

## **STATUTES**

### **NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva**

(Translation of Statuts de l'Association Comité ONG de la Condition de la Femme, Genève)

#### **I. General Provisions**

##### **Art. 1**

The "Committee on the Status of Women" is a not-for-profit association governed by these Statutes and by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. It is politically neutral and non-denominational.

##### **Art. 2**

The purpose of the Association shall be to act as a strategic platform for Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's), particularly organizations of women, engaged in the defense of United Nations actions and advocacy for respect of State obligations and maintenance of a global momentum for the defense of women's rights and promotion of equality of men and women.

##### **Art. 3**

The Association is headquartered in Geneva.  
The Association shall be of unlimited duration.

#### **II. Acquisition and Loss of Membership**

##### **Art. 4**

The Association is composed of Active and Associate Members

Active Members shall be Non-Governmental Organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations committed to actively participating in the work of the

Associate Members shall be individuals or organizations interested in the activities of the Association. Associate Members shall have no voting rights.

Membership requests shall be addressed to the Bureau. The Bureau admits new members and informs the General Assembly accordingly.

##### **Art. 5**

Loss of Membership shall be:

- a) By written resignation thereby notifying the Committee before the end of the fiscal year
- b) For non-payment of dues.
- c) By exclusion pronounced by the Bureau without obligation to give reason.
- d) By dissolution of an organization or death of an associate member.

#### **III. General Assembly**

##### **Art. 6**

The General Assembly shall be the Association's supreme decision-making authority.

The General Assembly shall be held each year during the first four months of the calendar year. The notice of the General Assembly shall be given to members a minimum of two weeks in advance and shall include the Agenda, as well as all documents which pertain to it.

##### **Art. 7**

The General Assembly shall exercise all rights which have not been expressly delegated to the Bureau of the Association. In particular, the General Assembly shall:

- Elect the members of the Bureau
- Become acquainted with the contents of the reports and financial statements for the year and vote on their adoption
- Approve the annual budget
- Designate an auditor and an alternate
- Fix the annual membership fees
- Decide on any amendment of the Articles of the Association

- Decide on the dissolution of the Association

Decisions shall be by simple majority of active members present with the exception of revision or amendment of the Statutes and dissolution of the Association (see Art. 13 and 14).

Only current active members are eligible to vote. Each member has one vote.

An extraordinary General Assembly may be called at any time at the request of the Bureau or 1/3 of the members.

#### **IV. The Bureau**

Art. 8

The Bureau shall consist of a minimum of 3 members elected by the General Assembly: a president, a treasurer and a secretary.

Each Bureau member's term of office shall last for 3 years and is renewable once for the same position.

The Association is legally bound by the joint signature of 2 (two) being that of the President or Treasurer with one other member of the Bureau.

Art. 9

The Committee members work on a volunteer basis and may only be reimbursed for their actual expenses and travel costs. Potential attendance fees cannot exceed those paid for official commissions. For activities beyond the usual function, each Committee member is eligible for appropriate compensation.

Paid employees of the Association have only a consultative vote on the Bureau.

#### **V. Resources**

Art. 10

Members shall pay an annual fee fixed by the General Assembly in order that administrative expenses are covered. The amount may be different for each category of membership.

Other principle resources consist of donations, public subsidies, legacies, and any other resources authorized by the law.

Art. 11

The fiscal year coincides with the calendar year. The accounts and budget must be submitted to the general meeting for approval and discharge.

Art. 12

The members of the Association shall not be personally liable for any debts of the latter and they shall have no rights to the assets of the Association.

#### **VI. Revision of the Statutes and dissolution of the Association**

Art. 13

Any revision of the Statutes shall be expressly announced in the Order of Business of the General Assembly and shall have the approval of a two-third majority of the members present.

Art.14

The dissolution of the Association shall be expressly announced in the Order of Business of a General Assembly and shall have the approved of a two-third majority of the members present.

Art. 15

In the event of dissolution of the Association, its assets shall be entirely allocated to an institution pursuing a mission of public interest similar to that of the Association and benefiting from tax exemption. In no case shall assets be returned to the founders or members, nor be used to their benefit in full or part, in any manner whatsoever.

**These Statutes are a translation from the French of those approved by the Extraordinary General Assembly on September 8, 2015 and enter into force immediately.**