

# **INDEPENDENT CITIZENS MOVEMENT (ICM) - CONSTITUTION**

## **A.PREAMBLE**

The Independent Citizen Movement (ICM) is a non-partisan, patriotic and humanist movement that focuses on the advancement and reconstruction of the nation by promoting national unity, pride and service. The movement advocates for a clear national vision to be backed by the action of national leaders and devoted citizens. It is a movement that mainly focuses on the needs of all South Africans despite race, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and social class.

ICM is a movement based on the philosophy that all citizens of the country have the ability to make a beneficial contribution to the nation and because of this the movement expects all citizens to work together for the betterment of their country. The movement focuses on the everyday tasks citizens can undertake in order to serve their country and their fellow countrymen. It highlights community has a key pillar in the development of the country. The ICM does not appeal to a certain demographic but to everyone who strives for a better economical, political, and social country.

The ICM is a call to action and uses the power of diversity to propel South Africa into a truly united nation. it is not a movement aimed at only some South Africans and so it will be targeted to all, black and white, young and old, religious and non-believers.

## **B.FOUNDING STATEMENT**

- The party believes that building a brand and reputation of a Country is the responsibility of all its citizens. A country's brand and its reputation are its wealth.
- There is the South Africa of tomorrow, one that carries hope and a bright future but its prospects are determined by how we navigate the challenges of today's South Africa while at the same time resolving the historical injustices of yesterday's South Africa.
- We therefore have a collective responsibility as citizens to ensure we preserve the brand of our country by being good and devoted citizens.
- We must change ourselves first before we see the change we desire in our homes, in our schools, hospitals, public sector and certainly the private sector.
- We believe being a devoted citizen is the art of being human. We need to find workable and reasonable solutions that are a win-win for all South Africans and Africa as a whole.

- An independent and devoted citizen identifies a space in the challenging situation of their country and looks for roles they can play a part in, thereby changing a negative situation or narrative into a positive one. Just like the sons of Issachar in the Bible, we have to understand the times and know what South Africa ought to do.
- The combined skills of over 58 million citizens can surely transform the fortunes of our country for the better, if we each identify our purpose and maximise the use of our gifts.
- If we are not satisfied with the performance of the politicians we voted for, we have the power as independent and devoted citizens to next time vote for better leaders. Voting is active participation in issues of national interest and a very effective way of finding solutions to national problems, but has to be done responsibly. If voting is your responsibility, not voting renders you irresponsible.
- South Africa is desperately crying out for true leaders with a heart and integrity to raise their hands and step up in politics, organisations, businesses and churches. We believe that from the ashes of despair, a beautiful nation will arise.

### **C.THE PARTY REPRESENTS:**

- A movement by all citizens regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, language, religion or belief to step up in positively impacting the fortunes of our country by just being devoted to it, its people and above all its brand.
- A movement built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ as the cornerstone in whom the entire building grows into a holy temple in the Lord. We subscribe to Christian values and norms, following the mandate of the Body of Christ as given by Jesus in The Great Commission.
- A spirit of servanthood, engulfed by selflessness, commitment, devotion, being dependable and staying the course.
- Living with integrity and making a concerted effort to be peaceful and loving citizens, whether at home, at work or play by dedicating ourselves to being the best we can be wherever we are.
- An urgent need for men and women who will not abuse and take the influence they have in their families, communities, profession, business, politics and religion lightly by being devoted leaders.
- A refusal to the status quo, we don't accept unethical leadership, poverty, high unemployment rate, women abuse, drug abuse, low economic growth, crime, gender

based violence, corruption and all societal ills we confronted with. We refuse what we are not, to become who we want to be.

- Leaving a legacy for generations to come by raising an army of independent Devoted Citizens that will make conscious decision to build South Africa against all odds.
- Treating of people as invaluable because people matter to God.

## ARTICLE 1 - **NAME**

- 1.The name of the organization is the **INDEPENDENT CITIZENS MOVEMENT**, herewith referred to as the ICM.

## ARTICLE 2 - **LOGO AND COLOUR**

2.1The ICM Logo uses South African flag colours in the shape of a human head, representing individuality and yet togetherness (Ubuntu). South Africa boasts one of the most colourful flags in the world which symbolises our diversity. The green of the flag symbolises the fertility of the land. The ICM strives not only for coexistence but common values, goals and synergy between all citizens. The gold represents the mineral wealth of the country. The red symbolises the violence of our past which we must remember if the country is to progress with purpose. The blue represents the future which holds endless possibilities for our country. The national flag was the focus of the logo to reinforce the values of the country and reflect the ICM's goals in catering a South Africa that serves all her people. The puzzle pieces represent the independent thinking in the people of the country but working as a collective to attain common interests.

## ARTICLE 3 - **PURPOSE**

*The aims and objectives of the ICM are:*

1. To initiate a movement of people who have chosen to care. This is a movement of people who have chosen to try. A movement of people who have chosen to stay. A movement of people who have chosen to dream, to believe and to hope that a prosperous South Africa is possible.
2. To unite all South Africans towards a national vision of a prosperous South Africa for all that live in it.
3. To embrace a National vision despite race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality or social class.
4. To move past the atrocities of the past and emerge united in mutual, national purpose.
5. To keep a sustainable and clean environment.
6. To create a nation marked by excellence and integrity.
7. To reduce and ultimately diminish crime, corruption and violence.
8. Protect the defenseless, weak and vulnerable.

## ARTICLE 4 - **MEMBERSHIP**

### *ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERS*

Membership of the Party shall be open to all persons who:

1. Have attained the legally acceptable age;
2. Subscribe to the Constitution of the Party;
3. Have signed the Membership Application form;
4. Have paid the annual membership fee as determined by the National Stewards Committee;
5. Agree to be bound by the Party's procedures and to be subject to the authority of the party
6. Do not belong to any other political parties or organizations, as defined by the rules or by- laws of the Party.
7. A member may resign from the party by handing in a written resignation to his/her immediate chairman. Such resignation will have immediate effect, but will not interrupt any processes in terms of clause 7, including dispute resolution in terms of the rules.

### VALIDATION AND RENEWAL

1. New membership may, upon recommendation by the Branch Stewards Committee, be granted by the Regional Stewards Committee (RSC) or where no Regional Stewards Committee is in place, by the Provincial Stewards Committee (PSC).
2. Membership fees are, where applicable, payable annually from 1 January to 31 December and audited on or before the first of March of the preceding financial year of the Party.

## ARTICLE 5 - **DUTIES OF MEMBERS**

### *Duties of Members*

*Members of the ICM are accordingly expected to:*

1. Put aside differences and strive not only for individual goals but for a national vision that empowers all South African citizens.
2. Focus on the Party's constitution and reasons of existence.
3. Refrain from playing politics thereby judging and criticizing other parties.
4. Have the spirit of Ubuntu and Servanthood.
5. Act ethically and with highest level of integrity.
6. Actively participate in matters of national concern.
7. Know their rights and associated responsibilities.
8. Know the power of their vote and use it responsibly.
9. Obey and upholds the law.
10. Make positive contributions to their family, community and country.
11. Keep a sustainable and clean environment.
12. Preserve our country, its infrastructure and the planet.
13. Accelerate the prosperity of the country.
14. Use their time, skills and resources for the benefit of the country and leave a legacy.

15. Not participate in or be an accomplice to any form of crime, corruption or violence.
16. Care for the people and Protect the defenseless, weak and vulnerable.
17. Preserve their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing so they may remain useful to their communities.
18. Love and pray for their country and all who live in it.
19. Be a proud and devoted citizen of South Africa.

## ARTICLE 6 - **RIGHTS OF MEMBERS**

### *Rights of Members*

*Every member has a right :*

1. To vote or be voted for in any office of the ICM in accordance with the rules and regulations of the movement.
2. To participate in meetings and all other activities of the movement unless otherwise dictated by the constitution or applicable regulations.

## ARTICLE 7 – **ICM STRUCTURES**

*The ICM will have the following structures:*

1. The Party's top six (President, Deputy President, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, National Chairperson and Treasurer General) shall appoint the Overseers, a group of elders who are revered and have good standing in the community.
2. The Overseers made up of at least 3-5 people who are not necessarily party members shall be constituted at all levels to monitor the conduct and integrity of the movement and its following leadership structures.
3. National General Assembly (NGA) elects the National Stewards Committee
4. Provincial General Assembly (PGA) elects the Provincial Stewards Committee
5. Regional General Assembly (RGA) elects the Regional Stewards Committee
6. Branch General Assembly (BGA) elects the Branch Stewards Committee

## ARTICLE 8 - **NATIONAL**

1. The National General Assembly (NGA) is the highest decision making and supreme policy making body of the ICM and shall be constituted by branch delegates elected by the BGAs in good standing proportional to their membership.
2. The NGA which will be held every five years will be responsible for the election of the President, Deputy President, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, National Chairperson, Treasurer General and 30 additional members to the National Stewards Committee (NSC).
3. The NGA will further be responsible for the following:
  - a. Ratification and/or amendment of the Policy in line with Party principles.

- b. Vote on resolutions from the branches
  - c. Determine Annual Fees
  - d. Appoint Auditors
- 4. All the NSC members, Provincial Chairpersons and Secretaries shall serve as ex-officio members of the NSC.
- 5. The NSC will be the highest organ of the ICM responsible for overall direction and supervision of all structures, including but not limited to carrying out the decisions of the NGA.
- 6. The NGA shall after adopting the credentials, program and rules of engagement, receive reports on the state of the organisation, including but not limited to reports from the President, Secretary General and financial report from the Treasurer General for consideration.
- 7. The NGA shall adopt people's declaration and translate that into its constitution, policies and program of action.
- 8. The NSC shall meet on a quarterly basis and will have a right to invite anyone to provide guidance as and when required.
- 9. The National Chairperson will chair and preside over the NGA and any other general meetings.
- 10. The NSC shall elect nine members of the NSC from representing each Province, who together with the President, Deputy President, Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, National Chairperson and the Treasurer General will constitute the working committee for the day-to-day running of the ICM.
- 11. The NGA rules and procedures to be followed shall be determined by the NSC and circulated not less than 60 days prior to the meeting to be adopted on the date of the meeting.

## **ARTICLE 9 - PROVINCIAL**

- 1. Each Province shall hold a Provincial General Assembly once every four years to receive reports on the state of the organisation, including but not limited to reports from the chairperson, secretary and financial one from the treasurer. The Provinces shall be aligned with the country's demarcation in terms of boundaries.
- 2. The Provincial General Assembly shall elect the Provincial Stewards Committee (PSC) comprising of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 15 members in good standing.
- 3. The PSC which will include the Provincial Chairpersons and Secretaries of both Victorious Women's League (VWs) and The Youth League (IYL) as ex-officio members shall meet on a bi-monthly basis and be responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation.
- 4. All the Regional Chairpersons and Secretaries shall serve as ex-officio members of the PSC.
- 5. The PSC shall amongst others be responsible for the following:
  - a. Promote and implement the decisions of the NGA and the NSC.

- b. Interpret and carry out movement's Policies and Programmes at a Provincial level.
  - c. Ensure regional and branch structures functions optimally, democratically and within the constitution of the movement.
  - d. Carry out decisions and resolutions of the PGA.
- 6. The PSC will determine in line with the national guidelines the rules and procedures for the PGA.

## ARTICLE 10 - **REGIONAL**

1. The PSC in consultation with the NSC will establish regions in their respective Provinces in accordance with the country's demarcation.
2. The Regional General Assembly meeting for all members nominated by their branches shall be convened once every three years to receive reports on the state of the organisation, including but not limited to a report from the chairperson, secretary and financial report from the treasurer.
3. The Regional General Assembly shall elect the Regional Stewards Committee (RSC) comprising of Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 10 members in good standing.
4. The RSC which will include the Regional Chairpersons and Secretaries of both Victorious Women's League and Incorruptible Youth League as ex-officio members shall meet once a month and be responsible for the day-to-day running of the organisation.
5. The RSC will be responsible for the following:
  - a. To coordinate the work and activities of the branches and account to the PSC for its functioning.
  - b. To ensure implementation of resolutions and decisions of the PSC and NSC.
  - c. To participate in the programmes of the PSC.
  - d. To maintain effective links with and among all the branches.
6. The RSC will determine in line with the national and provincial guidelines the rules and procedures for the RGA.

## ARTICLE 11 - **BRANCHES**

1. Every member of the ICM shall belong to a branch, which will hold regular meetings in a form of Branch General Meetings (BGMs) convened on a bi-weekly basis. Each branch will consist of at least 100 members who will elect the Branch Stewards Committee (BSC) every two years.
2. The BSC shall be made up of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer and not more than 5 members in good standing.
3. The Branch Chairpersons and Secretaries of both Victorious Women's League and Incorruptible Youth League shall serve as ex-officio members of the Branch Steward Committee.

4. The Branch General Assembly meeting for all members belonging to the branch shall be convened in a quarterly basis to receive reports on the state of the movement, including but not limited to a report from the chairperson, secretary and financial report from the treasurer.
5. The BSC shall amongst other be responsible for the following:
  - a. To ensure regular meetings (at least fortnightly) are held to conduct the day to day activities of the movement and submit reports to the RSC.
  - b. To implement policies and programs of the movement.
  - c. To recruit and encourage members of the public to join the movement.
  - d. To be the face and true ambassadors on the movement.
  - e. To encourage communities to establish their own local committees.
6. The BSC will determine in line with the national, provincial and regional guidelines the rules and procedures for the BGA.

#### **ARTICLE 12 – HEAD OFFICE**

1. The Head Office of the ICM will be determined by the NSC.

#### **ARTICLE 13 - PRESIDENTIAL POWERS**

1. The President and the Deputy President, deputising for him/her shall together constitute the presidency which will take responsibility for the overall direction and leadership of the organisation.
2. The President shall make pronouncements for and on behalf of the ICM on all matters including policy decisions.
3. The Deputy President will automatically resume the responsibility of acting in the absence of the President.

#### **ARTICLE 14 – WOMEN’S LEAGUE AND YOUTH LEAGUE**

1. The Women’s League and the Youth League (14 – 35 years) shall be the women and youth wing of the ICM respectively with their governing principles aligned with the constitution, policies, procedures and resolutions of the ICM.
2. These Leagues will be responsible for the formulation and adoption of their constitutions.

#### **ARTICLE 15 - FINANCE**

1. The Treasurer General who shall also be a fulltime official based at the Head Office will be responsible for all assets and financial matters of the ICM including fund raising activities.
2. TG will also be responsible for the annual financial statements and compliance with the country’s financial legislative framework.

## ARTICLE 16 - **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. The Secretary General assisted by the Deputy Secretary shall be based on a full time basis at the Head Office of the ICM to ensure all decisions of the organisation are internalised by all the structures of the organisation and its members.
2. The SG will administer all communications and correspondences of the NSC and the PSCs, including sending out all meeting notices, whilst the DSG will assume the responsibility for the general administration and staff of the ICM.

## ARTICLE 17 – **DISCIPLINE**

**D.**All members must abide by the Constitution, Principles, Code of Conduct and Declaration of the movement as well as Policies and Decisions of the ICM. Failure to this, disciplinary procedures against the member shall be instituted in line with the Disciplinary Policy as adopted by the movement.

## ARTICLE 18 - **OUR DECLARATION**

*Each and every member of the ICM shall make the following solemn declaration:*

1. I am a devoted citizen of my country.
2. I am here for a purpose and to occupy the space.
3. I am here to make a positive contribution to my family, my community and my country.
4. I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to authority.
5. I will make informed and wise everyday choices.
6. I will actively participate in matters of national concern.
7. I will keep a sustainable and clean environment.
8. I will preserve my country and my planet.
9. I am full of creativity, capability and determination.
10. I will accelerate the prosperity of my country.
11. I will efficiently use my time, skills and resources for the benefit of my nation.
12. My life is marked by excellence and integrity.

13. I will not be an accomplice to any form of crime, corruption and violence.

14. I will protect the defenceless, weak and vulnerable.

15. I will preserve my physical, mental and emotional wellbeing for my benefit and that of others.

16. I will love and pray for my country, its leaders and all who live in it.

17. I am being released into the world to leave a legacy.

**I AM A PROUD AND INDEPENDENT CITIZEN OF SOUTH AFRICA.**

Adopted by the Independent Citizen Movement National General Assembly of 13 April 2021.

Signed by:

.....  
Chairperson

.....  
National Coordinator