

Commands of Regions to future congresses.¹⁹ Indeed, the 1964 National Congress was a landmark in the history of the ANM where new ideas, trends and organizational concepts were introduced for the first time in that epoch-making Congress (more is said of this Congress elsewhere in this dissertation).

One of the most important functions of the National Congress is the election of the Executive Committee which represents the supreme organ of the Movement during the intervals between the Congresses. Thus, the Executive Committee is the central body charged with the responsibility of directing the activities of the ANM during the above intervals. However, it has to abide by the decisions and resolutions of the National Congress.²⁰

The Executive Committee sets the agenda of the National Congress and presents the Main Report to that organ. The Report is usually divided into two parts: in the first part, the Executive Committee deals with political developments internally and externally; in the second part, it deals with the activities and organizational problems of the Movement.

In order to carry on its tasks adequately, the Executive Committee divides its work between three

¹⁹ Interviews with Muhsin Ibrahim and Nayef Hawatmah, November 16, 1968.

²⁰ ANM, Internal Rules, op. cit., p. 2.