

The  
Constitution  
of the  
National Democratic  
Movement

# THE- CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT

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# I. THE ORGANISATION

The Organisation shall be known as: -

**THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT**, herein after referred to as "The Movement".

# II. PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

## 1. *MISSION STATEMENT*

The Movement is committed, through political organisation and leadership, to the creation and preservation of a just, peaceful, prosperous and efficient society in which every citizen of Jamaica will be able to achieve his or her full potential with due care and regard for the rights of others.

## 2. *PRINCIPLES*

The Movement shall at all times be guided by the following principles:-

- a.) Reverence for and submission to the power of God.
- b.) The recognition that all citizens have equal rights and that political systems must encourage and facilitate the individual pursuit of one's own development without undermining that equality.
- c.) The sanctity of the rule of law.
- d.) A system of democracy in which the people are governed by representatives freely and fairly elected and accountable to them.
- e.) That the State has no rights and must exercise no power that are not vested in it by the people.
- f.) Respect for and tolerance of the diversity of views and opinions within and without the Movement.

### **3. OBJECTIVES**

- a.) To promote economic growth in which all the people can participate and benefit by appropriate strategies to encourage investment, increased output, the creation of productive employment and the maintenance of a stable economic environment.
- b.) To minimise inflation by appropriate fiscal and monetary policies.
- c.) To develop the nation's human resources through programs which accord special emphasis to education, training, health care and stable families.
- d.) To make special provisions as may be appropriate in the interests of children, the sick, the elderly and disabled.
- e.) To provide a safe and secure environment by an efficient system of law enforcement and administration of justice.
- f.) To protect the physical environment by regulations and programs which enhance the value and sustainability of our natural resources.
- g.) To maintain an efficient public bureaucracy.
- h.) To encourage peaceful political practices as a basis for national unity.
- i.) To facilitate the development of the creative talents of the Jamaican people through programs to support cultural expression and sports.
- j.) To promote pride in our nation and respect for national symbols.

### III. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The organisational structure of the Movement shall be:-

- a.) Members
- b.) Chapters
- c.) Constituency Councils
- d.) National Council
- e.) National Conference
- f.) Affiliate Organisations

### IV. MEMBERS

#### 1. QUALIFICATION

The Movement shall be open to every Jamaican citizen, sixteen (16) years of age and over who subscribes to the principles and objectives of the Movement and whose application has been approved in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

#### 2. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- a.) Application for membership shall be submitted in the prescribed form to the General Secretary accompanied by the prescribed fee and **MUST** be recommended by **TWO (2)** members in good standing.
- b.) Every application shall be referred to the Membership Committee by the General Secretary who shall obtain the comments of the Constituency Council for the constituency in which the applicant resides.
- c.) The Membership Committee shall consider all applications referred to it and may approve or reject any application.
- d.) If the Membership Committee rejects any application, it shall notify the applicant in writing within **TWENTY-ONE (21)** days specifying the grounds on which the application has been rejected.

**3. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS**

- a.) The term "**MEMBERS**" as provided in this Constitution and the By-Laws to the Constitution means those members in good standing.
- b.) A member is in good standing if he or she has paid the prescribed fees and has not been disqualified, suspended or expelled in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
- c.) Every member is entitled to all the rights and privileges provided under the Constitution and the By-Laws to the Constitution.

**4. DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS**

Any member may be disqualified if he or she is in arrears of payment of the prescribed membership fee for more than **ONE (1)** year or is convicted of a criminal offence which, in the opinion of the Membership Committee, brings the Movement into disrepute.

**5. RIGHT OF APPEAL**

An appeal against any decision of the Membership Committee shall lie with the National Council provided that such appeal is submitted in writing to the General Secretary within **SIXTY (60)** days of the decision against which the appeal is made.

**6. REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

The General Secretary shall at all times maintain an up-to-date register of members indicating the constituency in which each member is registered to vote or, if he or she is not so registered, in which he or she currently resides.

## **V. CHAPTERS**

### **1. STRUCTURE OF CHAPTERS**

- a.) A chapter shall consist of not less than **TWENTY (20)** members
- b.) Each Chapter shall elect annually from among its member the following officers:-
  - i.) Chairman
  - ii.) Vice Chairman
  - iii.) Secretary
  - iv.) Assistant Secretary
  - v.) Treasurer

### **2. MEETINGS OF CHAPTERS**

- a.) Every chapter shall meet at least once every **TWO (2)** months
- b.) The quorum of meetings of the chapter shall be **ONE-FIFTH (1/5)** of the membership.

### **3. FUNCTION AND POWERS OF CHAPTERS**

- a.) Every chapter shall be expected and shall have the power to undertake such activities as it considers appropriate to advance the principles and objectives of the Movement subject to consultation with the Constituency Council for the constituency in which its members are registered and to such directions as may be given by the National Council.
- b.) Every chapter shall exercise disciplinary powers over its members which shall include the right to reprimand, fine, suspend or expel from membership of the chapter but shall not include the power to suspend or terminate any person's membership of the Movement.



- c.) Any member of a chapter against whom disciplinary action is taken by a chapter shall have the right to appeal within **THIRTY (30)** days of the decision to the National Council whose decision shall be final.
- d.) Every chapter shall be entitled to prescribe fees for membership of the Chapter provided however, that no increase in fees shall take effect until a minimum of **THREE (3)** months after it has been approved by resolution supported by the voters of a majority of the registered members.

#### **4. REGISTRATION OF CHAPTERS**

- a.) Every Chapter shall be registered annually
- b.) Every application for registration shall be submitted to the General Secretary in the prescribed form and shall be accompanied by:-
  - i.) the prescribed registration fee.
  - ii.) the name and address of each officer.
  - iii.) a report signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the activities of the chapter during the previous year certifying that the chapter has held a minimum of **THREE (3)** meetings during that year.
  - iv.) a financial statement of all funds received and expenditure undertaken by the Chapter.
- c.) The General Secretary shall have the right to refuse the application for registration of any chapter which has not fulfilled the requirements of this Constitution and the By-Laws to the Constitution and, in the event of any such refusal, shall notify the applicant in writing within **TWENTY-ONE (21)** days of being specifying the grounds on which the application has been refused.

- d.) Any chapter whose application for registration has been refused may appeal to the National Council within **THIRTY (30)** days of being notified of the refusal and the decision of the National Council shall be final.
- e.) The General Secretary shall at all times maintain an up-to-date register of chapters indicating the constituency in which each chapter operates.

## V. CONSTITUENCY COUNCILS

### 1. STRUCTURE OF CONSTITUENCY COUNCILS

- a.) Every Constituency with not less than **TWO HUNDRED (200)** members shall have a Constituency Council which shall consist of:-
  - i.) The following persons, being members of the Movement, elected annually at a meeting to which all members registered in the constituency shall be invited by notice of not less than **TWENTY-ONE (21)** days and shall be entitled to vote:-
    - Chairman
    - Vice Chairman
    - Secretary
    - Assistant Secretary
    - Treasurer
    - **ONE (1)** representative for every **TWENTY (20)** registered members in the constituency.
  - ii.) **ONE (1)** representative for every **TWENTY (20)** members or part thereof of each registered chapter in the constituency.
  - iii.) **One (1)** representative for every **ONE HUNDRED (100)** members or part thereof of each affiliate organisation certified by the General Secretary to be operating within the constituency.

- b.) Any person selected in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution as a candidate for a constituency or electoral division within that constituency shall be an ex-officio member of the Constituency Council.
- c.) The Constituency Council shall have the power to coop not more than **TEN (10)** persons who must be members of the Movement.

## **2. MEETINGS OF CONSTITUENCY COUNCIL**

- a.) A Constituency Council shall meet at least once every **THREE (3)** months.
- b.) The quorum of meetings of the Constituency Council shall be **FIFTEEN (15)**.

## **3. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF CONSTITUENCY COUNCILS**

- a.) Every Constituency Council shall be responsible for the organisational management of the movement in the constituency and shall have the power to undertake such activities as it considers appropriate to advance the aims and objectives of the Movement subject to such directions as may be given by the National Council.
- b.) Every Constituency Council shall exercise disciplinary powers over its members which shall include the right to reprimand, fine, suspend or expel from membership of the Constituency Council but shall not include the power to suspend or terminate any person's membership of the Movement.
- c.) Any member against whom disciplinary action is taken by a Constituency Council shall have the right to appeal in writing within **THIRTY (30)** days of the decision to the National Council whose decision shall be final.

#### **4. REGISTRATION OF CONSTITUENCY COUNCILS**

- a.) Every Constituency Council shall be registered annually.
- b.) Every application for registration shall be submitted to the General Secretary in the prescribed form and shall be accompanied by:-
  - i.) The prescribed registration fee.
  - ii.) The name and address of the persons elected pursuant to the provisions of:- Section V.(1.) ( a.) ( i.).
  - iii.) A report signed by the Chairman and Secretary of the activities of the Council during the previous year certifying that the Council has held at least **TWO (2)** meetings during that period.
  - iv.) A financial statement of all funds received and expenditure undertaken by the Council.
- c.) The General Secretary shall have the right to refuse the application for registration of any Constituency Council which has not fulfilled the requirements of this Constitution and the By-Laws to the Constitution and, in the event of any such refusal, shall notify the applicant in writing within **TWENTY-ONE (21)** days specifying the grounds on which the application has been refused.
- d.) Any Constituency Council whose application has been refused may appeal in writing to the National Council within **THIRTY (30)** days of being notified of the refusal and the decision of the National Council shall be final.
- e.) The General Secretary shall at all times maintain an up-to-date register of Constituency Councils.

## **5. CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE**

- a.) Every Constituency Council shall have a Constituency Executive which shall consist of:-
  - i.) The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer of the Council.
  - ii.) **TEN (10)** other persons elected by and from the members of the Council.
- b.) The Constituency Executive shall have the power to coopt not more than **TEN (10)** persons who shall be members of the Movement
- c.) Each Constituency Executive shall meet at least once per month.
- d.) The Constituency Executive shall act for and under the direction of the Constituency Council and shall submit a report to each meeting of the Council.
- e.) The quorum for meetings of the Constituency Executive shall be **EIGHT (8)**.
- f.) Any person selected in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and the By-Laws to this Constitution as a candidate for a constituency or electoral division within that constituency shall be an ex-officio member of the Constituency Executive.

## VI. NATIONAL COUNCIL

### 1. STRUCTURE OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

- a.) The National Council shall consist of:-
- i.) President
  - ii.) Vice President
  - iii.) **TWO (2)** representatives of each Constituency Council, one of whom must be the Chairman.
  - iv.) Members of each House of Parliament who are members of the Movement.
  - v.) Members of each Municipal or Parish Council who are members of the Movement.
  - vi.) One representative for every **ONE HUNDRED (100)** members of each organisation affiliated to the Movement.
- b.) The National Council shall have the power to coop not more than **FIFTY (50)** persons who must be members of the Movement.
- c.) The National Council shall meet within **ONE (1)** month after the annual general meeting of the National Conference and shall elect from among its members the following officers:-
- i.) Chairman
  - ii.) Deputy Chairman
  - iii.) General Secretary
  - iv.) **THREE (3)** Deputy General Secretaries.
  - v.) Treasurer
  - vi.) Deputy Treasurer

## **2. MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL**

- a.) The National Council shall meet at least once every **THREE (3)** months.
- b.) The quorum of meetings of the National Council shall be **FORTY (40)**.

## **3. FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL**

- a.) The National Council shall have responsibility for the overall management of the affairs of the Movement subject to the direction of the National Conference.
- b.) The National Council shall have the power to employ such persons as it may deem necessary at such remuneration as it may determine for the proper functioning of the Movement, such remuneration being a charge on the funds of the Movement.
- c.) The National Council shall appoint annually auditors who shall prepare and submit at least once per year an audited statement of accounts of the Council.
- d.) The National Council shall be empowered to investigate all matters pertaining to the operation of any Chapter, Constituency Council or affiliate organisation.
- e.) The National Council shall have the power to appoint such committee as it deems necessary for the proper functioning of the Movement.
- f.) The National Council shall, subject to the provisions contained in the By-Laws to this Constitution, reserve the power to reject the selection of any candidate who will represent the Movement in parliamentary and local government elections.

- g.) The National Council shall, subject to the provisions contained in the By-Laws to this Constitution, have final disciplinary powers over all members of the Movement.
- h.) The National Council shall, subject to the provisions of Section IX. have the power to amend the By-Laws to this constitution to give effect to the provision thereof.
- i.) The National Council shall report to all meetings of the National Conference.

#### **4. STANDING COMMITTEES**

- a.) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 3 (e.) this section, the National Council shall appoint the following standing committees:-
  - i.) Finance
  - ii.) Policy
  - iii.) Disciplinary
  - iv.) Internal Affairs
  - v.) Legal and Constitutional
  - vi.) Public Relations
  - vii.) Organisation
  - viii.) Membership
  - ix.) International Relations
  - x.) Selection of Candidates
- b.) Each Standing Committee shall consist of a Chairman who must be a member of the National Council and at least **FOUR (4)** other persons who may or may not be members of the National Council.
- c.) Each Standing Committee shall report at least once per year to the National Council and at such other times as it may deem necessary or is directed by the National Council.



## **5. COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE**

- a.) There shall be an Executive Committee of the National Council which shall consist of:-
  - i.) The President and Vice Presidents
  - ii.) The Officers elected in accordance with subsection (1.),(c.) of this section
  - iii.) The Chairman of each Standing Committee.
  - iv.) Not less than **TEN (10)** nor more than **FIFTEEN (15)** persons appointed by the National Council
- b.) The Executive Committee shall meet at such times as it deems necessary or as otherwise directed by the National Council.
- c.) The Executive Committee shall act for and under the direction of the National Council and shall report to each meeting of the Council.
- d.) The quorum of meetings of the National Executive shall be **TEN (10)**.

## **VII. NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

- 1.) The National Conference shall be the highest authority of the Movement.
- 2.) The National Conference shall consist of all members of the Movement and **ONE (1)** representative for every **ONE HUNDRED (100)** members or part thereof of each affiliate organisation.
- 3.) The National Conference shall convene annually in general meeting provided that notice of not less than **THIRTY (30)** days shall be given of each such meeting.

- 4.) The National Conference shall meet in extraordinary session at such times as the National Council may determine provided that not less than **SEVEN (7)** days notice has been given specifying the purpose for which the meeting is called.
- 5.) For the purpose of this section, publication in a national daily newspaper shall constitute notice.
- 6.) The quorum of meetings of the National Conference shall be **ONE-FIFTH (1/5)** of the total number of members of the Movement.
- 7a.) The National Conference shall elect annually from among the members of the Movement.
  - i.) President
  - ii.) **FOUR (4)** Vice Presidents
- 7b.) No person shall hold the position of President for more than **FIFTEEN (15) years**.

## **VIII. AFFILIATE ORGANISATIONS**

- 1.) Any organisation which subscribes to the principles and objectives of the Movement may become an Affiliate Organisation upon application submitted in writing to the General Secretary and approved by the National Conference.
- 2.) Every Affiliate Organisation shall pay annually the prescribed fee.
- 3.) Every Affiliate Organisation shall submit upon request by the General Secretary details of its structure and membership.

- 4.) The National Council shall have the right to investigate any matter pertaining to the operation of any affiliate organisation and shall report thereon to the National Conference.
- 5.) Every Affiliate Organisation shall submit annually to the National Conference a report on its activities.
- 6.) The National Conference shall have the right to revoke the affiliation of any Affiliate Organisation.

## **IX. PROCEDURE FOR AMENDMENT**

### **1. AMENDMENT TO THIS CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution may be amended by resolution of the National Conference provided that not less than **SIXTY (60)** days notice of the proposed amendment is given.

### **2. AMENDMENT TO THE BY-LAWS**

a.) The By-Laws of the Movement may be amended:-

- i.) By resolution of the National Conference provided that not less than **SIXTY (60)** days notice of the proposed amendment is given.
- ii.) By resolution of the National Council supported by not less than **TWO-THIRDS (2/3)** members present and voting provided that notice of not less than **SIXTY (60)** days notice of the proposed amendment is given.

b.) If any provision contained in the By-Laws is found to be inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution, the latter shall take precedence over the former.

By-Laws  
to the  
Constitution  
of the  
National Democratic  
Movement

**BY-LAWS  
TO THE CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT**

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## 1. PRESCRIBED FEES

The prescribed fees shall be:-

a.)	Annual membership subscription	\$ 100.00
b.)	Registration of Chapters	\$ 200.00
c.)	Registration of Constituency Councils	\$ 1,000.00
d.)	Affiliated Organisation	\$ 2,000.00

## 2. REGISTRATION

- a.) Payment of fees applicable to any calendar year shall be paid in the month of November of the preceding year.
- b.) Any fees paid prior to the month of November shall be applicable to the year in which the payment is made but the amount payable shall not be pro-rated.

## 3. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

All meetings held under the provisions of the Constitution and these By-Laws shall be convened and conducted in accordance with the Robert Rules of Order in so far as such rules are not inconsistent with the Constitution or these By-Laws.

## 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS

A special meeting of any duly constituted body provided for in the Constitution may be called by:-

- a.) The Chairman  
or
- b.) Such number of members not being less than the stipulated quorum provided that not less than **SEVEN (7)** days notice has been given of the date, time and place of the meeting and the purpose for which the meeting has been called.

## **5. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

- a.) Every member shall at all times adhere to the principles and objectives of the Movement.
- b.) Every member shall conduct himself/herself in a manner so as not to bring the Movement into disrepute.

## **6. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**

- a.) Without prejudice to any of the provisions of these By-Laws, disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the principles of natural justice which shall include the right of any person:-
  - i.) to be informed of the charges against him which are to be enquired into
  - ii.) to be allowed adequate time to respond to such charges
  - iii.) to be represented by a person of his choice
  - iv.) to call witnesses in his defence
- b.) The Disciplinary Committee appointed in accordance with Section VI., ( 4.), ( a.), of the Constitution shall:-
  - i.) enquire into and determine all charges referred to it in accordance with paragraph ( g.) of this section
  - ii.) enquire into and determine any matter which, in its opinion, may involve action on the part of any member which undermines the principles and objectives of the Movement or is capable of bringing the Movement into disrepute
- c.) The Disciplinary Committee may intervene in and take over any disciplinary proceedings being conducted by a Chapter or Constituency Council.

- d.) The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to summon such witnesses as, in its opinion, can assist in its enquiry.
- e.) In determining any matter, the Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to expel, suspend, fine or reprimand any member or to impose such conditions as it considers appropriate on his or her membership, provided that any such determination must be communicated in writing to the member within **SEVEN (7)** days.
- f.) Any person against whom disciplinary action has been taken by the Disciplinary Committee may appeal in writing to the National Council within **THIRTY (30)** days of being notified of such action and the decision of the National Council shall be final.
- g.) With reference to subparagraph ( i.) of paragraph ( b.) of this section, disciplinary charges against any member may be referred in writing by any Constituency Council, Chapter or any **FIVE (5)** members.

## **7. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

- a.) Any person desirous of being selected to represent the Movement as a candidate for election to the House of Representatives, Municipal or Parish Council shall apply in writing through the Constituency Council to the General Secretary.
- b.) The General Secretary shall refer each application along with the comments of the Constituency Council to the Selection Committee which shall determine whether the applicant satisfies the criteria set out in sub-paragraph ( c.).
- c.) Each applicant shall be required to satisfy the following criteria: -
  - i.) must have been a member for not less than **SIX (6)** months preceding the date of the application.
  - ii.) must satisfy all legal requirements applicable to candidates for election to the House of Representatives, Municipal or Parish Council, as the case may be.



- iii.) must be a person of integrity and good character and must command sufficient respect within the constituency or electoral division to be able to provide effective leadership.
  - iv.) must be committed to the principles, objectives and policies of the Movement while having the right to utilise the internal democratic procedures of the Movement to debate and seek to influence these principle and objectives.
  - v.) must unequivocally reject the use of political violence, intimidation, victimisation and corrupt electoral practices and must be committed to work assiduously to remove these elements from the political process.
  - vi.) must accept primary responsibility for the political organisation of the constituency or electoral division and must be prepared to devote the time and effort required for effective political management.
- d.) No applicant shall be discriminated against on the grounds of gender, race, colour, class, religion or creed.
  - e.) Every applicant who has satisfied the criteria referred to in subparagraph ( c.) shall be required to submit to the Constituency Council and the General Secretary a manifesto outlining his or her proposals for the effective representation and development of the constituency or electoral division.
  - f.) Where the total number of registered members in a constituency exceeds **THREE HUNDRED (300)**..The General Secretary shall, in consultation with the Constituency Council, and subject to the direction of the National Council convene a Selection Meeting in the constituency or electoral division for the purpose of selecting the candidate.
  - g.) At any selection meeting, every member of the Movement who is registered in the constituency or electoral division, as the case may be shall be entitled to vote.
  - h.) No Selection Meeting shall proceed if less than **FIFTY** percent (50 %) of the members entitled to vote are present.

- i.) Not less than **TWENTY ONE (21)** days notice must be given of a Selection Meeting.
- j.) If more than one applicant has fulfilled the requirements of this section, a vote by secret ballot shall be taken among the members at the Selection Meeting and the applicant who obtains more than **FIFTY percent (50%)** of the votes cast shall be duly selected.
- k.) If there are more than two applicants and none obtains more than **FIFTY percent (50%)** of the votes cast, the applicant obtaining the least votes cast shall withdraw and subsequent ballots taken until an applicant obtains more than **FIFTY percent (50%)** of the votes cast and such applicant shall be duly selected.
- l.) The General Secretary shall submit a report on the proceedings of each Selection Meeting to the National Council which shall have the right to approve or reject the selection provided, however, that no selection can be rejected except by a resolution supported by a majority of **TWO-THIRDS (2/3)** of the members present and voting.
- m.) If the total number of registered members in a constituency is less than **THREE HUNDRED (300)**, the provisions of subparagraphs ( f.) to ( l.) will not apply and the Nation Council reserves the right to appoint the candidate.
- n.) The National Council shall have the right to monitor and evaluate on an on-going basis the performance of every candidate.
- o.) Unless otherwise directed by the National Council, no application for selection as a candidate shall be considered within **TWO (2)** years of a selection having been approved for a particular constituency or electoral division.

## 8. NOMINATION PROCEDURES

a.) Nomination of persons for the following positions of President and Vice Presidents shall be submitted in the prescribed form to the General Secretary and supported by the signatures of not less than **FIFTY (50)** members.

b.) Nomination of persons for the following positions:-

- i.) Chairman
- ii.) Deputy Chairman
- iii.) General Secretary
- iv.) Deputy General Secretaries
- v.) Treasurer
- vi.) Deputy Treasurer

shall be submitted in the prescribed form to the General Secretary and supported by the signatures of not less than **FIVE (5)** members of the National Council.

c.) Nominations pursuant to this section shall be made not less than **FOURTEEN (14)** days prior to the date of election.



**NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT  
CONGRESS OF YOUNG DEMOCRATS**



**“LEADING THE YOUTH INTO THE NEXT MILLENIUM”  
GREEN PAPER**

*“Problems cannot be solved at the same level at which they were created!”  
- Albert Einstein*

## INTRODUCTION

This document comes in light of the Congress of Young Democrats intentions in ensuring the following:

- (1) The National Democratic Movement remains and maintains a viable opposition and a significant contender for the government of the island of Jamaica.
- (2) The continuity of the National Democratic Movement by producing progeny of intelligence, dedication, nationalism, professionalism and integrity to be fed into the party from the source of its youth.
- (3) To render support to the National Democratic Movement in whatever form or kind regardless of the outcomes being unpopular but at all times in the best interest of the National Democratic Movement and for the greater good of the nation.
- (4) That the Congress of Young Democrats through its procedures, policies and actions epitomize the very essence of the boldness and fearlessness of youth and the greater tenets of democracy. Thus ensuring that these qualities are individually passed on to every Jamaican citizen who is both a patriot and willing to make the sacrifice for our nation to advances firmly into the next century and beyond.

An Interim Executive is therefore being proposed to undertake the restructuring of the Congress and it is hoped that this Executive will be dedicated, firm and decisive. Visionaries who are able and willing to advance the Congress and support the Movement into the next millenium.

The portfolios proposed are as follows:

- (1) Chairman/President
- (2) Advisor (Party Executive Member)
- (3) General Secretary
- (4) Vice Chairman/President – Planning and Development
- (5) Vice Chairman/President – Membership and Recruitment
- (6) Treasurer
- (7) Director of Public Affairs

Three Sub Committees are also being proposed, namely:

- (1) Fundraising & Accounts
- (2) Central Planning
- (3) Youth Outreach

The duties and responsibilities of the officers are as follows:

**Chairman**

Responsible for the general management and administration of the Interim Executive.

(5) **Nademov Promotions Inc.**

The independent fundraising and investment arm of the Congress which is solely responsible for procuring funding for the CYD without the shackle of partisan labeling. All Executive Members of the CYD are automatic members of the Board of Directors of Nademov Promotions.

Chairman – (CYD Chairman/President)

Managing Director – (CYD Treasurer)

Secretary – (CYD Gen. Secretary)

Chief Promotions Officer – (DPA)

Nademov Promotions Inc will be governed by a Charter/Articles of Incorporation and Memorandum of Association and shall produce separate financial statements from that of the Congress. Nademov Promotions will at all times be treated as an autonomous entity, both in its dealings within the Movement and in communications with the media and the public at large.

(6) **Congress of Young Democrats Website**

The preparation and hosting of a website and if one is already available, the publishing of banners of this website to all NDM affiliates, members who have websites on the internet and all political groupings and youth organizations.

(7) **Re-launching the Congress of Young Democrats**

A low-keyed event hidden behind the curtains of a National Conference or General Meeting.  
Minimal Press.

(5) **Nademov Promotions Inc.**

The independent fundraising and investment arm of the Congress which is solely responsible for procuring funding for the CYD without the shackle of partisan labeling. All Executive Members of the CYD are automatic members of the Board of Directors of Nademov Promotions.

Chairman – (CYD Chairman/President)

Managing Director – (CYD Treasurer)

Secretary – (CYD Gen. Secretary)

Chief Promotions Officer – (DPA)

Nademov Promotions Inc will be governed by a Charter/Articles of Incorporation and Memorandum of Association and shall produce separate financial statements from that of the Congress. Nademov Promotions will at all times be treated as an autonomous entity, both in its dealings within the Movement and in communications with the media and the public at large.

(6) **Congress of Young Democrats Website**

The preparation and hosting of a website and if one is already available, the publishing of banners of this website to all NDM affiliates, members who have websites on the internet and all political groupings and youth organizations.

(7) **Re-launching the Congress of Young Democrats**

A low-keyed event hidden behind the curtains of a National Conference or General Meeting.

Minimal Press.



\* **Youth Outreach (Chaired by the DPA)**

The Public Relations Arm of the CYD which will be ultimately responsible for all the public affairs and media relations for the Council. Given the nature of CYD's activities, outreach to the youth and our projection of a professional image is vital.

Our Machinery must ensure that we are always three (3) steps ahead of the other youth organizations of the other two major political parties. With public affairs, the CYD will definitely send home the message that we are "in it to win it!"

(2) **Drafting of a Congress of Young Democrats Policy Document & Action Plan**

It is essential that documentation be immediately effected to chart the direction of the CYD for the remaining six (6) months leading into the next millenium.

(3) **Drafting/and or ratification of the Congress of Young Democrats Constitution**

The formulation and ratification of the CYD constitution is essential

(4) **Strategizing Committee Members**

It is essential that persons emanating from specific geographic areas become instrumental in the organizations both civic and non-governmental in an effort at garnering the support of other young people as well as having the CYD properly represented and our presence felt. It is anticipated that such action will trickle off into the wider fabric of the national collective and eventually boost membership and CYD morale.

## **TIMELINES**

Re-launch date is targeted for the Second Sunday in December 1999.

It is essential that the Congress of Young Democrats render support to the members of the political party i.e. the National Democratic Movement as it is through this medium that the movement and the Country can appropriately advance into the next millenium.

## **CONCLUSION**

The assumptions and proposals made in this document are based on information garnered from current members of the Congress of Young Democrats and from my standpoint as a member of the general public and a Jamaican youth. It is obvious that the activities of the Congress are lukewarm and thus evident that the current Executive could do well with an infusion of ideas, suggestions and workable proposals. The ideas presented it is hoped will be incorporated either in whole or part into the framework with which the Congress constructs its mandates and will be effectively utilized in bringing the Congress and ultimately the party into the next millenium.

For any inaccuracies in the information presented, I take full responsibility.

*Prepared by Robert A. Kerr  
for the NDMCYD National Coordinator  
199, May 30,  
Kingston, Jamaica*