

# BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION

*P.O. Box 1355  
Gaborone  
Botswana*

**OUR REF:-**

**YOUR REF:-**

13th June, 1978

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT \_\_\_\_\_ WHO  
HOLDS PASSPORT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ IS AN ACCREDITED MEMBER OF THE  
BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (The Botswana National Front Youth  
League)

W I T N E S S  
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PHOTOGRAPH

A decorative rectangular border made of small asterisks surrounding a large empty square. The border is composed of a single row of asterisks on each side, forming a frame around the central white space.

HOLDER'S SIGNATURE

Date of Signing

day/month/year

CERTIFIED BY

Signature

ANDREW PITSE

SECRETARY GENERAL  
BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (BYF)

Date:



DUTIES OR JOB DESCRIPTION	

NATIONAL AFFAIRS: (a) Documentation e.g. membership cards, Biographical data forms. (b) Special Training of Cadres. (c) Organization defence strategies. (d) National security. (e) Problems of genuine independence. (f) Confidential Cooperation with Communist Youth movements. (g) Initiation of political strategies and tactics. (h) Raising funds for special confidential activities so that the group should have its own funds. (i) Advance planning and targets setting. (j) Programmes of action both long term and short term. (k) Running of the International Department; to be divided into:- 1) Africa 2) Latin America 3) Asia 4) Europe 5) The Middle East 6) United States of America.

(1) Celebrating work of exemplary workers. (m) Creating a task force.  
(n) Plans demonstrations and supervises them.

THE WORK OF NATIONAL AFFAIRS IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

2. CONTROL COMMISSION: Inspection of records of all meetings especially decisions to see to their implementation - conference decisions, Committee decisions, branch decisions. The inspection of the implementation of tasks, programmes and targets both national and regional. Control of observation codes of behaviour - drinking, women, etc.

3. SECRETARY GENERAL: Making circulars, reports of meetings and conferences. Summaries of minutes, correspondence with branches and committees. Calling of meetings in consultation with chairman. Keeping of minutes. Filing of documents. Keeping records of membership e.g. membership register for the whole organization and for every branch and regions. Records about newspaper sales. Registration cards sales records and serial numbers. Scholarships applications and recommendations. Contacts with secretaries of other youth movements in Botswana. He shall maintain a register of all outgoing and incoming correspondence.

4. PAN AFRICAN SECRETARY: To forge links with the Pan African Youth Movement. Youth movements of non Communist parties in Africa.

5. FINANCE & STORES: To keep finance records, to raise funds, to keep track of the funds of newspapers, cards, conferences and to report at conferences and meetings on financial situation. To keep the property of the organization. (b) To maintain cash books, ledgers and stores ledgers for the whole organization. To control expenses. Arrange concerts, Bingos and other ways of raising money. To count and locate the property of the organization. To organise ruffles etc.

6. PUBLICITY & PROPAGANDA: To be the Chief Editor of the official organ. To plan the launching of other papers e.g. Students paper, Setswana Language paper. Circulars of policies and special resolutions. Take charge of slogans and placards. Songs for the organization. Formation of Art groups or cultural groups with a political orientation. Issuing of pamphlets and short written propaganda materials. Make statements on behalf of the organization to the press and the public whenever there is need for public statements.

7. EDUCATION & TRAINING OF CADRES: Supervision of course studies - for theory on a national and regional level. Keeping of study materials, cassetts, libraries of the organization - main study sources.



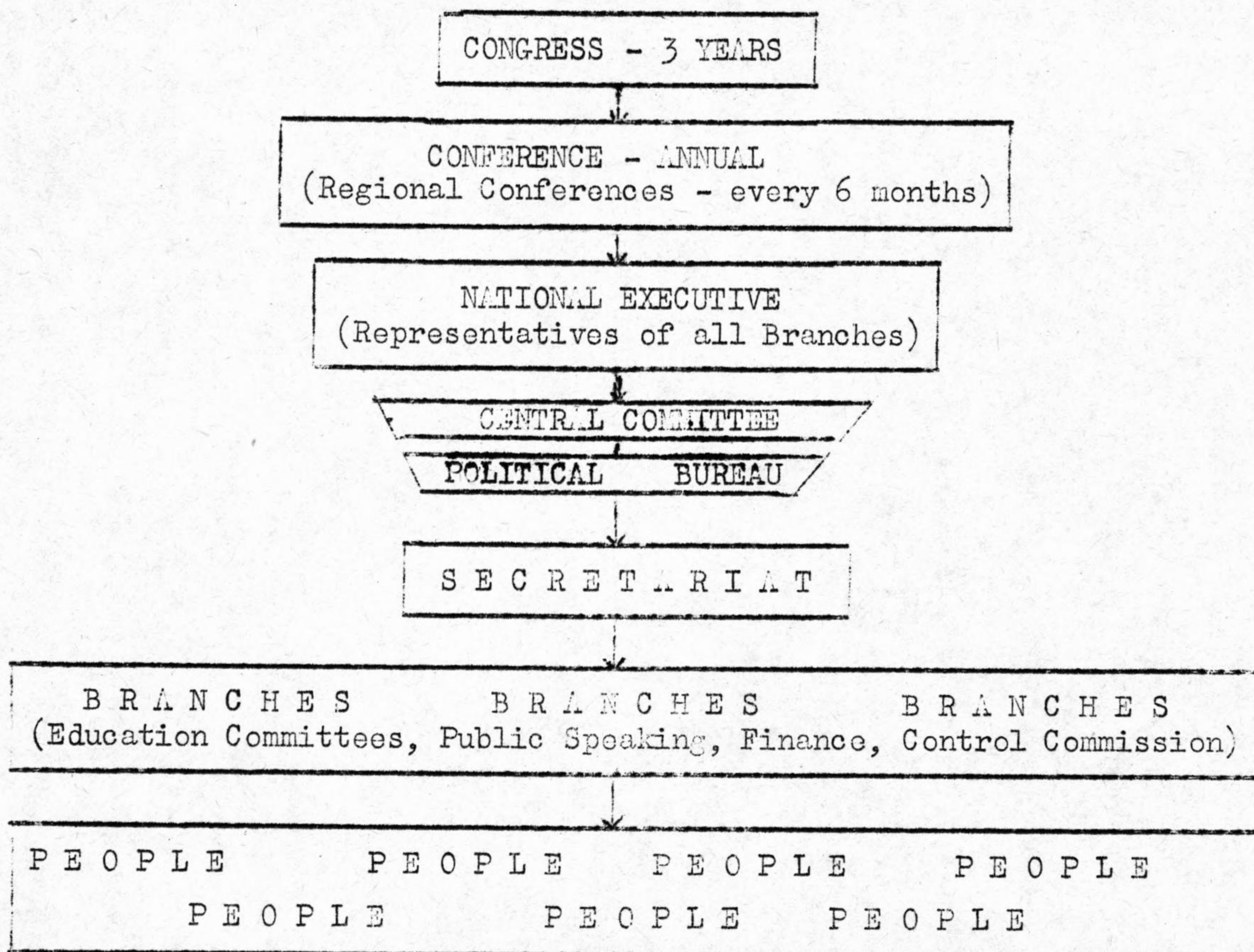
8. SOCIAL WELFARE: The needs of members - poor members; members who are unemployed, who are without education who need help in any way. To take charge of sleeping accommodation at conferences, to take care of the food. To see that at functions of the organization those who need money for admissions are given the necessary assistance. Look after transport arrangements. The escorting of new arrivals to places of meetings. Making arrangements for the ill and sick during meetings and conferences.
9. CHAIRMAN: To preside at meetings and conferences - conduct meetings, arrange for meetings in consultation with the Secretary. Instruct the Secretary to take action.
10. SECRETARY FOR RELATIONS AMONG TRIBAL OR ETHNIC COMMUNITIES: To create friendships among the tribes and ethnic groups. To be versed in the histories of the different ethnic groups in Botswana. To apply and implement the policies of the organization on the national question. To revive the national or ethnic pride of the different communities by emphasising the glorious aspects of their histories. To write occasionally in the journals of the organization about these glorious aspects of the histories of the different communities.
11. THE SECRETARIAT: All the heads or Secretaries of the different committees make up the Secretariat and they have to meet occasionally to coordinate their activities. The General Secretary or the National Chairman chairs their meetings. The Secretariat submits a joint report to the annual conference. This report covers the activities of all the leadership of the different commissions or committees. When all the members of the Secretariat are present at a meeting or when their presence is required in toto then such a meeting is called a plenary meeting of the Secretariat. Any other meeting is an ordinary meeting. The General Secretary receives and publishes reports from different committees or commissions.
12. THE POLITICAL BUREAU: This is a committee or a sub committee of the Central Committee which deals with the most important political questions before they are submitted to the Central Committee. It is usually composed of the most developed members of the Central Committee who can be trusted to keep its deliberations secret. The political bureau plans political strategies and tactics. Develops or initiates policies; makes programmes of political action etc.etc. long term plans eg. 5 year plans of political action. Makes organization charts. It meets more regularly than the Central Committee to deal with the political problems of the movement.
13. THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE: The highest organ or body of power is the Congress which elects members of the different positions and lays down the major broadlines of policy and programmes of actions. Since the congress meets only once in three years, there is therefore an annual conference which meets to review the decisions of the congress and to deal with any other problems which came into light in the course of the year. The conference makes resolutions on current problems. The decisions of both the congress and the conferences are implemented by the Central Committee. The Central Committee deals with current problems which arise during the time both the congress and conference are not meeting. The Central committee is thus more or less sub committee of both the conference and the congress. It meets to deal with all those current problems which arise in the course of practice. More than anything else, it implements the policies and decisions of the congress and conference.
14. THE CONFERENCE: The conference meets annually to deal with all the problems of the organization - to make new resolutions and to make annual plans of action and programmes.



15. THE CONGRESS: The congress meets every 3 years and is the chief policy making organ of the movement. When the congress meets, all the office bearers sit on a platform facing the general assembly and constitutes the presidium of the congress or conference.
16. REGIONAL CONFERENCES: The different branches in a region must hold regional conferences to deal with the problems of the area or region. Such conferences review the progress of the movement with regard to: (1) Education (2) House to house organising (3) Public speaking (4) Finance (5) Control commission (6) inter branch activities (7) Implementation of decisions of conferences etc.etc.
17. BRANCHES: Each branch must have a number of committees, eg.:  
(1) Education Committee (2) Finance committee  
(3) Public speaking committee (4) Control commission  
(5) Secretary (6) Chairman (7) Treasurer.

Each branch must set aside one day or two days in a week for study groups and other business.

ORGANIZATION CHART OF THE ORGANIZATION





INTRODUCTION: The mode of conduct shall serve to deter the spontaneous bad conduct pursued by some comrades either aware or unaware. It shall have strict reference to the constitution of B.Y.F. with extreme particularity to the practical implementation of duties of various commissions, as outlaid in the circular on duties of commissions, and any other constitution of the affiliate organizations of the B.Y.F. The mode of conduct shall, therefore, depend on individual discipline. Where individual discipline fails those concerned and responsible, shall help with appropriate action. Criticism shall be the weapon.

ARTICLE ONE: The behaviour of comrades shall be strictly exemplary to the public, and should be basically on the tasks that the organization is facing:-

- (a) Intoxicants shall either be limited or stopped completely.
- (b) Every comrade shall pay his/her dues to the organization promptly.
- (c) Time for every meeting shall be strictly observed from the cell to the highest body.
- (d) Abusive language is strictly prohibited, especially in meetings.

N.B. Where there are disagreements a genuine report shall be written to the committee responsible regionally or at branch level or even the Commission most suitable to particular issues.

ARTICLE TWO: For the security of the Organization:-

- (a) The company one keeps shall be scrutinised.
- (b) All rumours shall be investigated fully.
- (c) The history of astray materials of the organization shall be traced.

N.B. Where necessary, appropriate action shall be taken, varying from interrogation to warning, suspension and finally expulsion.

ARTICLE THREE: To put into effect the mode of conduct, there will be a National Disciplinary Committee.

#### THE STRUCTURE OF NATIONAL DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

- i) The Secretary General of B.Y.F. shall be the secretary for N.D.C.
- ii) The Chairman shall be nominated by the Control commission from within itself.

#### Other Members

- iii) The National Chairman shall be an ordinary member.
- iv) The Secretary for Education and Training of Cadres.
- v) The Secretary for National Affairs.
- vi) The Secretary for Control Commission.
- vii) One member from every National District elected by the people.
- viii) There shall be a member nominated by the Control Commission from every affiliate organization of B.Y.F.

N.B. Even if the mode of conduct is approved by the Central Committee up to the Congress, it shall always be subject to alterations pending the mounting tide of the struggle

"It means that one must never desire effects without causes, and that one must enact a cause without assuming full responsibility for its effects

REF: BYF Constitution  
 Duties of Commissions etc.

FOR & ON BEHALF OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE BYF  
 \*\*\*\*\* CONTROL COMMISSION \*\*\*\*\*  
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## CONSTITUTION OF THE BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (B.Y.F.)

The name of the organization shall be the BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (B.Y.F.) hereunder called the Federation.

### (A) AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:-

1. To unite, on a voluntary basis, the youth of Botswana i.e. the working youth, the peasant youth, the intelligentsia, and other young people and to educate them in the spirit of patriotism and service in the interests of the fatherland.
2. To acquaint the youth of Botswana with the socio-economic problems of Botswana, Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
3. To make the Botswana Youth an integral part of the All African Youth Movement in spirit, orientation and action and to promote the spirit and principles of the Bandung Conference and solidarity with youth movements and organizations in Africa, Latin America, Europe and the United States.
4. To contribute by word and by deed to the consolidation of the unity of the different communities which make the Botswana Nation.
5. To develop criticism and self-criticism in order to lay bare the short comings and to strive for their removal. To combat castentation, conceit, complacency and parochial tendencies.
6. To struggle against imperialism, colonialism and feudalism in all their forms and manifestations.
7. To encourage the youth of Botswana to struggle against colonialism, neo colonialism imperialism and racism in all their forms and manifestations.
8. To work and struggle for an egalitarian society in which there is no exploitation of man by man.
9. To make the Botswana Youth an integral part of the International Revolutionary Youth Movement and forge with International Youth Movements links for common action in the spirit of Internationalism.

### (B) MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION

- 1) The Youth League of the Botswana National Front.
- 2) The Students Council of the Botswana Youth Federation i.e. university and secondary school students.
- 3) The Botswana Socialist Working Youth.

### (C) MEMBERS, THEIR DUTIES AND THEIR RIGHTS:-

1. Membership shall be open to all youth and students organizations in Botswana as well as to organizations of Botswana Youth and Students wherever these organizations may be in countries and places other than Botswana provided that the organizations accept and carry out the aims and objectives as well as the rules and regulations of the Federation and pay membership dues.



2. Membership shall be open also to individuals provided that they are members of one or other youth or students organization, they accept the aims and objectives of the Federation, abide the rules and regulations and pay their dues regularly in accepted currency or in kind.

It is the duty of a member:-

- (a) To put decisions of the Federation firmly into practice, to explain the objects, aims and policies of the Federation to the masses, to strengthen the ties between the Federation and the people, to be considerate and attentive to the needs of the people and to respond promptly to the requirements of the people.
- (b) To take an active part in the socio-economic life of the country.
- (c) To set an example in patriotic altruism and sacrifice and to give public interests precedence over personal interests.
- (d) To protect vigorously the unity of the Federation organizational unity in orientation, to safeguard the Federation against the infiltration of unworthy people, to displant vigilance and guard the secrets of the Federation.
- (e) To implement without hesitation the policies and decisions of the Federation and to be uncompromising whenever the principles, objectives, aims, policies and regulations of the Federation are infringed.
- (f) To observe discipline as regards himself and other members without exception or regard to their positions.

A member of the Federation has the right:-

- (a) To elect and be elected to the different bodies of the Federation.
- (b) To discuss freely questions of the policies and activities of the Federation at meetings, conferences and contresses, at committes and in the press of the Federation, to table motions, to express openly and uphold his opinions as long as the Federation has not adopted a decision.
- (c) To critisize any other member irrespective of the position the other member holds, provided that such criticism is addressed to the individual in person, or at meetings, conferences or congresses. All those who hinder criticism shall be liable to a penalty which may invite expulsion.
- (d) To address any question, statement or proposal to any branch or organ of the Federation including the Central Committee of the Federation and to demand an answer on the topic of his address. Any Botswana youth from the age of 10 may become a member. Members between the ages of 10 and 15 form the pioneer group and shall be entitled to full membership of the Federation on recommendation and merit at the age of 16.
- (d) If a member fails to pay membership dues for 3 months in succession without sufficient reason the matter shall be discussed by the primary organization. If it shall be revealed, as a result, that the member in question has virtually lost contact with the Federation, he shall be regarded as having ceased to be a member. The primary organization shall pass a decision and submit it to the higher organ of the Federation for endorsement.



(f) A member who fails to fulfil his duties as laid down in the rules or commit other offences, shall be called to account and may be subjected to the penalty of admonition, reprimanded with endorsement on the registration card. The highest penalty shall be expulsion.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- 1) All Organs of the Federation from the lowest to the highest shall be elected under normal conditions, under conditions of stress, members may be nominated or appointed.
- 2) Lower organs of the Federation shall make reports to higher organs.
- 3) Minority shall be subbording to the majority.
- 4) Decisions of higher organs shall be binding to lower organs.
- 5) All organs shall be autonomous in the decisions of local questions, unless their decisions conflict with the decisions of the Federation.
- 6) The highest body of the organ is the general meeting in case of primary organs, conference in the case of district, village, area or region, congress in the case of the Federation of Botswana Youth Federation.
- 7) The general meeting, conference or congress, elect a bureau or committee which acts as its executive body and directs all current work in the meeting, conference or congress.
- 8) The election of all the organs of the Federation shall be by secret ballot. A candidate shall be considered elected if more than half of those attending the meeting, conference or congress voted for him.
- 9) Supreme organs of the Federation shall be the congress of the Botswana Youth Federation. Congress shall be convened once in three years. The convocation of congress and its agenda shall be announced four (4) weeks before the congress.
- 10) Extraordinary congresses shall be convened by the Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation on its own initiative or on the demand of not less than one third of the total membership. A congress shall be considered properly constituted if not less than half the total delegate membership is represented. Should the Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation fail to convene an extra-ordinary congress within 2 months of the demand, the organization which demanded its convocation shall have power to form an organising committee which shall enjoy the powers of the Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation in respect of the convocation.
- 11) (a) The congress shall here reports of the Central Committee, the central control commission and other progress central organs.  
(b) Review,, amend and endorse the programme and the rules and regulations of the Botswana Youth Federation.  
(c) Determine the line of the Federation in matters of home and foreign policy and examine and decide the most important questions of policy both long term and short term.  
(d) Elect the central committee and the central control commission.



(e) The number of members to be elected to the Central Committee, the Central Control commission, shall be determined by the congress.

(f) Between congresses, the Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation directs the activities of the Federation, the local bodies select and appoints leading functionaries, sets up new organs where necessary and appoints the editors of the central newspapers and journals operating under its control, distributes the funds of the Federation budget and controls its execution.

(g) The Central Committee shall keep all organizations of the Federation regularly informed of its work. The Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation shall represent the Federation in its relation with other organizations both in Botswana and in other countries and places.

(h) The Central Control Commission shall hold not less than one plenary meeting every six months.

(j) The Central Committee of the Botswana Youth Federation shall elect a presidium to direct the work of the Central Committee between plenary meetings.

#### REGIONAL, DISTRICT, CITY AND VILLAGE ORGANIZATIONS

The different tribal territories, state lands etc. shall be called regions. The regional, district, city, village and area organizations of the Federation shall conduct work to implement the policies of the Botswana Youth Federation within the regions, districts, cities villages and areas.

Their duties shall include:-

- 1) Organization and mobilization of the masses in line with the directives, policies etc. of the Federation especially in cultural and educational fields.
- 2) Guidance of local pioneer groups.
- 3) Collect information and new material for the Press of the Federation.
- 4) Organize study groups and cultural activities.
- 5) The task group shall have its own internal regulations and rules.

#### OFFICE BEARERS OF THE B.Y.F.

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| (1) National Chairman (President.  |  |
| (2) Vice Chairman.   | (8) Secretary for Professional Education & Training of Cadres. |
| (3) Secretary General.   |  |
| (4) Secretary of the Central Commission.   | (9) Secretary for Publicity and Propaganda.                    |
| (5) Secretary for External Affairs.  | (10) Secretary for Pan-African Affairs.                        |
| (6) Secretary for Finance and Stores.  | (11) Secretary for Social Welfare.                             |
| (7) Secretary for National Affairs.  |  |
| (12) Secretary for Relations and Solidarity among different Communities which make up the Botswana Nation. |  |



STRUCTURE OF THE B.Y.F.

1. CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (President of B.Y.F.)
2. VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE (Vice President BYF)
3. THE SECRETARY GENERAL
4. SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.
5. SECRETARY FOR PAN-AFRICAN AFFAIRS.
6. SECRETARY FOR NATIONAL AFFAIRS.
7. SECRETARY FOR CADRES TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.
8. SECRETARY FOR INFORMATION, PUBLICITY, PROPAGANDA, CULTURE AND DOCUMENTATION.
9. SECRETARY OF THE CONTROL COMMISSION.
10. SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND STORES.

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- (1) THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:- All Secretaries and the Chairman plus others.
- (2) THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE:- Chairman of the Youth Federation, General Secretary, Secretary for External Affairs - the Secretariat.

External Affairs and Pan-African Affairs both make up the International Department of the Central Committee of the BYF. Information, publicity & Propaganda, Social Welfare and the Training of Cadres & Professional Education make up the Education Department of the Central Committee.

The Control Commission shall check up all work of the Central Committee, shall see to it that all talks and duties assigned and resolutions made are implemented, make reports and where necessary recommend merit or disciplinary action to either the Political Committee or the Central Committee.

The Federation can acquire, possess or dispose of property, sue or be sued in its own name.

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See duties or Job Description - BYF, which serves as a supplement to the constitution.



# CONSTITUTION OF THE BOTSWANA STUDENT COUNCIL

## PREAMBLE

The world over is witnessing an upsurge of actions and struggles being carried by progressive student movements and democratic and revolutionary forces. The world is witnessing a global struggle on the part of progressive student movement against Imperialism, Fascism, Feudalism, International monopoly, Capitalism, Colonialism, and Neo-colonialism and anti-popular dictatorships and other forms of exploitation of man by man.

Whereas there is growing politization of student masses around the globe; and whereas there is a global need for reforms and decratization of education;

And whereas it is common knowledge the progressive foces that capitalism and International monopoly capitalism as manifested by multinational corporations are the source of the threat to world peace; and whereas the progressive students in Botswana are a part of, and cannot be divorced from the struggles of world progressive student masses; and whereas the evils, aforementioned which the progressive students all over the world are soon to fight against, neccessarily and inevitably affect the progressive students, the democratic forces and broad masses of Botswana.

Now, therefore, it is resolved to establish Botswana Student Council, herein after referred to as a Council, which will be part of the global struggle against the evils aforementioned.

## ARTICLE 1

- (1) The Student Council is a student section of the Botswana Youth Federation.
- (ii) Botswana Youth Federation Constitution except article 5 is binding on the student council members.
- (iii) The Student Council pledges itself to fight for the right of the students in Botswana, for socio-economic feforms and democrati-  
zation of education and to organise students and pupils in all schools and educational institutions.

## ARTICLE 2

Other aims, objectives and activities of the Student Council are defined by the constitution of Botswana Youth Federation (see article 1 (ii))

## ARTICLE 3

- (1) The elections of the office bearers of student council will be held concurrently with those of Botswana Youth Federation.
  - (ii) With respect to elections of office bearers of student council will be the Presidium of the Botswana Student Council.
- 3 (a) The Presidium of the Student Council shall consist of the ;
- (a) President
  - (b) Secretary General
  - (c) Treasurer
  - (d) Secretary for External Affairs
  - (e) Student Council Representative Extra-Ordinary and Plenipotentiary (it)
  - (f) 2 members without portfolio



- 3 (ii) In the absence of the President, any office bearer can be nominated by the Presidium for specified or indefinite period to act as the President of the Presidium.. The 2 members without portfolios will be required to assist whenever their services are needed.
4. There will also be elected the central committee of Botswana Student Council which will be comprised of 2 members from each school and other educational institutions i.e. where the student council exists as a branch (see article 4)

#### ARTICLE 4

The Student Council will be deemed to exist as a branch if ten (10) or more students present themselves as adhering to the constitution of the student council.

#### ARTICLE 5

Application for membership shall be given careful consideration by the Presidium of the student council.



# THE CONSTITUTION OF THE BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT

## AIMS AND OBJECTS

- (1) To unite the different communities in Bechuanaland on the basis of full equality in order to struggle effectively for National Independence (as contrasted with nominal independence) and to build a United Botswana nation.
- (2) To arouse the political consciousness of the people so that they can seek solution to the problems facing Bechuanaland and the region in which Bechuanaland is only a part.
- (3) To serve the people in all possible fields and to make the people articulate with regard to their problems.
- (4) To mobilise the masses of all the communities in Botswana and make them an integral part of the national Liberation Movement in Africa for real independence and ~~Pan-African~~ *inter-territorial unity* Unity of the continent.

## ARTICLE 1

Any person can become a member of the Botswana National Front, who accepts the programme and constitution of the Front, belongs to and works in one of its organisations and observes its decisions, and pays membership dues.

## ARTICLE 2

The duties of a member shall be the following:-

- (a) To endeavour to raise the level of his consciousness and to understand the fundamental problems of the Liberation Movement in Africa, Asia and Latin America.
- (b) To observe the discipline of the Front, to participate actively in the political life of the Front and the nation, to carry out in practice, the policy and decisions of the Front and to fight against everything inside and outside the Front which is detrimental to the interest of the Front.
- (c) To serve the masses of the people to consolidate the connections of the Front with the people, to learn and to report in time the needs of the people and to explain to the people the policies of the Front.
- (d) To be exemplary in observing the discipline of the Front and mastering assigned tasks.

## ARTICLE 3

The right of member shall be the following:-

- (a) To participate in free and practical discussions of problems in the Front meetings and in the publications of the Front concerning the carrying out of the policies of the Front.



- (b) To elect and to be elected within the Front.
- (c) To submit proposals or statement to any organisations of the Front up to and including the Central Committee.
- (d) To criticize in meetings of the Front any functionary regardless of position or rank.

#### ARTICLE 4

An ordinary member who leaves another political party to join the Front shall become a full member only when he has been recommended by two full members who have supported the Front consistently from the very beginning, and after being accepted by the decision of a branch general membership meeting and approved.

#### ARTICLE 5

Each member who recommends a new member must supply the Front with truthful and responsible information concerning the character and the personal record of the applicant.

#### ARTICLE 6

The expulsion of a member of the Front shall be discussed and decided upon by a general membership meeting of the said member's branch. The decision shall become effective only upon approval by a higher committee.

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE FRONT

#### ARTICLE 7

- (a) The leading bodies of the Front at all levels must be elected.
- (b) The leading bodies at all levels must submit reports at fixed intervals to the lower organisations of the Front which elected them.
- (c) Each individual member shall submit to the decisions of the Front organisation to which he belongs. Minority shall submit to the majority, the lower Front organisations shall submit to the higher organisations of the Front and all constituent organisations of the Front shall submit to the Central Committee.
- (d) The discipline of the Front shall be strictly observed and the decisions of the Front carried out unconditionally.

#### ARTICLE 8

The organisational structure of the Front shall be as follows:-

- (a) For Botswana as a whole, there shall be the National Congress of the Front, the Central Committee and the National Conference of the Front.



- (b) For a province, or region there shall be the provincial, or regional congress provincial or regional conference.
- (c) For a city, there shall be a city congress, the city committee and the city conference.
- (d) For a sub-district in a city or in a rural district, there shall be the sub-district congress or the sub-district general membership meeting, the sub-district committee and the sub-district conference. For a factory, mine village enterprise, street, office or school, there shall be the general membership meeting, the branch committee and the branch conference.

#### ARTICLE 9

The highest leading body of a branch shall be the general membership meeting of the branch. The highest leading body of a sub-district, city, region, area, prince, shall be the Congress. The highest leading body of the whole Front shall be the National Congress.

During intervals between the Congresses at all levels, the Committees of the Front elected therefrom shall be the highest leading bodies of the Front organisations of the corresponding levels.

#### ARTICLE 10

The leading bodies of the Front at all levels shall be established by the elective method wherever possible. They may be elected by a National Conference or appointed by a higher organisation only when circumstances do not permit the calling of a general meeting or National Congress.

#### ARTICLE 11

The election of a committee at any level shall be conducted either, by secret ballot or by open vote from a list of candidates with a guarantee that the voters shall have the right to criticize any candidate and to change any candidate on the list.

#### ARTICLE 12

In order to transmit or to discuss important decisions of a higher organisation of the Front, or in order to review or to plan its work, an organisation of the Front at any level may hold various kinds of meetings of its cadres or of its active elements.

#### ARTICLE 13

Before the decisions are reached, every member of the Front may carry on within the Front, and in meetings of the Front, free and practical discussions to express his views on policy and various issues. When a decision is reached it must be abided by and carried out unconditionally.



#### ARTICLE 14

The leading bodies of the organisation of the Front at all levels shall carry on their work in accordance with the principle of democracy in order to promote individual initiative and the creative power of members, to ensure correct leadership.

#### ARTICLE 15

In order to ensure that inner party democracy shall proceed along lines beneficial to the Front and to the cause of the masses, instead of weakening the fighting will or the fighting solidarity in time of emergency, or being utilized by possible saboteurs, anti-national elements, or factionalists to damage or split the Front or allowing a handful of persons to take advantage for selfish ends of temporary unpreparedness of the overwhelming majority in the Front, the following conditions shall be required for any extensive and all inclusive review of or discussion on the policy of the Front of a local scope as the case may be:-

- (a) Time must so permit i.e. the objective conditions must not be a state of emergency;
- (b) It must be so decided by the Central Committee of the Front or by the local leading body;
- (c) Such action must be so proposed by a majority of the lower organisations or by a higher organisation of the Front.

#### ARTICLE 16

Organisations of the Front at all levels shall ensure that newspapers under their guidance popularise the decisions and policies of their higher organisations and of the Central organs of the Front.

#### ARTICLE 17

On question of a national character, before the Central Committee has made any statement or decision departmental or lower organisations or their responsible personnel shall not issue any statement or reviews, although they may engage in private discussions or make suggestions to the Central Committee. As to local issue, a local committee or organisation shall have the power to make independent decisions, provided that such decisions do not conflict with the decisions of the higher organisation of the Front or of the Central Committee.

#### ARTICLE 18

A newly established organisation of the Front shall secure the approval of the higher organisation of the Front to which it belongs or of the Central Committee.

#### ARTICLE 19

To facilitate the direction of the work of provincial and regional organisations of the Front, the Central Committee may, according to the



needs of the circumstances establish central bureaux, each of which shall have jurisdiction over several provinces. The said bureaux shall be appointed by the Central Committee and shall be held responsible to it. Any of the said bureaux may be abolished or merged with any other(s) when its continued existence become unnecessary.

#### ARTICLE 20

In order to carry on various kinds of practical work, a committee of the Front at any level may, set up departments or commissions to take charge of the affairs of the Front, propaganda, and education, economic affairs and mass work as the situation may require. A committee at any level may establish temporary commissions or departments to carry out temporary special lines of work.

### THE CENTRAL ORGANISATION OF THE BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT

#### ARTICLE 21

The national congress shall be decided upon and convened by the central committee. Under ordinary conditions, it shall be convened once in every three years. Under extra-ordinary conditions, it may be either postponed or convened earlier as the central committee may decide.

If lower organisations of the Front representing more than  $(\frac{1}{2})$  half of the total membership request that a national congress be convened, the Central Committee shall work accordingly.

A national congress shall be regarded as valid only if it is attended by delegates representing over half of the total membership of the Front.

The number of delegates to the national congress and the procedure governing their elections shall be determined by the central committee.

#### ARTICLE 22

The functions and powers of the national congress shall be as follows:-

- (a) To hear and receive, discuss and ratify the reports submitted by the central committee and other central organs.
- (b) To decide upon and amend the programme of the Front and the Constitution.
- (c) To determine the basic orientation and policy of the Front.
- (d) To elect the Central Committee.

#### ARTICLE 23

The number of the members of the central committee shall be determined by the national congress and the members of the central committee shall be elected by the national congress.



When vacancies occur in the Central Committee, they shall be filled by alternate members of the Central Committee.

#### ARTICLE 24

The Central Committee shall represent the Front in its relations with other political parties and organisations, set up organs of the Front and direct their activities and take charge of the distributions of the personnel of the Front and the funds.

#### ARTICLE 25

The Central Committee shall be summoned to meet in plenary session once every half year by the Central Political Committee. However, the Central Political Committee may postpone or call the session earlier according to circumstances. Alternate members of the Central Committee may attend the plenary session and have the right to state their opinion.

#### ARTICLE 26

The Central Committee shall elect in plenary session, the Central Political Committee, the Central Secretariat and the Chairman of the Central Committee.

The Central Political Committee shall be the Central Leading Body of the Front. The Central Secretariat shall attend to the daily work of the Central Committee, according to the decisions of the Central Political Committee. The Chairman of the Central Committee shall be concurrently the Chairman of the Central Political Committee and the Chairman of the Central Secretariat. The Central Committee shall according to the needs of its work, set up departments e.g. organisations, propaganda, departments, and commissions e.g. press commission, national affairs commission etc. and other organs to function in their respective fields under the direction and supervision of the Central Political Committee, the Central Secretariat and the Chairman of the Central Committee.

#### ARTICLE 27

During the intervals between the national congresses, the Central Committee may convene a number of national conferences composed of the representatives from lower committees of the Front, to discuss and decide on questions related to the policy of the Front in the current situation.

#### ARTICLE 28

The representatives to national conferences shall be elected at plenary sessions of provincial committees and other committees directly under the Central Committee. The number of the representatives shall be determined by the Central Committee.

National conferences must be attended by representatives from more than half of the total number of provincial or regional committees throughout the country.



ARTICLE 29

National conferences of the Front shall have powers to remove full or alternate members of the Central Committee who are incapable of discharging their duties, and to elect in by elections, part of the alternate members of the Central Committee provided that the number of full and full members so removed or the number of the alternate members so elected shall not at any one conference exceed one fifth of the total number of both full and alternate members of the Central Committee.

ARTICLE 30

Decisions taken at national conference and the removal and election of full or alternate member(s) of the Central Committee by the conference shall take effect only upon ratification by the Central Committee.

All decisions of the national conferences ratified by the Central Committee shall be carried out by the organisations of the Front.

THE PROVINCIAL AND REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT

ARTICLE 31

A provincial congress and a provincial committee shall submit to the leadership of the Central Committee or its representative body.

ARTICLE 32

The congress of a province shall be convened once in every two years by the provincial committee of the National Front. Under extraordinary conditions the provincial committee may either postpone or convene the congress earlier. A provincial committee must convene such a congress at the request of more than one half of its subordinate organisations or on the proposal of the Central Committee or its representative body.

The number of delegates to a provincial congress and the methods of their election shall be determined by the provincial committee subject to the approval of the Central Committee, or its representative body.

ARTICLE 33

The provincial congress shall hear and receive, discuss and ratify the reports submitted by the provincial committee and other organs of the said province discuss and decide on questions and various kinds of work pertaining to the province and elect the members of the provincial committee and delegates to the national congress.

ARTICLE 34

The provincial committee of the Front shall elect in plenary session its Standing Committee and its secretary and assistant secretary



to carry on the daily work. The Secretary of a provincial committee and the members of the Standing Committee shall be approved by the Central Committee. The secretary shall be a member who has supported the Front consistently for a period to be determined.

The provincial committee shall meet in plenary session at least twice a year.

#### ARTICLE 35

A provincial committee shall carry out within its province and the decisions of the provincial congress and of the central organs, set up various organisations, allocate personnel and the funds and direct the work of the members of the Front in the non-Front organisation.

#### ARTICLE 36

During the intervals between provincial congresses a provincial committee may convene a number of provincial conferences composed of representatives from the region and country committees and other committees directly under it, to discuss and decide on problems concerning the work within the province.

A provincial conference shall have the power to remove and elect, in by-elections part of the members of the provincial committee provided the number of the members removed or the new members thus elected shall not exceed one fourth of the total number of the said committee.

#### ARTICLE 37

The decisions taken at the provincial conference and the removal and the election of members of the provincial committee by the said conference shall take effect only upon ratification by the provincial committee.

### THE REGION, CITY, DISTRICT AND SUB-DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS OF THE FRONT

#### ARTICLE 38

The regulations governing the organisation and work of the Front for a region, country, city, district and sub-district shall be the same as those governing the organisation and work of the Front for a province. Each shall be under the leadership of its superior Front organisation.

#### ARTICLE 39

Region, city district congresses of the Front shall be convened once in every two years. During the intervals between such congresses, a number of conferences of the Front may be held.



#### ARTICLE 40

A regional committee shall meet in plenary session at least four times a year. A city or district or sub-district committee shall meet in plenary session at least once a month. The member, the secretary and the assistant secretary of a region, city, district or sub-district committee shall be approved by their respective higher organisations of the Front. The secretary of a region, city committee shall be a member of a long standing. In areas newly won over to the Front.

#### THE BASIC ORGANISATION OF THE FRONT

#### ARTICLE 41

The basic organisation of the Front shall be the branch. In any factory, mine, village enterprise, street, office or school, etc. where there are three or more members of the Front a branch shall be organised. If there are fewer than three members, the said members shall join the nearest branch of the Front. The organisation of a branch shall be approved by a city or district committee. Wherever the membership is comparatively large, groups may be formed under the branch committee according to natural, residential or working conditions.

In a village with 50 or more members of the Front, in a factory, office, school, hospital etc. with 100 or more members, a general branch of the Front may be formed. Under the general branch of the Front there shall be sub-branches of the Front, organised on the bases of places of residence, shops, departments or classes in a school. A sub-branch shall enjoy the same status as an ordinary branch of the Front.

#### ARTICLE 42

A town, factory, office, school or hospital with 500 or more members may elect a committee with the approval of the provincial committee. Under such an elected committee, branches shall be organised on the bases of places of residence, shops, departments etc.

#### ARTICLE 43

A branch shall strive to bring a close unity between the Front and the masses of the people.

The duties of the branch shall be the following:-

- a) To carry on propaganda and organisational work among the masses in order to realise the standpoint advocated by the Front and the decisions of the higher organisations of the Front.
- b) To pay constant attention to the sentiments and demands to the higher organisations of the Front, to pay heed to the political, economic and cultural life of the people and to organise the masses to solve their own problems.



- c) To recruit new members, to collect membership dues, to check and verify the records of members and enforce the discipline of the Front among the members.
- d) To educate the members and organise their studies.

#### ARTICLE 44

The membership meeting of the branch shall elect a branch committee to carry on the daily work. The term of office of the committee shall be from six months to one year. The number of members of a branch committee shall be determined according to the size of the branch - from a minimum of three to a maximum of eleven. The committee shall elect a secretary and when necessary an assistant secretary. Division of labour among the other committee members shall be arranged by the committee according to the actual needs.

A branch with less than eleven members shall elect only a secretary or a secretary and an assistant secretary and shall not form a branch committee.

#### ARTICLE 45

The central committee of the Front shall set up a central control commissions, and other lower central commissions when it deems such to be necessary.

The Central Control Commission shall be elected by the Central Committee in plenary session. The Control Commission of a lower organisation shall be elected by the said lower committee in plenary session and shall be submitted to its superior organisation for approval.

The Central Commission shall:- check on the implementation of all decisions taken by all committees, check on the execution of functions and tasks assigned, check on the handling and use of funds, check on observation of discipline and the education of the cadres etc. and impose or recommend disciplinary measures or recommend merits.

#### PROVINCES

For organisational purposes, each tribal reserve shall be called a province, i.e. Bakgatla, Bakwena, Batlokwa, etc. but the Banangwato Reserve shall be divided into a number of provinces, e.g. Bakalaka.

### POLICIES OF THE BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT

#### THE ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT

What then is the economic policy of the Botswana National Front? Here we have to call to our minds once again the questions:- What is the nature of our struggle? Are we struggling for socialism or capitalism or for something else? We have already answered these questions but we need to emphasise once again that we cannot discuss our economic policy seriously unless and until we have to state our goals. We must state without any



BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (B.Y.F.)  
(Botswana National Front Youth League)  
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_  
FIRST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_  
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
BUSINESS ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_  
PLACE AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH .....  
TRIBE .....  
OCCUPATION/PROFESSION .....  
DATE .....

SIGNATURE - - - - -

DECLARATION OF APPLICANT  
+++++

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that  
the above particulars are correct to my knowledge. I pledge to  
abide by the rules and regulations of the Federation as stated in  
the CONSTITUTION, at all times.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MEMBERSHIP AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE ISSUED: \_\_\_\_\_  
ISSUING OFFICIAL \_\_\_\_\_  
BRANCH SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_  
BRANCH : \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_



BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION (B. Y. F.)

Botswana National Front Youth Wing (BNF)

PARTICULARS FORM  
\*\*\*\*\*

FORENAMES (in full) \_\_\_\_\_ SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

DATE OF BIRTH (day/month/year) \_\_\_\_\_ SEX Male/Female  
\*\*\*\*\*

PLACE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ TRIBE \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONALITY \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE OR MARRIED \_\_\_\_\_

RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION \_\_\_\_\_

ANY OTHER QUALIFICATIONS \_\_\_\_\_

PRESENT OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_

CAREER AMBITIONS 1st Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

2nd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Choice \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT OR GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

POLITICAL AFFILIATION OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION IN YOUR BYF BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION IN CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR NATIONAL EXECUTIVE (BYF) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Certified By BOTSWANA YOUTH FEDERATION SECRETARY GENERAL

BYF STAMP  
\*\*\*\*\*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_