

STATUTES

Of the Association *Médecins sans Frontières, Norway*

§ 1

Name of the Association

The name of the Association is *Médecins sans Frontières, Norway*
(the locally used name will be *Leger uten Grenser, Norge*)

§ 2

Head Office of the Association

The Head Office of the Association shall be located in Oslo.

§ 3

Principles

Leger Uten Grenser, Norge has a humanitarian purpose. The Association shall cooperate with, and be guided by the same principles, as the international organisation Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).

The members of the Association shall only act according to the following founding charter of the organisation:

-Médecins Sans Frontières offers assistance to population in distress, to victims of natural or man-made disasters and to victims of armed conflict, without discrimination and irrespective of race, creed or political affiliation.

-Médecins Sans Frontières observes neutrality and impartiality in the name of universal medical ethics and the right to humanitarian assistance and demands full and unhindered freedom in the exercise of its functions.

-Médecins Sans Frontières' volunteers undertake to respect their professional code of ethics and to maintain complete independence from all political, economic and religious powers.

-As volunteers, members are aware of the risks and dangers of the missions they undertake, and have no right to compensation for themselves or their beneficiaries other than that which Médesins Sans Frontières is able to afford them.

§ 4 Objectives

The main objectives of the Association shall be to:

- a. Recruit health personnel and any other operational staff to work in accordance with the principles of MSF International.
- b. Spread information and attract public and financial support for its international “Médecins Sans Frontières”- work and collect funds for the activities of the Association.
- c. Contribute to the implementation of projects initiated MSF International and thus participate in the world-wide activities of MSF.

§ 5 Active Membership

All who in accordance with the above conditions have worked for the Association, in Norway and abroad, and who apply for membership, may become members. Membership is also open to individuals.

In order to become a member, one of the following criteria must be fulfilled:

- a. A minimum of 6 months work as an MSF volunteer on a mission or experience from at least three missions as an MSF field volunteer.
- b. A minimum of 1 year regular volunteer work in the office of MSF Norway.
- c. A minimum of 1 years work as an employee in the office of MSF Norway.
- d. Co-opted on specific criteria defined by the General Assembly.

The Board of the Association shall judge the acceptability of applications.

Members can withdraw from the Association by simple written notification. Failure to pay the membership fee after the due date is a reason for the Board to cancel membership.

The Board has the right to exclude a member from the Association. Exclusion is justifiable when a member acts in contradiction to the principles of the Association or speaks out publicly in the name of the Association without being authorised to do so. Such exclusion comes directly into effect. An excluded member has a right of appeal at the next General Assembly.

The members of the Association have the right to regularly receive information about the Association activities.

§ 6 Supportive Membership

Individuals become supportive members of the Association by paying an annual fee.

Supportive members shall regularly receive information about the activities of the Association.

Supportive members may by invitation participate in Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assemblies of the Association, they do not have the right to vote.

§ 7 The Board

The Board consists of 5 to 9 members of whom 2 are appointed by MSF's International Council. The remaining members are elected by the General Assembly. Two deputies may be appointed; one by the International Council and one by the General assembly. The function of a deputy is to replace a Board member when absent. Board members may not hold a paid position at the office of MSF Norway.

The Board elects a President, a Treasurer and a Secretary among its members.

The Board approves an annual plan of activities and a budget (both prepared and presented by the Executive Director).

The President and the Secretary of the Board convene and prepare the Board meetings.

The Board may collaborate with external persons (without voting-right) and may establish working groups or committees of inquiry.

Board decisions are made by simple majority on the condition that a minimum of the Board members (including deputies replacing absentees) participate. The election of the President and the appointment of the Executive Director need to be approved by the International Members.

Minutes shall be worked out and signed by the President of the Board and at least two other Board members.

The legal signature of the Association is held by the President and one Board member.

§ 8 General Assembly

The Ordinary General Assembly is the highest organ of the Association. It shall be held annually. The General Assembly shall be called at least one month prior to the time of assembly, by means of mail to active members of the Association and by announcement on a notice board in the office of the Association.

The Board decides whether further announcement shall be made.

The agenda of the Ordinary General Assembly shall be as follows:

- a. Approval of summoning
- b. Account of persons with the right to vote
- c. Approval of the agenda
- d. Election of a Chairperson, a counting crew for cast votes and two members who, together with the Chairperson, shall sign the minutes.
- e. Presentation and approval of the Board's report and the accounts of the Association including the auditor's statement
- f. Whether to free the Board from liability
- g. Whether to change the membership fee
- h. Election of new members of the Board (who are not appointed by the International Council) and election of auditor and deputy. Board members are elected for a period of two years, deputy for one year.

The General Assembly will consider issues or suggestions from the Board or members of the Association if these have been presented to the Board or members of the Association if these have been presented to the Board or to the Head of Office (Executive Director) at least one month prior to the General Assembly.

It is the responsibility of the Head of Office to inform all Board Members of the agenda of the forthcoming meeting, two weeks in advance.

The votes will be weighted so that not more than 1/3 of the votes may come from staff/volunteers at the Office.

Members who are not present at the General Assembly may authorize another member to vote on his/hers behalf. A member may only vote on behalf of two other members. Authorisation is to be given in writing.

The General Assembly can approve additional issues to be discussed.

§ 9

Extraordinary General Assembly

An Extraordinary General Assembly is held when the Board finds it necessary or when it is demanded by at least 2/5 of the active members. An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be called at least two weeks prior to the Assembly, and the active members shall be notified of the issues that justify the Assembly.

§ 10

Decisions made by the General Assembly

Decisions of an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly are made by simple majority unless otherwise specified in the statutes.

An Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly is only competent to make decisions if the Assembly is convened and carried out in accordance with the statutes.

§ 11
Changing the Statutes

The statutes of the Association may only be changed by a majority of 2/3 or more of the cast votes. A modification of the statutes will yet only be effected after approval by MSF's International Council.

§§ 3,4 and 11 may only be changed by the General Assembly when the Board unanimously supports the motion.

§ 12
Accounts

The Board's management of funds and the accounts of the Association shall annually be subject to inspection by the auditors appointed by the General Assembly. The working year equals the calendar year.

§ 13
Termination of Activities

The Association may only terminate its operations following a decision by two consecutive General assemblies, of which at least one shall be Ordinary. For a valid decision a minimum 2/3 majority of the votes is required in each General Assembly.

After a valid decision to end activities, the net funds of the Association – after covering financial liabilities – shall go to MSF International.