



The House of Hope

It takes a village to raise a child

HOUSE OF HOPE – Articles of the Association

Structure and Location

Art. 1 An association with the name HOUSE OF HOPE located in Zurich, has been formed in accordance with Art. 60 ff. of Swiss Civil Law.

Art. 2 The association is an independent non-profit organization. The association is committed to being financially accountable and transparent in its projects and decision-making process. The association adheres to the obligations set up by the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* and the *African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child*.

Activities and Aims

Art. 3 The goals of the Association are:

- To build and financially support a community childcare centre for children affected by HIV/AIDS in South Africa. The Centre is for children who are themselves affected by HIV/AIDS, or children whose parents are affected by HIV/AIDS
- To develop sustainable community projects for the centre to help with the immediate and long-term needs of the children
- To meet the immediate and long-term needs of the children through co-ordination of community workers, volunteers, social workers, clinics and other government and welfare services

Membership

Art. 4 HOUSE OF HOPE is made up of active and honorary members.

Art. 5 Active membership is made up of people who promote or support the goals of the association.

Art. 6 Honorary members are people who have served HOUSE OF HOPE in a special way. They are nominated by the board and named at the General Assembly; they have a right to vote and are exempt from membership fees.

Art. 7 Ex-members have no claim to the assets of the Association.

Funding and Liability

Art. 8 ¹ HOUSE OF HOPE will be funded by means of sponsorship, donations, grants and fundraising events.



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² The annual membership fee will be decided at the General Assembly.

Art. 9 All financial liabilities are exclusive to the assets of HOUSE OF HOPE. The individual members are not in any way financially liable.

Organization

Art. 10 The bodies of the association are the General Assembly, the board and the auditors.

Art. 11 ¹ The General Assembly takes place at least once annually; it is called by the board. Additional meetings can be called by the board, or on request of at least one fifth (1/5) of the members.

² An invitation with a provisional agenda will be sent 30 days in advance. Motions and nominations from members must be submitted in writing to the board at least 20 days in advance. The definitive agenda including necessary documents will be sent to the members at least 10 days in advance by email or in exceptional cases by post.

³ The General Assembly can only make binding decisions about points which have been submitted according to paragraph 2 of this article.

⁴ Active and honorary members have equal voting rights at the General Assembly. Each member has one vote.

⁵ Decisions are made at the General Assembly on the following points:

- (a.) Agreement on the budget and acceptance of the annual accounts
- (b.) Setting the annual membership fee
- (c.) Voting in the chairperson of the board
- (d.) Voting in the board members
- (e.) Voting in the auditors
- (f.) Relieving the board members of duty
- (g.) Acceptance of members
- (h.) Exclusion of members
- (i.) Agreeing on and changing of the Articles of the Association
- (j.) Dissolution of the Association
- (k.) Further points which, in accordance with the law or the Articles of the Association, fall within the responsibilities of the General Assembly



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⁶ A decision made by the General Assembly regarding the cases in paragraph 5 is reached by a simple majority of the votes of those present.

⁷ In urgent cases the General Assembly can make decisions in writing (post or email)-excluding decisions regarding exclusion of members, agreeing on or changing the Articles of the Association and dissolution of the Association.

The Board

Art. 12 ¹The board is made up of a chairperson and two more members. Board members must not necessarily be members of the Association. The board constitutes and organises itself.

²The members of the board can receive appropriate compensation for work relating to their Association activities, as well as their actual expenses and payments.

³ The board may make decisions when the majority of the members are present. Decisions are reached by a simple majority of the votes of those present. The chairperson holds the ballot. The board can also make decisions in writing (post or email).

⁴The chairperson and the board members are elected for a period of one year. If a member leaves early, the successor takes over during this period. Re-election is possible.

Duties of the Board

Art. 13 The duties of the board are:

- Managing the Association
- Preparation and convening of the general assembly
- Administration of the associations assets
- Strategic planning of the association and decisions on projects to be implemented

Auditor

Art. 14 Every year two auditors will be elected, one of these will be an independent professional. They will audit the financial accounts of HOUSE OF HOPE and report to the General Assembly. Re-election is possible.



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Financial Year

Art. 15 The financial year begins on 1 January and finishes on 31 December.

Dissolution and Liquidation

Art. 16 In the case of the dissolution of the Association the board are obliged to liquidate the assets of the Association. After settlement of liabilities any remaining funds will be given to an association with the same or similar aims. Members have no claims to the assets of the Association.