

Regulations of the Communist Party of China on Open Party Affairs (For Trial Implementation)¹

Chapter 1 General Principles

Article 1. These Regulations are formulated based on the Constitution of the Communist Party of China in order to carry out and implement the spirit of the 19th National Party Congress, promote the deep development of comprehensive and strict control over Party governance, strengthen and standardize open party affairs work, develop intra-party democracy, strengthen intra-party supervision, make the many party members better understand and participate in intra-party affairs, mobilize and organize the people to carry out and implement well the Party's theories, lines, principles and policies, and improve the Party's governing ability and leadership level.

Article 2. “Open party affairs” as used in these Regulations refers to the disclosure within the Party or outside the Party, in accordance with provisions, of relevant matters concerning party leadership activities and strengthening party building work carried out by party organizations.

Article 3. These Regulations shall apply to central party organizations, local party organizations primary-level party organizations, party discipline inspections organs, party work organs and other party organizations.

Article 4. Open party affairs should observe the following principles:

(1) Adhere to the correct direction. Uphold the authority and centralized, unified leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core, conscientiously implement Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era, firmly establish the "Four Consciousnesses,"² maintain the "Four Confidences,"³ put open party affairs in the plan and promotion of the great practice of socialism with Chinese characteristics for a new era, and persist in and improve the requirements for leadership by the Party throughout the entire process and in all aspects of open party affairs.

(2) Adhere to promoting democracy. Safeguard the democratic rights of party members, effectuate party members rights to be informed, to participate, to vote and to supervise, better mobilize the enthusiasm, initiative and creativity of the entire Party, respond in a timely manner to the concerns of party members and the people, and use openness to advance implementation, oversight and improvement.

¹ 《中国共产党党务公开条例（试行）》 at: <http://cpc.people.com.cn/n1/2017/1225/c64387-29727961.html>.

² Refers to “consciousness of the ideology, the whole, the core and the line.”

³ Refers to “confidence in the path, theory, system and culture of socialism with Chinese characteristics.”

(3) Adhere to being active and safe. Pay attention to the linkage between open party affairs and open government affairs, undertake to co-ordinate open party affairs work at all levels and in all sectors, and generally implement it after classification, first within the Party and afterwards outside the Party, so as to ensure practical results.

(4) Adhere to acting in accordance with regulations and law. Respect the Party Constitution, govern the Party in accordance with [intra-party] regulations, handle work in accordance with the law, scientifically standardize the content, scope, procedures and methods of open party affairs, enhance its seriousness and credibility, and constantly upgrade the level of institutionalization and standardization of open party affairs.

Article 5. The leadership system for open party affairs work shall be established and strengthened, with unified leadership by the Party Central Committee, the local party committees taking responsibility by levels, and all departments and units each responsible for their respective duties.

The General Office of the Central Committee shall undertake the specific open party affairs work of the Party Central Committee and be responsible for coordinating, supervising and guiding the open party affairs work of the Party as a whole. The local party committee general offices (or offices) shall undertake specific open party affairs work of the party committee at the same level and be responsible for coordinating, overseeing and guiding the open party affairs work in its region. All localities and departments should strengthen the building of a contingent of open party affairs institutions and personnel.

Article 6. Party organizations should establish and improve work mechanisms, such as secrecy examination, risk assessment, information release, policy interpretation, public opinion guidance, public opinion analysis and emergency response, according to their respective duties and responsibilities.

Chapter II The Content and Scope of Disclosure

Article 7. Party organizations' implementation of the Party's basic theories, basic line and basic strategies, their leadership over economic and social development, their implementation of the responsibility to comprehensively and strictly govern the Party and strengthen party building, and their functions and institutional structure should, except for matters involving party and state secrets that may not be disclosed or that are not suitable for disclosure in accordance with relevant provisions, generally be disclosed.

Party organizations shall strengthen restraints and supervision over the exercise of power, let the people supervise power and let power be exercised in the sunlight.

Open party affairs may not endanger political security, especially regime security and institutional security, as well as economic security, military security, cultural security, societal security, homeland security and national security.

Article 8. Party organizations should reasonably determine the scope of openness according to the degree of connection between the party affairs and party members and the people:

- (1) Party affairs concerning leadership of economic and social development and involving the production and livelihood of the people shall be publicly disclosed;
- (2) Party affairs involving major issues concerning party building or the obligations and rights of party members and that require the general understanding of and compliance and implementation by all party members shall be disclosed to the entire Party;
- (3) Party affairs of each region, department and unit shall be disclosed within the respective region, department and unit;
- (4) Party affairs involving the vital interests of particular party organizations, party members and people shall be disclosed to such particular party organizations, party members and people.

Article 9. Central party organizations shall disclose such matters as party theories, lines, principles and policies, major decisions on the management and governance of the Party and governance of the State, relevant important speeches and instructions by General Secretary Xi Jinping, important meetings, activities and personnel appointments and removals of the Central Committee of the Party, and strengthening its own party building by the Central Committee, its Political Bureau and the Political Bureau Standing Committee.

Article 10. Local party organizations should disclose the following information:

- (1) The study and implementation of decisions and their deployment by the Party's Central Committee and higher-level organizations and resolutely safeguarding the authority and centralized, unified leadership of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core;
- (2) Major decisions on such matters as the major policies and plans for economic and social development in their own region, major reform matters, and major livelihood measures and their implementation, as well as the response to major emergencies;
- (3) Carrying out concrete responsibilities for comprehensively and strictly governing the Party, upholding the principle of democratic centralism, seriously administering intra-party political life, and overall responsibility for party building in their own region;
- (4) Important meetings, activities and the appointment and dismissal of important personnel of the Party within their own region;
- (5) Strengthening its own party building by the local party committee;
- (6) Other party affairs that should be disclosed.

Article 11. Primary-level party organizations should disclose the following information:

(1) The study and implementation of the decisions and their deployment by the Party's Central Committee and higher-level organizations, and resolutely safeguarding the authority of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core and its centralized, unified leadership;

(2) Term work goals, phased work deployment and key tasks and their implementation status;

(3) Strengthening ideological and political work, conducting intra-party study and education, organizing education and training of party members and implementing the system of "three meetings and one lesson;"⁴

(4) Term elections, establishment of party organizations, party member development, democratic appraisal, holding party organization life meetings, protection of the rights of party members, the management of collection and use of party membership dues and the party organization's own party building;

(5) Preventing and correcting the "Four Winds" phenomenon,⁵ and contact with and serving party members and the people;

(6) Implementation of the political responsibilities of party self-management and self-governance, strengthening the building of party conduct and the building of an honest and clean government, and the organization's handling and disciplinary actions involving party members;

(7) Other party affairs that should be disclosed.

Article 12. The Party's discipline inspection organs should disclose the following information:

(1) The study and implementation of important policies and major decisions and their deployment by the Party's Central Committee, resolutely safeguarding the authority of the Party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core and its centralized, unified leadership, and carrying out the work deployment of the party committee at the same level and of higher-level discipline inspection organs;

(2) Conducting disciplinary education, strengthening discipline building and upholding the Party Constitution, intra-party regulations and party discipline;

(3) Investigating and dealing with unhealthy tendencies and corrupt practices having a bad influence that violate the spirit of the eight provisions of the Central Committee that occur around the people;

(4) Filing and examining cases of serious violations of discipline by party members and leading cadres who are suspected of committing crimes in violation of the law, organizing the examination and imposing dismissal from the Party as the punishment;

⁴ Refers to the system of holding regular Party branch members meetings, party branch committee meetings and party small group meetings, and attending party classes or lessons on schedule.

⁵ Refers to formalism, bureaucracy, hedonism and waste.

(5) Imposing accountability for serious dereliction of duty and misconduct of party members and leading cadres;

(6) Strengthening the building of discipline inspection organs;

(7) Other party affairs that should be disclosed

Article 13. Party work organs, party committee dispatched organs, institutions directly under party committees and party groups should determine the content to be disclosed in accordance with the provisions of the first paragraph of Article 7 of these Regulations and taking account of actual circumstances.

Party work organs and institutions directly under party committees should emphasize disclosure of party committee decisions and their deployment and the Party's carrying out of its work.

Party committee dispatched organs should emphasize disclosure of the work done on behalf of the party committees in leading the work of the Party in their respective regions, fields, industries, and systems.

Party groups should emphasize disclosure of their own unit's leadership performance and implementation of party-building work responsibility system.

Article 14. Party organization should, based on the open party affairs contents and scope as provided in these Regulations, compile open party affairs catalogues and dynamically adjust them based on the requirements of their responsibilities and tasks. The open party affairs catalogues should be submitted to the higher-level party organization for the record and be disclosed within the Party or to the public in accordance with provisions.

The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection and the various departments under the Central Committee should strengthen guidance on the compilation of open party affairs catalogues for their respective systems and fields.

Chapter III Disclosure Procedures and Methods

Article 15. Relevant party organizations should proactively disclose the matters listed on their open party affairs catalogue in accordance with the following procedures:

(1) Proposal. The relevant departments of party organizations shall research and propose open party affairs plans and develop the contents, scope, time and methods for disclosure.

(2) Verification. The relevant departments of party organizations shall conduct secrecy examination and verify the proposal from such aspects as necessity and accuracy.

(3) Approval. Party organizations shall, in accordance with their functions and powers, conduct examination and approval of the open party affairs plan. If such approval exceeds the authority of the organization, it must report the matter for approval according to procedures.

(4) Implementation. The relevant departments of party organizations shall disclose party affairs in accordance with the approved plan.

Article 16. Party organizations should, based on the content and scope of the open party affairs, choose appropriate disclosure methods.

For disclosure within the Party, in general such methods as calling a meeting, formulating and issuing documents, compiling and issuing briefings and release on the local area network shall be adopted. For disclosure to the public, in general such methods as release through communiques, press conferences, interviews, newspapers, radio, television, the Internet, new media, and disclosure columns shall be adopted, with priority given to release through party media such as party publications, radio and television stations, and key news websites.

The Party's central discipline inspection organ, relevant organs of the Party Central Committee, local party committees at and above the county level and local discipline inspection organs and relevant work organs of local party committees should establish and improve spokesperson systems for party committees and gradually establish a routine release system to release important party affairs information in a timely and accurate manner.

Article 17. Open party affairs carriers and platforms may share resources with those for such aspects as open government affairs, open factory affairs, open village (resident committee) affairs and public institution affairs, and should be used in a coordinated manner.

Qualified party organizations may establish a unified platform for disclosing party affairs information.

Article 18. Party organizations shall pay attention to feedback from monitoring of relevant information on open party affairs and any major public opinion reaction should be promptly reported. If any information is found to be untrue, incomplete or inaccurate, party organizations should promptly provide clarification and guidance.

Article 19. Party organizations shall establish and improve systems for party members to audit party committee meetings, representatives to the party congresses to attend party committee meetings, responding to intra-party briefings, consultation on intra-party affairs, soliciting opinions on major decisions, and publicizing to society and holding public hearings on major issues, as well as develop and make good use of new modes of open party affairs, and continuously expand the breadth and depth of participation of party members and the people in open party affairs.

Chapter IV Supervision and Accountability

Article 20. Party organizations should include open party affairs work as an important content of reporting to higher-level organizations or in special reports on party-building work.

Article 21. Party organizations should treat open party affairs work as an important part of carrying out their political responsibilities for comprehensive and strict governance of the Party and assessing lower-level organizations and their principal responsible persons.

Party organizations should annually inform the relevant party members and the people of their open party affairs situation, include it in the democratic appraisal of party members and proactively listen to opinions of the people.

Article 22. Party organizations should establish and improve the supervision mechanism for open party affairs work and carry out regular checks and special inspections. Special inspections may be combined with examination and assessment of the responsibility system for party conduct and the building of an honest and clean government as well as party-building work assessment. The inspection information should be notified within the appropriate scope.

Article 23. When a violation of the provisions of these Regulations causes adverse consequences, relevant party organizations, party members and leading cadres and staff should be investigated for accountability in accordance with [intra-party] regulations and discipline.

Chapter V Supplementary Principles

Article 24. The Central Military Commission may, in accordance with these Regulations, formulate relevant open party affairs provisions.

Article 25. The Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, Central Committee departments, and party committees of all provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government should formulate implementing rules based on these Regulations.

Article 26. These Regulations shall be interpreted by the Central Committee General Office together with the Central Committee Organization Department.

Article 27. These Regulations shall go into effect from December 20, 2017.