

Association “Smart Access to Health for All”

Articles of Association

Association governed by the Law of July 1, 1901 and decree of August 16, 1901.

FOREWORD

In order to preserve bio-cultural diversity for the health and happiness for all, the Association pursues the following goals: through activities, partnerships, research, publications, conferences, courses, management, dissemination of information and other professional, scientific and technical activities, to create, implement and promote information and communication technology (ICT) tools enabling remote communities and people living far from public services to:

- a) Understand, access and manage access to health care while respecting cultural diversity;
- b) Understand, access and manage preservation and protection of bio-cultural diversity (meaning biological diversity and cultural linguistic diversity).

The purpose is to allow members of isolated communities to enter modernity with dignity and respect, by stimulating their social-ecological resilience, thus giving them access to sustainable development as agents, not objects.

We also seek to promote access to health care and well-being while respecting cultural diversity, to bring cultures together, promote gender equality and equity, biocultural resilience, peaceful and respectful exchanges and collaboration. This will be done through various projects for creating and deploying ICT primarily destined to groups and persons left by the wayside of local, national or global development. These innovations will be developed through activities in France and other high income countries as well as low and middle income countries, in collaboration with public and private organisations or entities, academic institutions and NGOs, and most importantly with local/rural/traditional/native communities.

To achieve these goals the Association implements projects to improve access to health care, to proper nutrition and improved sustainable production methods for remote rural communities. We first address pregnant women, by providing them with smartphone apps or other ICT tools; to improve their knowledge, connect them to the services they need (obstetrical, medical, nutritional, agricultural services...) to enable them to access modernity as actors instead of objects of all manner of exploitation, abuse and neglect.

The Association also aims at improving the quality of the basic services to which our apps connect the users.

The Association is a-political and non-denominational.

ARTICLE 1 – NAME

The members agree to be organized under these Articles of Association as a non-profit human development association, governed by the Law of July 1, 1901 and decree of August 16, 1901. The Association shall be named:

ASSOCIATION “Smart Access to Health for All”, or « SAHFA ».

ARTICLE 2 – - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Association is:

- To facilitate access to health care and medical follow-up for people living in situations of exclusion from global development, through the creation and implementation of ICT tools;
- More generally, to bring an emancipation tool giving smart access to knowledge and basic services to disadvantaged communities, thanks to ICT;
- To promote biocultural diversity, the foundation for fair and sustainable development;
- To create tools in close cooperation with the end-users (the basic service providers and the client population).

ARTICLE 3 – HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of the Association shall be at 238 rue des Ouches, Versonnex (01210), home of Mrs. Laetitia van Haren. The seat may be transferred upon decision of the Board.

ARTICLE 4 – - DURATION

The duration period of the Association is perpetual until dissolution by decree and approval of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 5 – RESOURCES

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The Association's activities shall be supported through the following means:

- Membership contributions,
- All resources, financial, material or professional collected for the purpose of the Association's functioning, the achievement of its objectives and the implementation of projects to reach those objectives,
- Organizing and implementing international solidarity development projects and missions ;
- Any activity contributing to achievement of the purpose of the Association, except lucrative activities unauthorised by the Law and regulations currently applicable.

ARTICLE 6 - MEMBERS – MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Association is composed of:

- Founding members, exempted from obligatory membership dues;
- Honorary members, nominated by the Board, exempted from membership dues on account of services rendered;
- Active members, who committed to paying the annual membership fee.

The amount of the membership fee is determined by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 7 – ADMISSION

Membership is open to anyone, unconditional and without distinction. New members shall be acknowledged by the Board, during each of its meeting when new membership forms have come in.

ARTICLE 8 – REVOCATION / RESIGNATION

Membership ceases:

- a) By resignation;
- b) On death;
- c) By revocation decided by the Board for non-payment of membership fee or serious misconduct, after considering the written or oral explanations provided by the concerned party to the Board.

ARTICLE 9 - FISCAL YEAR AND ACCOUNTING

The fiscal year shall end on 31st of December of each year.

The accounts, kept in accordance with legislative and regulatory rules, reflect in all circumstances the way the association's funds are allocated to international solidarity projects.

ARTICLE 10 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

All the members of the Association can attend the General Assembly, no matter their title.

The General Assembly shall take place between May and September every year.

Members of the Association shall be invited by the Secretary to attend the General Assembly. The agenda will be provided in the notice of meeting / letter of invitation.

The President, assisted by Board Members, shall lead the General Assembly and present the overall situation and activities of the Association.

The Treasurer shall report on the management / financial management and submit the annual report (balance sheet, P&L statements and notes) for the General Assembly's validation.

The General Assembly shall fix the annual membership fee to be paid by the members.

The General Assembly shall only discuss topics listed in the agenda.

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present or represented.

The renewal of the Board and election of new members to replace those who leave shall take place after all topics on the agenda have been discussed.

Votes are by a show of hands, except for the election of Board Members.

Decisions taken during the General Assemblies shall be effective for all members, including absent or represented members.

ARTICLE 11 - EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

If needed, and upon request of half plus one of the members, the President can call an extraordinary General Assembly, in accordance with modalities in the present Articles of Association and only in case of amendment or dissolution of the present Articles of Association or acts related to the capital and fixed assets of the Association.

Applicable modalities for calling an extraordinary general assembly are similar to those for the General Assembly.

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present or represented. In case of deadlock, the President shall have a double voting right.

ARTICLE 12 - THE BOARD

The Association shall be governed by the Board comprising 4 members, elected for 3 years during the General Assembly. Board Member's term of office is renewable.

In case of positions being vacant, the Board can decide to appoint interim Board Members. A permanent replacement shall be validated during the following General Assembly.

Duties of newly elected Board Members shall commence upon expiration of the mandate of their predecessors.

The Board meets at least once every six months, upon notification from the President.

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present or represented. In case of deadlock, the President shall have a casting vote.

The Board is authorized to carry out all acts that further the purposes of the Association. The Board selects, assesses and ensures the implementation of the international solidarity projects in which the Association decides to get involved or develop.

The Board is composed of:

- 1) A President
- 2) A Vice-President
- 3) A Secretary
- 4) A Treasurer

The Association is legally bound by the individual signature of the President.

ARTICLE 13 - Non-profit management

All members, including the Board Members, work on an unpaid, voluntary basis.

Only expenses and costs related to the accomplishment of their mandate can be reimbursed upon presentation of evidence, if the finances of the Association allows it.

ARTICLE 14 - BYELAWS

The Byelaws or Rules of Procedure will be established by the Board and validated during the General Assembly. The Byelaws cover topics not included in the present Articles of Association, such as internal management rules of the Association.

ARTICLE 15 - DISSOLUTION

Should the Association be dissolved, the available assets shall be transferred as decided by the Extraordinary General Assembly and in accordance with the Law of 1st July 1901 and decree dated 16 August 1901.

In French written at Versonnex, this 11th of December 2015. Translated in November 2019