

NRNA CONSTITUTION

(2003-07)

NAME

The Association shall be called as:

"THE NON-RESIDENT NEPALI ASSOCIATION (NRN)"

OBJECTIVES

The objective of this Association shall be to foster closer relationship and cooperation among the NRN community spread all over the world and between the NRN community and Nepal. The Association shall strive to contribute to the overall development of Nepal. In this context, NRN refers to both people of Nepali origin who have acquired foreign citizenship and people of Nepali origin who currently hold Nepali passport but who have lived outside India and Bhutan for a period of more than 182 days by representing and promoting their interests both in Nepal and abroad. To this end, the Association shall:

- a. Promote Nepal and generate support for its interest in countries of their residence and at international organizations;
- b. Facilitate and attract NRN and foreign investment in Nepal;
- c. Strive to create conditions conducive to investment by the NRN in Nepal and the utilisation in Nepal of the talents and skills of the NRN;
- d. Foster closer co-operation among the NRN communities scattered in different parts of the world; and
- e. Function as an international forum for the promotion and protection of the interests of the NRN communities both in Nepal and abroad.

MEMBERSHIP

There shall be two categories of the Members of the Association, to be called respectively:

A. GENERAL MEMBERS

General Members of the Association shall be NRN as described in Article 2 above. They will have voting rights and will be able to contest for elective positions.

B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associate Members shall be the people and companies of non- Nepali origin with an interest in promoting and helping Nepal. They will be able to attend the general meetings and all activities of the Association but will have no voting and contesting rights for the membership of the ICC.

THE FUNDS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Funds of the Association shall comprise of the donation by the members, contribution from National Co-ordination Council (NCC), voluntary contributions and funds received through various activities of the Association.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS

- a. All donations, funds and materials received for the purposes of the Association shall be managed by the Treasurer under the supervision of the International Coordination Council (ICC). The ICC shall have the power to direct or approve the expenditure of the association's funds in such manner as deemed appropriate in the interest of the Association.
- b. The ICC shall keep its Funds in Bank account under the name of the Association and shall authorise (A) the Treasurer and (B) the President or any Official authorized by the President on his behalf to draw cheques thereon.

INTERNATIONAL CO-ORDINATION COUNCIL (ICC)

The affairs of the Association shall be managed by an executive body known as the International Co-ordination Council (ICC), consisting of the Officials of the Association referred to in Article 7, and elected Members of the ICC under the provisions of this Constitution. Subject to the control of the General convention, the ICC shall be entitled to take any action on behalf of the Association, which it shall deem to be conducive to the interests of the Association. It shall be the duty of the ICC to present at each general meeting a printed report of its proceedings of the previous year(s). The decision of the ICC shall be taken by majority members present at the meetings.

OFFICIALS

The Officials of the Association shall comprise of a President, two Vice-Presidents, an International Co-ordinator, a Joint Co-ordinator and a Treasurer.

ELECTION PROCEDURE

- a. Officials and Members of the ICC shall in each instance, be elected for a period of 2 (two) years only.
- b. The election of the Officials and Executive Members of the ICC shall take place among the general members in attendance at the General Convention.
- c. Officials shall not be eligible for re-election to the same position for more than three consecutive terms. They shall be elected by the General Convention by majority vote.
- d. Each general member in attendance in the General Convention shall elect a Country Representative as a member of the ICC to represent the country of residence. The said Representative shall be the resident of the same country in which the electing members reside.
- e. Any casual vacancy occurring among the officials and Members of the ICC may be provisionally filled by the ICC until the next general meeting or election of the ICC respectively.

DUTIES OF OFFICIALS

- a. The President shall function as the Association's Chief Executive Officer and preside over the meetings of the ICC as well as the Association; shall appoint Committees, except as otherwise determined by the ICC; and shall perform other duties as the ICC may assign to the President. In the absence of the President the duties of that office shall be performed by one of the Vice-Presidents.

- b. The International Co-ordinator shall keep the records and conduct the correspondence of the Association and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him/her by the Association or by the ICC. In the absence of the International Co-ordinator the duties of that office shall be performed by the Joint Co-ordinator. The Treasurer shall receive and shall have the custody of the Funds of the Association and shall invest and disburse them subject to the rules of Association and under the direction of the ICC. The Officials shall also perform any duties elsewhere prescribed by Association Rules.

CO-OPTED MEMBERS OF THE ICC

The ICC may appoint from time to time up to 15 (fifteen) Co-opted Members, for any period not exceeding 2 (two) years, but within the term-period of the ICC.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Association or the ICC at its meeting, may decide to establish Special Committees as it may, from time to time, deem desirable and may prescribe the duties and powers of such Committees, including the power to take executive action; provided that no such special Committees shall be empowered to undertake any of the functions hereby specifically entrusted to the ICC.

GENERAL CONVENTIONS

- a. The General Convention of the Association shall be held at least once in two years on a date fixed by the ICC. The President shall have power to convene a special general meeting whenever he/she deem it advisable to do so; and he/she shall do so on being thereto requested in writing by twenty-five percent Members of the ICC. The President shall take the chair of the General Convention but in his/her absence the meeting shall be chaired by one of the two Vice-Presidents.
- b. The registration fee for the General and Special Convention shall be fixed by the ICC from time to time.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ICC MEETING

- a. The meetings of the ICC shall take place at least once a quarter by electronic link and once in six months in person.
- b) The proceedings at the general meeting shall include the following unless otherwise decided by the meetings:
 - i. An appropriate welcome address;
 - ii. Reason for absence of any member(s);
 - iii. Minutes of the last general meeting; and
 - iv. Specific agenda items.

EXPULSION

Any Official and Member of the ICC who may be guilty of any conduct which in the opinion of the ICC renders his/her membership detrimental to the interests of the Association may be requested to resign, if refuses to do so, may be expelled, by a resolution of the ICC, subject to an opportunity given to him/her or to explain him/her conduct. Any such resolution shall require a majority vote of minimum two-thirds of the ICC members present and voting.

ALTERATIONS

Any Article(s) of this Constitution may be rescinded or amended by a resolution passed at any general or special convention of the Association by a two-thirds majority of the General Members present and voting; provided that:

- a. Notice of such resolution, stating the nature of the proposed alteration and the names of the proposer and seconder, shall have reached the International Co-ordinator at least sixty (60) days before the date fixed for the general meeting.
- b. In the event of a resolution being passed to rescind or amend any part of the Articles 1 to 3, Article 6 or this Article, such resolution shall be effective only after six months of the date of the adoption of such a resolution.

ACCOUNTS

The Officials of the Association shall comply with the accounting and audit requirements of the law of the Kingdom of Nepal relevant to the income/ expenditure level of the Association, with regard to:

- The keeping of accounting records of the Association;
- The preparation of annual financial statements for the Association;
- The auditing or independent examination of the financial statement of the association; and
- The preparation of an annual report and sending it together with the financial statement to an appropriately appointed official agency.

BANK ACCOUNT

The bank account in which the assets of the Association are deposited shall be operated by the ICC in the name of the Association. All cheques or orders for the payment of money from such account shall be signed by two persons as specified in Article 5(b) above (Treasurer and President or any officials authorized by the President on his behalf).

THE SEAT

The seat of the Association shall be in the Kingdom of Nepal. It will be registered with His Majesty's Government of Nepal as a non-profit and non-political international organization.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

Except with the prior written approval of the official agency in the country concerned no member of the ICC may:

- a. Receive any benefit in cash or in kind from the Association except for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the Association or the events sponsored by the Association; or
- b. Have a personal interest in the supply of goods or services to the Association; or
- c. Acquire or hold any personal interest in the property of the Association (except as authorized by the ICC).

CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

The Association may co-ordinate with other Nepali and non-Nepali associations and organisations in different parts of the world to achieve the objectives as stipulated in Article 2.

PATRONS, HONORARY MEMBERS AND ADVISERS

The ICC may from time to time decide to nominate people of high standing or those with a long outstanding record of contribution to the development of Nepal or any other person deemed deserving by the ICC as Patrons, Honorary Members and Advisers of the Association.

NATIONAL COORDINATION COUNCIL (NCC)

- a. When there are at least ten General Members (NRN/PNO) of the Association residing in a country, they may, if they so wish, establish a National Co-ordination Council (NCC) of the Association. The NCC shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Co-ordinator, a joint Co-ordinator, a Treasurer and in between 5 to 15 elected members, depending upon the size of NRN in that country. All General and Associate Members in the country shall ipso facto become members of the NCC.
- b. The President and Co-ordinator of NCC shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the ICC. They shall be notified of the meetings well in advance by the International Co-ordinator of the ICC.
- c. The NCCs shall enjoy maximum autonomy in carrying out their Objectives in matters relating to the country concerned, provided that their activities remain within the broad framework of this Constitution and the major decisions of the ICC.
- d. The rules of this Constitution and those relating to the ICC shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to the activities of the NCCs.
- e. The Officials and Members of the ICC shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the NCCs but without voting rights. They shall also not be eligible to become the President of the NCC. They shall be notified of the meetings well in advance by the Co-ordinator of the NCCs.

DISSOLUTION

The ICC may be dissolved or disbanded by a resolution passed at any General or Special Convention of the Association by a two-thirds majority of the General members present and voting. While counting the majority, no more than 25 percent vote of the General Members shall be allowed from a single country.

LOGO

The Association shall have its own logo as approved by the ICC.

APPLICABLE LAW

The governing law of the Kingdom of Nepal shall apply to the matters relating to the NRN Association.