

STATUTE

Article 1

An Association is constituted, promoted by Arci Nuova Associazione, devoted to international cooperation with developing countries, to international solidarity initiatives and to relations with third countries.

The Association is a non-profit organization and pursues exclusively social solidarity purposes in the field of international cooperation and solidarity.

The Association shall not allot, either directly or indirectly, any profit or operating proceeds and shall make use of eventual profits or operating proceeds for the achievement of its institutional activities.

Article 2

The Association has the registered name of “Arci Cultura e Sviluppo” (ARCS) and has its registered office in Rome, Via dei Monti di Pietralata no. 16. It is autonomous on a decisional, operational and financial level.

Article 3

The Association, based on the property of activities and experience of Arci Nuova Associazione and of the related associations in the subject of international cooperation and relations with abroad, is aimed at achieving and developing this property in the line of cooperation to development, humanitarian aid, international relations with third countries, operating in compliance with the Italian Constituency and the rules in force of European Community.

Article 4

Fields of intervention of Associazione Arci Cultura e Sviluppo are: any activity which may contribute to the social, cultural, economical and democratically-oriented development of developing countries and generally speaking of third countries, to the defense of civil, social and human rights, to the fight to social exclusion, to the prevention of conflicts and their pacific solution, to the aid of peoples in danger, to the cultural and training interchange, to the mutual acquaintance and friendship among peoples, to the youth and citizens education to peace, cohabitation and universality.

On this purpose the Association promotes and organizes initiatives and programs of activities in Italy and abroad, according to social bodies and associations of the concerned countries, in compliance with the national and international rules in force.

Article 5

The Association shall also promote and organize the following activities:

- a) Events aimed to acquaintance, interchange and cooperation among different citizens and cultures, in Italy and with third countries;
- b) Planning and achievement of cooperation programs with developing countries. These programs shall or shall not include the recruitment of volunteers, collaborators and other operators, according to the Italian and European laws;
- c) Planning and achievement of emergency and humanitarian aid interventions in favour of peoples struck by natural or human disasters;
- d) Planning and achievement of initiatives aimed at preventing and pacifically solving conflicts;
- e) Initiatives of support to the economic and social development on a local basis, including the participation to human development programs and initiatives dealing with fair-trade activities, social enterprises and trust credit to local organizations;
- f) Initiatives for the promotion, defense and assertion of human, social, civil rights and the freedom of expression and information;

- g) Initiatives directed to eliminate social exclusion and isolation phenomena;
- h) Initiatives directed to the assertion of children rights;
- i) Initiatives for women equal opportunities and rights;
- j) Initiatives directed to the improvement of democratic associations;
- k) Initiatives aimed at building relations between Italian communities hosting immigrants and their own countries, so to favour their mutual acquaintance, cooperation and development, as well as initiatives concerning Italian emigrants;
- l) Initiatives aimed at the reception and integration of immigrants, refugees and refuge seekers and at supporting their voluntary re-entry and the home re-introduction;
- m) Initiatives aimed at building networks of associations in Europe and third countries, also through the development of integrated interchanging information networks;
- n) Professional and cultural training of the local managers and operators, through visits and training courses to be held either in developing countries and in Italy and Europe, as well as training courses directed to teachers and people active subjects in the field of development and fight against exclusion;
- o) Training and sending of volunteers, collaborators, and other operators, both Italian and foreigners, for the above projects;
- p) Research, studies, meetings, conferences and debates on the issues of cultural interchange, cooperation, development and international relations;
- q) Making the Italian and international public opinion, and in particular young people, aware of the problems of peace, development, cohabitation, international relations and initiatives of information and education to development and universality;
- r) Relationships and collaborations with other associations and agencies, both public and private, national and international, operating in the above field;
- s) Publication of books, articles, documents, records, audio-visual devices, photographs, films and information material about the fields of activity;
- t) Establishment of documentation centres;
- u) Initiatives to collect funds, also through additional activities, the proceeds of which are exclusively allotted to the institutional activities of the association.

Article 6

The Association has for its objects the training and selection of the personnel that the same deems qualified for the achievement of its activities and projects, above-mentioned, also through courses, seminars, conferences or any other mean that the Association deems appropriate, availing itself of specialized personnel.

The Association supports volunteers, collaborators and operators in the exercise of their contractual duties and in the related activities and collaborate for their positive and effective joining in the projects.

Article 7

Arci's members who, having applied to the National Board of Arcs in writing and have been accepted as such, may become members of Arcs. The National Board may also accept the application of membership coming from people, Italian or foreigners, even not members of Arci, whom it deems interested in the activities of the Association and useful for achieving its purposes. In case of non-acceptance of the application of the aspiring members, these ones may appeal to the Board of Arbiters.

The members undertake to accept this Statute, to accomplish the obligations provided hereunder and to collaborate for achieving the purposes of the Association. Each member is bound to pay an annual membership fee and to accept the decisions of the Board of Arbiters.

The member shall participate with voting right in the ordinary and extraordinary General Meetings of the Association.

Each member has the right to receive in writing the notice call of the General Meetings with the relevant agenda and the resolutions passed by the social bodies:

- The minutes of the ordinary and extraordinary General Meetings;
- The final and provisional reports of the plan of the activity;
- Balance and budgets;
- The composition of all social bodies,
- The declaration of the eventual expulsion from his qualification as member and the relevant motivations;
- Decisions issued by the Board of Arbiters.

If a member assumes the violation or misunderstanding of the statutory rules, he/she may appeal to the Board of Arbiters.

The qualification of member is lost when:

- The member dies;
- The member notifies his/her written resignation to the National Board;
- The member is rejected by the National Board due to: non-payment of the membership fee, or to hostile or harmful behaviour towards the Association or incompatible with the political-cultural and programmatic choices of the same.
- In case of expulsion, a member may appeal to the Board of Arbiters.

Article 8

The following are the statutory bodies of the Association:

- The General Meeting of the Members;
- The National Board;
- The President;
- The General Secretary;
- The Board of Auditors;
- The Board of Arbiters;
- The Executive Committee.

Article 9

The ordinary General Meeting of the Members is convened by the President at least every three years in order to:

- Discuss and approve priorities and general addresses of the activities of the Association;
- Grant mandate to the National Board to approve the budgets and balance sheets;
- Determine the amount of the annual membership fee for the next three-year term;
- Determine the number of elective members of the National Board, who must be less than 35 and must not exceed 60, and elect them for a three-year term;
- Elect the President, the Secretary general, the members of the Board of Auditors and the Board of Arbiters with a three-year term;
- Resolve upon the motions proposed by the President, the National Board or at least 15 members.

The ordinary General Meeting must be convened with at least one month prior notice and is valid, on first call, if more than a half of all members are in attendance; on second call it is valid irrespective of the number of members in attendance.

The ordinary General meeting may pass resolution upon simple majority. The General Meeting appoints, at the beginning of the session, an election Panel which shall propose the election procedure of the members of the National Board .

The extraordinary General Meeting may be convened by the Chairman every time he deems it necessary, or by the National Board, the Board of Auditors and the Board of Arbiters and at least of one third of the members, with a written request which shall explain motivation and agenda, in order to:

- Amend the Statute;
- Resolve upon the winding up of the Association;
- Revoke the trust awarded to the President, to the General Secretary, to the National Board or to some of its members, to the Board of Arbiters and re-elect these bodies or members until the expiration of the original term of office;
- Resolve upon whatever else proposed by anyone who asked for the call of the Meeting.

The extraordinary General Meeting must be convened with at least one month prior notice and is valid if at least two thirds of the members are in attendance; failing the quorum, it may be convened on second call with at least one month prior notice and is valid if at least one third of the members are in attendance.

The extraordinary General Meeting may pass resolution with a qualified majority of at least two thirds of those entitled to vote; in case of elections, the same criteria as for ordinary General Meeting shall apply.

In case of winding up of the Association, the General Meeting shall appoint one or more liquidators, with the bond to allot any residual assets of the Association, after deducting any consolidated obligations, to another non-profit organization of social utility or having in any event objects included in the institutional duties of the Association.

Article 10

The National Board Meeting is convened by the President at least twice a year for the approval of the financial statement, of the summary report of the activities of the preceding year and for the approval of the budget and of the relevant plan.

The National Board shall also be convened by the President every time he deems it appropriate, or by the Executive Committee, the General Secretary, the Board of Arbiters or at least one third of the members with a written request that shall explain motivations and agenda.

The National Board shall:

- Approve, upon mandate of the General meeting of the members, the budget and the annual financial statement, the provisional plan and the annual summary report;
- Elect, with a three-year term, the members of the Executive Committee, of which it shall determine the number from 5 to 9;
- Approve, upon proposal of the Executive Committee, the rules if any;
- Ratify the decisions taken by the Executive Committee;
- It may co-opt other members until the expiration of the three-year term of office, in a number lower than that of the Directors elected by the General Meeting; in any event the overall composition of the Board may not exceed 60 members;
- It may establish or close in Italy or abroad secondary branches and agencies of the Association; it may establish or close regional divisions of Arcs in agreement with the corresponding regional Committees of Arci; it shall determine duties and powers of these secondary branches, offices, agencies and regional divisions;

- Resolve upon matters of extraordinary administration and upon any other matter is submitted to it by the President or by the person or entity that asked for the call of the General Meeting to be convened.

The Meetings of the National Board shall be valid on first call if more than half of the Directors are in attendance; on second call, whatever is the number of Directors in attendance. The Board may pass resolution upon simple majority and may elect on a single list expressing one preference. No Proxies for the vote are allowed.

Upon proposal of the President, or of the Board of Arbiters or at least one third of its members, the National Board may, with a qualified majority of at least two thirds of those entitled to vote, revoke the mandate of the Executive Committee or of one or more members of such Committee, and provide for their replacement until the expiration of the original term of office.

Article 11

The President is agent for the Association before National and International Institutions, secures the development of the initiatives and the international relations of the Association itself, is also agent for it towards a third party on a legal level, is responsible for the good working of the Association before its members, answers for an harmonic relation between the Association and the Arci, convenes and presides the meetings of the General Meeting of the Members and the National Board, participates in the meetings of the Executive Committee and can reject the resolutions which involve formal engagements for the Association.

The President may contract obligations in the name and for the account of the represented Association in the terms of the supposed ordinary demands, also in the form of bank credits and loans, as well as open bank and mail accounts and operate on them. Such faculties may be delegated partly or completely to a person appointed on this purpose.

In case of impediment, even temporary, of the President his office will be taken by the General Secretary.

Article 12

The General Secretary shall answer for the working of the Executive Committee, the accomplishment of resolutions of ordinary and extraordinary administration and the activities of the Association. In case of impediment or absence, even temporary, he is replaced by a member of the Executive Committee charged on this by the Committee itself.

Article 13

The Executive Committee is convened and presided by the General Secretary and is composed by a minimum number of 5 (five) members and a maximum of 9 (nine) members. To the Executive Committee is due the ordinary Administration and the co-ordination of the activities of the Association.

Article 14

The Board of the Auditors is composed by three active members elected by the General meeting of the members. On first call the Board of Auditors shall elect among its members a President who convenes and presides the meetings.

The Board of Auditors shall:

- Control the Administration of the Association;
- Watch over the observance of the laws of the this Statute;
- Assure the regular book- keeping and of book-keeping papers and their correspondence to the budget.

The Auditors shall continue in office 3 (three) years and are re-eligible.

Article 15

The Board of Arbiters is organ of statute warranty. It has the charge of interpreting the statutory regulations and of instructing, discussing and deciding about the eventual petitions filed by members and aspiring members in case of non-acceptance of the application of these ones.

The Board of Arbiters also binds itself to inform the members in writing about resolutions taken.

The Board of Arbiters is composed by 3 (three) active members elected by the General Meeting among its members and shall continue in office 3 (three) years.

Article 16

The financial statement of the Association , which includes the financial year that go form the first of January to the thirty-first of December of each year, must inform about the economic and financial situation of the Association, also through an enclosed report if necessary.

The financial statement must be approved by the National Board within four months from the closing of the previous financial year.

Article 17

The property of the Association is constituted of:

- Annual social shares;
- Grants and bequests;
- Public and Private Contributions and Financing allowed by the Law and approved by the Association;
- Activities of service, sale or other forms of definitive or temporary transfer of goods, software etc., necessary to the achievement of the institutional aims;
- Rewards of planning, ideation, counseling, etc., necessary to the achievement of the institutional aims.

Article 18

As for regards everything not expressly provided by this Statute are to be considered the regulations contained in the Civil Law about the subject of Association.

The President
Antonio Benetollo

Rome, 27th July 2001