 19.2. Criteria

The following criteria is the basis of selection:

- **19.2.1.** Must not be a former member of the Great Council of Chiefs;
- **19.2.2.** Must not hold a Traditional Leadership role such as a Turaga ni Mataqali or Turaga ni Tokatoka or Turaga ni Yavusa;
- **19.2.3.** Must believe in the Fundamental Principles of the Party;
- **19.2.4.** Must have a clear understanding of his or her divine purpose in life to serve;
- **19.2.5.** Must have proven work relationship with Humanitarian Non-Governmental Organizations, or Civil Society Groups;
- **19.2.6.** Must have vast knowledge or experience in the Private Sector;
- **19.2.7.** Must have knowledge or experience of the Public Sector;
- **19.2.8.** Must be computer literate;
- **19.2.9.** Must be physically fit and healthy;
- **19.2.10.** Must have proven principled leadership record;

#### 20. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- **20.1.** Every member of a Council, Board, Committee or entity established under this Constitution shall declare any interest in any matter to be discussed by the Council, Board, Committee or entity established under this Constitution;
- **20.2.** A declaration made in accordance with this provision shall be made at the first meeting of the Council, Board, Committee or entity established under this Constitution, held after he or she becomes a member of or if already a member after he or she commences to hold the office or to possess the property;
- **20.3.** The Party Secretary shall record all declarations made, in the minutes of the meeting.

#### 21. PARLIAMENTARY STRUCTURE

#### 21.1. The Party Leader in Parliament

- **21.1.1.** The tenure of the Party Leader begins immediately after the Party candidate secures the highest number of votes at the General Elections in accordance with <u>Clause 12.8.5</u> and whose tenure can only be terminated in accordance with <u>Clause 13</u>.
- **21.1.2.** The Party Leader shall lead the Party to the General Elections.
- 21.1.3. When the Party wins the majority of seats in Parliament or forms government with the support of other parties, the member of Parliament who has secured the most number of votes shall become the Party Leader and automatically assumes the role of Prime Minister.
- 21.1.4. When the Party becomes the Majority Party in Opposition if the party fails to win the majority seats in the General Elections and becomes the major Party in Opposition, the Party Leader assumes the position of Leader of Opposition to be elected by the members of the Party in the Opposition under the requirement of Section 78(1) (6) of the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji.
- **21.1.5.** When the Party becomes the Minority Party in Opposition, the members of the Parliamentary Caucus shall elect an Opposition Leader.

## 21.2. Role of the Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader

- **21.2.1.** The Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader ensures that the Annual Parliamentary Work Plan is aligned to the Party Strategic Master Plans and the Party Manifesto:
- **21.2.2.** The Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader provides quarterly reports to the Executive Council.
- 21.2.3. The Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader ensures the proper management of the Parliament communication matters on parliamentary and political issues:
- 21.2.4. The Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader ensures that the parliamentary funding is administered in accordance with the Executive Council directives, Government policies and procedures as well as the Political Parties Registration Act or any other relevant law.
- **21.2.5.** The Party Leader / Parliamentary Leader carries out responsibilities as required by Clause 12.8.5 of this Constitution.

#### 22. AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Governance Advisory Council has the power to amend, revoke or add to the provisions of the Constitution provided that all requirements of a special resolution are complied with and such amendments are tabled and passed at a Special General Meeting with the unanimous decision of  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of members of the General Assembly.

## 23. PARTY COMMUNICATION

Meetings of the Party are not limited to the use of internet platforms.

## 24. PUBLIC NOTICES

Where this Constitution requires the making of Public Notices, the same may be done via electronic means on social media platforms and on the Party's website.

## 25. RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

The Party shall not conduct any business meeting from Sunset of Friday to Sunset of Sunday, including any religious holy day celebrated by any religious group during the week.

#### 26. DISSOLUTION OF THE PARTY

The Party may be dissolved only by a special resolution of  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the Governance Advisory Council Members plus  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the Executive Council Members at the approval of the Distinguished Members.

On dissolution, any surplus assets, after payment of all liabilities, shall be donated to a charitable institution nominated by the Executive Council Members.