



DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

DPC

MANIFESTO

THE OPPORTUNITY WITH DPC ... YES WE CAN

PREAMBLE

We, members of the Democratic People's Congress (DPC), desirous to provide good governance, dividends of democracy, prosperity, security, unity, love and peaceful co-existence in the Country, approach the issue of this Manifesto with the greatest sense of responsibility as our covenant or social contract with the good people of Nigeria.

It is time to provide a strong, progressive and compassionate leadership that will redirect the ship of Nigeria State to the path of rectitude, development and advancement. Since power resides in the people, it is time for the citizenry to run the affairs of our great nation and chart a new course that will deepen, strengthen, bolster and consolidate our democratic process.

Since independence on 1st October 1960, past civilian and military governments have failed to harness the nation's abundant human and natural resources that would have set the nation on the path to growth, progress and prosperity. Often a cabal would hijack the affairs of the nation from an inept leadership and loot the national treasury and somewhat institutionalize corruption while the masses suffer.

It is time to move forward. It is time to harness our abundant human and natural resources and build a decent, equitable and prosperous nation, that will not only be the great arsenal of democracy in Africa but also a key player in world politics. Nigerians are patriotic, resilient and hardworking and will support the Democratic People's Congress Government in promoting national unity, implementing true federalism, providing infrastructures, revamping the economy, delivering world-class healthcare, providing quality education, improving agriculture and food security, creating wealth and employment and rendering excellent social services that will meet the yearnings of the longsuffering Nigerians who have been grossly marginalized and abandoned by previous governments.

The opportunity has come to reform and transform over great nation and build the Nigeria of our dream, which future generation will be proud of.

This is our compact, covenant and social contract with Nigerians in our collective march to greatness and prosperity.

DPC...Moving forward with the People to our Promised Land. It is a new dawn!

INFRASTRUCTURE

A Democratic People's Congress-led Federal Government will take immediate step to rehabilitate the nation's decayed and dilapidated infrastructure that has worsened the plights of Nigerians in both urban and rural areas.

It is amazing that since the early 1970's during General Yakubu Gowon's regime, he gave priority to public infrastructure and constructed massive overhead bridges (flyover), houses including FESTAC town, public edifices like National Theater, successive governments relegated infrastructure to the background (except development of the Federal Capital Territory FCT). Nigerian highways have become death traps resulting in the deaths of thousands of fellow compatriots every year including top government and military personnel. This is unacceptable and a failure of leadership.

DPC if voted into power will ensure the rehabilitation of existing roads, massive construction and maintenance of new ones with solid stone-based asphalt over-lays and drainages across the country (urban and rural areas). Public parks and recreational grounds will be built.

Housing is critical for human survival and progress. A DPC Government will provide shelter for every Nigerian appropriate to his income and ensure that the masses have access to funds at low interest rates to purchase homes of their choice. This will be achieved by facilitating the acquisition of land by private housing developers to build houses for sale to Nigerians. Effective mortgage institutions would be established to extend long term loans to home buyers at low interest rates. The Party shall legislate and enforce regulations to ensure that all housing estates are serviced by well laid out and well surfaced roads, water, electricity, sewage disposals and refuse collection system and an organized system of estate facilities maintenance

DPC will promote research for new building technology to reduce cost. The Party will ensure that public conveniences are built in strategic places across the country and strengthen agencies for the monitoring and enforcing environmental protection, and public sanitation.

DPC will revive the ability of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources through its agency - Water Board to provide potable water to our people. It is unfortunate that most Nigerians depend on private boreholes and streams for their water supply

which has increased water-borne diseases. Aside of connecting most homes, offices, public buildings, parks and markets with strategic locations in major towns as obtainable in the First Republic.

A DPC Government will engage in massive rural development, appreciating the fact that most Nigerians live in the rural areas and deserve dividends of democracy that will improve their standards of living. Aside of rural road network, there will be rural electrification in all Electoral Wards in Nigeria. The DPC-led Federal Government will liaise with both State and Local Governments to achieve this. There will be total transmogrification of rural areas. Our longsuffering rural dwellers deserve a fair deal from the government they voted into office.

ECONOMY

The economy is the life blood of the nation and will be given top priority in the Democratic People's Congress-led Federal Government if voted into office.

In tandem with globalization, the economy will be private sector driven while government will provide a conducive business environment and regulate the process for maximum exploitation and utilization of resources for the benefit of the citizenry.

Nigerians will participate actively in the economic affairs of the country by releasing individual potentials and channeling them into the productive process. An economic council will be established made of eminent professionals to proffer solution through a comprehensive blueprint that will accelerate, revive and revamp the country's ailing economy and transform it to the best 20 economies in the world in 2030.

Conscious of the impact of globalization vis-a-vis the Nigeria economy, a DPC-led Federal Government will be meticulous in the appointment of the Minister of Finance and Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria as key players and co-pilots in the national economy train. This is to avoid the numerous fiscal and monetary policies summersault by the economic drivers of the President Muhammadu Buhari's Government that have worsened the hardship of Nigerians.

Accordingly, DPC will formulate and implement foreign exchange policies with a view to strengthening and stabilizing the naira. No responsible government will

fold its hand while the nation's currency falls against the dollar, euro, pounds sterling, etc.

Through good governance and progressive leadership, DPC will restore the golden era when one naira exchanged for one dollar.

The economy will be diversified to avoid future oil glut that will put pressure on the naira. In view of this, priority will be given to the small and medium scale enterprises and the informal sector through easier bank loans with low interest rate and provision of social services telecommunications, roads, electricity, water supply and decent business premises that will boost their business, thus breath fresh air into the national economy. Foreign investors will be invited and supported to establish industries in Nigeria. This will create wealth and employment to millions of our youths.

DPC's Government will end the importation of petroleum products in the country. Sadly, Nigeria is the only major oil producing nation that imports its domestic petroleum products despite four refineries that ought to meet its domestic consumption. This is utterly unacceptable and a drain on the nation's scare foreign exchange. The Party has zero tolerance for corruption and will probe the petroleum industry with a view to blocking all leakages and sanction culprits.

In this regard, the four refineries will be rehabilitated and revived to produce at installed capacities while private refineries will be encouraged and supported. DPC will improve on the implementation of the Treasury Single Account (TSA) and the Central Bank, Bank Verification Number (BVN) that have helped in curbing corrupt practices. Anti-corruption agencies, EFCC and ICPC will be strengthened to investigate and prosecute any public office holder who embezzled public funds and sharp practices in business otherwise known as 419. The business environment will be sanitized to reinforce confidence that will put the nation on the path of economic recovery and growth. The airports and seaports will be upgraded for speedy commercial transactions that will further boost the economy. DPC will review the implementation of tax policy and VAT with a view to increasing the internal generated revenues. The Federal Board of Internal Revenue will be reorganized to make it effective in generating revenue for the nation while public servants will be held accountable for the funds generated. DPC has the political will to stimulate the economy, ensure wealth creation and sustainable economic

growth that will make Nigeria one of the best 20 economies in the world in 2030. Yes we can, if voted into power in the next presidential election.

SOLID MINERAL

The Democratic People's Congress will make the solid mineral sector a significant foreign exchange earner and employer of labour. A comprehensive geological survey of Nigeria will be embarked on, not only to establish accurately the types of minerals present and where, but also their quantities and commercial viability. A legislative framework will be provided by government to guide operations in the sector. Investors with experience in the mining industry will be invited and encouraged to go into partnership with Nigerian investors to set up commercial mining operation. Revenue from solid minerals will also be subject to the same derivation percentage as revenue from oil.

HEALTH

The Democratic People's Congress is strongly determined to provide comprehensive healthcare to all Nigerians if voted to office. The party will embark on a total overhaul of the nation's health sector and make it patient-focused and baby-friendly. The good health of Nigerians is not negotiable. For decades, our public hospitals have become mere consulting clinics with no drugs and equipment to treat the ever increasing number of sick compatriots compelling medical personnel to elongated industrial action (strike) to draw Government's attention to their deplorable working condition. The rich will travel abroad for medical treatment leaving the poor to their fate.

As a progressive political party, DPC-led Government will resuscitate the medical infrastructure in public hospital across the countries and ensure that every citizen has access to adequate health care, aware that life is sacred.

To achieve this, a comprehensive action plan will be developed for preventive rather than curative healthcare in all the Electoral Wards in the country. High quality drugs and equipment will be provided regularly. NAFDAC will be strengthened and further empowered to ensure all drugs and medical facilities manufactured or imported into the country meet international standard. Statistics

shows that thousands of Nigerians had died due to fake drugs administered to them. It must stop forthwith. Health education will be carried out in all Electoral Wards in Nigeria on proper sanitation and prevention of new diseases like Ebola and Zika which is common overseas.

Pregnant women, children, students and senior citizens will receive free medical service; this will drastically reduce maternal and infant mortality rate. There will be regular capacity building programme for all health personnel in Nigeria and abroad to improve their skill and efficiency. There will be massive construction of new medical facilities, rehabilitation and upgrading of existing ones. To supplement DPC's health programme, children in primary schools will have a free lunch every school day, to make up for any deficiencies in their home meals. Potable water will also be provided in all Electoral Wards to prevent water borne diseases, improve sanitation and the people's overall healthcare. DPC will do this as a responsible and responsive government if voted to power.

EDUCATION

It is obvious that knowledge is power. The intellectual capacity of every Nigerian will be fully developed for creative and patriotic service to the nation and humanity. A sound education will make the populace easy to govern and difficult to enslave. A DPC Government will therefore develop and implement an education policy that prepares the citizenry for self-reliance, high productivity and entrepreneurship in this era of globalization.

This will be achieved through free and compulsory primary and secondary school education which will be enriched in content while bursary will be given to students in tertiary institutions. Guidance and counseling service will be provided in secondary schools to give direction to the students on their future careers.

DPC in government will rehabilitate existing schools in Nigeria and construct new ones to cater for the ever increasing number of candidates eager to acquire knowledge or further their education. The current acute shortage and high cost of educational materials such as books, technical/laboratory equipment, computer facility (ICT), sports apparatus etc will be addressed and provided to facilitate learning. Capacity building of both teaching and non-teaching staff will be a priority. Staff salaries and emolument will be paid promptly to avoid industrial

action and brain drain (lecturers traveling abroad for greener pasture). Private institutions will be encouraged and supported to ensure they meet international standard. This will reduced the number of our students going overseas for further studies whose tuition fees have eaten deep into the nation's foreign exchange reserve in this period of oil glut. No child will be left behind in the DPC Government.

AGRICULTURE

The Democratic People's Congress if voted to power will implement its strategic plan of action to boost food production for internal consumption and export that will yield foreign exchange to the nation as obtainable in the First Republic (October 1960-January 1966) before the current massive oil exploration.

To achieve this, improved seedlings, fertilizer, pesticides and essential agricultural products and tools will be distribute to farmers in all Electoral Wards in the country for maximum productivity. This will be implemented in collaboration with States and Local Governments. Mechanized farming will be encouraged while Government will purchase surplus produce for storage and preservation at designated facilities across the country. It will help to stabilize price due to a glut (excess supply) and for export that will yield foreign exchange. Surplus produce will also be supplied to agro-allied industries for processing as manufactured products. Irrigation and dams will be constructed and existing ones rehabilitated to ensure all round farming season and food production to meet the needs of the masses which will also create jobs for millions of our youths. Agricultural loan will be made available to farmers through various Farmers' Cooperative Associations while large scale farmers will get the loans directly from the banks with low interest rate.

SOCIAL SERVICES

The Democratic People's Congress will render essential social services to Nigerians that will alleviate their sufferings after years of misrule by past Governments. Palliative measures will be taken to reduce poverty, reduce unemployment through wealth creation and involving youths in profitable ventures

like agriculture, exploration of solid minerals, sports, transportation, and construction work.

DPC as a mass movement will cater for the less privileged, people living with disability, internally displaced persons, senior citizens etc. Nationwide rehabilitation centres will be established for the treatment of youths and other people affected by hard drugs, victims of human trafficking, prostitution, repentant militants and terrorists. Child Rights Act will be enforced in tandem with Geneva Convention on the Rights of the Child. Amusement parks, electricity, mobile telephone services, cultural/entertainment centres will be provided for the well-being of the people. This will be achieved with the support of the private sector and development partners.

This is the Democratic People's Congress' social contract with the good people of Nigeria if voted into power.