



AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
54TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

NOMINATION PROCESS



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BGMs

1. BGMs to be chaired by the Chairperson of the branch.
2. If the Chairperson is not available, then the Deputy Chairperson or branch Secretary must chair the BGM.
3. The REC or PEC must provide a deployee to oversee the BGM.
4. The PEC may in addition appoint an MP or an MPL to oversee the BGM.
N.B. Oversight does not mean chairing the BGM. It means watching over the process to ensure that it is free and fairly conducted; to intervene if there is unfairness and to give guidance.
5. A register must be kept, which all those in attendance must sign. The Chair, the Secretary of the branch and the deployee must sign to confirm accuracy of the register. The Chair and Secretary must ensure that 50 percent plus 1 of all audited members are present before starting the BGM to nominate the following:
 - i. Nominate Candidates for the ANC Top 6 Officials;
 - ii. Nominate Candidates for the 80 additional members of the NEC; and
 - iii. Election of Conference delegate/s.

Tasks of the Chair of the BGM

1. Read the document entitled: ***“The importance of Leadership Nomination and Selection”***.
2. Allow for a discussion on the document.
3. Then read from ***“Through the eye of a needle”***.
4. After the nomination process for the branch delegates, the ‘Top Six’ Officials and the NEC is concluded, branches discuss the following:
 - a. The policy recommendations from the Policy Conference and state the branch preference in each case.
 - b. The amendments to the ANC constitution, with particular reference to the number of NEC members, the number of Deputy Presidents and the number of Deputy Secretaries General.

Appeal Process

In the event of a dispute arising at the BGM out of the process of nominating the Top 6 Officials and the additional 80 members for the NEC, an aggrieved member or members must lodge a dispute within 48 hours of the BGM with the Branch Executive Committee and send a copy to the Provincial Secretary. **It must be emphasized that a person who raises a dispute must have been present at the BGM.**



BRANCH NOMINATION PROCESS FOR ANC OFFICIALS AND NEC ELECTIONS

BRIEFING FOR BRANCH MEETINGS

INPUT: THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP NOMINATION AND SELECTION

The ANC needs leaders capable of dealing with all the challenges we face as a nation, in government, and as a movement. **Leadership selection is a democratic process and branches play the leading role in deciding who will lead the ANC.** It starts with the nomination process we conduct in every branch and ends with the vote at National Conference where branch representatives make up 90% of voting delegates.

The responsibility lies with you to nominate the best among us to lead the ANC and the nation.

Through the Eye of a Needle, ANC policies and discussions from the 2015 NGC and the 2017 Policy Conference, make it clear that leadership selection is something we should take very seriously and that it is at the heart of some of our weaknesses and challenges. We have been weakened by factionalism, slate politics, vote buying and other negative practices that deliver leaders who are not all up to the task of leading this great movement. Many are elected simply because of a list distributed by a faction that members blindly vote for.

Our people expect and demand leaders who represent them, who are there to serve them

and meet their needs, who will govern with wisdom and integrity, and will always put the people above their own self-interest. They should live the ideals of the ANC and be able to persuade the rest of society of the correctness of ANC principles and policies.

Our leadership should reflect all important sectors of society and should be a representative mix of class, race and gender. The ANC leadership collective itself must be a role model for building a non-racial, non-sexist, united and democratic South Africa.

The collective should come from all corners of the country and we should fight against all negative tendencies of tribalism or regionalism.

The candidates must be disciplined members of the ANC with at least ten years of unbroken membership and must be free from any disciplinary committee findings or criminal convictions.

DISCUSSION:

What are the main challenges the ANC faces currently and what kind of leaders do we need?

INPUT: EYE OF A NEEDLE AND NOMINATION PROCESS

Read from *Through the Eye of a Needle*, the ANC document on leadership selection:

What then are the broad requirements of leadership?

“As a revolutionary organisation, the ANC needs revolutionary cadres and leaders. It should put in place leadership collectives that satisfy the character of the ANC defined above: a revolutionary democratic movement, a non-racial and non-sexist national movement, a broad national democratic movement, a mass movement and a leader of the democratic forces.

An ANC leader should understand ANC policy and be able to apply it under all conditions. Leaders should constantly seek to improve their capacity to serve the people; they should strive to be in touch with the people all the time, listen to their views and learn from them. Leaders should be accessible and flexible and not arrogate to themselves the status of being the source of all wisdom.

A leader should win the confidence of the people in his/her day-to-day work. Where the situation demands, a leader should be firm; and have the courage to explain and seek to convince others of the correctness of decisions taken by constitutional structures even if such decisions are unpopular. He/she should not seek to gain cheap popularity by avoiding difficult issues, making false promises or merely pandering to popular sentiment.

Leaders should lead by example. They should be above reproach in their political and social conduct – as defined by our revolutionary morality. Through force of example, leaders should act as role-models to ANC members and non-members alike. Leading a life that reflects commitment to the strategic goals of the NDR includes not only being free of corrupt practices, but also means actively fighting against corruption.

There are no ready-made leaders. Leaders evolve out of battles for social transformation. In these battles, cadres will stumble and some will fall. But the abiding quality of leadership is to learn from mistakes, to appreciate one’s weaknesses and correct them.

A leader should seek to influence and to be influenced by others in the collective. He/she should have the conviction to state his/her views boldly and openly within constitutional structures of the movement; and – without being disrespectful – not to cower before those in more senior positions in pursuit of patronage, nor to rely on cliques to maintain one’s position.

An individual with qualities of leadership does not seek to gain popularity by undermining those in positions of responsibility. Where such a member has a view on how to improve things or correct mistakes, he/she should state those views in constitutional structures and seek to win others to his/her own thinking.

The struggle for social transformation is a complex undertaking in which at times, personal interests will conflict with the organisational interest. From time to time, conflict will manifest itself between and among members and leaders. The ultimate test of leadership includes:

1. Striving for convergence between personal interests – material, status and otherwise – and the collective interest;
2. Handling conflict in the course of ANC work by understanding its true origins and seeking to resolve it in the context of struggle and in the interest of the ANC;
3. The ability to inspire people in good times and bad; to reinforce members’ and society’s confidence in the ANC and transformation”.



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BRANCH NOMINATION PROCESS FOR ANC OFFICIALS AND NEC ELECTIONS

NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations by branches will take place at quorate (50%+1) branch general meetings (BGMs) chaired by the branch Chairperson or as indicated.

The process to be followed after the conclusion of the BGM is set out on page 6 of this booklet.

All members are free to express their opinions in nomination meetings and to vote according to their own opinion. **Anyone trying to use improper influence or promising a reward to get a member to vote for a specific nominee, will be guilty of a disciplinary offence and should be reported to the Electoral Commission or the Disciplinary Committee.**

The provincial nominations will be consolidated at a PGC. At National Conference delegates are not bound by their province or League's preferred nominations or any lists circulated by their region or province or League. They can vote on the branch mandate, or the majority provincial nomination or be influenced by debates and other nominations that occur at Conference.

The branch nomination forms will be photographed by the branch secretary and sent to the Electoral Commission by message or by fax to number 081 772 4323, alternatively the photographed forms can be emailed to: electoralcommission@anc.org.za.

At Conference further names can be added to

any ballot if a nomination is supported by 25% of the delegates.

PROCESS FOR NOMINATING OFFICIALS:

- Branches may nominate one individual for each of the six top positions. If only one person is nominated, the nominator should motivate, the nomination should be opened for debate, and the branch members must through a show of hands, vote in support of that person, the nominee must get 50%+1 of the votes.
- If more than one person is nominated, nominators should be given a chance to motivate, a short debate should be allowed, and then the branch should vote on their preferred candidate, through a secret ballot. Blank paper is given to members and each voter must write the name or number of their preferred candidate. They must form a queue inside the venue on one side and deposit their vote on the table in front, preferably in a box. Those who have voted must sit or stand on the opposite side until all have completed voting. The votes must then be separated and counted in front of everyone, and the result announced.
- If no nominee gets 50%+1 of the votes in the first round, a series of votes may be

held until only two candidates remain for a final vote. This means the candidate with the lowest number of votes drops out each time. The final nominee should receive more than 50% of the votes of members present.

- For the top 6 officials, the name with the highest number of votes, becomes the branch nomination and is written on the branch nomination form for each positions.

PROCESS FOR ADDITIONAL MEMBERS

- Branches can nominate any number, up to 80, for the NEC and at least half must be women. It is not necessary to nominate the full number, and branches should focus on nominating people they really want to lead them. Remember the criteria and nominate a balance of young people, and experienced people, include representative of sectors and minority groups.
- The electoral officer will ask for nominations and seconders and carry on generating names until no new ones emerge. The names should be captured on a flipchart.
- Then for each name, a nominator will motivate and then members will vote to support the nominee through a show of hands. Branch will only formally nominate those candidates who get more than 50% of the vote.
- For the additional members, the names are put in order of the number of votes received in a particular branch meeting. And this is written on the branch nomination form for the additional NEC Members.
- Branches may nominate not more than 80 additional members, of which half must be women. It is not necessary to nominate the full number. Branches must bear in mind that each nominee must have been a member of the ANC in good standing for 10 years.

What happens after the BGM

1. On the register of nominations BGM form, the branch chairperson, secretary and deployee must confirm the quorum in the space provided on the form.
2. The branch secretary must photograph:
 - the nomination form for officials;
 - the nomination form for NEC members;
 - branch delegate form;
 - alternate branch delegate form;
 - BGM register.
3. The photographs must be sent via message or by fax to number 081 772 4323, alternatively, they can be e-mailed to: electoralcommission@anc.org.za

What to do with detachable forms

1. Some of the forms in the booklet are perforated.
2. The deployee must remove the forms marked “**PGC copy**” and place them in the envelope that is provided.
3. The deployee seals the envelope.
4. The deployee sends the envelope and the booklet to the Provincial Office.
5. The forms marked “**BGM Copy**” will remain with the branch secretary for his/her records.

What happens at the Provincial Office

1. The Provincial Secretary keeps the sealed envelopes in a box in safe custody.
2. The Provincial Secretary sends the booklet to the office of the Secretary General.
3. The Secretary General hands over the booklet to the Electoral Commission.

What happens at the PGC

1. The box containing the sealed envelopes is opened at the PGC in the presence of members of the Electoral Commission.
2. All nominations for positions of Officials and additional members for the NEC, as decided by the branches, are announced by the Provincial Secretary.
3. The branch nominations will be presented in order of the number of branches that nominated a particular candidate. The candidate with the most number of nomination from branches will be at the top of the list.
4. All nominations are discussed.
5. The PGC will confirm all branch nominations and agree on a final Provincial List.
6. The final Provincial List will be given to the Electoral Commission representative.

