

Extraordinary



Federal Republic of Nigeria Official Gazette

No. 69

Lagos - 7th December, 1989

Vol. 76

Government Notice No. 691

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Printed and Published by The Federal Government Press, Lagos, Nigeria.
FGPL 282/1289/12,000

Annual Subscription from 1st January, 1989 is Local : N200.00 Overseas : N250.00 (Surface Mail). N300.00 (Second Class Air Mail). Present issued (including Supplement) N10.00 per copy. Subscribers who wish to obtain Gazette after 1st January should apply to the Federal Government Printer, Lagos for amended Subscription.

TRANSITION TO CIVIL RULE (POLITICAL PROGRAMME) (AMENDMENT) DECREE 1989



Decree No. 26

[7th December 1989]

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows :—

1. The Schedules to the Transition to Civil Rule (Political Programme) Decree 1987 are hereby amended as follows :—

(a) in Schedule 3 thereto, that is—

Programme for 1989, by repealing under 4th Quarter—1989, the words “Election into Local Governments on Political Party Basis” ;

(b) in Schedule 4 thereto, there shall be substituted for the programme itemised thereunder the following, that is—

“1st Quarter—1990

Printing and distribution of parties’ constitutions and manifestos;
Readiness of parties’ offices—National, State, Local Governments and Wards ;

Translation and printing of constitutions and manifestos to major languages by State Governments.

Appointment of administrative staff for—Federal, States, Local Government and Wards.

Public enlightenment on manifestos and constitutions.

Training of Federal and States’ administrative secretaries.

Training of administrative secretaries at Local Government level.

Training of registration officers at Wards level.

Provision of stationery (registers, forms, membership cards).

Registration of parties’ members begins.

Public enlightenment on manifestos and constitutions continues.

2nd Quarter—1990

Registration of parties’ members continues.

Public enlightenment on manifestos and constitutions continues.

Registration of parties’ members ends.

Public enlightenment on manifestos and constitutions to continue.

Party congress/convention at—

(a) Ward level.

(b) Local Government level.

Commencement.

Amendment of 1987 No. 19.

Citation.

2. This Decree may be cited as the Transition to Civil Rule (Political Programme) (Amendment) Decree 1989.

MADE at Lagos this 7th day of December 1989.

GENERAL I. B. BABANGIDA
President, Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the above Decree but is intended to explain its purport)

The Decree amends the Transition to Civil Rule (Political Programme) Decree 1987 by substituting for programme itemised in the Fourth and the Fifth Schedules thereto specific programme to end in the 4th Quarter of 1991 by the inauguration of State Legislative Houses. The Sixth Schedule remains unchanged.

3rd Quarter—1990

Party congress/convention at—

(a) State level.

(b) National level.

Workshop for newly elected party executives to be organised by the Centre for Democratic Studies.

Handing over of party offices to party officials.

Submission of final draft party manifestos and constitutions to the Armed Forces Ruling Council by the Political Parties.

Armed Forces Ruling Council’s final approval of party manifestos and constitutions.

Preparation of Local Government elections—
electioneering campaign.

4th Quarter—1990

Electioneering campaign continues.

Local Government elections ;

Inauguration of Local Government Councils nationwide.”

(c) in Schedule 5 thereto, there shall be substituted for the programme itemised thereunder the following, that is—

“1st Quarter—1991

Census.

2nd Quarter—1991

Census.

3rd Quarter—1991

Census.

4th Quarter—1991

State Executives and Legislative Elections.

Inaugurations of State Chief Executives and State Legislative Houses.

TRANSITION TO CIVIL RULE (POLITICAL PARTIES REGISTRATION AND ACTIVITIES) DECREE 1989



ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Number of political parties.
2. Restriction on formation of political parties.
3. Aims and objectives.
4. Registration of political parties.
5. Membership of political parties.
6. Prohibition of quasi organisations.
7. Appointment of Ward Executive Committee and functions.
8. Appointment of Local Government Executive Committee.
9. Appointment of Executive Committee and functions.
10. Appointment of National Executive Committee and functions.
11. Parties' manifestos.
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23. Conduct of political rallies, processions, etc.
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32. Prosecution.
33. Records of convictions.
34. Guidelines on political campaigns through the electronic media.
35. Dissolution of political association.
36. Dissolution, etc. of states' creation movements and other like bodies.
37. Prohibition of the formation of new political parties and similar associations, etc.
38. Printed documents, etc.
39. Interpretation.
40. Citation.

SCHEDULES

- Schedule 1—Fundamental objective and directive principles of State policy.
- Schedule 2—Guidelines on political campaigns through the electronic media.
- Schedule 3—Dissolved Political Associations.

Decree No. 27

[7th December 1989]

Commencement.

THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT hereby decrees as follows:—

1. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979 (as amended) or in any other Decree, Act or other enactment, as from the commencement of this Decree, there shall be only two political parties in the Federation, namely:

- (a) the National Republican Convention Party; and
- (b) the Social Democratic Party.

2.—(1) No association, other than a political party recognised and registered under this Decree, shall canvass for votes for any candidate at any election or contribute to the funds of any political party or to the election expenses of any candidate at an election or sponsor any candidate at any election.

(2) Any association which contravenes the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence under this section and the leaders thereof shall be severally liable on conviction to a fine of ₦100,000 or to imprisonment for three years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

(3) The reference in subsection (2) of this section to the leaders of an association is a reference to every person holding an official position in that association including in particular, any president, chairman, secretary or treasurer thereof and every member of its committee of management howsoever described.

3.—(1) The programmes as well as the aims and objectives of each of the political parties shall be as set out in its constitution and manifesto and in particular, shall conform with the objectives and principles set out in Schedule 1 to this Decree; and

(2) The Armed Forces Ruling Council or the Commission may give such directives to the political parties as may be necessary in order to enhance democracy and involve the people in both urban and rural areas of Nigeria in the governance of the Country.

4.—(1) The Armed Forces Ruling Council shall cause to be registered the two political parties established pursuant to section 1 of this Decree together with such particulars pertaining to each of such parties.

(2) The particulars referred to in subsection (1) of this section shall include—

- (a) the party's constitution;

Number of political parties.

Restriction on formation of political parties.

Aims and objectives.

Registration of political parties.

- (b) the party's manifesto ;
- (c) the party's emblem or motto ;
- (d) the party's assets ;
- (e) the party's administrative organisation.

(3) Every political party named under this Decree shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal, and may sue and be sued in its corporate name.

Membership of political parties.

5.—(1) Membership of a political party shall be open to every citizen of Nigeria irrespective of his place of origin, circumstances of birth, sex, religion or ethnic grouping.

(2) A person shall be eligible to be registered in the area where he resides as a member of any of the political parties if he—

- (a) is a citizen of Nigeria ;
- (b) has attained the minimum age of eighteen years ; and
- (c) is not a person affected by the Participation in Politics and Elections (Prohibition) Decree 1987 (as amended) or any other law for the time being in force in Nigeria.

(3) Any person who is not qualified for registration under the provisions of subsection (2) of this section and causes himself to be so registered shall be guilty of an offence under this Decree and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦500 or to imprisonment for 6 months or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Prohibition of quasi-organisations.

6.—(1) No political party shall establish, operate, retain, train or equip any person or group of persons or maintain any wing, vanguard or faction in whatever form, manner or by whatever name called to function in whatever form, manner or to foster the programme or manifesto of such political party or act as a militant group of the political party.

(2) Any political party which contravenes the provisions of subsection (1) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦5,000 for the first offence and to a fine of ₦10,000 for any subsequent offence.

Appointment of Ward Executive Committee and functions.

7.—(1) There shall be for each ward in a Local Government Area of a State and in an Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, an electoral college for each political party which shall consist of such number of registered members of the political party as may be appointed by the constitution of the party.

(2) The electoral college constituted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall—

- (a) elect the members of the Executive Committee of the political party for each ward in the Local Government Area of a State and the Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ; and
- (b) perform such other functions and exercise such powers as may be conferred upon it by the constitution of the Party.

Appointment of Local Government Executive Committee.

8.—(1) There shall be for each Local Government Area of a State and the Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, an electoral college

for each political party which shall consist of such number of registered members of the political party as may be appointed by the constitution of the party.

(2) The electoral college constituted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall—

(a) elect the Executive Committee of the political party for each Local Government Area of a State and the Area Council of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ; and

(b) perform such other functions and exercise such other powers as may be conferred upon it by the constitution of the party.

9.—(1) There shall be for each State in the Federation and for the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja an electoral college for each political party which shall consist of such number of registered members of the political party as may be appointed by the constitution of the party.

(2) The Electoral College constituted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall—

- (a) elect the members of the Executive Committee of the party for each State in the Federation and for the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja ;
- (b) nominate the party's candidates for the State and National Assemblies ;
- (c) nominate the party's Gubernatorial candidate ;
- (d) perform such other functions and exercise such powers as may be conferred upon it by the constitution of the party.

10.—(1) There shall be for the Nation, an electoral college for each political party which shall consist of such number of registered members of the political party as may be appointed by the constitution of the party.

(2) The electoral college constituted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall—

- (a) elect the members of the National Executive Committee of the party ;
- (b) deliberate at the first National Convention, the party's constitution and manifesto and submit any amendments thereto to the Commission which shall present the said amendments to the Armed Forces Ruling Council for approval ;
- (c) nominate the presidential candidate of the party ; and
- (d) perform such other functions and exercise such powers as may be conferred upon it by the constitution of the party.

11.—(1) The Armed Forces Ruling Council shall cause to be prepared and submitted to it for its approval a draft manifesto and constitution of each of the political parties named in this Decree to reflect the political party's ideological spectrum, programme or such other social, democratic or political emphasis preferred by such political party.

(2) The draft manifestos prepared pursuant to subsection (1) of this section—

- (a) shall be published in the National dailies in the same manner as the draft constitution of the political parties ; or

Appointment of State Executive Committee and functions.

Appointment of National Executive Committee and functions.

Parties' manifestos.

(b) subject to such guidelines as may, from time to time, be laid down by the Commission, may be amended at each party's National Convention.

(3) No amendment to a political party's manifestos shall be valid unless such amendment has been submitted to the Commission for the approval by the Armed Forces Ruling Council.

Translation of parties' manifestos and constitution

12. It shall be the duty of the Commission to cause political parties' manifestos and constitutions to be translated into the dominant languages spoken in each Local Government Area.

Regulations relating to membership, etc.

13. The Commission may from time to time make regulations, rules and guidelines with respect to the membership, recruitment and functions of officials of the two political parties established under this Decree: Provided that any regulation, rule or guideline shall not take effect until the Commission has obtained the approval of the Armed Forces Ruling Council thereto.

Symbols.

14.—(1) The Commission shall allocate to each of the two political parties distinct symbols for use at elections.

(2) The National Chairman of a political party may apply to the Commission for a change in symbol to be used by his political party.

(3) The Commission shall register the new symbol of a political party upon payment of the prescribed fee, if it is satisfied that—

(a) the symbol is distinct from any other symbol already registered; and
(b) its use shall not be offensive or otherwise objectionable howsoever.

(4) Nothing in this section shall authorise the allotment or registration for use at any election of a symbol or material part of a symbol, if it portrays—

(a) the Coat of Arms of the Federation;

(b) the Coat of Arms of any other country;

(c) any device or emblem which, in the opinion of the Commission, is normally associated with—

(i) the official acts of Government; or

(ii) any of the armed forces of the Federation, the Nigeria Police Force, security agencies or other uniformed service; or

(iii) the regalia of a chief; or

(iv) any tribe or ethnic group; or

(v) any religion, cult or secret society;

(d) any representation of a person living or dead; or

(e) any symbol or part of a symbol which under the provisions of this section is the registered symbol by another political party.

Allocation of symbols.

15. Where a symbol is registered by a political party in accordance with this Decree, the Commission shall allot the symbol to any candidate sponsored by the political party.

Finances of political parties.

16.—(1) Each political party shall, at such times and in such manner as the Commission may require, submit to the Commission and publish a statement of its assets and liabilities.

(2) Each political party shall submit to the Commission a detailed annual statement and analysis of its sources of funds and other assets together with a similar statement of its expenditure in such form as the Commission may require.

(3) No political party shall hold or possess any funds or other assets outside Nigeria nor shall it be entitled to retain any funds or assets remitted or sent to it from outside Nigeria and any such funds or other assets remitted or sent to a political party from outside Nigeria shall be paid over or transferred to the Commission within 21 days of its receipt with such information as may adequately describe the fund or asset as the case may be, or as the Commission may require.

(4) The Commission shall have power to give directions to political parties regarding the books or records of financial transactions which they shall keep and from time to time to examine all such books and records.

(5) The powers conferred on the Commission under subsection (4) of this section may be exercised by it, through any member of its staff or any person who is an auditor by profession, and who is not a member of any of the two political parties.

17.—(1) The Federal Military Government may approve a grant for disbursement to the two political parties contesting elections after the coming into force of this Decree.

Grant as a transitional measure.

(2) The total block grant meant to be made available to the Commission for this purpose shall be the sum arrived at by multiplying forty kobo by the total number of names appearing in the final list of voters in all the Federal constituencies in the Federation.

(3) The Commission shall disburse the total block grant to the two registered political parties as follows—

(a) fifty per cent of the block grant shall be shared equally among the two registered political parties at the announcement of campaign for votes;

(b) the remaining fifty per cent of the block grant shall be shared among the two registered political parties, after the results of the elections have been known in the proportion of the number of seats won by each party in the Senate and the House of Representatives, that is to say, a political party which secures ten per cent, fifty per cent or eighty per cent of the seats draws ten per cent, fifty per cent or eighty per cent of the remaining grant, as the case may be.

18.—(1) For the purposes of an election, "election expenses" means expenses incurred by a political party within the period from the date notice is given to the Commission to conduct an election up to and including the polling day in respect of the particular election.

Election expenses of political parties.

(2) Election expenses incurred by a political party for the management or the conduct of an election shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum determined by multiplying eighty kobo by the number of names appearing in the final voters' list for each constituency where there is a candidate sponsored by the political party.

(3) A statement of the election expenses of a political party shall be submitted to the Commission in a separate audited return within three months after polling day.

(4) The audited return submitted under subsection (3) of this section shall be signed by the party auditor and countersigned by the party national chairman and shall be supported by a sworn affidavit as to the correctness of its contents and the Commission may cause the return so submitted to be published for the information of members of the public.

(5) The audited return referred to in subsection (3) of this section shall show the amount of money expended by or on behalf of the party on election expenses, the items of expenditure and the commercial value of goods and services received for election purposes.

(6) Any political party which incurs election expenses beyond the limit stipulated in subsection (2) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦10,000 payable jointly by the party leader, the party treasurer and the party national chairman.

(7) Any political party which fails to submit to the Commission audited return of election expenses as required in subsection (3) of this section or contravenes any provisions of subsection (4) of this section, shall be guilty of an offence and be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦10,000 payable jointly by the party treasurer and the party national chairman.

(8) The Commission shall submit a report to the Federal Military Government relating to the election expenses of registered political parties on which report the Federal Military Government may base its consideration of the adequacy or otherwise of the limitation of election expenses.

19.—(1) The Commission shall, in every year, prepare and submit to the Armed Forces Ruling Council a report on the accounts and balance sheet of each of the two political parties registered under this Decree.

(2) It shall be the duty of the Commission, in preparing its report under this section, to carry out such investigations as may enable it to form an opinion as to whether proper books of accounts and proper records have been kept by each political party, and if the Commission is of the opinion that proper books of accounts have not been kept by a political party, the Commission shall so report.

(3) The Commission, or any of its officers or its duly authorised agent shall have a right of access at all times to the books and accounts and vouchers of both political parties and shall be entitled to require from the officers of the parties such information and explanation as the Commission or any officer or agent of the Commission thinks necessary for the performance of the Commission's duties under this Decree and if the Commission or any officer or agent of the Commission fails or is unable to obtain all the information and explanation which the Commission considers necessary for the purposes of the investigations, the Commission shall state that fact in its report.

20.—(1) The two political parties which have been issued with certificate of registration shall be deemed to be so registered for a period not later than 31st December, following the next general election.

(2) At the end of every general election, each of the two political parties shall renew its certificate of registration on payment of a fee of ₦10,000.

(3) Where a political party fails to renew its certificate of registration after three months of its being due for such renewal, the certificate issued pursuant to this Decree shall be deemed to have been withdrawn by the Commission.

(4) Where a political party has its certificate of registration withdrawn under subsection (3) of this section, no person shall—

(a) summon a meeting of members or officers of the political party ; or

(b) attend or cause any person to attend any meeting in the capacity of a member or officer of the political party ; or

(c) publish any notice or advertisement relating to any such meeting ;

(d) invite any person to support the political party ; or

(e) make any contribution or loan to funds held or to be held by or for the benefit of the political party or accept any such contribution or loan or give any guarantee in respect of such funds as aforesaid.

(5) Any person who contravenes the provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦10,000 or to imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.

21. Any person who contravenes the provisions of section 16 (3) of this Decree, shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦50,000 and where the offence is committed by a political party—

(a) any person found to be involved in the management or control of the political party shall be guilty of the offence and punished accordingly ;

(b) any person who knowingly aids or abets the political party in the Commission of the offence shall be disqualified from holding public office.

22. Notwithstanding any provisions of this Decree, the Federal Military Government—

(a) shall make an annual grant to the Commission for disbursement to the political parties on a fair and equitable basis to assist them in the discharge of their functions ;

(b) shall specify the maximum amount which any individual is allowed to contribute to a political party ;

(c) may confer on the Commission such powers as may appear to the Federal Military Government to be necessary or desirable to enable the Commission effectively ensure that the political parties observe the provisions of this Decree.

23.—(1) For the purposes of the proper and peaceful conduct of political rallies and processions, the Commissioner of Police of each State and of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja is hereby empowered to direct the conduct of all political rallies and processions.

(2) Pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, any political party or person who wishes to conduct political rallies or processions, shall first submit an application to the Commissioner of Police concerned not less than 72

Annual report on finances.

Renewal.

Certain offences.

Powers of the Federal Military Government with respect to political parties.

Conduct of political rallies, processions, etc.

hours thereto, indicating the date, time, venue and the names and detailed particulars of any person scheduled to speak at such political rally or procession, and if such Commissioner of Police is satisfied that, the political rally or procession is not likely to cause a breach of the peace, he shall direct any superior Police Officer to issue a licence, not less than 24 hours thereto, specifying the name of the licensee, venue, time, date and such conditions on which the political rally or procession is permitted to take place; and if the Commissioner of Police is not so satisfied, he shall convey his refusal in like manner to the applicant within the time herein before stipulated.

(3) The Commissioner of Police may delegate his powers under this section—

(a) in relation to the whole State or the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja or part thereof to any superior Police Officer under his command not below the rank of an Assistant Commissioner of Police; and

(b) in relation to any Local Government Area in the State or any part thereof or Area Councils, including any part thereof in the case of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja to any superior Police Officer or any Police Officer for the time being acting as the Divisional Police Officer.

24.—(1) The Commission shall set up a monitoring machinery whereby all activities of the two political parties shall be monitored and recorded.

(2) The Commission on the receipt of any adverse report on any of the activities of any of two political parties shall have the power to inform the party of the nature of the adverse report and after giving the said party the opportunity to make any representations in that behalf may take such steps as the circumstances of the breach should require.

(3) The monitoring power conferred by this section on the Commission shall not be limited to activities of the two political parties in the States of the Federation but shall be extended to Local Government and Ward level within a State, including the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.

(4) Primary responsibility for any adverse activities of any of the two political parties shall be placed on the management or officers of the parties in the area where the breach occurs:

Provided that nothing in the foregoing shall prevent the Commission from assigning responsibility for the breach on the National Executive Committee of the political party concerned.

Transition to Civil Rule Electioneering Campaigns, etc.

25. Any police officer of the rank of Inspector or above or its equivalent in the State Security Service may stop any political rally or procession for which no licence has been issued or which violates any conditions of the licence issued under section 23 (2) of this Decree, and may order any such political rally or procession which has been prohibited or which violates any such condition aforesaid to disperse immediately.

26. Any political rally or procession which—

(a) takes place without a licence issued under section 23 (2) of this Decree; or

(b) violates any condition of any licence granted under section 23 (2) of this Decree; or

(c) neglects to obey any order given under section 25 of this Decree, shall be deemed to be an unlawful assembly, and all persons taking part in such political rally or procession for which no licence has been issued, including all persons convening or directing the political rally or procession shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦5,000 or to imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment, and the political party concerned shall be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦20,000 in the first instance and to a fine of ₦50,000 for any subsequent offence.

27.—(1) Any person who, while present at any political rally or procession has with him any offensive weapon or missile, otherwise than in pursuance of lawful authority, shall be guilty of an offence under this section and liable on conviction to imprisonment for two years without the option of a fine.

(2) For the purposes of this section a person shall not be deemed to be acting in pursuance of lawful authority unless he is acting in his capacity as a police officer or as a member of the Armed Forces of the Federation or as a member of any security intelligence agency or as a member of any organisation recognised by law and authorised to carry arms and ammunitions or as a member of a fire brigade established by law.

(3) In this section, "offensive weapon or missile" includes any cannon, gun, rifle, carbine, machine gun, cap gun, flint-lock gun, revolver, pistol, air gun, air pistol or other firearms (whether whole or in detached pieces) bow and arrow, spear, cutlass, machet, knife, dagger, axe, cudgel, horse whip or any piece of wood, metal or other material, or stone capable of being used as an offensive weapon or missile and includes tear gas, corrosives, inflammable substances or any other thing that is capable of being used to inflict or cause injury.

28.—(1) No political campaign shall be made on the basis of sectional, ethnic or religious grounds or considerations.

(2) Abusive, intemperate, slanderous or base languages designed or likely to provoke violent emotions or reactions shall not be employed or used in political campaigns.

(3) Places designated for religious worship or activities shall not be used to promote or propagate or attack the ideals or programmes of any political party or any of its candidates.

(4) Masquerades shall not be employed or used by any political party or person during political campaigns or for any political purposes or occasion.

(5) Political parties shall not recruit, hire or maintain any private security organisation in whatever name or form for the purpose of providing security or protection during electioneering campaigns either for its candidates, offices, its officials or for any other purpose whatsoever.

(6) Any person or political party who contravenes any provision of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction—

Unlawful assembly.

Offensive weapons, etc. prohibition at political rallies and processions.

Political campaigns, prohibition of certain conducts, etc.

Monitoring of political parties after registration and re-registration thereof.

Power to stop political rallies and proceedings.

(a) in the case of an individual to a fine of ₦5,000 or to imprisonment for one year or to both such fine and imprisonment ; and

(b) in the case of a political party to a fine of ₦20,000 in the first instance and ₦50,000 fine for any subsequent offence.

Banned and disqualified persons.

29.—(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979, (as amended,) or any other law (including anything contained in the Constitution of the Parties) any person banned or disqualified under the Participation in Politics and Elections (Prohibition) Decree 1987, as amended by the Participation in Politics and Election (Prohibition)(Amendment) Decree 1989, shall not participate nor be registered as a member of any of the two political parties and it shall for that purpose not sponsor, canvass or campaign for or on behalf of himself or others, or sponsor, fund or in any other way support or assist any political party or any sponsored candidate for any election during the transition period.

(2) No person banned or disqualified from participation in politics shall preside over or address a political rally or participate in political campaigns in whatever form or manner.

(3) There shall be no reference, introduction or acknowledgement of any person banned or disqualified from participation in politics at any political rally, or campaign, including in handbills, posters, manifestos of a political party or programmes of a candidate.

(4) No photograph or portrait in whatever form of a person banned or disqualified from participation in politics shall be used in handbills, posters programmes, manifestos, of a political party or programmes of a candidate nor shall such a photograph or portrait be displayed during a political rally or campaign.

(5) There shall be no reference in whatever form to the names or activities of any of the defunct political parties under the first and second Republic or to the names of the associations dissolved pursuant to this Decree, either in the manifesto of a political party or programmes of a candidate or during political campaigns.

(6) In this section any reference made to a person banned or disqualified from participation in politics means and includes all persons listed under Schedules 1 and 2 to the Participation in Politics and Elections (Prohibition) Decree 1987 (as amended).

1987 No. 25.

(7) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦20,000 or to imprisonment for two years or to both such fine and imprisonment, and in the case of a political party, to a fine of ₦50,000 in the first instance and to a fine of ₦100,000 for any subsequent offence.

Corrupt practices.

30.—(1) No candidate shall by himself or by any other person on his behalf during any political campaign, directly or indirectly, offer inducement in any form whatsoever or howsoever to any person for the purpose of corruptly influencing that person or any other person to support or refrain from supporting any party or any of its candidates.

(2) No person shall by himself or by any other person on his behalf, directly or indirectly, make use of or threaten to make use of any force, violence or restrain or inflict or threaten to inflict by himself or by any other person any temporal or spiritual injury, damage, harm, or loss upon or against any person during any political campaign in order to induce or compel any person to support or refrain from supporting any party or candidate.

(3) No candidate shall by himself or by any person on his behalf, directly or indirectly give, lend, or agree to give or lend or offer, or promise to procure or to endeavour to procure any money or valuable consideration during or in the course of any electioneering campaign to any person in order to induce such person to support or refrain from supporting any political party or candidate.

(4) No person shall accept any form of inducement from any candidate or political party as specified in subsections (1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(5) Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of ₦20,000 or imprisonment for two years or to both such fine and imprisonment and—

(a) in the case of a candidate in any election, in addition to the punishment specified in subsection (5) of this section, he shall be disqualified from contesting that election and any subsequent elections for a period of not less than five years ;

(b) in the case of a political party, it shall be liable on conviction to a fine of ₦50,000 in the first instance and to a fine of ₦100,000 for any subsequent offence payable jointly by the party's national chairman, general secretary and treasurer.

31.—(1) Any offence committed under this Decree shall be triable at the High Court of the State (including the High Court of the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja) concerned or in the Federal High Court within the State concerned.

Jurisdiction.

(2) For the purpose of speedy dispensation, priority shall be accorded to all cases brought under this Decree.

32. Any prosecution under this Decree shall be undertaken by the Attorney-General of the State in which the offence is committed or by an officer authorised by him in that behalf.

Prosecution.

33. The Commission shall maintain records of convictions in respect of all persons convicted under this Decree, including the names, photographs and finger prints of all such persons.

Records of convictions.

34. All parties, candidates, agents and supporters of political parties shall conform with the General Guidelines on Political Campaigns through Radio and Television as set out in Schedule 2 to this Decree.

Guidelines on political campaigns through the electronic media.

DISSOLUTION OF POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS, ETC.

35.—(1) All the political associations set out in Schedule 3 to this Decree are hereby dissolved.

Dissolution of political associations.

(2) A political party or association shall cease to carry out any activities, duties or functions for which it was formed or as may be conferred on the political party or association by any enactment (including the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979) or its constitution or rules or regulations.

(3) No person shall manage, take part in or encourage the management of such political party or similar association.

36. All movements and organisations (howsoever known or designated) established for the creation of more States or Local governments in Nigeria or for boundary adjustments or otherwise meant to promote ethnic differences or likely to destroy or disrupt the unity of the Federal Republic of Nigeria are hereby, without any further assurance, dissolved and accordingly, the provisions of this Decree shall, subject to such modifications (whether by way of addition, alteration or omission) as may be necessary, apply in relation to any such movement as they apply in respect of a political party under this Decree.

37—(1) As from the date of commencement of this Decree, no new association within the meaning of this section shall, by whatever name or title it may be called, be formed.

(2) No person shall form or manage, take part in or assist in the formation or management of any such new association.

(3) Any new association formed after the date of commencement of this Decree shall be deemed to be a political party or association within the meaning of this Decree and may be so designated in accordance with section 1 (2) of this Decree.

(4) In this section, "new association" means any new association of three or more persons having an identical or similar objectives to that of a political party or any association mentioned in section 1 or 2 of this Decree.

38. All such insignia, banners, books, papers, documents, flags, emblems or other similar chattels or paraphernalia belonging to any dissolved political party or association in the possession or control of the designated officer or the Federal Military Government pursuant to the provisions of this Decree shall be delivered by the designated officer and be deposited with the National Archives of Nigeria (established under section 3 of the Public Archives Act) and kept permanently therein for safe custody and preservation.

39. In this Decree, unless the context otherwise requires—

"Commission" means the National Electoral Commission established by the National Electoral Commission Decree 1987; and

"political party" means any named and registered political party under this Decree and whose activities include canvassing for votes in support of a candidate for elections.

40. This Decree may be cited as the Transition to Civil Rule (Political Parties Registration and Activities) Decree 1989.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1

Section 3

FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF STATE POLICY

1. It shall be the duty and responsibility of all organs of government and of all authorities and persons, exercising legislative, executive or judicial powers to conform to, observe and apply the provisions of this Schedule.

2.—(1) The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice.

The Government and the people.

(2) It is hereby, accordingly, declared that—

(a) sovereignty belongs to the people of Nigeria from whom government derives all its powers and authority;

(b) the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose and responsibility of government;

(c) the participation by the people in their government shall be ensured.

(3) The composition of the Government of the Federation or any of its agencies and the conduct of its affairs shall be carried out in such manner as to reflect the federal character of Nigeria and the need to promote national unity, and also to command national loyalty thereby ensuring that there shall be no predominance of persons from a few States or from a few ethnic or other sectional groups in that government or in any of its agencies.

(4) The composition of the Government of a State, a Local Government, or any of the agencies of such Governments, and the conduct of the affairs of the Governments or such agencies shall be carried out in such manner as to recognise the diversity of the people within its area of authority and the need to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty among all the people of the Federation.

3.—(1) The motto of the Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress.

Political objectives.

(2) Accordingly, national integration shall be actively promoted whilst discrimination on the grounds of place of origin, circumstance of birth, sex, religion, status, ethnic or linguistic association or ties shall be prohibited.

(3) For the purpose of promoting national integration, it shall be the duty of the State to—

(a) provide adequate facilities for, and encourage free mobility of people, goods and services throughout the Federation;

(b) secure full residence rights for every citizen in all parts of the Federation;

(c) encourage intermarriage among persons from different places of origin, or of different religious, ethnic or linguistic association or ties; and

(d) promote or encourage the formation of associations that cut across ethnic, linguistic, religious or other sectional barriers.

(4) The State shall foster a feeling of belonging and of involvement among the various peoples of the Federation, to the end that loyalty to the nation shall override sectional loyalties.

(5) The State shall eradicate all corrupt practices and abuse of power.

(6) The State shall protect and defend the liberty of the individual, enforce the rule of law and ensure the efficient functioning of government services.

4.—(1) The State shall, within the context of the ideals and objectives for which provisions are made in the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979, as amended—

Economic objectives.

(a) harness the resources of the nation and promote national prosperity and an efficient, dynamic and self-reliant economy ;

(b) manage and control the national economy in such manner as to secure the maximum welfare, freedom and happiness of every citizen on the basis of social justice, equality of status and opportunity ;

(c) without prejudice to its right to operate or participate in areas of the economy other than the major sectors of the economy, manage and operate the major sectors of the economy ;

(d) without prejudice to the right of any person to participate in areas of the economy within the major sectors of the economy, protect the right of every citizen to engage in any economic activities outside the major sectors of the economy.

(2) The State shall direct its policy towards ensuring—

(a) the promotion of a planned and balanced economic development, including the diversification of industries and dispersal of industrial projects and infrastructural facilities throughout the Federation ;

(b) that the material resources of the community are harnessed and distributed equitably and judiciously to serve the common good of all the people ;

(c) that the economic system is not operated in such a manner as to permit the concentration of wealth or the means of production and exchange in the hands of few individuals or of a group ; and

(d) that suitable and adequate shelter, food, water supply, reasonable national minimum living wage, old age care and pensions, unemployment and sick benefits and welfare for the disabled are provided for all citizens.

(3) A body shall be set up by a Decree which shall have power —

(a) to review from time to time the ownership and control of business enterprises operating in Nigeria and make recommendations to the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces on the same ; and

(b) to administer any law for the regulation of the ownership and control of such enterprises.

(4) For the purposes of subsection (1) of this section—

(a) reference to the “major sectors of the economy” shall be construed as a reference to such economic activities as may from time to time be declared by the Armed Forces Ruling Council to be managed and operated exclusively by the Government of the Federation; and until a resolution to the contrary is made by the Armed Forces Ruling Council, economic activities being operated exclusively by the Government of the Federation on the date immediately preceding the day when this section comes into force whether directly or through the agencies of a statutory or other corporation or company, shall be deemed to be major sectors of the economy ;

(b) “economic activities” includes activities directly concerned with the production, distribution and exchange of wealth or of goods and services ;

(c) “participate” includes the rendering of services and supplying of goods.

5.—(1) The State social order is founded on ideals of Freedom, Equality and Justice.

(2) In furtherance of the social order—

(a) every citizen shall have equality of rights, obligations and opportunities before the law ;

(b) the sanctity of the human person shall be recognised and human dignity shall be maintained and enhanced ;

(c) exploitation of human or natural resources in any form whatsoever for reasons other than the good of the community shall be prevented ;

(d) the independence, impartiality and integrity of courts of law, and easy accessibility thereto shall be secured and maintained.

(3) The State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that—

(a) all citizens without discrimination on any ground whatsoever have the opportunity for securing adequate means of livelihood as well as adequate opportunities to secure suitable employment ;

(b) conditions of work are just and humane and that there are adequate facilities for leisure and for social, religious and cultural life ;

(c) the health, safety and welfare of all persons in employment are safeguarded and not endangered or abused ;

(d) there are adequate medical and health care facilities for all persons ;

(e) there is equal pay for equal work without discrimination on account of sex, or on any other ground whatsoever ;

(f) children, young persons, the aged and the disabled are protected against any exploitation whatsoever, and against moral and material neglect ;

(g) provision is made for public assistance in deserving cases or other conditions of need.

6.—(1) Government shall direct its policy towards ensuring that there are equal and adequate educational opportunities at all levels.

Educational objectives.

(2) Government shall promote science and technology.

(3) Government shall strive to eradicate illiteracy and to this end, Government shall, as and when practicable, provide—

(a) free, compulsory and universal primary education ;

(b) free secondary education ;

(c) free university education ; and

(d) free adult education.

(4) Government shall promote the learning of indigenous languages.

7. The foreign policy objectives of Nigeria shall be—

(a) promotion and protection of the national interest ;

(b) promotion of the total liberation of Africa from colonial rule and support of African unity ;

(c) promotion of international co-operation for the consolidation of universal peace and mutual respect among all nations and elimination of racial discrimination in all its manifestations ;

(d) respect for international law and treaty obligations as well as the settling of settlement of international disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation, arbitration and adjudication ; and

(e) promotion of a just world economic order.

Foreign policy objectives.

Directive on
Nigerian
cultures.

8. The State shall protect, preserve and promote the Nigerian cultures which enhance human dignity and are consistent with the fundamental objectives as provided in this Schedule.

Obligations
of the mass
media.

9. The press, radio, television and other agencies of the mass media shall at all times be free to uphold the fundamental objectives contained in this Schedule and highlight the responsibility and accountability of the Government to the people.

National
ethic.

10. The National ethic shall be Discipline, Integrity, Dignity of Labour, Social Justice, Religious Tolerance, Self-Reliance and Patriotism.

Duties of
the citizen.

11. It shall be the duty of every citizen—

(a) to abide by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1979, as amended, respect its ideals and its institutions, the National Flag, the National Anthem, the National Pledge and legitimate and properly constituted authorities ;

(b) to protect and preserve public property, and fight against misappropriation and squandering of public funds ;

(c) to help enhance the power, prestige and good name of the country and to defend the country and render national service as may be required ;

(d) to respect the dignity and religion of other citizens and the rights and the legitimate interests of others and to live in unity and harmony and in the spirit of common brotherhood ;

(e) to make positive and useful contributions to the advancement, progress and well-being of the community where he resides ;

(f) to work conscientiously in his lawful and chosen occupation and to abstain from any activity detrimental to the general welfare of other citizens or to the country ;

(g) to ensure the proper upbringing of his children ;

(h) to participate in and defend all democratic processes and practices ;

(i) to render assistance to appropriate and lawful agencies in the maintenance of law and order; and

(j) to declare his income honestly to appropriate and lawful agencies and to pay his tax promptly.

SCHEDULE 2

Section 34

GUIDELINES ON POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS THROUGH THE
ELECTRONIC MEDIAMeaning of
political
programmes.

1. Political programmes shall be those programmes that have bearing on policy-making in the country, whether at the National, State, or Local Government level and include political programme materials derived largely from persons and organisations engaged in the quest for power for the purpose of policy-making in general public life

2.—(1) It shall be the function of radio and television to assist the members of the public to partake of all ideas, ideals and experiences that—

(a) help them live in society that is humane and democratic ;

(b) have the influence to make them live in society in an orderly and disciplined manner.

(2) The objective of politics on radio and television shall essentially, therefore, be to sensitize the public on the significant nature of their decision so that they can make the right choice in giving Nigeria the government it desires.

(3) In pursuance of this, radio and television programmes shall endeavour to—

(a) foster political awareness amongst the citizens of Nigeria ;

(b) enlighten the public on the political provisions of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria ;

(c) promote public interest and consciousness in participatory politics ;

(d) educate citizens on their rights and political duties ;

(e) encourage the evolution of broad political fronts based on national ideals and choices rather than on ethnic or other prejudices ;

(f) assist members of the public to—

(i) make free political decisions, as much as possible ;

(ii) give allegiance to the party that would fulfil their pledge towards national unity and aspirations ;

(iii) cast their votes for the party that would serve the national interest ;

(g) encourage face-to-face dialogue between political opponents to ensure that there shall be less of rancour and bitterness ;

(h) maintain dialogue between the government and the governed ; and

(i) provide a forum for competing ideas and ideals to be traded freely and publicly.

3.—(1) Political programmes on radio and television shall rest on the recognised power of radio and television to influence people to make political choice of allegiance and more importantly, in the manner in which they vote ; and in order, therefore, that Nigerian radio and television may not be open to charges of wittingly, or otherwise utilising this power in support of one side against another and to ensure that the rules and guidelines set out in this Schedule and in particular in this paragraph shall be observed.

(2) Radio and television shall observe that—

(a) balance in political programmes shall lie in the equal presentation of alternative or opposing points of views or interests ;

(b) balance can be achieved within a programme or within a series of programmes ;

(c) balance within a programme is to be preferred since it is unlikely that in a series of programmes, the same people exposed to one point of view shall have had the chance of being exposed to the other point of view ;

(d) balance within a series of programmes to become obtainable it is necessary that the series shall be well planned and shall be subject to revision in order to meet protests whenever such protests arise ;

Objectives
of political
material on
radio and
television.Power of
radio and
television.

(e) balance can be fair when the contexts are similar, the representative or exponents are equally matched.

(3) In order to promote integration as well as the evolution in Nigeria of a democratic process based on national rather than narrower loyalties, the following guidelines shall be observed by radio and television in sharing time and opportunity among political parties—

(a) time shall, whenever practicable, be allotted equally in quantity between the two parties registered in the relevant State, or in the country, as the case may be ;

(b) the time allocated to the different parties shall have, as much as possible, the same premium ; for this purpose, the commercial grading of time shall be a guide ;

(c) a log shall be kept by each station's News Division at a level not below Controller, showing the allocation of time to each party, with dates, title of programme and other information as may be required by the Commission to ensure fairness.

(4) The subject of a political broadcast shall preferably, be similar as between one party and another, except where the subject has been chosen the respective party.

(5) Persons nominated to put across the various parties' view points shall, generally, be of comparable status in their parties ; in this wise, party representatives shall be persons named by the parties concerned.

(6) Where, however, a party cleverly tries to veto a broadcast series by refusing to name its representative in the expectation that stations would, thereby, be unable to undertake the broadcasts, a radio or television station shall ensure that no party achieves any such veto.

(7) Where a right of reply is upheld, the aggrieved party shall be given an equal time and opportunity to reply in the same format of the programme that led to the complaint.

(8) Where the first right of reply leads to another upheld complaint, a debate or discussion programme shall be arranged.

4.—(1) The general guide shall apply to practically all party political broadcasts, particularly those undertaken in collaboration with parties.

(2) A meeting shall be held with all the approved parties to share out available time among them and fashion out an agreeable time-table, with dates, for broadcasts.

(3) The rules governing the broadcasts, including such details as dresses that are preferred and other measures to ensure decency and decorum, shall be explained to the parties.

(4) All agreements shall be made known to Programmes or News Managers as appropriate, and to the General Manager or Director, as the case may be.

(5) Party Political Broadcasts shall not exceed one hour per week per station, at pre-election times, or thirty minutes per week at other times.

(6) One party representative shall speak in a straight talk to viewers on a subject or range of policies, he may make an appeal, but there shall be no interviews, moderators, or questions.

Procedure and time-table for broadcast.

(7) The duration of a party talk shall be about 10 minutes, and preferably not more than 15 minutes.

5.—(1) Stations shall use great judgment to ensure that the party political information included in news broadcasts is truly newsworthy, that is—

new, fresh, interesting, and relevant, like other material competing to be broadcast in the news.

(2) Party political material may take any form, from a politician speaking, party press conference, party statement, to election campaigns ; and

as much as possible only issues arising from such materials shall be carried in brief and shall be free of commentary.

(3) Stations shall exercise care to ensure that party politicians do not get gratuitous or deliberately partial exposure on Nigerian radio and television ; towards this end, stations shall endeavour to discourage politicians wishing to attract radio and television coverage by continually issuing press statements or undertaking such publicity activities as normally deserve radio and television coverage, such as donating to charity, appearing at sports meetings and public gatherings that may attract coverage.

(4) Stations shall be aware that politics is a ready material for news broadcasts, and shall avoid making inflammatory and divisive matter in its provocative form.

(5) The inclusion of party political material and personality in the news shall be decided at a level not below that of a Manager.

6.—(1) A political discussion shall consist of a moderator and one representative each of the political parties discussing a subject or related subjects.

(2) Each party spokesman shall be asked to indicate in one or two minutes what, in the opinion of his party, is the issue on the subject, and what position or stand his party holds on the subject, and during the discussion, time should be allowed to the discussants equitably.

(3) A variant of the simple panel discussion is one in which an audience may be present in the studio to ask questions or contribute to the discussion ; and such audience may represent a specific age group or groups, or other selected relevant interests but not ethnic or religious groups.

(4) In order to provide a certain balance within the audience—

(a) each of the political parties may be invited to bring not more than 6 party supporters ;

(b) the party supporters shall be seated separately to enable the moderator to use them judiciously.

(5) The moderator shall not attempt to summarise or make conclusions at the end of the programme, or even in the course of it.

7. Stations are free to sell airtime for the purpose of political campaigns, subject to the following rules and guidelines—

(a) all messages shall be in form of spot announcements or jingles, not exceeding 60 seconds ;

News broadcast.

Political discussion.

Sale of airtime.

(b) no station shall be involved in the production of such announcements or jingles ;

(c) no voices of members of staff shall be used in political jingles ;

(d) all jingles shall conform to the standards of decency, taste, morality and truth.

8.—(1) Politics may be mentioned in different ordinary programmes, such as in passing motions or in public enlightenment and public affairs programmes, or in programmes for special audiences.

(2) Political material in ordinary programmes shall best be confined to being educative and only when explaining rights and duties, or laws.

(3) Stations shall only be concerned with party politics during special political programmes.

(4) Stations shall take care to prevent identified politicians and party men and women from appearing as panelists, chairmen, moderators, presenters, in any ordinary programme and shall ensure at the same time that staff who moderate, comper or present any programme shall, on no account, be identified with any political party.

9.—(1) The parties shall ensure that they ~~have~~ their representatives and that these representatives attend briefing and recording sessions as agreed with radio and television stations.

(2) A political party shall not seek to veto a broadcast or series of broadcasts by failure of its representatives to attend and take up their places as agreed with the stations.

(3) Where a political party fails to take its offer of broadcast time, stations shall inform members of the public.

(4) Parties and their representatives shall refrain from making libellous, seditious or profane utterances whenever they are appearing and discussing on the air.

(5) It shall be the duty of broadcasting stations to ensure that libellous, seditious or profane utterances are not permitted on the air.

(6) Appeals and protests may only be entertained within 28 days of first broadcast.

10.—(1) All party political broadcasts shall be pre-recorded.

(2) A re-recording shall only be ordered on the grounds of technical quality, in which case the decision may only be taken by an officer at a grade not below that of a Manager who shall inform his chief executive of such a decision.

(3) A re-broadcast of an existing recording may be permissible in place of a fresh recording but the decision shall be with the consent of the party concerned ; provided such a tape has not previously resulted in a right of reply.

(4) Where a station is satisfied that a broadcast has been marred by technical problems during play-back, or by a widespread power cut in the community, a repeat broadcast may be permissible, with the approval of the chief executive.

(5) All tapes containing political broadcasts shall not be wiped out for at least 45 days after the first broadcast.

11.—(1) All stations shall set up a Complaints Committee to examine all complaints and appeals from political parties and the general public (on political broadcasts) and make appropriate decisions, including the granting of Right of Reply.

(2) The Committee shall comprise the following or their representatives at the State or Station level—

(a) the General Manager or Chief Executive as Chairman ;

(b) the Resident Electoral Commissioner ;

(c) the State Director of Mass Mobilisation for Social and Economic Recovery ;

(d) the Manager Programmes ;

(e) the Manager Administration, who shall also be Secretary to the Committee.

(3) At the National or Network level, the Committee shall comprise (at the least) the following or their representatives—

(a) the Director-General as Chairman ;

(b) a National Electoral Commissioner ;

(c) the National Director of Mass Mobilisation for Social and Economic Recovery ;

(d) the Director of News ;

(e) the Director of Programmes ;

(f) Secretary to the Authority or Corporation, who shall also be Secretary to the Committee.

(4) In the case of Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria Stations and Nigerian Television Authority Production Centres, copy of proceedings of the Committees shall be transmitted to the relevant Director-General within 24 hours after a decision has been taken on whether or not to grant the Right of Reply.

(5) Where a Right of Reply has not been granted by the Station or Production Centre, the Complaints Committee shall review the complaint within 48 hours of receipt.

(6) In all cases the General Manager or Chief Executive shall transmit the proceedings of the Station or Production Centre to the relevant Director-General.

(7) The following shall among others constitute grounds for up-holding the Right of Reply—

(a) a charge against integrity, etc. ;

(b) breach of the balance and fairness rules in paragraph 3(2) of this Schedule.

(8) The composition of a Complaints Committee shall not be sufficient ground for invalidating its decision.

12. The following guidelines shall be observed in the conduct of political programme on Nigerian radio and television—

(a) the purpose of a Press Conference is to enable a party or politician put forward a point of view and subject it to the examination of representatives of the Press or Public ;

(b) the panel shall not exceed three in number ;

Complaints
and appeals.

Guide to
programme.

Ordinary
programme.

Responsi-
bilities of
parties.

All party
political
broadcast.

(c) the Chairman shall be a staff of the Station concerned and shall have adequate seniority, maturity, and judgement. Station shall ensure, whenever possible, that the same panel and Chairman participate in all similar Press Conferences ;

(d) a Press Conference shall have a specific subject, even if broad, chosen as theme by the party concerned. Questions shall not be submitted before hand, and the Chairman shall not allow questions that stray too far from the theme ;

(e) duration shall not exceed one hour nominally. At least seven notice shall be given before a recording, unless the party concerned is willing to accept a shorter notice.

13.—(1) A debate shall bring representatives of opposing points of view or political parties to argue on controversial subjects.

(2) The preferred form shall comprise one representative each of the points of view or parties equally matched.

(3) A staff of the Station of acceptable seniority shall be the host or witness and shall avoid interfering with the debates, unless he has need to return debaters to the subject, or clear points of a libellous nature or restore decorum.

(4) No summarisation shall be permitted. Debaters shall be nominated by the parties concerned.

(5) The subject chosen shall be agreed by the political parties.

(6) The maximum duration shall be one hour and the parties concerned shall have at least seven days prior notice.

(7) The name of one debater shall be known to the other debater of party at least 7 days before the recording.

(8) Before there is the need to substitute another person for a nominated participant, the other opponent and sponsoring party shall be notified and invited to make a corresponding change, if it wishes.

(9) Where debaters have not been chosen by political parties, the appropriate Manager shall ensure that the debaters are matched in intellect; and possibly also in temperament.

(10) Political talks shall only be permissible during electioneering campaigns.

(11) A political talk shall elaborate on a party's policy on a matter or matters contained in the party's manifesto.

SCHEDULE 3

Section 35

DISSOLVED POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS

- (1) Peoples Solidarity Party
- (2) People's Front of Nigeria
- (3) Nigerian Labour Party
- (4) Liberal Convention
- (5) Nigeria National Congress
- (6) Republican Party of Nigeria
- (7) All Nigeria Peoples Party

- (8) National Union Party
- (9) Ideal Peoples Party
- (10) Patriotic Nigerian Party
- (11) United Nigeria Democratic Party
- (12) Peoples Patriotic Party
- (13) Nigerian Peoples Welfare Party.

MADE at Lagos this 7th day of December 1989.

GENERAL I. B. BABANGIDA,
President, Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces,
Federal Republic of Nigeria.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the above Decree but is intended to explain its purport)

The Decree establishes for Nigeria two political parties, namely—

- (a) the National Republican Convention Party ;
- (b) the Social Democratic Party.

The Decree also spells out matters relating to the allocation of symbols, restriction on membership, finances of political parties and provides guidelines and offences in the conduct of electioneering campaigns.

Map of the Federal Republic of Nigeria showing the states



Made at Lagos this 27th day of December 1980.

GENERAL I. B. BAHAGIWA
President, Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces
Federal Republic of Nigeria

(12) Peoples Party
(13) Nigerian People's Alliance Party