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Patriot Institute

TO : **Regional and Constituency Secretariats of the Party**

FROM : **General Secretary**

SUBJECT : **Circulation of Proposals for Amendment to the Constitution of the New Patriotic Party**

DATE : **18th June 2025**

Cc : **All Party Executives and Members**

In accordance with Article 19 of the Constitution of the New Patriotic Party (NPP), the General Secretary of the Party, having received proposals for constitutional amendments from Members of the Party and Identifiable Groups, hereby circulates, as attached, these amendment proposals.

As earlier communicated, National Council, in line with the spirit of the Party's Constitution and established convention, constituted a 9-Member Constitution Amendment Committee to among other things, categorize and streamline the proposals into Amendment Motions and make appropriate recommendations to guide the considerations and debate at the Extraordinary National Delegates Conference.

Party Members and Executives are therefore urged to make time to peruse the proposals ahead of the Party's Extraordinary National Delegates Conference, which is scheduled to take place at the **University of Ghana Stadium, Accra** from **18th to 20th July 2025.**

Thank you.

Justin Kodua Frimpong

General Secretary

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(Recommendations for Rebuilding the New Patriotic Party)

NPP is at a crossroads. The path we choose today will mark a significant milestone in the political and organizational development of the Party in the annals of Ghanaian politics. To guide the process, we should answer four fundamental questions:

1. What problem are we trying to solve? Is it political, economic, organizational, societal/environmental, etc., or a combination of the factors?

2. What do we believe caused the fundamental problem we are trying to solve?

3. What type of Party do we seek to build, and what kind of people/members do we hope to be part of the Party?

4. What is our vision for Ghana and the people of Ghana?

Answering these questions would direct NPP's efforts at rebuilding itself by adopting the reform framework propounded by V.O. Key (1942), an eminent American political scientist: Party as an Organization, Party in Government, and Party Own the Electorate in outlining its recommendations.

A. Party as an Organization

1. Adopt the franchise model organizational structure: Change the organizational structure by eliminating the Regional layer of the structure and making the Constituency the core organizational unit of NPP, emphasizing electoral competition. By making the Constituency the center of gravity and operational unit of the Party, NPP will build robust party infrastructure at the local constituency levels, reconnect with communities to rebuild a broader base of supporters, increase the Party's visibility, and deepen its presence at the regional levels with year-round programs and activities. NPP must partner with civil society organizations (CSOs), community-based organizations, civic groups, religious bodies, etc., to implement its programs at the constituency levels. This action will shift the Party's focus, resources (financial, material, etc.), energies, and operational emphasis from exclusively electoral-legislative politics to building relationships with the grassroots and the electorates.

1a. By making the Constituency the core operational unit, NPP must reform the Electoral Area, Polling Station structure, leadership, and operations accordingly. Eliminate the Polling Station Executives and replace them with five-member community-based NPP executives appointed by a committee chaired by the sitting MP of the Constituency.

1b. Eliminate the Electoral Area Coordinator and replace it with a five-member committee appointed by a committee chaired by the sitting MP of the Constituency. In a constituency without an incumbent MP, the Chairman of the Constituency will chair the Committee.

1c. Eliminate the National Council of Elders and transfer the functions to a reformed and strengthened National Executive Council of the Party.

1d. The National Chairman should always be the Party's leader, whether in Government or opposition.

1e. Except for the National Chairman, whom the Membership should elect, NPP must eliminate all the other elected positions, and the National Executive Committee (NEC) should appoint a full-time professional team headed by a Chief Executive Officer with political party management experience to manage NPP as an organization. The skilled team may report to the National Chairman. With the NEC's approval, the CEO must recruit charismatic leaders who embody the NPP's values, bring fresh perspectives and optimism, and inspire and bridge divides to reenergize the Party.

1f. Establish the "NPP's Competitiveness Council" to enhance our electoral successes and cooperative practices to achieve successive electoral successes.

1g. Establish a Supreme Auditing Committee, an Anti-Corruption Authority, and an Ombudsman to promote good governance for the Party.

These structural changes would consider the NPP's ideology, vision, history of the Constituency, the needs of the people, and the cultural and ethnic makeup of citizens. NPP will then seek to maximize the organizational capacity and streamline the operational and related resources to both strengthen the Party in the Electorate and attract members from all areas of the country and increase the number of regions NPP won in the last election from three to sixteen through micro-targeting membership outreach programs.

2. Select and Elect Party leaders, including the Chairman and Presidential Candidates.

To promote intra-party democracy, NPP must promote open, fair, transparent, non-discriminatory, and long-term commitment in the recruitment, selection, and nomination of our leadership and candidates by abolishing the prevailing "expanded delegate system"; with a direct, open primary; usually referred to as "one member, one vote (OMOV) mechanism. The direct primary will replace the current system as a corrupt, expensive, monetized, and elite-controlled mechanism for choosing candidates. With the direct, open primary, all NPP eligible members of good standing would be eligible to vote in all internal elections. The process must be transparent, non-discriminatory, timely, and representative of members' preferences.

2a. Make the candidate who placed second in the flagbearer contest serve as the Vice-Presidential Candidate. Such action would help create a cohesive, unified party with support from all candidates and their supporters. These vital changes will give citizens who have an interest or affinity with the Party a window of opportunity to influence the Party without formally joining it. It will give them a more decisive say to those closer to the Party. Members of political parties seek to open up competition and debate internally to advance what the Party thinks.

2b. The Party may choose its presidential candidate two years before the national election. This would allow for the resolution of all internal issues that could create disunity and reduce polarization in the Party during election cycles.

3. Harmonize the Communication Infrastructure of NPP

NPP must harmonize the relations and functions of the Party's Communication Office, the Ministry of Information (when in power), and the Government's communication team. Doing so would ensure consistent messaging and improve the Party's image in the Electorate. To start, NPP must have a comprehensive (vertical and horizontal) communication infrastructure to inform, educate, and entertain voters about NPP's position on internal operations and on national issues that are important to voters.

3a. Vertical Communication: NPP must communicate with our supporters regularly by sending party messages through national press releases, platforms, reports, newsletters, articles, petitions, surveys, etc., to support its operations in the constituencies. Concurrently, the Party must establish mechanisms to solicit input from the members and incorporate their views into operations and policy positions in areas such as candidate selection, talking points on controversial issues, campaign positions, opposition research, and legislative priorities, etc. NPP may consider communication tools such as an active,

robust website, print, face-to-face, radio, television, SMS texts, etc, to transmit information to members and the Electorate.

3b. Horizontal Communication: NPP must establish effective information-sharing mechanisms to communicate with all functional groups, such as the Women's, Youth, and professional groups.

3c. NPP must establish a 'Crisis/Rapid Response Team' charged with responding timely and forcefully to allegations, innuendoes, and direct attacks on the Party or its positions on issues of importance to members and voters.

3d. NPP must establish a Policy Communication Team to inform, educate, and answer voters' questions about specific party positions on pertinent national issues.

3e. NPP may engage a private communication, public relations, or marketing firm to manage the Party's overall communication or specific activities or services. NPP must ensure the Party's communication teams have enough resources to advance its goals. These resources may include qualified communication personnel, training, equipment, airtime, etc., to enable the teams' smooth operations.

4. Recruit a Director of Technology Transition NPP into the Digital Age:

NPP must recruit a 'Director of Technology' and invest in advanced telecommunication technologies and related infrastructure to transition the Party to the digital age. The Technology Director will develop a comprehensive technology plan for NPP to improve internal and external functions such as data collection, facilitate internal party decision-making, and engage voters. In the immediate term, NPP must buy a domain name for its online presence. All email communication must be based on our domain to help with our rebranding efforts. The current use of "Gmail" for communication must cease immediately. In addition to the Director of Technology, NPP must hire the following technical experts to manage related functions. These include Cybersecurity Officer, Data Officer, and Digital Officer. These are necessary hires to help the Party integrate its digital tools and resources.

4b. Open NPP Party and Adopt e-Party Mechanisms. NPP may adopt procedures for public reporting and access to party information by establishing e-party services that allow information and communication technologies (ICT) in connection with party

functions and procedures to ensure increasing efficiency, transparency, and management of party finances. The action would further reduce direct interaction between vendors and party officials, allowing for easy detection of irregularities such as bid rigging schemes. The digitalization processes would strengthen internal anti-corruption controls and detection of integrity breaches and provide audit service trails to facilitate investigation activities.

5. Establish the NPP Institute to provide ideological, policy, and political education to members and the Electorate through training, education forums, talk series, debates, symposia, lecture series, etc.

5a. The NPP Institute may implement year-round organizational capacity-building with constituency mobilization efforts in concert with external groups, institutions, and individuals.

6. Employ the "Associational Party-Building Model" to Expand and Deepen Membership to New Sectors and Regions

The NPP cannot and must not rely on only two regions to win

national elections. Empower and assist the Constituencies in developing the "associational party-building model" to expand members' outreach activities to new sectors, professional organizations, civic society organizations, community-based organizations, NGOs, etc.

6a. The NPP must redefine, Digitalize, and re-engage Membership. To deepen the quality of our consolidating democracy, the NPP must intentionally seek to build a national party that reflects and represents Ghanaian society.

7. Improve the Finances of the Party for Sustainability.

7a. Given the level of unemployment and limited sources of income for Ghanaians, the NPP must be innovative in financing the Party's activities. The NPP must either hire a "Development Officer" to establish a development team to focus on year-round, rolling fundraising activities for the Party or develop a comprehensive development plan to raise funds to support party operations and electoral activities. These would include soliciting grants, selling party memorabilia online, developing fundraising events, donations, and leadership gifts, etc.

7b. The Party must engage consultants to raise funds for the Party. NPP may not allow the failure to pay membership dues to deter or dissuade people from joining the Party.

7c. NPP must initiate a discussion on reforming the National Political Parties Act and the National Elections Act to allow for the public financing of political parties and elections. Such an initiative would restrict the influence of money on elections, as the unrelenting flood of money into our politics presents obstacles to disunity and good governance in the Party.

7d. Increase Membership size, develop new categories of Membership, and collect dues formally and accordingly. The cardinal resource for managing our Membership must be the implementation of a national membership database system.

8. Address Internal Corruption by hiring an Anti-Corruption Czar.

The Party must address corruption and other ethical lapses head-on with a robust anti-corruption plan. The plan must

include anti-corruption measures such as asset declaration and a recovery regime. Others may consist of anti-corruption mechanisms such as regulations on bribery, of party officials; due diligence involving the gathering of information about third-parties NPP plans to work with; accountability requiring officers to disclose actions in transparent ways; and cooperation with security and law enforcement bodies in Ghana, curbing illicit finance, promoting integrity within the Party, and empowering agents of change at all levels of the Party.

8a. The NPP must implement a "Whistle Blower" Policy. This policy must include a mechanism with enticing rewards for reporting corrupt and unethical malfeasance within the Party.

9. Improve Electoral campaigns and related activities:

9a. Members of the National Campaign Team. The NEC must choose the Party's campaign team for elections. The presidential candidate's campaign team should be appointed by the NEC in consultation with the presidential candidate, not vice versa. The National Chairman should lead the appointment process.

9b. To ensure congruency with the Party Manifesto, the NPP must reduce polarization by strengthening party leaders' control over the Party's messaging and communication strategies and positions during campaigning.

9c. Elected party officers, MPs, and parliamentary candidates should not be part of the national campaign team. Such officers and candidates must focus on campaigning in their districts to ensure their victory as a supplement to the Party's efforts. The diffusion of efforts would increase the Party's visibility and broaden its campaign outreach in the communities.

9d. Strengthen and improve the relations between the Party's Research Directorate and the presidential candidate's election research committee to ensure seamless communication and to feed each other updated information for the Party and the campaign team. This would ensure coordination and effective communication between the two bodies.

9e. Ensure that the Party takes the lead in developing the Party Manifesto during the election period with adequate and robust consultation and participation by the presidential candidate, not vice versa.

2. The Party in Government (ensuring co-governance and symbiotic relationship)

A co-governance mechanism between the Party, Executive, and the Parliamentary Group is needed in the areas of policy development and implementation, party-building and institutionalization, legislative oversight function, awarding contracts, and appointments.

1. Ensure effective communication and consultation between the Party and the Government on cabinet appointments, vetting, and executive branch political appointments.

1. Ensure that the Government implements the Part's Manifesto, and the Government must consult with the Party on significant changes and policy shifts in the Manifesto

1. The Party must ensure constant communication and feedback between the executive communication team and the Party's communication office, and that they are in sync on the issues that affect the Party and the Executive.

1. The Party must provide oversight of all executive activity, including major financial, policy, and related decision-making positions, to ensure that the Party is informed of such decisions and can defend the Executive during the Electorate's questioning.

1. The Party must exert influence on the Executive's public behavior, discipline, responsiveness, communication, etc., to ensure that the Party is in a position to defend the Executive staff's actions when necessary and appropriate.

2b. The Parliamentary Group.

Parliament, perhaps more than other institutions, is about relationships—principally with citizens but also with and among political parties, with the Executive, and between individual members and their parties. We must acknowledge that what happens in Parliament is of interest to citizens—that is, Parliament's performance reflects the evolution of the relationships between the stakeholders, especially with the parties represented. NPP, as a party, may be in, but not always.

However, the NPP must always be in Parliament. Therefore, the NPP must have more focus and impact in the Government to establish a positive associational image in the Electorate. Nevertheless, the NPP must realize that Parliamentarians are the constant image of the Party in the Electorate. As a result, the NPP must focus on ensuring that the Parliamentary Group is adequately resourced and has the capacity to perform administrative, legislative, communication, and policy functions.

2ba. The Parliament should translate the Party's Manifesto into legislation for implementation by the Executive.

2bb. The Parliamentary Group must independently select its leadership through its formula and guidelines without undue influence from the Executive, but with consultation with the Party and the Executive.

2bc. The Party may advocate national constitutional reform to prevent the fusion of Executive and Legislative roles through the two-thirds appointment of parliamentary candidates as ministers. The appointment restricts such ministers from performing their legislative functions for their constituents.

2bd. NPP must establish a "resource center" to provide policy and legislative expertise to assist MPs in performing their duties. This would help NPP's MPs dialogue with their respective stakeholders in their constituencies.

2be. NPP must identify the skillsets it needs of its MPs during candidate selection to ensure that the Party has the expertise in policy and legislative spheres to promote the Party's image in Parliament.

2bf. The NPP must establish a Parliamentary Campaign Committee to focus on electing members of Parliament at the Constituency level. The Party must provide the requisite resources to make the Committee effective locally during elections.

2bg. The NPP must invest in District Assembly elections to ensure the election of NPP candidates. Such an effort would enable the NPP to build a pipeline of eligible and suitable candidates for elections and future appointments by the Party.

3. The Party in the Electorate

3a. NPP may engage professional communications, marketing, or public relations firm to its rebranding activities and phase in the Electorate with information on the feedback from the Electorate on why the Party lost the election and new developments to their concerns.

3b. NPP may invest in and implement year-round mobilization efforts, canvassing, and post-election voter contact and engagement at the constituency levels to ensure constant presence and messaging from the Party in the Electorate.

3c. NPP may institute working group roundtables by communicating policy and contacting working-class groups to help develop policy blueprints.

3d. The NPP may build new political intermediaries that link voters and civic groups to the Party through "associational party building models". These may include churches, civic groups, political movements, trade unions, religious organizations, academic bodies, and individuals to help disseminate information about the Party and increase its relations and image in the Electorate. This effort will help maintain political energy on the ground in the constituencies and scale up the effective programs.

3e. NPP must solicit information from voters to address the "dealignment" that occurred in the 2024 elections. Such efforts may include periodic data collection of public views and opinions on issues to take the pulse of the Electorate and solicit their sentiments and concerns so that the Party can address them.

3g. The NPP must shift from its traditional focus on electoral-legislative policies to building relationships between the Party, civic groups, and voters.

3h. NPP must develop appropriate, timely, and relevant messaging to address perceived or real corrupt acts and the Party's lack of responsiveness to the electors' concerns. The Communication team may develop talking points for Party communicators to ensure congruence and uniformity in the messaging.

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The Way Ahead

The role of NPP in Ghana and its capacity to relate to its members and the Electorate are highly contextual. The most important factors are not how to build a large party but how to utilize the huge numbers to win an election and how to retain citizens' legitimacy as the connection node between citizens and power. Let's act on some of these and other novel principles over the next few years, and Ghanaians will forgive us for trying.

The Party will continue to stand on firmer ground as we face what is likely to become Ghana's third national economic development election in 2028. We must convince voters that there are strong policy reasons to vote for the NPP on development issues, not just against the NDC. If the Committee would require my presence to discuss further these recommendations, please let me know.