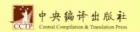
# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTRAPARTY POLITICAL LIFE UNDER NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

### REGULATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA ON INTERNAL OVERSIGHT



## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTRAPARTY POLITICAL LIFE UNDER NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

## REGULATIONS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA ON INTERNAL OVERSIGHT

Adopted at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on October 27, 2016

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#### **CONTENTS**

Communiqué of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central	
Committee of the Communist Party of China	1
Code of Conduct for Intraparty Political Life under New	
Circumstances	27
Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Internal Oversight	79

### Communiqué of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

Passed at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on October 27, 2016

The Sixth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) was held in Beijing from October 24 to 27, 2016.

The session was attended by 197 members and 151 alternate members of the Central Committee. Members of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and other leaders concerned were present at the meeting in a non-voting capacity. Some primary-level colleagues who acted as delegates to the 18th National Party Congress as well as a number of experts and scholars also attended in a non-voting capacity.

The session was presided over by the Political Bureau of the Central Committee. Xi Jinping, General Secretary of the Central Committee, spoke at the session.

Participants at the session heard and deliberated over the report on the work of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee, presented by Xi Jinping on behalf of the Bureau. They also deliberated over and approved the Code of Conduct for Intraparty Political Life under New Circumstances, the Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Internal Oversight, and the Resolution on the Convocation of the 19th National Congress of the

Communist Party of China. Xi Jinping gave an explanation of the drafts of the Code and the Regulations.

Participants at the session fully affirmed the work that the Political Bureau of the Central Committee has carried out since the Fifth Plenary Session of the 18th Central Committee. They unanimously agreed that, facing complex international and domestic situations, the Political Bureau has continued to hold high the great banner of socialism with Chinese characteristics; take Marxism-Leninism, Mao Zedong Thought, Deng Xiaoping Theory, the Theory of Three Represents, and the Scientific Outlook on Development as its guide; and fully implement the guiding principles of both the 18th National Congress and the third, fourth, and fifth plenary sessions of the 18th Central Committee, as well as the guiding principles from General Secretary Xi Jinping's policy addresses and his new concepts, thoughts, and strategies for governing the country.

In line with the trend of the times and the demands of practice, the Political Bureau has united and led all Party members and all the people of China in a joint effort to work hard and in a practical manner. It has adopted an integrated approach as it moves ahead with the master plan for promoting economic, political, cultural, social, and ecological progress, and has made coordinated efforts to

implement the Four-Pronged Comprehensive Strategy. It has launched a drive to help Party members better meet Party standards by studying the Party Constitution, Party regulations, and General Secretary Xi Jinping's policy addresses. It has worked to further promote the overall deepening of reform, as well as supply-side structural reform and reform of national defense and the armed forces, and has made significant progress in carrying out the work of the Party and the country.

Participants at the session gave a positive assessment of the achievements the Party has made in exercising strict self-governance. They maintained that since the 18th National Party Congress, the Central Committee with Xi Jinping at the core has set an example in pressing ahead and ensuring the Party exercises strict self-governance in every respect, integrating efforts to improve the Party ideologically with efforts to strengthen its self-governance institutionally, and focusing on improving Party conduct, strictly punishing corruption, and purifying the political environment of the Party. This has given intraparty political activity a new look, has earned the Central Committee the support of the Party and the people, and provides important guarantees for bringing about a new stage in the cause of the Party and the country.

<sup>\*</sup> To make comprehensive moves to finish building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, deepen reform, advance the law-based governance of China, and strengthen Party self-governance.

On the basis of a review of the Party's past experience in carrying out intraparty political activity, participants at the session analyzed the situation and tasks the Party faces in exercising strict self-governance in every respect. They maintained that dealing successfully with China's affairs hinges on the Communist Party of China and on the Party's self-supervision and strict self-governance. For the Party to exercise proper self-supervision and strict self-governance, it must start with political life in the Party. To take on great struggles with many new historical characteristics, move forward with the great new undertaking in Party building, and advance the great cause of building socialism with Chinese characteristics; to meet the challenges of exercising governance, carrying out reform and opening up, developing the market economy, and responding to changes in the external environment; and to overcome the risks of laziness, incompetence, losing touch with the people, and corruption and other forms of misconduct, it is necessary to formulate a code of conduct for intraparty political life under the new circumstances.

It was stressed at the session that efforts to strengthen and standardize intraparty political activity under the new circumstances must fundamentally adhere to the Party Constitution and follow the Party's political, ideological, organizational, and mass lines. These efforts must be aimed at making intraparty political activity more political, upto-date, principled, and effective; strengthening the Party's capacity to purify, improve, and reform itself; improving its capacity for leadership and governance and its ability to fight corruption, prevent moral decline, and guard against risks; and safeguarding the authority of the Central Committee, ensuring Party solidarity and unity, and preserving its advanced and pure nature, so as to create within the Party a political situation in which there is both centralism and democracy, both discipline and freedom, and both unity of will and sense of ease and liveliness.

It was stressed at the session that the main targets of efforts to strengthen and standardize intraparty political activity under the new circumstances are leading organs and officials at all levels, with emphasis on high-ranking officials, particularly members of the Central Committee, its Political Bureau, and the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau. High-ranking officials, especially those in the central leadership, must play an exemplary role in observing the Party Constitution and regulations, uphold the Party's political discipline and rules, stay true to the Party's founding mission, continue to move forward and lead by example, and serve as role models for the entire Party and whole of society.

It was noted at the session that the lofty ideal of communism held by Chinese Communists and the ideal of socialism with Chinese characteristics shared by the people

of China constitute a Chinese Communist's intellectual pillars and political soul, and also form the theoretical foundation that underpins Party unity and solidarity. The Party must make the strengthening of ideals and convictions the top priority in carrying out intraparty political activity. All Party members must view faith in Marxism and conviction in socialism and communism as a lifelong pursuit, and have complete confidence in the path, theory, system, and culture of Chinese socialism. Officials, especially high-ranking officials, shall use their actions to allow other Party members and the general public to feel the might of these ideals and convictions. The Party must determinedly uphold Marxism as its guiding thought; Party organizations at every level must work tirelessly to equip their members with Marxist theory; and Party members and officials, particularly high-ranking officials, must take the initiative to study hard and cultivate their Party spirit.

It was stated at the session that the Party's basic line for the primary stage of socialism in China is vital in sustaining the Party and country and bringing happiness to the people; it also provides a fundamental guarantee that intraparty political activity will proceed as normal. The Party shall thoroughly implement this basic line and integrate both commitment to keeping economic development as the Party's central task and commitment to the two basic points — the Four Cardinal Principles and reform and opening up — into the great practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics. It must never deviate from or waver on this. The Party must stay focused on making good progress in development, the Party's top priority in the governance and rejuvenation of China. The Party must remain committed to the Four Cardinal Principles. It is of fundamental importance to ensure that every Party member upholds leadership by the Party; remains committed to the path, theories, system, and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics. The Party must dare to give impetus to theoretical, practical, institutional, cultural, and other forms of innovation. It must remain committed to the basic state policy of opening up. The entire Party must uphold the Party's ideological line while implementing its basic line; test and develop truth through practice; and always promote the adaptation of Marxism to the Chinese context. When assessing and judging officials, especially highranking officials, the first thing to examine is whether or not they have steadfastly implemented the Party's basic line. Party members and officials, especially high-ranking officials, cannot be equivocal in the face of major matters of principle, falter in their basic political stand, or be influenced by mistaken views.

It was made clear at the session that upholding the authority of the Central Committee and ensuring Party-wide compliance with its orders and prohibitions has a direct

bearing on the future of the Party and country, concerns the fundamental interests of all the people of China, and is a major objective of the efforts to strengthen and standardize political activity within the Party. Upholding leadership by the Party requires first and foremost that all Party members uphold centralized, unified leadership by the Central Committee. The core leadership of a country and a political party is of pivotal importance. Party members must maintain a high level of accord with the Central Committee in their thinking, politics, and actions. Party organizations at every level and all Party members, especially high-ranking officials, shall align themselves with the Central Committee, with the Party's theories, line, principles, and policies, and with the Central Committee's decisions and plans, ensuring that they uphold what the Central Committee advocates, carry out what the Central Committee decides, and refrain from doing anything the Central Committee prohibits.

It was stated at the session that maintaining strict Party discipline is a major guarantee for ensuring all Party members are unified in will, united in action, and in step in making progress, and is an important part of political activity in the Party. It is imperative that Party discipline standards are strictly observed and given primary consideration and that iron discipline is applied in Party self-governance. The Party shall uphold the principle that all members are equal before Party discipline. There shall

be no special rights when it comes to observing discipline, and there shall be no exceptions in its enforcement. Under no circumstances shall there be privileged Party organizations or members that are exempt from the constraints of discipline. Party organizations at every level and all Party members must be faithful, honest, and open with the Party, must speak the truth, do honest work, and be genuine, and must report matters to the Party truthfully. They shall oppose double-dealing and duplicity, resist fraud and boastfulness, and oppose suppression of the truth and bias in reporting. Leading organs and officials shall not be permitted, for any reason or in any name, to condone, instigate, suggest, or force dishonesty from their subordinates. The exchange of flattery and favors is prohibited within the Party. Public communications concerning leaders shall focus on facts, and obsequious flattery is to be prohibited. Party organizations at every level must assume responsibility for enforcing and maintaining Party political discipline and rules, and work steadily to prevent and correct slack and relaxed enforcement.

It was again stated at the session that the Party was born of the people; if it were to lose their endorsement and support it would lose its foundation. Thus, upholding the Party's fundamental purpose of wholeheartedly serving the people and maintaining its close relationship with them must become the fundamental requirement for strengthening and standardizing political activity in the Party. All Party members must implement the Party's mass line, do work of genuine benefit to the people, and resolve problems for them, acting as public servants. They must solicit the people's input on Party policies, inquire into their needs, and seek solutions to their problems. It is absolutely impermissible for Party members or officials to be arrogant or overbearing toward the people, or to act like liege lords and turn a deaf ear to their sufferings, and it is simply unacceptable for Party members or officials to ride roughshod over the people or harm or infringe on their interests. They must firmly oppose formalism, bureaucratism, hedonism, and extravagance. Officials at all levels must stay in touch with reality, with what is going on at the community level, and with the people; they must frequently go to areas facing hardships, complex circumstances, or prominent problems and help to resolve problems there, doing all they can to address concerns and alleviate the hardships of the local community. All practices that waste resources and the efforts of the people, such as "vanity projects" and projects to boost track records, must be investigated, with those responsible being held to account and prosecuted in accordance with Party discipline and state law.

It was noted at the session that democratic centralism is the fundamental organizational principle of the Party

and an important systemic guarantee for political activity in the Party. Commitment to the system of collective leadership and the combination of collective leadership with individual responsibility based on the division of work is an important component of democratic centralism. The Party must always uphold this system and permit no organization or individual to act in violation of it under any circumstances or for any reason. Party committees and leading Party members' groups at every level must uphold the system of collective leadership, and members of their leading bodies must strengthen their awareness of the overall picture and of their responsibilities. Principal leaders of Party committees and leading Party members' groups must practice democracy, properly implement centralism, and be ready to shoulder responsibility. Members of leading bodies must resolutely execute the decisions of their Party organizations.

It was made clear at the session that democracy in the Party is the life of the Party and provides an important foundation for active and healthy intraparty political activity. The Party must, in its decision-making, implementation, oversight, and other work, put into effect the democratic principles and procedures laid out in the Constitution and other regulations of the Party. No Party organization or individual shall be permitted to suppress or undermine democracy in the Party. When making major