



ANC Veterans League Constitution

*Adopted at the First National Conference
held in December 2009*

**FORWARD WITH THE
NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION**

ANC VETERANS LEAGUE

Constitution

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CONTENTS

Preamble

Definitions

Rule 1 Name

Rule 2 Aims and Objectives

Rule 3 Character of the ANCVL

Rule 4 Relationship with the ANC

Rule 5 Membership

Rule 6 Rights and Duties of Members

Rule 7 Organisational Structure

Rule 8 Headquarters

Rule 9 Provinces

Rule 10 National Conference

Rule 11 Duties and Powers of the National Conference

Rule 12 National General Council

Rule 13 National Executive Committee

Rule 14 National Working Committee

Rule 15 Duties and Functions of the Officials

Rule 16 Provincial Conference

Rule 17 Provincial General Council

Rule 18 Provincial Executive Committee

Rule 19 Provincial Working Committee

Rule 20 Branches

Rule 21 Management of Organisational Discipline

Rule 22 Electoral Commission

Rule 23 Special Conference

Rule 24 Amendments

Rule 25 Rules and Regulations

Rule 26 Dissolution

Rule 27 Transitional Arrangements

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the 49th National Conference of the Africa National Congress passed a resolution that the NEC should investigate the possibility of creating a Veterans League;

AND WHEREAS the 50th National Conference of the ANC instructed the NEC as a matter of urgency to establish in the Office of the President and Provincial Chairpersons a Standing Commission on Veterans whose responsibility will be to mobilise Veterans of the movement, to integrate them into the structures, cadiership development and other programmes of the movement at all levels, and to address the specific issue and problems affecting them;

AND WHEREAS the 51st National Conference of the ANC resolved that steps should be taken to effectively utilise the Veterans of the ANC as a resource for the organisation. Branches should also incorporate Veterans into their programmes and make them a core part of education on the ANC;

AND WHEREAS the 52nd National Conference of the ANC agreed that Veterans are Comrades of advanced age, who have given unbroken and uninterrupted service to the movement and the people of South Africa over several decades of struggle. These comrades embody the organizational experience and memory of the movement and the people's struggle for freedom and democracy, and they can and should play an important role in reinforcing the traditions, history, values and unity of the movement;

AND WHEREAS the said Conference resolved to establish the African National Congress Veterans League finalizing the constitution and uniform, to be fully functioning at all levels by the time of the Centenary Anniversary, and the ANC membership system should be redesigned so as to recognize the Veterans;

AND WHEREAS a Constitutional amendment to the Constitution of the ANC is done to give effect the establishment of the Veterans League as a Constitutional structure of the ANC.

NOW THEREFORE the Conference of the African National Congress Veterans League, duly constituted and assembled, cognisant of the historic mission of the Veterans and of the need to build a democratic structure to enable it to fulfil its historic mission, hereby adopt this Constitution, as follows:

DEFINITIONS

“ANCVL” means the African National Congress Veterans League;

“Member” means a person who has applied for and being accepted as a paid up member of the ANCVL; is a South African citizen over 60 years of age and has 40 year of unbroken service to the ANC.

The words, terms and acronyms used in this Constitution shall bear the same meaning as that set out in the Definition Section of the Constitution of the African National Congress and shall be read as if incorporated herein.

References to structures, Officials, office bearers and committees shall mean a reference to such entities and individuals in the ANC Veterans League.

Rule 1 NAME

- 1.1 The name of the organisation is the African National Congress Veterans League; hereinafter referred to as the ANCVL.
- 1.2 The colours of the ANCVL are black, green and gold and the logo is as described in the attached schedule.

Rule 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the ANCVL are:

- 2.1 To strive to rally the veterans of the ANC to support and unite behind the ANCVL and actively participate in the struggle to create a non-racial, non-sexist, united and prosperous society;
- 2.2 To support and reinforce the African National Congress in the attainment of the goals and objectives of the National Democratic Revolution;
- 2.3 To ensure that the veterans make a full and rich contribution to the work of the ANC, the movement and to the life of the nation;
- 2.4 To campaign for the ANC during elections at all level of Government;
- 2.5 To promote unity and patriotism among the veterans;
- 2.6 To promote gender equality in all spheres of life;
- 2.7 To support and promote the struggle for the rights of children and the disabled;
- 2.8 To promote among Veterans the spirit of international solidarity, peace and friendship with other nations; and
- 2.9 To champion the cause of the African Renaissance

Rule 3 THE CHARACTER OF THE ANCVL

- 3.1 The ANCVL is non-racial and non-sexist in character and is against any form of tribalistic exclusivism or ethnic chauvinism.

- 3.2 The ANCVL operates on the policies and principles of the African National Congress.

Rule 4 RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

- 4.1 The Veterans League shall function as an autonomous body in the conduct of its affairs and in the administration and control of its resources, within the overall structure of the ANC of which it shall 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 ANC.
- 4.2 Structures of the ANCVL shall work in close co-operation with the ANC at all levels (national, provincial, regional, zonal and branch levels).
- 4.3 The Treasurer General of the ANC shall provide the ANCVL with an annual budget, together with supplementary grant funding for specific projects and tasks, for the performance of its duties.
- 4.4 With the written permission of the Treasurer General of the ANC, the NEC may establish a trust for the exclusive benefit of the ANCVL.
- 4.5 The books of account of the ANCVL shall be open for inspection by the Treasurer General of the ANC.

Rule 5 MEMBERSHIP

- 5.1 Membership of the Veterans League shall be open to all ANC members 60 years of age or older, who have served the ANC and the movement for an unbroken period of 40 years.
- 5.2 The NEC may, acting on its own or on the recommendations of Branch or Provincial Executive Committees, grant honorary membership to those men and women who do not qualify for membership under Rule 5.1, but who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the ANC, ANCVL and its policies.

- 5.3 Applications for membership shall be considered by the branch executive committee, or such structure as the Provincial Executive Committee or the NEC may create from time to time to decide on applications. These structures may accept or refuse any application for membership provided such acceptance or refusal shall be subject to review by the next higher organ of the Veterans League.
- 5.4 Membership cards will be issued to registered members of the League 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 membership fee. An applicant will be issued with acknowledgement of provisional membership and the details of the branch in which the applicant resides and any available information about the local branch structures.
- 5.5 Provisional membership will apply to persons who wish to join the League for the first time or wish to re-join the League after a considerable lapse of time or circumstances determined by the NEC.
- 5.6 Provisional membership rights commence from the date of acknowledgement following receipt of the application and the appropriate membership subscription. A provisional member may attend branch meetings only in a non-voting capacity.
- 5.7 Any objection to any application for membership may be made by any member of the League to the branch, regional or provincial secretary within 6 (six) months of the notification.
- 5.8 At any time before the individual is accepted as a full member of the League, or in exceptional circumstances 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.
- 5.9 In the absence of any objection from the structures and/or any ruling by the Secretary-General, the applicant shall, on expiry of 6 (six) months from date of notification of provisional membership, become a full member. The provisional member will then be transferred to the national membership list as a full member as soon as is practicable.
- 5.10 The reason 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.
- 5.11 Members shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by the NEC.
- 5.12 Non-earning members or those on reduced incomes will pay such fees as are determined by the NEC.
- 5.13 Members who fail to pay their subscriptions for three months and having being reminded of their lapse will not be regarded as members in good standing until they pay their arrears.

Rule 6 RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS

6.1 RIGHTS

A member of the ANCVL shall be entitled to:

- 6.1.1 Take a full and active part in the discussion, formulation and implementation of the policies of the ANCVL;
- 6.1.2 Receive and impart information on all aspects of the ANCVL's policies and activities;
- 6.1.3 Offer constructive criticism of any member, official, decision, policy, programme, activity or process and procedure of the ANCVL within its structures;
- 6.1.4 Submit proposals or statements

to the branch or province on any matter that affects the ANC, Veterans League and society in general through proper structures; and

- 6.1.5 Take part in elections and be elected or appointed to any committee, structure, commission or delegation of the Veterans League.

6.2 DUTIES

A member of the ANCVL shall:

- 6.2.1 Belong to and take an active part in the life of his or her branch;
- 6.2.2 Take all the necessary steps to understand and carry out the aims, policy and programmes of the ANCVL;
- 6.2.3 Deepen his or her understanding of the social, cultural, political and economic problems of the country;
- 6.2.4 Combat propaganda detrimental to the interest of the ANCVL and the ANC and defend the policy and programmes of the ANCVL and the ANC;
- 6.2.5 Fight against sexism, racism, tribalism, chauvinism, religious and all forms of discrimination;
- 6.2.6 Observe discipline, behave honestly and carry out loyally decisions of the majority and decisions of the higher bodies; and
- 6.2.7 Inform his or her branch of movement of residence to any other area outside his/her branch and report to the branch committee secretary on arriving at the new area.

- 6.3 All members of the Veterans League shall ensure that they are registered as voters in the constituency where they live.

Rule 7 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

- 7.1 The ANCVL shall consist of the following organs:

- 7.1.1 The National Conference which elects the National Executive Committee.
- 7.1.2 The Provincial Conference which elects the Provincial Executive Committee.
- 7.1.3 The Branch Annual General Meeting which elects the Branch Executive Committee.

Rule 8 HEADQUARTERS

The National Headquarters of the Veterans League will be at the National Headquarters of the ANC.

Rule 9 PROVINCES

- 9.1 For the purpose of ANCVL structures, the country will be divided into the following provinces, which will be demarcated to correspond strictly with the provincial boundaries established in the South African constitution:

- 9.1.1 Eastern Cape;
- 9.1.2 Free State;
- 9.1.3 Gauteng;
- 9.1.4 KwaZulu Natal;
- 9.1.5 Limpopo;
- 9.1.6 Mpumalanga;
- 9.1.7 North West;
- 9.1.8 Northern Cape; and
- 9.1.9 Western Cape.

- 9.2 The Provincial Headquarters of the Veterans League will be at the Provincial Headquarters of the ANC.

Rule 10 THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

10.1 The National Conference is the supreme ruling and controlling body of the ANCVL. It shall be comprised of:

10.1.1 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 1 (one) delegate.
2. The number of delegates to be allocated to each province to attend the National Conference shall be determined by the NEC in proportion to the paid-up membership of each Province.
3. The remainder of the voting delegates at the Conference shall be allocated by the NEC from among members of the PECs and NEC.
4. All retiring members of the NEC shall attend ex-officio as full participants in and as delegates to the Conference.
5. All members of the NEC shall attend ex-officio as full participants in the conference.

10.1.2 Non-voting delegates

1. The ANCVL NEC may invite non-voting individuals to the Conference.

10.2 The NEC will appoint a conference preparatory committee which will circulate conference information in advance, determine the precise procedure for the selection of delegates and indicate

how the membership can then ensure their concern are on the agenda.

10.3 The Conference shall determine its own procedure in accordance with democratic principles.

10.4 Voting on key issues, as determined by Conference, shall be by secret ballot, if at least one third of the delegates at the National Conference demand it.

10.5 The National Conference will be convened at least once every five years.

Rule 11 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The National Conference shall:

- 11.1 Decide and determine the policy, programme and Constitution of ANCVL;
- 11.2 Receive and discuss the reports of the NEC, which shall include the Presidential Address, the Secretary General's Report and the Treasurer General's Report;
- 11.3 Have the right and power to review, ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the Veterans League;
- 11.4 Elect the President, the Deputy President, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer General and the remaining 25 (twenty five) members of the NEC; and
- 11.5 Have the right and power to elect or appoint any committee or commission to assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee.

Rule 12 NATIONAL GENERAL COUNCIL

12.1 A National General Council may be convened by the NEC from time to time, provided that the NEC shall convene a National General Council not later than 30 (thirty) months after the National Conference.

- 12.2 The NEC will, after consultation with Provinces, determine the composition of the National General Council.
- 12.3 The National General Council shall:
- 12.3.1 Subject to 12.3.3 and 12.3.4 below, determine and review the policies and programmes of the Veterans League;
 - 12.3.2 Receive and discuss reports of the NEC;
 - 12.3.3 Have the right to ratify, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the Veterans League, including evaluation of the performance of members of the NEC; and
 - 12.3.4 Have the power to discuss any issue it deems necessary taking into account policies and directives of the National Conference.
- 12.4 The NGC may fill vacancies that have arisen in the NEC provided that such vacancies do not exceed 50% (fifty percent) of the NEC.

Rule 13 NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Powers of the NEC

- 13.1 The National Executive Committee is the highest organ of the Veterans League between Conferences and has the authority to lead the organisation, subject to the provision of this Constitution.
- 13.2 Without prejudice to the generality of its powers, the NEC shall:
- 13.2.1 Carry out the decisions and instructions of the National Conference and National General Council;
 - 13.2.2 Issue and send directives and instructions to and receive reports from the Provinces;
 - 13.2.3 Supervise and direct the work of the Veterans League and all its organs;
 - 13.2.4 Ensure that the provincial and branch structures of the Veterans League function democratically and effectively;
 - 13.2.5 Have the power to suspend or dissolve a PEC where necessary. A suspension of a PEC shall not exceed a period of three months. Election for a PEC, which has been dissolved, shall be called within nine months from dissolution. The NEC may appoint an interim structure during the period of suspension or dissolution of the PEC to fulfil the function of the PEC;
 - 13.2.6 Establish departments and set up committees, as it considers appropriate;
 - 13.2.7 Produce and issue policy statements as and when it deems it necessary;
 - 13.2.8 Receive reports, supervise the work of, and delegate such functions to the National Working Committee, as it considers necessary;
 - 13.2.9 Manage and control all the National and other properties and assets of the Veterans League;
 - 13.2.10 Issue documents and other policy directives as and when it deems fit;
 - 13.2.11 Confer such honours, as it may deem appropriate;
 - 13.2.12 Request the ANC to institute disciplinary proceedings against any member and temporarily suspend the membership of any member;

- 13.2.13 Have the power to delegate any of its powers to the NWC, the Officials or the Secretary General;
- 13.2.14 Take all steps necessary or warranted for the due fulfilment of the aims and objectives of the ANCVL and the due performance of its duties; and
- 13.2.15 The NEC may convene a Policy Conference, as a recommendation-making body on any matter of policy, whenever it deems necessary, but must convene a National Policy Conference at least nine months before the National Conference to review policies of the League and to recommend any new or to amend any present policy for consideration by the National Conference.

Composition of the NEC

- 13.3 The National Executive Committee except where otherwise stipulated shall be elected by secret ballot by the National Conference and shall hold office for 5 (five) years and shall be constituted as follows:
 - 13.3.1 The President, Deputy President, the Secretary, Deputy Secretary and the Treasurer who will be elected separately by the National Conference.
 - 13.3.2 Twenty-five (25) members of the NEC. The NEC shall be constituted on the basis of 50/50 gender parity.
 - 13.3.3 The Chairperson and the Secretary of each elected ANCVL Provincial Executive Committee who shall be ex-officio members of the NEC.

- 13.3.4 The NEC may co-opt not more than five (5) additional members at any time during its term in office.
- 13.4 Should a vacancy occur on the NEC for any reason, the NEC shall have the power to fill the vacancy by appointing a replacement.
- 13.5 The quorum for meetings of the NEC shall be 50%+1 of its total membership.

Election of the NEC

- 13.6 Nomination for the NEC members shall be by the following procedure:
 - 13.6.1 Subject to subrule 13.6.2 below, nominations for the post of:
 1. President
 2. Deputy President
 3. Secretary
 4. Deputy Secretary
 5. Treasurer General
 shall be made by any Province and placed before the National Conference.
 - 13.6.2 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 13.6.1 above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconders to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a minimum of 25% of the Conference delegates, then such nomination must 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 Conference delegates, such nomination shall fall away.

- 13.6.3 Nominations of candidates for the NEC other than the above positions shall be carried out by the following procedure:
- 13.6.4 Subject to sub-rule 13.6.5 below, only those candidates who have been proposed by a Province shall appear on the National Conference ballot paper.
- 13.6.5 Subject to subrule 13.6.6 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 13.6.1 above. In such event the presiding officer shall call for seconds to the nomination. If such nomination is seconded by a show of hands by a minimum of 25% of Conference delegates, then such nomination must 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.
- 13.6.6 Not more than two persons per province may be successfully nominated in terms of 13.6.2 above.
- 13.7 Voting shall take place by secret ballot. Each voting delegate shall vote once in each ballot.
- 13.8 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 a 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.
- 13.9 Subject to the provision of this Constitution, the Secretary General, and the Deputy Secretary General shall be full-time functionaries of the Veterans League. The NEC may decide based on the resources available for other officials or NEC members to be full time functionaries.
- 13.10 The NEC shall meet in plenary session at least once every 3 (three) months and will provide broad political and organisational perspective to the National Working Committee.
- 13.11 The NEC may invite any member of the Veterans League to attend its meetings. Such member may participate in the meeting and be allocated tasks to perform on behalf of the NEC, but shall not vote on any issue.

Rule 14 NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE (NWC)

- 14.1 As soon as possible after the conclusion of the National Conference, the NEC shall meet and elect a National Working Committee.
- 14.2 The National working Committee shall comprise of five officials and 8 (eight) other members elected by the NEC and shall meet at least twice a month.
- 14.3 The members of the National Working Committee may not necessarily be full-time functionaries of the Veterans League. However, the NEC shall determine the extent to which the elected members will be full-time functionaries who may be allocated specific responsibilities.
- 14.4 The NWC may invite any member of the Veterans League to attend its meetings. Such member may participate in the

meeting and be allocated tasks to perform on behalf of the NWC, but shall not vote on any issue.

- 14.5 The NWC will carry out decision and instruction of the National Conference and the NEC.
- 14.6 The NWC will supervise the work of the Veterans League and ensure that provinces, branches and all other Veterans structures carry out the decision of the Veterans League.
- 14.7 The NWC will submit a report to each NEC meeting.
- 14.8 The NWC may employ such staff as is necessary for the work of the Veterans League.
- 14.9 The NWC shall:
 - 14.9.1 Carry out decision and instructions of the NEC;
 - 14.9.2 Conduct the current work of the League and ensure that province, branches and all other structure of the League carry out the decisions of the League;
 - 14.9.3 Submit a report to each NEC meeting.

Rule 15 DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF NATIONAL OFFICIALS

15.1 The President

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

- 15.1.1 Present to the National Conference and National General Council a comprehensive statement of the League and he political situation generally;
- 15.1.2 Make pronouncements for and on behalf of the NEC outlining and explaining the policy or attitude

of the Veterans League on any question;

- 15.1.3 Preside over meetings of the NEC in conformity with the Constitution, by-laws and rules of procedure adopted by the NEC;
- 15.1.4 Under the overall supervision of the NEC, orient and direct the activities of the Veterans League;
- 15.1.5 Be an *ex-officio* member of the NWC;
- 15.1.6 Be an ex-officio of the NEC of the African National Congress; and
- 15.1.7 Remain the custodian of the decisions taken by the National Conference and ensure that all organs of the Veterans League implement these decisions and operate within the parameters of the policy set out by Conference.

15.2 The Deputy President

- 15.2.1 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.
- 15.2.2 The Deputy President will preside over the National Conference.
- 15.2.3 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. Until such appointment is made, Rule 15.3.6 shall apply.

15.3 The Secretary General

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

- 15.3.1 Keep the minutes of the National Conference, the NEC, the NWC as well as other records of the Veterans League;
- 15.3.2 Conduct the correspondence of the NEC and the NWC and send out notices of all conferences and meetings at the national level;
- 15.3.3 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 Veterans League carry out their duties properly;
- 15.3.4 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;
- 15.3.5 Communicate the decisions of all national structures of the League on behalf of the NEC;
- 15.3.6 In the absence of the President or Deputy President the Secretary General shall assume the functions the President;
- 15.3.7 All departments, save those falling under the President, shall report on their activities to the Secretary General;
- 15.3.8 He or she shall be an *ex-officio* member of the NWC;
- 15.3.9 Be an *ex-officio* of the NEC of the African National Congress; and
- 15.3.10 He or she will be a full-time functionary of the Veterans League with remuneration.

15.4 The Deputy Secretary General

- 15.4.1 The Deputy Secretary General will assist the Secretary General, deputise 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.
- 15.4.2 The Deputy Secretary General will be a full-time functionary of the League with remuneration.

15.5 The Treasurer General

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

- 15.5.1 Receive and bank all monies on behalf of the NEC, and shall, together with any two members of the NEC, operate a banking account;
- 15.5.2 Keep such books of account as may be necessary to record clearly the financial position of the Veterans League;
- 15.5.3 Submit to the National Conference a report showing the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet of the League for the period since the previous National Conference, and shall submit periodic reports to the NEC and NWC;
- 15.5.4 Be responsible, with the NEC and any other committee established for working out and executing strategies for fundraising;
- 15.5.5 Be an *ex-officio* member of the NWC; and
- 15.5.6 Be a full-time functionary of the League with remuneration.

Rule 16 PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

16.1 Subject to the decisions of the National Conference and the overall guidance of the NEC, the Provincial Conference is the highest organ of the Veterans League in each Province.

16.2 The Provincial Conference shall:

16.2.1 Be held at least once every four years and more often if requested by at least one third of all branches in the Province.

Voting delegates

16.2.2. Be composed of voting delegates, as follows:

1. At least 95% (ninety five percent) of the voting delegates at the Conference shall be from branches, elected at properly constituted branch general meetings. The number of delegates shall be in proportion to its membership.
2. The remaining 5% (five percent) of the voting delegates at the Conference shall be from the Provincial Executive Committee.

Non-voting delegates

16.2.3 The PEC may invite individuals, who have made special contribution to the struggle or who have special skills or experience, to attend the Conference. In addition the PEC shall permit representation as non-voting delegates to structures, which do not have the minimum requirement to form a branch;

16.2.4 Determine its own procedure in accordance with democratic principles and practices;

16.2.5 Vote on key question by secret

ballot if at least one- third (1/3) of the delegates at the Provincial Conference demand it;

16.2.6 Vote for the election of the PEC by secret ballot. Each voting delegate shall vote once in each ballot;

16.2.7 Promote and implement the decision of the National Conference, the NEC and NWC.;

16.2.8 Receive and consider reports by the Provincial Executive Committee, which shall include the Chairperson's address, the Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report;

16.2.9 Elect the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary Treasurer and additional fifteen (15) members of the Provincial Executive Committee. The Provincial Secretary shall be a full-time functionary of the organisation, with remuneration and benefits;

16.2.10 Carry out and develop the policy and programme of the Veterans League in the Province;

16.2.11 Have the right and power to review, ratify, confirm, alter or rescind any decision taken by any of the constituent bodies, units or officials of the Veterans League in the Province; and

16.2.12 Have the power to elect or appoint any commission or committee and assign specific tasks and duties to such commission or committee.

Rule 17 THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL COUNCIL (PGC)

- 17.1 The Provincial General Council shall be the highest decision making body in the province between Provincial Conferences.
- 17.2 The PGC shall meet at least once a year. A PGC will, on good cause shown, be convened by the PEC upon the request of one-third (1/3) of branches in the Province.
- 17.3 The PGC shall consist of all members of the PEC, and delegates representing branches in proportion to membership, with a minimum of one delegate per branch.
- 17.4 The PGC 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.
- 17.5 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 18 PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PEC)

- 18.1 The PEC is the highest organ of the Veterans League in a Province between Provincial Conferences and has the authority to lead the organisation in the province, subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- 18.2 The PEC will consist of elected, co-opted and *ex-officio* members.
- 18.3 The elected members will consist of the Provincial Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 15 (fifteen) other persons elected by the Provincial Conference.

- 18.4 Each branch in the province shall be equally represented in the PEC, by the Chair and the Secretary, with *ex-officio* status.
- 18.5 The PEC may co-opt not more than 3 (three) persons.
- 18.6 The PEC may invite any member of the ANC, alliance to attend its meetings. Such member may participate in the meeting and be allocated tasks to perform on behalf of the PEC, but shall not vote on any issue.
- 18.7 The PEC shall:
 - 18.7.1 Meet as soon as possible after its election to elect the Provincial Working Committee (PWC) and thereafter at least once a month;
 - 18.7.2 Carry out the policy and programme of the Veterans League in the province and do all things necessary to further the interests, aims and objectives of the League;
 - 18.7.3 Carry out the decisions and instructions of the Provincial Conference, the Provincial General Council, NEC and the NWC;
 - 18.7.4 The PEC will provide broad political and organisational perspectives to the PWC. It will receive reports, supervise the work of and delegate such functions to the PWC, as it considers necessary;
 - 18.7.5 Manage and control the funds and assets of the Veterans League in the province;
 - 18.7.6 Submit reports to the NEC, Provincial Conference and Provincial General Council, as often as is required, on the state of the League, the financial position of the League, and such other matters as may be specified;

- 18.7.7 Issue and send directives and instructions to and receive reports from the branches and other substructures in the province;
- 18.7.8 Supervise and direct the work of the League and all its organs in the Province;
- 18.7.9 Ensure that the provincial, branch and other structures of the League in the province function democratically and effectively. To this end, supervise the work, organize, establish and service branches in the province and re-launch branch executive committee where necessary, subject to any directives from the Provincial Conference, provided that where a BEC has been suspended or dissolved there shall be a right of appeal to the NEC. A suspension of a BEC shall not exceed a period of one month. Election for the BEC, which has been dissolved, shall be called within three months from dissolution.
- The PEC may appoint an interim structure during the period of suspension or dissolution of the BEC to fulfil the function of such BEC;
- 18.7.10 Establish, wherever possible, provincial departments in line with national departments and establish committees, as it consider appropriate;
- 18.7.11 Issue documents and other provincial policy directives, as and when it deems fit;
- 18.7.12 Appoint the provincial and branch staff as required, subject to directions from the office of the Secretary General of the League; and

- 18.7.13 Have the duty to appoint annually a Provincial List and Candidates Committee, of not less than three (3) and not more than seven (7) persons, which will identify regulations for the drawing up of the Provincial List of candidates for the national elections, provincial elections. The PEC shall report to the League's NEC and shall be bound by the recommendations of the National List Committee.

- 18.8 The quorum for any meeting of the PEC shall be 50%+ 1 of its total membership.

Rule 19 PROVINCIAL WORKING COMMITTEE (PWC)

- 19.1 The PWC will consist of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary and Treasurer of the province, and not less than one quarter of its directly elected members. The PEC shall elect the additional members of the PWC from among the directly elected additional members of the PEC.
- 19.2 The PWC shall:
- 19.2.1 Carry out decisions and instructions of the Provincial Conference and the PEC;
- 19.2.2 Conduct the current work of the League in the province and ensure that branches and all other structures of the League, carry out the decisions of the League; and
- 19.2.3 Submit a report the PEC meetings
- 19.3 The PWC will meet as often as is necessary, but at least once every two weeks.
- 19.4 The PWC may invite any member of the League to attend its meetings. Such member may participate in the meeting and be allocated tasks to perform on behalf of the PWC, but shall not vote on any issue.

Rule 20 BRANCHES

20.1 Every member of the Veterans League shall belong to a branch, which is the basic unit of the League.

20.2 The branch shall:

20.2.1 Be registered with the PEC and have a minimum of 10 (ten) members clustered on a regional base, provided that the PEC may confer special recognition, where due to exceptional circumstances, the branch has fewer than 10 (ten) members;

20.2.2 Meet as provided for in the rule and Regulations;

20.2.3 Be the place where members exercise their basic democratic rights to discuss and formulate policy;

20.2.4 Be the basic unit of activity for members; and

20.2.5 Elect at an annual branch meeting a Branch Executive Committee consisting of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Treasurer.

20.3 The term of office of the ANC Veterans League Branch Executive Committee shall be 2 (two) years.

20.4 The branch BEC will meet at least once per month in a general meeting.

20.5 The BEC shall:

20.5.1 Meet as soon as possible after is election and allocate tasks and functions among its members to enable it to carry out the day-day activities of the Branch;

20.5.2 Carry out the publicity and organizational work in its area in furtherance of the policy, programme and decisions of the League;

20.5.3 Meet at least once per fortnight;

20.5.4 Submit reports on its work to the branch meeting and at least each month to the PEC; and

20.5.5 Co-opt not more than three (3) persons, if it consider it necessary to ensure greater representation;

20.6 The quorum for the annual branch meeting and any other branch meetings where the branch makes nominations of candidates for elections within the League or takes decisions relating to policy matters, shall be 50% plus one of the branch members.

Rule 21 MANAGEMENT OF ORGANISATIONAL DISCIPLINE

21.1 The provisions of Rule 25 and Appendix 3 of the ANC Constitution pertaining to the management of organisational discipline shall be applicable, *mutatis mutandis* to this Constitution and shall be read as if incorporated herein.

21.2 References to the ANC in the aforesaid Rule and Appendix shall mean a reference to the ANCVL.

21.3 All members of the ANCVL are presumed to have read and familiarised themselves with the provisions of Rule 25 and Appendix 3 of the ANC Constitution and consider themselves bound.

Rule 22 ELECTORAL COMMISSION

22.1 The NEC shall appoint an Electoral Commission of not fewer than 3 (three) members to exercise oversight at the National Conference and to appoint a suitably qualified service provider:

22.1.1 To prepare the ballot papers;

22.1.2 To make provision for ballot boxes or other means of secret voting;

22.1.3 To create machinery for the counting of ballot papers and

the effective supervision of the counting of votes; and

22.1.4 To establish procedures for voting and to determine any dispute raised in regard to elections and election procedures, and to determine how any tied vote should be resolved.

22.2 The names of the members of the Electoral Commission, whose work is to commence before the Conference opens, shall be submitted to the National Conference for endorsement and they will then be complemented by a representative appointed by each Provincial delegation.

22.3 The Electoral Commission shall announce the results of all ballots and make known the number of votes by each successful candidate.

Rule 23 SPECIAL CONFERENCE

23.1 A Special Conference of the League 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.

23.2 Not less than three month’s notice of such conference shall be given.

23.3 Participation at the Conference shall be determined by the NEC, provided that branches are represented at such a conference in proportion to their membership.

Rule 24 AMENDMENTS

24.1 Any amendments to this Constitution shall be a two-thirds majority of delegates present and voting at the National Conference or Special Conference.

24.2 Notice of intention to propose any amendments to the Constitution shall be forwarded to the Office of the Secretary General, in writing, at least three months before the National or Special Conference.

24.3 The NEC shall give at least one month’s written notice to Provinces of any proposed constitutional amendment and provide details of the proposed amendment.

Rule 25 RULES AND REGULATIONS

25.1 The NEC may adopt rules and regulations for the better carrying out of the activities of the ANCVL.

25.2 The PECs may adopt rules and regulations for the better functioning of the ANCVL in their respective Provinces, provided that:

25.2.1 All such rules and regulations shall be consistent with the constitutional norms of the ANCVL; and

25.2.2 Such rules and regulations framed by the PEC shall only become operative when approved by the NEC.

Rule 26 DISSOLUTION

26.1 The National Conference or any Special Conference may dissolve the ANCVL by resolution of a two-thirds majority of duly accredited delegates in good standing who are present and voting, provided that the NEC shall have received notice of such resolution from a structure of the ANCVL at least 12 (twelve) months before it was voted on at such conference.

26.2 Upon dissolution, the assets of the ANCVL shall be transferred to the ANC.

Rule 27 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

27.1 The amendments to this Constitution were duly adopted at this National Conference and shall come into effect on the date it is accepted by the National Conference.

27.2 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 may be necessary.

27.3 Processes commenced prior to the amendment of the Constitution relating to membership, discipline and eligibility to hold office shall be finalised in terms of the amended Constitution.

Signed by: PRESIDENT

Sandi Sejake

Date:

Signed by: SECRETARY GENERAL

Natso Khumalo

Date:

SCHEDULE TO ANCVL CONSTITUTION

ANCVL Logo

The ANCVL logo shall be the “Mayibuye I-Africa logo”, which is a fist with thumb facing up and further infuse a hoe to demonstrate tilling of the land.

ANCVL Flag

The ANCVL flag is rectangular; it is one and a half times longer than it is wide. It is a horizontal tricolour, comprising from top to bottom, equal bands of black, green and gold.

The name of the Veterans League shall be printed in black on the green strip.

