



**Association PaICH
PALESTINE'S CHILDREN**

Statutes

(hereafter referred to as "The Association")

April 20, 2024

1. Name, Headquarters and Activities

The name of the Association is “Association PalCH – Palestine's Children”. The Association has its headquarters in Basel and is an association within the meaning of Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Law Code.

The Association is a non-profit making organisation, is non-denominational and politically independent.

The field of activity encompasses the whole of Switzerland.

2. Objectives and Purpose

The Association supports Palestinian children (PC) wherever required, with special importance being attached to an appropriate education and training for these children.

The Association supports already existing social institutions under the motto “*Help to Self-Help*”.

The Association *arranges* in a non-bureaucratic manner *sponsorships* of PC. All available funds will be used to further the well-being of PC; administrative costs will be kept to a minimum.

3. Membership

3.1 Membership Categories

There are three categories of membership: individual membership, family membership and corporate membership.

3.2 Conditions of Membership

Membership is open to all natural and legal persons who declare themselves to be in agreement with the present statutes.

3.3 Admission

The *Executive Committee* is responsible for determining the admission of members.

3.4 Withdrawal and Termination

Every member has the right to withdraw at any time from the Association. A short and simple written notice of withdrawal to the Secretariat will suffice. Membership fees which have already been paid will not be re-imbursed.

The membership of a member who does not fulfil his duties in that he contravenes the Statutes or the objectives of the Association may be terminated, after due warning, by the Association.

4. Financial Obligations of Members

4.1 The membership fee for individual members is CHF 75.00 per annum.

4.2 The membership fee for family members is CHF 100.00 per annum.

4.3 The minimum membership fee for corporate members is CHF 500.00 per annum.

5. The Organs of the Association

The organs of the Association are the General Assembly, the *Executive Committee* and the Auditors.

6. The General Assembly

6.1 Authority

The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Association. It has the inalienable right to:

- amend the Statutes
- elect the chairman and other members of the *Executive Committee*
- elect the auditors
- approve the Auditors Report, the Annual Accounts and the Activity Report of the *Executive Committee*
- approve the annual activity program and the budget
- set the annual membership fee
- decide upon the dissolution of the Association

6.2 Convening

The General Assembly will be convened once yearly. An Extraordinary General Assembly will be convened if one fifth of the members so require. It must take place within thirty (30) days of receipt of the request.

Notice of the General Assembly will be sent to all members by letter or email at the latest twenty (20) days prior to the date of the Assembly. The agenda and proposals for amendments to the Statutes will be set down in the notice.

6.3 Passing of Resolutions

Resolutions will be passed *after an affirmative vote* by a simple majority of the members present. For the election of an *Executive Committee* member an affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority is required in a first round. In a second round, a simple majority is sufficient. Amendments to the Statutes will be passed *after an affirmative vote* by a two-thirds majority of those present.

7. The Executive Committee

7.1 Composition

The *Executive Committee* is composed of 1 to 7 members.

The members of the *Executive Committee* are elected by the General Assembly.

7.2 Authority

The *Executive Committee* manages the work of the Association within the framework of the defined objectives. It convenes the General Assembly and implements its decisions.

7.3 Meetings

The *Executive Committee* meets regularly, however at least four times per annum. The meeting is convened by the Chairman.

8. Auditors

Two auditors are elected each year by the General Assembly. They examine the accounts and balance sheet submitted by the Secretary. They present their findings to the General Assembly in a written report.

9. Committees and Services

These will be determined as the need arises.

10. Financial Competence

This will be determined by the *Executive Committee*.

11. Accounting

The fiscal year begins on 1st January and ends on 31st December.

12. Dissolution and Liquidation

12.1 Dissolution

The General Assembly can dissolve the Association with *an affirmative vote* of a two-thirds majority of the members present. A meeting must be convened for this purpose.

12.2 Liquidation

In the case of a dissolution of the Association, the liquidation will be carried out by the *Executive Committee*, except if the General Assembly elects other liquidators.

12.3 Asset Distribution

Should there be any eventual surplus balance after payment of all debts, and according to a decree by the General Assembly, this amount will be used for a purpose corresponding to the objectives of the Association and/or be donated to a tax-exempted charity organisation.

13. Conclusion

The first version of the Statutes were adopted at the Founding Meeting on July 1, 2000.

The first revision of the Statutes was approved by the General Assembly on June 15, 2002.

The increase of the number of members for the *Executive Committee* from 5 to 7 was approved by the General Assembly on June 5, 2010.

The change of name from “Association for the Support of Needy Palestinian Children” to “Association PalCH – Palestine's Children” was decided by the General Assembly on June 9, 2012 and approved by the members by written vote.

The increase of the membership fee for individual members (from CHF 65 to CHF 75) and the unchanged amount for family members (CHF 100) was approved by the General Assembly on April 20, 2024.

Basel, April 20, 2024