



**CLIMATE ALLIANCE | KLIMA-BÜNDNIS | ALIANZA DEL CLIMA e.V.**  
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## Statutes

### **Article 1: Name, registered office, business year**

The association bears the name "Klima-Bündnis der europäischen Städte mit indigenen Völkern der Regenwälder / Alianza del Clima e.V." (Climate Alliance of European Cities with Indigenous Rainforest Peoples) and is entered in the register of associations (e.V. = eingetragener Verein, registered association). The association is headquartered in Frankfurt am Main. The business year of the association is the calendar year.

### **Article 2: The purpose of the association**

The purpose of the association is to promote environmental protection as defined by Article 52 of the German Fiscal Code (Abgabenordnung, AO). The association pursues only direct public-benefit aims as defined by the section of the German Fiscal Code entitled „steuerbegünstigte Zwecke" (recognized purposes). The purpose of the association will be achieved by means of the following measures, in particular:

- continual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The target is the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by ten percent every five years. The important milestone of halving per capita emissions (reference year 1990) should be achieved by 2030 at the latest.
- Extensive reduction of the emissions in municipalities of all gases that contribute to global warming
- Avoidance of the use of tropical timber in municipal activities
- Exchange of information among the municipalities and commissioning of joint reports on the above issues
- Assistance to indigenous peoples by promoting projects
- Support for the interests of the Amazonian Indian peoples in preserving the tropical rainforests, these being the very basis of their existence, by granting them title of ownership and ensuring the sustainable use of their territories
- Informing the public about the stated objectives, and targeted promotion of energy saving measures in the private sector.

The association operates on a disinterested basis; its first priority is not the pursuit of its own financial aims. The funds of the association are used only to serve such purposes as are in keeping with these statutes of association. Members do not obtain any profits or, in their capacity as members, any other allowances from association funds. No person must be favoured by expenditures which are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionate remuneration. If the association is dissolved or its tax-privileged purposes cease, its property shall go to "Brot für die Welt" to be used for a project in the rainforest that directly and exclusively serves non-profit purposes. Every resolution to amend the statutes of association must be submitted to the local tax office before being registered at the registry court.

### **Article 3: Acquisition of membership**

European communal territorial authorities as well as organisations of indigenous peoples of the Amazon and other rainforests may become members, if they have given their agreement to the Manifesto of European Cities on an Alliance with the Amazonian Indian Peoples of 3rd December, 1990. Federal states and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can become associate members. This gives them the right to participate in the association's activities and receive information on these. The Executive Board decides on the written applications for membership.

### **Article 4: Termination of membership**

A member may withdraw from the association at any time by submitting a written statement to that effect to a member of the Executive Board. A member can be expelled from the association if his conduct is flagrantly contrary to the interests of the association. The General Assembly decides whether to expel by a three quarters majority of the votes cast.

### **Article 5: Membership dues**

An annual membership fee is paid by each municipality and each administrative district. This is calculated on the basis of the population. The amount of the membership fee is set out in the Climate Alliance Rules of Procedure. For municipalities and administrative districts from Central and Eastern European Countries the membership fee is reduced for a limited period. The peoples of the rainforests are under no obligation to pay dues. The Executive Board fixes the membership dues of associate members.

### **Article 6: Executive bodies of the association**

The executive bodies of the association are

- a) the Executive Board
- b) the General Assembly

### **Article 7: The Executive Board**

The Executive Board of the association consists of at least four and at most 13 persons, namely

- the President
- the Vice President
- the Treasurer
- the Keeper of the Minutes
- up to nine further persons

Judicial and extrajudicial representation of the association is to be undertaken by two members of the Board, including either the President or the Vice President.

The Board constitutes a quorum if at least four of its members are present. Resolutions are passed by majority voting among those present. Passing of resolutions by the Board can also be effected in writing.

In the case of the resignation by a member of the Board, the "remainder of the Board" itself elects a successor.

#### **Article 8: The responsibilities of the Executive Board**

The Executive Board is entrusted with the following duties:

- 1. Preparatory arrangements for the General Assembly and planning the agenda;
- 2. Convening the General Assembly;
- 3. Execution of the resolutions of the General Assembly;
- 4. Drawing up a budget for each business year; accounting; compilation of an annual report;
- 5. Conclusion and termination of contracts of employment;
- 6. Public relations;
- 7. Admission of new members;
- 8. Fixing the membership dues for associate members;
- 9. Administration in trust of project funds.

#### **Article 9: Term of office of the Executive Board**

The Executive Board is elected by the General Assembly for a two-year term, beginning on the day of the election; its members remain in office, however, until the next election of the Board. Each member of the Board is elected separately. The President and the Vice President should be an European and a non-European respectively. Other members of the Executive Board should have different nationalities.

#### **Article 10: The General Assembly**

In the General Assembly, each member has one vote. To exercise the voting right another member as defined by article 3, sentence 1 or any natural person at will can be appointed as a proxy in writing. Separate authorization must be issued for each General Assembly. An authorized person or an authorized member may only exercise the voting right of not more than seven members. The General Assembly is responsible for all matters which have not been assigned to another executive body of the association. In matters that fall under the purview of the Executive Board, the General Assembly can submit recommendations to the Board. In such matters, moreover, the Executive Board, for its part, can obtain the opinion of the General Assembly.

#### **Article 11: Convocation of the General Assembly**

The statutory General Assembly takes place annually. The General Assembly must also be convened whenever the association's interest may require it or whenever such convocation may be demanded in writing to the Executive Board, by one tenth of the members, these representing at least 4 nations, or by all of the indigenous peoples, whereby the purpose and reason for convocation must be stated. Each General Assembly must be convened in writing at six weeks' notice by the President or the Vice President. The invitation includes a statement of the agenda as fixed by the Executive Board. Any member can take a written application to the Executive Board concerning an addition to the agenda, as long as this is done at least one week before the General Assembly. This does not apply to changes in the statutes or election of the Executive Board. The chairperson of the assembly has to announce the addition at the beginning of the General Assembly.

#### **Article 12: Voting in the General Assembly**

The General Assembly elects a chairperson of the assembly from among its members. The General Assembly can resolve to make additions to the agenda fixed by the Executive Board. This does not apply to changes in the statutes or election of the Executive Board. Inasmuch as the statutes of the association do not stipulate otherwise, a resolution of the General Assembly is passed if endorsed by a majority of the valid votes cast. Amendment of the statutes of association requires a two thirds majority. Votes must be taken in writing if so moved by one third of the members in attendance at the vote in question. The "represented members" also include those members who are represented by proxy under the terms of article 10.

In the absence a quorum, it incumbents upon the Executive Board to convene a second General Assembly with the same agenda within eight weeks, which Assembly constitutes a quorum regardless of the number of members represented. This must be noted in the invitation. Minutes of the resolutions of the General Assembly must be taken down and signed by the chairperson and recording clerk of the assembly. They have to include the following: the place and time of the meeting, the identities of the chairperson and the recording clerk, the number of members in attendance, the agenda, the results of each vote and the manner of voting. In the case of amendment of the statutes of association the exact wording has to be stated.

#### **Article 13: Dissolution of the association and allottees**

The decision to disband the association can only be made in a General Assembly by a three fourths majority of the votes. Inasmuch as the General Assembly does not decide otherwise, two members of the Executive Board are appointed as jointly authorized receivers. The stipulations hereinabove also apply in the event that the association should be disbanded or lose its legal status for any other reason.

*The preceding statutes of association were drawn up in the founders Assembly of 30th March, 1992. Latest amendments by the decision of the General Assembly on the 8th of May 2014 in Luxembourg.*