

Hawelti e.V. Charter

Section 1

Name, Place of Residence, Registration, Business Year

- (1) The association bears the name "Hawelti e.V."
- (2) The association is based in Nuremberg, Germany.
- (3) It is to be included in the register of associations. Following registration, the name of the association will be affixed with e.V. (eingetragener Verein, rough equivalent of registered company).
- (4) The business year is identical with the calendar year.

Section 2

Purpose of the Association

- (1) The purpose of the association is solely and immediately of a non-profit and charitable nature as defined in the paragraph on tax privilege (Steuerbegünstigste Zwecke) of the revenue code (Abgabenordnung).
- (2) The objective of the association that is focussed on Ethiopia is
 - a) the support of education and professional training efforts,
 - b) the advancement of international disposition, tolerance in all cultural areas and inter-nation relations and understanding
 - c) the advancement of projects aimed at the young and elderly,
 - d) the advancement of cooperation in development.

Additionally, the association pursues charitable objectives by altruistically supporting needy persons.

- (3) In particular, the objectives of this charter are fulfilled by
 - a) supporting needy persons and advancing school education and professional training aimed at enabling self-help in Ethiopia. Creating cultural understanding is an additional objective, as well as
 - b) protecting peoples' lives from hunger, thirst and sicknesses (e.g. natural disasters and drought),
 - c) implementing and maintaining school projects,
 - d) financially supporting needy families to secure school education and professional training of family members,
 - e) implementing more programmes in addition to school training, such as courses in manual labour, handiwork, languages, computer and internet knowledge, health care, environmental and nature protection as well as courses that are the basis for employment, e.g. driving license,
 - f) implementing and maintaining more social projects such as projects for street kids,
 - g) implementing and supporting projects to build up employment under fair conditions,
 - f) organising events aimed at promoting Ethiopian culture.

Section 3

Altruism

- (1) The association acts in an altruistic manner. The orientation of the association is non-profit.
- (2) The budget of the association must not be used for non-charter purposes.

- (3) The members will not receive payments from the association's budgets.
- (4) Upon their exit from or the liquidation of the association, the members shall not receive shares of the association's assets and association assets still in their possession shall be returned to the association.
- (5) No person shall benefit through expenditures that are not within the scope of the association's purposes or from inappropriately high remunerations.

Section 4

Membership, Acquisition and Termination

- (1) To become members of the association, natural persons are required to be at least 15 years old, and legal persons must apply for it in writing. In case of non-legal age of the applicant, additional written approval of the parent/s is required.
- (2) Written form is required for the application for association membership to the board. Acceptance will be decided upon by the board.
- (3) Membership will become effective upon communication of the acceptance decision.
- (4) Following the suggestion of the board or the member's meeting, honorary members can be accepted. Details must be specified in an association's regulation, especially for leasing purposes and special rights.
- (5) Membership will terminate upon resignation, well-founded exclusion or death of the member.
- (6) Resignation must be declared at the end of the business year. It will only become applicable if it is communicated to the board three months in advance and in writing. Clause 2 will not be valid for resolutions according to section 9, paragraph 2 and section 11, paragraph 3, if the resignation is communicated to the board in writing or using email.
- (7) A member can be excluded via board decision, if
 - a) his/her behaviour is detrimental to the association's objectives,
 - b) he/she has seriously damaged the public image or the interests of the association or
 - c) he/she is more than three months in arrears with the payment of his/her membership fee and hasn't paid the outstanding amount despite a reminder in writing, including a set payment target of at least four weeks and under penalty of exclusion.The person to be excluded must be given the opportunity to voice his/her opinion on the reasons leading to the exclusion. These must be communicated in writing and including comments.
- (8) The rejection of the membership application and the exclusion from the association can be disputed by filing a complaint to the board within a month upon receipt of the decision in writing or using email. The complaint is decided upon by the next membership meeting. The membership rights are frozen until the end of the procedure. The freezing of the membership rights does not mean an exemption of the obligation to pay the membership fee.

Section 5

Membership Fees

- (1) The association charges a membership fee.
- (2) The amount of the membership fee is decided upon by the membership meeting by single majority.
- (3) Details are specified in a contribution charter.

Section 6

Rights and Obligations of the Members

- (1) Each member has the right to actively participate in the execution of the association's objectives and to attend the appropriate events.
- (2) Each member has the same voting and election rights in the member convention.
- (3) Each member has the obligation to advance the interests of the association, especially to pay the membership fees on a regular basis.

Section 7

Association Bodies

The association bodies are the board and the general meeting.

Section 8

Board

- (1) The board comprises a first and a second chairperson, the cashier and the secretary.
- (2) The board members make their contributions as volunteers.
- (3) The first and the second chairwoman/chairman are entitled to act on behalf of the association according to section 26 of the German BGB
- (4) The board is elected by the general meeting for a duration of 5 years from the day of the vote. Re-election of the board members is valid. Upon termination of their tenure, the board members will stay in office until their successors are elected.
- (5) The board members can be removed from office prior to the expiration of their term in office if there is a critical reason; especially, such reasons can be gross violations of duties or an inability to manage the association in an orderly manner. The rights and obligations of the recalled board member are transferred to the remaining board members until his/her successor is nominated.
- (6) A board member can resign from his/her position anytime and without the need to specify reasons. Until the nomination of his/her successor, he/she is obliged to fulfil his/her duties and obligations without limitation or to transfer them to the remaining board members in writing.
- (7) In case of dismissal or termination of another kind, a successor must be nominated immediately.

Section 9

Tasks of the Board, Decision Making

- (1) The board is responsible for the management of the association. The cashier keeps the books on the cash transactions and creates a yearly balance.
- (2) The board decides on the association charters. Should the board change or decide on them, it is obliged to inform the members by sending an email that includes the change within 2 weeks.
- (3) The board will reach an agreement in a board meeting. The first chairperson sends an invitation email for a board meeting with a lead time of 2 weeks. The board has a quorum if 50% of the board members are present. The majority of those present is decisive to reach an agreement. In case of an equality of votes, the chairman will receive an additional vote. Decisions don't necessarily require a board meeting if all board members declare their approval of the decision in writing or using email.
- (4) A board member is not eligible if the decision is related to the execution of a legal business transaction or the initialisation, performance or completion of a legal dispute between this member and the association.

Section 10

General Meeting

- (1) An ordinary general meeting will take place once per year, if possible in the 2nd quarter.
- (2) An extraordinary general meeting will take place if this is in the interest of the association or the convening of a general meeting is requested by 10% or more members or the board in writing and including specifications of its purpose and reasons.
- (3) The general meeting is convened by the first chairperson or, in case of his/her inability to attend, the second chairperson. The convening will be made 4 weeks in advance in writing or via email to the most recent known address and includes the agenda.
- (4) The general assembly will be presided by the first chairperson.
- (5) Details will be regulated in the agenda.

Section 11

Tasks of the General Meeting, Decision Making

- (1) The general meeting is responsible for:
 - a) the appointment and dismissal of the board,
 - b) receipt of the board report,
 - c) approval of the actions of the board,
 - d) election of the cash editor,
 - e) change of the membership fee,
 - f) changes to the charter,
 - g) decision making regarding propositions,
 - h) the liquidation of the association.
- (2) The general meeting will make its decision with simple majority of the valid votes cast. In case of an equality of votes, the proposition is disapproved. Abstentions will not be taken into account. Even with no assembly of the members, a decision is regarded as valid, if all members approve the decision in writing or using email.
- (3) Decision making on
 - a) a change of the charter,
 - b) the liquidation of the associationrequires a majority of three quarters of the members present.
Changes to the purpose of the association require the approval of three quarters of all members. Absentees can provide their decision within one month from the disclosure of the minutes to the board in writing or using email.
- (4) The type of the vote will be decided on by the chairperson. The vote will be required to be made in writing if this is requested by at least one member.
- (5) A member is not eligible if the decision is related to the execution of a legal business transaction or the initialisation, performance and completion of a legal dispute between this member and the association.

- (6) Changes to the charter that might be requested by supervisory, legal or financial authorities for formal reasons don't require more than the board's approval. These changes to the charter must be made known to all members of the association immediately and in writing.

Section 12 Board Voting

- (1) Prior to the board voting, a vote administrator must be agreed on by the general meeting.
- (2) Only members of legal age are eligible for the board.
- (3) Elections for the positions of the association will be done specifically for each position. Section 11, paragraph 4 will apply accordingly.
- (4) If no applicant can achieve the majority of the votes cast in the first round of voting, a runoff between the two applicants who achieved most votes is performed.
- (5) If just one nomination was made, the candidate wins if he/she can achieve the majority of the votes cast. If this majority is not reached, a second round is required. More nominations are possible for this second round.

Section 13 Attestation of the association bodies' decisions

- (1) The decisions made in board meetings must be captured in writing and they require the signature of the chairperson or his/her substitute.
- (2) Minutes of the decisions made by the general meeting must be taken and require the signature of the head of the meeting and the minute taker. The minute taker is the secretary and if this person is absent, the meeting will agree on a minute taker. The minutes shall contain the time of the meeting, the number of members present, the names of the chairperson and the minute taker, the agenda, the results of the vote and the type of the meeting.
The minutes of the general meeting will be submitted to all members within 4 weeks from the general meeting via email.
- (3) The subsequent proceedings will be regulated in an agenda.

Section 14 Cash Audit

- (1) The cash audit comprises the yearly balance audit.
- (2) The yearly balance is evaluated by at least one cash editor who is agreed on by the general meeting. Paragraphs 5 and 6 of section 8 apply to elected cash auditors.
- (3) The cash auditor creates a report on the audit, which he/she then submits to the ordinary general meeting that approves the annual accounts.
- (4) An annual account requires an audit by at least one cash auditor to be approved by the general meeting in a legally acceptable manner.
- (5) Further details regarding the cash audit will be regulated in the agenda.

Section 15 Privacy Policy

- (1) In order to achieve the purpose of the association and its responsibilities, the association is entitled to capture, process and utilize private information from its members. The terms and conditions of the German privacy law ("Bundesdatenschutzgesetz") will apply.

- (2) The agenda contains details concerning privacy policies, especially with regard to the type and purpose of the data captured during membership.

Section 16

Liquidation of the Association

- (1) The liquidation of the association can be decided upon in a general meeting convened for this purpose with the majority described in section 11, paragraph 3
- (2) In case of the liquidation of the association or the loss of tax-deductible purposes, the association's assets will be transferred to the SOS Kinderdorf e.V. who will put it to exclusively and immediately charitable purposes as intended in this charter.