

Association Europe-Tiers Monde
International non-profit organisation

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

1st Title – Name, head office, purpose

Article 1

The Association's name is "Association Europe-Tiers Monde". The Association is an international non-profit association governed by the provisions of Title III of the Act of 27th June 1921, as amended on 28 March 2007, on non-profit associations, international non-profit associations and foundations.

Its head office is established in the Brussels area and is currently at Rue de la Loi, 175, 1048, Brussels. The head office of the Association can be moved anywhere in Belgium upon decision of the Committee to be published in the annexes of the Moniteur Belge.

It is constituted for an unlimited duration.

Article 2

The aim of the Association is to promote understanding and cooperation between European citizens and citizens in developing countries.

To this end, it has set the following specific objectives:

- To raise awareness amongst the staff of the institutions of the European Union to the issues of international development and to the causes of the growing gap between industrialised countries and third world countries, to spark their reflection and draw their attention by all appropriate means, in particular conferences, petitions and other events;
- To create direct links with one or more specific communities in the third world, regardless of race, religious affiliation or political opinions, in particular through tangible aid in order to support and supplement their own efforts to ensure their progress.

Title II – Members

Article 3

Officials and agents of the institutions of the European Union as well as any other natural person sharing the views and aims of the association can become effective members, after acceptance of their application by the Committee.

Article 4

The membership is linked to the payment of a contribution set at a minimum of 0.3% of their gross salary.

Article 5

Members who have resigned or been excluded, as well as the heirs of a deceased member, have no right to the assets. They cannot ask for reimbursement of the membership contributions made.

Article 6

Membership is lost after a person resigns or is excluded. Resignation takes effect within fifteen days after it is registered with the secretariat of the Committee.

The Committee can exclude from the Association any person who through public declaration or through specific acts, adopts positions or points of view manifestly in contradiction with the aims and philosophy which guide the action of the Association as well as any person who may deliberately harm the Association by embezzlements or other similar ways.

Any member excluded by the Committee can appeal to the first General Assembly that follows the Committee's decision in order to have that decision annulled.

Title III – Organisation, administration

Article 7

The bodies of the Association are the General Assembly and the Committee.

1st Paragraph – General Assembly

Article 8

The General Assembly is composed of the effective members referred to in Articles 3 and 4. It holds all the powers reserved to it by law or by these Articles of Association.

Each member has the right to be present at the General Assembly and has one vote. He or she may be represented by an agent. Each member cannot hold more than one proxy.

Article 9

The General Assembly is held once a year at a time and place set by the Committee, or as soon as a fifth of its members so requires. A convocation informs members of the date and time of the General Assembly.

The General Assembly elects the Committee members for a duration of two years. They may be re-elected.

The General Assembly is chaired by the president or by one of the vice presidents of the Association or by a representative chosen by the latter.

Article 10

Unless determined otherwise by law or by these Articles of Association, the decisions of the General Assembly are taken by the majority of members present or represented, regardless of the number of people present.

Article 11

The General Assembly decides on the modification of these Articles of Association on proposal by the Committee, in accordance with the provisions of article 29.

Article 12

The minutes of the General Assembly are brought to the members' attention. They can also be consulted by the members at the premises of the Association's secretariat.

2nd Paragraph – Committee (Board of directors)

Article 13

The Association is managed by a board of directors named "Committee". It is composed of at least four members and of at most twenty-five members, who are appointed by the General Assembly for a renewable period of two years.

Committee members elect amongst themselves, for a period of two years, a president, one or more vice presidents, as well as a secretary and a treasurer. The president, the vice president(s), the secretary and the treasurers may be re-elected.

The president of the Committee acts as president of the Association. The president, the vice president(s), the secretary and the treasurer make up the Board of the Association.

At the end of their term, the president, vice president(s), secretary and treasurer automatically stay on as members of the Committee, unless they request to be relieved of their office.

Article 14

The Committee may co-opt a maximum of five members of the Association which regularly take part in the Association's activities, in particular within the framework of the working groups it establishes.

Article 15

The members of the Committee can be removed by the General Assembly, in accordance with the provisions of Article 29.

Article 16

The roles of president, vice presidents, secretary, treasurer and of Committee members are not remunerated.

Article 17

The Committee has complete power over the management and administration of the Association within the confines of the law. It reports to the General Assembly.

Subject to the rights of the Association, the Committee may perform all acts and operations relating to the objectives of the Association, and represent it vis-à-vis public authorities and third parties.

It can:

- Delegate some of its powers to a member of the Committee,

- By explicit authorisation which can always be revoked, empower a third party to conduct on behalf of the Association any act or operation other than pertaining to mortgage and real estate.

Article 18

The expenditure linked to management and administration cannot exceed the ceiling allowed by the Belgian authorities for the purposes of tax deductibility of the donations made to the Association.

Article 19

The Committee convenes as often as required by the interest of the Association and at least twice a year. Its members are summoned by the president, or one of the vice presidents or by two of its members.

Members of the Committee have the right to be represented by a colleague specifically appointed for each session. A member of the Committee can only represent one of its colleagues.

Article 20

If the president is unable to attend, the Committee is chaired by one of the vice presidents or, if they are unable to attend, by a member appointed by the president.

Article 21

For decisions to be valid, the presence of at least four Committee members is required. The decisions are taken by the majority of voters. In the case of a draw, the president has the deciding vote.

Article 22

The decisions made by the Committee are recorded in written minutes which are made available to all members at the headquarters of the Association.

3rd Paragraph – Board

Article 23

The daily management of the Association is conducted by a Board composed of the president, the vice president(s), the secretary and the treasurer of the Association.

The president, vice president(s) and secretary are chosen by the Committee from its midst. Board members are not remunerated.

Article 24

All acts binding on the Association are signed by the president or a vice president, who will not have to provide proof of their power to a third party.

Unless the power has been explicitly delegated, the signature of the president or a vice president binds the Association.

Article 25

Legal proceedings are conducted by the Committee, represented by the president, a vice president or by a person specifically designated for this purpose.

Title IV – Accounting, balance sheet

Article 26

Every year, the General Assembly gives its approval to the accounts and the budget of the Association, as well as to the Committee's report.

Article 27

The General Assembly appoints one or more auditors for two years. The auditor(s) may be re-elected. Membership of the Committee or of the Board is incompatible with being an auditor.

The auditor's role is to check the books, the cash, the assets of the Association, to control the compliance and accuracy of inventories, of the balance sheets as well as the accuracy of the Association's account information in the Committee's annual report. At the end of each financial year, the auditor writes a report in which he or she informs the Assembly on the fulfilment of his or her role.

The auditors are not remunerated.

Article 28

The financial year starts on January 1st and ends December 31st. The first financial year will exceptionally run from the time the Association is established to December 31st of the following year.

The accounting records are kept in accordance with the laws and trade customs of the country where the head office is located.

The Association can receive manual gifts, as well as donations inter vivos or testamentary donations in accordance with laws and customs of the country where the head office is located.

Title V – Revision of the Articles of Association, exclusion of a member, removal of Committee members and dissolution of the Association

Article 29

The General Assembly can only revise the Articles of Association, remove a Committee member or dissolve the Association if two thirds of the members are present or represented. If this condition is not met during the first meeting, members of the General Assembly duly convened for a second meeting may decide regardless of the number of people present.

Decisions are taken by a minimum of two thirds of members present or represented.

Any modification to the present Articles of Association must be submitted to the Minister of Justice and be published in the Moniteur Belge.

Article 30

In the case of dissolution, after the settlement of liabilities and expenses, the net outstanding amount will be donated to an organisation to be designated by the General Assembly which has a similar purpose.

Title VI – General provisions

Article 31

The Committee sets: the internal rules, which, together with articles 13 to 25 of the Articles of Association, serve as framework for the management of the association; criteria for selection of the projects that the Committee could consider eligible.

These texts are notified to the General Assembly and made public.

All that is not provided for by these Articles of Association, in particular the formalities for disclosure shall be done in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Done in Brussels on the 25th March 1968

SIGNATURES

Articles of Association last amended on the 6th May 2010