

CONSTITUTION

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPAZASHOPS UNION (NAFESU)

A Democratic National Federation for the Organisation, Representation, Development and Transformation of the SpazaShop Sector

ADOPTED AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL / ELECTIVE CONFERENCE

Date: _____ 18 AUGUST 2024 _____: Venue: _____ DURBAN MANOR HOTEL _____

Document status: Founding governance instrument, subject to adoption by the competent conference and legal review for compliance with applicable South African law.

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PREAMBLE

We, the members and affiliated organisations of the National Federation of SpazaShops Union (NAFESU), recognising the importance of spaza shops and related small retail enterprises to livelihoods, food access, local economies and community development, hereby establish this Federation.

We commit ourselves to democratic organisation, unity, accountability, economic empowerment, lawful representation, equality, non-discrimination, responsible leadership, transparent governance and the advancement of the interests of spaza-shop owners and workers throughout the Republic of South Africa.

ARTICLE 1 — NAME, STATUS AND IDENTITY

1.1 The name of the organisation is NATIONAL FEDERATION OF SPAZASHOPS UNION, abbreviated NAFESU.

1.2 NAFESU is a national federation representing spaza-shop and related informal-to-formal retail interests through affiliated organisations and members.

1.3 NAFESU shall retain its own legal and organisational identity independently from each affiliate. Each affiliate shall likewise retain its identity and internal autonomy, subject to this Constitution on matters falling within the Federation's mandate.

1.4 The principal seat of NAFESU shall be determined by the NEC and may be relocated by resolution of the National Conference.

1.5 NAFESU shall operate throughout South Africa and may establish structures wherever members and affiliates require representation.

ARTICLE 2 — OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

2.1 To unite, organise and represent spaza-shop owners, operators and related sector participants through a

democratic national federation.

2.2 To promote formalisation, professionalisation, financial inclusion, training, market access, procurement opportunities, technology, safety, compliance and sustainable enterprise development.

2.3 To engage government, municipalities, regulators, financial institutions, corporates, suppliers, labour and other stakeholders on matters affecting the sector.

2.4 To advocate for fair treatment, lawful trading conditions, infrastructure, access to finance, market opportunities and policies that advance the sector.

2.5 To promote women, youth and persons with disabilities in the spaza-shop economy.

2.6 To resolve disputes peacefully and through constitutional processes.

2.7 All organs shall act democratically, transparently, accountably and within the law.

ARTICLE 3 — MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

3.1 NAFESU shall have individual, organisational and/or affiliate membership categories as determined by regulations adopted by the NEC and approved by National Conference.

3.2 Affiliates shall retain their own names, constitutions, governance arrangements and identities, provided that such instruments do not conflict materially with this Constitution on Federation-wide matters.

3.3 The Constitution of NAFESU shall be the superior constitutional instrument for the Federation and its common affairs. It shall not be interpreted as abolishing the lawful independence of an affiliate in matters reserved to that affiliate.

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3.4 Each affiliate shall be represented in relevant NAFESU structures in accordance with approved representation and delegation rules.

3.5 Where an individual is a member of an affiliate participating in NAFESU, dual membership of the affiliate and NAFESU shall be compulsory, subject to applicable law and the membership rules adopted by the Federation.

3.6 Affiliates shall pay a reasonable affiliation fee and any approved annual or special contribution. The amount, due date and categories shall be determined by National Conference or delegated by it to the NEC within an approved framework.

3.7 No affiliate shall be denied participation solely because of inability to pay without a fair hardship, waiver or payment-plan process approved under Federation rules.

3.8 The Federation shall maintain a membership and affiliate register and shall protect personal information in accordance with applicable law.

ARTICLE 4 — ORGANS AND STRUCTURE OF THE FEDERATION

4.1 The organs of NAFESU are: (a) National Conference; (b) National Executive Committee (NEC); (c) National Working Committee (NWC); (d) National SpazaShops Council (NSC); (e) Provincial Conferences and Provincial Executive Committees (PECs); (f) Provincial Working Committees (PWCs); (g) Provincial Councils; (h) District Conferences and District Committees; (i) Local Municipality Constituency structures; (j) Ward structures; (k)

Women and Disability Forum; (l) Youth Forum; and (m) any other lawful organ established by National Conference or NEC under this Constitution.

4.2 The organisational chain shall ordinarily flow from National to Provincial, District, Local Municipality and Ward structures, while reports and mandates shall flow both downward and upward.

4.3 Every structure shall report to the next higher structure and ultimately to the NEC.

ARTICLE 5 — NATIONAL CONFERENCE

5.1 The National Conference is the supreme policy and elective organ of NAFESU, subject to this Constitution and applicable law.

5.2 It shall ordinarily meet at least once during each NEC term and may be convened as an elective conference when the term expires.

5.3 A Special National Conference may be convened by the NEC, or upon a properly supported written request from structures representing at least one-third of eligible voting affiliates, subject to verification under the conference rules.

5.4 The Conference shall: adopt and amend the Constitution; elect the NEC; receive reports; approve broad policy; consider audited or independently reviewed financial reports; determine affiliation principles and fees; consider resolutions; and decide matters of national importance.

5.5 Delegates shall be accredited according to a written Conference Delegation and Accreditation Rule approved by the NEC and ratified by Conference. Delegation shall balance affiliate representation, membership strength and geographical fairness.

5.6 Each eligible affiliate shall submit delegates within the prescribed deadline. Only properly accredited delegates may vote.

5.7 The Conference shall elect an independent Conference Chairperson and credentials, electoral, resolutions and other committees as necessary.

5.8 Elections shall be free and fair, secret where contested, independently administered where practicable, and governed by published rules.

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5.9 A quorum shall be at least 50% plus one of accredited voting delegates, unless a higher threshold is prescribed for constitutional amendments.

ARTICLE 6 — NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

6.1 The NEC is the highest executive authority between National Conferences and shall direct, coordinate and supervise the Federation.

6.2 The NEC shall consist of: First President; Second President; Third President; National Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; General Secretary; Deputy General Secretary; National Organizer; Deputy National Organizer; National Treasurer; Deputy National Treasurer; and National Spokesperson.

6.3 The NEC term shall be seven (7) years, subject to lawful removal, resignation, incapacity or earlier dissolution

in terms of this Constitution.

6.4 The NEC shall implement Conference resolutions, approve national programmes, supervise all structures, protect Federation assets and identity, manage strategic partnerships, approve regulations, and exercise central coordinating authority.

6.5 NEC decisions bind subordinate NAFESU structures when lawfully adopted. The NEC may issue directives, provided they are consistent with this Constitution and do not unlawfully interfere with the independent constitutional affairs of affiliates.

ARTICLE 7 — PRESIDENCY AND PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 The First President is Head of the Presidency and shall chair the Strategic Committee. The First President shall provide strategic direction, coordinate the Federation's long-term vision and act as the principal political/strategic representative of NAFESU.

7.2 The Second President shall head the Negotiations function, translating approved strategic direction into structured negotiations with government, business, suppliers, institutions and other stakeholders.

7.3 The Third President shall oversee internal procedural operations, constitutional compliance and coordination of internal executive processes.

7.4 The three Presidents shall operate collectively within the NEC and shall not exercise personal powers contrary to a lawful NEC or Conference decision.

7.5 The Presidency shall communicate from time to time on the direction, priorities and strategic programme of the Federation.

7.6 National Chairperson: presides over NEC meetings when designated, promotes organisational discipline, coordinates governance and supports implementation of Conference mandates.

7.7 Deputy Chairperson: assists and deputises for the Chairperson and performs delegated duties.

7.8 General Secretary: chief administrative officer; maintains records, notices, minutes, correspondence, constitutional instruments, resolutions and institutional reporting.

7.9 Deputy General Secretary: assists and deputises for the General Secretary and oversees delegated administrative functions.

7.10 National Organizer: coordinates membership, organisational development, campaigns, mobilisation, recruitment and structural consolidation.

7.11 Deputy National Organizer: assists and deputises for the National Organizer.

7.12 National Treasurer: oversees finances, budgets, banking controls, financial reporting, asset registers and compliance.

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7.13 Deputy National Treasurer: assists and deputises for the Treasurer.

7.14 National Spokesperson: communicates approved Federation positions, media statements and public information, subject to NEC policy.

ARTICLE 8 — NATIONAL WORKING COMMITTEE

8.1 The NWC shall be established by the NEC to execute day-to-day political, administrative and operational decisions between NEC meetings.

8.2 Its composition shall include such NEC office-bearers as the NEC determines, provided that the Presidency, General Secretary, Treasurer and Organiser functions are appropriately represented.

8.3 The NWC reports to the NEC and has no authority to override the NEC or National Conference.

8.4 The NWC may establish task teams for negotiations, finance, legal/compliance, transformation, procurement, training, technology, communications and other approved programmes.

ARTICLE 9 — NATIONAL SPAZASHOPS COUNCIL

9.1 The National SpazaShops Council (NSC) is the representative consultative council in which affiliates consolidate and present their sector interests.

9.2 Each affiliate shall have representation determined by the approved representation rules, with safeguards against domination by a single affiliate.

9.3 The NSC shall debate policy, consolidate resolutions, identify sector-wide priorities and make recommendations to the NEC and National Conference.

9.4 The NSC shall not usurp the constitutional authority of the NEC or National Conference.

ARTICLE 10 — PROVINCIAL STRUCTURES

10.1 Each Province may establish a Provincial Executive Committee consisting of: Provincial Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer; Organizer; Deputy Organizer.

10.2 The PEC term shall be six (6) years.

10.3 Each Province shall have a Provincial Working Committee, Provincial Council and Provincial Conference.

10.4 The Provincial Conference elects the PEC, adopts provincial programmes consistent with national policy and receives reports.

10.5 The Provincial Working Committee implements PEC decisions between PEC meetings.

10.6 The Provincial Council consolidates affiliate and sector interests within the Province and reports through the PEC to the NEC.

10.7 Provincial structures shall report regularly to the NEC and comply with lawful national directives.

ARTICLE 11 — DISTRICT STRUCTURES

11.1 District leadership shall consist of: Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Organizer; Deputy Organizer; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer.

11.2 The District term shall be five (5) years.

11.3 District structures shall coordinate affiliates and local municipality constituencies within the District, implement provincial and national programmes, maintain organisational records and report upward.

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ARTICLE 12 — LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CONSTITUENCY

STRUCTURES

12.1 Each local municipality constituency shall have: Chairperson; Deputy Chairperson; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Organizer; Deputy Organizer; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer.

12.2 The local municipality structure shall coordinate ward structures and affiliates operating within the municipality, consolidate local issues and submit reports to the District.

12.3 The structure shall support lawful municipal engagement, sector development programmes, membership registration and dispute resolution.

ARTICLE 13 — WARD STRUCTURES

13.1 Each Ward structure shall have at minimum: Chairperson; Secretary; Organizer.

13.2 Additional positions or committees may be approved where membership size requires them.

13.3 Ward structures shall organise members, identify local sector issues, implement programmes and report to the Local Municipality Constituency.

ARTICLE 14 — AFFILIATES AND REPRESENTATION

14.1 Affiliates may be associations, unions, cooperatives or other lawful organisations whose objectives are compatible with NAFESU's mandate.

14.2 Each affiliate shall maintain its own constitution, leadership and internal administration.

14.3 Affiliate constitutions shall recognise NAFESU's superior authority over Federation-wide matters and the affiliate's obligation to comply with lawful Federation decisions.

14.4 Each affiliate shall nominate representatives to relevant Federation councils, committees and conferences according to approved rules.

14.5 Affiliates shall provide accurate membership, governance and financial information reasonably required for Federation administration.

14.6 An affiliate may be suspended or have its voting rights limited only through a fair process, with notice, reasons, an opportunity to respond and a right of appeal.

ARTICLE 15 — WOMEN AND DISABILITY FORUM

15.1 NAFESU shall maintain a Women and Disability Forum to advance programmes, representation, accessibility, enterprise development, safety, training and economic opportunities for women and persons with disabilities in the sector.

15.2 The Forum shall have leadership elected or appointed under rules approved by the NEC.

15.3 The Forum reports to the NEC and implements programmes within approved budgets and mandates.

15.4 The Forum shall not operate as a parallel executive authority and shall be accountable to the NEC.

ARTICLE 16 — YOUTH FORUM

16.1 NAFESU shall maintain a Youth Forum to advocate for youth participation, entrepreneurship, skills, digital transformation, employment creation, access to finance and leadership development in the spaza-shop sector.

16.2 The Youth Forum shall have leadership determined under rules approved by the NEC and shall report to the NEC.

16.3 Youth programmes shall be integrated into national, provincial and local development plans.

ARTICLE 17 — ELECTIONS AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

17.1 All elective structures shall be chosen through democratic, fair, transparent and properly constituted elective conferences.

17.2 Election dates shall be communicated sufficiently in advance, and eligible candidates shall receive reasonable opportunity to nominate and campaign under rules that protect fairness.

17.3 No person shall be elected where prohibited by applicable law or a duly adopted eligibility rule.

17.4 Election disputes shall be referred to the designated Electoral Committee or independent electoral process and may be appealed in accordance with the Election Regulations.

17.5 No office-bearer may use Federation resources unfairly to secure personal electoral advantage.

ARTICLE 18 — CONFERENCE DELEGATION AND PROCEDURE

18.1 The NEC shall issue Conference Rules covering notice, eligibility, delegate allocation, accreditation, credentials, voting, nominations, elections, motions, resolutions, quorum, conduct, observers, disputes and certification of results.

18.2 Delegate allocation shall be objectively determined using a combination of affiliate membership and equal minimum representation, as prescribed in the Conference Rules.

18.3 Delegates must hold valid mandates from their affiliate or subordinate structure.

18.4 Voting shall ordinarily be by show of hands for ordinary resolutions and by secret ballot for contested elections or where the Conference resolves otherwise.

18.5 Constitutional amendments require at least two-thirds of accredited voting delegates present and voting, unless a higher threshold is prescribed.

18.6 Minutes and resolutions shall be formally recorded, certified and circulated to structures.

ARTICLE 19 — FINANCE, PROPERTY AND AFFILIATION FEES

19.1 The funds of NAFESU shall consist of affiliation fees, membership contributions, lawful donations, grants, sponsorships, fundraising income, programme income and other lawful receipts.

19.2 All funds shall be deposited into accounts in the Federation's name with regulated financial institutions.

19.3 There shall be at least two authorised signatories for payments, with controls prescribed by the Financial Regulations.

19.4 The Treasurer shall prepare budgets and financial reports. Financial records shall be independently reviewed or audited as required by law, donor conditions or Conference resolution.

19.5 Federation funds shall be used solely for constitutional purposes and shall not be distributed to office-bearers as profit.

19.6 Office-bearers may receive reasonable, approved reimbursements or remuneration for authorised services, subject to policy, budget and conflict-of-interest controls.

19.7 An asset register shall be maintained.

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ARTICLE 20 — LOGO, NAME, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND ASSETS

20.1 The NAFESU name, logo, emblem, official documents, databases, records and other Federation assets shall be held for the benefit of the Federation and protected against unauthorised use.

20.2 The logo and assets shall carry an appropriate disclaimer and ownership notice as approved by the NEC.

20.3 No affiliate, office-bearer or member may sell, pledge, license or dispose of Federation property without lawful authority.

20.4 On dissolution, remaining assets shall be transferred to a lawful non-profit or other entity with substantially similar objectives, subject to applicable law and the dissolution resolution.

ARTICLE 21 — CENTRAL COORDINATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

21.1 The NEC shall centralise strategic command and coordination for NAFESU while respecting the constitutional autonomy of affiliates.

21.2 No subordinate structure may issue a national policy position or bind NAFESU to an external commitment without proper authority.

21.3 Each level shall maintain records and submit periodic reports to the higher structure.

21.4 Failure to report, misuse of authority or persistent non-compliance may trigger corrective measures under disciplinary rules.

ARTICLE 22 — CODE OF CONDUCT, DISCIPLINE AND REMOVAL

22.1 All members and leaders shall act honestly, respectfully, lawfully and in the interests of NAFESU.

22.2 Prohibited conduct includes fraud, corruption, theft, harassment, discrimination, deliberate misrepresentation, misuse of Federation property, serious breach of confidentiality and conduct materially damaging the Federation.

22.3 No member shall be disciplined without notice of the allegation, a fair opportunity to respond and an impartial decision-maker.

22.4 NEC may suspend an office-bearer temporarily where necessary to protect the Federation, subject to prompt due process and appeal.

22.5 An office-bearer may be removed for serious misconduct, incapacity, persistent failure to perform duties or loss of eligibility through a process prescribed by the Disciplinary and Electoral Regulations.

ARTICLE 23 — CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

23.1 Office-bearers shall disclose material personal, family or business interests that could conflict with Federation duties.

23.2 A conflicted office-bearer shall not participate in a decision where the conflict is material, unless permitted by a properly adopted conflict-of-interest policy and applicable law.

23.3 A register of declared interests shall be maintained for national and other prescribed office-bearers.

ARTICLE 24 — MEETINGS, RECORDS AND COMMUNICATION

24.1 Meetings shall be called by proper notice and conducted according to adopted standing orders.

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24.2 Minutes shall record attendance, decisions, conflicts and action items.

24.3 Official communication shall be issued through authorised channels and, where relevant, the National Spokesperson or General Secretary.

24.4 Records shall be securely maintained and made available to members where appropriate, subject to confidentiality and data-protection obligations.

ARTICLE 25 — DISPUTE RESOLUTION

25.1 Internal disputes shall first be addressed through dialogue, mediation or a designated dispute-resolution committee.

25.2 Where unresolved, the matter may proceed to an appeal structure prescribed by the Dispute Resolution Rules.

25.3 Nothing in this Constitution prevents a person from exercising a right that cannot lawfully be excluded by contract or organisational rules.

ARTICLE 26 — POLITICAL NEUTRALITY AND NON-AFFILIATION

26.1 NAFESU is not a political party. It is an independent federation representing the interests of the spaza-shop sector.

26.2 NAFESU shall not affiliate to, merge with, become a branch of, or formally align itself with any political party.

26.3 All NAFESU leaders and office-bearers shall maintain political neutrality in their official capacity and shall not use NAFESU structures, property, funds, platforms, meetings or branding to promote or advance any political party.

26.4 The personal political rights of members and office-bearers shall be respected to the extent protected by law; however, such personal rights shall not compromise NAFESU's institutional neutrality or create an official political-party affiliation.

26.5 The NEC may, at national level only, engage or negotiate with political parties where such engagement is necessary to advance the legitimate interests of the spaza-shop sector, provided the engagement is based on common ground, approved NAFESU policy and sector interests, and does not constitute political-party affiliation.

26.6 Any national negotiation or formal engagement with a political party shall be authorised by the NEC and conducted under the supervision of the Presidency. The Presidency shall ensure that such engagements remain within the mandate and resolutions of NAFESU.

26.7 No Provincial, District, Local Municipality, Traditional Tribal Authority, Ward, Forum, Committee, affiliate or individual office-bearer acting in the name of NAFESU may independently negotiate, enter into an agreement, issue a political commitment or establish an institutional relationship with a political party without prior written authority from the NEC.

26.8 No subordinate NAFESU structure or affiliate may negotiate or enter into a binding institutional arrangement with any political party or other institution where the engagement may create a national policy, political, financial, reputational or strategic commitment for NAFESU without prior NEC consent.

26.9 Political-party engagements authorised by the NEC shall be recorded and reported to the NEC and, where materially significant, to the National Conference.

26.10 NAFESU may make lawful submissions, representations, petitions or advocacy to government, Parliament, municipalities, Traditional Leaders, political parties or other institutions where necessary to advance the interests of the spaza-shop sector, provided NAFESU remains politically neutral and independent.

26.11 Breach of this Article may constitute a disciplinary offence and may result in corrective or disciplinary action in accordance with this Constitution and applicable rules.

ARTICLE 28 — AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

26.1 Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing within the period prescribed by the Conference Rules.

26.2 Amendments shall be circulated to eligible delegates before Conference.

26.3 Amendments require at least a two-thirds majority of accredited delegates present and voting, unless applicable law requires a different threshold.

26.4 Amendments affecting the fundamental identity, dissolution or core governance of NAFESU should be subject to enhanced notice and voting safeguards.

ARTICLE 28 — DISSOLUTION

27.1 NAFESU may be dissolved only by a properly convened National Conference called specifically for that purpose.

27.2 The dissolution resolution shall require at least a three-quarters majority of accredited delegates present and voting, subject to applicable law.

27.3 After payment of lawful liabilities, remaining assets shall be transferred in accordance with Article 20 and applicable law.

ARTICLE 29 — TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

28.1 Existing structures and affiliates shall remain operational during transition until their first conferences under this Constitution.

28.2 The founding NEC shall establish an implementation timetable, membership register, affiliation framework, election regulations, financial regulations, conference rules and reporting system.

28.3 Where an office or structure has not yet been constituted, the NEC may establish an interim arrangement that expires when the relevant democratic structure is elected.

28.4 Any conflict between a pre-existing affiliate arrangement and this Constitution shall be referred to the NEC for transitional harmonisation, without unlawfully extinguishing the affiliate's independent legal identity.

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ARTICLE 30 — SUPREMACY, INTERPRETATION AND LEGAL

COMPLIANCE

29.1 This Constitution is the supreme internal governance instrument of NAFESU.

29.2 Where any provision conflicts with mandatory applicable law, the mandatory law prevails to the extent of the conflict, and the remaining provision shall continue where possible.

29.3 The NEC may issue regulations and standing orders to give effect to this Constitution, provided they do not amend or contradict it.

29.4 The National Conference has final internal authority to interpret and amend this Constitution, subject to applicable law.

ARTICLE 31 — ADOPTION AND CERTIFICATION

This Constitution was adopted by the National Constitutional / Elective Conference of the National Federation of SpazaShops Union (NAFESU) on the date and at the venue stated below.

Date of adoption: _____ 18 AUGUST 2024

Venue: _____ DURBAN MANOR HOTEL

National Conference Chairperson: _____ MR:NTSHILIBA

National Conference Secretary: _____ MR::SG NCUBE

First President: _____ MR: NM MYENI

General Secretary: _____ MR:S:NTSHILIBA

Official Federation Stamp/Seal: _____ 

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SCHEDULE 1 — ORGANISATIONAL LEADERSHIP MATRIX

LEVEL

LEADERSHIP / ORGAN

TERM

National

1st President; 2nd President; 3rd President; National Chair; Deputy Chair; General Secretary; Deputy Secretary; National Organizer; Deputy Organizer; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer; National Spokesperson (NEC)

7 years

Provincial

Provincial Chair; Deputy Chair; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer; Organizer; Deputy Organizer (PEC)

6 years

District

Chair; Deputy Chair; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Organizer; Deputy Organizer; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer

5 years

Local Municipality / Traditional Tribal Authority

Chair; Deputy Chair; Secretary; Deputy Secretary; Organizer; Deputy Organizer; Treasurer; Deputy Treasurer

4 years

Ward

Chair; Secretary; Organizer

3 years

Note: The. The Conference Rules should align local municipality and ward election cycles with the higher structures.

SCHEDULE 2 — RECOMMENDED NATIONAL COMMITTEE

FUNCTIONS

Strategic Committee: chaired by the First President; develops long-term strategy and monitors strategic execution.

Negotiations Committee: led by the Second President; coordinates stakeholder negotiations under approved strategy.

Internal Procedures Committee: led by the Third President; monitors internal process, compliance and operational procedure.

Finance and Audit Committee: supports financial oversight, budgets, controls and audit/review follow-up.

Organising Committee: coordinates recruitment, membership, affiliate development and structures.

Policy and Research Committee: develops evidence-based policy positions for the spaza-shop sector.

Women and Disability Forum: advances inclusive programmes and reports to NEC.

Youth Forum: advances youth programmes and reports to NEC.

SCHEDULE 3 — MINIMUM CONFERENCE PROCEDURE

1. Notice and agenda are issued within the period prescribed by the Conference Rules.
2. Delegates are nominated by eligible structures and accredited by a Credentials Committee.
3. Credentials, quorum and voting eligibility are confirmed before substantive business.
4. Conference elects its presiding officers and committees.
5. Reports, policy proposals, constitutional amendments and resolutions are considered.
6. Nominations are opened, candidates are verified, and contested elections are conducted by secret ballot unless the Conference Rules lawfully provide otherwise.
7. Results are announced and certified; minutes and resolutions are adopted or confirmed.
8. A formal handover to the elected NEC occurs after certification.