

**THE
MANIFESTO
OF THE
ACCORD**

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**THE
MANIFESTO
OF THE
ACCORD PARTY**

Nigeria, with the highest population of the black race in the world has not provided credible leadership that can properly empower the black people to secure their rightful positions in all human affairs.

The retrogression of African nations has been due to poor and unimaginative leadership which has in turn led to a point where the per-capita income in black Africa was higher under the colonial regime than now after the exploitation of vast natural resources as is the case in Nigeria. We have negated in various ways the high hopes and vision of the founding fathers of African independence whose commitment towards independence struggle was anchored on the premise that the black man could compete favourably with other races on earth.

ACCORD strongly believes that the time has now come for the emergence of a new leadership that can prepare Nigeria and Nigerians for the new millennium. This time to focus on the restoration of the dignity of the black man by providing the kind of leadership that will create an economic and technological awakening amongst our people.

Nigeria should be adequately programmed and institutionally packaged to lead Ur black race to take giant strides and make equal contribution with other races human development achievement.

ACCORD is therefore poised to provide the new leadership that will establish the basic infrastructure, institutional and technological platforms an environment to fast track and encourage the blooming of African talent on the world stage in the shortest possible time.

We of **ACCORD** will re-examine the on-going socio-economic and political reforms with a view to consolidating on possible gains and redirecting the focus where the reforms have not achieved the desired or expected results.

It is in view of this that we launch our **ACCORD** fully conscious of the fact that our mission is to provide a much more credible alternative agenda to the current social order with a view to ensuring that Nigerians can gain qualitatively from the dividends of democratization, and people centered governance.

THE ECONOMY

A government of the **ACCORD** will strive to build a self-reliant economy that will develop on the strength of the nation's resources and by the effort of our people. In pursuit of this:-

- (a) "The State will play a leading role in facilitating a private sector led economic growth and in doing this, the Party accepts that the government should continue to vigorously pursue the current economic reform agenda in line with the NATIONAL ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES (**NEEDS**) its counterparts at the State and Local Government levels i.e. **SEEDS** and **LEEDS**
- (b) Diversification of the economy will be promoted in order to diversify from a monocultural economy, reduce reliance on oil and foreign capital and to develop and grow critical areas of the national economy in line with the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
- (c) Modernization of tax regimes as a basis of developing an efficient national tax administration and revenue assessment and collection system.
- (d) Vigorously pursue poverty alleviation schemes, village economic, empowerment schemes through the instrumentality of the SMES DEVELOPMENT and to actively utilize the funds already captured under the government policy on SMES financing to implement the one

local government one industry policy within the first four years of the ACCORD led government and consistently thereafter on a four yearly basis until the yawning gap between the rich and the poor is narrowed to the barest minimum.

- (e) Formation of co-operatives as a strategy of economic, development will be encouraged.
- (f) Fully and gainful employment for all citizens will be facilitated.

We believe that the attainment of technological and industrial self-reliance is a sine qua non for the construction of an independent national economy. This, we shall endeavour to achieve by means of

- (a) Protecting domestic industries from aggressive external competition through tariff and non-tariff measures; including, where necessary, outright prohibition of certain imports.
- (b) Mobilizing indigenous scientists and technologies for Research and Development activities. In particular, policy will focus on the development of indigenous technology; but for foreign technology will also be acquired and adapted to suit our environment and needs.
- (c) Local sourcing of raw materials through greater financial commitment to research and its application.
- (d) Establishing Industrial Research Fund with compulsory contribution from the public and private sectors.
- (e) Establishing a National Centre for Industrial Development.
- (f) Paying particular attention to agro-based industries.

In general, our economic strategies will emphasize active interventions by the State which necessary and desirable, to correct for observed failures of market forces.

In international economic relations, our management of the national currency will stress the need for exchange rate stability. Appropriate protection for infant industries and quantitative restrictions on imports to prevent dumping and unfair international trade practices will be suitably undertaken. We will not under the pretext of trade liberalization, open the nation's economy to the flood of imports from protected industries abroad.

Our fiscal policy will strive to plug tax loopholes and penalize tax evasion. Public expenditure programmes will emphasize the central role of the public sector in employment generation, social services and corrective public-sector interventions national economic life. Our monetary policy will ensure adequate public and private sector credits for sustainable economic growth and development. To protect welfare of the masses, prices of essential commodities will be moderated minimize market exploitation.

Our incomes policy will emphasize the narrowing of income inequalities through progressive income tax structures, taxation of excessive profits and enhanced urban minimum wage.

An ACCORD government will employ á means at its disposal to generate the necessary revenue to finance its development projects and services, especial in the areas of education and health. With this mind, the following steps will be taken:

- (a) The present progressive personal income tax structure will be reviewed to ensure that those who earn more pay more;
- (b) Profit taxes will be increased to ensure that multinational business, banks and others business establishments which declare huge profits year after year are adequately taxed;

- (c) Taxes on savings will be imposed, again, with a view to reducing the income differential between the rich and poor in the society;
- (d) Property taxes will be increased, with a view to getting additional resources for government;
- (e) Sales taxes (Value Added Tax, VAT) on luxuries such alcohol, cigarettes etc. will be sustained under acceptable review;
- (f) The income tax will be reviewed to block all loopholes;
- (g) The tax collection machinery will be over hauled to minimize the incidence of tax evasion;
- (h) A special court will be set up to promptly deal with all cases the evasion.

II. AGRICULTURE

Objective

The Party shall accord priority to the following objectives

- i. Self-sufficiency in food production;
- ii. Agro-industrialization;
- iii. Infrastructures for storage, processing and marketing;
- iv. Increase foreign exchange earnings.

Strategy

Peasant farmers and co-operatives are the very elements in our agricultural transformation programmes. They shall be encouraged

- (a) To increase their productivity;
- (b) To enhance the profitability of their products;
- (c) To obtain fertilizer, insecticides and other farm inputs;
- (d) To make available modern farming machinery to reduce their plying al hardship encountered by use of primitive tools.

Appropriate subsidies will be provided to stimulate national interest and activities in agriculture.

Land

The Land-Use act certainly needs constitutional amendments to curb its unintended consequences. However, it shall be strengthened to facilitate easy access to land by peasant farmers and farmer co-operatives. Land clearing, a problem that militates against expansion by peasant farmers shall be given top priority. The party shall prevent a situation whereby the dispossession of the people of their land would result in land hunger.

Agricultural inputs and Extension service

Nigeria has sufficient intellectual and technical expertise to substantially produce and deliver various agricultural produce to our farmer's individuals and cooperative at subsidized prices.

Our country should be able to guarantee that substantial if not all our fertilizer requirements are produced locally to save our farmers from undeserved high cost fertilizer and its politization.

Agricultural inputs shall be delivered to peasant farmers and co-operatives. Agricultural Extension Services will be revitalized and strengthen. It shall therefore be the policy of the Party that extension services shall be made available to entire farming populace in order to provide new techniques and processes.

Irrigation

National Irrigation Schemes shall be provided, Small-scale dams rather than large dams shall be constructed to avoid displacing small-scale farmers. Communities shall be aided by Government matching grants to construct darns to provide irrigate water for all season agriculture. In the area of fisheries, community fishing ponds shall be established and nurtured. Aqua-culture shall form the cornerstone of protein improvement programme.

Finance

As access to investible funds poses one of the greater problem peasant farmers and co-operatives an ACCORD government shall create easier access to finance. Loans shall be provided to individual, group farmers, and co-operatives on reasonable interest charges with long period of repayment.

Marketing

Community Storage System shall be emphasized as a strategy to reduce interest wastage. Marketing of farm produce shall be done through co-operative societies so that participating communities shall derive maximum benefit productive efforts.

Livestock Production

Community grazing grounds shall be encouraged and so livestock production enhanced. Community water points shall be constructed to foster settlement of livestock owners, especially the cattle nomads.

III RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Objectives

The Rural Development Policy of the ACCORD shall aim at:-

- a. Complete rural transformation;
- b. Producing functional education and
- c. Eradication of disease through the provision of potable water supplies and intensified and intensified health education.

Strategy

The Party shall emphasize community organizations for community development. Incentives like matching grants shall be given in order to promote the undertaking of communal projects. Rural roads, rural water supply, rural electricity supply shall be encouraged, so as to provide and improve the environment for the take-off of rural industrialization. Access to credit facilities shall be enhanced by more active promotion of rural and community banking including the People Bank.

IV. ENERGY

Objective

The Party's policy objectives shall be to:-

- 1) Radically ensure that within the first 15 months of our assumption of office we can generate, transmit and distribute at least 10,000 megawatts of power to the national grid.
- 2) Complete and accelerate the processes of unbundling of NEPA (whose bill has recently been assented to by the President) by ensuring that necessary incentives and tariff holidays are given to genuine private investors in the emerging power sector.
- 3) Ensure natural gas to establish private general business that would be sold to the authority dealing with transmission and distribution of power to the consumer.

Strategy

Hydro-electric thermal and solar-energy shall be further developed strengthened. The National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) which has already been unbundled shall provide credible policy coordination to make success of the new public/private led new energy policy. Ageing turbines and other machines at Kainji shall be replaced. The Shiroro hydro Electric Project shall be given greater impetus and support. Thermal power stations shall be established at strategic locations in addition to the one at Egbin. The current policy of linking all the local government headquarters in the country with the National Grid shall be pursued with greater vigour.

V. MINING AND PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Objective

The Party policy objective this objective in this sector shall be:

- (1) To continue to support and upgrade the Ministry of Solid Minerals in order to ensure responsible and controlled exploitation of our mineral resources;
- (2) To ensure that government maintain a policy of government but private sector driven mining and petro-chemical industry development in the country;

- (3) To strengthen the Ministry of Solid Minerals and Petroleum Development to ensure the undertaking of comprehensive geo-physical surveys that can provide location, quality and quantity of mineral and petroleum resources available in Nigeria.

Strategy

The immediate completion and continuous operation through the private sector on lease or public private partnership (PPP), the National Steel Complexes, other subsidiary rolling mills, and the iron-ore mining projects shall be given top priority. The production of flat steel for the manufacturing of industrial machinery of all kinds and needs shall also be a priority.

Private sector active participation in the down-stream and up-stream sectors of the petroleum sector shall be actively pursued and various incentives and diversification policy shall be adopted and implemented to achieve this objective

Quality control shall be enforced to ensure the products acceptability internationally and to build confidence in the goods produced in the country either for home consumption or for export.

VII. LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

Objectives

The ACCORD shall vigorously strive

- (1) To improve the working conditions of the Nigerian labour force;
- (2) To ensure that workers benefit from the huge profits being declared by the private sector;
- (3) To ensure that workers are reasonably remunerated, by the public sector.

Strategy

The following steps will be taken

- (a) Review of the current monthly minimum wage in the line with the prevailing economic realities;
- (b) Review of the current remuneration of workers, including fringe benefits;
- (c) Enforcement of labour discipline and productivity;
- (d) Overhaul of the Industrial Arbitration Court;
- (e) Prompt payment of salaries and allowances;

- (f) Consolidation on the review of the pensions through the operation of the Pension;
- (g) Encouragement of trade union activities, especially the central Labour Organisations
- (h) Representation of Labour in all organs of government deal With the affairs of working people;
- (i) Organization of workers in the industries into Worker's assemblies, Worker: Councils, and Management Committees.
- (j) Free movement of labour throughout all States of Federation.

A new pension regime whereby the employer, and the employee both in public and private sector collaboratively contribute to the pension of the workers which has recently been passed into law by the National Assembly and assented to by the President will receive the party's full support. The Pension Commission will be empowered to perform creditably in order to guarantee happiness and peaceful retirement of workers.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Objectives

The objectives of the Party shall be

- (1) Efficient transportation system throughout the country;
- (2) Modernization of all the existing modes of transportation in the country (road rail, air, water/maritime) and
- (3) Considerable expansion and modernization of our communications system.

Strategy

Our strategy in each sector shall be as outlined below.

A. Road Transportation

- (i) Improvement and development of all major roads linking our state capitals and major cities and towns within the states of the federation.
- (ii) Fund and ensure that bitumen is locally sourced : reduce cost o construction

B. Railways

The party will judiciously utilize its resources to provide standard gauge railways system throughout Nigeria.

The Party will invest in the rail component of the urban Mass

Transit System; and will not only continue with the process of revamping the railways but would also make funds available for purchasing of new rolling stocks and make funds available for purchasing of new rolling stocks and refurbishing of existing ones. The party believes that a: efficient railways system throughout Nigeria will relatively educe carnage on our roads, w increase lifespan of existing roads and provides more employment.

C Air Transport

The ACCORD strategy shall be the development and sustenance of a viable air transport system for the country.

We believe that given the necessary leadership, Nigerians can run an efficient airway as a national carrier. ACCORD will review the current agreement which tends to favour VIRGIN ATLANTIC against Nigerians. Government shall not interfere with its management as strictly business concern. Operator of private airline in the domestic and international routes shall be further encouraged: but will be regulated to ensure reliability and safety. The Federal Airports authority of Nigeria (FAAN) shall be adequately funded k. enable it acquire and maintain vital equipment necessary for regular maintenance and operation of aircrafts,

D Water Transport

The Party shall develop. The inland waterways, with emphasis on

- (1) Dredging the beds of all major rivers so that they can be navigable throughout the year;
- (2) Providing financial allocation for the manufacture of necessary vehicle required for water transport.

E. Communication

The Party shall ensure:-

- (1) General improvements in the communication industry for desirable efficiency in the current global economy where the world has become village.
- (2) Strengthen the Communication Commission to provide adequate leadership and coordination to ensure that operators maintain standard, efficiency within reasonable margin of profit:
- (3) Accelerate the privatization and commercialization of NITEL and NIPOST.

IX. EDUCATION

The ACCORD is convinced that the Nigerian Educational sector deserves radical transformation in terms of quantity and quality: Our conviction as a party is that government must commit greater resources to education in order to restore Niger educational system to its past glory and position our youth for the challenges of the future. Nigeria must strive to achieve the budget on education as formally prescribe by United Nation Education and Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Objectives

The ACCORD therefore sees education as a cardinal socio/economic objective must be pursued vigorously by the state. It is an important social instrument for national unity amongst the diverse peoples of Nigeria. Therefore, to achieve-much desired technological development and participate in the information technology driven world, the ACCORD in government shall

- (1) Ensure that our educational system achieves optimal improvement.
- (2) Ultimately provide free and functional education at all levels;
- (3) Integrate in the formal education system the political education of the citizenry, with emphasis on the teachings of the principles our Constitution as well as democratic ideas and ideals.
- (4) Foster and expand education at all levels and fields of knowledge;
- (5) Encourage private and voluntary organisations to establish educational technical and scientific training.

(6) Complete and enhance the process of implementing the 9-3-4 educational system to achieve the Party's educational objectives.

Strategy

The Party strategy shall be, at each level of formal education to provide the full complement of staff equipment and infrastructures that will create the environment for literacy expansion, reading culture, habit of scientific inquiry and research and development.

A. Pre-Primary Education (Nursery)

The private sector shall be encouraged to continue its contribution to this sector but an ACCORD government shall set guidelines to maintain standard and that costs of education is not prohibitive.

Nursery education shall be community-oriented with the curricula structured such that they shall inculcate into the children at this early stage the cultural, moral and religious values of their immediate environment. ACCORD government shall ensure easy access to nursery schools by a cross section of each community where it is located, so as to prevent nursery education from becoming an elitist institution.

B. Primary Education.

In the view of the ACCORD primary education is the pillar on which rests the country educational system. Therefore, primary education shall be free, and compulsory and relevant to our overall national needs. Efforts will be made to reduce the incidence of drop-out as a result of socio-economic pressures. Strengthening of the curricula shall also ensure that school graduates can become truly and functionally literate and primarily equipped for the life ahead. ACCORD government shall ensure the provision of proper logistic and teaching facilities and instructional materials at no cost to parents.

C. Secondary Education

The party acknowledge that secondary education serve as a preparatory stage for useful living within the community and preparation for higher education. It therefore ought to be made more functional and the curricula a designed to make school leavers, especially those who are unable to beyond this level, to be well equipped for self-employment. Consequently the Party shall encourage voluntary agencies and individuals to continue establish and run secondary schools within approved guidelines. State-run secondary schools throughout the country shall enjoy free tuition. The current 9-3-4 system shall be assiduously implemented to provide function education. Adequate boarding facilities and instructional materials shall be made available to create a conducive atmosphere for effective earning Teachers' salaries will be paid regularly and promptly to ensure their effective performance at all times.

D. Technical/Vocational Education

ACCORD government shall accord technical education the key place deserves in Nigeria's technological progress. Technical education shall therefore be given top priority. The curricula of the technical schools shall streamline such that a comprehensive curricula shall emerge which shall prove for the students to acquire reasonable level of scientific and technical, literacy to sustain them in their vocations.

The party shall provide

- (i) Well- equipped standard workshop in all technical and vocational schools; and
- (ii) Well-trained teachers sufficient in number to be posted to all schools

E. Unity School/Federal Government Colleges

The ACCORD government supports the idea of Unity School/Federal Government Colleges, and shall sustain these colleges as centres excellence and instruments of national integration. Boarding facilities and textbooks shall be provided free. Every Nigerian child shall have equal

opportunity to attend them, irrespective of his or her ethnic, religious, or social background.

F. Special Education

The ACCORD shall pay particular attention to the education of the handicapped, ensuring that through special schools they are provided with the means of living a full and meaningful life so that in so doing they are integrated into the labour force and thereby contribute to national development.

G. Higher Education/Professional Education

The ACCORD government shall

- (i) Give adequate financial and material support to all higher education institutions, especially the polytechnics and the universities;
- (ii) Create effective machinery for the identification of the manpower needs of the economy, by providing guidelines for the rationalization, planning, diversification and intensification of professional academic programmes;
- (iii) Institute machinery for the identification and evaluation of the infrastructural, bibliographic, and research needs. With a view to providing adequate funds to make the institutions more conducive to teaching service, and research and development.

H. University Education

The ACCORD government shall accord special attention to the university education with particular emphasis on agricultural; pure and applied sciences, medical sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities.

The Party shall

- i. Promote closer links between the universities and industry, especially the area of research and development;

- ii. Encourage local industries, research institutes and universities to undertake joint research into various problems of our society and such areas as health, agriculture, communication, and innovation and discovery;
- iii. Further strengthen the consultancy units of the universities by increasing government and public patronage of their services;
- iv. Motivate academic and non-academic staff of the universities towards greater teaching, research and productivity by improving their conditions of service including subsidized housing, medical care and insurance;
- v. Permit and encourage academic and non-academic staff unions and professional bodies in accordance with guidelines that promote the positive roles of such unions in protecting and projecting the welfare and conditions of service of their members; and
- vi. Complete the process of restoration of freedom and autonomy to the universities.

The ACCORD government shall provide

- (a) Improved hostel facilities conducive for effective learning
- (b) Free tuition to students
- (c) Essential books instructional materials, libraries classrooms and equipment.

The recently introduced distant learning system will be fully viewed to make it productive so much that interested Nigerians of all cadres who wish to avail themselves of opportunity for further education will have their desires accomplished without much stress.

I. Teacher Education

ACCORD government shall

- (a) Guarantee accommodation to teachers both in urban and rural areas;
- (b) Introduce mechanisms for providing study leave:

- (c) Establish regular meetings with principals, teachers union and Parents/Teachers Associations on issues relating to policy formulation, review and implementation;
- (d) Ensuring prompt payment of pensions and gratuities to retirees teachers; and
- (e) Ensure that teachers are provided with adequate instructional materials by the authority.

J. Non-Normal Education

As a large proportion of the Nigerian populace is illiterate, the Party is committed to giving basic literacy to enable citizens contribute to the social economic development of the nation. The efforts already set in motion by government and other agencies shall be strengthened and intensified through adult education programmes.

Funding Education

The Party shall continue with the existing arrangements of funding education. It will welcome private sector and voluntary agency participation in funding education within laid down policy guideline through running of Nursery, Primary and secondary Education, contribution to endowments establishment of chairs in universities, award of scholarships and prizes among others. Efforts will be established to ensure that the private sector in addition to the mandatory contribution to the EDUCATION TRUST FUND (ETF) continue to provide additional support for educational support for educational institutions through fiscal incentives. Educational institutions shall also encourage establishing revenue-yielding projects. These will range from schools farms. Home economics Centre, and Arts and crafts production centers in Secondary level institutions to consultancy services, commercialized research industrial production, maintenance services and the like in polytechnics, Universities and other tertiary institutions.

X. HEALTH

Objective

The **ACCORD** shall present a comprehensive health policy for the country. The essential aim of which shall be to guarantee in the health sector, free medical services shall be available to all children from birth up to the age of 12, all pupils in post-primary schools, as well as students in university and other tertiary institutions up to graduation. Free medical service will also cover all old people from the age of 65. Emphasis shall continue to be placed on the control treatment and management of Vaccine preventable childhood killer or debilitating diseases, malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, guinea worm etc

Strategy

The Party shall fully implement the existing National Health Insurance Scheme. The programme will be funded with contributions from workers according to income, and their employer's contribution both in private and public sector as already provide for in the National Insurance Scheme law.

Primary health care shall be an essential element of our National Health Programme and shall guarantee the provision of clean water, healthy food in a healthy shelter and environment. While the ACCORD shall improve the standards of the country's general and specialized hospitals, the party shall pursue a policy of progressive integration of our traditional medical practice into the national modern health programme.

The ACCROD shall promote systematic and adequately fund research into all of traditional medicine and shall encourage the establishment of traditional health institutions in all the states to complement the national efforts in health care delivery through conventional medical practice.

XI. HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

Objectives

The Party's objectives on housing and environment are grouped, into three broad categories, namely

- (1) Provision of housing for all Nigerians;

- (2) The usage of local materials for building purposes to bring down cost and make housing affordable to average workers.
- (3) Improving the environment through programmes like environment sanitation, annual tree planting, free supply of nursery plants, reclamation of land for building projects and the fight against erosion among others; and
- (4) The usage of modern technology to turn waste to wealth: dry wastes generate electricity and wet wastes to produce fertilizer or for agricultural use.
- (5) Disposal of industrial wastes in order to protect the lives of our people, as well as plants and animals through controlled pollution of water and the atmosphere and vigilance against industrial waste policies of the advanced countries.

Strategy

An ACCORD government shall therefore endeavour to

- a. Simplify and modernize the process of acquiring land for building purpose,
- b. Initiate research into and development of local building materials with a view to reducing cost of building materials;
- c. Establish low-interest housing loan scheme for workers
- d. Establish property development agencies, building societies mortgage institutions to build for sale and/or allocation of different of houses using local materials for different levels of workers;
- e. Establish housing estates in urban, semi-urban and rural areas on owners-occupiers basis. The design of such houses will be such that the houses can be extended at owner's wish;
- f. Improve and beautify the environment by establishing open spaces parks and gardens for recreational purposes in cities, toward and within estates and/or co-operatives; and
- g. Provide all facilities that will make life comfortable and secure for residents of housing estates, schools, places of worship banks, petrol filling stations, pitches for games, cinema houses, etc.

XII. YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE

General and Specific Objectives

To integrate Sporting and Cultural activities into a system national agenda for mobilization, education and development of the youth both as symbols of national character and identity as future leaders.

As a basic element of these general objectives, the mental, physical and development of our youths shall be given priority attention. Existing development programmes shall be strengthened and new ones created to

- i. Make Nigerian Youths realize their maximum potentials
- ii. Inculcate moral discipline in our youths and the understanding the futility of indiscipline, laziness, drug addiction, laziness and other juvenile delinquencies
- iii. Promote interaction among youth for national understanding and integrations; and
- iv. Fully implement the newly legal regime under the Child Act to prevent child abuse and child labour

Strategy

An ACCORD in government shall reorganize the NYSC scheme to embrace all graduates of post-secondary institutions; and shall promote and encourage societies/clubs such as boy scouts, debating society, etc. for the physical and intellectual development of their members.

The NYSC programme shall be reviewed to last for two years as it is done in other countries so that Nigerian and the corpsers can derive voluntary military services.

Sports:

FOOTBALL is Nigeria's biggest pastime. It is the most galvanizing phenomenon that can be creatively used by government for national mobilization and conscientization to cultivate public attention at all times. The ACCORD while not neglecting sports will give practical effect to people yearning and love for foster its further development and encourage activities both at local and national level to foster its further development and the technical know-how of the game among our people.

An ACCORD government shall therefore use sports to:

- (a) Promote the physical and mental health of groups and individuals;
- (b) Promote the spirit of healthy competition among the populace thereby help to cement relations among Nigerians' and
- (c) Participate in international sporting activities. The Party views the provision of facilities that promote and encourage the development of these activities as vital.

The Party shall

- (1) Encourage sports at all levels;
- (2) Provide recreational facilities such as parks, gardens and theatres;
- (3) Build stadia in each Local Government headquarters and improve the existing ones to meet the desired standards;
- (4) Establish national and state parks both for recreational purposes and as a means of promoting tourism;
- (5) Reward young talented sports men and women who have brought laurels to country;
- (6) Formulate a comprehensive insurance scheme which will be developed for coverage of all members of the various national sports teams; and
- (7) Create and open a National Sports Hall of Fame to honour and immortalize the names of sports men and women who contribute to the development of sports in the country.

Culture

An ACCORD government will support and implement an effective and comprehensive cultural policy. The thrusts of such a policy shall be to

- (a) Promote project our culture to the level that we can generate and earn huge foreign exchange from tourism.
- (b) Sieve out bad aspects of culture and encourage those which are conducive to our moral and economic development;
- (c) Use the rich cultural heritage of the peoples of the country as a vehicle national integration and
- (d) Promote internalization or the new political culture, patriotic and nationalistic values.

XIII. DEFENCE

Objectives

The Party's objectives on defence shall be consistent with the provisions the constitution in this regard. Specifically, our objectives are

- (1) National Security in all its ramifications;
- (2) Creation and maintenance of armed forces capable not only of discharging the afore-stated responsibility, but also, using them to support our foreign policy objectives.

Strategy

The Party shall, within contexts of the country's Strategic posture, the nature and sources of threat, and budgetary constraints

- (i) Ensure a high standard of professionalism through constant training;
- (ii) Provide sufficient funds that will enable the Defence industries Corporation Produce various types of weapons or defence, deterrence, and retaliation;
- (iii) Pursue, as a deliberate policy of self-reliance, the policy of ccl production of arms, military equipment, and command, control and communication system that will enhance the com readiness of our armed forces and boost their morale;

- (iv) Explore the possibilities of setting up similar industries in other location in the country, especially in communities with proven expertise in indigenous armament technology
- (v) Ensure that adequate welfare facilities and remuneration are provided members of the armed forces to boost their morale and enhance capability.

XIV. FOREIGN POLICY

Objectives

In conformity with the provision of the constitution the ACCORD shall

- (1) Pursue policies of mutual co-existence through bilateral and multilateral agreements;
- (2) Observe conventions and obligations of regional and international organizations of which Nigeria is a member;
- (3) Maintain and strengthen Nigeria's membership of the UN, OAU, ECOWAS the Non-Aligned" Movement, OPEC and the African and the Third world as the centerpiece of Nigeria's foreign policy;
- (4) Resist imperialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination, and all forms of external intervention and domination.

Strategy

- (1) Use of the political and economic instruments of diplomacy as the standard foreign policy strategy.
- (2) Pursuit of the principles of peaceful co-existence in international politics and relations with other countries.
- (3) Collective self-reliance as a strategy in South-South co-operation.

XV. THE CIVIL SERVICE

Objectives

- (1) Development of a body of patriotic and nationalist civil service characterize by the quality and commitment of its personnel and by the speed and proficiency of the policy implementation processes and procedures
- (2) Commitment to the current on-going reforms.

Strategy

The Party in government shall strive to

- (i) Provide conducive working environment for all categories of staff;
- (ii) Provide office buildings equipped with adequate equipment and material in quality and quantity;
- (iii) Review salaries and allowances of civil servants periodically to cushion adverse effect of inflationary trends in the economy;
- (iv) Provide opportunities for civil servants to update their knowledge and improve their skills through in-service courses, seminars, workshops and in-house skill development programmes;
- (v) Create the ideal working environment for civil servants to participate in policy formulation and implementation;
- (vi) Ensure probity discipline and accountability in the management of resources through regular internal and external auditing of accounts and prompt submission of reports required by civil service circulars and regulations;
- (vii) Ensure that the civil servant is non-partisan by being fair to all and sundry without discrimination;
- (viii) Ensure that recruitment into the civil service, especially at the senior levels, is in line with the principle of federal character as stipulated in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria;
- (ix) Reward excellence through a system of accelerated promotion, letter of commendation and other forms of incentives.

XVI. THE JUDICIARY AND THE ADMINISTRATION JUSTICE

Objectives

- (i) To uphold the Constitution of the federal Republic of Nigeria
- (ii) To uphold the principles of separation of powers as enshrined in constitution
- (iii) To defend the principles of social justice equity, equality, and human rights

- (iv) To insulate the administration from all forms of parochial interest and ensure that the national interests and objectives are generally upheld.

Strategy

The party shall be committed to constitutional government and constitutionalism; as well as independence of the judiciary.

The Party in government shall

- (a) Appointments into the judiciary shall be strictly in accordance with constitutional provisions in such a manner that such appointments will not be seen as gratification for loyalty of any kind.
- (b) Continue with the present judiciary set up, ensuring that the judiciary is free and self-accounting;
- (c) Modernise the court recording and reporting system using latest information technological equipment
- (d) Build sufficient court houses across the country to ensure quick dispensation of justice;
- (e) Appoint more judges and magistrates;
- (f) Uphold the principle of habeas corpus;
- (g) Review the existing legal aid systems with a view to enhancing opportunity for free legal services for the masses.
- (h) Provide funding for regular reporting and publication of cases decided by the superior courts.

An ACCORD government will improve the working condition of judges and magistrates.

XVII THE POLICE

Objectives

- i. To transform the Police into a truly nationalist instrument for the maintenance of law and order in the country.

- ii. To enthrone discipline in the Nigerian Police force.
- iii. To transform the public image of the police both in appearance, in their living conditions, and their relations with the citizenry.

Strategy

An ACCORD government shall intensify present efforts aimed at improving the law and order maintenance capability and image of the Police by

- i. Increasing the present strength of the police force;
- ii. Raising the entry qualification into the force;
- iii. Expanding and improving training facilities