# **Statutes**

#### I. Name and location

§ 1. "Justice and Democracy Sri Lanka" is an association according to Article 60ff of the Swiss Civil Code. The association is based in St. Gallen, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.

#### II. Purpose of the Association

§ 2. The association aims to promote justice and a peaceful and democratic culture for people from Sri Lanka. The association is a non-profit organization.

#### III. Areas of activity

- § 3. The Association seeks to achieve its objectives by:
  - a) Promoting a democratic culture between all people from Sri Lanka living in Switzerland.
  - b) Promoting understanding the cultures of Swiss people for people from Sri Lanka living in Switzerland and vice versa.
  - c) Promoting justice, respect for human rights and a democratic culture in Sri Lanka.
  - d) Developing partnerships with other organizations with similar goals.
  - e) Organizing actions and events, promoting the establishment of regional groups and by capacity building of members to promote the objectives mentioned.

## IV. Funding

- § 4. The association has the following means to follow its purpose: the annual membership fees, donations from individuals and institutions, and other payments.
- § 5. The association's asset is exclusively liable for the obligations of the association.

## V. Membership

§ 6. Membership of the association is open to all Swiss residents that support the association's purpose. The Board shall decide on the admission and expulsion of members.

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#### VI. Organs of the association

- § 7. The organs of the association are:
  - a) the General Assembly
  - b) the board
  - c) the auditors

## VI. General Assembly

- § 8. The General Assembly is the supreme organ and meets normally once a year. It is convened by the Board at least twenty days in advance, specifying the agenda. Extraordinary meetings shall be convened by the Board as needed, or if at least 15% of the members so request.
- § 9. Voting and elections are to take place by show of hands, if no one is demanding a secret ballot. Membership of an organization entitles to one vote.
- § 10. The General Assembly has the following powers:
  - a) Election of President, Treasurer, the remaining members, the two members of the Auditing

Committee. The absolute majority is required in the first two rounds of the elections.

- b) Approval of the annual report and financial statements
- c) Decisions on items proposed to it by the Board.
- A decision is to be prepared so that a decision by consensus seems to be possible. A decision by consensus exists if at least 75% of the votes cast are in favor, and when the other attendees abstained. If no resolution by consensus can be achieved, then at a request of at least 50% of the votes present, a decision can be decided by a multiple of at least 75% of the votes present.
- d) Consulting on proposals by members, submitted to the President in writing at least 10 days prior to the meeting. Requests about discussions or decisions on items not listed in the agenda can be treated only with the consent of 2/3 of the votes cast.
- e) Modification of the statutes
- f) Dissolution of the Association

#### VII. Board

- § 11. The board consists of 5-13 members, including President, Vice President and Treasurer. For the others it constitutes itself. Members of the association representing different religious or ideological groups should be adequately represented in the board. The term of office is two years and may be renewed.
- § 12. The board meets at the invitation of its President, stating the agenda, as often as business requires, or if at least two board members request a meeting. The convening happens at least ten days in advance, in an urgent situation is abbreviation of the period allowed. About other than the agenda items recorded a valid decision can only be taken unanimously, and only if all the members are present or hereafter expressly provide consent.

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For decision-making, the presence of at least half of the board members is needed. The decisions are made preferably by consent or by a majority of at least 75%. The Board may also decide by circular, each Member has the right to require the treatment of the transaction in a session.

Decisions are to be recorded.

§ 13. The board organizes the business of the association and cares for its representation.

#### VIII. Audit committee

- § 14. The audit committee consists of two persons who do not have to belong to the association. They are elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. Re-election is possible.
- § 15. The Auditing Committee shall examine the accounts and compiles a report for the General Assembly.

#### IX. Liquidation

- § 16. To dissolve the Association, a special Assembly of the members will be convened. The decision to dissolve will be valid at a majority of at least 75%. The liquidation is carried out by the Board.
- § 17. In case of dissolution, the remaining asset of the association is made available to an institution with a similar purpose.

#### X. Validity

§ 18. These statutes have been adopted at the Foundation Meeting of 27 April 2013 and entered into force on the same date.

Jeyakumar Thurairajah Thomas Hotz

President Secretary and member of the board