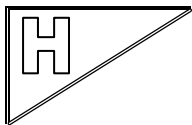


**CONSTITUTION OF THE
UNITED DEMOCRATIC STUDENTS' MOVEMENT**



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1. Preamble

- 1.1. We, the students in South Africa have come together in the interest of all students academically engaged in this country, have noted the need for the establishment of a United Democratic Students' Movement (herein after referred to as UDESMO or the Movement).
- 1.2. We cherish and believe in total democracy, human dignity and equality of all people before the law irrespective of race, colour, gender, religion, disability or ability, conscience, belief, culture, language and birth. We believe in co-operative leadership.
- 1.3. We will work from the basic principle that our challenges are enormous, and our individual fates intertwined. Only a highly focused joint effort by all stake-holders and communities, will guarantee our survival and ultimate success.
- 1.4. We are therefore determined to develop and assist all students to achieve academic excellence, to encourage students to practice cultural diversity, in our academic institutions, and to encourage students to respect our democratic society based on freedom, equality and human dignity as outlined by the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

2. Name and Motto

2.1. Name

The name of the movement is the United Democratic Students' Movement [UDESMO]. The name shall not be translated and the acronym 'UDESMO' will be used in all official languages of the Republic of South Africa.

2.2. Font

Arial

2.3. Motto

The motto of the movement is: "Unite, mobilise and consolidate for academic excellence"

3. Colours and Emblem

3.1. Colours

The colours red, green and gold are colours that have a strong link with the African Continent. Through the use of these colours, UDESMO acknowledges its origin from both South Africa and the African Continent. The colours also emphasise UDESMO's commitment and intentions towards the development of South Africa and Africa at large.

Red: Pantone 179c
Green: Pantone 3415c
Gold: Pantone 1235c

3.2. Emblem



Colour version



Black and white version

Co-operation: The willingness of all students in South Africa to work together towards achieving academic progress and excellence.

Solidarity: The common dependence of all students in South Africa on each other and on South Africa.

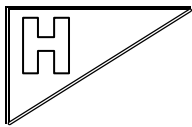
Convergence: The coming together of all students in South Africa.

Unification: The building of one nation in South Africa.

Progression: The development of the Country and its people to the advancement of all.

4. Aims and Objectives

- 4.1. The aims and objectives of UDESMO are to:
 - 4.1.1. to advocate and promote the rights of students.
 - 4.1.2. to preserve, promote, deepen and widen multiparty democracy as envisaged in the founding provisions of our national constitution.



- 4.1.3. to seek the formation of a new social partnership of all students in South Africa and of all our communities.
- 4.1.4. to strive as students towards the transformation of education in South Africa.
- 4.1.5. to take up the lead in the demands made by our students be they social, political, economic an/or educational.
- 4.1.6. to serve as the voice for student communities, nationally or internationally as well as on campus.
- 4.1.7. encourage other students and parties to:
 - 4.1.7.1. embrace us.
 - 4.1.7.2. join us in our mission.
 - 4.1.7.3. forge links with other bodies of various educational institutions that are working towards similar aims and objectives.

5. The Vision and Mission

5.1. Vision

We are the political home of all students, united in the spirit of democracy as a result of our common passion for our country and institutions of education, mobilising the creative spirit inherent in our rich diversity towards our transformation into a winning student body.

5.2. Mission

We will make UDESMO the home of all students.

6. Core Values

We will be guided by the preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa that says: "South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity". This simple and powerful notion will form our philosophical base and we shall at all times guide UDESMO's discussions including its policies, internal and external operations.

We therefore articulate the following as the core values of UDESMO:

- Democracy
- Patriotism
- Non-sexism
- Non-racialism
- South Africanism and unity amongst all in South Africa
- Equality
- Human dignity
- Social order
- Transparency
- Pragmatism
- Respect for Constitution
- Law abiding

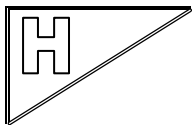
7. Membership

7.1. Requirements for full membership

- 7.1.1. Membership shall be open to all students at secondary and tertiary institutions regardless of their race, gender, marital status, ethnic or social origin, colour, age, disability, religion, conscience, belief, culture, language and birth.
- 7.1.2. To this end any individual shall be eligible for membership and be entitled to exercise all rights and honour all obligations associated with membership provided that;
 - 7.1.2.1. He/she is a fully registered student in any institution of education in the Republic of South Africa;
 - 7.1.2.2. He/she applies for membership in writing;
 - 7.1.2.3. He/she pays the prescribed annual membership fee of R5;
 - 7.1.2.4. He/she is not a member of any other political party (except the United Democratic Movement [UDM]) in the Republic of South Africa.

7.2. Application for membership

A person will be admitted as a member of UDESMO, if his/her application is approved by the appropriate Branch Management Committee. In case of an unsuccessful membership application, the applicant has the right to appeal to higher structures of the Movement.



7.3. Registered membership

- 7.3.1. Membership of the Movement is valid for one (1) academic year, as from the date of admission to the Movement.
- 7.3.2. The date of approval of membership, as in section 0 and subject to payment of a membership fee, is deemed the date of admission.
- 7.3.3. A member of the Movement is deemed to be on the membership list of the appropriate branch from the date of admission.
- 7.3.4. Membership of the Movement must be renewed annually by payment of the required membership fee.
- 7.3.5. A member of the Movement shall be provided with a membership card.
- 7.3.6. A member of the Movement shall acquaint him/herself of the contents of the UDESMO Constitution, UDESMO Code of Ethics and Conduct- (Annexed as H1) and the UDESMO Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Measures and Principles (Annexed as H2), and his/her obligation to abide by it.

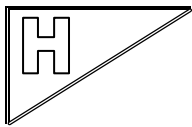
7.4. Suspension or termination of membership

- 7.4.1. Membership of the Movement shall be suspended and/or terminated in the following instances:
 - 7.4.1.1. By written resignation, submitted to the Movement.
 - 7.4.1.2. Non-payment of annual membership fee on due date.
 - 7.4.1.3. A member shall be automatically suspended if he/she is formally charged with a serious offence(s) as listed in Schedule 1 of the Criminal Procedure Act (or its successor) until the matter has been considered in terms of the UDESMO Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Measures and Principles (Annexed as B).
 - 7.4.1.4. Any person holding any elected position at branch, provincial and/or national level within the Movement shall vacate such position, in circumstances where he/she becomes unfit to hold that position or when he/she ceases to be a student or is de-registered for any reason in any institution of education in the Republic of South Africa.
 - 7.4.1.5. When conduct of a member be judged improper, in terms of the UDESMO Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Measures and Principles (Annexed as B), unbecoming or be in conflict with the movement's Code of Ethics and Conduct (Annexed as A) and this Constitution.
 - 7.4.1.6. When such a member ceases to be a registered student at any secondary or tertiary institution of education in the Republic of South Africa, or de-registered for any reason in any secondary or tertiary institution of education in the Republic of South Africa.

8. Structures of UDESMO

8.1. General Prescriptions

- 8.1.1. Members shall be organised within the Movement structures, according to their institutions of education and provinces in which their institutions of education are situated.
- 8.1.2. The Movement structures will, as far as practically possible, be aligned to correspond with the various spheres and levels of the education system of the Republic of South Africa, so as to best:
 - 8.1.2.1. Represent the interests of the Movement, its members and society.
 - 8.1.2.2. Identify, nominate and appoint candidates to represent the Movement and the community.
 - 8.1.2.3. Plan, organise and mobilise support for the Movement and its candidates during election campaigns and representatives thereafter.
- 8.1.3. The structures of the Movement shall function in an efficient, accountable, transparent and flexible manner, which will promote a participative democratic culture in the Movement and society at large.



8.2. Composition of Branch and Provincial Executive Committees

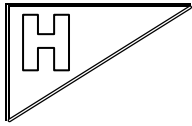
- 8.2.1. The Branch and Provincial Executive Committees (BECs and PECs) of UDESMO shall consist of twelve members:
- 8.2.1.1. Chairperson
 - 8.2.1.2. Deputy Chairperson
 - 8.2.1.3. Secretary General
 - 8.2.1.4. Assistant Secretary General
 - 8.2.1.5. Treasurer
 - 8.2.1.6. Education Officer
 - 8.2.1.7. Projects Officer
 - 8.2.1.8. Gender Officer
 - 8.2.1.9. Constitutional Officer
 - 8.2.1.10. Publicity and Information Officer
 - 8.2.1.11. Political Commissar
 - 8.2.1.12. Organising Officer

8.3. Functions of an Executive Committee (EC)

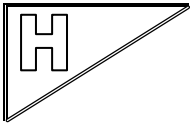
- 8.3.1. All executive committees shall:
- 8.3.1.1. Implement all policies and resolutions agreed upon in a meeting of the relevant level and/or structure.
 - 8.3.1.2. Represent the aspirations and interests of UDESMO.
 - 8.3.1.3. Liaise with other societies on campus, nationally and/or internationally in order to achieve the goals of the Movement.

8.4. Duties of Members of an Executive Committee

- 8.4.1. The Chairperson shall:
- 8.4.1.1. Be the chief executive officer of UDESMO.
 - 8.4.1.2. Whenever possible and necessary, represent UDESMO in all meetings on and off campus.
 - 8.4.1.3. Preside at all branch an/or provincial meetings of the Movement as Chairperson.
 - 8.4.1.4. In respect of all financial transactions together with the General Secretary of the Movement and Treasurer serve as the Movement's banking signatories.
 - 8.4.1.5. Carry out the decisions of the Movement at the relevant level and/or structure in which they were taken.
 - 8.4.1.6. Have first hand information from executive members for access by UDESMO members.
 - 8.4.1.7. Monitor the activities of UDESMO.
- 8.4.2. The Deputy Chairperson shall:
- 8.4.2.1. Deputise the Chairperson.
 - 8.4.2.2. Serve as the Transformation Officer.
 - 8.4.2.3. Participate in matters where transformation is in question
 - 8.4.2.4. Have first hand information from executive members for access by UDESMO members.
 - 8.4.2.5. Assist the Constitutional Officer in matters of dispute and discipline.
- 8.4.3. The Secretary General shall:
- 8.4.3.1. Be the Chief Administrative Officer of the Movement.
 - 8.4.3.2. Keep a register of all members, branches and associate members.
 - 8.4.3.3. Head the Secretariat Department of UDESMO.
 - 8.4.3.4. Be responsible for the recording and distribution of minutes of all meetings.
 - 8.4.3.5. Liaise with other bodies for the purpose of establishing and improving relations.
 - 8.4.3.6. Compile all information for access by members.
- 8.4.4. The Assistant Secretary General shall:
- 8.4.4.1. Deputise the General Secretary during his/her absence and/or request.



- 8.4.4.2. Handle correspondence and records.
- 8.4.4.3. In consultation with the General Secretary and the Chairperson draw up an agenda of meetings.
- 8.4.4.4. Assist in the general administration of the office.
- 8.4.5. The Treasurer shall:
 - 8.4.5.1. Be responsible for the banking account.
 - 8.4.5.2. Present a budget for the ensuing year and the financial statement at the annual general meeting (AGM).
 - 8.4.5.3. Keep proper books of accounts and have them ready whenever required by the executive committee.
 - 8.4.5.4. Be the signatory to the banking account.
 - 8.4.5.5. Establish a fundraising committee and head it.
- 8.4.6. The Education Officer shall:
 - 8.4.6.1. Be responsible for the formation of an education committee.
 - 8.4.6.2. Deal with matters pertaining to education.
 - 8.4.6.3. Compile and disseminate and distribute any education brochures, books and information packages for members.
 - 8.4.6.4. Together with the Publicity- and Information Officers, Organising Officer and the Political Commissar shall be responsible for the establishment of the Organisational Information/Library Department, which will be accessible to all Edu-Political and organisational information seekers.
 - 8.4.6.5. Represent the Movement at academic gatherings.
 - 8.4.6.6. Be part of a recruitment committee.
- 8.4.7. The Projects Officer shall:
 - 8.4.7.1. Form a recruitment committee in conjunction with the Chairperson and shall head it.
 - 8.4.7.2. Initiate projects on behalf of the Movement.
 - 8.4.7.3. Partake in other projects within and/or outside his/her learning institution or province per mandate.
 - 8.4.7.4. Automatically be part of the fundraising committee.
- 8.4.8. The Gender Officer shall:
 - 8.4.8.1. Form a gender forum.
 - 8.4.8.2. Initiate programmes that aim at the upliftment of gender equity.
 - 8.4.8.3. Promote gender equity.
 - 8.4.8.4. Be the affirmative action officer of the Movement dealing with issues that need to be affirmed be they gender related, racial, economic, social etc.
 - 8.4.8.5. Represent UDESMO in all gender programmes (on mandate).
- 8.4.9. The Constitutional Officer shall:
 - 8.4.9.1. Be responsible for the development of the UDESMO Constitution and the Code of Conduct of members of the Movement.
 - 8.4.9.2. Head committee/s on any constitutional matter.
 - 8.4.9.3. Be responsible for constitutional interpretation.
 - 8.4.9.4. Guided by the constitution, recognise any committee of the Movement.
 - 8.4.9.5. Uplift the Constitution of the Movement at all times.
 - 8.4.9.6. Should represent the Movement in all constitutional disputes.
 - 8.4.9.7. Be the head of disciplinary hearings.
- 8.4.10. The Publicity and Information Officer shall:
 - 8.4.10.1. Sub-section 8.4.6.5 applies mutatis mutandis.
 - 8.4.10.2. Be responsible for the newsletter and website of the Movement.
 - 8.4.10.3. Be the public relations officer and the spokesperson of the Movement (on mandate).
 - 8.4.10.4. Circulate notices of the Movement's activities.
 - 8.4.10.5. Be responsible for the production and distribution of membership cards and forms for the Movement.



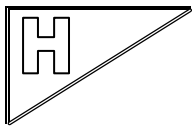
- 8.4.10.6. Be accessible for information about UDESMO membership.
- 8.4.11. The Political Commissar shall:
 - 8.4.11.1. Sub-section 8.4.6.5 applies mutatis mutandis.
 - 8.4.11.2. Be an automatic member of a recruitment committee.
 - 8.4.11.3. Educate new members on issues of policy.
 - 8.4.11.4. Advise the Executive on issues of policy and other related issues.
 - 8.4.11.5. Be the driving force of political projects.
- 8.4.12. The Organising Officer shall:
 - 8.4.12.1. Sub-section 8.4.6.5 applies mutatis mutandis.
 - 8.4.12.2. See to the proper organisation of the Movement's structures and committees.
 - 8.4.12.3. Along with the General Secretary make sure that the Executive functions correctly and does its work effectively and efficiently.
 - 8.4.12.4. Also be involved in seeing to it that the Movement achieves its goals.

8.5. Branches

- 8.5.1. Branches form the organisational foundation of the Movement.
- 8.5.2. Every member of the Movement:
 - 8.5.2.1. Shall be registered in a branch.
 - 8.5.2.2. May exercise all membership rights, shall honour membership obligations through his/her registered branch.
- 8.5.3. A member may not be registered in more than one (1) branch.
- 8.5.4. A branch consists of at least fifty (50) registered members.
- 8.5.5. The Branch Executive Committee elected in terms of section (8.6.7) shall operate until an Annual General Meeting of the Branch is held for the ensuing academic year.

8.6. Meetings

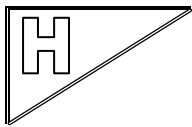
- 8.6.1. Branch Executive meetings shall:
 - 8.6.1.1. Be held every two (2) weeks and whenever necessary.
 - 8.6.1.2. Be upon a notice of three (3) days.
 - 8.6.1.3. Be chaired by the Chairperson or the deputy chairperson.
 - 8.6.1.4. Be constituted by a quorum of 51% of members.
- 8.6.2. Provincial Executive meetings shall:
 - 8.6.2.1. Be held every two (2) months and whenever necessary.
 - 8.6.2.2. Be upon a notice of one (1) week.
 - 8.6.2.3. Be chaired by the Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson.
 - 8.6.2.4. Be constituted by a quorum of 51% of members.
- 8.6.3. Branch General Meetings shall:
 - 8.6.3.1. Be held at least once a month.
 - 8.6.3.2. Be upon a notice of three (3) days.
 - 8.6.3.3. Be chaired by Chairperson or the Deputy Chairperson.
 - 8.6.3.4. Be constituted by 100% of executive members.
- 8.6.4. Branch or Provincial Special Meetings:
 - 8.6.4.1. If a need arises for a special meeting, it should be granted at both executive and/or general levels.
 - 8.6.4.2. An extended meeting shall also be granted the status of a special meeting.
 - 8.6.4.3. The quorum therefore shall be determined by its members present and their membership status.
- 8.6.5. Branch Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall:
 - 8.6.5.1. Be held annually.
 - 8.6.5.2. Be upon a notice of one month.
 - 8.6.5.3. Be the highest decision making body at the branch level.
- 8.6.6. Composition of Branch AGM
 - 8.6.6.1. All members of the Branch Executive Committee.
 - 8.6.6.2. All members of the branch.
- 8.6.7. Powers and functions of a Branch AGM



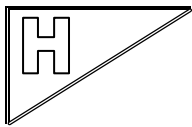
- 8.6.7.1. Elect a Branch Executive Committee.
- 8.6.7.2. Receive and consider the Branch Executive Committee composite/combined report and audited financial statements.
- 8.6.7.3. Adopt and implement the branch programme of action.
- 8.6.7.4. Assess the growth and development of the branch.
- 8.6.8. Elections
 - 8.6.8.1. Elections of the branch executive committee shall take place annually during a period agreed upon in a branch general meeting.
 - 8.6.8.2. Elections shall be run in the presence of delegations from either national or provincial structures.
 - 8.6.8.3. All card-carrying members of the Movement shall be eligible to take part in the election either as candidates or electorates and/or both.
 - 8.6.8.4. Members of the branch shall nominate candidates for specific portfolios.
 - 8.6.8.5. Elections shall be for each position in the executive.
- 8.6.9. Voting
 - 8.6.9.1. Voting shall be by secret ballot.
 - 8.6.9.2. No voting by proxy shall be allowed.
 - 8.6.9.3. A person with majority vote will be the person elected to a position.
- 8.7. Provincial Executive Committee (PEC)**
 - 8.7.1. The geographical boundaries of a PEC are the statutory demarcated provincial boundaries.
 - 8.7.2. The PEC shall be responsible for the effective co-ordination of the affairs of the Movement's structures within its spheres of jurisdiction, adequately achieve the Movement's objectives at Provincial level.
 - 8.7.3. When the Provincial Students' Council is not in session, its power rests with the Provincial Executive Committee, subject to UDESMO Provincial House Rules (Annexed as H3) and UDESMO Constitution.
 - 8.7.4. The PEC shall convene at least six (6) meetings during an academic year.
 - 8.7.5. The quorum of a PEC shall be fifty one percent (51%) of its Committee members, provided sufficient and proper notice was given to all its members.
- 8.8. Provincial Students' Council**
 - 8.8.1. Composition
 - 8.8.1.1. All PEC members.
 - 8.8.1.2. The chairperson and secretary of each branch.
 - 8.8.1.3. Invited persons and organisations.
 - 8.8.2. The Provincial Students' Council shall;
 - 8.8.2.1. Be chaired by the Provincial Chairperson.
 - 8.8.2.2. Receive and consider individual reports of PEC members.
 - 8.8.2.3. Receive and consider branch reports.
 - 8.8.2.4. Evaluate the progress of UDESMO in the province.
 - 8.8.2.5. Scrutinise the financial position of the Movement within the province.
 - 8.8.2.6. Adopt and implement a programme of action.
 - 8.8.2.7. Convene the provincial congress.
 - 8.8.2.8. Act with the authority and power of the Provincial Congress, when Congress is not in session, subject to the powers of the Movement's structure at higher level.
- 8.9. Provincial Congress**

All business of the Provincial Congress shall be conducted in the spirit of the Vision, Mission and Core Values of UDESMO.

 - 8.9.1. A Provincial Congress is held annually, at a time and place determined by the Provincial Students' Council, in consultation with the National Students' Council
 - 8.9.2. The agenda of the Provincial Congress and the number of delegates per branch are determined by the Provincial Council.
 - 8.9.3. The Provincial Council shall see to it that decisions of Provincial Congress are properly minuted and as far as it is in its jurisdiction, executed.

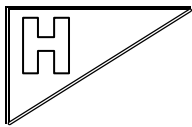


- 8.9.4. Composition
- 8.9.4.1. Provincial Executive Committee (PEC)
 - 8.9.4.2. Delegates from each branch.
 - 8.9.4.3. UDESMO student representative council (SRC) members.
 - 8.9.4.4. Invited guests (as observers).
- 8.9.5. Business of a Provincial Congress is to:
- 8.9.5.1. Elect the PEC.
 - 8.9.5.2. Consider, evaluate, amend, adopt or reject resolutions from branches.
 - 8.9.5.3. Consider reports submitted by the Provincial Students' Council on organisational and financial status of the Movement within the province.
 - 8.9.5.4. Consider reports submitted by any sub-committee and/or commission, appointed by the Provincial Students' Council.
 - 8.9.5.5. Deal with matters referred to Provincial Congress by National Students' Council.
 - 8.9.5.6. Discuss matters and resolutions from Branches submitted by Provincial Students' Council.
 - 8.9.5.7. Deliberate on national and provincial political issues and formulation of strategy thereon.
 - 8.9.5.8. Deliberate and formulate UDESMO policies.
- 8.9.6. Nomination and voting procedure at a Provincial Congress
- 8.9.6.1. Nomination procedure:
 - i. The PEC shall, prior to the Provincial Congress call for written nominations for the respective positions on the Provincial Executive Committee.
 - ii. Such nominations shall indicate the following:
 - a) Position for which a person is being nominated;
 - b) Full name of the nominee and institution he/she represents;
 - c) Signature of the nominee, indicating his/her acceptance of his/her nomination;
 - d) Membership and identity numbers and date of membership approval of the nominee;
 - e) Full names, name of institution and membership and identity numbers of the proposer and seconder and that of five (5) additional members, supporting the nomination
 - iii. The nomination shall be handed in at a time, not later than five (5) days prior this Provincial Congress, and be announced at the commencement of this Congress.
 - iv. A person may be nominated for more than one (1) position. If he/she should be elected to one (1) of the positions, the balance of his/her nominations falls away.
 - v. Nomination may only be made on a form, provided by the Provincial Executive Committee.
 - vi. Nomination forms shall, prior to Provincial Congress be submitted to the Provincial Executive Committee, to scrutinise it for approval or rejection.
 - 8.9.6.2. Voting rights:
 - i. Only delegates, whose membership complies with Section 7 of this Constitution, shall be eligible to vote at Provincial Congress. The Provincial Executive Committee shall give judgement on any disputes.
 - ii. Each delegate shall vote in person and no proxy vote shall be allowed.
 - 8.9.6.3. Voting procedures:
 - i. The total number of eligible voters present shall be established just before voting and announced at commencement of voting.



Annexure H of the UDM Constitution

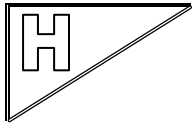
- ii. Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) ballot paper, per position of the Provincial Executive Committee.
 - iii. Voting shall be by secret ballot only.
 - iv. Voting shall be on officially supplied ballot papers only.
 - v. No person nominated may be elected to more than one (1) position.
 - vi. Disabled voters can apply for assistance to the convenor of the Counting Committee.
- 8.9.6.4. Counting Committee:
- i. The Provincial Executive Committee shall be entitled to appoint maximum of five (5) independent persons and one (1) person nominated by the National Chairperson to act as the Counting Committee and appoint a convenor of a Counting Committee.
 - ii. The Counting Committee shall count the votes and report the result in writing to the Chairperson of the Provincial Congress, who shall announce the result to Provincial Congress.
- 8.10. National Students' Council (NSC)
- 8.10.1. The NSC shall/may:
- 8.10.1.1. be chaired by the National President of UDESMO.
 - 8.10.1.2. act within the power and authority of the National Congress, when Congress is not in session.
 - 8.10.1.3. consider, evaluate, amend, adopt or reject;
 - i. Reports of the NEC;
 - ii. The Code of Ethics and Conduct of UDESMO (Annexed as A);
 - iii. The Dispute Resolution and Disciplinary Measures and Principles (Annexed as B);
 - iv. The Financial and Asset Management (Annexed as D);
 - v. The Management and organisational procedures (Annexed E);
 - vi. The Media and Marketing Prescriptions and guidelines (Annexed as F);
 - vii. The Duties and responsibilities for elected UDESMO executive members at all levels (Annexed as G);
 - viii. The Policy documents (Annexed as H).
 - 8.10.1.4. evaluate the general progress of UDESMO.
 - 8.10.1.5. scrutinise the financial position of UDESMO.
 - 8.10.1.6. convene the NSC.
 - 8.10.1.7. endeavour to meet at least twice (2) during an academic year
 - 8.10.1.8. have a quorum of fifty one percent (51%) of council members entitled to vote, provided sufficient and proper notice was given to all its members.
 - 8.10.1.9. establish such standing committees, sub-committees or commissions as they deem fit and determine functions and activities of such committees.
 - 8.10.1.10. be the only structure of UDESMO to have authority to bind itself or to enter into or create financial and legal relationships or obligations in consultation with the United Democratic Movement [UDM], its mother body.
 - 8.10.1.11. appoint committees, work groups an/or professional people to investigate matters of general or political importance.
 - 8.10.1.12. elect persons to fill vacancies in the National Executive Committee.
 - 8.10.1.13. convene a National Congress at least every second (2nd) year.
 - 8.10.1.14. when the need arises call a Special National Consultative Congress to discuss matters of significant importance.
 - 8.10.1.15. fifty (50) representatives from each province appointed by the relevant Provincial Students' Council will constitute a Special National Consultative Congress
 - 8.10.1.16. submit to the UDESMO National Congress:



- i. a report on the Movement's national organisational status and of its structures within provinces.
 - ii. an audited report on the Movement's national financial status.
 - iii. an audited report on the financial status of branches and provinces.
 - iv. a report or submissions by any of the standing committees, sub-committees or commissions appointed by the National Students' Council.
 - v. consider, select motions and resolutions submitted by the Provincial Students' Councils to National Students' Council.
- 8.10.1.17. Composition of NSC
 - i. All members of the NEC.
 - ii. All members of the PEC.
 - iii. Three (3) delegates from each branch.
 - iv. Invited guests and organisations (as observers).
- 8.11. **National Congress (NC)**
 - 8.11.1. A National Congress shall be held at least every second (2) academic year at a time and place determined by the National Students' Council (NSC).
 - 8.11.2. The NSC determines the agenda of the National Congress.
 - 8.11.3. Membership lists of branches shall be closed and certified by the provincial offices on a date, four (4) weeks prior to a National Congress.
 - 8.11.4. An attendance register for all voting members shall be completed in order to constitute a National Congress.
 - 8.11.5. Composition of the National Congress:
 - 8.11.5.1. All members of the NEC.
 - 8.11.5.2. All members of PEC from all provinces.
 - 8.11.5.3. Five (5) delegates per branch.
 - 8.11.5.4. Invited guests and organisations (as observers).
 - 8.11.5.5. All general members of the Movement (as observers).
 - 8.11.6. Business of a National Congress is to:

All business of the National Congress shall be conducted in the spirit of the Vision, Mission and Core Values of UDESMO and shall constitute the supreme governing body of UDESMO.

 - 8.11.6.1. Formulate policy of UDESMO.
 - 8.11.6.2. Adopt, amend or reject the composite/combined report and the audited financial report of the NEC.
 - 8.11.6.3. Determine a program of action of UDESMO.
 - 8.11.6.4. Elect members of the NEC.
 - 8.11.6.5. Consider a report by the NSC.
 - 8.11.6.6. Consider reports or submissions by any standing committees, sub-committees or commissions, appointed by the NSC.
 - 8.11.6.7. Deal with matters referred to National Congress, by Provincial Students' Council.
 - 8.11.6.8. Approve Congress Rules.
 - 8.11.6.9. Nomination, credentials and voting procedures at a National Congress
 - i. Nomination procedures
 - a) The National Students' Council shall, prior to Congress, call for written nominations for National Executive Committee (NEC).
 - b) Such nominations shall indicate the position for which a person is being nominated and the nomination shall further include the following:
 - I. Full name(s) and surname of the nominee
 - II. Signature of the nominee, indicating his/her acceptance of his/her nomination.
 - III. The name of the institution that the nominee represents.



Annexure H of the UDM Constitution

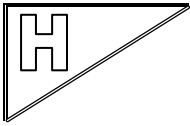
- IV. Membership number, identity number, proof of date of membership and payment of membership fee of the nominee.
 - V. Full names, name of institution and membership and identity numbers of the proposer and seconder and that of five (5) additional members supporting the nomination.
- c) The nomination shall be handed in at a time not later than five (5) days prior to the National Congress, and announced at the commencement of the National Congress.
 - d) Nomination may only be made on a prescribed form in terms of annexure I.
 - I. The National Students' Council shall prior to the National Congress appoint a Credential Committee, representing each province and appoint a convenor.
 - II. Nomination forms shall, prior to National Congress be submitted to the Credential Committee to scrutinise, such nominations for approval or rejection.
- ii. Credentials
Every delegate (5 from each branch) shall submit credentials from his/her Branch Executive Committee and signed by the appropriate chairperson and secretary as proof that he/she is delegated to attend the National Congress and of his/her membership status in terms of article 7 of this constitution.
 - iii. Voting rights
 - a) Only delegates who present credentials as described in subparagraph 8.11.6.9(.ii)(.a) and whose membership complies according to article 7 of this constitution, shall be eligible to vote at National Congress.
 - b) Each delegate shall vote in person and no proxy vote shall be allowed.
 - iv. Voting procedures
 - a) The total number of eligible voters shall be established by the Credentials Committee and announced after registration and at the commencement of voting.
 - b) Each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) ballot paper per National Executive Committee position.
 - c) The positions of the National Executive Committee shall be elected by absolute majority vote.
 - d) Voting shall be by secret ballot only.
 - e) Voting shall be on officially supplied ballot papers only.
 - f) No person nominated may be elected to more than one (1) position.
 - g) Persons requiring assistance can apply for such assistance to the convenor of the Counting Committee.
 - v. Counting Committee
 - a) The National Students' Council shall appoint the National Chief Executive Officer and independent persons (maximum ten (10) to act as counting officials.
 - b) The Counting Officials shall count the votes and report the results in writing, to the Chairperson of the National Congress, who shall announce the results to the National Congress.

8.12. Composition of the National Executive Committee (NEC)

8.12.1. The composition of the National Executive Committee shall be:

8.12.1.1. President





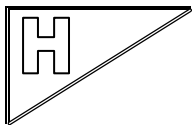
- 8.12.1.2. Deputy President
- 8.12.1.3. General Secretary
- 8.12.1.4. Assistant Secretary General
- 8.12.1.5. Treasurer
- 8.12.1.6. Educational Officer
- 8.12.1.7. Projects Officer
- 8.12.1.8. Gender Officer
- 8.12.1.9. Constitutional Officer
- 8.12.1.10. Political Commissar
- 8.12.1.11. Publicity and Information Officer
- 8.12.1.12. Organising Officer
- 8.12.2. The powers of the National Students' Council rest in the National Executive Committee when the National Students' Council is not in session.
- 8.12.3. The National Executive Committee may convene as and when necessary.
- 8.12.4. Powers, duties and activities of the National Executive Committee
 - 8.12.4.1. Powers, duties and activities of the National Executive Committee is to inter alia,
 - i. Administer the affairs of the Movement.
 - ii. Disseminate political and organisational information to structures.
 - iii. Build the image of the Movement with good marketing strategies and media relations.
 - iv. If a vacancy arises within the National Executive Committee, a person can be co-opted to fill a vacant post, until an election for that position can take place at a National Students' Council Meeting.
 - v. Oversee that standing committees, subcommittees or commissions as established by the National Students' Council execute their functions and activities satisfactorily.
 - vi. Execute all duties determined by the National Students' Council around sub-sections of the UDESMO Constitution as in clause 8.10 on a regular basis.
 - vii. Ensure that all structures of the Movement and its members maintain moral values and discipline according to the UDESMO Core Values, Code of Ethics and Conduct and the Constitution of UDESMO.
 - viii. Oversee that disciplinary measures as contained in the UDESMO Dispute, Resolutions and Disciplinary Measures and Principles (Annexed as B) are adhered to.
 - ix. Ensure good organisational, managerial, administrative and financial house keeping for all structures.
 - x. Fund raise for the Movement in order to fund projects and activities.
 - xi. Develop, assist and guide branches and provincial structures to ensure that they carry out duties conferred upon them.
 - xii. Keep record of all registered branches, provincial structures and the National Executive Committee.
 - xiii. Distribute and keep record of membership forms forwarded to provinces.
 - xiv. Approach the United Democratic Movement (UDM) for legal advice and assistance on behalf of all its structures when and if the need arises.
 - xv. Administer the financial affairs of the Movement.
 - xvi. Organise National Events, functions, public meetings and rallies.

9. General Provisions

9.1. Implementation and Amendment

- 9.1.1. All proposals and motions to repeal or amend the UDESMO Aims and Objectives, Core Values, the Policy Platform and the Name, Emblem, Colours and Flag of the



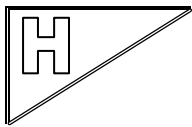


Movement will require two-thirds majority of the delegates present at the National Congress.

- 9.1.2. All proposals and motions for the amendment of the UDESMO Constitution, excluding section 9.1.1, will require a simple majority vote of the delegates present at the National Congress, provided that notice of amendment and the proposal in writing, shall be presented to the National Students' Council at least one (1) month before a National Congress.
- 9.1.3. The National Students' Council may by unanimous assent, temporarily suspend certain provisions of the UDESMO Constitution, excluding section 9.1.1, provided that such paragraph proposed for suspension has been circulated, in writing to all provincial structures and no objections have been received within twenty one (21) days of circulation.
- 9.1.4. The National Students' Council may by unanimous assent, amend certain provisions of the UDESMO Constitution, excluding section 9.9.1, provided that such paragraph proposed for amendment has been circulated, in writing to all Provincial Structures and no objections have been received within twenty one (21) days of circulation.
- 9.2. **Legal Personality**
 - 9.2.1. UDESMO is a students' movement of the United Democratic Movement (UDM) and forms therefore part of it.
 - 9.2.2. UDESMO has rights and obligations that reside within the Movement.
 - 9.2.3. UDESMO is a legal person or juristic person and it is therefore independent of the individuals who constitute it. It has its own rights and duties, and obligations just like a natural person.
 - 9.2.4. As a juristic person, UDESMO shall have powers to own, by and sell property.
 - 9.2.5. All members of the organisation shall protect and defend such property at all times.
- 9.3. **Disbandment/Winding Up/Dissolution**
 - 9.3.1. The Movement may be dissolved upon the passing of a resolution to that effect by a majority of all members at a National Congress.
 - 9.3.2. Upon dissolution, the surplus assets of the Movement shall be transferred to its successor in title or in pursuance of multi-party democracy in South Africa, or if that is impossible it will be distributed to registered bona fide charitable organisations.
- 9.4. **Policy of UDESMO**
 - 9.4.1. UDESMO realises the need for a new social partnership of all students in South Africa and of all communities. A partnership of young and old, advantaged and disadvantaged, from all backgrounds and creeds, from diverse communities, united in a desire to make South African education a better place for all its learners, united in a desire to ensure that the next generation is better off than ours. This process is informed by South Africa's new sense of nationhood, by its determination to take its place on the African and world stages, by its emerging sense of purpose and destiny in transforming the institutions of higher learning.
 - 9.4.2. We again confirm that this democracy we all fought hard for, cannot be realised without the full participation of all students and therefore it is in the immediate interests of our country at large to protect and promote an open and democratic society based on freedom, human dignity and equality.
- 9.5. **Our Role as Students**
 - 9.5.1. We commit ourselves to the protection of students' interests broadly and shall strive to equate our interests with those of the country. It is our role to galvanise and channel aspirations of students to be in the general interests of the national democratic education.
 - 9.5.2. As people located in the sphere of education and given our eagerness to learn and understand our society, it is pivotal for us to unleash all our resources, human and otherwise for the development of our national education.
- 9.6. **Principles**

As an organisation, the following form our cornerstone objectives:

 - 9.6.1. **Democracy**



As an organisation, we commit ourselves to be democratic in our practices, guided by the three leading principles of inner democracy, i.e. consultation responsiveness and openness (transparency).

We encourage accountability, constant self and constructive criticism as we are convinced that those are necessary ingredients for a successful organisation.

9.6.2. Non- racialism

We remain convinced by the philosophical base of our national constitution when it says:” South Africa belongs to all those who live in it united in our diversity.”

As opposed to racialism, ethnicity, tribalism and other manifestations for inequality, UDESMO, like the whole of the progressive democratic movement, is committed and advocates both in theory and practice the quality of individuals who constitute our society as entrenched in our national constitution.

9.6.3. Non-sexism

We note the conditions that women find themselves in, as a result of patriarchal and capitalist relations. We assert the position that colonial domination has divided the status of South African women and therefore identify equal before law which entails that at no place nor sexism can be condoned by UDESMO. We commit ourselves to completely fight against sexism and sexual harassment and shall through affirmative action strive to redress the gender imbalances of the past.

9.6.4. South Africanism

We will be inspired by South Africa’s new sense of nationhood, by its determination to take its place on the African and world stage, by its emerging sense of purpose and destiny.

We will become the natural home for all Students in South Africa who know that lessons drawn from our hard and divisive history will give us the unity of purpose needed to make us great. We are convinced that the true spirit of South Africanism is the ultimate bond that will guide our actions.

9.6.5. Pragmatism

We needed to acknowledge that modern governance embraces moral leadership and good management, that the far-left and the far-right ideologies of the past have discredited, that the modern citizens are too well informed to be deceived by shallow rhetoric, that we are entering a new century and a new millennium in which abstract ideology is set out and sensible approaches to problem solving are in.

We must develop a form of political co-operation, support and opposition suited to South African circumstances. On the basis of a joint approach to the challenges facing our education, we must be prepared to work together with the government and all other students’ movements. We must be a critical partner willing to take government to task when it fails to meet the needs of the students and at the same time willing to act at the best interest of our country in education.

9.6.6. Political Alignment

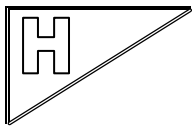
We note that the Movement has emerged within the context and tradition of promotion of our multiparty democracy. We recognise ourselves as part and parcel of United and Democratic Movements designed to advance fundamental rights and the protection thereof.

We reaffirm our National Constitution as a document underlying the basic and immediate government of the people. It is our firm conviction that the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa will remain relevant in this regard.

9.6.7. Education

We acknowledge the injustices in education that have been created by the past and therefore on that basis, UDESMO is prepared to address such injustices by striving for constitutional philosophy on education, which will benefit all students. We recognise education as being the sole tool, which can take our country to an international world for recognition.

9.6.8. Transformation and Development



We commit ourselves to transform the education system in general, which is in line with our cherished principles. We acknowledge that the transformation process cannot be realised by shouting slogans, but this can be realised by advancing ideas coming out in well thought out, well researched and well formulated ideas on transformation. These ideas should be well documented and shared with key people in the sector in order to enrich the discourse on higher education.

9.6.9. Funding

We believe that a national funding system in which the state plays a central role is a viable option for our country. This emanates from our understanding that the state has a responsibility of educating its citizens and that of combating ignorance for societal development and the overall welfare of its citizens.

9.6.10. International

UDESMO fully recognises the need for dialogue and co-operation with genuinely progressive organisations, nations and governments on the international front as long as that is based on the principle of mutual respect. All international organisations, governments and nations have the right to self-determination and destiny should be respected.

We further have an open door policy to membership of international students and youth bodies as long as this is in the interest of our students, our youth, our country and the progressive international world. Through this, UDESMO shall promote among students a spirit of international solidarity, peace and friendship with other nations.

9.6.11. Alliances

UDESMO is our autonomous, independent student organisation with a right to its own decision making process, structures and policies. We believe in discussing points of mutual interest establishing and maintaining working relations with other organisations, whose principles and policies are not in conflict with those of UDESMO. We however maintain an open door policy and do not rule out the possibility of issue oriented fronts.

9.6.12. Peace and International Reconciliation

We believe that the process of a just order in our country has always been directed toward the attainment of peace. We reaffirm our commitment to solve both political and ideological disputes through negotiations and debates based on mutual respect. We acknowledge that there exists a diversity of political formations and philosophy of thought, even in our institutions of higher learning. UDESMO shall always uphold the principle of political tolerance as well as the right to all forms of defence. We commit ourselves to engage in vigorous political and ideological warfare. We acknowledge that South African politics need more than adjustment. They need to be fundamentally redefined.

UDESMO 1st National Congress
Bloemfontein
2003