



**We Can
Do Better.**

INTERIM CONSTITUTION

1) NAME

The name of the organisation is CITIZANS.

2) PREAMBLE

CITIZANS is primarily a civic reform movement aimed at agitating for achievement of the following in South Africa:

- a) Growing civic activism;
- b) Improving quality of political debates;
- c) Transformative socio-political policies;
- d) High quality leadership;
- e) Improving policy implementation;
- f) Professional public service; and
- g) High level of voter education and participation.

3) SHARED ASPIRATIONS AND SHARED VALUES

Our shared aspirations are:

- A safe, fair, and prosperous society
- A beacon of courage and creativity to the world

Our shared values are:

- Accountability
- Transparency

4) MOVEMENT FOCUS

a) CITIZANS is primarily a civic activism movement that seeks to agitate for reform policies and improved governance.

b) We intend to pursue reforms we believe are in the interest of South African citizens at any point in time based on context, guided by our shared aspirations and shared values.

c) Such reforms should be backed by coherent implementation plans, executed by competent and credible leaders. We believe in much smaller political layer in governance, and more role played by professional public service.

d) We will lobby relevant stakeholders to effect necessary reforms.

e) Our political message will be primarily targeted at professional and their households and informal networks, regardless of political affiliation.

f) Any South African of voting age can apply or be nominated for a leadership role in the movement.

5) AFFILIATION WITH CITIZANS

a) Any person wishing to affiliate with CITIZANS' must:

- i) Be at least 16 years of age;
- ii) Be a South African Citizen or Permanent resident;

b) CITIZANS shall recognise four categories of affiliation, namely:

-Interested citizen:

- i) Is required to register with CITIZANS as interested citizen in order to receive selected information from the organisation and to give input and send queries to the organisation; and
- ii) May attend the organisation's activities and events on invitation.

-Volunteer:

- i) Is required to register with CITIZANS as volunteer based on specified qualifying criteria
- ii) Shall contribute to the work and objectives of CITIZANS within constitution of the organisation, guidelines and policies;
- iii) Shall be a registered voter;
- iv) Shall be bound by the CITIZANS' Code of Ethics;
- v) Shall be eligible to apply for any executive, support or representative role; and
- vi) Shall render their services on a voluntary basis and shall not be entitled to any remuneration.

- Coordinator:

- i) Shall be a volunteer of CITIZANS who acts in a formal capacity on behalf or in the employ of CITIZANS;
- ii) Shall be responsible for coordinating assigned CITIZANS activities within a scope communicated in writing by a duly authorised representative of CITIZANS

- iii) Shall be eligible to receive remuneration for their services. Eligibility and remuneration terms shall be communicated in writing by a duly authorised representative of CITIZANS

- Public Representative

- i) Any duly appointed represent the organisation in public forums and meets the qualifying criteria
 - ii) Shall be responsible for holding and positioning CITIZANS organisational line in parliament and any other public platform associated with the role
 - iv) Shall be eligible to receive remuneration for their services. Eligibility and remuneration terms shall be communicated in writing by a duly authorised representative of CITIZANS
- d) CITIZANS shall keep and maintain a database of personal information pertaining to registered volunteers, including but not limited to:
- i) Name;
 - ii) Surname;
 - iii) Identity Number;
 - iv) Contact Number;
 - v) Residential Address.
- e) The above-mentioned personal information shall be held and processed in accordance with the applicable Privacy Laws and with the strict, defined purpose of carrying out the business and activities of the CITIZANS.
- f) Affiliation with CITIZANS shall not attract any fee.

6) STATUS, LEGAL PERSONALITY AND POWERS

- a) The movement is a body corporate with perpetual succession and shall be capable of suing and being sued in its own name.

- b) The Lead National Coordinator may nominate a delegate to act on the movement's behalf in all litigation and take steps and do all things as he/she may deem necessary in this regard.
- c) The abovementioned authority may be delegated to any member of the movement or legal representative in writing.

7) CITIZANS FINAL CONSTITUTION FORUM

a) CITIZANS shall convene within 1 year of formation a meeting of the National Council, the purpose of which will be to develop the final Constitution.

b) The approval of the final Constitution shall be by simple majority vote by members of the National Council. In case of a tie, the approval will be determined by the Lead Coordinator's vote.

8) NATIONAL COUNCIL

a) The initial National Council shall comprise of the 3 founding directors as council members, with one of the 3 appointed as Lead National Coordinator.

b) The council shall at all times comprise of a minimum of 3 members. Any vacancy shall be filled within 6 months from date of vacancy.

c) Appointment to council is by nomination by any of the existing council members, and subject to majority support by the committee.

d) The National Coordination Council shall be the highest decision-making body of CITIZANS

e) The main functions of the council shall include but not be limited to:

- i) Approval of the strategy, policies and plans of the movement;
- ii) Appointment of national office bearers;
- iii) Approval of any representatives; and
- v) Approval of amendments to the Constitution.

9) Executive Management Team

a) The CITIZANS Executive Management shall include:

- i) The Lead National Coordinator;

- ii) Head of Campaigns and Public Relations; and
- iii) Head of Movement Operations
- vi) Any other role designated as National Office Bearer role by the National Council.

b) The executive management team is responsible for strategic management of the CITIZANS activities.

9) OPERATIONAL TEAM

a) The Operational Team of CITIZANS shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the juristic entity through which the activities of the organisations shall be managed.

b) The roles and positions constitutive of the Operational Team shall be appointed and filled at the sole discretion of the CITIZANS Head of Movement Operations.

c) Further to the above, the composition of the Operational Team may be varied from time to time, at the sole instance of the Head of Movement Operations.

10) DISCIPLINARY & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The National Coordination Council of CITIZANS shall determine and adopt the CITIZANS Code of Conduct which shall inform and guide the disciplinary procedures undertaken in the event that any volunteer or representative of CITIZANS contravenes any provision of the organisation's Constitution, the CITIZANS Code of Ethics or other relevant policies or legislation.

11) INTERNAL DEMOCRACY

a) Voting at meetings of all bodies of CITIZANS is by a show of hands or its equivalent in case of online or telephonic meeting, unless a secret ballot is required by the person presiding and assigned such role in writing by the National Coordination Council and for specific decisions.

b) Quorum for National Coordination Council shall be Lead National Coordinator or his/her representative, plus 2 members of the National Coordination Council or their representatives.

b) Decisions at all meetings are taken by a majority of members present and voting.

12) FINANCES & ASSETS

a) The Lead National Coordinator or through authority delegated in writing may:

- i) Open a bank account in the name of the movement and shall have designated signing powers on electronic and other bank documents;

- ii) Open the bank accounts required by the IEC and the legislatures where the movement is represented as required by their respective rules;
- iii) Receive monies on behalf of the movement; and
- vii) Make payments by electronic transfer on behalf of the movement.

13) AMENDMENTS

The interim constitution may be varied by the National Council pending the final constitution.