ARISE AFRIKA ARISE INDEPENDENT CONGRESS (AAAIC)

CANDIDATE SELECTION, PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION LIST CONTROL, RANKING SYSTEM, AND DEPLOYMENT CONTRACT POLICY

SECTION 1:

1. NAME, PURPOSE, LEGAL FOUNDATION, AND GOVERNING PRINCIPLES

1.1. Name of the Policy

This policy shall be known as: **ARISE AFRIKA ARISE INDEPENDENT CONGRESS (AAAIC) CANDIDATE SELECTION, PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION LIST CONTROL, RANKING SYSTEM, AND DEPLOYMENT CONTRACT POLICY**
(Hereinafter referred to as "the Policy" or "this Framework")

1.2. Purpose and Strategic Intent

The primary purpose of this Policy is to establish a **comprehensive, integrated, and legally defensible governance architecture** regulating:

- The **selection and vetting** of candidates for public office
- The **compilation, ranking, and submission** of Proportional Representation (PR) lists
- The **objective evaluation and scoring** of candidates for electoral deployment
- The **post-election governance, accountability, discipline, and recall** of deployed representatives

This Policy is deliberately designed to function as a **preventative, corrective, and enforceable instrument**, ensuring that AAAIC:

1. **Retains absolute institutional control over its electoral lists prior to submission to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC)**
2. **Prevents infiltration, capture, inducement, and corruption within candidate selection processes**
3. **Eliminates entitlement-based advancement rooted in seniority absent demonstrable performance**

4. **Implements a transparent, evidence-based ranking methodology capable of withstanding legal scrutiny**
5. **Creates enforceable contractual obligations binding candidates beyond mere political undertakings**
6. **Ensures continuous post-election accountability aligned with electoral performance and public mandate**

1.3. Foundational Legal Context and Authority

This Policy is adopted pursuant to and must be interpreted consistently with the following binding legal framework:

1.3.1. Constitutional Imperatives

This Policy gives effect to, and must be read in harmony with:

- **Section 19** of the Constitution (Political Rights), guaranteeing the right to:
  - Form political parties
  - Participate in political activity
  - Stand for and hold public office

- **Section 1(d)** (Founding Values), which entrenches:
  - Multi-party democracy
  - Accountability, responsiveness, and openness

- **Section 195** (Public Administration Principles), which requires:
  - High standards of professional ethics
  - Efficient, economic, and effective use of resources
  - Accountability and transparency

Interpretive Position:
This Policy operationalises these constitutional values internally, ensuring that AAAIC's candidate selection processes are not arbitrary, opaque, or susceptible to abuse.

1.3.2. Statutory Electoral Framework

This Policy is aligned with and subordinate to:

- **Electoral Act 73 of 1998 (as amended)**
- **Local Government: Municipal Electoral Act 27 of 2000**
- **Political Party Funding Act 6 of 2018**

These statutes collectively regulate:

- Party participation in elections
- Candidate nomination procedures
- Submission and certification of party lists
- Allocation of seats under the PR system

1.3.3. Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) Regulatory Regime

The IEC regulates:

- The **formal submission of candidate lists**
- **Compliance requirements** for eligibility and nomination
- The **certification and publication of final party lists**

However, critically:

The IEC does not regulate internal party processes relating to candidate ranking, selection criteria, or internal governance decisions.

1.4. Legal Nature of the Proportional Representation System

South Africa's electoral system is based on a **Closed List Proportional Representation Model**, with the following binding consequences:

1. Voters cast ballots for **political parties, not individual candidates**
2. Seats allocated to a party are filled **strictly in accordance with the order of candidates on the submitted list**
3. Once lists are submitted and certified, **the ordering becomes operationally determinative of public office allocation**

Critical Legal Consequence

The composition and ordering of the PR list prior to submission is the single most decisive act of political power within the party.

Accordingly:

- Control over list compilation = Control over legislative representation
- Weak internal controls = High risk of governance failure

1.5. Judicial Deference and the Necessity for Internal Legal Rigor

South African courts have consistently maintained a principle of **judicial deference to internal party autonomy**, subject only to limited exceptions.

Courts may intervene where:

- There is **procedural unfairness**
- There is a **breach of contract or party constitution**
- Decisions are **irrational, arbitrary, or made in bad faith**

Implication for AAAIC

In the absence of:

- Clearly defined criteria
- Documented processes
- Binding contractual obligations

AAAIC would be legally exposed to:

- Internal disputes
- Litigation risks
- Inability to defend ranking decisions

Therefore:
This Policy is structured to ensure that **every decision is procedurally fair, substantively rational, and contractually enforceable**.

1.6. Core Governance Risks and Structural Vulnerabilities

This Policy directly addresses systemic risks inherent in political party operations:

1.6.1. Infiltration and Capture

- Entry of individuals with external or hostile agendas
- Manipulation of structures to influence list positions

1.6.2. Financial Inducement and Purchase of Positions

- Monetisation of candidate ranking
- Undermining of democratic legitimacy

1.6.3. Seniority-Based Entitlement Without Performance

- Advancement based solely on longevity
- Suppression of capable and high-performing candidates

1.6.4. Post-Election Underperformance

- Candidates occupying high-ranking positions without delivering measurable outcomes
- Lack of enforceable consequences

1.6.5. Electoral Misalignment

- Candidates who do not contribute to voter mobilisation benefiting from strategic list placement

1.6.6. Legal and Procedural Vulnerability

- Absence of defensible criteria leading to:
    - Internal appeals

- Court challenges
- Reputational harm

1.7. Governing Principles

This Policy is underpinned by the following binding principles:

1.7.1. Meritocracy as a Non-Negotiable Standard

- Advancement is based on **objective, measurable performance indicators**
- Seniority may be considered, but **shall never be determinative**

1.7.2. Electoral Contribution Principle

- Candidates must demonstrate **verifiable capacity to attract votes**
- Ranking reflects **electoral value and public resonance**

1.7.3. Accountability and Conditional Deployment

- Deployment to public office is **conditional, not absolute**
- All representatives remain subject to:
  - Performance evaluation
  - Disciplinary processes
  - Recall mechanisms

1.7.4. Transparency, Rationality, and Record-Keeping

- All decisions must be:
  - Documented
  - Evidence-based
  - Capable of justification under legal scrutiny

1.7.5. Contractual Enforceability

- All candidates shall enter into a **Deployment Contract**

- Such contract shall:
    - Create binding obligations
    - Enable enforcement beyond internal party remedies
    - Serve as a legal basis for corrective action

1.7.6. Centralised Control of PR Lists

- Authority over final list compilation shall be **centralised within designated AAAIC structures**
- This prevents:
    - Fragmentation
    - Regional manipulation
    - Factional interference

1.7.7. Continuous Performance-Based Ranking

- Ranking is not static or permanent
- It is subject to:
    - Pre-election evaluation
    - Post-election performance review
    - Ongoing recalibration

1.8. Supremacy and Binding Effect

This Policy shall:

- Be **binding on all AAAIC members, structures, office bearers, and candidates**
- Override any:
    - Informal arrangements
    - Customary practices
    - Internal deviations inconsistent with its provisions

In the event of conflict:

This Policy shall prevail in all matters relating to candidate selection, PR list control, ranking, and deployment governance.

1.9. Scope of Application

This Policy applies to all electoral processes involving AAAIC, including:

1.9.1. Local Government Elections (LGE)

- PR Councillor Lists
- Ward Candidates (where applicable)

1.9.2. National and Provincial Elections (NPE)

- National Assembly Lists
- Provincial Legislature Lists

1.10. Interpretation Clause

This Policy shall be interpreted in a manner that:

- Promotes **electoral integrity and institutional control**
- Prioritises **merit and performance over entitlement**
- Protects AAAIC from:
    - Capture
    - Internal manipulation
    - Legal vulnerability

Where ambiguity arises, interpretation must favour: **The preservation of the Party's strategic control over its electoral outcomes and governance integrity.**

SECTION 2:

2. INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE FOR CANDIDATE SELECTION AND PR LIST CONTROL

2.1. Establishment of Centralised Electoral Governance Structures

In order to give full effect to this Policy, AAAIC hereby establishes a **centralised, multi-layered institutional framework** responsible for:

- Candidate identification, screening, and vetting
- Objective scoring and ranking of candidates
- Compilation, control, and finalisation of PR lists
- Oversight of compliance, integrity, and anti-capture safeguards

This structure is designed to:

- Eliminate **arbitrary and decentralised decision-making**
- Prevent **factional capture and regional manipulation**
- Ensure **uniform application of standards across all elections (LGE and NPE)**

2.2. Core Electoral Governance Bodies

The following bodies are hereby established as **mandatory and authoritative structures** under this Policy:

2.2.1. National List Control Committee (NLCC)

2.2.1.1. Status and Authority

The National List Control Committee (NLCC) shall be the **supreme authority within AAAIC** on all matters relating to:

- PR list compilation
- Candidate ranking approval
- Final list submission to the IEC

No PR list shall be submitted to the IEC without the formal approval and certification of the NLCC.

2.2.1.2. Composition

The NLCC shall consist of:

- The President of AAAIC (Chairperson)

- Secretary-General
- Head of Legal and Compliance
- Head of Electoral Strategy
- Two (2) independent senior members appointed for their expertise in governance and law

Disqualification Rule:

Any member of the NLCC who is a **prospective candidate for election** must:

- Recuse themselves from deliberations affecting their ranking
- Be excluded from voting on matters where a conflict of interest arises

2.2.1.3. Powers and Functions

The NLCC shall have the power to:

- Approve, amend, or reject candidate rankings
- Override recommendations from subordinate structures where justified
- Enforce compliance with this Policy
- Conduct integrity reviews of candidates
- Resolve disputes relating to ranking and list placement

2.2.2. Candidate Vetting and Integrity Panel (CVIP)

2.2.2.1. Purpose

The CVIP shall function as the **primary integrity safeguard mechanism** within AAAIC.
Its mandate is to ensure that **no candidate is admitted into the ranking process without passing strict vetting criteria**.

2.2.2.2. Scope of Vetting

The CVIP shall conduct:

- Criminal background checks
- Financial integrity assessments
- Conflict of interest analysis
- Political loyalty and alignment verification

- Reputation and public conduct review

2.2.2.3. Disqualification Powers

The CVIP may:

- Recommend disqualification of any candidate
- Flag high-risk candidates for conditional approval
- Require additional disclosures or undertakings

A candidate who fails vetting shall not proceed to the ranking stage under any circumstances.

2.2.3. Electoral Performance and Ranking Unit (EPRU)

2.2.3.1. Mandate

The EPRU shall be responsible for:

- Developing and applying the **objective scoring system**
- Measuring candidate performance against defined metrics
- Producing a **ranked candidate list based on quantifiable criteria**

2.2.3.2. Functional Responsibilities

The EPRU shall:

- Collect and verify performance data
- Assign weighted scores across multiple categories
- Produce ranking reports for submission to the NLCC
- Continuously update performance records pre- and post-election

2.2.3.3. Independence Requirement

The EPRU must operate:

- Free from political interference
- Based strictly on verifiable data and predetermined criteria

2.2.4. Legal and Compliance Unit (LCU)

2.2.4.1. Mandate

The LCU shall ensure that all processes under this Policy are:

- Legally compliant
- Procedurally fair
- Defensible in the event of internal disputes or litigation

2.2.4.2. Core Functions

The LCU shall:

- Draft and enforce Deployment Contracts
- Review all decisions for legal defensibility
- Advise on IEC compliance requirements
- Manage internal appeals and disputes
- Ensure adherence to AAAIC Constitution and applicable laws

2.2.5. Provincial and Regional Screening Committees (PRSCs)

2.2.5.1. Role and Limitations

PRSCs shall:

- Identify and recommend candidates at provincial and regional level
- Conduct preliminary assessments

However:

PRSCs shall have no authority to finalise rankings or determine list positions.

2.2.5.2. Subordination Clause

All recommendations made by PRSCs shall be:

- Subject to review by the EPRU

- Subject to approval or rejection by the NLCC

2.3. Hierarchy of Authority

The institutional hierarchy shall be as follows:

1. **National List Control Committee (Final Authority)**
2. **Legal and Compliance Unit (Oversight and Legal Integrity)**
3. **Electoral Performance and Ranking Unit (Scoring and Ranking)**
4. **Candidate Vetting and Integrity Panel (Eligibility Gatekeeper)**
5. **Provincial and Regional Screening Committees (Advisory Only)**

2.4. Anti-Capture and Anti-Corruption Safeguards

To protect the integrity of the process, the following safeguards are mandatory:

2.4.1. Prohibition of Financial Influence

- No candidate shall:
    - Offer money, gifts, or benefits in exchange for ranking
    - Sponsor party activities in a manner linked to list positioning

Consequence:

- Immediate disqualification
- Possible disciplinary and legal action

2.4.2. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

All individuals involved in the process must:

- Declare any personal, financial, or political interest in candidates
- Recuse themselves where conflicts arise

2.4.3. Audit Trail Requirement

All decisions must be:

- Recorded in writing
- Supported by documented evidence

- Stored for audit and potential legal review

2.4.4. Independent Oversight Mechanism

The NLCC may appoint:

- External auditors or legal observers
- Independent advisors

To ensure credibility and transparency

2.5. Decision-Making Protocols

2.5.1. Quorum Requirements

No decision shall be valid unless:

- At least **two-thirds (2/3)** of the NLCC members are present

2.5.2. Voting Threshold

Decisions shall be taken by:

- Majority vote
- With the Chairperson holding a **casting vote in the event of a tie**

2.5.3 Reasoned Decisions

All decisions affecting:

- Ranking
- Disqualification
- List placement

Must be accompanied by:

- Written reasons
- Reference to applicable criteria

2.6 Final Authority Over PR Lists

2.6.1 Exclusive Mandate

The NLCC shall have **exclusive authority** to:

- Compile the final PR list
- Determine ordering of candidates
- Approve submission to the IEC

2.6.2 Binding Nature of Lists

Once approved and submitted:

- The list becomes **final and binding for electoral purposes**
- No alteration shall be made except as permitted by law and IEC regulations

2.6.3 Pre-Submission Certification

Before submission to the IEC, the NLCC must certify that:

- All candidates were properly vetted
- Ranking criteria were applied consistently
- The process complied with this Policy

2.7 Internal Dispute Resolution Mechanism

2.7.1 Right to Internal Review

Candidates may request a review of:

- Their scoring
- Procedural irregularities

2.7.2 Limitation of Challenges

No challenge shall be entertained on the basis of:

- Dissatisfaction with outcome alone
- Claims of seniority entitlement

2.7.3 Finality Clause

Decisions of the NLCC shall be:

Final and binding within the internal structures of AAAIC, subject only to:

- Demonstrable procedural unfairness
- Proven legal irregularity

2.8 Binding Effect on Candidates

Participation in the candidate selection process constitutes:

- Acceptance of this institutional framework
- Agreement to be bound by its decisions

SECTION 3: CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY, VETTING CRITERIA, AND DISQUALIFICATION GROUNDS

3.1 Purpose and Legal Significance

This Section establishes **mandatory eligibility requirements, vetting standards, and disqualification criteria** applicable to all prospective candidates seeking nomination under AAAIC for:

- Local Government Elections (LGE)
- National and Provincial Elections (NPE)

This Section serves as the **primary legal gatekeeping mechanism**, ensuring that:

- Only **fit and proper individuals** are considered for public office
- The Party is protected from **legal, reputational, and governance risks**
- The integrity of AAAIC's electoral processes is preserved

No person shall be considered for ranking or inclusion on any PR list unless they have fully satisfied the requirements of this Section.

3.2 General Eligibility Requirements

A prospective candidate must, at minimum:

3.2.1 Constitutional and Statutory Eligibility

- Be eligible to stand for public office in terms of:
    - The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa
    - Applicable electoral legislation

This includes (but is not limited to):

- South African citizenship
- Registration as a voter
- Not being disqualified under any applicable law

3.2.2 Membership Requirement

- Be a **verified and fully compliant member of AAAIC**
- Have no outstanding disciplinary sanctions within the Party

3.2.3 Declaration of Commitment

- Submit a **formal written declaration** confirming:
    - Adherence to AAAIC policies and constitution
    - Acceptance of this Policy
    - Willingness to sign the Deployment Contract

3.2.4 Full Disclosure Obligation

Candidates must disclose:

- Financial interests
- Business affiliations
- Criminal history (if any)
- Political affiliations (past and present)

Failure to disclose material information shall constitute grounds for immediate disqualification or removal at any stage.

3.3 Mandatory Vetting Process

All candidates shall undergo a **multi-layered vetting process** conducted by the Candidate Vetting and Integrity Panel (CVIP).

3.3.1 Criminal Background Screening

Assessment shall include:

- Prior convictions
- Pending criminal cases
- Patterns of unlawful conduct

Automatic Red Flags:

- Fraud, corruption, theft, or dishonesty-related offences
- Violent offences
- Offences involving abuse of public trust

3.3.2 Financial Integrity Assessment

Evaluation of:

- Debt profile and financial stability
- Involvement in insolvency or liquidation proceedings
- Evidence of unethical financial conduct

3.3.3 Conflict of Interest Analysis

Identification of:

- Relationships that may compromise independence
- Business interests that may conflict with public duties

3.3.4 Political and Ideological Alignment

Assessment of:

- Consistency with AAAIC values and policy positions
- History of opportunistic party-hopping
- Loyalty and commitment to organisational objectives

3.3.5 Reputation and Public Conduct Review

Evaluation of:

- Public behaviour and statements
- Social media conduct
- Community standing and credibility

3.4 Fit and Proper Standard

All candidates must satisfy the **"Fit and Proper Person" Test**, which includes:

- Integrity
- Honesty
- Competence
- Reliability
- Commitment to public service

This standard shall be applied holistically and **not limited to the absence of criminal conviction**.

3.5 Disqualification Grounds

A candidate shall be **automatically disqualified** if any of the following applies:

3.5.1 Legal Disqualification

- Disqualified from holding public office under any law
- Convicted of an offence resulting in imprisonment without the option of a fine (subject to applicable legal thresholds)

3.5.2 Fraud, Corruption, or Dishonesty

- Conviction or credible evidence of:
    - Fraud
    - Corruption
    - Misappropriation of funds
    - Abuse of authority

3.5.3 Non-Disclosure or Misrepresentation

- Failure to disclose material facts
- Submission of false or misleading information

3.5.4 Financial Impropriety

- Involvement in:
    - Fraudulent business practices
    - Reckless trading
    - Abuse of public or private funds

3.5.5 Conflict of Interest (Unmanageable)

- Where conflicts cannot be reasonably mitigated or resolved

3.5.6 Reputational Risk to AAAIC

- Conduct that brings or is likely to bring the Party into disrepute

3.5.7 Political Disloyalty

- Proven conduct indicating:
    - Sabotage of Party activities
    - Alignment with opposing political interests
    - Undermining of Party leadership or structures

3.6 Conditional Eligibility

Where concerns exist but are not disqualifying, the CVIP may recommend:

- Conditional approval subject to:
    - Additional disclosures
    - Written undertakings
    - Enhanced monitoring

3.7 Continuous Vetting Obligation

Vetting shall not be a once-off process.

It shall continue:

- **Before elections** (selection phase)
- **After elections** (deployment phase)
- **Throughout tenure in office**

A candidate who becomes disqualified at any stage may be removed or recalled in accordance with this Policy and applicable law.

3.8 Burden of Proof

The burden rests on the candidate to:

- Demonstrate eligibility
- Provide required documentation
- Satisfy the CVIP of their fitness for office

3.9 Right to Make Representations

Before disqualification, a candidate must be:

- Notified of adverse findings
- Afforded an opportunity to respond

However:

The right to be heard does not guarantee approval.

3.10 Final Determination

The final decision on eligibility shall:

- Be made by the National List Control Committee (NLCC)
- Be based on CVIP recommendations and supporting evidence

Such decision shall be:

Final and binding, subject only to internal review on procedural grounds.

3.11 Legal Effect of Clearance

Only candidates who:

- Have passed vetting
- Have been formally cleared

Shall:

- Proceed to the **ranking and scoring stage**

- Be eligible for inclusion on any PR list

SECTION 4: PR LIST RANKING SYSTEM AND OBJECTIVE SCORING METHODOLOGY

4.1 Purpose and Legal Status of the Ranking System

This Section establishes a **mandatory, objective, data-driven ranking system** for all candidates eligible for inclusion on AAAIC PR lists.

The Ranking System is:

- **Binding on all structures of AAAIC**
- **Determinative of candidate placement on PR lists**
- **Legally defensible as a rational, transparent, and merit-based mechanism**

No candidate shall be placed on any PR list except in accordance with the scoring outcomes produced under this Section, subject only to narrowly defined override provisions.

4.2 Foundational Principles of Ranking

The Ranking System is grounded in the following enforceable principles:

4.2.1 Performance Supremacy Principle

- Ranking shall be determined primarily by **measurable performance indicators**
- Historical contribution and demonstrated capacity shall outweigh:
    - Seniority
    - Personal relationships
    - Subjective preference

4.2.2 Electoral Value Principle

- A candidate's ability to:
    - Mobilise voters
    - Influence communities
    - Enhance the Party's electoral performance

Shall carry decisive weight in ranking outcomes

4.2.3 Evidence-Based Decision-Making

- All scores must be:
    - Quantifiable
    - Verifiable

- Supported by documented evidence

4.2.4 Dynamic Ranking Principle

- Ranking is **not static or guaranteed**
- It is subject to:
  - Continuous reassessment
  - Updated performance data
  - Post-election review

4.3 Structure of the Scoring Model

Each candidate shall be evaluated across **five (5) weighted performance pillars**, producing a composite score out of **100 points**.

4.3.1 Pillar 1: Electoral Performance (30 Points)

Measures the candidate's **direct contribution to votes**.

Indicators include:

- Voter mobilisation activities
- Ward or community performance (where applicable)
- Growth in support attributable to the candidate
- Campaign leadership effectiveness

4.3.2 Pillar 2: Organisational Contribution (20 Points)

Measures internal contribution to AAAIC.

Indicators include:

- Participation in Party structures
- Leadership roles held
- Programme implementation
- Recruitment of members

4.3.3 Pillar 3: Public Leadership and Visibility (20 Points)

Measures public profile and influence.

Indicators include:

- Community engagement
- Public speaking and advocacy
- Media presence

- Social impact initiatives

4.3.4 Pillar 4: Competence and Governance Capacity (15 Points)

Measures ability to function effectively in public office.

Indicators include:

- Educational qualifications
- Professional experience
- Policy understanding
- Administrative capability

4.3.5 Pillar 5: Integrity and Discipline (15 Points)

Measures ethical conduct and reliability.

Indicators include:

- Compliance with Party rules
- Absence of disciplinary findings
- Ethical conduct
- Consistency and dependability

4.4 Scoring Methodology

4.4.1 Standardised Evaluation

Each indicator shall be scored using:

- A predefined scoring rubric
- Uniform criteria applied across all candidates

4.4.2 Verification Requirement

All scores must be:

- Supported by documentary or verifiable evidence
- Subject to audit by the Legal and Compliance Unit

4.4.3 Composite Score Calculation

Each candidate shall receive:

A final aggregate score out of 100

This score shall determine **initial ranking position**.

4.5 Ranking Outcomes and List Placement

4.5.1 Primary Rule

Candidates shall be ranked:

Strictly in descending order of their final composite scores

4.5.2 No Automatic Seniority Advantage

- Seniority shall:
    - Not guarantee placement
    - Not override scoring outcomes

4.6 Resolution of Ranking Disparities

4.6.1 Performance Override Rule

Where a lower-ranked or newer candidate (e.g., ranked 10–20) achieves a **higher score** than previously senior candidates (e.g., ranked 1–5):

The higher-scoring candidate shall be elevated above the lower-performing candidates without exception.

4.6.2 Legal Justification

This rule is justified on the basis that:

- The PR system allocates public office based on list order
- The Party has a duty to:
    - Maximise electoral success
    - Deploy the most effective representatives

Failure to apply this rule would:

- Undermine rationality
- Expose the Party to internal dispute
- Compromise electoral outcomes

4.6.3 Seniority Neutralisation Clause

Seniority may only be considered:

- As a **tie-breaker**, and
- Where candidates have **substantially equal scores**

Otherwise:

Performance shall always prevail over seniority.

4.7 Tie-Breaking Mechanism

Where candidates achieve identical or near-identical scores:

The following hierarchy shall apply:

1. Higher score in **Electoral Performance**
2. Higher score in **Organisational Contribution**
3. Proven leadership experience
4. Seniority (as a last resort only)

4.8 Exceptional Override Mechanism

4.8.1 Limited Discretion of NLCC

The NLCC may override ranking outcomes only where:

- There are **compelling strategic reasons**
- Such reasons are:
    - Documented
    - Rational
    - Legally defensible

4.8.2 Restrictions on Override

Overrides shall not be based on:

- Personal preference
- Financial influence
- Political pressure

4.8.3 Documentation Requirement

Any override must include:

- Written justification
- Reference to objective factors
- Legal review by the LCU

4.9 Post-Election Performance Reassessment

4.9.1 Mandatory Review

After each election, all deployed representatives shall be:

- Re-evaluated using the same scoring system

4.9.2 Underperformance Consequence

Where a candidate:

- Performs below acceptable thresholds

The Party may:

- Lower their future ranking
- Initiate recall processes (subject to law)
- Impose disciplinary measures

4.9.3 Replacement Principle

High-performing candidates previously ranked lower shall:

Be prioritised in future list placements over underperforming incumbents

4.10 Legal Defensibility of the Ranking System

This Ranking System is designed to withstand legal scrutiny on the basis that it is:

- **Rational** (based on objective criteria)
- **Transparent** (clear methodology)
- **Consistent** (uniform application)
- **Procedurally fair** (opportunity to participate and review)

4.11 Binding Nature of Rankings

All candidates participating in the process:

- Accept that ranking outcomes are:
    - Binding
    - Determinative of list placement
- Waive any claim based solely on:
    - Seniority
    - Expectation of placement

4.12 Record-Keeping and Auditability

The EPRU and LCU shall ensure:

- Full records of scoring are maintained
- Data is auditable
- Reports are available for:

- Internal review
- Legal defence

SECTION 5: DEPLOYMENT CONTRACT AND LEGAL ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS

5.1 Purpose and Legal Character of the Deployment Contract

This Section establishes the **Deployment Contract** as a **mandatory, binding, and enforceable legal instrument** governing the relationship between AAAIC and all candidates deployed to public office.

The Deployment Contract shall:

- Convert political obligations into **legally enforceable duties**
- Ensure **continuous accountability post-election**
- Provide a lawful basis for:
  - Discipline
  - Recall
  - Repositioning
- Protect AAAIC from **loss of control over deployed representatives**

No candidate shall be eligible for inclusion on any PR list without signing the Deployment Contract.

5.2 Legal Status of the Deployment Contract

The Deployment Contract shall constitute:

- A **private law agreement** between AAAIC and the candidate
- Supplementary to:
  - The AAAIC Constitution
  - This Policy
- Enforceable in accordance with:
  - South African contract law
  - Applicable constitutional and statutory limitations

5.3 Binding Nature and Precondition to Candidacy

5.3.1 Mandatory Execution

All candidates must:

- Sign the Deployment Contract prior to:
  - Final ranking

- Inclusion on any PR list

5.3.2 Condition Precedent

Failure or refusal to sign shall result in:

Automatic disqualification from candidature and exclusion from all electoral lists.

5.4 Core Obligations of Deployed Representatives

The Deployment Contract shall impose the following non-negotiable obligations:

5.4.1 Duty of Loyalty and Alignment

The candidate shall:

- Uphold and promote AAAIC policies and positions
- Act in the best interests of the Party at all times
- Refrain from conduct inconsistent with Party directives

5.4.2 Duty of Performance

The candidate shall:

- Meet defined **performance targets**
- Actively contribute to:
  - Electoral growth
  - Constituency service
  - Policy implementation

5.4.3 Duty of Accountability

The candidate shall:

- Submit regular performance reports
- Participate in performance evaluations
- Respond to oversight mechanisms

5.4.4 Duty of Ethical Conduct

The candidate shall:

- Maintain the highest standards of integrity
- Avoid corruption, misconduct, or reputational harm
- Comply with all applicable laws and Party rules

5.4.5 Duty of Transparency

The candidate shall:

- Disclose conflicts of interest
- Declare financial and business interests
- Cooperate with audits and investigations

5.5 Performance Management Framework

5.5.1 Performance Metrics

Performance shall be assessed using:

- The same scoring pillars defined in Section 4
- Additional role-specific indicators

5.5.2 Evaluation Frequency

Evaluations shall occur:

- Quarterly (internal review)
- Annually (formal assessment)
- Post-election (comprehensive review)

5.5.3 Performance Thresholds

Minimum acceptable performance levels shall be defined.

Failure to meet such thresholds shall trigger:

- Corrective measures
- Disciplinary proceedings

5.6 Breach of Contract

5.6.1 Definition of Breach

A breach shall include:

- Failure to meet performance standards
- Violation of Party directives
- Misconduct or unethical behaviour
- Misrepresentation or non-disclosure
- Conduct bringing the Party into disrepute

5.6.2 Classification of Breaches

Breaches shall be categorised as:

- Minor (corrective action required)
- Serious (disciplinary action)
- Material (grounds for recall or termination)

5.7 Enforcement Mechanisms

5.7.1 Corrective Measures

Where underperformance is identified:

- Performance improvement plans may be imposed
- Mandatory training or support interventions

5.7.2 Disciplinary Action

Where breaches occur:

- Formal disciplinary proceedings shall be initiated
- Sanctions may include:
    - Warnings
    - Suspension from Party activities
    - Removal from internal structures

5.7.3 Recall Mechanism (Critical Clause)

5.7.3.1 Triggering Conditions

Recall may be initiated where:

- There is material breach of the Deployment Contract
- Persistent underperformance is established
- Political disloyalty is proven

5.7.3.2 Legal Position

While public representatives hold office under constitutional and statutory frameworks:

The Party retains political control over deployment through internal mechanisms and contractual obligations.

5.7.3.3 Enforcement Strategy

The Deployment Contract shall include:

- A **voluntary resignation clause**, whereby the candidate agrees to:
    - Resign upon lawful instruction by AAAIC under defined conditions

5.7.3.4 Refusal to Resign

Where a representative refuses:

- The Party may:
    - Institute disciplinary proceedings
    - Withdraw political support
    - Publicly disassociate
    - Pursue legal remedies where applicable

5.8 Re-Ranking and Future List Exclusion

5.8.1 Underperformance Consequences

Candidates who underperform shall:

- Be downgraded in future rankings
- Be excluded from future lists where necessary

5.8.2 High-Performance Advancement

Candidates demonstrating superior performance shall:

Be prioritised over incumbents in future list compilation

5.9 Dispute Resolution under the Contract

5.9.1 Internal Resolution

All disputes shall first be addressed through:

- Internal Party mechanisms
- Review by the Legal and Compliance Unit

5.9.2 Arbitration Clause

The Deployment Contract may provide for:

- Binding arbitration as an alternative to litigation

5.9.3 Limitation of External Litigation

Candidates agree to:

- Exhaust internal remedies before approaching courts

5.10 Legal Safeguards for Enforceability

To ensure enforceability, the Deployment Contract shall:

- Be drafted in clear and unambiguous terms
- Avoid conflict with:
    - Constitutional rights
    - Electoral laws
- Provide for:
    - Procedural fairness
    - Reasonable enforcement mechanisms

5.11 Survival Clause

Certain obligations shall survive termination of office, including:

- Confidentiality
- Accountability for past conduct
- Cooperation with investigations

5.12 Acknowledgment and Consent

By signing the Deployment Contract, the candidate acknowledges:

- Full understanding of obligations
- Acceptance of enforcement mechanisms
- Waiver of claims based on:
    - Expectation of permanent deployment
    - Seniority or entitlement

5.13 Strategic Effect of the Deployment Contract

This mechanism ensures that AAAIC:

- Retains **continuous control over its representatives**
- Avoids the common failure of political parties where:
    - Deployed individuals act independently of Party mandate

SECTION 6: POST-ELECTION PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, RECALL, AND LIST RECONFIGURATION

6.1 Purpose and Strategic Function

This Section establishes a **continuous post-election governance framework** to ensure that all deployed AAAIC representatives:

- Remain **accountable, effective, and aligned** with Party objectives
- Are subject to **objective performance monitoring and evaluation**
- May be **lawfully corrected, repositioned, or removed** where necessary

This Section is designed to address the systemic weakness in political party systems, namely:

The loss of institutional control over elected representatives after allocation of seats through the PR system.

6.2 Legal Context and Constraints

6.2.1 Nature of Public Office Under PR System

Under South African law:

- Seats are allocated to **political parties**, but
- Office is occupied by **individual representatives**

The legal reality is that:

- Removal from public office is governed by:
    - The Constitution
    - Applicable legislation
    - Rules of the relevant legislative body

6.2.2 Party Control Mechanisms

While direct removal is legally constrained, AAAIC retains:

- **Political control** through Party membership
- **Contractual control** through the Deployment Contract
- **Future list control** through ranking and reselection

6.2.3 Strategic Position

This Policy is structured to ensure that:

Even where immediate removal is legally constrained, long-term political and organisational control remains firmly vested in AAAIC.

6.3 Post-Election Performance Management System

6.3.1 Establishment of Monitoring Framework

AAAIC shall implement a **formal Performance Monitoring System (PMS)** applicable to all deployed representatives.

6.3.2 Key Performance Areas (KPAs)

Each representative shall be evaluated against:

1. **Constituency Service Delivery**
    - Responsiveness to community needs
    - Accessibility and visibility
2. **Legislative Participation**
    - Attendance
    - Contribution to debates
    - Committee work
3. **Political Contribution**
    - Party mobilisation
    - Recruitment and growth
4. **Governance and Oversight**
    - Accountability efforts
    - Anti-corruption stance
5. **Ethical Conduct**
    - Compliance with legal and Party standards

6.3.3 Reporting Obligations

Representatives must:

- Submit **quarterly performance reports**
- Provide evidence of activities and outcomes

6.3.4 Independent Verification

Performance reports shall be:

- Verified by the Electoral Performance and Ranking Unit (EPRU)
- Subject to audit by the Legal and Compliance Unit

6.4 Performance Evaluation and Classification

6.4.1 Performance Ratings

Representatives shall be classified as:

- **High Performing**
- **Satisfactory**
- **Underperforming**
- **Critically Non-Performing**

6.4.2 Consequence Framework

Classification	Consequence
High Performing	Priority ranking in future lists
Satisfactory	Retention subject to improvement
Underperforming	Corrective intervention required
Critically Non-Performing	Recall or exclusion process triggered

6.5 Corrective Intervention Measures

6.5.1 Performance Improvement Plans (PIPs)

Underperforming representatives shall be placed on:

- Structured improvement programmes
- With defined targets and timelines

6.5.2 Monitoring Period

A defined monitoring period shall apply, after which:

- Reassessment shall be conducted
- Further action shall be determined

6.6 Recall Mechanism (Operational Framework)

6.6.1 Grounds for Recall

Recall may be initiated where:

- There is persistent underperformance
- There is material breach of the Deployment Contract
- There is misconduct or reputational harm
- There is political disloyalty

6.6.2 Procedural Requirements

Recall processes must comply with:

- Principles of procedural fairness
- Notice to the affected representative
- Opportunity to make representations

6.6.3 Decision-Making Authority

The National List Control Committee (NLCC) shall:

- Consider evidence and recommendations
- Make final determination on recall

6.6.4 Implementation Mechanism

Recall shall be effected through:

1. **Invocation of the voluntary resignation clause**
2. Internal disciplinary action
3. Political withdrawal of Party support

6.6.5 Legal Limitations Acknowledged

Where a representative refuses to resign:

- AAAIC shall utilise:
    - Political pressure
    - Public accountability measures
    - Future exclusion from Party structures

6.7 Re-Ranking for Future Elections

6.7.1 Mandatory Reassessment

All candidates, including incumbents, shall be:

Re-scored afresh prior to every election cycle

6.7.2 No Incumbency Advantage

Holding office shall not:

- Guarantee retention
- Guarantee ranking position

6.7.3 Performance Supremacy Rule

High-performing candidates shall:

Replace underperforming incumbents in higher list positions

6.8 PR List Reconfiguration Between Elections

6.8.1 Legal Framework

Where vacancies arise:

- Replacement shall occur in accordance with:
    - IEC rules
    - The next eligible candidate on the list

6.8.2 Strategic Implication

This reinforces the importance of:

Accurate and strategic initial list ranking

6.9 Data Integration with IEC Outcomes

6.9.1 Electoral Performance Data

AAAIC shall utilise:

- IEC election results
- Voting patterns
- Ward-level performance data

To inform:

- Future rankings
- Candidate evaluation

6.9.2 Evidence-Based Adjustment

Future list compilation shall be:

- Directly influenced by electoral data
- Aligned with actual voter behaviour

6.10 Exclusion from Future Lists

6.10.1 Automatic Exclusion Grounds

A representative may be excluded from future lists where:

- They are classified as critically non-performing
- They have breached the Deployment Contract materially
- They have brought the Party into disrepute

6.10.2 Discretionary Exclusion

The NLCC may exclude candidates where:

- Strategic considerations justify such exclusion
- Documented reasons exist

6.11 Public Accountability Strategy

6.11.1 Transparency Measures

AAAIC may:

- Publicly report performance outcomes
- Communicate actions taken against underperformers

6.11.2 Political Messaging

This serves to:

- Reinforce accountability
- Build public trust
- Differentiate AAAIC from other parties

6.12 Finality and Binding Effect

All decisions relating to:

- Performance classification
- Recall
- Re-ranking
- Exclusion

Shall be:

Final and binding within AAAIC, subject only to procedural review mechanisms.

6.13 Strategic Outcome of Section 6

This Section ensures that:

- No candidate is “safe” after election
- Performance is continuously enforced

- The Party retains **long-term strategic control over representation**

SECTION 7: GENERAL PROVISIONS, LEGAL DEFENSIBILITY, APPEALS, AND IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 Purpose and Interpretive Function

This Section provides the **final governance layer** of the Policy and regulates:

- Legal enforceability
- Internal appeals and review mechanisms
- IEC compliance alignment
- Implementation structure and timelines
- Transitional and general legal provisions

Its purpose is to ensure that the entire Framework is:

Internally coherent, externally defensible, and operationally enforceable within South African constitutional and electoral law.

7.2 Legal Status and Hierarchy of Instruments

7.2.1 Binding Nature

This Policy constitutes:

- A **binding internal governance instrument** of AAAIC
- A directive framework for all:
    - Members
    - Office bearers
    - Candidates
    - Deployed representatives

7.2.2 Hierarchy of Authority

In the event of inconsistency, the following hierarchy shall apply:

1. Constitution of the Republic of South Africa
2. Applicable electoral legislation
3. IEC regulations and directives
4. AAAIC Constitution
5. This Policy
6. Internal guidelines and operational manuals

7.2.3 Supremacy Clause

Within AAAIC governance structures:

This Policy shall prevail in all matters relating to candidate selection, PR list control, ranking, deployment, and performance management.

7.3 Principles of Legal Defensibility

This Policy is expressly designed to withstand legal scrutiny on the basis that it is:

7.3.1 Rationality

- Decisions are based on:
    - Objective scoring
    - Defined criteria
    - Evidence-based evaluation

7.3.2 Procedural Fairness

- Candidates are afforded:
    - Notice of processes
    - Opportunity to make representations
    - Access to review mechanisms

7.3.3 Non-Arbitrariness

- No decision may be made:
    - Without reason
    - Without supporting evidence
    - In a discriminatory or capricious manner

7.3.4 Consistency

- Uniform application of criteria across:
    - All provinces
    - All elections
    - All candidates

7.4 Internal Appeals and Review Mechanism

7.4.1 Right to Internal Review

A candidate may request review of:

- Scoring outcomes
- Procedural compliance
- Disqualification decisions

7.4.2 Scope of Review

Review shall be limited to:

- Procedural irregularity
- Evidentiary errors
- Misapplication of scoring criteria

7.4.3 Exclusions from Appeal

The following are not appealable on merit alone:

- Ranking dissatisfaction
- Seniority claims
- Political preference disputes

7.4.4 Appeals Authority

Appeals shall be heard by:

- A designated Appeals Subcommittee appointed by the NLCC
- Excluding members involved in the original decision

7.4.5 Finality

The decision of the Appeals Subcommittee shall be:

Final and binding within AAAIC internal structures.

7.5 IEC Compliance and Electoral Submission Protocol

7.5.1 Compliance Requirement

All candidate lists submitted to the IEC must:

- Comply with IEC nomination requirements
- Reflect certified rankings approved by NLCC
- Be submitted within prescribed timelines

7.5.2 Certification Requirement

Before submission, the NLCC must certify that:

- All candidates meet eligibility requirements
- All vetting procedures were completed
- Ranking was conducted in accordance with this Policy

7.5.3 Non-Amendment Principle

Once submitted to the IEC:

- Lists may not be altered except in accordance with IEC rules
- Internal AAAIC adjustments shall apply only to:
    - Future elections
    - Replacement procedures permitted by law

7.6 Risk Management and Legal Protection

7.6.1 Litigation Risk Mitigation

This Policy is designed to reduce exposure to:

- Internal disputes
- Candidate litigation
- Administrative review applications

7.6.2 Indemnity Clause

All candidates acknowledge that:

- Participation is voluntary
- Ranking outcomes are governed by this Policy
- AAAIC shall not be liable for loss of expectation or perceived entitlement

7.6.3 Waiver of Claims

By participating, candidates waive claims based on:

- Seniority expectations
- Political disappointment
- Non-placement on lists

7.7 Confidentiality and Data Protection

7.7.1 Confidential Information

All internal:

- Scoring data
- Vetting reports
- Deliberations

Shall be treated as confidential unless disclosure is required by law.

7.7.2 Protection of Candidate Data

AAAIC shall ensure:

- Secure handling of personal data
- Compliance with applicable data protection laws

7.8 Implementation Framework

7.8.1 Effective Date

This Policy shall take effect upon:

- Adoption by the competent AAAIC authority

7.8.2 Phased Implementation

Implementation shall occur in phases:

1. Institutional setup (committees and units)
2. Training and operationalisation
3. Pilot application in candidate cycle
4. Full enforcement in next electoral cycle

7.8.3 Mandatory Training

All structures involved must undergo:

- Policy interpretation training
- Scoring system training
- Legal compliance orientation

7.9 Amendment Procedure

7.9.1 Authority to Amend

Only the NLCC may recommend amendments, subject to:

- Approval by the highest AAAIC authority structure

7.9.2 Amendment Requirements

Any amendment must:

- Be in writing
- Include legal justification
- Preserve constitutional compliance

7.10 Transitional Provisions

7.10.1 Existing Candidates

Current or previously selected candidates shall:

- Be subject to vetting under this Policy
- Be re-scored if required for future elections

7.10.2 Ongoing Processes

Any candidate selection process underway at the time of adoption shall:

- Be reviewed for compliance
- Be aligned with this Policy before finalisation

7.11 Severability Clause

If any provision of this Policy is found:

- Invalid
- Unenforceable
- Inconsistent with law

Then:

The remaining provisions shall remain fully valid and enforceable.

7.12 Entire Agreement Principle

This Policy, together with:

- AAAIC Constitution
- Deployment Contract
- Approved internal regulations

Shall constitute the **entire governance framework** for candidate selection and deployment.

7.13 Final Statement of Intent

This Policy is designed to ensure that AAAIC:

- Maintains full institutional control over electoral representation
- Eliminates corruption, capture, and entitlement-based ranking
- Embeds merit-based governance at every level of political deployment
- Ensures long-term electoral credibility and organisational discipline

SECTION 8: DEFINITIONS AND RULES OF INTERPRETATION

8.1 Purpose of This Clause

This Clause provides authoritative definitions of all key terms used in this Policy and establishes the **rules governing interpretation** of its provisions.

The purpose is to ensure that:

- All provisions are applied **consistently and uniformly**
- Ambiguities are resolved in a **legally defensible manner**
- The intent of AAAIC governance structures is preserved and protected

In the event of any dispute regarding meaning, this Clause shall be determinative.

8.2 Definitions

For purposes of this Policy, unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms shall bear the meanings assigned to them below:

8.2.1 “AAAIC”

Means the **ARISE AFRIKA ARISE INDEPENDENT CONGRESS**, a registered political party operating within the Republic of South Africa.

8.2.2 “Policy” or “Framework”

Means this **Candidate Selection, PR List Control Policy, Ranking System, and Deployment Contract Policy**, including all sections, schedules, amendments, and annexures thereto.

8.2.3 “Candidate”

Means any person who:

- Seeks nomination by AAAIC for inclusion on any electoral list
- Has been nominated, vetted, or considered for public office under AAAIC structures

8.2.4 “Deployment Contract”

Means a legally binding agreement entered into between AAAIC and a Candidate governing:

- Conduct
- Performance
- Accountability
- Discipline
- Post-election obligations

8.2.5 “PR List” (Proportional Representation List)

Means the official list of candidates submitted by AAAIC to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) for purposes of allocating seats under the proportional representation electoral system.

8.2.6 “Ranking System”

Means the structured scoring and evaluation methodology set out in Section 4 used to determine the order of candidates on the PR List.

8.2.7 “Ranking”

Means the numerical and positional placement of a Candidate on the PR List, determined by the application of the Ranking System.

8.2.8 “NLCC” (National List Control Committee)

Means the supreme internal decision-making body of AAAIC responsible for:

- Final approval of PR lists
- Ranking oversight
- Candidate list certification
- Strategic electoral deployment decisions

8.2.9 “CVIP” (Candidate Vetting and Integrity Panel)

Means the body responsible for:

- Background checks
- Integrity assessments
- Eligibility screening
- Disqualification recommendations

8.2.10 “EPRU” (Electoral Performance and Ranking Unit)

Means the technical unit responsible for:

- Application of the scoring system
- Performance measurement
- Compilation of ranking data

8.2.11 “LGE”

Means **Local Government Elections** conducted under applicable South African electoral legislation.

8.2.12 “NPE”

Means **National and Provincial Elections** conducted under applicable South African electoral legislation.

8.2.13 “Vetting”

Means the process of assessing a Candidate’s:

- Legal eligibility
- Criminal background
- Financial integrity
- Ethical standing
- Organisational alignment

8.2.14 “Disqualification”

Means the formal exclusion of a Candidate from further participation in the selection, ranking, or listing process due to failure to meet eligibility or integrity requirements.

8.2.15 “Underperformance”

Means failure by a deployed representative to meet:

- Defined performance metrics
- Minimum thresholds established under this Policy

8.2.16 “Recall”

Means the internal political and contractual process by which AAAIC seeks to:

- Remove or replace a deployed representative
- Withdraw political support
- Enforce resignation obligations where applicable

8.2.17 “Integrity”

Means adherence to:

- Ethical conduct
- Honesty
- Transparency
- Absence of corruption or misconduct

8.2.18 “Senior Member” or “Seniority”

Means length of time a person has been a member of AAAIC or engaged in Party structures, which:

Shall not, on its own, determine ranking priority under this Policy.

8.2.19 “Electoral Contribution”

Means measurable contribution by a Candidate to:

- Vote generation
- Campaign effectiveness
- Party growth
- Public mobilisation

8.2.20 “Performance”

Means the measurable output of a Candidate assessed against the scoring framework in Section 4.

8.2.21 “Override”

Means a limited, formally documented deviation from ranking outcomes, permitted only under strict conditions defined in this Policy.

8.2.22 “IEC”

Means the **Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa**, the statutory body responsible for managing elections.

8.2.23 “List Submission”

Means the formal submission of the PR List to the IEC for certification and election purposes.

8.3 Rules of Interpretation

8.3.1 Contextual Interpretation

Words and provisions shall be interpreted:

- In the context of the entire Policy
- With reference to its purpose and objectives
- In a manner that promotes internal consistency

8.3.2 Purpose-Driven Interpretation

Where ambiguity exists, interpretation shall favour:

The effective functioning, integrity, and electoral success of AAAIC.

8.3.3 Hierarchical Interpretation

In the event of inconsistency:

- Specific provisions prevail over general provisions
- Later provisions prevail over earlier provisions

8.3.4 Rationality Principle

Interpretations must:

- Be logical
- Be defensible
- Avoid absurd or impractical outcomes

8.3.5 Non-Arbitrariness Rule

No interpretation shall:

- Produce arbitrary outcomes
- Undermine the scoring system
- Disrupt the integrity of ranking mechanisms

8.3.6 Legal Compliance Rule

All interpretations must:

- Comply with the Constitution of South Africa
- Comply with applicable electoral legislation
- Respect binding IEC requirements

8.3.7 Strict vs Purposive Approach

- Where enforcement or disciplinary provisions are concerned: **strict interpretation applies**
- Where structural or governance intent is concerned: **purposive interpretation applies**

8.3.8 Severability in Interpretation

If any interpretation renders a provision unlawful or unenforceable:

- The remainder of the Policy shall remain valid
- A lawful alternative interpretation shall be adopted where possible

8.4 Final Interpretive Authority

The final authority on interpretation within AAAIC shall rest with:

The National List Control Committee (NLCC), subject to constitutional and statutory compliance.

8.5 Concluding Legal Effect

This Definitions and Interpretation Clause shall:

- Apply to the entire Policy
- Bind all AAAIC structures and candidates
- Serve as the authoritative reference in any dispute regarding meaning or application