



**INTERNATIONAL REVELATION CONGRESS**

**CONSTITUTION**



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*With God's wisdom on our side, the IRC remains committed to a peaceful and democratic society that is based on respect and the recognition of our rich diversity and therefore, the rights of all individuals.*

*The International Revelation Congress was founded to defend and advance the rights of the African people after suffering in the hands of those entrusted with power to effect better change.*

*Recommend the need to harness the great resources of the country to fight the real enemies of the people,*

*Namely: poverty, hunger, unemployment, disease, ignorance, insecurity, homelessness and moral decay;*

*Our Party to ensure the maintenance of a stable, peaceful society in which all people can pursue*

*Their individual and collective happiness, and realize their potential without fear or favor.*

*To promote and encourage the development of the people spiritually, economically, educationally and Politically*

*To co-operate locally and internationally with all parties and organizations working for international peace and a unity*

*World-wide open society based on the complete eradication of all forms of national and international oppression and on the recognition of cultural and national diversities.*

*Our country's founding Revolution exalted the ideals of equality, justice, and democracy, of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all. Believe that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity.*

*Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by law;*

*We advocate an expanded Bill of Rights to guarantee religious, political, and individual freedoms, but also freedom from poverty, hunger, joblessness, and racism.*

*With pride in our country and confidence in our future, we hereby establish this Constitution of the I.R.C of the South Africa.*

*Heal the divisions of the past and establish a society based on democratic values, social justice and fundamental human rights;*

*With this rich diversity that is our rainbow nation, and with equal rights, privileges, opportunity and justice afforded to all citizens, there is no cause for the continued suffering of our people, and South Africa shall truly shine as a progressive nation to the rest of the world, a true democracy.*

**"UNITY IS THE POWER"**

*The name of the organisation shall be the International Revelation Congress, here in after referred to as the IRC.*

1. *The logo and the colours of the IRC are as described in Schedule I.*

## *Rule 2*

### *AIMS AND OBJECTIVES*

*The aims and objectives of the IRC are to*

- 1) *Give effect to the principles approved from time to time by the appropriate organs of the Party.*
- 2) *Bring about the transformation of our society and system of government to ensure the long-term protection of Political, economic, social and cultural pluralism.*
- 3) *Believe that South Africa belongs to all South African who live on it, united in our diversity.*
- 4) *Lay the foundations for a democratic and open society in which government is based on the will of the people and every citizen is equally protected by law.*
- 5) *Protect, encourage and promote free trade, commerce, industry and agriculture, along with the conservation and rational use of natural resources.*
- 6) *working class as the necessary leading force along with the other core forces—all racially and nationally oppressed groups, women, and youth—can build a movement that also includes the many streams of our working people—such as family farmers, small business owners, and the self-employed—who united together have the power to make fundamental progressive change.*
- 7) *Promote economic development for the benefit of all people and to protect the rights of private ownership and participate in the market economy.*
- 8) *Support and promote the struggle for the rights of children, disabled and youth development.*
- 9) *Avoid apartheid in all its forms and transform South Africa as rapidly possible into a united to all South Africans and democratic country based on the principles of the constitution of South Africa and in pursuit of the national democratic revolution.*
- 10) *Peace is essential for the survival of the planet and humanity. The pursuit of world domination to further enrich democratic has resulted in destructive wars, environmental devastation, and massive poverty.*
- 11) *Defend the democratic gains of the people and advance towards a society in which the government is freely chosen by the people according to the principle of universal suffrage on a common voter's roll.*
- 12) *Protect our country from the enemies who cross the border and diseases from different country.*
- 13) *Fight for social justice and to eliminate the vast unemployment, poverty and inequalities.*

## *Rule 3*



## **THE CHARACTER OF THE IRC**

1. IRC is a non-sexist and non-racial and democratic liberation movement.
2. Its policies are determined by the membership and its leadership is accountable to the membership in terms of the procedures laid down in this constitution.
3. IRC also contests elections as a registered political party, drawing its electoral support from all South Africans.
4. IRC shall, in its composition and functioning, be democratic, non-racial and non-sexist and against any form of racial, tribalism or ethnic exclusivism or chauvinism.
5. While striving for the maximum unity of purpose and functioning, the IRC will respect the linguistic, cultural and religious diversity of its members.
6. IRC will support the emancipation of women and ensure they are properly represented at all levels.
7. The principle of freedom of speech and free circulation of ideas and information will operate within the IRC.
8. Membership of all bodies of the IRC will be open to all men and women in the organisation without regard to race, colour or creed.
9. IRC co-operated closely with religious bodies in the country and provides, on an interfaith basis for the recognition of the spiritual needs of its many members who are believers.

## **Rule 4**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Membership of the IRC shall be open to all South Africans and people who stay permanent in South Africa, above the age of 18 years, irrespective of race, colour and creed, who accept its principles, policies and programmes and are prepared to abide by this constitution, rules and regulations.
2. Spouses and children of South Africans, who have manifested a clear identification with the South African people and its struggle, may apply for membership.
3. All other persons who have manifested a clear identification with the South African people, their struggle and are resident in South Africa may apply for membership.

4. The National Executive Committee (NEC) may, acting on its own, or on the recommendation of the branch or the Provincial Executive Committee (PEC), grant honorary membership to those men and women who do not qualify for membership under the rule, but who however demonstrate their commitment to the IRC and its policies.
5. Applications for membership shall be considered by the Branch Executive Committee (BEC). The BEC or the NEC may, from time to time, decide to accept or refuse any application for membership, provided such acceptance on refusal shall be subject to review by the next highest organ of the IRC.
6. Membership cards shall be issued to registered members of the IRC and to persons whose application for membership has been accepted subject to review as aforesaid, and in all cases, subject to payment of the prescribed subscription. An applicant will be issued with an acknowledgement of provisional membership and the details of the branch and constituency/area in which the applicant resides and any available information about the local branch structures.
7. Provisional membership will apply to persons who wish to join the organisation for the first time or who wish to re-join the organisation after a considerable lapse of time.
8. Provisional membership rights commence from the date of production of acknowledgement following receipt of the application and the appropriate membership subscription. A provisional member may attend branch meetings, but in a non-voting capacity.
9. Any objection to any application for membership may be made by any member of the IRC to the branch, regional or provincial secretary within the weeks of the notification.
10. At any time before the individual is accepted as a full member of the organisation, or in exceptional circumstance even after the member has been admitted, the Secretary General may rule that the application or the membership may be rejected if it was invalidly obtained.
11. In the absence of any objection from the structures and or any ruling by the secretary-general, the applicant shall, on the expiry of ten weeks from the date of notification of provisional membership, become a full member. The provisional membership will then be transferred to the national membership list as a full member as soon as it is practicable.
12. The reasons for the rejection of an application for membership by the secretary general or the objection by the membership to the application for membership must be sent to the individual applicant in writing.
13. Membership cards will be issued to registered members of the IRC and to persons whose application for membership has been accepted, subject to review and subject to payment of the prescribed subscription in all cases.

14. Members shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by the NEC.
15. Non-earning members or those on reduced income will pay such fees as are determined by the NEC.
16. On being accepted in the IRC a new member shall, in a language he or she knows well, make the following solemn declaration to the body or person designated to administer such oaths:
  - a) *I \_\_\_\_\_ solemnly declare that I will abide by the aims and objectives of the International Revelation Congress as set out in the constitution, the Freedom Charter and other dully adopted policy positions, that I am joining the organisation voluntarily and without motives of material advantage or personal gain, that I agree to respect the constitution and the structure and to work as a loyal member of the organisation and carry towards making the IRC an even more effective instrument of the liberation in the organisation and its principles and tendency towards disruption and factionalism.*
17. Members who fail to pay their subscriptions for four months and having being reminded of their lapse will not be regarded as members in good standing until they pay their arrears.

## Rule 5

### RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE MEMBER

**Rights:** Every member of the IRC is entitled to,

1. take full and active part in the discussion, formulation and implementation of the policy of the IRC,
2. receive and impart information on all aspects of the IRC policy and activities,
3. offer constructive criticism of any member, official policy programme or activity of the IRC within its structures,
4. take part in elections and be elected or appointed to any committee, structure, commission, or delegation of the IRC,
5. Submit proposals or statements to the branch, province, region, or NEC, provided such proposal or statements are submitted through the appropriate structures.

**Duties:** A member of the IRC will,

6. belong to and take an active part in the life of his or her branch,

7. take all necessary steps to understand and carry out the aims, policy and programme of the IRC, explain the aims, policy and programme of the IRC to the people,
8. deepen his or her understanding of the social, cultural, political and economic problems of the country,
9. combat propaganda detrimental to the interests of the IRC and defend the policy, aims and programme of the IRC,
10. fight against racism, tribalism, chauvinism, sexism, religious and political intolerance or any other form of discrimination or chauvinism,
11. observe discipline, behave honestly and carry out loyally, decisions of the majority and decisions of higher bodies,
12. inform his or her branch of movement to any other area and report to the branch committee secretary on arriving at any new area,
13. Refrain from publishing and/or distributing any media without authorisation which purports to be the view of any organised grouping, faction or tendency within the IRC,
14. All members shall ensure that they are registered as voters in the constituency where they live, IRC members who hold executive office in any sphere of governance at national, provincial or local level are required to be members of the appropriate caucus, to function within its rules and to abide by its decisions under the general provisions of this constitution and the constitutional structures of the IRC.

## **Rule 6**

### **GENDER AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION**

In the endeavour to reach the objectives of full representation of women in all decision-making structures, the IRC shall implement a programme of affirmative action, including the provision of a quota of not less than fifty percent (50%) of women in all elected structures of the IRC to enable such implementation will be addressed in all IRC structures immediately and on a continuing basis.

## **Rule 7**

### **ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

1. The IRC consist of the following organs:
  - a) The National Conference which elects the National Executive Committee.
  - b) The Provincial Conference which elects the Provincial Executive Committee,
  - c) The Regional Conference which elects the Regional Executive Committee,
  - d) The Branch Bi-annual General Meeting which elects the Branch Executive Committee.
2. Branches may be grouped together in zones and may be subdivided into smaller units such as street committees, and zones may be grouped into sub-regions.
3. The IRC Women's League is open to women who are members of the IRC and has the same basic structure, namely, National, Provincial and Branch.
  - a) Its objectives are to defend and advance the rights of women, both internally and externally to the IRC against all forms of national, social and gender oppression and to ensure that women play a full role in the life of the organisation, in the people's struggle and in national life.
  - b) The Women's League will function as an autonomous body within the overall structure of the IRC, of which it will be an integral part, with its own constitution, rules and regulations, provided that these shall not be in conflict with the constitution and policies of the IRC.
4. The IRC Youth League is open to all between the ages of 15 and 30 and will operate on a national, provincial and branch basis.
  - a) Its objectives are to unite and lead young men and women in confronting and dealing with the problems that face the youth, and in ensuring that the youth make a full and rich contribution to the work of the IRC and the life of the nation.
  - b) The Youth League will function as an autonomous body its own constitution, rules and regulations, and a similar overall structure of the IRC, of which it will be an integral part, provided that its constitution, rules and regulations shall not be in conflict with the constitution and policies of the IRC.
  - c) Members of the Youth League over the age of 18 are expected to play a full part in the general political life of the IRC.
  - d) A member of the Youth League shall not be eligible for any position as office-bearer of the IRC or to attend IRC conferences, members or executive meetings of the IRC, unless he or she is a full member of the IRC.



5. The IRC Veterans League is open to all IRC members 60 of age or older, who have served the IRC and the movement over an unbroken period of 40 years. It will operate on a national, provincial and branch basis.
  - a) Its objectives are to ensure that veterans make a full and rich contribution to the work of the IRC, the movement and the life of the nation.
  - b) The veteran's League will function as an autonomous body within the overall structure of the IRC, of which it will be an integral part with its own constitution, rules and regulations, provided that these shall not be in conflict with the constitution and policies of the IRC.

## **Rule 8**

### **THE HEADQUARTERS**

The site of the National Headquarters of the IRC will be determined by the NEC.

## **Rule 9**

### **PROVINCES**

1. For the purpose of the organisational structures, the country will be divided into 14 provinces.

IRC shall make provision for the changing of the current demarcation of and the addition of 5 more provinces, with due regard to,

  - a) the need for better or ease of access to, the equal distribution of and speedy access to government services, and
  - b) The ethnic or racial majority in an area, for the purpose of re-determining provincial names, but not as a form of division along ethnic or racial lines.
2. Changes to the demarcation of provinces shall be as follows:

- a) Gauteng shall remain at the current geographical size and location, as one (1) province.
  - b) Limpopo shall be re-demarcated into three (3) provinces.
  - c) Mpumalanga remains at the current geographical location, as one (1) province, but with the north-eastern quarter absorbed into a new province which extends to the south-eastern bottom of the Limpopo province.
  - d) North-West shall be re-demarcated into two (2) provinces.
  - e) Western Cape shall remain at the current geographical size and location
  - f) Northern Cape shall be re-demarcated into two (2) provinces.
  - g) Eastern Cape shall be re-demarcated into two (2) provinces.
  - h) Kwa-Zulu Natal shall be re-demarcated into two (2) provinces.
3. The provincial head-quarters will be determined by the Provincial Conference
  4. The changes to the demarcation of provinces shall not deny any South African citizen the right to visit or live, whether temporarily or permanently, in any province within the boundaries of South Africa, regardless of ethnic or racial background.

## **Rule 10**

### **THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

1. The National conference is the supreme rulling and controlling body of the International Revelation Congress. it shall be composed of:

**a) Voting Delegation**

- i) At least 90% of the delegates at the conference shall be from branches. The number of delegates per branch shall be in proportion to its paid-up membership, provided that each branch in good standing shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
- ii) The number of delegates to be allocated to each province to attend the National Conference shall be fixed by the NEC in proportion to the paid-up membership of each province.
- iii) All members of the NEC shall attend, ex-officio, as full participants in and as delegates to the conference.
- iv) The remainder of the 10% of voting delegates to the conference shall be allocated by the NEC from among the Provincial Executive Committees, the International Revelation Congress Veterans League, the International Revelation Congress Women's League, and the International Revelation Congress Youth League.

**b) Non-voting Delegation**

The NEC may invite individuals, who have made a special contribution to the struggle, or who have special skills or experience, to attend the conference.

- 2. The NEC will appoint a conference preparatory committee which will circulate conference information in advance, determine the precise procedure for selection of delegates and indicate how the membership can then ensure their concerns are on the agenda.
- 3. The conference shall determine its own procedure in accordance with democratic principles.
- 4. Voting on key questions shall be by secret ballot if at least one third of the delegates at National Conference demand it.
- 5. The National Conference will be convened by the NEC from time to time, provided that the NEC shall convene a National General Council not later than 24 months after the National Conference.
- 6. The National Conference will be convened at least every five years.

**7. The National General Council**

- a) The NEC will after consultation with provinces, determine the composition of the National General Council.
- b) The National General Council will,

- i) Subject to paragraphs (iii) and (IV) below, determine and review the policies and programmes of the IRC.
- ii) Receive and discuss reports of the NEC.
- iii) Have the right to ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the IRC, except the National Conference, including the evaluation of the performance of members of the NEC.
- iv) Have the power to discuss any issue it deems necessary taking into account policies and directives of the National Conference.
- v) Subject to Rule 12, it may fill vacancies that have arisen in the NEC, provided that such vacancies do not exceed 50% of the NEC.

## **Rule 11**

### **Duties and powers of the National Conference**

The National Conference shall,

1. Decide and determine the policy, programmes and constitution of the IRC,
2. Receive and discuss the reports of the NEC, which shall include the presidential address, the Secretary General's report, which shall include a report on the work and activities of the Veterans League, Women's League, the Youth League, and the Treasure General's report.
3. Elect the President, the Deputy President, National Chairperson, the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, the Treasure General and the remaining 50 additional members of the NEC.
4. Have the power to elect or appoint any commission or committee and assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee.

## **Rule 12**

### **National Executive Committee**

Powers of the NEC

1. The National Executive Committee is the highest organ of the IRC between the National Conferences and has the authority to lead the organisation, subject to the provisions of the constitution.
2. Without prejudice to the generality of its powers, the NEC shall,

- a) Carry-out the decisions and instructions of the National Conference and the National General Council
  - b) Issue and send directives and instructions to and receive reports from the provinces.
  - c) Supervise and direct the work of the IRC, including national, provincial and local government caucuses.
  - d) Ensure that the provincial, regional and branch structures of the IRC function democratically and effectively.
3. The NEC may suspend or dissolve a PEC where necessary. A suspension of a PEC shall not exceed a period of three months.
  4. Elections for a PEC, which has been dissolved, shall be called within none (9) months from dissolution,
  5. The NEC may appoint an interim structure during the period of suspension or the dissolution of the PEC, to fulfil the functions of the PEC.
  6. Oversee the work of the Women's League and Youth League.
  7. Establish departments and setup committees as it considers appropriate.
  8. Manage and control all national and international property and assets of the IRC.
  9. Receive reports, supervise the work of, and delegate such functions to the NWC, as it considers necessary.
  10. Issue documents and other policy directives as and when it deems fit.
  11. Confer such honours, as it may deem appropriate.
  12. Appoint annually a National List Committee of not fewer than five and not more than nine persons for the selection and adoption of candidates for the National Parliament.
    - a) The NEC shall draw-up regulations for the procedures to be followed in such a selection.
    - b) The National List Committee shall report to the NEC prior to the implementation of its recommendations.
    - c) Provincial structures for the adoption of candidates shall report to the National List Committee.

- 13.** The NEC may convene as Policy Conference, as a recommendation-making body on any matter of policy, whenever it deems necessary, but the NEC must convene a National Policy Conference to review policies of the IRC and to recommend any new or to amend any present policy for consideration by the National Conference.

### **Rule 13**

#### **ELECTIONS AND COMPOSITION OF THE NEC**

1. The National Executive Committee as a whole shall not consist of less than fifty percent (50%) of women.
2. The NEC, except where otherwise stipulated, shall be elected by secret ballot by the National Conference and shall hold office for five years and shall be constituted as follows:
  - a) The President, Deputy President, National Chairperson, the Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, and the Treasurer General who will be elected separately by the National Conference. Fifty (50) additional members of the NEC who shall be elected by secret ballot by the National Conference.
  - b) The Chairperson and the Secretary of each elected IRC Provincial Executive Committee who shall be ex-office members of the NEC.
  - c) The National President and Secretary General of the IRC Women's League who shall be ex-official members of the NEC,
  - d) The National President and Secretary General of the IRC Youth League who shall be ex-official members of the NEC,
  - e) The National President and Secretary General of the IRC Veterans League who shall be ex-official members of the NEC,
  - f) The NEC may co-opt not more than five (5) additional members at any time during its term of office in order to provide for a balanced representation that reflects the true character of the South African people, provided that such co-option enjoys the support of the Provincial Executive Committee of the Province from which the proposed person comes.
  - g) Should a vacancy occur on the NEC for any reason, the NEC shall have the power to fill the vacancy by appointing a replacement?
  - h) The quorum for meetings of the NEC shall be 50%+1 of its total membership.

- i) A person shall have been a paid-up member of the IRC for at least five years before he or she can be nominated to the National Executive Committee of the IRC.
3. Nominations for the NEC members referred to in Rule 13.2(a) and 13.2(b) above shall be by the following procedure:
  - a) Subject to sub-section (b) below, nominations for the posts of:
    - (1) President
    - (2) Deputy President
    - (3) National Chairperson
    - (4) Secretary General
    - (5) Deputy Secretary General
    - (6) Treasurer General

Shall be made by any Province and placed before the National Conference.
  - b) A delegate to the Conference shall, however, have the right to nominate any person whose name has not been proposed in terms of sub-section (a) above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconders to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a minimum of 25 percent (25%) of Conference delegates, then such nomination shall be regarded as having been duly seconded, in which event the name of such nominees shall be placed on the ballot paper. If the nomination fails to secure the support of a minimum of 25% of conference delegates, such nomination shall fall away.
4. Nominations of candidates for the National Executive Committee other than the above positions shall be carried out by the following procedure:
  - a. Subject to sub-section (b) below, only those candidates who have been proposed by a Province shall appear on the National Conference ballot paper.
  - b. Subject to paragraph (c) below, a delegate to the conference shall, however, have the right to nominate any person whose name has not been proposed in terms of sub-section (a) above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconders to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a show of hands by a minimum of 25 percent (25%) of Conference delegates, then such nomination shall be regarded as having been duly seconded, in which event the

name of such nominee shall be placed on the ballot paper. If the nomination fails to secure the support of a minimum of 25% of delegates, such nomination shall fall away.

- c. Not more than two persons per province may be successfully nominated in terms of sub-section (b) above.
5. For the purposes of the nomination procedures referred to in Rule 13.4(a) and 13.4(b), the Veteran's League as a whole, the Women's League as a whole, and the Youth Leagues as a whole shall be regarded as a province.
6. Voting shall take place by secret ballot. Each voting delegate shall vote once in each ballot.
7. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the directly elected or co-opted members of the National Executive Committee must be women.
8. If any Provincial Chairperson or Secretary is elected to the NEC in his or her own right or as a national official, such person shall vacate the Provincial position, provided that the Province has the right to make representations to the NEC, in a special case, where extraordinary circumstances may warrant an exception to this rule. However, when such a provincial officer is allowed to retain his or her NEC position, the Province shall not be entitled to an additional member on the NEC.
9. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the Secretary General, the Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer General shall be full-time functionaries of the IRC.
10. The NEC shall meet in plenary session at least once every three months and shall provide broad political and organisational perspectives to the National Working Committee.
11. The National Executive Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the National Executive Committee. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the National Executive Committee but shall not speak on behalf of the National Executive Committee. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.

## **Rule 14**

### **NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE**

1. As soon as possible after the conclusion of the National Conference, the NEC shall meet and elect a National Working Committee.
2. The National Working Committee shall be constituted as follows: The President, Deputy President, National Chairperson, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General and the Treasurer General.

3. In addition, the NEC shall elect additional members to the NWC from among the directly-elected members of the NEC. These shall not exceed one-quarter of the composition of the directly-elected members.
4. The members of the National Working Committee shall not necessarily be full-time functionaries of the IRC. However, the NEC shall determine the extent to which the elected members shall be full-time functionaries who may be allocated specific responsibilities.
5. IRC Veteran's League, Women's League and the IRC Youth League shall appoint one representative each to serve on the NWC.
6. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty (50%) of the members of the NWC must be women.
7. The National Working Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the National Executive Committee. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the National Executive Committee but shall not speak on behalf of the National Executive Committee. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.
8. The National Working Committee shall:
  - a) Carry out decisions and instructions of the National Conference and the NEC.
  - b) Conduct the current work of the IRC and ensure that provinces, regions, branches and all other IRC structures such as parliamentary caucuses carry out the decisions of the IRC.
  - c) Submit a report to each NEC meeting.

## **Rule 15**

### **THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION**

1. The NEC shall appoint an Electoral Commission of not fewer than three members whose task will be,

- a) To prepare the ballot papers as directed by the Constitution.
  - b) To make provision for ballot boxes or other means of secret voting.
  - c) To create machinery for the counting of ballot papers and the effective supervision of the counting of votes.
  - d) To announce the results of all ballots and make known the number of votes received by each successful candidate.
  - e) To establish procedures for voting and to determine any dispute raise in regard to elections and election procedures, and to determine how any tied vote should be resolved.
2. The names of the electoral commission whose work shall commence before Conference opens shall be submitted to the Conference for endorsement and they shall then be reinforced by a representative appointed by each Provincial delegation.

## **Rule 16**

### **THE NATIONAL FINANCE COMMITTEE**

1. The NEC shall appoint the National Finance Committee.
2. The NEC shall determine the composition and powers of the National Finance Committee.
3. The National Finance Committee shall report to the NEC at least twice a year on the finances and budget of the IRC.

## **Rule 17**

### **DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF OFFICIALS**

#### **1. The President**

The President is the head and chief directing officer of the IRC and the leader of the house at a National Conference. He or she shall:

- a) Present to the National Conference a comprehensive statement of the state of the nation and the political situation generally.
- b) Make pronouncements for and on behalf of the NEC outlining and explaining the policy or attitude of the IRC on any question.

- c) Preside over meetings of the NEC in conformity with the Constitution, by-laws and rules of procedure adopted by the NEC.
- d) Under the overall supervision of the NEC, orient and direct the activities of the IRC.
- e) Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

## **2. The Deputy President**

The Deputy President shall assist the President, deputise for him or her when necessary and carry out whatever functions are entrusted to him or her by the National Conference, the President or the NEC. He or she shall be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

- 3. In the event of death or permanent incapacity of the President and the Deputy President, the NEC shall as soon as possible appoint an Acting President until such time as the National Conference meets.

## **4. The National Chairperson**

The National Chairperson shall:

- a) Preside over the National Conference.
  - b) Remain the custodian of the decisions taken by the National Conference and ensure that all organs of the IRC implement these decisions and operate within the parameters of policy set out by Conference.
  - c) Carry out such additional tasks as the Conference or NEC may instruct.
  - d) Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.
- 5. In the absence or incapacity of the National Chairperson, the President shall assume his or her functions.

## **6. The Secretary General**

The Secretary General is the chief administrative officer of the IRC. He or she shall:

- a) Keep the minutes of the National Conference, the NEC, the NWC as well as other records of the IRC.
- b) Conduct the correspondence of the NEC and the NWC and send out notices of all conferences and meetings at the national level.
- c) Convey the decisions and instructions of the National Conference, the NEC and the NWC to the provincial executive committees, and see to it that all units of the IRC carry out their duties properly.

- d) Prepare annual reports on the work of the NEC and the NWC and such other documents which may, from time to time, be required by the NEC and the NWC.
- e) In the absence of the President or the Deputy President, the Secretary General shall assume the functions of the President.
- f) All departments, save those falling directly under the President, shall report on their activities to the Secretary General.
- g) Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

#### **7. Deputy Secretary General**

The Deputy Secretary General shall assist the Secretary General, deputise for him or her when necessary and carry out the functions entrusted to him or her by the National Conference or the NEC and shall be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

#### **8. Treasurer General**

The Treasurer General is the chief custodian of the funds and property of the IRC. He or she shall:

- a) Receive and bank all monies on behalf of the NEC and shall, together with any two members of the NEC, operate a banking account.
- b) Keep such books of account as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of the IRC.
- c) Submit to the National Conference a report showing the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the IRC for the period since the previous National Conference, and shall submit periodic reports to the NEC and the NWC.
- d) Be responsible, with the National Finance Committee, for working out and executing plans for fund raising.
- e) Be an ex-officio member of the NWC.

#### **9. The National Chaplaincy**

There shall be a National Chaplaincy appointed by the NEC on an interfaith basis to provide spiritual guidance.

### **Rule 18**

**PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE**

1. Subject to the overall guidance of the NEC, the Provincial Conference shall be the highest organ of the IRC in each Province.
2. The Provincial Conference shall,
  - a) Be held at least once every four (4) years and more often if requested by at least one third of all branches in the Province.
  - b) be composed of,
    - i) Voting Delegates,
      - (1) At least 90% of the delegates at the Conference shall be from branches, elected at properly constituted branch general meetings. The number of delegates per branch shall be in proportion to its paid-up membership, provided that each branch in good standing shall be entitled to at least one delegate.
      - (2) All members of the Provincial Executive Committee shall attend ex-officio as full participants and delegates at the conference
      - (3) The remaining 10%of the voting delegates at Conference shall be from members of the IRC's Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League as allocated by the Provincial Executive Committee.
    - ii) Non-Voting Delegates,

The Provincial Executive Committee may invite individuals, who have made special contribution to the struggle or who have special skills or representation as non-voting delegates to structures, which do not have the minimum requirement to form a branch.
  - c) Determine its own procedures in accordance with democratic principles and practices.
  - d) vote on key questions by secret ballot if at least one third of the delegates at the Provincial Conference demand it.
  - e) vote for the election of the Provincial Executive Committee by secret ballot. Each voting delegate shall vote once in each ballot.

- f) Promote and implement the decisions and policies of the National Conference, the National General Council, the National Executive Committee and the National Working Committee.
- g) Receive and consider reports by the Provincial Executive Committee, which shall include the Chairperson's address, the Secretary's report, and which shall include a report on the work and activities of the Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League in the province, and the Treasurer's report.
- h) Elect the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, treasurer and the additional 20 members of the Provincial Executive Committee, who will hold office for four (4) years. The Provincial Secretary shall be a full-time functionary of the organisation.
- i) Carry out and develop the policy and programme of the IRC in the Province.
- j) Have the power to review, ratify, confirm, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the IRC in the province.
- k) Have the power to elect or appoint any commission or committee and assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee.

## **Rule 19**

### **THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL COUNCIL**

1. A Provincial General Council shall be convened between Provincial Conferences.
2. The PGC shall meet at least once a year. A PGC shall, for good cause shown, be convened by the PEC upon the request of one-third (1/3) of branches in the Province.
3. The Provincial General Council consists of all members of the Provincial Executive Committee and delegates representing branches in proportion to membership, with a minimum of one delegate per branch. The Veteran's League, Women's and Youth Leagues shall be represented by their PECs. The RECs shall be appropriately represented as determined by the PEC.
4. The Provincial General Council may discuss and decide any issue it deems necessary, including any matter brought before it by the PEC, and may decide on any matter falling within its competence, subject always to the policies and directives of the National Conference, National General Council, Provincial Conference or the NEC.
5. The PGC may fill any vacancy on the PEC provided that the filling of vacancies does not exceed 50% of the membership of the PEC.

## Rule 20

### PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Provincial Executive Committee is the highest organ of the IRC in a province between Provincial Conferences and is the authority to lead the organisation in the province, subject to provisions of this Constitution.
2. The Provincial Executive Committee shall consist of elected, co-opted and ex-officio members.
3. It shall consist of the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 20 other persons elected by the Provincial Conference. A person shall have been in good standing as a member of the IRC for three years before she or he can be nominated to a Provincial Executive Committee of the IRC.
4. Each region in the province shall be equally represented in the PEC by the Chairperson and/or the Secretary as determined by the PEC, with ex-officio status, provided that the number of regional representatives on the PEC does not exceed the number of elected members of the PEC.
5. The Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League in the Province shall be represented by the Chairperson and Secretary of the respective leagues in the PEC, with ex-officio status.
6. The Provincial Executive Committee may co-opt not more than 3 persons in order to provide for a balanced representation that reflects the true character of the South African people.
7. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the directly elected and co-opted members of the PEC must be women.
8. The National Executive Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the National Executive Committee. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the National Executive Committee but shall not speak on behalf of the National Executive Committee. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.
9. The Provincial Executive Committee shall,
  - a) Meet as soon as possible after its election to elect the Provincial Working Committee and thereafter at least once a month.
  - b) Carry out the policy and programme of the IRC and do all things necessary to further the interests, aims and objectives of the organisation

- c) Carry out the decisions and instructions of the Provincial Conference, Provincial General Council, NEC and the NWC.
  - d) The Provincial Executive Committee shall provide broad political and organisational perspectives to the Provincial Working Committee. It will receive reports, supervise the work of and delegate such functions to the PWC, as it considers necessary.
  - e) Manage and control the funds and assets of the IRC in the Province.
  - f) Submit reports to the NEC Provincial Conference and Provincial General Council as often as is required on the state of the organisation, the financial position of the province and such other matters as may be specified.
  - g) Issue documents and other provincial policy directives, as and when it deems fit.
  - h) Appoint the provincial and regional staff as required, subject to directions from the office of the Secretary General.
  - i) Have the duty to appoint annually a Provincial List and Candidates Committee, of not less than five and not less than five (5) and not more than nine (9) persons, which will identify regulations for the drawing up of the Provincial List of candidates for national elections, provincial elections and for the selection of candidates for local government elections. The Provincial Executive Committee shall report to the NEC and shall be bound by the recommendations of the National List Committee.
10. The quorum for any meeting of the PEC shall be 50% (fifty percent) plus 1 of its total membership.
11. Provincial official shall, with due allowance for differences of scale and level of work, perform the same functions as the national counterparts, provided that there is no equivalent counterpart for the position of National Chairperson.

## **Rule 21**

### **PROVINCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE**

1. The Provincial Working Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer of the Province, and the Chair or Secretary of the IRC Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League in that Province, and not less than one quarter of its directly elected members. The Provincial Executive Committee shall elect the additional members of the

Provincial Working Committee from among the directly elected additional members of the Provincial Executive Committee.

2. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the members of the Provincial Working Committee must be women.
3. The Provincial Working Committee shall,
  - a) Carry out decisions and instructions of the Provincial Conference, the National Executive Committee and the Provincial Executive Committee.
  - b) Conduct the current work of the IRC in the province and ensure that regions, branches and all other IRC structures, such as parliamentary caucuses, carry out the decisions of the IRC.
  - c) Submit a report to each Provincial Executive Committee meeting.
4. The PWC will meet as often as is necessary, but at least once every two weeks.
5. The Provincial Working Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the PWC. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the Provincial Working Committee but shall not speak on behalf of the Provincial Working Committee. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.

## **Rule 22**

### **REGIONS**

1. The PEC, under the supervision of the NEC, shall divide the Province into regions for the more efficient and democratic functioning of the IRC.
2. Provincial regions shall be demarcated to correspond strictly to district and metro municipal boundaries in each province.
3. Each region shall hold a regional conference every three (3) years which shall elect members of the Regional Executive Committee, and shall comprise the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer and a committee of not more than fifteen members; in addition the Chairperson and Secretary of the Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League in that Region shall be ex-officio members of the Regional Executive Committee. A person shall have been a member of the IRC for at least two years before she or he can be nominated to a Regional Executive Committee of the IRC.

4. Each branch within a region shall be entitled to send delegates to the regional conference in proportion to its members.
5. There shall be at least one regional council meeting in the course of each year with each branch being entitled to send at least one delegate. Additional regional council meetings may be convened by the Regional Executive Committee or the PEC or on the request of at least one-third of the branches.
6. The regional executive committee shall be accountable to the PEC for its functioning. The powers of the regional executive committee are such powers delegated to it by the Provincial Executive Committee. In addition, the Regional Executive Committee may, subject to the directions and instructions of the Provincial Executive Committee, exercise the following powers:
  - a) Meet as soon as possible after election to elect the Regional Executive Committee and thereafter as and when necessary but at least once a month.
  - b) Carry out the policy and programme of the IRC in the region and do all things necessary to further the interests, aims and objectives of the organisation.
  - c) Carry out the decisions and instructions of the Provincial Conference, the Provincial General Council, the Provincial Executive Committee, the Regional Conference and the Regional Council.
  - d) The Regional Executive Committee will provide broad political and organisational perspectives to the Regional Working Committee. It will further receive reports, supervise the work of, and delegate such functions to the Regional Working Committee as it considers necessary.
  - e) Manage and control the funds and assets of the IRC in the region.
  - f) Submit reports to the Provincial Executive Committee, Regional Conference and Regional General Council, as often as is required, on the state of the organisation, the financial position of the region, and such other matters as may be specified.
  - g) Request and receive reports from the branches and other substructures in the region.
  - h) Supervise and direct the work of the IRC and all its organs in the region, including the IRC local government caucuses.
  - i) Recommend to the PEC the suspension or dissolution of a BEC, Ronal Committee or Sub-regional Committees.
7. The Regional Executive Committee may co-opt not more than 2 persons, in order to provide for a balanced representation that reflects the true character of the South African people.

8. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the members of the Regional Executive Committee must be women.
9. The Regional Executive Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the REC. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the REC but shall not speak on behalf of the REC. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.
10. The Regional Working Committee
  - a) The Regional Working Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer of the region and not less than on quarter of its directly elected members and the Chairperson or Secretary of the IRC Veteran's League, Women's League, and the Youth League in that region. The Regional Executive Committee shall elect the Regional Working Committee from among the directly elected additional members of the Regional Executive Committee.
  - b) The Regional Working Committee shall,
    - i) carry out decisions and instructions of the NEC, PEC, REC, the Regional Conference and the Regional General Council.
    - ii) Conduct the current work of the IRC in the region and ensure that branches and all other IRC structures, such as municipal council caucuses, carry out the decisions of the IRC.
    - iii) Submit a report to each REC meeting.
  - c) The Regional Working Committee will meet as and when necessary but at least every two weeks.
  - d) In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the members of the Regional Working Committee must be women.
  - e) The Regional Working Committee may invite any IRC member in good standing to attend its meetings. The number of such invitees shall be limited by the RWC. An invitee may be given specific tasks by the Regional Working Committee but shall not speak on behalf of the Regional Working Committee. An invitee may speak and participate at such meetings but shall not vote.

## **Rule 23**

### **PROVINCIAL CHAPLAINCIES**

Provincial Chaplains may be appointed by the PEC on the same basis as National Chaplaincy.

## **Rule 24**

### **BRANCHES**

1. Every member of the IRC shall belong to a branch, which shall be the basic unit of the organisation.
2. The branch shall,
  - a) be registered with the PEC and have a minimum of 100 members, provided that the PEC may confer special recognition, where due to exceptional circumstances, the branch has fewer than 100 members.
  - b) Meet as provided for in the rules and regulations.
  - c) be the place where members exercise their basic democratic rights to discuss and formulate policy.
  - d) be the basic unit of activity for members.
  - e) Elect at an annual branch meeting a Branch Executive Committee consisting of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer, and other committee members, consisting of not less than three and not more than ten persons. A person shall have been a member of the IRC for one year before she or he can be nominated to a Branch Executive Committee of the IRC, provided that where a new branch is being established, the PEC may waive this provision. The Veteran's League, Women's League and the Youth League, shall be entitled to two representatives each on the BEC by the Chairperson and Secretary of the Veteran's League branch, Women's League branch and the Youth League branch within that branch, with ex-officio status.
3. Branches covering an extensive geographical area, or in respect of which some special circumstances exist, may divide into smaller manageable units. Such units shall only be used as a co-ordinating and administrative tool by the branch and shall not possess any decision-making powers. These units must operate on the basis of acceptable democratic principles and practices.
4. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the directly elected and co-opted members of the BEC must be women.
5. The branch shall meet at least once per month in a general meeting.
6. The Branch Executive Committee shall:
  - a) Meet as soon as possible after its election and allocate tasks and functions among its members to enable it to carry out the day-to-day activities of the Branch.

- b) Carry out the publicity and organisational work in its area in furtherance of the policy, programme and decisions of the IRC.
  - c) Meet at least once per month.
  - d) Submit reports on its work to the branch meeting and at least each month to the Regional Executive Committee.
  - e) Co-opt not more than three persons, if it considers it necessary to ensure greater representation.
7. The quorum for each meeting of the Branch Executive Committee shall be 50%+1 (fifty percent plus one) of the total BEC membership.
8. The quorum for the annual branch meeting and other branch meetings where the branch makes nominations of candidates for elections within the IRC or for public representatives or takes decisions relating to policy matters, shall be 50% plus 1 of the total paid-up members of the branch.

## **Rule 25**

### **ZONAL STRUCTURES AND SUB REGIONS**

1. The Provincial Executive Committee, under the guidance of the National Executive Committee, must establish sub-regions within a region. Sub-regions shall be demarcated to strictly correspond with B-type or metro sub-council municipal boundaries, depending on its location, with similar arrangements and powers as applies to Zones.
2. Any three (3) or more branches within a Region for the purpose of co-ordination of activities and better organisational efficiency may be formed into a Zone at the instance of the Regional Executive Committee after consultation with the relevant branches, or on application to the PEC, by at least two branches within an area of a proposed Zone.
3. Whenever a Zone has been established the Branch Executive of constituent Branches, within that sub-region or zone, will at a properly convened meeting, elect a Sub-regional or Zonal Committee, as the case maybe, consisting of a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and five (5) representative elected from constituent branches in a meeting convened every two (2) years for that purpose.
4. In accordance with Rule 6, not less than fifty percent (50%) of the directly elected and co-opted members of the Sub-regional Committee or Zonal committee must be women.

5. Where Zonal structures of the Veteran's League, Women's League and Youth League exist, they shall be represented by one (1) member each, subject to the same provisions relating to the requirement for IRC membership.
6. The tasks of the Zonal Committee will include:
  - a) To meet at least once a month.
  - b) To co-ordinate the work and activities of the constituent branches and submit reports to the REC.
  - c) To see to the implementation of the instructions of the NEC, PEC or the PWC, REC in the Sub-region or Zone.
  - d) To participate in the work of the Regional Council.
  - e) To maintain effective links with all branches in the Sub-region or Zone.
7. Sub-regions may be formed by 3 or more Zones with similar arrangements and powers as between Zones.

## **Rule 26**

### **DISCIPLINE**

1.
  - a) All members, without exception, must abide by the Constitution of the IRC, the Rules and regulations, the Standing Orders and Codes of Conduct as adopted or amended from time to time, as well as all policies and decisions properly adopted or made in terms of the constitution.
  - b) Every candidate representing the IRC during an election at any level of government must undertake, in writing, prior to the elections, to abide by the Constitution of the IRC and the relevant Code of Conduct for elected representatives, and to submit to and abide by any disciplinary proceedings instituted against him or her in terms of the Constitution or such code, directly or indirectly arising from his or her conduct as a public representative of the IRC.
  - c) All members and public representatives of the IRC, without exception are subject to the discipline of the IRC and must submit to the provisions of the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, Standing Orders and Codes of Conduct with and the applicable disciplinary procedures, in particular Rule 26.

2. Disciplinary proceedings against a member and a public shall be confined to violations of the IRC Constitution, Rules and regulations, Standing Orders, Codes of Conduct and the policies and decisions of the IRC properly adopted or made in terms of the constitution, or the misconduct referred to in Rule 26.5 or provided for in terms of Rule 26.13 (b) and shall not,
  - a) Be used as a means of stifling debate or denying members their basic democratic rights;
  - b) Be instituted as a means of solving private problems or as a means of interfering in the private lives of members where the norms of the organisation are not directly affected, unless such conduct itself constitutes a violation or an offence affecting the organisation.
3. If the NEC, PEC, REC, or BEC, as the case may be, or the relevant body exercising the right to invoke disciplinary proceedings under this Constitution, is satisfied that the institution of a disciplinary procedure is warranted against a member or public representative in respect of any conduct referred to in Rule 26.5 or any other misconduct prohibited in terms of the Constitution, it may decide to institute disciplinary proceedings against such member in respect of such misconduct and then refer the matter to the NDC, PDC, RDC, or BDC, as the case may be, or any other body authorised in terms of the Constitution to conduct disciplinary proceedings, to proceed with such disciplinary hearing (refer to 26.6(c)).
4. A disciplinary committee, which has conducted a disciplinary hearing in terms of this Constitution, may find any member or public representative guilty of any misconduct referred to in Rule 26.5 or any other misconduct prohibited in terms of the Constitution, only if it is satisfied that the evidence prescribed is of such a cogent and sufficient nature as to prove the guilt of such member or public representative on a balance of probabilities.
5. The following conduct by a member or public representative shall constitute misconduct in respect of which disciplinary proceedings may be invoked and instituted against him or her:
  - a) Conviction in a court of law and being sentenced to a term of imprisonment without an option of a fine, for any serious non-political offence;
  - b) Conviction in a court of law for any serious non-political offence;
  - c) Behaviour which brings the organisation into disrepute or which manifests a flagrant violation of the moral integrity expected of members and public representatives or conduct unbecoming that of a member or public representative;
  - d) Sowing racism, sexism, tribalism, religious and political intolerance, religious or any form of discrimination;

- e) Engaging in sexual or physical abuse of women or children or abuse of office to obtain sexual or any other undue advantage from members or others;
- f) Abuse of elected or employed office in the organisation or in the State to obtain any direct or indirect undue advantage or enrichment;
- g) Behaving corruptly in seeking or accepting any bribe for performing or not performing any task;
- h) Misappropriation of funds of the organisation or destruction of its property;
- i) Behaving in such a way as to provoke serious divisions or a break-down of unity in the organisation;
- j) Undermining the respect for or impeding the functioning of the structures of the organisation;
- k) Participating in organised factional activity that goes beyond the recognised forms of free debate inside the organisation and threatens its unity;
- l) Supporting a political organisation or party other than an organisation in alliance with the IRC in a manner contrary to the aims, objectives and policy of the IRC.
- m) Standing in an election for local, provincial or national government or acts as the election agent or canvasser of a person standing for such election in opposition to a candidate duly endorsed by the National Executive Committee or Provincial Executive Committee;
- n) Joining a political organisation or party other than the IRC or a party in alliance with the IRC;
- o) Prejudicing the integrity or repute of the organisation, its personnel or its operational capacity by:
  - i) Impeding the activities of the organisation;
  - ii) Creating division within its ranks or membership;
  - iii) Doing any other act, which undermines its effectiveness as an organisation; or
  - iv) Acting on behalf of or in collaboration with counter-revolutionary forces, a political organisation or party other than an organisation or party in alliance with the IRC in a manner contrary to the aims, policies and objectives of the IRC,
  - v) Colluding with the intelligence or security services of other countries; or
  - vi) Seriously interfering with the work of the organisation or preventing it from fulfilling its mission and objectives.

- p) Fighting or behaving in a grossly disorderly or unruly way;
- q) Deliberately disrupting meetings and interfering with the orderly functioning of the organisation.
- r) Receiving payment for, or assisting or facilitating the payment of, membership subscription of the organisation for a person or persons or a group of persons who would otherwise be unwilling or unable to pay their own subscription;
- s) Offering a reduced rate membership to those known by the individual or group making the offer to be ineligible for that category of membership
- t) Recruitment of members who do not reside at an address claimed, where this is done in order to manipulate branch meetings or the outcome of organisational votes; or
- u) Giving, collecting or raising of funds for campaigning activities within the IRC aimed at influencing the outcome of a conference or meeting.

6.

- a) The NEC shall appoint a National Disciplinary Committee (NDC), from among its membership and from other structures of the IRC, which will consist of at least 5 but not more than 9 members. At least three (3) members of the NDC shall constitute its quorum. The national officers, the National Working Committee or the National Executive Committee may refer any violation or misconduct directly to the National Disciplinary Committee for determination of a complaint.
  - i) In addition, the NEC shall appoint the National Disciplinary Committee of Appeal (NDCA), from among its membership and from other structures of the IRC, which will consist of at least 3, but not more than 5 members, provided that its members may not serve in the NDC. At least three members of the NDCA shall constitute its quorum. The NDCA shall hear cases of appeal where the NDC heard the case as a structure of first instance.
  - ii) The decisions of the NDCA shall be final, except that the National Executive Committee may, in its discretion, review a decision. Such a review shall be regulated by standing orders adopted by the National Executive Committee.
- b) Each Branch Executive Committee shall appoint a Branch Disciplinary Committee. Each Regional Executive Committee shall appoint a Regional Disciplinary Committee (RDC). Each Provincial Executive Committee shall appoint a Provincial Disciplinary Committee (PDC). These respective disciplinary committees must be appointed as soon as possible after the election of the respective executive committees and shall consist of at least 3 but not more than 5 members. At least three members of a disciplinary committee shall constitute its quorum.

- c) Disciplinary proceedings shall normally be conducted at the level where the alleged violation or offence took place, namely the branch, region, province or national, and may be heard by the relevant structure.
- d) Disciplinary proceedings may only be instituted at branch level if the relevant Provincial Working Committee has granted that branch written permission to do so.
- e) The NWC may direct that the disciplinary proceedings should be heard at a higher level from where the alleged violation or offence took place.
  - i) As soon as possible, after the election of the respective executive committees at any level of the organisation, the,
    - (1) National Executive Committee shall appoint a Chief National Presenter, to be assisted by no more than 3 other competent members, to represent and present the case of the IRC in any National Disciplinary Committee and NDCA hearing,
    - (2) Provincial Executive Committee shall appoint a Chief Provincial Presenter, to be assisted by no more than 3 competent members, to represent and present the case of the IRC in any Provincial Disciplinary Committee and PDCA hearing,
    - (3) Regional Executive Committee shall appoint a Chief Regional Presenter, to be assisted by no more than 3 competent members, to represent and present the case of the IRC in any Regional Disciplinary Committee and RDCA hearing within its region.
- f) No member of a disciplinary committee may participate in a decision to institute disciplinary proceedings against a member and such member of the disciplinary committee should recuse himself or herself from such discussion and decision, save in the exceptional circumstances contained in Rule 26.6 (a). However this does not prohibit such member from participating in any political discussion on any issue, which later becomes the subject of a discussion and decision to institute such disciplinary proceedings against a member.

7.

- a) Any person faced with disciplinary proceedings shall receive due written notice of any hearing and of the basic allegations and charges against him or her and be afforded a reasonable opportunity to make his or her defence.

- b) Any person faced with disciplinary proceedings is entitled to be represented by a member in good standing and who is a paid-up member for at least three months prior to the receipt of such written notice referred to in Rule 26.7 (a).
  - c) If disciplinary proceedings are instituted against a member and such member does not appear at the venue and at the time determined for such proceedings or does not remain in attendance when required to do so, the relevant disciplinary committee, if satisfied that such member was properly and timorously notified of such venue and time, may order that the proceedings continue in the absence of such member. The disciplinary committee may form an opinion of the evidence led, after applying the test provided for in Rule 26.4, and it may be , even if such member was absent from part or the whole of the proceedings.
- 8.
- a) Penalties or sanctions, which may be imposed by a disciplinary committee, for proven violations of the Constitution, other relevant instruments, principles, norms policies and decisions of the IRC, will include reprimand, payment compensation and/or the performance of useful tasks, remedial action and suspension of membership or expulsion from the IRC and in the case of a public representative, also the removal from any list or instrument which such person represents the IRC at any level of government.
  - b) A disciplinary committee may suspend the imposition of any of the above penalties or sanctions, with or without certain conditions for a period to be determined by such disciplinary committee.
  - c) Any member found guilty of the misconduct referred to in Rule 26.5(m) and (n), shall be ineligible to be or remain a member, and shall be expelled from the organisation.
- 9.
- a) A decision of a disciplinary committee only takes effect once the internal appeal procedures and remedies provided for in terms of Rule 26 have been exhausted. Any person found guilty during a disciplinary proceeding, or the complainant, has the right, within 14 days from the date of sentencing, to appeal against the conviction or sentence, to the disciplinary committee of the next highest body of the IRC. A member is only entitled to one appeal to such next highest disciplinary body, whose decision shall, subject to paragraph (b), be final and binding, provided that the NDCA may, upon application to it and if it deems it necessary, grant a further appeal to be heard by itself. The National Working Committee may direct that a body higher than the one to which the appeal has been made should hear any appeal. An appeal against a decision of a Branch Disciplinary Committee should be heard directly by the Provincial Disciplinary Committee.

- b) Where a disciplinary committee arrives at a decision to suspend or expel a local government councillor or member of a provincial legislature or parliament, such a decision shall be suspended pending the outcome of an automatic appeal to the National Disciplinary Committee of Appeal. The NDCA must commence with such an appeal within 14 days of the notification of the decision of such a disciplinary committee.
10. All disciplinary proceedings shall be disposed of expeditiously, but within 6 months from the date that the notice of the charge has been delivered to the member, provided that the NDCA, upon application from the relevant disciplinary committees, in writing, at any stage before or after the expiry of such period, extends this period in a particular case, if it deems it necessary.
11. The relevant Disciplinary Committee shall in writing report the outcome of each disciplinary proceedings to the secretary of the executive structure which established it and then the decision shall be publicly announced by the relevant Disciplinary Committee.
12. Temporary Suspension
- a) The Provincial Disciplinary Committee or the Provincial Working Committee with regard to disciplinary matters not being dealt with at a national level, and the National Disciplinary Committee or the National Working Committee, may summarily suspend the membership of any member, by acting in accordance with the above procedures prescribed in Rule 12.
- b) Before any of the above structures make such a decision, it must have due regard to the nature and seriousness of an alleged violation or misconduct by a member and/or public representative only after the accusations have been put to him or her for comment by the person or body tasked with such duty by the relevant structure, and he or she has had an opportunity to respond, provided that if such member has been given proper and timeous notice of such opportunity and does not avail himself of such opportunity, and/or does not attend or does not stay in attendance, the matter may proceed in his or her absence.
- c) Exceptional circumstances, as determined by the National Working Committee or National Disciplinary Committee or Provincial Working Committee, as the case may be, may warrant an immediate decision of temporary suspension of a member without eliciting the comment of such member, as provided for in paragraph (b).
- d) The member or public representative shall immediately be informed of such suspension.
- e) In the case of the suspension of an elected public representative, the relevant structure making the decision must also provide for any terms and conditions, which will regulate his or her participation and conduct as a public representative during the period of suspension.

- f) The member or public representative shall immediately be informed of such terms and conditions.
  - g) When a Provincial Working Committee or Provincial Disciplinary Committee imposes a temporary suspension on a member or a public representative, it must immediately forward a report of such suspension and the reasons for it, to the NDCA, and the NDCA may, if circumstances warrant it, at any stage set aside such a suspension.
  - h) The temporary suspension shall lapse if a notice of a charge relating to such suspension is not delivered to the member within 30 days of the date of the commencement of the temporary suspension.
  - i) Such disciplinary proceedings shall be attended to as quickly as possible and completed within a reasonable period.
  - j) The temporary suspension shall, subject to paragraph (g), remain in force until the finalisation of the disciplinary proceedings, including any appeals, provided that the NDCS may upon application and if the circumstances so warrant, at any stage set aside such suspension.
  - k) The temporary suspension may at any stage be set aside by the structure which imposed it, if it deems it necessary.
- 13.
- a) The National Executive Committee must adopt rules and regulations for the regulation of the effective and appropriate implementation and functioning of Rule 26 dealing with disciplinary proceedings in the IRC.
  - b) Without prejudice to the generality of Rule 26.5 the National Executive Committee may, in regulations, prescribe further conduct by a member or public representative, constituting misconduct in respect of which disciplinary proceedings may be invoked and instituted against him or her.
  - c) The NEC shall adopt guidelines for the interpretation of Rule 26 and for the rules of procedure applicable during disciplinary proceedings, including time limits to be followed before, during and after a hearing.
  - d) The rules, regulations and guidelines referred to in this rule must be adopted by the NEC within six (6) months.
  - e) The National Executive Committee may,
    - i) authorise other structures of the IRC to institute disciplinary proceedings, and

- ii) establish appropriate structures to implement or make the appropriate arrangements to apply the provisions of Rule 26

## **Rule 27**

### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The NEC may adopt rules and regulations for the better carrying out of the activities of the IRC.
2. The PECs may adopt rules and regulations for the better functioning of the IRC in their respective provinces.
3. All such rules and regulations shall be consistent with the constitutional norms of the IRC, and rules and regulations framed by the PEC shall only become operative when approved by the NEC or, on a provisional basis pending approval by the NEC, by the NWC.
4. The NEC may frame a code of conduct to cover all structures, officials, public representatives, office bearers and members.

## **Rule 28**

### **GENERAL**

The IRC shall have perpetual succession and power, apart from its individual members, to acquire, hold and alienate property, enter into agreements and do all things necessary to carry out its aims and objects and defend its members, its property and its reputation.

## **Rule 29**

### **AMENDMENTS**

Any amendments to this Constitution shall be by a two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting at the National or Special Conference. Notice of intent to propose any amendments to the Constitution should be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary General at least three months before the National or Special Conference. The NEC shall provide at least one month's notice for any Constitutional amendment.

## **Rule 30**

### **SPECIAL CONFERENCE9**

1. A special conference of the IRC may be convened by the NEC at any time or at the request of a majority of the Provinces for a stated purpose or purposes.
2. Not less than one month's notice of such conference shall be given.
3. Participation at the Conference shall be determined by the NEC, provided that branches shall be represented at such a conference in proportion to their membership.

## **Rule 31**

### **CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY**

Only the National Officials shall have the authority to bind the IRC or to create any legal relationship. Any other person purporting to bind the IRC must produce a written authorisation from one of the National Officials which must indicate the extent of that person's authority.

## **Rule 32**

### **BORROWING POWER**

The National Executive Committee may from time to time borrow any amount of money, on such terms and conditions as the NEC considers fit, with the power from time to time to alter the terms of such borrowing, and to secure such borrowing or any other obligation of the IRC by the mortgage or pledge, either generally or specifically, of the assets of the IRC.

## **Rule 33**

### **TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The NEC is authorised to make consequential changes to the content and style of these rules following these amendments and to make such transitional arrangements as necessary.

## Rule 34

### DISSOLUTION

The National Conference or any Special Conference may dissolve the IRC and transfer the assets and liabilities of the movement in such a manner as determined by the Conference, by way of a resolution passed by seventy five percent (75%), majority of the duly accredited delegates in good standing who are present and voting, provided that the National Executive Committee received notice of such resolution from a structure of the IRC at least 12 months before it was voted on by such conference.

### SCHEDULE 1

#### IRC Logo and Colours

The IRC logo features an African Buffalo centred horizontally, and then centred vertically across the three equal colour bands of Green, Gold and White, with the last similarly equal band of Blue colour bearing the centred organisational name, “**IRC**”, and the name IRC has a white border with black forming its main colour.

#### IRC Flag

The IRC flag is rectangular; it is one and a half times longer than it is wide. It is a horizontal four colour flag, comprising from top to bottom, equal bands of Green, Gold, White and Blue, and the Buffalo Image centred horizontally, and then centred vertically across the three equal colour bands of Green, Gold and White, with the last similarly equal band of Blue colour bearing the centred organisational name, “**IRC**”, and the name IRC has a white border with black forming its main colour, with the **ARIAL BLACK** font.

### APPENDIX I - Disciplinary Procedure

#### INTRODUCTION

Rule 26 of the Constitution deals with discipline. This disciplinary procedure prescribes how the disciplinary procedure is to be used and how disciplinary proceedings are to be conducted.

#### OBJECTIVE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

The objective of disciplinary procedure is to ensure that in all disciplinary proceedings:

- There is a formal procedure.
- There is a just and fair procedure.
- A member is presumed innocent until proven guilty.
- A member has a chance to defend him/herself or.
- A member has the right to appeal.

### **STARTING DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

Disciplinary Proceedings may be instituted:

- 1) Only for violations or offences of the IRC Constitution, the Rules, the Standing Orders, Codes of Conduct, or the violations and offences set out in Rule 26.3.1 or Rule 26.3.2 or Rule 26.3.3. (See Rule 26.2. of the IRC Constitution.)
- 2) By any organ or official of the IRC at Branch, Regional, Provincial or National level. However, the NWC may direct that the disciplinary proceedings should take place at a higher level than where a violation or offence was committed [Rule 26.6(e)]
- 3) By the National Disciplinary Committee which can hear and decide cases:
  - a) Referred to it by the IRC National Officials, NWC, or the NEC.
- 4) At Branch, Regional, Provincial or National level by a Disciplinary Committee unless:
  - a) The NWC directs that the disciplinary proceedings should take place at a higher level than where a violation or offence was allegedly committed.[Rule 26.6(e)]
  - b) The National Disciplinary Committee institutes disciplinary proceedings referred by the IRC National Officials, NWC, or the National Executive Committee.[Rule 26.6(a)]
  - c) The National Disciplinary Committee institutes disciplinary proceedings itself for very serious violations or offences. [Rule 26.6(a)]

### **HOLDING DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

- 1) A charge must be made within reasonable time of the violation or offence. (Rule 26.7)

- 2) A charge must be prepared on behalf of the organ or officials of the IRC instituting the disciplinary proceedings. The charge must:
  - a) Be in writing
  - b) Set out the information forming the reason for the charge and the alleged violation or offence in reasonable detail.
  - c) Identify the:
    - i) Provision of the IRC Constitution, the Rules, the Standing Orders, and Codes of Conduct alleged to have been violated.
    - ii) The violations and offences set out in Rule 26.5 alleged to have been committed.
  - d) Advise the charged member of her or his right to be represented by a member of the IRC in good standing, to have an interpreter present, to call witnesses for defence of the charge, and to recall and question witnesses called for prosecution of the charge.
  - e) Specify the time and place of the disciplinary proceedings.
  - f) Be delivered to the charged member seven days before the disciplinary proceedings or sooner if this is necessary in certain serious circumstances.
- 3) The following persons must be present at a Disciplinary Proceeding:
  - a) The Chairperson and members of the Disciplinary Committee.
  - b) The presenter of the charge.
  - c) The charged member, who can be tried in her or his absence if she or he does not appear.
  - d) The charged member's representative and/ or interpreter who is a member of the IRC in good standing.
  - e) The witnesses.
  - f) A minute taker.
- 4) The Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee must ensure that:
  - a) The disciplinary proceedings are held in a fair manner. He or she will rule on all matters that may arise and ensure order is maintained.

- b) The charged member is informed of the charge, is informed of her or his rights and is asked to plead guilty or not guilty to the charge.
- c) The presenter of the charge details the charged member's alleged violation or offence and may call witnesses in support of the charge and may produce relevant documentation in support of the charge.
- d) The charged member or her or his representative presents the defence to the charge and may call witnesses and may request the recall of and question witnesses called in support of the charge, and may produce relevant documentation.

### **ADJUDICATION**

At the end of the disciplinary proceedings, the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee must ensure that:

- 1) The members of the Disciplinary Committee discuss the issues raised at the disciplinary proceedings in private and make a finding based on the facts and evidence of the case and make a ruling.
- 2) The Chairperson and the members of the Disciplinary Committee decide a penalty. The penalties are:
  - a) Reprimand
  - b) Payment of compensation and/or performance of useful tasks
  - c) Suspension
  - d) Expulsion.
- 3) The charged member is advised of the ruling and the penalty of the Disciplinary Committee with the reasons for these and is advised of her or his right to appeal.
- 4) That the ruling and penalty are publicly announced. [Rule 26.11]

### **APPEAL**

- 1) An appeal may be lodged by:
  - a) The charged person against whom a finding has been made or a penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.
  - b) The organ and/or officials who laid the charge against a finding or a penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee.

- 2) An Appeal Hearing must be held by the next higher level unless:
  - a) The PEC directs that any appeal from a Branch Disciplinary Committee appeal should be heard by the Provincial Disciplinary Committee.
  - b) The NWC directs that any appeal should be heard by a higher level than the next higher level.
- 3) The National Disciplinary Committee is the final structure for appeals to be heard. However, the NEC may at its discretion review a decision of the National Disciplinary Committee in accordance with standing orders adopted by the NEC. [Rule 26.6(e)]

### **APPEAL PROCEDURE**

The following procedure must be followed for appeals:

- 1) The appeal must be made at the next higher level or the level which the NWC or the PEC directs to hear the appeal.
- 2) The appeal must:
  - a) Be made within fourteen days of the charged member being informed of the ruling and penalty with the reasons for these.
  - b) Be in writing
  - c) Set out the reason for the appeal in reasonable detail.
  - d) Set out the grounds for the appeal in reasonable detail.
- 3) Except in exceptional circumstances determined by the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee hearing the Appeal, no new evidence may be presented or considered at the appeal. No new charges may be brought at the appeal.
- 4) The Chairperson and the members of the Disciplinary Committee must discuss the issues raised at the appeal hearing, and come to a finding based on the facts and evidence of the appeal hearing and make a ruling which can confirm, vary or amend the original ruling and/or penalty.
- 5) The person who appeals must be advised of the ruling and the confirmation or variation of the original ruling and/or penalty.
- 6) Any further appeal will need the permission of the next higher level.

- 7) Any such further appeal must follow the above appeal procedure.
- 8) Appeals on the decisions of the National Disciplinary Committee, where the NDC acts as a committee of instance, shall be referred to the NDCA in accordance with the procedures above.

## **APPENDIX II - Policy Discussion Documents**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Policy discussion documents shall be instruments to stimulate debate within the organisation on issues the IRC is mandated to confront on behalf of its electorate, and other such issues which may originate from this constitution. Examples of this are the issues dealt with in Rule 26. This section deals with the re-demarcation of provinces from 9 to 14 provinces.

A policy discussion document detailing the challenges faced by both government and the people in this regard, together with several other issues affecting our society, and which also form part of the IRC's goals and objectives, shall be formulated to initiate debate on this and other issues.

## GLOSSARY - TERMS USED IN THE CONSTITUTION

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### **Accountable**

To answer for, or explain, one's conducted decisions or acts.

### **Additional Members**

NEC Members who are elected.

### **Annual subscription fee**

The NEC decides the annual subscription fee.

### **Appeal**

A resort or an application to a higher authority for a decision

### **Assign**

To give out as a task

### **Autonomous**

The Leagues operate independently, next to and in addition to IRC structures and within the framework of the Constitution and policies of the IRC.

### **Bribe**

A bribe includes any promise or offer to give something, usually money, to procure services or gain influences in an improper manner.

### **Candidate duly endorsed**

A candidate nominated and elected democratically by the constitutional structures of the IRC at the appropriate levels, and endorsed by the NEC, the PEC or the Branch.

### **Chaplaincy**

Does not have the usual meaning which necessarily refers to one faith only, and it is therefore qualified by the word "interfaith" in the next line.

### **Consistent with**

Agreeing, compatible, not contradictory

### **Constitution**

The Constitution of the IRC contains the rules and principles that prescribes the rights and duties of its official structures and members. It is the basic law of the movement which must be observed by all members.

### **Contractual liability**

The effect of this is to protect the IRC against being held responsible by outsiders (e.g. a money lender) for the actions of an individual member who may have been acting on his or her own account.

### **Co-opt**

This is an option whereby an elected body appoints further (non-elected) members to itself.

### **Deemed [necessary]**

Considered, regarded as a subjective opinion; indicates a state of affairs which does not necessarily or in fact exist, but is taken or regarded to exist.

### **Designated to administer...oaths**

The IRC designates someone within the organisation to administer the oath.

### **Direct**

To conduct the affairs of, manage, regulate.

### **Directive**

An order or instruction, especially one issued by a central authority

### **Disrepute**

The absence or loss of reputation; discredit; disgrace

### **Elective office**

Refers to an office held as Councillor, Member of the Provincial Legislature or Member of Parliament.

### **Electoral Commission**

The IRC appoints from among its members a body to constitute an Electoral Commission.

**Election agent**

Representative of a candidate contesting an election and who represents the interests of the candidate

**Ex officio**

Means by virtue of his or her position or office

**Eligible/Ineligible [for membership]**

These are the rules that determine which persons are eligible for (qualified for or worthy to be) members of the organisation. A person qualified for membership is not necessarily entitled to membership.

**Endorsed**

Approved or supported

**Ethnic chauvinism**

A prejudiced belief in the superiority of a certain ethnic group (a cultural or social group with certain characteristics like religion, language, ancestry or physical traits)

**Freedom Charter**

The document containing the essential philosophy of the IRC

**Good cause shown**

Sufficient reasons Any fact or circumstance that would make it just and fair between the parties Good cause should not merely be alleged, but must be able to be shown.

**Honorary membership**

Membership given as a mark of honour without the usual requirements or privileges of membership

**Impeding [activities]**

Obstruct the way of, hinder the progress of.

**Incapacity**

Lack of strength or ability; disability, helplessness

**Invalidly obtained [membership]**

Membership obtained falsely, not in accordance with the Constitution, and therefore legally ineffective.

**Legal relationship**

A relationship, like for example a contract, from which legal rights, obligations (like debts) and duties flow.

**Logo and Colours**

The IRC is the sole copyright holder of its logo and colours.

**Member**

A person who has applied for and being accepted as a paid up member of the IRC South African citizens over 18 years of age may apply for membership.

**Members not in good standing**

A member who fails to pay his or her subscriptions for three months and whose membership has lapsed.

**Misappropriation**

To use money or funds wrongly or dishonestly, especially for one's own use

**National Democratic Revolution**

Refers to the process of transforming the country from an apartheid state to a non-racial, non-sexist, united democratic society in which all people enjoy equal rights.

**National List Committee**

This is appointed annually by the NEC and which is responsible for drawing up regulations and procedures to be used in the selection of candidates for National Parliament. It shall consist of at least five members and not more than nine members.

**Nominate**

To propose by name as candidate

**Official**

One who holds an office or position of authority in the organisation

**Perpetual succession and power**

Rule 28 confers legal personality on the IRC, by which it exists in law as an entity with rights and duties independent from the change in its members or officials from time to time, and these rights vests indefinitely in the organisation as a legal person.

**Provincial List and Candidates Committee**

Refers to the Committee in each province responsible for the compilation of elections lists and ward candidates

**Provisional membership**

Refers to a member whose membership has not yet been confirmed, but who may participate in the activities of the organisation except election onto any committee,

structure, commission or delegation of the IRC.

#### **Quorum**

The minimum number of officials or members of a structure, committee or assembly, usually a majority, who must be present for the valid transaction of the business of the meeting

#### **Ratify**

Approve, give formal sanction to.

#### **Reasonable Period**

The NEC may declare a time frame as to when an appeal may be lodged (see Rule 26.9).

#### **Region**

This means the geographic area of the Province, and not the "region" as defined in Rule 22.

#### **Registered political party**

This refers to registration in terms of the Electoral Act, 1993.

#### **Rescind**

To void or repeal.

#### **Review [of membership application]**

The reconsideration of an acceptance or refusal of membership

#### **Rules and Regulations**

In addition to the Rules contained in this constitution, the NEC may also adopt subordinate Rules for the better carrying out of the activities of the IRC.

#### **Second**

An utterance or show of endorsement of a proposal or nomination

#### **Shall/may [convene, etc]**

'Shall' normally means 'must' (obligatory, no discretion). 'May' is permissive, and usually confers a discretionary power or function.

#### **Supervise**

To direct and inspect the performance of work, to oversee

#### **Suspend/suspension**

To bar for a period from a privilege, office or position; to render temporarily ineffective or inoperative under certain conditions

#### **Tied vote**

A state of equality of votes; a draw

#### **Tribalistic exclusivism**

To prevent persons from certain tribes to play a role in the organisation, or to admit only persons from certain tribal backgrounds to memberships or participation

#### **Undermines**

To weaken, injure or ruin insidiously or secretly.

#### **Universal Suffrage**

The right of all persons to vote

#### **Voting and speaking rights [at meetings]**

The right to vote is a matter that is regulated in the Constitution of the organisation. The reason why non-members of a structure are afforded speaking rights (when they do not have voting rights) is to ensure that the non-

members have spoken at the meeting and by virtue of their forceful character possibly unduly influenced the meeting or inhibited free discussion or decision.

#### **Zones**

A (geographical) area distinguished from adjacent parts by some distinctive feature or character.