

ZANU PF RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OF PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Preamble

The Central Committee has, in terms of Article 7(37)(1) of the Party Constitution, made the following Rules and Regulations to regulate the conduct of Party Primary Elections to elect Candidates to represent ZANU-PF in Local Authority and Parliamentary Primary Elections.

1. SHORT TITLE

These Rules and Regulations shall be known as Rules and Regulations (Primary Elections).

2. DATE OF COMMENCEMENT

The Rules and Regulations (Primary Elections) shall apply from such date as may be determined by the Central Committee.

3. APPLICATION

The Rules and Regulations (Primary Elections) shall apply:-

- (a) To members of the Party intending to contest in Local Authority and Parliamentary Primary Elections as candidates; and
- (b) To the conduct of members of the Party during Local Authority and Parliamentary Primary Elections.

4. NATIONAL ELECTIONS DIRECTORATE

4.1 There shall be a National Elections Directorate, chaired by the Secretary for Commissariat, whose composition shall, be as follows:

- (a) Treasurer General;
- (b) Secretary for Security;
- (c) Secretary for Transport and Social Welfare;
- (d) Secretary for Legal Affairs;
- (e) Secretary for Women's Affairs;
- (f) Secretary for Youth Affairs; and
- (g) Secretary for War Veterans, Ex Political Detainees and Restrictes.

4.2 Meetings of the National Elections Directorate shall be convened and chaired by the Secretary for the Commissariat or in his absence a member of the Politburo determined by the Politburo from time to time; and shall always have a two thirds quorum.

5. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS DIRECTORATE

- 5.1 To direct, control, monitor and supervise Party Primary Elections for the selection of candidates to represent the Party in Local Authorities, Provincial Councils (section 268 (1) (h) of the National Constitution), National Assembly (section 124(1) of the National Constitution), and Senate (Section 130 (1) (a) of the National Constitution);
- 5.2 To determine the eligibility of Party Members to vote in Party Primary Elections;
- 5.3 To implement and enforce the qualifying criteria for Party Members intending to stand as candidates in any Party Primary Elections;
- 5.4 To ensure that the final Party interests in any election are protected through ensuring a violent free, free , fair, transparent and impartial election;
- 5.5 To take charge, direct, control, monitor and supervise the Party's election campaigns in Local Authority, Provincial Council and Parliamentary Elections;
- 5.6 To receive and resolve any complaints pertaining to the election process;
- 5.7 To report to the Central Committee on electoral matters;
- 5.8 To supervise the activities and operations of Provincial Elections Directorates;
- 5.9 To ensure the preparation and maintenance by the Provincial Executive Council of up-to-date:-
 - (a) Registers of membership of the Cell/Village.
 - (b) Registers of membership of Cell/Village, Branch, District and Provincial Executive Committees.
- 5.10 To mobilise and provide the necessary material, financial and logistical support for the full and active participation by the Party in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections;
- 5.11 To monitor and observe Local Authority, Provincial Council and Parliamentary Elections in order to ensure that these are conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner without prejudice to the interests of the Party;
- 5.12 To mobilise and provide the necessary material, financial and logistical support to Party candidates participating in Local Authority and Parliamentary;
- 5.12 To exercise such powers and functions as may be delegated to it by the Central Committee.

6. PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS DIRECTORATE

The Provincial Co-ordinating Committee established in terms of Article 12(87) of the Party Constitution and composed of:-

- (a) The Provincial Executive Council;
- (b) Members of the Central Committee in the Province;
- (c) Members of the National Consultative Assembly in the Province;
- (d) The Provincial Executive Committee of the Women's League;
- (e) The Provincial Executive Committee of the Youth League;
- (f) The Provincial Executive Committee of the War Veterans, Ex Political Detainees and Restricttees League; and
- (g) Party Members of Parliament in the Province;

Is hereby constituted into a Provincial Elections Directorate and shall be duly constituted by a two thirds quorum.

7. FUNCTIONS OF THE PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS DIRECTORATE

Subject to the direction, control and supervision of the National Elections Directorate, the Provincial Elections Directorate shall exercise the following powers and functions:-

- 7.1 To ensure that Party Districts keep and maintain up to date registers of total membership of the Party at the Cell/Village level.
- 7.2 To ensure that Party Districts keep and maintain up to date registers of membership of the Cell/Village, Branch and District Executive Committees of the Party.
- 7.3 To take charge, direct, control, monitor and supervise the electoral campaigns of the Party in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections.
- 7.4 To render assistance to Party candidates in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections in completing their nomination papers;
- 7.5 To render assistance to Party candidates in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections in filing their nomination papers with the appropriate authority running these elections.
- 7.6 To mobilise and provide the necessary material, financial and logistical support to Party candidates participating in Local Authority and Parliamentary.
- 7.7 To mobilise and provide the necessary material, financial and logistical support for the Party's position.

- 7.8 To safeguard and protect the interests of the Party in any Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections and ensure that such elections and Referendums are conducted in a free, fair and transparent manner.
- 7.9 To report all election irregularities observed or detected in Primary, Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections to the National Elections Directorate and to the appropriate authorities within three days and to require that such irregularities are rectified.
- 7.10 To give the National Elections Directorate periodic reports on the performance of their duties and functions and on all electoral matters in the province.
- 7.11 To perform and exercise such powers and functions as are delegated to it by the National Elections Directorate.

8. QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, SENATORIAL, LOCAL AUTHORITY, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND WOMEN'S QUOTA

The following are the required qualifications for: -

8.1 CANDIDATES FOR SENATORIAL ELECTIONS

- (a) Applicant must be a registered voter;
- (b) Forty (40) years of age and above;
- (c) Must be or have been a member of the Central Committee or National Consultative Assembly for at least five (5) years;
- (d) Is fully paid up member of the Party;
- (e) Is a person of good character and standing; and
- (f) Is a person who is loyal to the Party.

8.3 METHOD OF ELECTION FOR SENATORIAL CANDIDATES

Primary Elections for the Senatorial candidates shall be held as follows:

- (a) Elections shall be held in each of the Administrative Districts;
- (b) Two candidates comprising one (1) woman and one (1) man who will have received the highest votes in each such Senatorial Constituency shall stand nominated to the Party list;
- (c) Upon receipt of the twelve (12) nominees from all the Administrative Districts, the Provincial Elections Directorate shall firstly rank the men and women according to their seniority in the Party so that the top three (3) women and the top three (3) men constitute the nominated Party List. The result shall be such that three is one Senator in each Senatorial Constituency as shall be determined by the provincial Elections Directorate and approved by the National Elections Commission;

- (d) The choice of the nominees shall be through a secret ballot in each senatorial Constituency and all members of the Party shall be eligible to vote as constituted from the Voters cell registers which shall constitute the Voters roll for that purpose; and
- (e) Seniority shall be determined by the current position in the Party and when that position was acquired.

8.2 CANDIDATES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

No Member of the Party shall qualify to stand as a candidate representing the Party in any Local Authority Elections unless he/she:

- (a) Applicant must be a registered voter in that Ward;
- (b) Twenty one (21) years of age and above;
- (c) Must have been a member of the Party District;
- (d) Is a fully paid member of the Party;
- (e) Has adequate political, economic, cultural and social knowledge of Zimbabwean affairs to enable him/her to contribute meaningfully to debates;
- (f) Is a person of good character and standing; and
- (g) Is a person who is loyal to the Party.

8.3 CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

- (a) Applicant must be a registered voter in that Constituency;
- (b) Twenty one (21) years of age and above;
- (c) Must preferably have been a member of the Province or have served a minimum of five years at District;
- (d) Is a fully paid member of the Party;
- (e) Has adequate political, economic, cultural and social knowledge of Zimbabwean affairs to enable him/her to contribute meaningfully to debates;
- (f) Is a person of good character and standing;
- (g) Is a person who is loyal to the Party.

8.4 CANDIDATES FOR WOMEN'S QUOTA ELECTIONS

- (a) Applicant must be a registered voter in the Administrative District;
- (b) Twenty one (21) years of age and above;
- (c) Shall have served at least as a District member for a minimum period of five (5) years
- (d) Is fully paid up member of the Party;
- (e) Has adequate political, economic, cultural and social knowledge of Zimbabwean affairs to enable him/her to contribute meaningfully to debate;
- (f) Is a person of good character and standing; and
- (g) Is a person who is loyal to the Party.

8.5 METHOD OF ELECTION FOR WOMEN'S QUOTA

Primary Elections for the Women's Quota Candidates for House of National Assembly shall be held as follows:

- (a) Elections shall be held in each of the Administrative Districts in each Province;
- (b) The candidate who receives the highest votes in each of the Administrative District shall stand duly nominated to the Party List for the National Assembly;
- (c) At least one of the six elected candidates must be a young woman below the age of 35 years; and
- (d) All women shall constitute the electoral college of the women's quota.

8.6 CANDIDATES FOR YOUTH QUOTA ELECTIONS

- (a) Applicant must be a registered voter within the Province;
- (b) Between Eighteen (18) and thirty five (35) years of age;
- (c) Shall have served at least as a District member for a minimum period of five (5) years;
- (d) Is fully paid up member of the Party;
- (e) Has adequate political, economic, cultural and social knowledge of Zimbabwean affairs to enable him/her to contribute meaningfully to debate; and
- (f) Is a person of good character and standing; and
- (g) Is a person who is loyal to the Party.

8.7 METHOD OF ELECTION FOR YOUTH QUOTA

Primary Elections for the Youth Quota Candidates for House of National Assembly shall be held as follows:

- (a) Elections shall be held in each of the ten (10) Provinces;
- (b) Each Province shall provide one (1) candidate;
- (c) The candidate who receives the highest votes in each Province shall stand duly nominated to the Party List for the National Assembly;
- (d) All youth shall constitute the electoral college of the youth quota;

8.8 Any Member of the Party may apply for a waiver in terms of the proviso to paragraph which shall be submitted by the person concerned to the Provincial Elections Directorate.

8.9 Upon receipt of the application for waiver, the Provincial Elections Directorate shall consider such application and then forward the application together with its recommendations to the National Elections Directorate for its decision.

9. DISQUALIFICATIONS

9.1 Any member of the Party shall be disqualified to represent the Party as a candidate in any Local Authority, National Assembly and Senatorial Election if he/she:

- (a) Has, in the past five (5) years, been convicted of any crime and sentenced to a term of imprisonment for a period in excess of twelve (12) months and has not received the Presidential Pardon in respect of such conviction;
 - (b) Has, in the past five (5) years, been the subject of disciplinary action by the Party and has been found guilty of misconduct in terms of Article 10, Sections 74 and 75;
 - (c) Has, in the past five (5) years, been convicted of any offence under the electoral law;
 - (d) Has been declared by the court to be incapable of managing his/her own affairs or his/her estate has been sequestrated as insolvent and shall remain so disqualified until his/her estate is rehabilitated in terms of the insolvency law;
 - (e) Has, in the past 5 years, been found guilty by the relevant disciplinary organs of the Party of Practising tribalism, regionalism, nepotism, indiscipline and insubordination;
 - (f) Candidates who have unsuccessfully participated in two (2) or more previous Harmonised Elections must pave way for other aspiring candidates in that Constituency, however they may participate in other Constituencies; and
- 9.2 To determine the disqualification of a Member of the Party intending to stand in Primary Elections to represent the Party as Candidate in any Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections, the member concerned shall be subject to a vetting process.

10. PROCEDURES FOR CHOOSING A PARTY CANDIDATE TO STAND IN LOCAL AUTHORITY AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

- 10.1 A member of the Party shall stand in any Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections to represent the Party if he/she:-
- (a) Meets all the Qualifications as set out in these Rules and Regulations;
 - (b) Is not disqualified to stand as such in terms of these Rules and Regulations;
 - (c) Has been determined as a candidate:-
 - (i) Through an election by the Electoral College in a Primary Election.
 - (ii) Where there is not more than one candidate, he or she shall be declared as the nominated candidate.

11. WARD OR CONSTITUENCY PRIMARY ELECTIONS

- 11.1 For the purposes of determining a candidate to represent the Party in Local Authority Elections, a Primary Election shall be conducted in the Ward in which a Local Authority Election is to take place.

11.2 For the purposes of determining a candidate to represent the Party in National Assembly Elections, a Primary Election shall be conducted in the Constituency in which a National Assembly Election is to take place.

12. **WARD OR CONSTITUENCY ELECTORAL COLLEGE**

12.1 For the purposes of determining a candidate to represent:

The Party in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections, there is hereby constituted Ward and Constituency Electoral Colleges to vote in all Party Primary Elections conducted in the Ward or Constituency as the case may be.

12.2 For the purposes of determining an appropriate candidate to represent the Party in Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections, the Electoral College shall consist of:-

(a) All Members of District Executive Committees in the relevant ward comprising:-

- (i) Members of the Main Wing;
- (ii) Members of the Women's League;
- (iii) Members of the Youth League; and
- (iv) Members of the War Veterans, Ex Political Detainees and Restricttees' League

(b) All Members of the Branch Committees in the relevant Constituency comprising:-

- (i) Members of the Main Wing;
- (ii) Members of the Women's League; and
- (iii) Members of the Youth League;

(c) Members of the Village/Cell Committees in the relevant Constituency comprising:-

- (i) Members of the Main Wing
- (ii) Members of the Women's League; and
- (iii) Members of the Youth League;
- (d) All card carrying members registered as members in each Village/Cell of the relevant ward.
- (e) All members of the Central Committee resident in that ward.
- (f) All members of the National Consultative Assembly resident in that ward.

- (g) All members of the Provincial Co-ordinating Committee resident in that ward or Constituency as the case may be.

13. PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING PRIMARY ELECTIONS

13.1 The Secretary for Commissariat shall direct to be sent to the respective Provincial Executive Councils, notices directing the dates, venues and times for the holding of Primary Elections in the Wards or Constituencies as the case may be;

13.2 The Provincial Executive Council shall, upon receipt of the directive to hold Primary Elections, refer the directive to the Provincial Elections Directorate which shall immediately comply with that directive.

14. PROCEDURE FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF CANDIDATES TO CONTEST IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS

14.1 APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

- (a) Any aspiring candidates must submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV) to the Provincial Party Office, through the Party District Coordinator for the attention of the Provincial Elections Directorate.

14.2 RECORDING

- (a) On submission of the above, the following procedures shall be followed to record submissions;
 - (i) A dated receipt, indicating clearly the check-list of the items submitted, must be issued to the applicant or his/her representative, agent or courier delivering the application papers; and
 - (ii) The first receiving office, being the Party District Coordinator, shall require the applicant to sign and date his/her submission, in a book procured for that purpose. This is to ensure that there is a future provable acknowledgement of the receipt of application papers and the delivery date.

14.3 WARD PRIMARY ELECTIONS

- (a) Any person intending to contest in a Primary Election to become a candidate to represent the Party in Local Authority Elections shall submit to the Party Districts Coordinator his Curriculum Vitae through the Party District.
- (b) The Party Districts Coordinator shall, upon receipt of the Curriculum Vitae, forward same to the Provincial Elections Directorate.
- (c) The Provincial Elections Directorate shall, upon receipt of the Report from the Party Districts Coordinator, consider the eligibility and suitability of the Candidate to

represent the Party in Local Authority Elections and shall notify the Administrative District Secretariat of its decision.

- (d) Where a candidate is vetted by the Provincial Elections Directorate and is not being opposed or has no challenger, that candidate shall be recommended to stand as a Party candidate.
- (e) Where the Provincial Elections Directorate has vetted and recommended eligible and suitable candidate to stand in primary elections, the said candidates shall be forwarded to the National Elections Directorate for further vetting before submission to Politburo for approval.

15. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

- 15.1 Any person intending to contest in a Primary Election to become a candidate to represent the Party in Parliamentary Elections shall submit to the Provincial Elections Directorate application documents mentioned in clause 14.1 (a) above.
- 15.2 The Provincial Elections Directorate shall, upon receipt of the application documents, forward same to the National Elections Directorate together with its comments, remarks and recommendations.
- 15.3 The National Elections Directorate shall, upon receipt of the Report from the Provincial Elections Directorate, consider the eligibility and suitability of the candidate to represent the Party in National Assembly and Senatorial Elections and shall notify the Provincial Elections Directorate of its decision.
- 15.4 Where a candidate has been vetted and approved by the National Elections Directorate and is not being opposed or has no challenger, that candidate shall be pronounced duly nominated to stand as the Party candidate.
- 15.5 Where the National Elections Directorate has vetted and approved more than one Party candidate as eligible and suitable to represent the Party in National Assembly and Senatorial Elections, then in that event, Primary Elections shall be conducted to determine which of the many Party candidates will represent the Party in National Assembly and Senatorial Elections.

16. ELECTIONS

For the avoidance of doubt, Elections shall be conducted in every case where there is more than one candidate contesting.

17. PENALTIES

- 17.1 Any Member of the Party who stands as an independent candidate in any Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections shall stand automatically expelled from the

Party without recourse to any procedure, in which event, the Provincial Elections Directorate shall be required to:-

- (a) Enter the name of such expelled member in its records including the circumstances giving rise to the automatic expulsion.
- (b) Inform the National Elections Directorate of the expulsion.

17.2 Any Member of the Party who:-

- (a) Campaigns against the Party candidate in any Local Authority and Parliamentary;
- (b) Campaigns against the position or interests of the Party in any Local Authority and Parliamentary Elections;
- (c) Wilfully disobeys any lawful order given to him by the Provincial Elections Directorate or the National Elections Directorate during the conduct of any Local Authority, National Assembly, Senatorial Elections and Referendums;
- (d) Commits any act of misconduct in terms of any rules, regulation or directive as maybe given in terms of the Party Constitution;

shall be guilty of gross misconduct and shall, upon conviction by the National Disciplinary Committee of the Party of the acts of misconduct referred to in paragraph 17(2)(a) (b) and (c), be penalised according to the Party Constitution.

PART II

Acts of Electoral Misconduct

1. Prohibited conduct: violence or intimidation

No candidate, any of his or her supporters and no Party member may:

Use violence, or threaten violence or incite or encourage the use of violence, against anyone on account of his or her opinions or support of another candidate or participation in the election;

Intimidate, or incite or encourage the intimidation, of anyone on account of his or her opinions or support of another candidate; or act in a way that may provoke violence or intimidation;

Use violence or threats or illegal pressure to force a voter to refrain from voting or to vote for a candidate against his or her will;

Depriving other candidates access to the electorate through kidnapping of voters and any other means;

Force a voter to reveal the identity of the candidate voted for or take reprisals against a person because of the way in which he or she has voted or is believed to have vote

2. Prohibited conduct: other prohibited acts

No candidate or any of his or her supporters, may—

- (a) be involved in any conduct which is calculated to improperly influence a voter's decision to vote for a specific candidate;
 - (b) The Special Ad hoc Tribunal Committee shall have the jurisdiction to determine whether any act complained of can be deemed as vote buying.
 - (c) temper with cell register, curriculum vitae or any other election material;
 - (d) publish false or defamatory allegations about the Party, an opposing candidate(s), the Party leadership or any other member of the Party;
 - (e) discriminate on the grounds of race, ethnicity, sex, gender, class or religion in connection with an election;
 - (f) use hateful language which incites violence towards any individual or group, including in speeches, songs and slogans;
 - (g) bar or inhibit access to meetings or to voters for the purpose of election campaigning;
 - (h) carry or display weapons at political meetings or other public events;
 - (i) bribe a voter to exercise his or her vote in a particular manner;
 - (j) bribe or intimidate an election official to induce him or her to make a false entry in the voters roll or to alter or falsify election results;
 - (k) encourage a person to vote knowing that they are not entitled to do so;
 - (l) use the information on the voters roll for commercial purposes or to harass or intimidate voters;
 - (m)coerce or offer monetary or other kinds of inducements to persons for them to participate in the activities not of their choice, or—
- (xii) to stand or not to stand as candidates, or to withdraw or not to withdraw their candidacies;
- (xiii) to violate the secrecy of the vote;
- (xiv) procure the support or assistance of any official or Party employee to act in a partial manner or further the interest, not of the Party, but of a particular candidate or cause;
- (xv) do any other thing that is defined in the Party Constitution or Party Code of Conduct, other law, circular, rules and regulations of the Party as a corrupt and illegal practice or an offence;
- (xvi) abuse the right to complain by making false, frivolous or vexatious complaints.

3. Conduct during polling period

No candidate may, from midnight or twenty-four hours before polling day in any election or until polling stations are closed on that day—

- (a) convene or hold a public gathering of any kind;
- (b) publish, or cause or permit the publication, of any advertisement or statement promoting or opposing a particular candidate;
- (c) publish results on any media platform, holding any press conferences, interviews, demonstrations or any other acts of incitement
- (d) disrupt the work of election officials at a polling station or counting centre;
- (e) campaign or display campaign material within a radius of 100 metres of a polling station or counting centre:
- (f) coerce a voter, who does not require assistance, to be assisted to vote.

On polling day in any election or referendum, all candidates and their supporters, must—

- (a) co-operate with election officials to ensure that polling is peaceful and orderly and that voters are completely free to exercise their vote without being subjected to intimidation, annoyance or disturbance; and
- (b) generally, conduct themselves so as to respect the secrecy and integrity of the ballot.

4. Prohibition of taking of photographs

No person shall within a polling-station take any photograph while polling is in progress except with the permission of the elections officer; or take any photograph of any person within a polling-booth.

5. Penalties

Any member found guilty of any electoral malpractice or misconduct shall be liable to:

- (i) Fine,
- (ii) Suspension
- (iii) Disqualification
- (iv) Deduction of votes and;
- (v) Nullification of election results

6. COMPLIANCE

There shall be a National Electoral Commission established in terms of the Party Constitution for the purpose of supervision, under the direction of the Commissariat, of all Party electoral processes.

For the purposes of administering these Electoral Regulations, functions of the National Elections Commission shall be:

- (a) To monitor Party members, candidates, supporters, their formal and informal associates, and other stakeholders in order to ensure that they adhere to these regulations and uphold conditions conducive to free and unfettered free democratic activity within a climate of tolerance in which activities may take place without fear of coercion, intimidation or reprisals;
- (b) To foster and engender a spirit of goodwill among candidates as their contribution to the consolidation of peace and unity in the Party. To contribute to the inculcation of a culture of mutual tolerance, democratic discourse and the principle of fair play in the conduct of elections;
- (c) To immediately report and refer to the Commissariat and Special Ad Hoc Committee any disputes, concerns, matters or grievances relating to the electoral process.

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AD HOC DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

(1) There shall be a Special Tribunal whose mandate is to timeously adjudicate disputes and issues of Misconduct such as Vote buying, Voter kidnapping, Hate Speech, and other notable vices arising from the conduct Primary Elections.

(2) This Committee will be chaired by the National Political Commissar (N.P.C) and will comprise other members such as, Secretary for Security, Secretary for Legal Affairs, Secretary for War Veteran League, Secretary for Women's League and Secretary for Youth League.

8. APPLICATION FOR WAIVER

The National Elections Commission upon application by a person intending to stand as candidate may waive the requirements that a candidate must have served in the Party for a particular position and for a particular period.

- (1) Where a member makes such an application it shall be submitted through the provincial Elections Directorate who shall forward it to the National Elections Directorate with their comments and recommendations;
- (2) War Veteran, Ex Political Detainees and Restricttees, who desire to contest for any position the afore-mentioned positions shall qualify to stand for Elections;
- (3) The Party should be involved in the selection of candidates for Primary Elections, especially in Urban Areas, Special Areas and areas that have predominantly been opposition strongholds by giving a special waiver to particular aspirants.

9. Vehicle Allocation

Candidates that would not have succeeded in the 2023 Harmonized Elections should return their allocated vehicles with immediate effect to their respective Provinces to be used as pool vehicles for Party business