



GLOBAL LEAGUE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYERS

STATUTES

CHAPTER ONE

DENOMINATION, DOMICILE, OBJECTIVES, SOCIAL OBJECTIVE.

Article 1. By the present provisions, the “Global League of Environmental Lawyers” is constituted.

Its headquarters is to be based in Mexico, D.F.

Article 2. The League has no connection to any political union; it is constituted as a non profitable organization; and its members take part in it in a personal manner.

Article 3. The Global League of Environmental Lawyers is to provide the legal protection of the environment and its resources based in the principles of sustainability and democratic inclusion, aiming to provide an understanding among the institutions in the public, private and social sectors and expert lawyers from several countries, members of the League. In that way, it seeks to strengthen, among the different characters involved in the management and procuration of environmental law, the regional perspective above the local one in the resolution of environmental conflicts, by strengthening the bonds and good understanding, indispensable for the implementation and compliance of the environmental legal norm within the national and international scenarios.

Article 4. The objectives of the league are as follow:

1. Develop initiatives and bills towards the creation of tools for the environmental policy that enable the defense and rational use of natural resources, as well as the preservation and restoration of natural ecosystems and wildlife.
2. Participate collectively as an organization and individually as litigants, in the broadening and compliance of environmental norms within national and international contexts, with the objective of reinforcing the institutions responsible for the administration and application of environmental justice.
3. Gather, by means of appropriate advertising, the greatest number of environmental lawyers in the league.
4. Provide as an association, legal assistance and supervision to governmental institutions and civil organizations related to the control of air contamination; handling, treatment and final disposal of dangerous residues; residual water treatment systems; environmental impact and risk; sanitization and recovery of contaminated soil; environmental auditing; environmental safety, as well as any issue that by any reason be in the agenda of the environment legal protection.
5. Promote initiatives before national and international courts, towards the preservation and rescue of protected natural areas; as well as promoting the reversion of the current trends on environmental damage within a global scale.
6. Publish bibliographic material (magazines, reports, communications, journals, annals and all kind of printed material in general), as well as audiovisual material, both for general and for environmental law specialized broadcasting.

7. Develop all kinds of academic, scientific research and broadcasting activities for environmental legal issues.
8. Hold conferences, round tables and any other kind of cultural and social activity, with the participation of experts on relevant subjects related to the environment and law.
9. Use all written and electronic broadcasting media in order to broadcast and provide information related to the activities performed by this organization.
10. Bring awareness to the society and individuals in general, so that they use their rights for an adequate environment and access to information.

In general, perform all acts and celebrate agreements and contracts necessary to reach the compliance of the social object in all and every one of its parts.

CHAPTER TWO CAPACITY, ASSETS, SOCIAL RESOURCES.

Article 5. The League is able to celebrate all kinds of legal acts or contracts having direct or indirect relation to its object or helping to ensure its normal operation.

Article 6. Its social assets are composed by the assets it currently holds and by those it might acquire in the future by any capacity or resource it might obtain by:

- a) Fees paid by members.
- b) Income produced by its assets.
- c) Donations, heritage, bequests and grants that might be agreed;
- d) Product of any other income it may get to achieve its purposes.

CHAPTER THREE MEMBERS, MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS, OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS

Article 7. The League is constituted by individual and institutional members.

Article 8. Individual members are: honorary, active and acceding ones.

Article 9. Honorary members are those individuals who have been distinguished by their scientific contribution in the environmental law area.

Article 10. The quality of active members shall be granted to those who have submitted their name to the League and signed its constitution, if they meet the qualities described in Article 11.

Article 11. Active members shall be those accepted as such by the Executive Committee, and meet the following requirements:

- a) Title of lawyer or doctor in Law, or holding a license in law issued by a recognized University or governmental authority; denomination of the title by the University issuing it is not an impediment, as long as the enabling studies have been known to the Executive Committee of sufficient professional or academic hierarchy.
- b) of legal age;
- c) Present a request together with their curriculum vitae and the agreement of two or three active members.

In exceptional cases, this same Committee might with the same quorum, supply one or more of the requested requirements.

Article 12. Acceding memberships might be granted to those individuals who, without the title described in Article 11, wish to contribute to the achievements of the league. These must be of legal age, present a request followed by their background and the agreement of two or three active members. Appointments shall be made for each case by the Executive Committee as stated in Article 11.

Article 13. Institutional members are those institutions or equivalent entities connected to the environmental law, belonging to state or private Universities, or teaching or research institutions in university levels, or professional lawyer associations, or entities with similar aims as those established by the League, which request their membership and obtain their acceptance by the decision of the Executive Committee.

Article 14. Are rights of active members:

- a) Take part in assemblies, with their voice and vote, hold positions in the organs of the League according to the dispositions of this statute and also being correspondents appointed by the institution;
- b) Receive all publications of the League and have access to all available information;
- c) Promote ideas and projects for the organs of the League.

Article 15. Are rights of acceding members: take part in assemblies, with voice but not vote, and those rights as established in items b and c of the previous Article.

Article 16. Institutional members will act in all cases by means of authorized power of attorney. There is no incompatibility between being an institutional member and the individual membership in any category of the League.

Are the rights of institutional members those as established in items b and c of Article 14.

Article 17. Are obligations of all members:

- a) Follow the present statute and respect the decisions of the League.
- b) Collaborate with the League and its executive and deliberative organs.
- c) Pay the contributions established in Article 6 item a of the present statute.

Article 18. Institutional members must put intense efforts in promoting, stimulating, deepening and advertising the studies of environmental legal subjects and annually report the tasks performed to the general secretary of the League, sending together with the report, a copy or extract of the investigations and collective or individual work and summary of conferences, courses, among others. The annual report must be send no later than April 30th of the following year.

Article 19. The designation of correspondent will be made in honorary manner and involves the performance of the following functions:

- a) Keep the link or exchange with individuals and legal institutions in its region or country which might be convenient for the accomplishment of the League's objectives;
- b) Inform the Executive Committee on the activities, publications or studies performed in its region, connected to the objectives of the League;
- c) Represent the League in actions supported by it, taking place in its region or country, by itself or together with the representatives appointed for each case.

Article 20. Members of the League are liable of sanctions consisting of warnings, suspensions or exclusions if breaching this statute, especially by not following the obligations established and committing actions which ethically or materially affect the institution.

Article 21. Any member wishing to leave the League must present their resignation by writing and honor the payment of contributions. The Executive Committee can solve any related issues in each case.

Article 22. Sanctions related in Article 20 may be stated by resolution of the Executive Committee, if adopted by two thirds of the votes in session with a quorum of fifty percent plus one of the members prior to the release of the interested member. The decision can be appealed in writing at the first assembly to be held.

CHAPTER FOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, ADVISORY BOARD AND

AUDITORS COMMITTEE.

Article 23. The League is to be ruled and managed by an Executive Committee composed of nine active members, who shall hold the following positions: President, First Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer and Five Regional Presidents. Mandates are for two years. Members of the Executive Committee might be re-elected.

Article 24. The Executive Officers shall be constituted by the President, Vice President, General Secretary and Treasurer, and in urgent cases, these officers can make decisions according to the attributions stated in Article 30, items a, b, f and g, by the Executive Committee. These decisions must be presented in the first assembly held after these decisions had been made.

Article 25. The Advisory Board shall be designated by the Assembly on the proposal of the Executive Committee. It shall be integrated by relevant personalities in the area. Its finality is to guide and support the Executive Committee without managerial or administrative powers.

Article 26. Social control is to be made by an Auditors Committee constituted by three members, from which one is to hold the Presidency. Three deputy Auditors shall also be elected. The mandate is to last two years.

Article 27. In order to integrate the social organs participants must be active members with at least two years membership and be of legal age. Positions shall be granted ad honorem.

Article 28. In cases of license, resignation, death or any other factor causing transitory or permanent vacancy of a position, this shall be replaced as stated in this Statute. This replacement is to be made for the remaining mandate time of those being replaced, in case of permanent replacement.

Article 29. The Executive Committee is to gather at any time when requested by the President or by the request of three of its members, or by its auditing organ. In the latter cases, the meeting shall be held within 30 days of the request. Request is to be made in manner and advance as stated by the organ. Executive Committee meetings shall be held with the legal quorum, which is the presence of not fewer members than fifty percent plus one of the Members, and resolutions are to be adopted by simple majority of the present members, except for those reviews that need the vote of two thirds of the members, in meetings with the participation of the same or greater number of members than the meeting which decided to reconsider the subject.

Article 30. The attributions and obligations of the Executive Committee are:

- a) Enforce the Resolutions of the Assembly, observe and enforce this Statute and its Regulations
- b) Exercise the management of the League, including its legal and disciplinary power, according to the stated in item e).
- c) Summon the Assemblies.
- d) Decide on the admittance of people and institutions requesting their membership;
- e) Warn, suspend, review or expel members.
- f) Appoint its employees and all personnel necessary for the normal operation of the entity, establish their salary, warn, suspend and dismiss them.
- g) Take all decisions for reaching the scientific objectives of the League.
- h) Present to the Regular Central Assembly the Memory, General Statement, Inventory, Expense and Resource Report and Information from the Auditors Committee. All these documents must be presented for the knowledge of the members with the anticipation required by Article 39 for the Summoning of the Regular Assembly.
- i) Dictate the Internal Regulations necessary for the compliance of the social objectives. All regulations which are not of simple management organization must be previously approved by the corresponding authorities before being considered as valid;
- j) Having dully initiated the books demanded by the legal regulations currently in place.
- k) Establish the guidelines and regulate the organization and establishment of Regional groups in order to achieve a sectorial performance of the League which enables its further development in the regions.
- l) Provide and regulate the formation of Study Commissions on environmental subjects, with the objective of reaching the scientific means of the League.

Article 31. When by any circumstance the Executive Committee be unable to constitute quorum once incorporated the deputy members, all remaining Members have 20 days to summon an Extraordinary General Assembly, in order to define replacements to complete the mandates. The same rule is to be applied in cases of total vacancy of the committee. In the latter case, the organ summoning the meeting, be them the members of the Executive Committee or the organ summoning the meeting, be it the Auditing Committee, these shall have all the necessary and inherent rights for the celebration of the Assembly or Pooling stations.

Article 32. The Auditing Commission has the following attributions and obligations:

- a) Examine the books and documents of the League at least every six months;
- b) Assist the Executive Committee sessions whenever appropriate;
- c) Monitor the management and the collection and investment of social funds, frequently checking the cash flow and the existence of bonds and funds of any kind;
- d) Verify the compliance to the Laws, Statutes and Regulations, especially those related to the rights of the members and the Conditions that social benefits be granted;
- e) Rule over the Memory, Inventory, General Statement and Expenses and Resources Report presented by the Executive Committee;
- f) Summon the Ordinary Assembly when the Executive Committee does not;
- g) Request the summoning of an Extraordinary Assembly whenever it seems necessary, setting the reasons supporting its request to the competent authorities, when the Executive Committee refuses access to it;
- h) Monitor the liquidation operations of the League. The Control organ is responsible for executing its responsibilities so as not to hinder the regularity of the social administration.

CHAPTER FIVE OF THE PRESIDENT AND FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Article 33. The President or whoever replaces him has the following obligations and attributions:

- a) Represent the League;
- b) Summon the sessions of the Executive Committee and chair these and the Assemblies;
- c) Has the right to vote in the Executive Committee sessions as any other Member of the Committee, and in case of a draw, shall vote again for reaching a decision;
- d) Sign, together with the Secretary, the minutes of the Assemblies and sessions of the Executive Committee, mail and any document issued by the League;
- e) Authorize, together with the Treasurer, the expenses stated in the receipts and other treasury documents, according to the established by the Executive Committee; not permitting that the social funds be invested in objectives other than those prescribed in this statute;
- f) Lead the discussions, suspend and close the Executive Committee and Assembly sessions, whenever order is disturbed or there is a lack of due respect;
- g) Ensure successful operation and management of the League, complying with and enforcing the Statute, Regulations, resolutions of the Assemblies and Executive Committee.

Article 34. The First Vice President shall substitute the President with the same attributions and obligations in the case of temporary or permanent impediment.

CHAPTER SIX OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Article 35. The General Secretary or whoever replaces him has the following attributions and obligations:

- a) Assist the Assemblies and sessions of the Executive Committee, writing the corresponding Minutes, inserting these in the corresponding book and sign it together with the president;
- b) Sign, together with the President, the mail and all documents related to the League;
- c) Quote all the meetings of the Executive Committee according to the stated in Article 28;
- d) Keep the Book with the Minutes from the Assemblies and Executive Committee updated, and, according to the treasurer, the Membership Registry.

CHAPTER SEVEN OF THE TREASURER

Article 36. The treasurer or whoever replaces him has the following attributions:

- a) Assist the Executive Committee and Assembly sessions;
- b) Keep, together with the Secretary, the Membership Registry, being in charge of all matters related to the collection of social contributions;
- d) Present to the Executive Committee, semi-annual balance sheets and prepare the Annual Balance Sheet and Expenses and Resources Statement and Inventory, which must be approved by the Executive Committee to be submitted to the consideration of the Ordinary General Assembly;
- e) Sign, together with the President, the receipts and any other document from the Treasury, and make all payments authorized by the Executive Committee;
- f) Deposit in a bank account in the name of the League, with an order by the President and Treasurer, all money entering the cash fund, keeping only up to the amount authorized by the Executive Committee for urgent expenses and common payments;
- g) Account for the economic state of the entity to the Executive Committee and Auditing Committee whenever requested by them.

CHAPTER EIGHT OF REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

Article 37. Each Vice-president must represent a Regional Group, with the following powers and obligations:

- a) Assist the Assemblies and the Executive Committee sessions, with both voice and vote;
- b) Perform the requests and tasks assigned by the Executive Committee;
- c) Substitute the First Vice-president, General Secretary or Treasurer in that order and according to choice, in case of absence or vacancy, holding the same attributions and obligations.

CHAPTER NINE OF THE ASSEMBLIES

Article 38. There shall be two types of General Assemblies: Ordinary and Extraordinary. Ordinary Assemblies shall take place once a year, within one hundred and twenty days after the closing date of the year, whose closing date is to be March, 31st of each year, and these assemblies there should:

- a) Consider, approve or modify the memory, General Balance Sheet, Inventory, Expenses and resources Sheet, and Report from the Auditing Committee;
- b) Elect, if it is the case, the members of the Executive Committee and Auditing Committee;
- c) Address any other subject included in the Agenda;
- d) Consider the subjects presented by a minimum of five percent of the members in voting conditions and presented to the Executive Committee within thirty days after the closure of the Social Year.

Article 39. Extraordinary Assemblies must be summoned whenever the Executive Committee considers it to be necessary or when requested by the Auditing Committee or by ten percent of the associate members with the right to vote. These requests must be resolved within thirty days from being formulated and if the request is not taken into consideration or unjustifiably denied, by the decision of the application authority, proceed in accordance with the legal rules governing the matter.

Article 40. Assemblies shall be summoned with at least seventy days in advance and all members shall be informed by circular sent to their address, with at least thirty days in advance, stating the date, time, place and agenda to be considered. With the same time in advance, the Memory, General Statement, Inventory, Expense and Resource Sheet and Report from Auditing Committee must be made available to all members. Also, any summoning of the Assembly must be nevertheless published by any public media.

Article 41. Whenever reviews to the Statute or Regulations be submitted to the consideration of the Assembly, the project for these must be made available to all members with no less than 30 days in advance. In the Assemblies, no other subject can be addressed other than those expressed in the Agenda.

Article 42. Assemblies will be held valid, even in cases of review of Statute and social dissolution, whatever the number of present members, half an hour after the time stated in the summoning, if the number of members has not reached half plus one of those members with the right to vote.

Assemblies shall be chaired by the president of the entity who, in case of a draw, has to vote twice.

Article 43. Each active member is entitled to one vote. Equally, each member can delegate his vote to a representative, which shall be formalized in writing. Votes can exceptionally be issued by certified mail, and shall be considered in the calculation of the majority.

Resolutions from the Assemblies are adopted by the majority of votes from its active members or representatives.

Members of the Executive Committee and Auditing Committee can not vote in subjects related to their management.

Article 44. When Assemblies are summoned for the election of authorities, a list of those members with the power to intervene must be drawn, which is to be communicated to all with no less than fifteen days prior to the date established for the act, and oppositions can be formed with five days prior to these events.

CHAPTER TEN DISSOLUTION

Article 45. The Assembly can not declare the dissolution of the entity while there be ten members willing to hold it, who, in such case commit themselves to observe the compliance with its social objectives. La Asamblea no podrá decretar la disolución de la entidad mientras existan diez miembros dispuestos a sostenerla quienes, en tal caso se comprometerán a preservar el cumplimiento de los objetivos sociales. If dissolution is effective, liquidators can be appointed by the Executive Committee or any other committee of members associated appointed by the Assembly. The Auditing Committee must follow all liquidation operations of the League. Once all debts have been paid, if there are any, the remaining assets must be sent to an official or non-profitable institution, as stated in the dissolution Assembly.

CHAPTER ELEVEN ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

Article 46. The present statute is adopted in six original copies: one written in Spanish, the second in English, the third in Portuguese, the fourth in French, the fifth in Italian and the sixth in German. In case of interpretation difficulty, the prevailing text is the one in Spanish.