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Current Statutes

Effective Date: 12/09/2023 14:58:52

1.Name and Registered Office

House Of Helsinki Ry. Abbreviation: HOH. The organisation operates nationally with its main office in Helsinki.

2.Purpose and Nature of Activities:

The organisation's purpose is to strengthen Finland's social sustainability by developing operational models that promote the social status, well-being, and participation of minorities. The official languages are Finnish and English. Documents are recorded in the Finnish language and translated into English when necessary. The organisation is guided by the (Finnish) Association Act.

Development of Operational Models: The organisation strives to develop and innovate new operational models, programs, and projects that support the social status, well-being, and participation of minorities. These models can be disseminated and applied in various regions and communities.

Volunteering and Participation: The organisation encourages individuals to participate in volunteering and active involvement in society. It organises events and programs for volunteers that provide opportunities to help and support minorities.

Collaboration with Partners: The organisation collaborates closely with other organisations, authorities, and social actors. The goal is to achieve a shared vision and strengthen the effectiveness of actions.

Increasing Awareness: The organisation aims to raise awareness in society about the challenges and needs of minorities. It organises information campaigns, seminars, and training sessions that help dispel prejudices and increase understanding of different cultures and backgrounds.

Influencing and Lobbying: The organisation actively engages in influencing political decisions and seeks to improve the status of minorities in society.

Through all its activities, the organisation aims to create an open and inclusive society where everyone has the opportunity to participate and feel valued as part of the community.

Emphasising Two-Way Integration:

The organisation also emphasises the significance of two-way integration. Two-way integration means interactive and reciprocal adaptation between both minorities and the majority, fostering interaction and understanding of each other's cultures, values, and traditions.

Promoting Technology for Social Sustainability:

Promoting technology and its broad utilisation are key methods through which the organisation seeks to strengthen social sustainability and support the position of minorities in society. The goal is to ensure that technology serves as a resource and enabler in promoting social equality and inclusion.

3. Membership:

Membership is applied for through the organisation's official website.

Regular Members:

The annual membership fee is determined during the autumn meeting. Regular members, who actively contribute as experts or volunteers in the social and welfare sector, lending their pertinent expertise to the organisation's initiatives, are accepted by the board during regular or extraordinary board meetings. Regular members have both voting and attendance rights in organisation meetings.

Supporting Members:

Individuals who have reached the age of 15 and adhere to the organisation's purpose and rules can become supporting members. Additionally, organisations and companies that support and endorse the organisation's mission are eligible to become supporting members. Supporting members have the right to attend organisation meetings but do not possess voting privileges.

4. Resignation and Expulsion of Members:

A member has the right to resign from the organisation by notifying the Board in writing or by declaring the resignation during an organisation meeting, which shall be recorded in the minutes. The Board may expel a member from the organisation in the following cases:

- The member has not paid the overdue membership fee.
- The member has not fulfilled the obligations they committed to when joining the organisation.
- The member has significantly harmed the organisation through their actions.
- The member no longer meets the membership conditions stated in the law or the organisation's rules.

5. Membership and Membership Fees:

Regular members and supporting members are obligated to pay membership and joining fees.

The amounts of the membership joining fee and the annual membership fee for each member group are separately determined during the autumn meeting.

6. Board:

The Board is elected at the organisation's autumn meeting.

The Board manages the organisation's affairs in accordance with the rules and decisions made during the organisation's meetings. The Board's responsibility is to oversee the organisation's matters in accordance with the rules and resolutions established during organisation meetings.

The minimum composition of the Board includes a Chairman and two regular members.

The maximum composition of the Board includes a Chairman, five regular members, and two alternate members. The Board's term of office is a calendar year. The Board convenes at the invitation of the Chairman (or in their absence, the Vice-Chairman) when they consider it necessary or when at least half of the Board members demand it.

The Board is quorate when at least half of its members, including the Chairman or Vice-Chairman, are present. Decisions are made by an absolute majority vote. In case of a tie, the Chairman's (or in their absence, the Vice-Chairman's) vote decides, except in elections, where a draw is used.

7. Signing Authority of the Organisation:

The signing authority for the organisation is held by the Chairman of the Board, the Vice-Chairman, the Executive Director, and any individual to whom the Board has granted personal signing authority.

8. Financial Year and Audit:

The organisation's financial year corresponds to the calendar year. The financial statement, along with the necessary documents, and the Board's annual report must be submitted to the auditor/accountant at least one month before the spring meeting. The auditor/accountant must provide a written statement to the Board at least two weeks before the annual meeting. The procedures for the financial year and audit depend on the organisation's financial situation.

9. Organisation Meetings:

The organisation's regular annual meetings are held as autumn and spring meetings, annually on dates determined by the Board between January and December. An extraordinary organisation meeting is held in the following cases: if it was decided at a previous organisation meeting, and if the Board deems it necessary.

10. Convening Organisation Meetings:

The Board must convene organisation meetings at least seven days before the meeting, sending emails or letters to the members.

11. Regular Meetings:

The organisation holds two regular meetings each year.

Spring Meeting Agenda:

The following matters are addressed at the organisation's spring meeting:

- Opening of the meeting.
- Election of the meeting's chairman, secretary, two protocol inspectors, and, if necessary, two vote counters.
- Verification of the legality and quorum of the meeting.
- Approval of the meeting agenda.
- Presentation of the activity report, financial statements or annual financial statement, annual report, and auditors/accountants' statement.
- Decision on the approval of the financial statements or annual financial statement and the granting of discharge from liability to the board and other accountable parties.
- Discussion of other matters mentioned in the meeting invitation.

Autumn Meeting Agenda:

The following matters are addressed at the organisation's autumn meeting:

- Opening of the meeting.
- Election of the meeting's chairman, secretary, two protocol inspectors, and, if necessary, two vote counters.
- Verification of the legality and quorum of the meeting.
- Approval of the meeting agenda.
- Confirmation of the action plan, budget, and membership fees for the next calendar year, and the budget.
- Election of the board's chairman and other members.
- Election of one or two auditors and deputy auditors or one or two accountants and deputy accountants.
- Discussion of other matters mentioned in the meeting invitation.

If an organisation member wishes to have a specific matter discussed at the organisation's spring or autumn meeting, they must notify the board in writing well in advance so that it can be included in the meeting invitation.

12. Amendment of Rules and Dissolution of the Organisation:

A decision to amend the rules or dissolve the organisation must be made at an organisation meeting, where at least three-quarters (3/4) of the voting members present vote in favour of it. The agenda for the meeting must include a mention of the proposed amendments to the rules or the dissolution of the organisation. In case of dissolution, the organisation's assets and property will be used to promote the organisation's purpose as determined by the meeting making the decision. In case of liquidation, the assets will be used for the same purpose.