

Statutes of the Association International Network on Hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU)

I. Name, Domicile and Objectives

§ 1 Name and Domicile

- 1.1 The International Network on Hepatitis in Substance Users (INHSU) is a non-profit association incorporated according to article 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code.
- 1.2 The association has its domicile in Zurich, Switzerland, and operates internationally.
- 1.3 The association is politically neutral and non-denominational.

§ 2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the association are:
 - the improvement of Hepatitis health care for substance users worldwide;
 - the creation of a network of highly educated experts in the field of Hepatitis health care on an international level;
 - to provide advanced and continued education in the field of Hepatitis health care; and
 - to promote the unlimited access of substance users to diagnostics and therapies for Hepatitis.

3. Resources

- 3.1 The Association's resources are derived from:
 - Membership fees;
 - Surpluses arising from educational events and conferences;
 - Donations and legacies; and
 - Any other resources authorised by the law.

II. Membership

§ 4. Prerequisites of Membership

- 4.1 Every natural or legal person can acquire membership of the association.

§ 5. Admission and Termination of Membership

- 5.1 Membership can be acquired by way of resolution of the Executive Board following both a written request (including E-mail) addressed to the Executive Board and the payment of the annual membership fee for the initial year, in case of enlistment during the second half of the year the payment of the initial semi-annual membership fee. The Executive Board may determine the specific requirements to be met in a request for admission.
- 5.2 In case the membership fee for the initial year or, in case of enlistment during the second half of the year, for the second half of the year will not be settled within one month upon receipt of the invoice for such membership fee, the resolution for admission taken by the executive board will become null and void.

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5.3 Termination of membership can be resolved by a majority vote of the Executive Board if the requirements foreseen by the Statutes are no longer met, if a member severely infringes upon the duties of membership or if the membership fees are not settled despite a precedent reminder. Such resolution is final and binding.

5.4 Membership can cease if the member dies or, at any time, by virtue of a written resignation letter (including Email) addressed to the Executive Board.

§ 6. Obligations of the Members

6.1 Members are expected to participate actively in the association and contribute to its principles and goals.

6.2 Members are expected to support the organs of the association fulfilling their duties.

6.3 Members have no personal liability.

6.4 Only the Association's assets may be used for obligations or commitments contracted in its name.

§ 7. Membership Fees

7.1 The membership fees are determined by the General Assembly.

7.2 The membership fees shall be due on the beginning of each Accounting year covering the whole year.

7.3 Only financial Members will be able to vote and/or stand for election at the General Assembly Meeting.

7.4 The financial obligations of members leaving the association or being expelled cease at the end of the Accounting year in which the membership ceases. Leaving members have no entitlement for a refund of their membership fees.

III. Organs of the Association

§ 8. Organs of the Association

8.1 The Associations shall have the following organs:

- The General Assembly meeting; and
- The Executive Board; and
- The Auditor.

A. General Assembly Meeting

§ 9. Notice for the General Assembly Meeting

9.1 The ordinary General Assembly Meeting is held at the INHSU Annual Conference or at another time in an adequate venue to be determined by the Executive Board.

9.2 An Extraordinary General Assembly Meetings may be called by:

- any 2 members of the Executive Board

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- at the written request (including E-mail) of at least one fifth (1/5th) of the members.

9.3 The Notice for the General Assembly Meeting must be mailed to each member not less than 6 weeks prior to the date of the meeting. This notice can be sent by e-mail.

§ 10. Powers

10.1 The General Assembly Meeting is the highest decision-making body of the association and has the power to:

- elect the members of the President and all other members of the Executive Board and the Auditors, if any;
- establish the principle guidelines and regulatory framework;
- determine the amount of membership fees;
- approve or reject the annual accounts and budget of the association;
- amend or modify the statutes or regulatory framework, and
- determine the dissolution of the association.

§ 11. Internal Rules of Procedure

11.1 The President takes the chair of the General Assembly Meeting.

11.2 Quorum for the General Assembly is 1/10th of its total membership.

11.2.1 If quorum is not achieved then the General Assembly will reconvene one week later at the same venue

11.2.2 If quorum is not achieved at the reconvened General Assembly then the meeting will be considered valid regardless of the number of members present

11.3 The General Assembly Meeting shall take resolution by way of simple majority of the votes. The President shall vote. In case of equality of votes the President has the final ballot.

11.4 The President and the other members of the Executive Board and the Auditors, if any, are elected by open ballot.

11.5 Resolutions regarding the alteration of the Statutes and the regulatory framework require the majority of the votes of two third of the members being present at the General Assembly Meeting.

11.6 The dissolution of the association can only be resolved by two third of the members either by way of a General Assembly Meeting or by way of a written ballot vote.

B. Executive Board

§ 12 Election and Composition

12.1 The Executive Board consists of at least three members.

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- 12.2 The President and the other members of the Executive Board are elected by the General Assembly Meeting for a period of two years. They can be re-elected.
- 12.3 The Executive Board constitutes itself. That is the Executive Board elects a President, a Vice President, and a Treasurer amongst its members
- 12.4 The Secretary of the Associations shall be the Treasurer unless that role is assigned to another member of the Executive Board.
- 12.5 The Executive Board is able to fill casual vacancies to either:
- replace a member who leaves the Executive Board mid-term; or
 - supplement the existing skills or geographical representation on the Executive Board.

§ 13 Powers

- 13.1 The Executive Board represents the association and shall have power in all matters which are not explicitly in the competence of the General Assembly Meeting. The powers of the Executive Board shall include, without limitation:
- admission of members;
 - exclusion of members; and
 - promoting the objectives of the members
- 13.2 Any 2 members of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are able to authorise expenditure or otherwise contract on behalf of the Association.

§ 14. Executive Board - Internal Rules of Procedure

- 14.1 The Executive Board shall meet upon invitation of the President whenever need be in order to promote the objectives of the association or at a request of at least two members of the Executive Board accompanied by an agenda for such meeting.
- 14.2 The invitation must be mailed to each member of the Executive Board at least ten days prior to the date of such meeting. This notice can be sent by E-mail.
- 14.3 The President or the Vice-President takes the Chair.
- 14.4 Quorum for Executive Board meetings is a simple majority of the elected members of the Executive Board.
- 14.5 Resolutions can be taken by the majority of the votes of the present members of the Executive Board.
- 14.6 The Executive Board can take resolutions by simple majority of the present members of the Executive Board. In the case of equality of votes, the President has the final ballot.
- 14.7 Resolutions of the Executive Board shall be kept in minutes.
- 14.8 Executive Board members:

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- work on a volunteer basis and as such can only be reimbursed for their actual expenses and travel costs;
- are eligible, subject to approval by the Executive Board, for appropriate compensation for activities beyond the usual function of each Executive Board member

C Auditors

§ 15 Election and Composition

15.1 The Auditors consist of one member.

15.2 The Auditors are elected by the General Assembly Meeting for the period of four years. They can be re-elected.

§ 16 Duties

16.1 The Auditors must carry out an annual audit. They shall examine the annual accounts and provide to the General Assembly Meeting a written report. They propose either to provide or refuse discharge of the Treasurer and Executive Board members.

IV. Miscellaneous

§ 17 Accounting Year

17.1 The Treasurer is responsible for the Association's finances.

17.2 The accounting year will begin on the 1 July and end on 30 June each year.

§ 18 Dissolution of the Association

18.1 Upon dissolution of the association, the General Assembly Meeting, after payment or constitution of a deposit for all indebtedness of the association, shall allocate the net assets to objects exclusively compatible with the objectives of the association and likewise benefiting from tax exemption.

18.2 Under no circumstances shall the assets of the Association be returned to the founders or members.

For the Executive Board: _____ 2016

Chairperson

Secretary