

CONSTITUTION OF THE NATIONAL TRANSITIONAL FORUM & ADVOCACY

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the grave political and socio-economic crisis afflicting Zimbabwe—marked by entrenched corruption, the erosion of democratic institutions, and the politicization of state apparatus—the National Transitional Forum & Advocacy (NTFA) is established as an advocacy community group, dedicated to facilitating civic engagement, stakeholder collaboration and democratic renewal.

1.0 NAME AND DESCRIPTION

The organization shall be known as the National Transitional Forum & Advocacy (NTFA).

The NTFA is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy body committed to:

- Mobilizing stakeholders, civic groups and the public to establish a national dialogue in pursuit of a National Transitional Government.
- Promoting reforms that restore the rule of law, rebuild public services, and foster governance reflecting the will and rights of all Zimbabweans.

The NTFA is governed by a Board of Directors whose responsibility through its secretariat is to give strategic direction, fiscal oversight and ensuring transparency and accountability. The NTFA forum operates in Zimbabwe and in countries where its members reside. Funding derives from membership fees, donations, grants, and community fundraising.

2.0 PURPOSE AND MANDATE

The National Transitional Forum & Advocacy's mandate is to:

- Advocate for the establishment of a national dialogue on transitional government
- oversee implementation of recommendations from the national dialogue.
- Serve as a platform to enhance community development.

3.0 VISION STATEMENT

A just, democratic, and united Zimbabwe where institutions serve the people, rights are protected, and every citizen has a voice in shaping the nation's future.

4.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Advocate for a democratic transition through national and international mobilization.
- Restore the rule of law and institutional integrity by depoliticizing key state institutions.

- Lead reforms in health, education, and public administration.
- Raise civic awareness and promote citizen engagement.
- Expose and challenge corruption and abuse of power.
 - Facilitate inclusive dialogue among civil society, political actors, and communities.
- Engage regional and global partners to support Zimbabwe's transition

5.0 VALUES

- **Democracy:** Free and fair participation; leadership accountability.
- **Accountability:** Transparency and integrity in governance.
- **Justice and Rule of Law:** Independent, non-partisan institutions.
- **Human Rights and Dignity:** Protection of all citizens' rights and freedoms.
- **Inclusivity:** Representation of all voices, regardless of background.
- **Peaceful Transformation:** Commitment to non-violence and dialogue.
- **People-Centred Development:** Equitable access to education, health, and opportunity.

6.0 MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

6.1 Ordinary Members

- **Eligibility:** Zimbabwean citizens aged 18 or above, resident in Zimbabwe or in the diaspora.
- **Rights:** Full participatory rights, including voting privileges (subject to compliance with membership criteria and dues).
- **Responsibilities:** Attend meetings, pay dues, contribute time and effort, uphold the constitution, and adhere to the code of conduct.

6.2 Nominee Members

- **Eligibility:** Individuals nominated by existing members; may include persons under 18, provided they are supervised by a legal guardian during participation.
- **Rights:** Full participatory rights; no voting rights.
- **Special Provision:** Minors (under 18) may participate as nominee members under guardian supervision in activities that are nonpolitical e.g learning & simulation.

6.3 Associate Members (Super Donors/Super Contributors)

- **Eligibility:** Individuals or entities making significant contributions to the NTFA (\$1000 and above).
- **Rights:**
 - ◆ Zimbabwean citizens: Full participation.
- **Responsibilities:** Support the aims of the NTFA, comply with all relevant provisions, and maintain good standing.

7.0 MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

- **Application:** Written application and approval by the Board of Directors.
- **Fees:** \$1 joining fee (non-refundable, for Zimbabwe), \$5 for those in Diaspora and \$1 monthly subscription all round, reviewed quarterly. Subscriptions cease upon dissolution of the NTFA.
- **Commitment:** Members must actively participate, attend meetings (especially the AGM), and contribute to organizational activities. Absence from meetings without notice or valid reason may result in penalties or loss of privileges.
- **Conduct:** All members must respect confidentiality, uphold the code of conduct, and maintain respectful relations within the NTFA.
- The specific roles, duties, and responsibilities of officers shall be outlined in the organization's by-laws, which are to be read in conjunction with this Constitution and shall carry equal binding authority in matters of governance.

8.0 TERMINATION AND REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

- **Voluntary Resignation:** Three months' written notice to the Secretary.
- **Automatic Termination:** Death, incapacity, failure to pay dues pass quarterly, or ceasing to meet membership criteria.
- **Expulsion:** By special resolution of the NTFA (two-thirds majority), following due process and the right to be heard.

9.0 GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

- **Board of Directors:** The supreme governing body, responsible for strategic direction and oversight, financial management, and ensuring the NTFA's adherence to its mandate.
- **Secretariat**
 - **Decision-Making:** Democratic, transparent, and participatory processes, with major decisions requiring a quorum and, where appropriate, a supermajority.
 - **Accountability:** Annual reports, audited financial statements, regular meeting and preparing for annual general meetings to ensure transparency and member oversight.
 - **Member Participation:** All members have the right to propose agenda items, participate in debates, and hold leadership accountable.
- Board of Directors - the Supreme governing body which ensures the NTFA's mandate is fulfilled.

The secretariat will be responsible for the following;

- Develop and implement Advocacy strategies and campaigns
- Fundraising and resource mobilization
- Meeting coordination
- Communication and media management
- Financial management, compliance and reporting
- Provide support to the board and staff involved in advocacy and lobbying programs

10.0 LEGAL STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- The NTFA is a registered non-profit entity, operating in accordance with applicable laws in South Africa and other jurisdictions where it is present.
- All departments and officers are accountable to the Board and the membership.
- The NTFA is committed to transparency, inclusiveness, and the highest standards of ethical conduct.

11.0 AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of voting members present at a duly convened Annual General Meeting or where time is of essence, in an Extra ordinary General meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been circulated at least 30 days in advance.

12.0 DISSOLUTION

The NTFA may be dissolved by a resolution passed by a two-thirds majority of members at an Annual General Meeting, following presentation of financial and audit statements. Upon dissolution, remaining assets shall be distributed to organizations with similar objectives, as determined by the Board.

FINAL PROVISION

This Constitution is a living document, designed to guide Zimbabwe's transition to a democratic, accountable, and inclusive future. It shall be interpreted in the spirit of national renewal, democratic innovation, and the empowerment of all Zimbabweans.

This constitution was adopted at the Management Committee meeting of the organisation

on: _____[date]

Signed by:

Chairperson:

Vice Chairperson:.....

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Organiser:

Strategist:.....

Spokesperson:.....

Committee member:.....