



PART VIII – CONDUCT OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Prohibited
conduct.

39. (1) A political party, including its members, supporters, candidates and operatives shall not be involved in -

- (a) violent conduct in party offices or activities, whether directly or indirectly;
- (b) the use of thugs;
- (c) the use of profane and obscene language or provocative songs against political opponents;
- (d) the use of incendiary and inciting statements, including hate speech against political opponents; and
- (e) the obstruction of the activities of political opponents including the destruction of campaign materials.

(2) A political party which contravenes subsection (1) is liable, upon proof by the Commission, to the penalties in the following order -

- (a) a written warning;
- (b) a fine not less than Nle 100,000.00;
- (c) a suspension; and
- (d) de-registration.

(3) A penalty imposed by the Commission under subsection (2) shall not preclude a person who has suffered as a result of the conduct of a political party, including its members or supporters, to seek redress under any other law.

(4) A political party found liable by the commission, for any of the conducts proscribed in subsection (1) shall be at liberty to appeal against the decision of the commission to the High Court of Sierra Leone and such appeal shall be determined within 30 days from the date of its assignment.

(5) A political party shall not extend the tenure of any of its executives for more than 6 months.

40. (1) A political party, including its candidates, officials, members and supporters or an independent candidate, wishing to contest a public election shall be bound to observe the Code of Conduct prescribed in the Second Schedule.

Political
party bound
by
Code of
Conduct.

(2) Where a political party or an independent candidate contravenes subsection (1), the Commission -

- (a) shall endeavour to resolve the matter with the political party or independent candidate as the case may be;
- (b) may issue a warning to the party or candidate to desist from the contravention;
- (c) may impose a fine that it may determine on the political party or independent candidate; or
- (d) may disqualify the party or independent candidate from contesting the election.

(3) A political party or independent candidate aggrieved by a decision of the Commission under this section may appeal to the High Court.