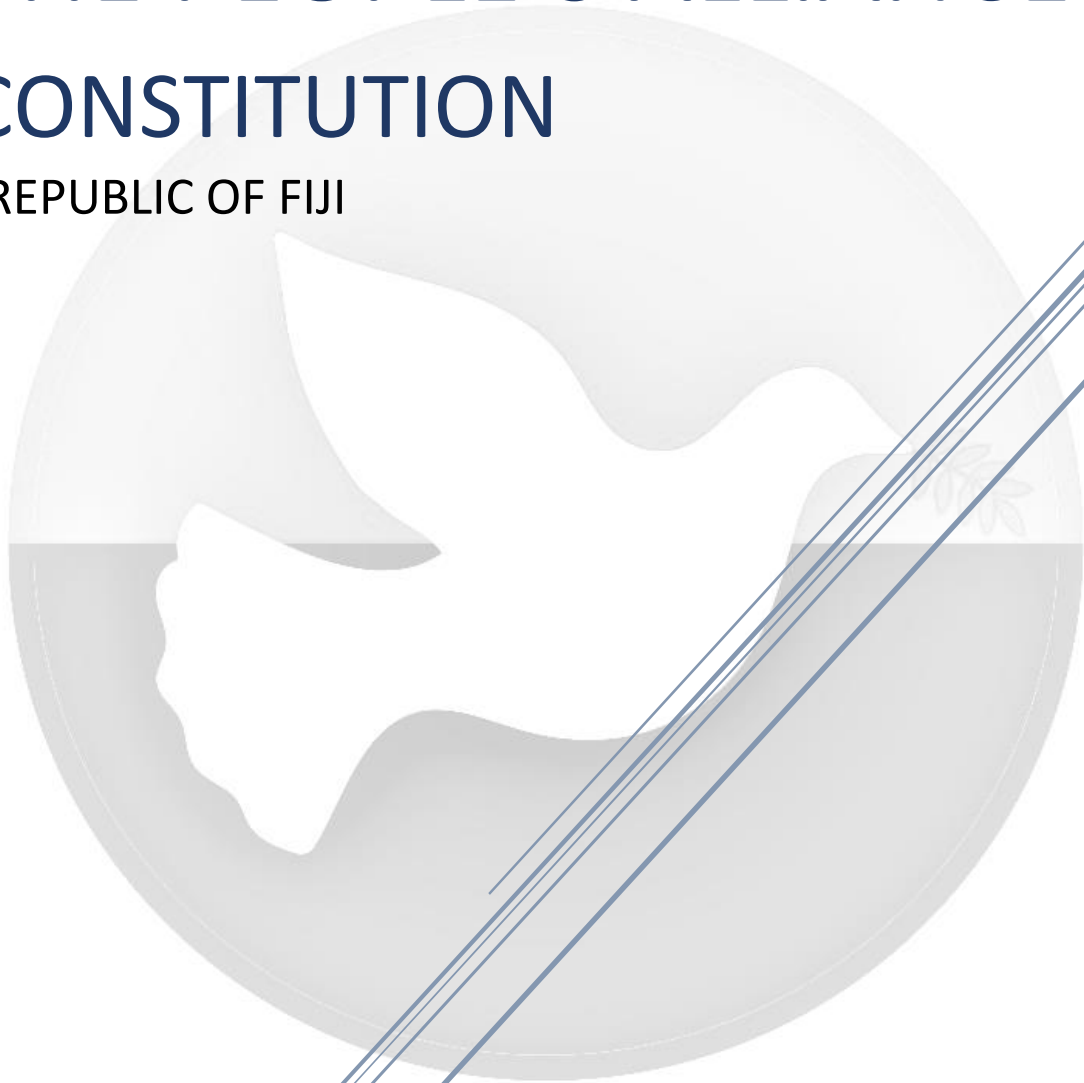


# THE PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE

## CONSTITUTION

REPUBLIC OF FIJI



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# CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE PARTY

## PART I

### 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 The following definitions shall apply to this Constitution:
- (a) "Assistant Vice-President" means the Second Vice-President of the Party as defined in clause 24.5;
  - (b) "Branch" means the smallest grouping of persons that can be formed at any location, not limited to a village or a settlement in rural or urban area, a township or city within a Regional Division and must have at least twenty or more Financial Members of the Party whose desire is to support, participate and promote the Party;
  - (c) "Constitution" means this Constitution;
  - (d) "Deputy General Secretary" means the Deputy Secretary of the Party as defined in clause 24.8;
  - (e) "Deputy Party Leader (s)" means the Deputy Party Leader(s) of the Party as defined in clause 24.3;
  - (f) "Deputy National Treasurer" means the Deputy Treasurer of the Party as defined in clause 24.10;
  - (g) "Establishment Committee" means the committee established by the Founding Members pursuant to clause 7.1)
  - (h) "Financial Member" – a valid member of the Party which has been duly registered by the Party Secretariat and has fully paid their subscriptions for the year;
  - (i) "Founding Member" means the founding member of the Party as listed in *Annex D*;
  - (j) "General Secretary" means the Secretary of the Party as defined in clause 24.7;
  - (k) "National Campaign Director", means the National Campaign Director of the Party as defined in clause 22.5;
  - (l) "National Treasurer" means National Treasurer of the Party as defined in clause 24.9;
  - (m) "Party Caucus" means the Party's Members of Parliament, constituted in accordance with clause 14 of this Constitution;
  - (n) "Party Leader" means the Leader of The People's Alliance party who, by default, assumes the role of Leader of the Party Caucus as defined in clause 24.2;
  - (o) "Party Policy" means the platform and policies of the Party as determined in accordance with this Constitution;
  - (p) "Party Secretariat" means the Office headed by the General Secretary as Chief Executive of the Party and the key officers that report to the General Secretary and defined in clause 24.11;
  - (q) "People's Executive Council" means the supreme governing body of the Party established in accordance with clause 16 of this Constitution;

- (r) "People's Management Committee" means the body having responsibility for the day-to-day management of the affairs of the Party and established in accordance with clause 17 of this Constitution;
- (s) "PPA 2013" – refers to the Political Parties (Registration, Conduct, Funding and Disclosures) Act 2013 (No 4 of 2013);
- (t) "President" means the President of the Party as defined in clause 24.4;
- (u) "Public Officer"- means a Public Officer as defined in PPA 2013 PPR 14 (2);
- (v) "Regional Division" means one of the four divisional offices established by the Party as per requirement of Fiji's Political Parties (Registration, Conduct, Funding and Disclosures) Act 2013 (hereinafter referred to as the PPA2013) for Party registration. It is established in each of Fiji's four Divisions, namely Central, Western, Northern and Eastern, being a divisional office formed in accordance with the Constitution of the Party including Offshore divisions as per clause 20 of this Constitution;
- (w) "Regional President" means the President of each Regional Division the Party as defined in clause 24.6;
- (x) "Regional Vice-President" means the President of each Regional Division the Party as defined in clause 24.6;
- (y) "Returning Officer"-an independent person who is not a financial member of the party and will be in charge of the elections of Officers at the People's Assembly;
- (z) "Senior Vice-President" means the First Vice-President of the Party as defined in clause 24.5;
- (aa) "The Party" means The People's Alliance party as per clause 2.1 of this Constitution;
- (bb) "The People's Assembly" means the body of Financial Members representing all the Party and established in accordance with clause 12 of this Constitution;
- (cc) "Women's Alliance Committee" means the national body of the women's representatives of each Regional Division, formed in accordance with the Constitution and approved by the People's Executive Council as per clause 18 of the Constitution; and
- (dd) "Young Alliance Committee" means the organisation of the younger members of the Party formed in accordance with the Constitution and approved by the People's Executive Council as per clause 19 of the Constitution.

## PART II

### 2. NAME, ACRONYM, LOGO, COLOURS AND CONTACT DETAILS

- 2.1 The political party shall be known as "The People's Alliance", also known by the acronym of "PA" (hereinafter referred to as "the Party").

- 2.2 The official logo of the Party is represented by a circular frame within which a white dove facing right holds an olive branch with its beak, against a background of two deep red (top) and dark blue (bottom) hemispheres. The name of the party, 'The People's Alliance' is embedded at the top of the image. The logo and details on its symbolism are attached as *Annex A*.
- 2.3 The Party colours are blue, white and red.
- 2.4 The Party's Head Office is physically located at the following address: 74 Suva Street, Toorak, Suva, Fiji.  
The Party's mailing address is: G P O Box 2437, Government Buildings, Suva, Fiji.

### 3. VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

- 3.1 Vision: A united, prosperous and happy nation thriving in a resilient, stable and vibrant economy.
- 3.2 Mission: To govern the country as one nation under God in a just, democratic manner and deliver an enabling environment for all citizens of Fiji to live decent, productive and honourable lives, respecting their human rights and civil liberties and championing the paramountcy of the rule of law.
- 3.3 Values: Rule of Law; People First; Unity in Diversity; Strategic Leadership; and Good Governance.

### 4. PRINCIPLES

- 4.1 The Party believes in the following principles:
- (a) A just and fair political and electoral system based on democratic values for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections.
  - (b) The active participation of the people, as citizens, in political and civic life and the protection of the human rights and civil liberties of all citizens.
  - (c) Recognition of the special interests of vulnerable communities in a multiracial, multicultural, and multiethnic Fiji, including the advancement of indigenous Fijians in the sustainable and profitable management of their natural resources; displaced farming communities; the protection and empowerment of women and girls, assisting people living with disabilities and the economic empowerment of our youths, employed or otherwise.
  - (d) Recognition of the role of women and youths in national development where the Party proactively promotes at least 33% representation of women and youths in its party machinery.

- (e) Paramountcy of the rule of law, in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens.

## 5. OBJECTS

- 5.1 The objectives of the Party are based on the above principles. These objectives are –
- (a) To secure the election to Parliament and local government and other bodies, competent men and women who prioritise the welfare and prosperity of the common people before personal, selfish interests, through free and fair elections for the purpose of the successful delivery of the Party policies and principles as provided in the Party's manifesto.
  - (b) To promote genuine freedom of expression without persecution, protect the human rights and civil liberties, individual enterprise and the pursuit of excellence for all Fijian citizens.
  - (c) To create a broader and diversified economy which creates benefits and rewards for every Fijian and leaves no one behind.
  - (d) To right-size Government and review and amend levels of taxation to the minimum required to achieve efficient public administration with the least possible intrusion into the lives of individuals, industry and commerce.
  - (e) To provide the enabling environment for the greatest possible development of primary, secondary and tertiary or service industries by integrating e-commerce in all facets of private enterprise, especially by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) as a catalyst to achieve sustainable and inclusive development.
  - (f) To ensure the continued development of the Party as an independent and well-balanced center-right, conservative political force, with the fundamental aim of forming government in order to implement the objects and policies of the Party for the benefit of all Fijians.
- 5.2 Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Party has full powers to do all things necessary to further the objectives and principles of the Party.

## 6. COMMON SEAL

- 6.1 The Party shall adopt a common seal which shall be in the custody of the General Secretary or such other person as the People's Executive Council shall appoint.
- 6.2 The General Secretary is authorised to affix the common seal to all documents that require it.

- 6.3 The General Secretary shall maintain a common seal register where a proper record of all duly executed agreements using the common seal is recorded.

## 7. FOUNDING MEMBERS AND INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS

- 7.1 The following interim arrangements may be established to coordinate and facilitate the establishment of the Party.
- (a) The Founding Members may appoint an Establishment Committee to coordinate the registration and establishment of the Party. The Founding Members shall be members of the Establishment Committee.
  - (b) The Establishment Committee shall appoint the interim office holders of the Party, including the Registered Officer of the Party required for the registration of the Party.
  - (c) The Establishment Committee shall appoint, subsequent to registration, seven additional Founding Members, an Interim People's Management Committee and an Interim People's Executive Council to guide the strategies and policies of the Party up to the first meeting of The People's Assembly of the Party where the members of the People's Management Committee shall be appointed.
  - (d) The Interim People's Management Committee and the Interim People's Executive Council shall have the same functions and enjoy the same authority accorded to the substantive People's Management Committee and People's Executive Committee under this Constitution.

## PART III

### 8. POWERS

- 8.1 The Party shall have the power to:
- (a) provide, equip and maintain a Party Secretariat to promote the objects and policies of the Party.
  - (b) conduct meetings of the Party in both face-to-face and online modes, as appropriate.
  - (c) take such steps by personal or written appeals, public meetings or otherwise as may from time to time be deemed expedient for the purpose of procuring contributions to the funds of the Party in the form of donations, annual subscriptions and other forms of assistance, in accordance with Fiji's PPA2013.
  - (d) receive and accept donations, subscriptions and endowments of money or of any form of property, whether real or personal, provided that no donation, subscription or endowment may be received or accepted if it is subject to any condition relating to the exercise by any member of the Party holding public office of the powers or entitlements of such office.



- (e) produce, publish, issue and distribute gratuitously or otherwise such books, newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals and other literature to promote the objects and policies of the Party;
- (f) invest any monies of the Party in such manner as may from time to time be determined.
- (g) borrow money with or without security for the purpose of carrying out and exercising any of the objects or powers of the Party, and also to lend money to such persons, companies or bodies on such terms as may seem expedient and to guarantee the performance of contracts by any person, company or body (including the payment or repayment to any bank or other lender on demand or otherwise of any monies, loans, advances or banking accommodation and interest and charges) and to mortgage charge or otherwise encumber the whole or any part of the property of the Party in support of any such guarantee.
- (h) engage and dismiss employees and agents of the Party and fix their remuneration and terms of employment unless otherwise specified in this Constitution.
- (i) grant and pay salaries or other payments to any person in recognition of services rendered to the Party.
- (j) do all such acts and things as are or may be incidental or conducive to the attainment or furtherance of any of the objects or the exercise of any of the powers as set out in this Constitution or otherwise for furthering the interests of the Party.

8.2 The Party is formed to carry out the objects above mentioned and not for the purpose securing pecuniary profit to the members from the transactions thereof.

8.3 The income and property of the Party whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Party as set forth in this Constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit to the members of the Party, provided always that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration whether by way of salary or honoraria or otherwise in return for any service actually rendered to or on behalf of the Party, to any officers or servants of the Party or to any member thereof or other person.

8.4 If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Party there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall be paid or distributed amongst selected organisations, taking elaborate consideration that there shall be no distribution of such funds among the members. The identification of the said organisations shall be determined by the People's Executive Council (PEC) of the Party at or before the time of dissolution and in default thereof by such Court or Judge as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

## 9. PARTY POLICY - GENERAL

- 9.1 The Policy of the Party must be based on matters approved by The People's Assembly and must be:
- (a) Based on the values, principles and objects of the Party;
  - (b) Supported by the People's Management Committee and endorsed by the People's Executive Council; and
  - (c) Contained in the manifesto issued before each general election, which is the official policy of the Party until the next manifesto is issued.
- 9.2 However, any matter arising subsequent to The People's Assembly or Special Assembly and not provided for in the existing manifesto must be determined by the People's Management Committee and endorsed by PEC before approval at the People's Assembly.

## PART IV

### 10. MEMBERSHIP

- 10.1 Eligibility Criteria for Membership
- (a) In accordance with Section 23 (1) (a) of the 2013 Fiji Constitution, the Party invites any natural person over the age of 18 years who agrees to the Constitution and policy of the Party may apply to be a member of the Party.
  - (b) No body corporate may be a member of the Party.
  - (c) A person cannot be a member of the Party if he or she is a member of another political Party in Fiji; or another group or organisation, membership in which is declared by The People's Assembly or the People's Executive Council to be incompatible with the objects, values and principles of the Party,
  - (d) In the five years preceding the date of application for membership, the person has not been declared a bankrupt;
  - (e) A public officer shall not be eligible to be a member of the Party unless the applicant has resigned from the respective public office and complied fully with the provisions of the relevant legislations governing political Party membership.
- 10.2 Membership Subscriptions
- The current subscription for a member is \$2 per person and falls due on 1 January each year. The subscription must be confirmed or amended each year by The People's Assembly.
- 10.3 Admissions to Membership
- (a) An applicant for membership must:
    - (1) complete the appropriate online or offline form, which must include providing the applicant's name and contact details; and

(2) pay the required subscription as set by The People's Assembly under Clause 10.2.

- 10.4 Subject to Clause 10.3, an applicant may designate the Branch and Regional Division to which he or she wishes to belong which will be noted at the Party Secretariat.
- 10.5 All applications for membership must be submitted to the Party Secretariat.
- 10.6 An applicant becomes a member of the Party from the date their membership application is received at the Party Secretariat with the member's associated subscription, except if the Party Secretariat declines their application in writing.
- 10.7 The Party Secretariat must maintain a register of the Party's current Financial Members.
- 10.8 A Founding Member is a person listed as a founding member of the Party under *Annex D*. A Founding Member is by design, also a life member of the Party unless revoked by voluntary resignation or death. A Founding Member is required to pay his or her subscription fee to be able to vote.
- 10.9 Termination of Membership  
Upon joining, a person remains a member of the Party unless –
- (a) At any time, they inform General Secretary that they wish to resign their membership, in which case their membership is terminated from the date the General Secretary receives that notification in writing and is copied to the Registrar of Political Parties.
  - (b) They become deceased, in which case their membership is terminated from the date of death.
  - (c) They join another Fijian political Party; in which case their membership is automatically terminated from the date they joined that other Party.
  - (d) They are expelled from the Party under clause 27, in which case their membership is terminated from the date specified in the resolution expelling the member, or from the date of the resolution if no date is specified.
- 10.10 **Non-payment of subscriptions by Financial member**  
Where a Financial member has not paid their subscriptions when it falls due, they will be unable to vote or serve in their capacity as an Officer of the Party until such time as they have paid their due subscriptions and any other sums owing to the Party (if any).

## PART V

### 11. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE & GOVERNANCE

11.1 The organisation structure shall be composed as follows:

- (a) The People's Assembly
- (b) Party Caucus
- (c) People's Executive Council (PEC)
- (d) People's Management Committee (PMC)
- (e) Sub-Committees
- (f) Women's Alliance Committee (WAC)
- (g) Young Alliance Committee (YAC)
- (h) Regional Divisions
- (i) Branches

### 12. THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

- 12.1 The People's Assembly shall be convened by the People's Executive Council at least once every year, at such time and place determined by the People's Executive Council.
- 12.2 The General Secretary will be the Secretary of all People's Assembly meetings.
- 12.3 If the General Secretary is unavailable, the Deputy General Secretary shall automatically assume the position and responsibilities as Acting General Secretary until such time the substantive General Secretary has effectively resumed the position from temporary absence or a new General Secretary has been substantively appointed. A nominee appointed by the People's Executive Council, shall take the minutes of The People's Assembly meetings, if the Deputy General Secretary, acting in his or her capacity as the Acting General Secretary is not available.
- 12.4 Notice of The People's Assembly meeting must be issued in one of the local newspapers and/or social media at least 30 days before the date of the said meeting.
- 12.5 The Notice must include the Agenda of the Meeting.
- 12.6 The quorum for a meeting of The People's Assembly shall be no less than 100 Financial Members.
- 12.7 The People's Assembly business shall cover the following:
  - (a) Receive and accept a report from the President on the activities of the Party since the last meeting.
  - (b) Consider and approve the audited financial accounts from the previous financial year and the external auditor's opinion.
  - (c) Appoint the external auditor as requested under the PPA2013 and approve fees.
  - (d) Approve annual subscriptions of the Party.

- (e) To elect President, Senior Vice President and Assistant Vice President.
- (f) Receive and accept reports from the Regional Divisions on their activities since the last People's Assembly meeting.
- (g) To conduct any other business specified by the by the Constitution or directed by the People's Executive Council to consider any motion which has been submitted to The People's Assembly from the People's Executive Council.

- 12.8 Only the Founding Members subject to clause 10.9 and Financial Members can attend and vote at the People's Assembly.
- 12.9 The People's Executive Council may formally invite any person but will not be able to vote.
- 12.10 The People's Executive Council shall appoint an independent, qualified person to act as Returning Officer for all elections held at The People's Assembly.
- 12.11 The President, Senior Vice President and Assistant Vice President shall be elected at The People's Assembly meeting. If the election is contested, there shall be a secret ballot or show of hands, as agreed, at The People's Assembly meeting.
- 12.12 Nominations for election shall be invited in the notice calling for The People's Assembly meeting from the members of the Party and must be submitted to the People's Executive Council.
- 12.13 Nominations must be received from Financial Members of the Party by the General Secretary by email or letter no later than 15 days before The People's Assembly meeting date. The nominations must be proposed and seconded by financial members only and in writing signed by the mover, seconder and nominee.
- 12.14 Where elections are put to a vote, ballot papers shall be distributed to Financial Members of the Party present at The People's Assembly meeting and shall be returned to the Returning Officer at the meeting.
- 12.15 An unsuccessful candidate who alleges that there has been or may have been an irregularity in the election processes, may within 15 days after the declaration of the result, formally request in writing for an investigation by the People's Executive Council in accordance with the dispute mechanisms as outlined under clause 27. Subject to any order made after such an investigation, no alleged irregularity shall invalidate an election unless declared by the People's Executive Council.
- 12.16 For a motion to be considered at The People's Assembly meeting, it must be submitted by a Financial Member of the Party (the "proposer") not less than 15 days prior to The People's Assembly

meeting to the General Secretary in writing or email. The motion must be signed by the proposer and the seconder who must be a Financial Member.

- 12.17 Whether a motion is tabled at The People's Assembly or not is decided by the People's Executive Council at the recommendation of the People's Management Committee and their decision is final.
- 12.18 The role of the Chair for The People's Assembly meeting shall include the following:
- (a) The President shall be the Chair of The People's Assembly and/or Special Assembly meetings.
  - (b) At all times at which the President is not present at meetings of The People's Assembly, the Senior Vice President or Assistant Vice President shall be nominated by the People's Executive Council to chair the meeting.
  - (c) If, at any time, the President and both Vice Presidents as per 12.17 (b) are absent from a meeting of The People's Assembly, the People's Executive Council shall nominate one of the Regional Vice Presidents or one of its members if all Regional Vice Presidents are unavailable to chair the meeting.
  - (d) In the case of an equality of votes on any motion at a meeting of The People's Assembly, the Chair shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.
  - (e) All decisions of The People's Assembly shall be validated by a simple majority of the votes of the Founding and Financial Members on the resolution.
  - (f) The Minutes of the meetings shall be kept on the proceedings of each meeting of The People's Assembly and shall be signed as a true and accurate account of the meeting proceedings thereof by the Chair of the meeting. Such minutes shall be confirmed at the next meeting of the People's Assembly.

### 13. SPECIAL PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY

- 13.1 The People's Executive Council can call for a Special People's Assembly meeting to deliberate and decide on urgent matters which cannot be deferred for decision making at The People's Assembly meeting. The People's Executive Council shall nominate a time and a venue for the Special People's Assembly.
- 13.2 The secretarial duties, notice of meetings, elections and motions if required shall be in accordance with clause 12 of the Constitution except for clause 12.7.

## 14. PARTY CAUCUS

- 14.1 There shall be a Party Caucus for the purposes of promoting the objects and principles of the Party in the Parliament of Fiji.
- 14.2 The members of the Party Caucus shall be those Members of Parliament duly elected to the Parliament of Fiji as candidates of The People's Alliance party as selected in accordance with this Constitution.
- 14.3 The Party Caucus may make rules, not inconsistent with this Constitution, for the management of its internal affairs and may vary such rules from time to time.
- 14.4 Officers of the Party Caucus
- (a) Officers of the Party Caucus shall subject to clause 14.2 be the:
- (1) Party Leader
  - (2) Deputy Party Leader(s)
  - (3) Party Whip
  - (4) Deputy Whip
- (b) The officers of the Party Caucus shall be elected by Caucus in such manner as it shall think fit.
- 14.5 The Party Caucus shall be responsible for the implementation of the Party policies as defined in clause 1.1 (o) and constituted under clause 9.
- 14.6 If circumstances require the Party Caucus to act inconsistently with policy decisions made by The People's Assembly or People's Executive Council, the Party Leader shall formally seek the endorsement of the People's Executive Council as soon as practically possible with the justifications. The People's Executive Council will advise The People's Assembly at the earliest possible opportunity and seek its ratification.

## 15. MERGER AND COALITION AGREEMENTS

- 15.1 It is recognised that:
- (a) the objects of the Party will be achieved by the Party winning and maintaining Government in the Parliament of Fiji;
  - (b) the Party Caucus may decide that its prospects of forming and maintaining Government are enhanced by it merging with it or forming a coalition or alliance with another Parliamentary political Party, either in Government or Opposition after the election;
  - (c) the Party Caucus may accordingly enter into, alter the terms of, or terminate, either in Government or Opposition, a merger, coalition or alliance with another Parliamentary political Party, in

accordance with Fiji's Political Parties (Registration, Conduct, Funding and Disclosures) Act 2013;

- (d) before commencing negotiations for the purpose of entering into, altering the terms of, or terminating any such merger, coalition or alliance, and before deciding to enter into, alter the terms of or terminate any such alliance, the Party Leader shall consult with the People's Management Committee and thereafter for endorsement by the People's Executive Council and The People's Assembly whose views on the matter shall be fully taken into account by the Party Caucus in making their decision.

## 16. PEOPLE'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

16.1 The People's Executive Council shall be the supreme governing body of the Party.

16.2 The People's Executive Council shall have the power to:

- (a) formulate and propose Party policies to The People's Assembly for adoption;
- (b) propose amendments of the Constitution for approval at The People's Assembly.
- (c) provide the People's Management Committee with such general recommendations concerning the management of the Party as it sees fit;
- (d) receive, consider reports and approve, if agreed, the recommendations of the People's Management Committee on the reports of the Sub-Committees;
- (e) receive and approve the monthly financial reports from the Treasurer;
- (f) receive and approve annual budget and elections budget for the good governance and operations of the Party;
- (g) consider motions submitted for consideration at The People's Assembly as recommended by People's Management Committee as per clause 17.2 (a) (6);
- (h) Advise the People's Assembly of the nominees for the positions of President, Senior Vice President and Assistant Vice President for election;
- (i) Appoints the key executive officers on the recommendation of the People's Management Committee;
- (j) endorse recommendations by the People's Management Committee on the appointment of external auditors for the Party and the audit fees for tabling at the annual People's Assembly;
- (k) delegate authority formally as appropriate to the People's Management Committee to allow for the day to day running and good governance of the Party; and
- (l) exercise such other powers as may be provided for by this Constitution to facilitate the operations and management of the Party.



16.3 Membership

The People's Executive Council shall comprise:

- (a) Party Leader;
- (b) Three Deputy Party Leaders;
- (c) Five nominees of the Party Caucus;
- (d) President;
- (e) Senior Vice President;
- (f) Assistant Vice President;
- (g) Seven (7) Regional Vice Presidents;
- (h) General Secretary;
- (i) National Campaign Director;
- (j) National Treasurer;
- (k) President of the Women Alliance Committee or nominee;
- (l) President of the Young Alliance Committee or nominee;
- (m) Chair of the Legal and Disciplinary Sub Committee.

16.4 Alternate member

An alternate member attending a meeting of the People's Executive Council in the place of a substantive member shall have the same rights and privileges as a substantive member. The alternate member is to be formally appointed and approved by the People's Executive Council at the recommendation of the substantive member. If the alternate member cannot attend on behalf of the substantive member, the substantive member's attendance is recorded as absent.

16.5 Meetings of the People's Executive Council

There shall be a minimum of six (6) meetings a year of the People's Executive Council at such date, time and place as decided by the People's Executive Council.

16.6 Appointment of Key Officers

- (a) The People's Executive Council shall appoint following the recommendations of the People's Management Committee, a Party Leader, Deputy Party Leader, General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, Treasurer, National Treasurer, Deputy National Treasurer, National Campaign Director, Deputy National Campaign Director and the Chair of the Legal and Disciplinary Sub-Committee, who shall each be a Financial Member.
- (b) Prior to the election of the President, the Senior and Assistant Vice Presidents, the People's Executive Committee shall:
  - (1) invite nominations for each of the positions which shall be called for at the same time as its written notice is given for each Annual meeting of the People's Assembly;
  - (2) ensure that the nominations are submitted in writing and signed by the nominee, the nominator and a seconder.

- (3) ensure that the nominations are submitted to the General Secretary no later than 15 days prior to The People's Assembly meeting.
- (4) ensure that the names of the nominees are submitted to the People's Executive Council after the close of the nomination deadline and the PEC shall decide on the final names for submission as nominees to The People's Assembly for elections after considering advice from the PMC and Party Leader.
- (5) Should no valid nomination for a position be received by the close of nominations or should a candidate withdraw his or her nomination leaving no nominees, the General Secretary shall advise the People's Executive Council and seek approval from the People's Executive Council to call for nominations from the floor.

16.7 Quorum, meeting and voting procedures

- (a) A quorum for a meeting of People's Executive Council shall consist of 13 members of the People's Executive Council.
- (b) All members of People's Executive Council shall have a vote on all motions put forth for its deliberation.
- (c) The President shall be the Chair of People's Executive Council.
- (d) At all times at which the President is not present at meetings of the People's Executive Council, either Senior Vice President or the Assistant Vice President shall chair the meeting in that order.
- (e) If at any time the first two Vice Presidents are absent from a meeting of People's Executive Council, the People's Executive Council shall elect a Chair from the remaining seven Vice Presidents from the Regional Division.
- (f) In the case of an equality of votes on any motion at a meeting of People's Executive Council, the Party Leader shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.
- (g) Except as otherwise specifically provided for by this Constitution, all decisions of the People's Executive Council shall be decided by a simple majority of those members who, being present and entitled to vote, vote on the resolution.
- (h) Minutes shall be kept of the proceedings of each meeting of People's Executive Council by the General Secretary or a nominee of the General Secretary and shall be signed as a true and accurate record thereof by the Chair of the meeting.

16.8 Casual Appointments

- (a) In the event of the death, resignation or retirement of the President, the Senior Vice-President shall automatically become the Acting President of the Party. In the event the Senior Vice President unable to immediately fill the casual vacancy, the

Assistant Vice President shall fill the casual vacancy. If the Assistant Vice President cannot fill the vacancy, the PEC will appoint one of the other seven Vice Presidents from the Regional Division who shall automatically fill the casual vacancy.

- (b) In the unlikely event that all Vice Presidents are unable to automatically fill the vacancy due to death, resignation or retirement causes only, the People's Executive Council shall appoint a member of the People's Executive Council to immediately fill the casual vacancy. The person so appointed to the casual vacancy shall hold office until the next annual meeting of The People's Assembly.
- (c) In the event of the death, resignation or retirement of any of the Vice Presidents, General Secretary or Treasurer, the People's Executive Council may appoint as follows to fill the aforementioned casual vacancies:
  - (1) A new Vice President from the membership;
  - (2) Deputy General Secretary to replace the General Secretary; and
  - (3) Deputy Treasurer to replace the Treasurer.
- (d) If the above nominees cannot fill any casual vacancies, the People's Executive Council shall appoint another member of People's Executive Council or a suitably qualified member of the Party to fill the casual vacancy.

## 17. PEOPLE'S MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

17.1 The day to day management of the affairs of the Party and the exercise of the powers of the Party as defined in clause 8.1 shall be the responsibility of the People's Management Committee.

### 17.2 Powers of People's Management Committee

- (a) The People's Management Committee shall have the power to do all things necessary in the day to day management of the Party to achieve the objects and policies of the Party, including the power to:
  - (1) make recommendations to the People's Executive Council;
  - (2) foster the establishment, development and growth of community support and electoral structures of the Party in localities;
  - (3) recommend candidates for general elections on behalf of the Party to the People's Executive Council;
  - (4) establish the Sub Committees such as the National Strategy and Campaign as per clause 22.2, Audit and Finance clause 23 and the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub Committees clause 27.1 and any other Sub Committee, as the People's Management Committee sees fit;
  - (5) receive and consider all reports from the Sub-Committees;

- (6) receive and consider motions from the Financial Members through the General Secretary and directs the General Secretary on the motions allowed for submission to the People's Executive Council for deliberation at the annual People's Assembly;
- (7) make recommendations to the People's Executive Council on any reports tabled by the relevant Sub-Committees;
- (8) interview, assess and recommend as appropriate to the People's Executive Council, the appointment of the Party Leader; Deputy Party Leaders; General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary, National Treasurer, Deputy National Treasurer; Chairs of the relevant Sub Committees; the National Campaign Director and Deputy National Campaign Director with associated terms and conditions; and
- (9) exercise such other powers as delegated by the People's Executive Council or as provided for by the Constitution.

17.3 Membership of People's Management Committee

- (a) The People's Management Committee shall comprise the:
  - (1) Party Leader- Chair
  - (2) Deputy Party Leaders
  - (3) Whip of the Party Caucus or in their absence, the Deputy Whip
  - (4) National Treasurer
  - (5) General Secretary
  - (6) National Campaign Director
  - (7) Senior Officer from Parliamentary Chamber – ex-officio and non-voting
  - (8) Chairs of the Sub-Committees as non-voting members by invitation
  - (9) President of the Women Alliance Committee or their nominee
  - (10) President of the Young Alliance Committee or their nominee
  - (11) Three Party Caucus nominees appointed by the Party Leader, the procedures of which are consistent with clause 14.

17.4 Meetings of People's Management Committee

The People's Management Committee shall meet at least monthly and at such a date, time and place as decided by the People's Management Committee.

17.5 Quorum, meeting and voting procedures

- (a) A quorum for a meeting of the People's Management Committee shall be eight.

- (b) All members of the People's Management Committee shall have a vote on all motions put to the People's Management Committee.
- (c) The Party Leader shall be the Chair of the People's Management Committee and in exceptional circumstances, shall be empowered by this Constitution to exercise veto powers in his or her independent judgement, as he or she sees fit, where the founding principles and objects of the Party have been clearly compromised;
- (d) At all times at which the Party Leader is not present at meetings of the People's Management Committee, one of the Deputy Party Leaders shall be appointed by the Party Leader to assume the chairmanship of the meeting. If at any time all three (3) Deputy Party Leaders are not present at the meetings of the People's Management Committee, the People's Management Committee shall appoint the Chair from the membership of the People's Management Committee present.
- (e) In the case of an equality of votes on any motion at a meeting of the People's Management Committee, the Chair shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.
- (f) All decisions of the People's Management Committee shall be decided by a simple majority of those who, being present and entitled to vote, voted on the resolution.
- (g) Minutes shall be kept of the proceedings of each meeting of the People's Management Committee and shall be signed as a true and accurate record thereof by the Chair of the meeting.

## 18. WOMEN'S ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

- 18.1 The Women's Alliance Committee will be administered by the Women's Alliance executive which is accountable to the People's Management Committee. The Women's Alliance Committee executive shall constitute a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one member appointed from each Regional Division and four nominees appointed by the People's Management Committee.
- 18.2 Any female Financial Member of the Party shall be eligible to become a member of the Women's Alliance.
- 18.3 The Women's Alliance members who are Financial Members of the Party shall elect the Executives of the of the Women's Alliance Committee at its Annual Women's Alliance Assembly or any other means approved by the People's Management Committee and ratified by the People's Executive Council. The Women's Alliance members shall submit the names of the Executive nominees through their Regional Division Executive Council for ratification which shall subsequently convey these nominations to the General Secretary.

- 18.4 The quorum for any official meetings of the Women's Alliance Committee shall be no less than eight members of the Committee Executive.
- 18.5 All Women's Alliance Committee Executives will serve for a term of four years.
- 18.6 The Women's Alliance Committee will meet as and when required to assist the operations of the Party.
- 18.7 The Women's Alliance Committee is bound by the provision of this Constitution.
- 18.8 The President of the Women's Alliance shall be accountable for all the affairs for the Women's Alliance Branch to the People's Management Committee.
- 18.9 The Women's Alliance Committee Treasurer shall report to their National Treasurer. The Women's Alliance Committee shall abide by the financial instructions issued by the National Treasurer and any other requirements as set out in the Constitution.
- 18.10 The financial year of the Women's Alliance Committee shall coincide with the Party's financial year.
- 18.11 The Women's Alliance Committee shall not levy any separate fee or subscription on its members.
- 18.12 The Women's Alliance Committee cannot incur any liability in the form of borrowing, overdraft, suppliers' credit or other forms on behalf of the Party.
- 18.13 The Women's Alliance Committee cannot own assets. Any assets so procured shall be vested in the Party.
- 18.14 The Women's Alliance Committee shall not enter into an agreement or contract on behalf of the Party except if approved by the People's Executive Council.
- 18.15 The Women's Alliance Committee President shall submit accounts of the Women's Alliance Committee on an annual basis to the National Treasurer no later than January of the following year.
- 18.16 The Party auditor shall audit the accounts of the Women's Alliance Committee.

- 18.17 The Women's Alliance Committee shall call for an Annual Women's Assembly immediately prior to the annual People's Assembly meeting to elect its office bearers and consider other business, and may convene such other meetings as it shall think fit, including a Women's Alliance conference at least once every two (2) years.
- 18.18 The Annual Women's Alliance Assembly shall be administered by the Party Secretariat.
- 18.19 The quorum for the Women's Alliance Assembly shall be 50 members of the Women's Alliance.

## 19. YOUNG ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

- 19.1 The Young Alliance Committee shall be administered by the Young Alliance Executive which is accountable to the PMC. The Young Alliance Committee Executive shall constitute a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and one member appointed from each Regional Division and four nominees appointed by the PMC.
- 19.2 A Young Alliance member shall be any Financial Member of the Party not exceeding the age of 35 as at 1<sup>st</sup> of January in each year.
- 19.3 The Young Alliance members who are Financial Members of the Party shall elect the members of the of the Young Alliance Committee Executive at its annual Young Alliance Assembly or any other means approved by the People's Management Committee and ratified by the People's Executive Council.
- 19.4 The Young Alliance members shall submit the names of their nominees to the Young Alliance Committee Executive through their Regional Division Executive Council for ratification which shall subsequently convey these nominations to the General Secretary.
- 19.5 All Young Alliance Committee Executives shall serve for a term of 2 years or maximum of 2 terms or 4 years of broken service in the position they hold.
- 19.6 Where a casual vacancy arises in the Young Alliance Committee Executive, the remaining Executive Committee members shall nominate another member to fill the vacancy until the next Annual Young Alliance Assembly.
- 19.7 The Young Alliance Committee shall meet annually and as and when required to assist the operations of the Party. The quorum shall be no less than eight members of the Committee Executive.

- 19.8 The Young Alliance Committee shall be bound by the provisions of this Constitution.
- 19.9 The President of the Young Alliance shall be accountable for all the affairs of the Young Alliance to the People's Management Committee.
- 19.10 The Young Alliance Committee Treasurer shall report to their National Treasurer. The Young Alliance Committee shall abide by the financial instructions issued by the National Treasurer and any other requirements as set out in the Constitution.
- 19.11 The financial year of the Young Alliance Committee shall coincide with the Party's financial year.
- 19.12 The Young Alliance Committee shall not levy any separate fee or subscription on its members.
- 19.13 The Young Alliance Committee shall not incur any liability in the form of borrowing, overdraft, suppliers' credit or other forms on behalf of the Party.
- 19.14 The Young Alliance Committee shall not own assets. Any assets so procured shall all be vested in the Party.
- 19.15 The Young Alliance Committee shall not enter into an agreement or contract on behalf of the Party except if approved by the People's Executive Council.
- 19.16 The Young Alliance Committee President shall submit accounts of the Young Alliance Committee on an annual basis to the National Treasurer no later than January of the following year.
- 19.17 The Party auditor shall audit the accounts of the Young Alliance Committee.
- 19.18 The Young Alliance Committee shall call for an Annual Young Alliance Assembly immediately prior to the annual People's Assembly meeting to elect its office bearers and consider other business, and may convene such other meetings as it shall think fit, including a Young Alliance conference at least once every two (2) years.
- 19.19 The Annual Young Alliance Assembly shall be administered by the Party Secretariat.
- 19.20 The quorum for the Young Alliance Assembly shall be 50 Young Alliance members.



## 20. REGIONAL DIVISIONS

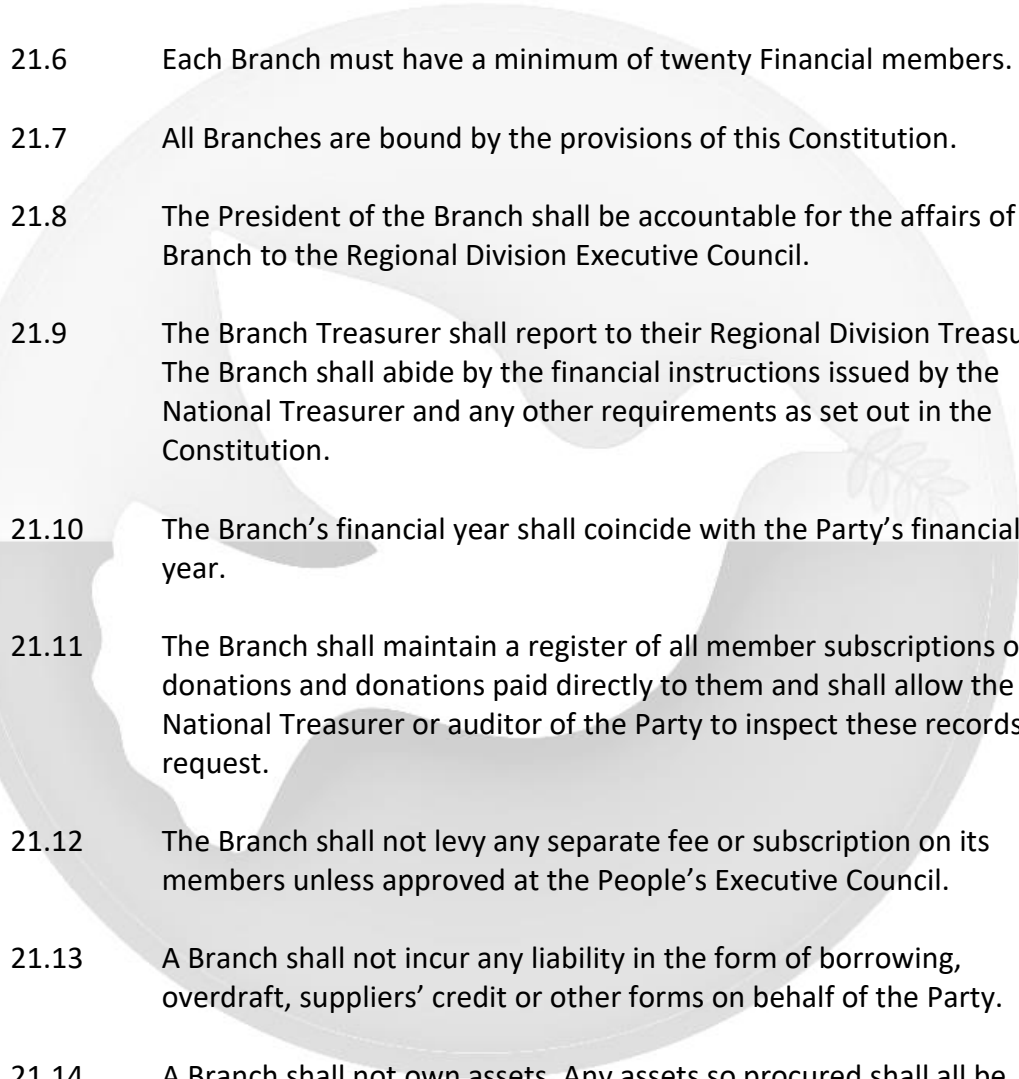
- 20.1 The Party electorate are classified as per the PPA2013 into the Central, Eastern, Western and Northern Divisions and all branches of the Party shall be affiliated to a Regional Division.
- 20.2 In addition to the divisions under Clause 20.1, the Party may through the People's Management Committee approve the creation of Regional Divisions outside of Fiji which shall be ratified by the People's Executive Committee.
- 20.3 The approved Regional Divisions outside of Fiji are based in Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America.
- 20.4 Each Regional Division will be responsible for the Branches in its Division and shall maintain a representative office.
- 20.5 The Regional Division will be administered by a Regional Division Executive Council which shall report directly to the People's Management Committee. The Regional Division Executive Council shall be headed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Women's Alliance representatives, two Young Alliance representatives, three nominees of the People's Management Committee and four other Financial Members of the Party.
- 20.6 The Branch Presidents in each Regional Division who are Financial Members of the Party shall elect the Regional Division Executive Council at its Annual Regional People's Assembly or any other means recommended by the People's Management Committee and approved by the People's Executive Council. The Division shall submit these nominations of the Regional Division Executive Council to the People's Management Committee for approval which shall then be ratified by the People's Executive Council.
- 20.7 The Regional Division Executive Council shall meet annually and as and when required to assist the operations of the Party. The quorum shall be no less than eight members of the Council.
- 20.8 Each Regional Division must have a minimum of five Branches in operation.
- 20.9 All Regional Divisions are bound by the provisions of this Constitution.
- 20.10 The Regional Division shall report on its affairs directly to the People's Management Committee.
- 20.11 The Regional Division Treasurer shall report to the National Treasurer. The Regional Treasurer shall abide by the financial instructions related

issues by the National Treasurer and any other requirements as set out in the Constitution.

- 20.12 The Regional Division's financial year shall coincide with the Party's financial year.
- 20.13 The Regional Division shall maintain a register of all member subscriptions or donations and donations paid directly to them and shall allow the National Treasurer or auditor of the Party to inspect these records on request.
- 20.14 The Regional Division shall not levy any separate fee or subscription on its members unless approved at the People's Executive Council.
- 20.15 A Regional Division cannot incur any liability in the form of borrowing, overdraft, suppliers' credit or other forms on behalf of the Party.
- 20.16 A Regional Division shall not own assets which shall all be vested in the Party.
- 20.17 A Regional Division shall not enter into an agreement or contract on behalf of the Party except if approved by the People's Executive Council.
- 20.18 The Regional Division President shall submit accounts of the Division annually.
- 20.19 The Party auditor shall audit the accounts of the Regional Division if required and conduct any special audits if required.
- 20.20 The Annual Regional Assembly shall be administered by the Party Secretariat.

## 21. BRANCHES

- 21.1 A Branch can be formed in any Regional Division with the approval of the relevant Regional Division Executive Council.
- 21.2 Within each Regional Division, a Branch can be formed at a village, urban or rural settlement, suburb, locality or any other geographical grouping within the Regional Division as approved by the Regional Division Executive Council.
- 21.3 Each Branch shall be administered by a Branch Committee which is accountable to the Regional Division Executive Council. The Branch shall be headed by a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, two Women's Alliance representatives, two Young Alliance representatives and seven other members.

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- 21.4 The Branch members who are Financial Members of the Party shall elect the members of their Branch Committee at its Annual General Meeting or any other means approved by the Regional Division Executive Council. The Branch shall submit the names of the nominees to the Branch Committee to the Regional Division Executive Council for ratification.
- 21.5 The Branch will meet as and when required to assist the operations of the Party and the quorum shall be eight Financial Members of the Branch.
- 21.6 Each Branch must have a minimum of twenty Financial members.
- 21.7 All Branches are bound by the provisions of this Constitution.
- 21.8 The President of the Branch shall be accountable for the affairs of the Branch to the Regional Division Executive Council.
- 21.9 The Branch Treasurer shall report to their Regional Division Treasurer. The Branch shall abide by the financial instructions issued by the National Treasurer and any other requirements as set out in the Constitution.
- 21.10 The Branch's financial year shall coincide with the Party's financial year.
- 21.11 The Branch shall maintain a register of all member subscriptions or donations and donations paid directly to them and shall allow the National Treasurer or auditor of the Party to inspect these records on request.
- 21.12 The Branch shall not levy any separate fee or subscription on its members unless approved at the People's Executive Council.
- 21.13 A Branch shall not incur any liability in the form of borrowing, overdraft, suppliers' credit or other forms on behalf of the Party.
- 21.14 A Branch shall not own assets. Any assets so procured shall all be vested in the Party.
- 21.15 A Branch shall not enter into an agreement or contract on behalf of the Party except if approved by the People's Executive Council.
- 21.16 The Branch President shall submit accounts of the Branch on an annual basis.

- 21.17 The Party auditor shall audit the accounts of the Branch and conduct any special audits, if required.

## 22. SUB-COMMITTEES

- 22.1 There are three main Sub-Committees namely the National Campaign Strategy Committee, the Audit and Finance Sub-Committee and the National Legal and Disciplinary Sub-Committee. The People's Management Committee may form additional Sub-Committees as they see fit, subject to the approval of the People's Executive Council. The General Secretary or nominee will take the minutes of each Sub-Committee meeting and table for confirmation at the next session.

### National Campaign Strategy Committee

- 22.2 The National Campaign Strategy Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the development and execution of Party strategies at national elections; and post-elections, covering parliamentary debates and proceedings.
- 22.3 The National Campaign Strategy Sub-Committee shall comprise the following:
- (a) National Campaign Director;
  - (b) Party Leader (or nominee which should be one of the Deputy Party Leaders who shall be the Chair of the Sub-Committee);
  - (c) Deputy National Campaign Director;
  - (d) General Secretary or nominee;
  - (e) Each Regional Division shall appoint a Regional Campaign Director who must be one of the Branch Presidents in the Regional Division and
  - (f) any such other members as the People's Management Committee shall from time to time determine.
- 22.4 The National Campaign Strategy Sub-Committee shall develop a Terms of Reference which shall be approved by the PMC which will determine its operations and shall have responsibility for all the national campaigns and on-going parliamentary strategies within the framework of a budget determined by the PMC.
- 22.5 The National Campaign Director shall be charged with the overall leadership, oversight and policy guidance relating to the planning, formulation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) phases of the national campaign strategies.

## 23. AUDIT AND FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

- 23.1 The Audit and Finance Sub-Committee shall be responsible for the oversight of audit and budgetary matters; the National Campaign Budget in an election year; proper financial and regulatory reporting

as required under PPA2013; relevant policies and procedures; any investigations relating to financial matters and any other matters as tasked by the People's Management Committee.

- 23.2 The Audit and Finance Sub-Committee shall consist of seven Financial members of the Party with appropriate financial and business professional experience and appointed by the People's Management Committee. The Sub-Committee will appoint their Chair and Deputy Chair.
- 23.3 The Audit and Finance Sub-Committee will develop a Terms of Reference which shall be approved by the People's Executive Council and will determine its operation, meeting schedules and procedures.

## PART VI

### 24. OFFICERS OF THE PARTY

- 24.1 The Party Secretariat shall be made up of the General Secretary and such staff as the Party, through the People's Management Committee, may determine.
- 24.2 Party Leader
- (a) The Party Leader shall be selected by the People's Management Committee and endorsed through a simple majority vote of the People's Executive Council, the Party Caucus and the Founding Members during a meeting of the PEC on a collective basis .
  - (b) The Party Leader shall be a sitting member of Parliament unless the Party does not have a Member of Parliament.
  - (c) There shall not be a fixed term for the Party Leader.
  - (d) The key roles of the Party Leader are:
    - (1) Lead the Party;
    - (2) Prime Minister, Leader of Opposition and Leader of Party Caucus, as appropriate;
    - (3) Chair the Parliamentary Caucus;
    - (4) Provide oversight and strategic direction on the planning, formulation and implementation of the strategies and policies of the Party;
    - (5) Engage actively in public advocacy as the principal media contact of the Party;
    - (6) Develop succession plans for the Party leadership;
    - (7) Key liaison with other political parties and stakeholders;
    - (8) Other roles as assigned by The People's Assembly and the People's Executive Council, as appropriate.
  - (e) In selecting the Party Leader, the PMC and PEC shall take into consideration ~~of~~ the attributes listed in *Annex E*.

- (f) The Party leadership may be changed via a written proposal submitted through the People's Management Committee based on an inability to meet the requirements under clause 24 (d), mental incapacity or bringing the Party into disrepute which upon conveyance to the People's Executive Council for endorsement, shall successfully secure during a special session at least two thirds of the votes of the People's Executive Council, Party Caucus and the Founding Members of the Party voting as one collective grouping.

#### 24.3 Deputy Party Leaders

- (a) The People's Executive Committee shall approve the appointment of the three Deputy Party Leaders upon the recommendation of the Party Leader and the People's Management Committee. The Deputy Party Leader does not necessarily have to be in Parliament and will have a fixed term of 4 years.
- (b) Reappointment of the Deputy Leaders shall be at the recommendation of the Party Leader and the People's Management Committee and ratification by the People's Executive Council.
- (c) The number of the Deputy Party Leaders approved in the Constitution is three and can be varied at the recommendation of the Party Leader and the People's Management Committee and approved by the People's Executive Council.
- (d) The role of each Deputy Party Leader is to assist the Party Leader in the leadership and execution of the vision and mission of the Party.
- (e) The Party Leader may delegate specific responsibilities to the Deputy Party Leaders, as he sees fit.

#### 24.4 President

There shall be a Party President of the Party who shall be appointed by The People's Assembly. The President shall not be a member of the Party Caucus. The first President of the Party shall serve for an initial term of 6 years and can be re-appointed for a further 4 years or can serve 10 years of broken service. The terms for any subsequent President shall be 4 years with no more than 2 terms or if service is broken, 8 years in total in this position.

The Functions of the President are:

- (a) Responsible for proper governance of the Party and provide guidance on the smooth running of the administration.
- (b) Chair the People's Assembly meetings and the People's Executive Council.

- (c) Work collaboratively with the Party Leader and all Deputy Party Leaders to promote the Party's Vision, Mission, Values and be guided by the principles and objects of the Party.
- (d) Promote and maintain unity within the Party and take all necessary steps to encourage office holders to work together in the interest of the Party.
- (e) The People's Executive Council will determine the terms and conditions of the President and such conditions can only be varied by mutual consent of both parties.
- (f) The President may resign from his or her position at any time during his or her term.
- (g) The People's Assembly shall have the authority to terminate the appointment of the President in the event of a serious dereliction of his or her duties and/or breach of the Party's Constitution and/or Code of conduct.
- (h) The People's Assembly shall only exercise this authority if a motion is properly put to the General Secretary and has been supported and approved at the People's Management Committee and People's Executive Council, respectively.
- (i) The approval to terminate the President's appointment must be agreed by at least two thirds of the People's Executive Council. The People's Executive Council may commission an independent report on the performance or breach of the Constitution and/or code of conduct to allow the President to answer to the allegations. This report will then be tabled with the Legal and Disciplinary Committee for consideration and will make recommendations to the People's Management Committee who will then make recommendations to the People's Executive Council. The Council will table recommendations to The People's Assembly for a vote, if required.
- (j) The President will be requested to temporarily vacate his or her Office during the period of the investigation including the vote at The People's Assembly.

#### 24.5 Vice Presidents

There shall be 2 Vice Presidents of the Party namely the Senior Vice President and Assistant Vice President who shall be elected by The People's Assembly. The Vice Presidents shall not be members of the Party Caucus. The first Vice Presidents can serve for an initial term of 6 years and can be re-appointed for a further 4 years or serve 10 years of broken service. The terms for any subsequent Vice President shall be 4 years with more than 2 terms or if service is broken, 8 years in total in this position.

- (a) The People's Assembly will appoint:
  - (1) 1 Senior Vice President;
  - (2) 1 Assistant Vice President; and

- (3) 7 other Vice Presidents are ex-officio appointments by virtue of their positions as Regional Division Presidents.
- (b) The Vice Presidents as per clause 24.5 (a) shall:
    - (1) Support the President in carrying out the role and functions of the Office;
    - (2) Promote unity in the Party and solidifying the Party base; and;
    - (3) Perform any delegated functions by the President to perform on his or her behalf.
  - (c) Any Vice President may resign from his or her position at any time during his or her term.
  - (d) The People's Assembly shall have the authority to terminate the appointment of a Vice President in the event of a serious dereliction of his or her duties and/or breach of the Party's Constitution and/or Code of conduct.
  - (e) The People's Assembly shall only exercise this authority if a motion is properly put to the General Secretary and has been supported and approved at the People's Management Committee and the People's Executive Council, respectively. The approval to terminate any Vice President's appointment must be agreed by at least two thirds of the People's Executive Council.
  - (f) The People's Executive Council may commission an independent report of the performance or breach of the Constitution and/or Code of Conduct to allow the Vice President to answer to the allegations.
  - (g) This report will then be tabled with the Legal and Disciplinary Committee for consideration which will make recommendations to the People's Management Committee who will then make recommendations to the People's Executive Council. The Council will table recommendations to The People's Assembly for a vote, if required.

#### 24.6 Regional Presidents

- (a) Each Regional Division President is recommended by the People's Management Committee and approved the People's Executive Council and will be regarded an ex-officio Vice President of the Party.
- (b) They are the conduits to the Branch support network and represent the President at Branch network level.

#### 24.7 General Secretary

The General Secretary shall be appointed by the People's Executive Council acting in consultation with the Party Leader and recommended by the People's Management Committee on the terms and conditions as agreed with the most suitable candidate.



- (a) The General Secretary shall be:
  - (1) the chief executive officer in charge of the Party Secretariat;
  - (2) the Registered Officer of the Party for the purposes of the Political Parties (Registration, Conduct, Funding and Disclosures) Act 2013;
  - (3) responsible for oversight of the Party's finances and properties under the supervision of the People's Management Committee Council and may authorize the Party's expenditure and administer its assets;
  - (4) charged with the oversight of the Party's financial records;
  - (5) collecting money owing to the Party;
  - (6) oversight in preparation of the Party's financial statements at the end of each year;
- (b) The terms of employment of the General Secretary shall be determined from time to time by the People's Management Committee.
- (c) Investment – Subject to the prior approval of the People's Management Committee, the Party through the General Secretary may invest any funds available for investment, provided the investment does not conflict with the Party's principles and objectives and complies with any investment guidelines set by the PPA2013 and the People's Executive Council including requirements for ethical investment.
- (d) Borrowing - Subject to the prior approval of the People's Executive Council, the Party through the General Secretary may borrow money from time to time with or without security and upon such terms as to priority or otherwise as the People's Executive Council sees fit.
- (e) Audit - As soon as practicable after the end of the financial year, the General Secretary must arrange for the Party's financial statements to be audited.

24.8 Deputy General Secretary

The Deputy General Secretary shall report to the General Secretary. The appointment shall be by the People's Executive Council acting in consultation with the Party Leader and recommended by the People's Management Committee on terms and conditions as agreed with the most suitable candidate.

The Deputy General Secretary shall:

- (a) Provide support to the General Secretary in the performance of his or her roles as outlined in clause 24.7 (a) – (e);
- (b) Carry out specific tasks, where required, as delegated by the General Secretary;
- (c) Establish and maintain accurate records of the membership register as well as act as liaison with the Regional Divisions and Branches on their administrative books and records, secretarial

- papers and other matters relating to Party's membership and branch structures;
- (d) Undertaking administration and organisational tasks as required from time to time including the planning and staffing of sub-committee, liaison with Women's Alliance Committee and the Youth Alliance Committee of the Party;
  - (e) Where there is a casual vacancy in the General Secretary position, the Deputy General Secretary shall automatically act in that role until a substantive appointment is made by the People's Management Committee;
  - (f) In the event the Deputy General Secretary is unable to automatically act in the role of the General Secretary under (e), the People's Management Committee shall appoint a member from its ranks to act in the role which will come to effect once ratified by the People's Executive Council.

#### 24.9 National Treasurer

The National Treasurer shall report to the General Secretary. The appointment shall be by the People's Executive Council acting in consultation with the Party Leader and recommended by the People's Management Committee on terms and conditions as agreed with the most suitable candidate.

The National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Prepare and update when required the financial policies and procedures that will safeguard the financial integrity of the Party resources for approval by the People's Executive Committee;
- (b) Establish accounting system and Chart of Accounts approved by the People's Management Committee to assist with overall Party financial monitoring and reporting requirements;
- (c) Prepare the annual capital and operating budgets for the Party at least 2 months before the end of the financial year and table to the People's Management Committee for approval;
- (d) Implement and monitor the budget for the Party during the year;
- (e) Submit monthly financial reports to the People's Management Committee covering the expenditure and revenue of the Party;
- (f) Submit monthly declaration records of all subscriptions and donations received and ensure these are receipted, banked and recorded;
- (g) Prepare and submit the draft financial accounts to the external auditor by no later than the first month of the next financial year;
- (h) Ensure the audited Accounts completed and submitted to the Supervisor of Elections no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> March of the following year;
- (i) Prepare financial reports as required to comply with any regulatory reporting requirements under the relevant laws;
- (j) Manage the payroll and procurement processes of the Party to comply with agreed policies and procedures;

- (k) Interface and seek guidance with the General Secretary and the Audit and Finance Committee to ensure there is adequate oversight and comfort with the tasks outlined in Clause 24.9 (a) – (k).

24.10 Deputy National Treasurer

The Deputy National Treasurer shall report to the General Secretary. The appointment shall be appointed by the People's Executive Committee acting in consultation with the Party Leader and ratified by the People's Management Committee on terms and conditions as agreed with the most suitable candidate.

The Deputy National Treasurer shall:

- (a) Provide support to the National Treasurer in the performance of the of their roles as outlined in Clause 24.9 (a) – (k);
- (b) Where required, carry out specific tasks as delegated by the National Treasurer and the General Secretary;
- (c) Establish and maintain accurate records of member's subscriptions and recording as well as act in a liaison role with the Regional Division Treasurers; Branch Treasurers; Women's Alliance Committee and Young Alliance Committee and their records;
- (d) Undertake administration and organisational tasks as required from time to time including planning and staffing of Finance and Audit Sub-Committee;
- (e) Where there is a casual vacancy in the National Treasurer position, the Deputy National Treasurer shall act in that role until a replacement is appointed by the People's Management Committee.

24.11 The Party Secretariat shall perform such functions as required by the Party Leader and the People's Management Committee including:

- (a) provision of administrative research and support facilities as required to the Party Caucus, People's Executive Council, People's Management Committee, The People's Assembly, Women's Alliance Committee and Young Alliance Committee;
- (b) arranging facilities for and coordinating meetings of People's Executive Council, The People's Assembly and People's Management Committee, and maintaining minutes of such meetings;
- (c) preparing and publishing materials aimed at promoting the Party;
- (d) ensuring performance of its functions is accordance with an annual budget and separate election, campaign budgets as determined by the People's Management Committee.
- (e) any other activities required by the Party Leader and the People's Management Committee to assist the Party to maintain or increase its representation in the Parliament of Fiji.

## 24.12 Other Officers in the Party Secretariat

The People's Management Committee may appoint other officers in the Party Secretariat to support the Party. The Party Secretariat shall report to the General Secretary. Some of these functions include:

- (a) Receive all notices of applications for membership and submit them to the People's Executive Council for approval and acceptance;
- (b) Maintain a membership register and provide the Regional Divisions with lists of members as necessary under the Constitution;
- (c) Hold and maintain the Electoral & Political Parties Decrees campaign data of the Party and that of the Regional Divisions;
- (d) Ensure compliance with data protection legislation in Fiji;
- (e) Organise recruitment and awareness campaigns;
- (f) Ensure that the Party has a wide range of social and political activities to facilitate member retention and expansion;
- (g) Develop and maintain the Party websites, official Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts and any other relevant social media platforms designed for online media campaigns and public relations purposes, and
- (h) Any other functions as approved and delegated by the General Secretary.

## **PART VII**

### **25. OPERATIONS**

#### Financial Management

- 25.1 The Party shall maintain a financial management system and practices which promote integrity, accountability, prudence in allocation, use and recording of all its resources. The Party's financial system must comply with generally accepted accounting standards.
- 25.2 The People's Executive Council shall approve the financial policies of the Party as recommended by the recommendations of the People's Management Committee. The National Treasurer shall be responsible to the People's Executive Council for compliance with these policies and related procedures.
- 25.3 The People's Management Committee shall provide oversight and ensure that proper books of accounts are maintained to facilitate reliable and accurate monthly financial reporting.

#### Budget

- 25.4 The financial year of the Party shall be from the 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December.

- 25.5 The National Treasurer shall prepare a budget for each financial year and submit to the PMC for approval at least two months (2) before the start of the financial year.

#### Audit

- 25.6 The financial accounts of the Party shall be audited by an external auditor who holds a Certificate of Public Practice with the Fiji Institute of Accountants.
- 25.7 The National Treasurer shall submit the financial accounts for auditing no later than one (1) month after the end of the financial year.

#### Bank Accounts

- 25.8 The Party will open bank accounts as required by a resolution of the People's Executive Council with four (4) Signatories who are the Party Leader, General Secretary, National Treasurer and the President of the Party.
- 25.9 All accounts shall operate by dual signatory where it shall be mandatory for any 2 signatures to be provided for every disbursement by cheque.
- 25.10 The Party may operate more than one bank account as approved by the People's Executive Council as recommended by the People's Management Committee.

#### Expenditure and Revenue Management

- 25.11 The National Treasurer will develop proper rules for procurement of goods and services and the authorisation of the same. The rules shall ensure that expenses are budgeted for and related allocations are available, procurement rules have been followed and expenditures have been properly approved.
- 25.12 All expenditures must be authorised by the National Treasurer, General Secretary and People's Management Committee in accordance with the delegations of authority approved by the People's Executive Council.
- 25.13 All cheque or telegraphic transfer payments must be signed by two of the cheque signatories as approved in accordance with clause 25.8. In the interest of good governance, one of the signatories shall be the General Secretary or the National Treasurer.
- 25.14 Direct bank withdrawals over the counter shall not be allowed and shall be reported to the People's Management Committee, if and when practiced.
- 25.15 All revenues of the Party shall be receipted and deposited to the Party's designated bank account as soon as they are received.

25.16 The General Secretary of the Party will acknowledge all financial contributions and a contribution register will be maintained by the Party according to the relevant laws.

25.17 The Constitution prohibits the distribution of revenue to the members.

#### Financial Reporting

25.18 The National Treasurer shall maintain all financial records for seven (7) years which shall be made available for inspection on request.

25.19 The National Treasurer shall ensure that all donations to the Party are properly recorded on a Contributions register. Donations in excess of FJD \$10,000 per year are considered illegal under the relevant laws and the excess contributions shall not be accepted by the Party.

25.20 The National Treasurer shall ensure that the monthly financial reports are received by People's Management Committee at its monthly meetings.

25.21 The National Treasurer shall produce annual financial accounts which shall be approved by the People's Management Committee and submitted to the external auditor for auditing under PPA2013 and submitted to the Electoral Commission no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> March in the following year.

25.22 The National Treasurer shall submit the audited accounts and the opinion by the external auditor to The People's Assembly.

25.23 The Party shall submit to the Registrar of Political Parties a statement of assets and liabilities at least 30 days before general election.

#### Authorised Signatories

25.24 The People's Executive Council at the recommendation of the People's Management Committee shall approve the authorised signatories of the Party identifying documents that should be signed by the President, Party Leader and the General Secretary. No other Party member shall sign off on the official documents of the Party. These documents include:

- (a) Documents to be presented to the Registrar including membership register, mergers and other reports;
- (b) The opening of bank accounts and authorisation of approved bank signatories;
- (c) Any report or document of the Party required under the Decree No 4 of 2013 or any other written laws;
- (d) The audited annual accounts and financial statement of the Party; and
- (e) The nomination certificates for any nomination or election of a member of the Party.

### Asset Management

- 25.25 The People's Executive Council shall establish policies and procedures relating to its assets which should include procurement, investment, management, maintenance and disposal.
- 25.26 The National Treasurer shall be responsible for the implementation of the asset management policies and shall submit reports to the People's Executive Council together with accounts.

### Public Release of Documents

- 25.27 The Party will release to the public various policy documents from time to time which may include the Party platform and manifesto. The People's Executive Council will ensure that these documents are of acceptable quality to the Party and prepared after adequate consultations.
- 25.28 The People's Executive Council will prescribe an approval process for the release of the documents to the public.

## PART VIII

### 26. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENT AND LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS

- 26.1 The Party shall endorse candidates for election to the Parliament of Fiji at each general election in accordance with this Constitution. The rules and procedures governing this process are appended as *Annex C*.
- 26.2 Candidates endorsed for election to the Parliament of Fiji by the People's Management Committee shall abide by this Constitution and support the policies of the Party as espoused by the Party Caucus.

## PART IX

### 27. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

#### Discipline

- 27.1 Appointment of the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee
- (a) The Party shall have a Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee which shall be appointed by the People's Management Committee;
- (b) The Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be one of the Sub-Committee's and shall be composed as follows:
- (1) A nominee appointed by the People's Executive Council;
  - (2) Two nominees from the Parliamentary Caucus with one of them having legal background;
  - (3) Two nominees from the People's Management Committee with one having legal background;

- (4) One representative of the four Regional Divisions;
  - (5) One Founding Member, in consultation with the People's Management Committee.
- (c) Quorum - At least four members of the committee, including the Chair, shall be present to constitute a valid meeting of the Committee.
- (d) The Sub-Committee will nominate the Chair and Deputy Chair of this Sub-Committee and advise the People's Management Committee for approval.

27.2 Term

The term of members of the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be three (3) years, but they may be reappointed.

27.3 Jurisdiction

The Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall have jurisdiction in all matters affecting legal and disciplinary issues within the Party

27.4 Functions

- (a) The Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall:
- (1) Investigate complaints from members submitted formally to the General Secretary concerning all legal and disciplinary matters which may include but not limited to the misconduct of a Member;
  - (2) Assess conduct against the Code of Conduct of the Party;
  - (3) Make a full, and impartial inquiry into any complaint referred to it;
  - (4) Report in writing the results of the inquiry and the reasons leading to conclusions reached;
  - (5) Make recommendations to the People's Management Committee based on the results of the inquiry.
- (b) The People's Management Committee shall, within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the recommendation of the National Disciplinary Sub-Committee, adopt, modify or reject the recommendation and shall communicate its final recommendation and the reasons leading thereto in writing to the People's Executive Committee for ratification;
- (c) The People's Management Committee shall make any decision it deems fit to promote discipline and unity within the Party, including the suspension and or expulsion of the Members. The recommendation automatically comes into full force and effect upon approval of the recommendation from the Sub-Committee where no appeal is lodged against it in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.



## 27.5 Proceedings

- (a) Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by a complaint in writing delivered to the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee, in so far as the complaint relates to the affairs of the Party.
- (b) Proceeding of the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be held in camera or recorded and shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Natural Justice.
- (c) The Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall, within twenty-one (21) days of the receipt of a complaint, conduct its deliberations on the matter, and make its recommendation thereon to the People's Management Committee, except that the period of twenty-one (21) days may, in appropriate circumstances, be extended by the People's Management Committee.
- (d) The determination of any question or matter before the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall be in accordance with the opinion of the majority of the members of the Committee.
- (e) The Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall not be subject to the direction or control of any person in the performance of its function.

## 27.6 Appeals

- (a) A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, the decision of the People's Management Committee may, within fourteen (14) days of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal against the recommendation to the People's Executive Council by filing an appeal within twenty-one (21) days from the date of receipt of the decision.
- (b) The People's Executive Council will consider the grounds of appeal and make a decision after consulting the Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee and the People's Management Committee on its decision. The decision of the People's Executive Council shall be final and binding upon all affected parties.

## 27.7 Misconduct

A complaint shall involve an allegation that any of the following acts of misconduct relates to a Member;

- (a) Violation of the duties of a Member;
- (b) Violent, dangerous or intimidatory conduct against another Member;
- (c) Falsification of reports, accounts or expense claims or other fraudulent conduct;
- (d) Wilful damage to Party property;
- (e) Breach of the duty to uphold publicity Party policy;
- (f) Creation of discord or factionalism within the Party;
- (g) Defection to another Party;

- (h) These acts are not exhaustive or exclusive and acts of a similar nature will be dealt with as provided herein.

27.8

Grievances

- (a) A member who has a grievance against the Party may, in writing, petition the People's Management Committee for redress. A grievance shall involve an allegation of unjust or unfair treatment by the Party against the member.
- (b) The People's Management Committee through its Legal and National Disciplinary Sub-Committee, in conjunction with other Party organs, where appropriate, within twenty-one (21) days from the receipt of the petition, investigate the grievance, conclude its deliberations thereon, and notify its decision to the member.
- (c) A member aggrieved by, or dissatisfied with, the decision of the People's Management Committee may, within seven (7) days from the date of the receipt of the notice of the decision, appeal in the case of the decision to the People's Executive Council. The People's Executive Council shall decide within seven (7) days of its receipt and communicate its decision thereon to the member which shall be final.

**PART X**

**28. INDEMNITY**

28.1

The President, Treasurer, General Secretary, members of the People's Executive Council, and any other officers or servants of People's Executive Council or the Party Secretariat shall be indemnified by the Party, and it shall be the duty of People's Executive Council out of the funds of the Party to pay all costs, losses and expenses which any member of People's Executive Council, or any officer or servant of the Party, or the Party Secretariat, may incur or become liable to pay by reason of any contract entered into, or act or thing done, or omission, by any such member or other officer or servant in the discharge of his or her duties authorised by People's Executive Council.

28.2

People's Executive Council may in its entire and absolute discretion pay out of the funds of the Party any costs, losses and expenses which any member of People's Executive Council or other officer or servant of the Party may incur or become liable to pay by reason of any contract entered in the discharge of his or her duties notwithstanding that the act or thing done, or omission, by any such member or other officer or servant has not been duly authorised by People's Executive Council.

## **29. CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 29.1 The Party shall have a Code of Conduct that governs the conduct of the members of the PEC, PMC, the Key Officers and all Officers under the Party Secretariat. The Code of conduct will be approved by the PEC. The PMC shall monitor compliance with the Code of Conduct and report breaches to PEC for action.
- 29.2 The PEC shall ensure that the provisions of the Party's Code of Conduct comply with the provisions of the Code of Conduct provided in the First Schedule of PPA 2013.
- 29.3 The Code of Conduct shall contain the disciplinary measures against a Financial member or official of the Party which will be used as a guide by the National Legal and Disciplinary Sub-Committee when deliberating of matters involving the breach of the code of conduct

## **30. RIGHT OF INSPECTION**

- 30.1 Any Financial Member of the Party may request to inspect the records of the Party publicly available at the Registrar of Political Parties office provided the request is in writing to the General Secretary.

## **31. PROVISIONS FOR DISSOLUTION OF THE PARTY**

- 31.1 The Party can be dissolved by resolution of the party at an Annual People's Assembly or Special People's Assembly provided the vote is carried by two thirds of Financial members in attendance at the meeting. The meeting shall also decide on which Charity the funds received from the Asset disposal is to be distributed to.
- 31.2 The PEC shall be authorized to take all necessary steps to dispose of the assets of the Party including any property in a transparent and prudent manner.

## **32. INTERPRETATION OF CONSTITUTION**

- 32.1 In any event of any question of interpretation arises and the Constitution is silent, the PEC shall have the power to act in accordance with its interpretation of the Constitution.
- 32.2 No word or construction in this Constitution shall be taken to imply any discrimination whatsoever with regard to sex, race, colour, creed, age, disability, sexual orientation, or any other ground other than political belief or practice.

## **33. ALTERATION OF NAME, CONSTITUTION OR RULES**

- 33.1 The name, Constitution, or rules of the Party may be altered only on a resolution proposed by the People's Management Committee,

approved by the People Executive Council and passed at a meeting of People's Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of the Financial members present and voting, being a meeting of which not less than thirty (30) days' notice in writing, specifying the terms of the proposed alterations, has been given.



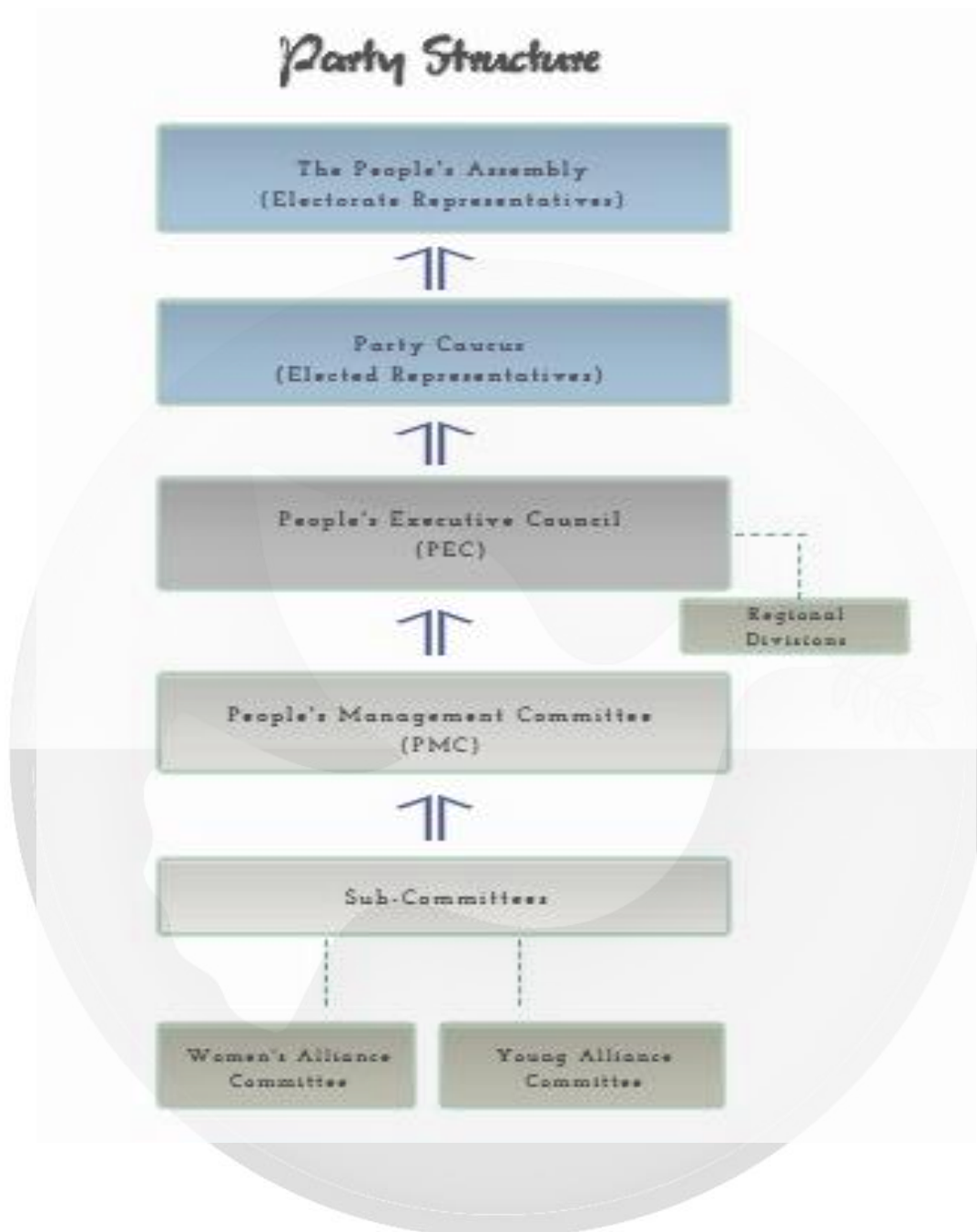
## ANNEX A: PARTY LOGO AND COLOURS



### SYMBOLISM

1. Circular boundary - It suggests not only the perfection of **God** but the everlasting **God** who encompasses us with His everlasting love. It also symbolizes Heaven because of its perfect symmetry and its unvarying balance. It also reflects on the reality that we are all a part of **GOD's** world.
2. The Red upper hemisphere symbolizes the covering of the blood of the **Lamb of GOD** over the Isles of Fiji, valour, courage, enthusiasm, sacrifice, love and life.
3. The Blue lower hemisphere symbolizes our place in the Blue Pacific. It also indicates perseverance, justice, vigilance and respect for **God**. It also signifies, potential in our peoples, maritime resources, and industry.
4. The white dove acknowledges the presence of the **Holy Spirit** in, among and over us. It signifies purity, excellence, honour, and peace.
5. The green olive branch signifies blessings, health, renewal, harmony and hope.
6. The two hemispheres represent the temporal and the eternal nature of creation.

## ANNEX B: PARTY STRUCTURE



## ANNEX C: PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES SELECTION

### **PART I – GENERAL RULES ABOUT PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES**

#### DUTIES OF PEOPLE’S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- (1) The People’s Executive Council, at a time it decides, must call for nominations for Parliamentary candidates and instruct the People’s Management Committee to begin nomination process.
- (2) The People’s Management Committee shall contact all Regional Divisions calling for nominations for Parliamentary candidates for the single national constituency.
- (3) The People’s Management Committee must develop and approve the Strategic Selection Criteria in close consultation with the Parliamentary Caucus as applicable.
- (4) The People’s Management Committee may appoint a Selection Sub-Committee to run the Nomination and selection process.
- (5) In the event that a Selection Sub-Committee is appointed, they shall report directly to the People’s Management Committee.
- (6) The People’s Executive Council will ratify the recommendations of the People’s Management Committee on the Strategic Selection Criteria.

#### CALLING OF NOMINATIONS

- (7) Each Regional Division, in consultation with the People’s Management Committee will contact all other Party branches, calling for nominations for Parliamentary candidates for the single constituency selection.
- (8) The closing date for the receipt of nominations must not be less than 2 months from the date of issuing of the invitation that calls for nominations.
- (9) At least one month before the closing date, the Regional Division must advise their members that nominations are open.

#### ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATION

- (10) Any person who has been a bona-fide member of the Party for at least one year immediately before the date of the calling for nominations is eligible for nomination as a Parliamentary candidate.

#### WAIVER OF LENGTH OF MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR NOMINEES

- (11) Waivers to the length of membership requirement may be granted by the People’s Executive Council.
- (12) The Selection Sub-Committee must be notified of any waiver granted for any nominee seeking selection at that meeting.

- (13) That notification must be provided formally in the notice to nominees and the notice to the Party members about the Selection Sub-Committee meeting, and verbally by the Chair both before and after all nominees have addressed the meeting.

## **PART II – ELECTORATE SELECTION PROCEDURES**

### **FORM OF NOMINATIONS**

- (14) Nominations must be on the official form supplied by the People's Management Committee and must be signed by at least 6 Financial Members of the Party.
- (15) Nominees must provide standardised written curriculum vitae with their nomination as advised by the PMC.

### **QUESTION AND ANSWER MEETING**

- (16) The People's Management Committee must arrange a Question and Answer Meeting to which all nominees and Party members are invited.
- (17) The Question and Answer Meeting must be held after nominations close and before the People's Management Committee or Selection Sub-Committee.

### **PRIORITY OF SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

- (18) The priority of selection of candidates is decided by the People's Management Committee in consultation with the Presidents of the Regional Divisions.

### **PROCESS AFTER CLOSE OF NOMINATIONS**

- (19) After the closing of nominations and at a time agreed by the People's Executive Council all nominees must address selection meetings convened for the purpose of enabling a Selection Sub-Committee meeting to hear them.
- (20) This meeting is open to all Financial Members of the Party.
- (21) The People's Management Committee must determine a pre-selection process in consultation with the Regional Division concerned and the Selection Sub-Committee where it considers it necessary to reduce the nominations to a more manageable number.

### **SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS WHERE MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED**

- (22) If more than one nomination is received, the People's Management Committee in consultation with the Selection Sub-Committee and the



relevant Regional Division is required to conduct interviews with nominees that meet the selection criteria of the party.

- (23) The official Selection Sub-Committee Meeting comprises a combination of a formal speech and a question and answer session.
- (24) Nominees must deliver formal speeches and participate in question and answer sessions and any social gatherings organised by the Regional Divisions.

#### SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS WHERE THERE IS ONLY ONE NOMINATION RECEIVED

- (25) Where the People's Management Committee advises the People's Executive Council after the close of nominations, that there is only one eligible candidate for a Regional Division, the People's Executive Council must review the nomination and decide whether to: (a) proceed with a confirmation meeting or (b) extend the nomination period.
- (26) When reviewing the sole nomination, the People's Executive Council must take into consideration the Strategic Selection Criteria.
- (27) The Regional Division, with the approval of People's Executive Council, is able to determine the type and formation of the confirmation meeting of Party members for that Regional Division to confirm the nomination that candidate.

#### COMPOSITION OF THE SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

- (28) The Selection Sub-Committee will consist of (a) 3 members appointed by and on behalf of the People's Executive Council, at least one of whom must be a woman. (b) 3 Members of the People's Management Committee which includes the Party Leader and at least one of the Deputy Party Leaders; (c) 1 member to represent the Regional Division when its candidates are interviewed.

#### ELECTION OF ELECTORATE REPRESENTATIVES

- (29) The election of the regional representatives on the Selection Sub-Committee must take place before the Selection Sub-Committee Meeting which the nominees address. Both the People's Management Committee meeting for the election of the Selection Sub-Committee and the Selection Sub-Committee Meeting itself must be chaired by a member of the Party Leader or his or her nominee.

#### PROCESS AFTER SELECTION OF A CANDIDATE

- (30) When the Selection Sub-Committee has selected a candidate it must, where practicable, announce the name of the successful candidate to the meeting.

- (31) If the Selection Sub-Committee cannot decide on a candidate by consensus or, failing that, by a formal majority vote, then it must refer the matter to the People’s Management Committee for recommendation and the People’s Executive Council for a ratification on the candidate.
- (32) The decision of People’s Executive Council is final and binding.

PROCESS WHERE ALL NOMINEES DECLINED

- (33) If all nominees have been declined by the Selection Sub-Committee, the Selection Sub-Committee may proceed to select a suitable Party member as the candidate, or refer the selection back to the People’s Management Committee for approval and People’s Executive Council for ratification.

PEOPLE’S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MAY WITHDRAW CANDIDATES

- (34) The People’s Executive Council may withdraw the candidacy of any candidate: (a) Who fails to honour the terms of the pledge; or (b) Whose candidate’s biographical statement knowingly includes information that is inaccurate or misleading in any material respect or omits significant relevant material.
- (35) The People’s Executive Council may request a selection be held again where it has evidence that the Constitution has been seriously breached.

QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINEES

- (36) Nominees may reside anywhere in Fiji and must have been Financial Members of the Party for a period of two year immediately before the date of the calling for nominations.
- (37) Waivers to this length of membership requirement may be granted by the People’s Executive Council.
- (38) Any person accepting nomination as a list candidate must individually sign the pledge to abide by the Party Rules and Principles, and the nominee’s signature must be witnessed by at least 2 Financial Members.

PARTY CANDIDATES PLEDGE

- (39) Any person accepting nomination as a Party candidate must sign a pledge, in the following form in the presence of not less than two Financial Members.

“Having been nominated as a Candidate for selection in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution for the ..... I hereby accept nomination and declare:

- (a) I am not a member of any political Party or any organisation membership of which is declared by The People's Assembly or the People's Executive Council to be incompatible with membership of The People's Alliance party ("the Party").
- (b) I will wholeheartedly support the duly selected candidates of the Party.
- (c) If selected as a candidate, I will not withdraw without the consent of the Party organisation controlling the election.
- (d) I understand that all candidates standing in a General Election must stand for the Party List and that I am not able to withdraw from the List after the selection process is complete (General Election candidates only).
- (e) I will faithfully observe the Constitution and Policy Platform and Policy of the Party.
- (f) If elected, I will vote on all questions in accordance with the decisions of Parliamentary Caucus.
- (g) If elected, I will pay to the Party all contributions and levies properly decided to be required of PAP Members of Parliament."
- (h) I will not publish unauthorised communications materials or designs including leaflets, websites and election hoardings etc.
- (i) I will take personal responsibility to ensure my campaign maintains proper financial records and that my election expenses return will be completed in accordance with guidance from the Party organisation controlling this election.
- (j) During this election I will adhere to all reasonable requests given by the Party leadership or campaign manager for this election.
- (k) I understand that, if unsuccessful, my public status as a candidate ceases the day after the election.
- (l) I understand that if I fail to comply with this candidate pledge that I could be subject to disciplinary action in line with clause 27 of the Constitution.

## ANNEX D: LIST OF FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE PARTY

1. Party Leader – Mr. Sitiveni Ligamamada RABUKA
2. President – Ratu Vuniani NAVUNIUCI
3. Vice President – Ro Nauludole MATAITINI
4. General Secretary – Mr. Sakiasi Raisevu DITOKA
5. Treasurer – Mr. Joseva Namisi LEANO



## ANNEX E: ATTRIBUTES OF PARTY LEADER

The Leader of the Party shall possess the following attributes in order to Lead the Party:

### Key Attributes

- Must have a proven track record in his profession or vocation
- Has a national profile and is well respected in the community
- Proven leadership experience
- Strong appeal across all voter demographics
- Articulate speaker
- Good leadership style
- Ability to debate on issues with respect to the nation and the economy
- Ability to set strategies and lead execution

### Other positive attributes

- Parliamentary experience
- Government or high-level corporate experience
- Tertiary education graduate
- Community involvement

