

International-Lawyers.Org

Statute

I. FOUNDING AND PURPOSE

Article 1

1. The undersigned and all other persons adhering to these by-laws herein form a non-profit Association. The laws of the country in which its headquarters are located govern the Association.
2. The Association shall be neutral politically and non-denominational.

Article 2

1. The Association's legal name shall be: International-Lawyers.Org.
2. The Association's legal acronym shall be: IL.Org.

Article 3

The Association is a non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) with the purpose of promoting global justice, which is understood as including human rights, development, the rights of peoples, self-determination, mediation, disarmament, health, information technology, labour, education and training, peace, economic justice, climate justice, environmental justice and the rights of Mother Earth.

Article 4

1. The headquarters of the Association is located in 7, rue Pestalozzi, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland.
2. These headquarters may be moved based on the written decision of three officers.
3. The Association is therefore governed by Swiss law in accordance with Articles 60, *et seq.*, of the Swiss Civil Code.

Article 5

The Association exists until dissolved by a written decision of the General Assembly taken in accordance with the terms of Article 13 of this Statute.

II. MEMBERSHIP

Article 6

1. Membership in the Association is open to any natural or legal persons who are committed to working towards the goals of the Association and whose membership has been approved in writing by a

majority of the members of the Board of the Association. Special consideration shall be given to recruiting and selecting Members with attention to cultural, national, and ethnic diversity as well as ensuring as far as possible diverse geographical representation.

2. Members of the Association are Members of the General Assembly with the right to vote when they have been listed in the official Members List maintained by the Officer undertaking the functions of Secretary and after a Board decision recorded in writing that is taken to admit a Member.
3. Membership Fees may be decided upon by a written decision of the General Assembly.
4. The General Assembly shall ensure that Membership Fees do not form an obstacle to the membership of economically disadvantaged groups or individuals in the Association.

Article 7

Loss of membership occurs through death, resignation, or a motivated decision adopted unanimously and in writing by the Board.

III. ADMINISTRATION

Board and Officers

Article 8

1. The Board is composed of at least three Officers all of equal rank, one who is designate by the General Assembly of the Association as the President, *inter pares*, who chairs the Board and represents the Association externally during her or his term; one who serves as the Treasurer for the Association for legal purposes; and one who serves as the Secretary for the Association for legal purposes.
2. Other post of 'Officer' may be created in writing by the General Assembly. Additional Officers are elected by the Board.
3. Officers serve terms of three years each and are eligible for re-election.
4. The Officers manage the daily operation of the Association and may designate Representatives of the Association from among their ranks or from among any other Members of the Association by a majority vote of those participating and voting and with the vote recorded in writing.
5. The Officers act voluntarily and can only be compensated for their effective expenses and travel costs, however, for activities exceeding the usual function and approved by the Board, each Board member may receive appropriate compensation.
6. Any paid employee of the Association, who is also a Board member, shall have a vote that shall not be counted in making a decision, but may be recorded as a consultative vote in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision is made.

7. In case of a vacancy, for whatever reason, of one or more Officers occurring more than three months before expiry of the Officer's term, the Board may appoint a new Officer or Officers for the remainder of an unexpired term(s), subject to ratification by the General Assembly at its next session.
8. The curriculum vitae of all Officers shall be made public and posted on the Association website.

Article 9

1. The Board sets the agenda of the General Assembly, nominates new Board members, nominates the Director of the Association, and manages matters other than those being handled by other bodies.
2. The Board may enter into agreements and acquire or sell assets only based on a written decision of the Board or based on a decision adopted by the General Assembly.
3. The Minutes of the Board shall be recorded in writing.
4. The Board may decide to convene advisory committees or other bodies to facilitate its work.
5. Any decisions of the Board involving resource consequences or expenses shall be based on a written statement setting out the resource consequences of the decision and indicating that the resources of the Association are sufficient to cover the proposed resources consequences or expenses.

General Assembly

Article 10

1. The General Assembly is the principal authority of the organization and consists of all the Members of the Association.
2. The General Assembly shall be convened by the Board at least once a year at a time and date to be decided by the Board in a written decision. Members may participate in person or through electronic means.
3. The General Assembly shall adopt an Annual Budget that shall be the basis of the expenditure of the Association. The Budget of the Association shall be made public and posted on the Association website.
4. Notice of the time and place of a General Assembly, its Agenda, and the decisions to be made shall be provided to all Members at their recorded addresses (electronic or physical) at least 14 days before the General Assembly takes place.
5. Each Member of the General Assembly has one vote.
6. The General Assembly shall make decisions by a majority vote of those participating and voting.

Article 11

1. The General Assembly makes decisions by a simple majority vote on items placed on its agenda by the Board or introduced by a Member of the General Assembly with the support of a simple majority present and voting.
2. Each Member of the General Assembly has one vote. The Chairperson of the Board casts the deciding vote in case that a decision receives an equal number of votes for or against it.
3. Decisions on dissolution of the Association or to acquire immovable property shall be made by two-thirds of the Members of the General Assembly present and voting.
4. All decisions of the General Assembly shall be recorded in writing and only decisions recorded in writing shall be binding.
5. The Minutes of the General Assembly shall be recorded in writing.

IV. THE ASSOCIATION'S FUNDS

Article 12

1. The Association's resources may come from donations, legacies, private and public subsidies, membership fees, or any other source authorized by the law.
2. The funds of the Association may be used only to achieve any of the goals of the Association as defined in article 3.
3. The Association's funds shall be held in a bank account designed as the funds of the Association, if possible in the name of the Association, but in any case distinguished from the funds of any Member of the Association.
4. The Association Treasurer shall render an accounting of the funds at each General Assembly and whenever requested by a majority of the Board or by any single Officer of the Association.
5. The President of Association shall decide upon disbursement of funds in accordance with the annual budget of the Association with the approval of the Treasurer, who shall verify that the funds disbursed will be used to achieve any of the goals of the Association as defined in article 3.
6. The disbursement of Association funds shall be based on the Annual Budget adopted by the General Assembly that is in accordance with the goals of the Association as defined in article 3.
7. The disbursement of Association funds shall only take place after receipts or an invoice has been rendered to the Treasurer or after a prospective beneficiary has provided a written undertaking to submit documentation of expenditures in a form that constitutes a legally obligation to do so with the Association.
8. The Board may decide to impose additional restrictions on the use of funds by a written decision that is compatible with paragraph 4 of the is article.

V. DISSOLUTION

Article 13

1. The General Assembly of the Association may decide to dissolve the Association by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting after a recommendation of the Board.
2. The Board shall make any recommendation to dissolve the Association in writing and stating its reasons.
3. Pending ratification of a recommendation of the Board to dissolve the Association, the Board may suspend the operations of the Association.
4. In the case of the Association being dissolved, the assets shall be transferred to a non-profit organization pursuing goals of public interest similar to those of the Association.

Adopted 5 December 2010.