

SWAPO PARTY YOUTH LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

SWAPO PARTY YOUTH
LEAGUE CONSTITUTION AS
ADOPTED IN HARMONY
WITH THE SWAPO PARTY CONSTITUTION
BY THE 3RD SPYL CONGRESS
INA FREE AND
INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA, 2002

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THE PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the SWAPO Party Youth League (hereinafter referred to as "SPYL") is established in accordance with Article XVI (A) of SWAPO Party Constitution;

WHEREAS the historical reasons for the establishment of SPYL was to mobilize and unite all anti-colonial and progressive youth behind the struggle of national liberation under the leadership of SWAPO;

WHEREAS the Namibian youth under the SWAPO Party have emerged victo'ius from the struggle against colonialism;

WHEREAS the SPYL is committed to the realization of its mandate as a militant transmitting belt of the ideology, policies and programmes of the SWAPO Party in the process of nation building;

WHEREAS the tasks and challenges facing the SPYL are:

1. the defence and consolidation of the hard-won independence, which entails protection of the territorial integrity and national sovereignty of Namibia;
2. to uphold and instill in the youth of today and tomorrow the spirit and culture of heroism and patriotism of the Namibian people;
3. the promotion of social, political and economic development and the norms, values and practices under the banner of solidarity, freedom and justice;
4. to assist the SWAPO Party to become and remain a strong political force directing progressive policies and programmes towards a developed, fair and just society;
5. the promotion of the ideals of equality for all and social justice based upon the principles of scientific socialism;
6. to promote constantly access to employment, education, medical care and legal protection for the youth of Namibia;

7. to ensure maximum participation of the youth of Namibia in all vital spheres of life;
8. the promotion of the principles of anti-imperialist solidarity, peace and stability in Africa and the world;
9. the promotion of respect for international law, peaceful conflict management and resolution and the upholding of the principles of multi-lateralism in the system of international organizations in line with the principle of sovereign equality of States; and
10. to maintain historical links and also establish new ones with other progressive international youth and student movements; •

WHEREAS the SPYL is cognizant of the fact that these tasks and challenges demand a higher degree of organizational management and sustainable strategies; and

WHEREAS SPYL has the capacity to summon the skills and knowledge of its members to set up and appropriate SPYL's administrative machinery, applying modern methods and techniques of management and administration to ensure the realization of the aims and objectives of the youth wing and that of the SWAPO Party .

CHAPTER!

ARTICLE!

THE NAME

The name of the Wing shall be the SWAPO PARTY YOUTH LEAGUE (SPYL).

ARTICLE 2

DEFINITION

SPYL is a progressive youth political wing, born out of the crucibles of the anticolonial struggle for freedom and national independence, and embodies the same principles as those of SWAPO Party. SPYL serves as an active, revolutionary, and militant transmitting belt of the SWAPO Party ideology, policies and programmes.

ARTICLE 3

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the SPYL shall be essentially those enshrined in Chapter I of Article III of the SWAPO Party Constitution, and in accordance with Chapter V, Article XVI (A) (5) of the SWAPO Party Constitution, and shall include the following:

- I. to be vigilant and constantly combat all forms and tendencies of nepotism, favoritism, moral decay, tribalism, individualism, corruption, racism, regionalism and all reactionary conduct among the youth in the Namibian society;
2. to inculcate in the youth patriotic spirit, hard work, self-reliance, respect and love for cultural values and traditions, and the need to be willing catalyst in the process of nation building and the creation of a non-exploitative, non-oppressive and democratic society;
3. to fully participate in the promotion of the culture of selfless and voluntary service towards the struggle against unemployment, ignorance, illiteracy and all types of social ills in the Namibian society;

4. to promote and strengthen the Pan-African solidarity and the worldwide anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist struggle for freedom and justice in the world;
5. to promote gender awareness amongst the Namibian youth and fight for equality between men and women and the protection of vulnerable groups such as elders, children and disabled persons in Namibian society;
6. to promote and protect common historical heritage such as monuments and sites and to develop exchange programmes amongst the youth of _ Namibia so that there could be greater awareness about the country, • its history, natural resources and beauty. In addition, to protect the Namibian environment and sustainable utilization of Namibia's **natural resources**;
7. to constantly work for the promotion and upholding of the principles of democracy, accountable and transparent governance, and to promote consultation and dialogue at all levels of the Namibian society on matters of national importance;
8. to mobilize and organize the Namibian youth to participate actively in economic activities as individuals, or within cooperatives or through the establishment of SPYL enterprises in order to contribute to economic development and industrialization, thereby creating job opportunities and wealth for the Namibian people;
9. to educate the youth about the fact that Namibia is a free and sovereign African State and the history of Namibia, especially the struggle for .' national liberation for which many of Namibia's youth sacrificed their lives, and to ensure that the Namibian youth upholds, with honour and pride, Namibian history and Namibian national symbols.

CHAPTER 2

ARTICLE 4

MEMBERSHIP

There shall be three categories of SPYL's membership:

- (a) Individual Membership, (b) Pioneer Membership, and (c) Honourary Membership .

ARTICLES

A, INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

- 1 Subject to Article XVI (A) (2) of the SWAPO Party Constitution, membership of SPYL shall be open to every Namibian citizen who agrees with the aims and objectives of SWAPO Party and SPYL, and who is between 18 and 35 years of age.
2. A person wishing to become a member of SPYL shall make his or her application and submit it to the Secretary of the appropriate SPYL branch. He or she must be recommended by at least two members of SPYL who have known him or her for not less than two (2) years.
3. There shall be admission and monthly membership fees payable.

The monthly fees shall be determined from time to time by the National Executive Committee of SPYL.
5. Individual membership may be lost through:
 - (a) resignation, or
 - (b) expulsion, or
 - (c) when the member except the Secretary, attains the age of 35.
6. In the event of either resignation or expulsion, there shall be no refund of admission or membership fee.

ARTICLE 6

B. PIONEER MEMBERSHIP

1. Pioneer membership is awarded to a minor who identifies himself or herself with the aims and objectives of the SPYL and its Pioneer Wing.
2. Such a minor member shall join through the Pioneer Wing of SPYL.
3. For the purposes of this Constitution, a "minor" is a person who has attained the age of 6 years but has not attained the age of 18 years .

C. HONOURARY MEMBERSHIP.

1. Honourary membership shall be awarded to any former member of SPYL or any member of SWAPO Party who contributed greatly to the development of SPYL, or a person who has distinguished himself or herself in the cause of SPYL and SWAPO Party.
2. The award of honorary membership shall be made at the discretion of the SPYL Secretary and the SPYL National Executive Committee, acting together.

ARTICLE 7

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

1. A **member** of SPYL has the right to:
 - (a) demand the fulfillment of the objectives of SPYL under this Constitution, and the implementation of resolutions, decisions, directives and agreements of the SPYL.
 - (b) participate in forums and meetings of SPYL organs and to freely discuss the policies and activities of SPYL and to petition such organs.
 - (c) elect other members, and to be elected, to positions of authority in the SPYL and its bodies in accordance with the provisions of this Constitutions.
 - (d) put forward proposals and defend his or her opinion on matters under discussion and to receive timely answers to his or her questions.

2. A **member** of the SPYL has obligations, including the following:

- (a) to act with dedication and commitment and in the interest of the SPYL and SWAPO Party and national interests of Namibia;
- (b) to uphold SPYL's Code of Conduct, and the internal rules of SWAPO Party;
- (c) to be ever vigilant against infiltration of SPYL by persons;
- (d) to contribute towards the organic unity of the SWAPO Party and SPYL and to oppose factionalism and to be an exemplary member, always acting in the spirit of comradeship towards other part members;
- (e) to constantly and tirelessly explain, and to ensure the implementation of, the policies and programmes of SWAPO Party.
- (f) to promote and exercise constructive criticism without fear and to accept self-criticism with a view to overcoming any defects, errors or shortcomings in the SPYL;
- (g) to be sincere and honest, and to protect the SWAPO Party and SPYL . secrets; and
- (h) to comply with decisions of SPYL's organs, even if he or she held a contrary view.

ARTICLES

RIGHTS OF HONOURARY MEMBERS

An honorary member has the following rights:

- (a) participation in the Congress and other meetings of SPYL in an advisory capacity, but shall not have the right to vote; and
- (b) submission of suggestions to the Congress and other SPYL meetings with the view to facilitating the smooth functioning of SPYL. Such suggestions shall be channeled through the nearest office of SPYL.

CHAPTER 3

ARTICLE 9

ORGANS

There shall be following national organs of SPYL:

- (a) The Congress,
- (b) The Central Committee, and
- (c) The National Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 10

A. THE CONGRESS

- I. There shall be a Congress of SPYL.
2. The Congress shall be the highest decision making body of SPYL.
3. The Congress of SPYL shall be composed of:
 - (a) all members of the Central Committee,
 - (b) ten (10) delegates from each Regional Executive Committee, (c) three (3) delegates from each District of SPYL, and
 - (d) two (2) representatives from each SWAPO Pioneer Movement Regions.
4. With the exception of an extraordinary Congress, twenty-five(25) specially invited guests who must have made outstanding contribution to the work and development of SPYL but are not office-bearers of SPYL may attend. These guests shall have the right to participate fully in the deliberations of the Congress but will not have the right to vote.
5. In the event of an urgency to hold an extra-ordinary Congress and financial constraint is experienced, the Regions may adopt a special formula of composing the delegations which shall be agreed upon with the SPYL Secretary and National Executive Committee before implementation.

6. The quorum of the Congress shall be a simple majority of the delegates entitled to vote.

7. An extra-ordinary Congress of SPYL shall be called:

(a) if the Central Committee of SPYL deems it necessary, and/or

(b) if a majority of two-thirds of SPYL regions so request. The regions shall communicate their request and matters pertaining thereto in writing to the National Executive Committee of SPYL not less than two (2) months before such a Congress.

, • 8. The ordinary Congress which must be held every five (5) years before that of the SWAPO Party, shall have the power to:

(a) adopt SWAPO Party's policies, to set SPYL's policies and to review and assess the activities of SPYL during the five-year period;

(b) review, confirm, amend, or revoke any decision made by an organ of SPYL;

(c) consider the Report of the Central Committee of SPYL, -and adopt or reject such a Report, including financial reports and recommendations;

(d) elect the thirty (30) members of the Central Committee of SPYL and the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary of SPYL through secret ballot;

(e) adopt general policies, and to guide the activities of SPYL before the next succeeding Congress;

(f) amend the Constitution of SPYL by a majority of two-thirds of the voting delegates present;

(g) confirm all SPYL's Regional Secretaries as members of the Central Committee of SPYL;

(h) confirm the expulsion of any member of SPYL, upon the recommendation of a Disciplinary Committee established by the Central Committee of SPYL, by a majority of two-thirds of the voting delegates present, subject to the approval of SWAPO Party;

(i) recommend to the Central Committee of SWAPO Party that the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary of SPYL be expelled from SPYL for gross misconduct, including violation of the Constitutions of SWAPO Party and SPYL, if a majority of two-thirds of the members of the Congress of SPYL support the recommendation;

(j) and define the functions and powers of the Central Committee of SPYL.

9. The Central Committee of SPYL shall define the powers, functions, composition and procedures of an extra-ordinary Congress.
10. Invitations of the Congress shall be sent out three (3) months before the holding of such a Congress.

ARTICLE 11

B. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a Central Committee of SPYL.
2. The Central Committee shall be the highest authority between the Congresses and shall be chaired by SPYL's Secretary, and shall be answerable directly to the Congress.
3. The Central Committee shall consist of fifty (50) members, including SPYL's Secretary and Deputy Secretary and five (5) members who shall be appointed by SPYL's Secretary and all SPYL's Regional Secretaries.
4. A minimum of five (5) years uninterrupted membership of SPYL, including those spent in SPYL's Pioneer Movement, shall be required for any one to be eligible for election to the Central Committee.
5. The Central Committee of SPYL shall have the power to:
 - (a) discuss, adopt, review, amend or annul its own resolutions, decisions, and recommendations and/or those of the National Executive **Com.** mittee;
 - (b) elect the National Executive Committee, composed of National Secretaries and two additional members, from amongst the fifty (50) members of the Central Committee of the SPYL;
 - (c) make known the agenda of the Congress two (2) months before the actual date of the meeting of the Congress;
 - (d) meet every twelve (12) months or as often as requested by the National Executive Committee so as to review reports of SPYL's activities and to approve programmes of action;

- (e) receive reports from National Secretaries and Regional Secretaries of SPYL;
- (f) approve the budget of SPYL on recommendation of the National Executive Committee;
- (g) appoint registered auditors or any other qualified persons to audit the financial books of SPYL;
- (h) establish sub-committees when deemed necessary;
- (i) suspend any member of SPYL by a majority of two-thirds of its members pending confirmation of expulsion by the Congress of SPYL.

- 6. It is mandatory for all members of the SPYL Central Committee to attend all meetings of the SPYL Central Committee, except when they are on specific missions for SPYL or SWAPO Party.
- 7. A member of the Central Committee of SPYL who fails to be present at three consecutive meetings without a valid reason shall cease to be a member of Central Committee.
- 8. The quorum of the Central Committee shall be a simple majority of its members.

ARTICLE 12

C. THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- I. There shall be a National Executive Committee of SPYL.
- 2. The National Executive Committee shall be responsible for policy formulation in between Central Committee meetings .
- 3. The National Executive Committee shall be composed of eleven (II) members, including the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of SPYL.
- 4. The National Executive Committee shall have the power to:
 - (a) implement the decisions, resolutions and policies adopted by the Congress and/or Central Committee of SPYL and SWAPO Party; (b) prepare periodic reports to the Central Committee of SPYL on its work;

- (c) call for an extra-ordinary meeting of the Central Committee of SPYL;
 - (d) meet at least once a month or as often as may be necessary to discuss matters affecting SPYL, and
 - (e) appoint sub-committees.
5. All members of the National Executive Committee are obliged to attend meetings thereof.
 6. The decisions of the National Executive Committee shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present.
 7. A simple majority of the members of the National Executive Commit. shall constitute a quorum.
 8. Any member of the National Executive Committee who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings without written permission shall automatically cease to be a member.

ARTICLE 13

DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICE-BEARERS

1. THE SECRETARY

- (a) The Secretary of SPYL shall be the leader and the Chief Executive Officer of SPYL.
- (b) He or she shall be the Chairperson of the Central Committee, National Executive Committee and the Congress.
- (c) He or she shall be elected by the Congress through secret ballot for a period of five (5) years, and shall be eligible for re-election.
- (d) He or she shall be accountable to the Central Committee and the National Executive Committee.
- (e) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Congress, supported by a majority of two-third of the delegates, voting by secret ballot.
- (f) No SPYL member shall be eligible for election as Secretary for SPYL unless he or she meets the requirements stipulated in Article VI (4) of this Constitution and Article IV (4) of the SWAPO Party Constitution.

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- (g) He or she shall constantly ensure the promotion of the political and ideological consciousness of members of SPYL and also ensure that SPYL members are disciplined in the execution of their duties and obligations to SPYL and SWAPO Party.
- (h) He or she shall not be more than 45 years of age in terms of Article IX Section (P) (2) of the SWAPO Party Constitution.
- (i) He or she shall be the major link between SPYL and its Central Committee and Secretariat of SWAPO Party.
- (j) He or she shall be the principal spokesperson of SPYL and shall be responsible for contacts between SPYL and other Youth Movements in Africa and throughout the world.
- (k) He or she shall co-ordinate the activities of the various organs of SPYL.
 - (I) He or she shall monitor the overall financial performance of SPYL in the country and the SPYL enterprises and its interests.
- (m) He or she shall mobilize and organize SPYL members for popular demonstration, learning, production, and national and international festivals.
- (n) He Or she shall be responsible for the establishment and development of SPYL enterprises and ventures, and shall call for and receive reports from all business activities owned by SPYL.
- (o) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion among SPYL members of revolutionary culture, arts and other popular traditional activities.
- (p) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion and defence of the gainst of the Namibian revolution.
- (q) He or she shall ensure the effective and efficient management of the SPYL Headquarters and SPYL Regional Offices.
- (r) He or she shall mobilize an army of working youth in SPYL that will be ready to participate in various economic undertakings when called upon to do so by SPYL and SWAPO Party.

'- DEPUTY SECRETARY

- (a) He or she shall be the principal assistant to the Secretary of SPYL in the discharge of his or her duties.
- (b) He or she shall exercise all such functions as may be delegated to him or her by the Secretary of SPYL, National Executive Committee and the Central Committee.
- (c) He or she shall be elected by the Congress through secret ballot for a period of five (5) years, and shall be eligible for re-election.

- (d) He or she shall exercise the same powers as, and carry out all the duties and functions of the Secretary of SPYL in his or her absence.
- (e) He or she shall be accountable to the Central Committee and its National Executive Committee.
- (f) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Congress, supported by at least a majority of two-thirds of the delegates of the Congress.
- (g) No SPYL member shall be eligible for election as Deputy Secretary for SPYL unless he or she meets the requirements stipulated in Article 11 of this Constitution.

3. SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of SPYL on financial and administrative matters.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for the management of SPYL assets and funds.
- (c) He or she shall be responsible for the keeping and maintenance of all financial books and records, funds and all financial transactions of SPYL.
- (d) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting finance, trade and investments with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (e) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) He or she shall co-sign all financial documents of SPYL and shall cause the books of the SPYL to be audited annually.
- (g) He or she shall prepare and present, on behalf of the National Executive Committee of SPYL, financial reports on an annual basis to the Central Committee.
- (h) He or she shall give an updated financial report to the National Executive Committee of SPYL on a regular basis.
- (i) He or she shall prepare and present the Main Financial Report to the Congress of SPYL.
- (j) He or she shall be responsible for the making out of payments on behalf of SPYL and the banking of moneys received.
- (k) He or she shall consolidate the budget of the different national departments into one National Budget for approval by the Central Committee of SPYL.
- (l) He or she shall monitor the overall financial performance of SPYL.

- (m) He or she shall ensure that a transparent, accountable and reliable financial system is established within SPYL.
- (n) He or she shall be required to keep a copy of the register of SPYL members.
- (o) He or she shall be responsible for fundraising activities of SPYL. (p) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

4. SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, PUBLICITY AND MOBILIZATION

- (a) He or she shall be responsible for the dissemination of information on SPYL activities to the SPYL members, the public, Africa and the world. He or she shall be responsible for the ideological education of SPYL members, and shall
- (b) mobilize SPYL members for manifestations on matters of concern and national interest.
- (c) He or she shall ensure the promotion of political and ideological consciousness amongst SPYL members.
- (d) He or she shall undertake research on the history of the national liberation struggle and of SWAPO Party for the benefit of future generation. He or she
- (e) shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) He or she shall work with other Secretaries of SPYL so as to promote good relations with other democratic and progressive youth organizations in Namibia, Africa and the world.
- (g) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting information and publicity with the view to advising SPYL and its members. He or she shall ensure that an information bulletin covering activities and
- (h) developments within SPYL, SWAPO Party Women's Council, SWAPO Party Elders Council, SWAPO Party, Africa and the world, is printed and distributed. He or she shall co-ordinate his or her activities with the Secretary for Information and Publicity of SWAPO Party.
- (i) He or she shall issue press statements in consultation with the National Executive Committee and the Secretary of SPYL.
- U He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of his or her Department's budget to the department of the
- (k Secretary for Finance and Administration.
-) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.
- (l)

5. SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of the SPYL on foreign affairs.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion of anti-imperialist solidarity amongst the African people and progressive forces the world over.
- (c) He or she shall be responsible for promoting solidarity, friendship and co-operation with other progressive youth movements in Africa and the world.
- (d) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (e) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of the budget for his or her Department to the Secretary for Finance and Administration of SPYL.
- (f) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting international relations with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (g) He or she shall advise the National Executive Committee on new developments taking place in Africa and the world, and recommend the position to be taken by SPYL.
- (h) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-third of the members.

6. SECRETARY FOR LABOUR AND JUSTICE

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of the SPYL on labour and legal matters.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for gathering, analyzing, publishing and disseminating information on labour and legal matters in and outside Namibia.
- (c) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting labour and legal matters with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (d) He or she shall monitor and report progress on labour matters and administration of justice in Namibia.
- (e) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) He or she shall maintain and develop contacts between Namibian workers and SPYL.

- (g) He or she shall at all times analyse the opinions, concerns and requirements of the workers in Namibia and make proposals to SPYL as to measures to be adopted so as to improve the situation of workers and labour relations.
- (h) He or she shall promote the historical solidarity existing between the progressive workers movement, SWAPO Party and SPYL members. (i) He or she shall promote good labour practices in Namibia and encourage efficiency and productivity among Namibian workers.
- 0) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of his or her Department's budget to the Secretary for Finance and Administration of SPYL.
He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central
- (k) Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

7. SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION, SWAPO PIONEER MOVEMENT AND CULTURE

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of SPYL on educational and SWAPO Pioneer Movement matters.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for the mobilization of students who are SPYL members, and shall be in constant communication and interaction with them in all institutions of learning throughout the country.
- (c) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion of revolutionary culture among the SPYL and SWAPO Pioneer Movement members. (d) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion of the country's advancement in science and technology.
- (e) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) He or she shall be responsible for analyzing the educational system, and shall promote the culture of learning among the Namibian youth.
- (g) He or she shall work towards the establishment of a youth educational fund to assist SPYL members.
- (h) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting education and training with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (i) He or she shall be responsible for the promotion of education; add cultured creativity among the rank-and-file of SPYL and the Namibian youth in general.

- (j) He or she shall organize festivals and social activities with a view to promoting links of unity, co-operation and friendship amongst the rank-and-file of SPYL.
- (k) He or she shall promote co-operation between SPYL and socio-cultural and sport bodies inside and outside Namibia.
- (l) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of the budget for his or her Department to the Secretary of Finance and Administration of SPYL.
- (m) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

8. SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of the SPYL on economic, industrial and trade matters.
- (b) He or she shall in consultation with the SPYL Secretary ensure the establishment and development of SPYL enterprises and ventures.
- (c) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes on the economy, industry and trade with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (d) He or she shall be responsible for all matters pertaining to trade and industrial projects.
- (e) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (f) He or she shall negotiate and sign agreements in consultation with the Secretary for SPYL, and report to the National Executive Council of SPYL.
- (g) He or she shall monitor and report progress on all SPYL economic ventures and enterprises.
- (h) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of the budget for his or her Department to the Secretary of Finance and Administration of SPYL.
- (i) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

9. SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT

- (a) He or she shall be the spokesperson of the SPYL on health, population and environmental affairs.
- (b) He or she shall monitor developments in the areas of health, the population and the environment and the challenges facing the

country with regard to these matters, and make appropriate recommendations to the Central Committee of SPYL.

- (c) He or she shall undertake research on laws, policies and programmes affecting health, the environment and the population with the view to advising SPYL and its members.
- (d) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (e) He or she shall promote among the youth environmental awareness and the protection, preservation and the sustainable use and management of Namibia's environment.
- (f) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation, motivation and submission of the budget for his or her Department to the Secretary of Finance and Administration of SPYL.
- (g) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Central Committee, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the members.

ARTICLE 14

LOSS OF OFFICE

In accordance with Article IX (P) (2) of SWAPO Party Constitution, no SPYL national officer, except the Secretary, shall be eligible for re-election if he or she has attained the age of 35 years when his or her term of office expires.

CHAPTER 4

ARTICLE 15

REGIONAL ORGANS

1

There shall be the following organs of SPYL at the regional level:

1. (a) Regional Conference, and
(b) Regional Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 16

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Regional Conference for each administrative region of Namibia.
2. The composition of a Regional Conference shall be as follows:
 - (a) members of the Regional Executive Committee,
 - (b) seven delegates from each of the District in the Region, and
 - (c) two (2) representatives from each of SWAPO Pioneer Movement Districts in the region.
3. A Regional Conference shall be the highest decision making body in the Region.
4. A Regional Executive Committee shall convene the Regional Conference once every five years before the Congress of SPYL.
5. A Regional Conference shall be competent to discuss and decide matters of regional concern, and may make appropriate recommendations to the National Executive Committee through SPYL's Secretary.
6. A Regional Conference shall elect the SPYL's Regional Secretary and seven (7) members of the Regional Executive Committee through secret ballot.
7. A Regional Conference shall consider and adopt or reject reports submitted to it by the Regional Executive Committee on the activities of the SPYL within the region. .~
8. The quorum of a Regional Conference shall be constituted by a simple majority of the delegates entitled to vote.
9. An extra-ordinary Regional Conference may be called on the initiative of either the National Executive Committee, by two-thirds of members of the Regional Executive Committee, two-thirds of the District Executive Committees or at the request of the last two Committees. The reasons for the request shall be communicated in writing to the relevant organ.

10. A Regional Conference shall elect ten (10) delegates from the Regional Executive Committee and two (2) SWAPO Pioneer Movement representatives to the Congress of SPYL.

ARTICLE 17

REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. There shall be a Regional Executive Committee for each administrative region of Namibia.

? A Regional Executive Committee shall be

composed of: (a) Regional Secretary,

(b) Regional Secretary for Information, Publicity and Mobilization, (c) Regional Treasurer,

(d) all District Secretaries of SPYL in the region,

(e) one (1) SWAPO Pioneer Movement regional representative, and (f) four (4) additional members

3. The Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible for the implementation in the region of the decisions, resolutions and directives of the Congress, Central Committee, the National Executive and the Regional Conference of SPYL.
4. A Regional Executive Committee shall be accountable to the Regional Conference and the National Executive Committee.
5. A Regional Executive Committee shall be responsible for the political mobilization of the youth and the masses for the broader participation in the activities of the SWAPO Party and its Wings.
6. A Regional Executive Committee shall have the power to suspend any member of the SPYL in the region for serious misconduct or violation of the Constitution or Code of Conduct, and refer the matter to the National Executive Committee for confirmation or otherwise.
7. A Regional Executive Committee may appoint such Sub-Committees as may be necessary for the better implementation of the policies and programmes of the Party and SPYL in the region.

8. A Regional Executive Committee shall meet at least once in three months and as often as may be requested by a simple majority of the District Executive Committees in the region.
9. The quorum of meetings of a Regional Executive Committee shall be a simple majority of members entitled to attend and vote.
10. A Regional Executive Committees shall prepare and send quarterly reports to the SPYL National Headquarters about its activities.

ARTICLE 18

DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL OFFICERS

1. REGIONAL SECRETARY

- (a) A Regional Secretary shall take overall charge of the activities of SPYL in the Region.
- (b) He or she shall be the SPYL's chief administrative officer and leader at the regional level.
- (c) He or she shall preside over the Regional Conference and the Regional Executive Committee in the region.
- (d) He or she shall be a co-signatory to all cheques issued by the Regional Headquarters.
- (e) He or she shall be elected by secret ballot for a five-year term of office by the Regional Conference, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the delegates.
- (f) He or she shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee **t/** (g) He or she shall be the link between SWAPO Party Regional Executive Committee and SPYL in the region.
- (h) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (i) He or she may be suspended by the Regional Executive Committee by a resolution, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the delegates.
- (j) No SPYL members shall be eligible for election as Secretary for SPYL unless he or she meets the requirements stipulated in Article II (4) of this Constitution.
- (k) He or she may be endorsed as a member of SPYL's Central Committee by SPYL's Congress.

- (l) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Regional Conference, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the delegates.
- (m) He or she shall co-ordinate the activities of the Regional Executive Committee.

2. REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, PUBLICITY AND MOBILIZATION

- (a) He or she shall be responsible for gathering, analyzing, publishing and disseminating information on the social, economic and political situation in the Region.
He or she shall propagate, explain and defend the future and present programmes of SPYL.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for the preparation and distribution of SPYL information and publicity materials in the Region.
- (c) He or she shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee. (e) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (1) He or she may be suspended by the Regional Executive Committee by a resolution supported by a majority of two-thirds of its members.
- (g) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Regional Conference, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the delegates.
- (h) He or she shall be responsible for compiling press releases and press statements on regional matters.
- (i) He or she shall be elected by secret ballot for a five-year term of office by the Regional Executive Committee.
- (j) He or she shall be responsible for mobilizing SPYL members at the regional level for public meetings and all other public gatherings of SPYL and SWAPO Party .

• REGIONAL TREASURER

- (a) He or she shall receive and bank all monies belonging to the SPYL at the Regional level within seven days of receipt thereof.
- (b) He or she shall be responsible for making payments on behalf of SPYL and the keeping of books of account, payment vouchers, receipts and copies of financial statements and reports, as well as stock-cards.
- (c) He or she shall study possibilities and make proposals concerning the raising of funds.
- (d) He or she shall be a co-signatory to all cheques issued by the Regional Headquarters.

- (e) He or she shall be accountable to the Regional Executive Committee. (f) He or she shall be eligible for re-election.
- (g) He or she shall be elected by secret ballot for a five-year term of office by the Regional Executive Committee.
- (h) He or she may be suspended by the Regional Executive Committee by a resolution supported by a majority of two-thirds of its members.
- (i) He or she may be removed from office by a resolution of the Regional Conference, supported by a majority of two-thirds of the delegates.

ARTICLE 19

DISTRICT ORGANS

There shall be the following organs of SPYL at the district level:

- (a) District Conference, and
- (b) District Executive Committee.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a District Conference, which shall consist of:

- (a) all members of the District Executive Committee,
- (b) one (1) SWAPO Pioneer Movement representative in the District, (c) all Branch Secretaries in the District, and
- (d) four (4) delegates from each Branch in the District.

2. A District Conference:

- (a) shall be the highest organ of authority in the district and shall, meet eve. three years or as often as the need arises.
- (b) may call on extra-ordinary Conference at the instance of either the SPYL Secretary, by two-thirds of the members of the District Executive Committee, the Branch Executive Committee or at the request of both Committees. (c) shall be competent to discuss matters of district interest, and may make appropriate recommendations to the Regional Executive Committee or the Regional Conference.
- (d) shall consider and adopt reports on the activities of SPYL within the District.
- (e) shall elect three delegates to the SPYL Congress.

(f) shall elect District Officers according to procedures for the election of Regional Officers under this Constitution.

(g) shall elect the District Executive Committee from amongst the delegates.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

I. There shall be a District Executive Committee for each District, which shall consist of:

(a) District Secretary,

(b) District Secretary of Information, Publicity and Mobilization

• (c) District Treasurer,

(d) One (1) SWAPO Pioneer Movement representative in the District. (e)

All branch secretaries in the district, and

2 The duties and functions of a District Executive Committee shall be similar to those of a Regional Executive Committee, with the exception that the term of office of the latter shall be three years.

3. The District Executive Committee may recommend to the Regional Executive Committee the suspension of district officials and individual members of the SPYL for serious misconduct or violation of the SPYL Constitution.

4. The District Executive Committee shall be accountable to the District Conference.

5. The quorum of its meetings shall be a simple majority of its members entitled to attend and vote.

6. The District Executive Committee shall prepare and submit a draft programme of action for consideration and approval by the Regional Executive Committee.

7. The District Executive Committee shall implement the decisions and resolutions of the District Conference and Regional Conference.

8. The District Executive Committee shall report on its activities to the District Conference and Regional Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 20

BRANCH ORGANS

I. There shall be the following organs of SPYL at Branch level:

- (a) Branch Conference, and
- (b) Branch Executive Committee.

A. BRANCH CONFERENCE

I. There shall be a Branch Conference of SPYL and shall consist of:

- (a) all members of the Branch Executive Committee,
 - (b) two (2) delegates from SWAPO Pioneer Movement in the Branch, and (c) four (4) delegates from each section in the Branch.
2. The Branch Conference shall be the highest organ of authority at the Branch level and shall meet every two years.
 3. An extraordinary Branch Conference may be called at the instance of the SPYL Secretary, by two-thirds of the members of the Branch Executive Committee, a majority of members of the Sections in the Branch or at the request of the last two groups.
 4. The Branch Conference shall, by a secret ballot, elect the members of Branch Executive Committee whose term of office shall be two years.
 5. An Annual Branch Conference shall be competent to discuss matters of interest to its district and may make appropriate recommendations to the District Executive Committee of the District Conference.
 6. The Branch Conference shall by secret ballot elect three delegates to the District Conference.

B. BRANCH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- I. There shall be a Branch Executive Committee of SPYL for each Branch in each magisterial district.
2. The composition and functions of the Branch Executive Committee shall be similar to those of the District Executive Committee. However, all Section Secretaries shall be members of the Branch Executive Committee; a monthly enrolment of membership shall be compiled and forwarded to the District Executive Committee every month; and the term of office of a Branch Executive Committee members shall be two years.

~. A Branch Executive Committee:

- (a) shall organize SPYL members and recruit new ones;
- (b) shall raise funds for SPYL by collecting membership fees;
- (c) shall supervise and coordinate the activities of SPYL within the Branch, and shall report thereon to the Branch Conference;
- (d) may appoint as many sub-committees as it is necessary to carry out the activities of SPYL in the Branch;
- (e) may make recommendations to the District Executive Committee on the suspension of Section officials and individual members of SPYL for serious misconduct or violation of SPYL's and SWAPO Party Constitutions; (f) shall meet once every month and as often as may be necessary; and
- (g) shall be accountable to the Branch Conference.

4. The quorum of the meetings of a Branch Executive Committee shall be a simple majority of its members entitled to attend and vote.

• **ARTICLE 21**

SECTION

- I. There shall be a Section of SPYL, which shall be the basic organ of the SPYL.
2. A Section shall be established at such places as factories, farms, schools, hospitals, military units and residential areas.
3. Between ten (10) and fifty (50) members of SPYL shall be required to constitute a Section.

4. Each Section shall establish an Executive Committee consisting of an elected chairperson and a secretary and one representative of SWAPO Pioneer Movement.
5. The Chairperson shall be in charge of the activities of the SPYL in the Section.
6. The Secretary shall be responsible for membership recruitment and general administrative matters.
7. The Section shall have its general meeting at least once every month, and it shall hold the election of its office bearers annually.
8. The Section Executive Committee shall be required to give reports to the • lion annually.
9. The general meeting shall elect delegates to the Branch Conference.

CHAPTERS

ARTICLE 22

SWAPO PIONEER MOVEMENT

1. There shall be a Wing of SPYL to be known as the SWAPO Pioneer Movement (SPM).
2. The SPM shall be under the direction of SPYL.
3. All minors who identify themselves with the aims and objectives of SWAPO Party shall be eligible for membership of SPM. •
4. SPM shall have its own rules and regulations governing its activities and administration. The Central Committee of SPYL shall approve these rules before they come into force.

ARTICLE 23

SOURCE OF REVENUE

1. The funds of SPYL shall be derived from monthly membership fees, cultural activities, selling of SPYL materials and products and projects of SPYL.
2. SPYL may accept financial donations from individuals and national and international organizations, so long as such offers and donations are not detrimental to the aims, objectives and principles of SPYL and SWAPO Party.

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ARTICLE 24

QUORUM

The quorum of a meeting of any organ of the SPYL, if not otherwise provided for in any of the preceding provisions, is a simple majority of its constituent members.

ARTICLE 25

CASTING VOTE OF PRESIDING MEMBER

In the case of an equality of votes at any meeting of an organ of SPYL, the presiding member shall have and may exercise a casting vote.

ARTICLE 26

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

The national headquarters of SPYL shall be situated in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia.

ARTICLE 27

AMENDMENT

Subject to Article XVI (A) (5) of the Constitution of SWAPO Party and Article 10 (5) (f) of this Constitution, any provision of this Constitution may be amended by the Congress of SPYL.

ARTICLE 28

SPYL'S FLAG, EMBLEM, ANTHEM AND MOTTO

SPYL Flag

The official flag of SPYL shall be the same as that of the MOTHER BODY, SWAPO Party.

THE EMBLEM

The emblem of SPYL shall be the same as that of the MOTHER BODY, SWAPO Party.

MOTTO

The motto of SPYL shall be the same as that of the MOTHER BODY, SWAPO Party.

OFFICIAL ANTHEM

The Official Anthem of SPYL shall be the same as that of the MOTHER BODY: SWAPO Party.

ARTICLE 29

ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Constitution is entered into force upon its approval by the 3^d SPYL Congress held in a free and independent Namibia, 2002.