

Statute

of the Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e.V.

Version of June 20, 2015

by resolution of the general meeting of the Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e. V. on 20 June 2015 in Königsfeld / Black Forest

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Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e.V.

Statute

§ 1 Name and registered office

- (1) The association bears the name "Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e. V.". The short name of the association is "HMH e. V.".
- (2) The association has its seat in Bad Boll.
- (3) The association is registered in the register of associations of the district court Göppingen.

§ 2 Basics and goals

- (1) The basis of the Association is the Good News of Jesus Christ as testified in the Old and New Testaments, as well as the Church Constitution of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität Herrnhuter Brüdergemeine (in the following: Evangelical Brüder-Unität) in its respective version.
- (2) The Association serves to fulfil the missionary mission of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität in accordance with the provisions of the Church Constitution of the Europäisch-Festländischen Brüder-Unität (KO), in particular §§ 700-708 and §§ 1700-1702.
- "The Brüder-Unität recognizes in the participation in the mission of God a characteristic trait of the Church. All congregations and members are to ask themselves how they can do justice to the task thus given in their surroundings and in other parts of the world" (KO § 1700).
- (3) The association is committed to the traditions and mission theological principles of the Herr-huter Mission, which goes back to 1732, and wishes to continue and, if necessary, further develop these.
- (4) The association works together with the Evangelical Brüder-Unität and its congregations in Germany, with the friends of the Herrnhuter Mission in Germany, with regional churches and other churches in Germany, with mission societies and other missionary bodies in Germany.
- (5) In its work, the Association seeks close coordination with the mission societies of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität which are based outside Germany.
- (6) In its worldwide activities, the Association works within the framework of agreed partner relationships within the Brüder-Unität and its provinces.

§ 3 Purpose and tasks

- (1) The purpose of the association is the promotion of the Christian faith, the promotion of church purposes, the promotion of education and upbringing, the promotion of international understanding and development cooperation, the promotion of aid for politically, racially or religiously persecuted persons, for refugees, displaced persons and repatriates, the promotion of equality between women and men, the promotion of youth and elderly care, the promotion of public health and welfare as well as the promotion of charitable purposes.
- (2) The purpose of the statutes is realized in particular by:
- the proclamation of the Word of God in word and deed,
- the deputy assumption and support of missionary tasks of the gospel the Brüder-Unität,
- the implementation of international aid, development and partnership projects,
- the provision of disaster relief,
- the support of people in need,
- the promotion of refugee and integration work,
- the promotion of schools, vocational schools, boarding schools, homes and promotional institutions of the World Brüder-Unität and its provinces,
- the promotion of theological formation in institutions of the provinces of unity,
- the promotion of the construction of churches, schools and social institutions,
- the granting of aid to needy pupils in foreign institutions,
- the implementation and support of development actions,
- the recruitment, equipping and support of employees and volunteers,
- the exchange of staff and volunteers with other university provinces,
- the provision of financial resources for the personnel and material costs of the missionary work in the worldwide Brüder-Unität,
- information about and promotion of the mission work of the worldwide Brüder-Unität in the provinces, mission provinces, mission areas and agencies,
- maintaining relations with other provinces, mission provinces, mission areas and works of the worldwide Brüder-Unität.
- the development and monitoring of international partnerships between communities,
- the acquisition and support of sponsors for needy persons abroad,
- the promotion of fair trade,
- Activities to develop a One World Consciousness,
- Fundraising activities for the tasks of HMH.

§ 4 Non-profit status

- (1) The association pursues exclusively and directly non-profit, charitable and ecclesiastical purposes in the sense of the section "tax-privileged purposes" of the tax code.
- (2) The association is selflessly active. It does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.
- (3) The funds of the association may only be used for statutory purposes. Its members as such do not receive any benefits from the funds of the association.
- (4) If required, Association offices and other activities in the service of the Association may be performed in accordance with a Board resolution against appropriate remuneration on the

basis of a service contract or, insofar as the applicable tax legislation permits, against payment of a lump-sum expense allowance.

- (5) No person may be favoured by expenses that are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionately high remuneration.
- (6) Contributions to other charitable organisations which pursue objectives consistent with these Statutes may be granted within the framework of § 58 No. 2 of the Tax Code.

§ 5 Membership

- (1) Full members of the Association are the Evangelical Brüder-Unität and its congregations in Germany.
- (2) Natural persons who have reached the age of 16 and recognize these statutes, as well as legal persons who recognize these statutes, can become supporting members. In the case of minors, the consent of the legal guardian must be presented in writing.
- (3) The general meeting appoints appointed members from the circle of supporting members on the recommendation of the executive committee. The number of appointed members must be smaller than the number of ordinary members (see § 5 paragraph 1). The appointment is made for a period of four years. Re-appointment is possible. Resignation as an appointed member may be declared to the Executive Board at any time. The appointment as appointed member can be withdrawn by the general meeting with a two-thirds majority if the relevant requirements are no longer fulfilled or if the requirements of sentence 2 are no longer fulfilled.
- (4) Members ex officio are the Financial Officer of HMH (see § 8 para. 1) and up to four other full-time employees of HMH to be appointed by the Board of Directors.
- (5) The Board shall decide on the admission of full members and sustaining members upon written application. Rejections must be justified in writing.
- (6) Withdrawal from the Association may be declared in writing to the Executive Committee at any time.
- (7) A member may be expelled from the Association by resolution of the Executive Committee in the event of conduct that damages the Association or violates the Articles of Association. Within four weeks the member can object to this decision, which will be decided by the next general meeting (see § 7 para. 11 e).
- (8) Ordinary members, supporting members and appointed members pay an annual membership fee (minimum fee).
 - a) The amount of the annual membership fee of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität shall be decided by the Directorate of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität (hereinafter: Directorate).
 - b) The amount of the annual membership fee of the congregations in Germany is decided by the Synod of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität.
 - c) The amount of the annual membership fee of the natural and legal sustaining members as well as of the natural and legal appointed members is decided by the meeting of the members.

(9) Members who are more than one year in arrears with their membership fee can be expelled from the association by board resolution.

(10) Transitional regulation:

Representatives of the congregations in Germany, the Protestant Brüder-Unität, the circles of friends as well as the Protestant regional churches in Germany retain their seat and vote in the general meeting as full members until the end of their four-year term of office or until the expiry of their representative status according to § 5.1a-c. and 2 Articles of Association, old version. The representative status in the sense of § 5.1a-c and 2 of the old version of the statutes also expires if they are appointed as representatives of their congregation or church in accordance with § 5 (1) in conjunction with § 7 (5) of the new version of the statutes or if another person is appointed as representative in accordance with this provision. The official membership of the members of the Board of Directors according to § 5.1d of the old version of the Articles of Association continues for the time being and expires with the admission of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität as a member of the Association.

§ 6 Organs

The business and tasks of the association are carried out by:

- a) the general meeting,
- b) the Executive Board,
- c) the Executive Board within the meaning of § 26 BGB.

§ 7 General meeting

- (1) The executive committee calls the association members at least once a year to an ordinary general meeting.
- (2) The executive committee can call an extraordinary general meeting at any time. It is obliged to convene it if at least one third of the members request it in writing, stating the points to be negotiated.
- (3) The general meeting must be convened in writing at least 14 days in advance, stating the agenda.
- (4) Every general meeting convened according to the statutes is quorate regardless of the number of present members entitled to vote.
- (5) All ordinary, appointed and official members of the association are entitled to vote and are entitled to vote.
 - a) The Evangelical Brüder-Unität can send up to three members of the management with voting rights to the general meeting.
 - b) All other members entitled to vote have one vote each.
 - c) Communities of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität and appointed members, if they are legal entities, shall each appoint an authorised representative and a deputy to exercise their membership rights for a period of four years. In exceptional cases, another person may also be authorised to represent the member at the general meeting.

- d) If an appointed member simultaneously possesses representative qualities (see para. 5 a-c), a cumulation of votes is excluded.
- (6) Unless otherwise stipulated in the statutes, resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast. Abstentions shall not be taken into consideration.
- (7) The Executive Board may also bring about written votes of the members entitled to vote. The same provisions apply as for voting in a general meeting. For written votes, a reasonable period of time for the casting of votes shall be determined by the Executive Board. Votes which are received after this deadline shall not be valid. The votes shall be counted at a meeting of the Board of Directors. A written vote is not possible on amendments to the statutes (see § 10) or on the dissolution of the association (see § 11).
- (8) Minutes shall be taken of each general meeting, which shall be signed by the minute-taker and by a member of the executive board authorised to represent the association.
- (9) Supporting members have the right to participate in the general meetings without voting rights and to submit motions.
- (10) Protestant regional churches and other corporations which support the work of the association with a regular donation can send a representative without voting rights, but with the right to speak, to the general meeting.
- (11) The General Assembly has the following tasks in particular:
 - a) It determines the guidelines for the work of the association.
 - b) It deals with applications and receives reports.
 - c) It accompanies and controls the activities of the board.
 - d) It decides on the membership fees according to § 5 Abs. 8c.
 - e) It decides on appeals against decisions of the Board (see § 5 para. 7).
 - f) It appoints appointed members in accordance with § 5 Para. 3.
 - g) It shall elect by secret ballot the other members of the Executive Board in accordance with § 8 para. 2.
 - h) It approves the following resolutions of the intersynodal Finance Committee of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität audited annual accounts and approves the actions of the Executive Board.

§ 8 Management Board

- (1) The member of the Directorate of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität responsible for Mission shall be an ex officio member of the Board. The Directorate of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität may delegate another of its members to the Board. The board appoints a speaker for finances. This person is an official member of the board. The member of the management of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität responsible for mission is chairman/chairwoman, the financial officer of the HMH is treasurer.
- (2) Four to six further natural persons, among them another speaker of HMH, are elected by the General Assembly in secret ballot for a period of four years each to the Board of Directors (see § 7 para. 11g). They remain in office until the next board election. Eligible for election

are the representatives of the congregations of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität, appointed members and employees of HMH who are official members of the association. Transitional regulation:

The executive committee, composed according to the old statutes, is in office until the new election of the executive committee at the first general meeting after the new statutes come into force.

- (3) If a member of the Executive Board loses a quality which is the basis for eligibility, the membership in the Executive Board ends with this.
- (4) If a member of the board resigns during his election period, a substitute election can take place at the next general meeting. A substitute election must be carried out if the minimum number of six board members is not reached.
- (5) The executive committee elects the deputy chairman and a secretary from among its members for a period of four years. Elected is the person who has received more than half of the votes cast.
- (6) The Executive Board may appoint permanent advisors who are invited to the Executive Board meetings and the General Meetings without the right to vote.
- (7) The Executive Board shall have the following duties in particular:
 - a) It manages the Association, conducts the current business and ensures that the purposes and tasks stated in § 3 are fulfilled.
 - b) He convenes the general meeting in writing with a proposal for the agenda (see § 7 para. 1-3).
 - c) It decides on the budget and the annual accounts.
 - d) It decides on the admission of full members and sustaining members (see § 5 para. 1 and para. 5).
 - e) It makes proposals to the General Assembly for the appointment of sustaining members as appointed members (see § 5 Para. 3).
 - f) He may expel a member from the association in the event of conduct damaging to the association or contrary to the articles of association (see § 5 para. 9).
 - g) It decides on the hiring or secondment as well as on the organisation of the service of employees for tasks in Germany and abroad. If the employees are community servants, they shall endeavour to reach agreement with the management.
 - h) It advises the Directorate on its missionary activities, in particular if it plans to send employees abroad. It also advises the Directorate on the use of funds for missionary tasks at home and abroad.
- (8) As a rule, the Board meets six times a year. It is convened in writing by the chairperson or his/her deputy at least seven days in advance, announcing the agenda. It has a quorum if at least half of its members are present.
- (9) Unless otherwise stipulated in the Articles of Association, resolutions of the Executive Board shall be passed by a simple majority of the votes cast. Abstentions are not taken into consideration. The chairperson or his/her deputy may call for written votes. The chairman or his/her deputy shall set a reasonable deadline for the casting of votes for this purpose. Votes received after this deadline shall not be taken into consideration. The votes shall be counted in the presence of at least two members of the Executive Board.

(10) Minutes shall be taken of the meetings of the Executive Board and shall be signed by the minute-taker and the chairperson or his/her deputy.

§ 9 Board of Directors within the meaning of § 26 BGB (German Civil Code)

The Chairperson, his/her Deputy Chairperson and the Financial Officer of HMH form the Board of Directors within the meaning of § 26 BGB (German Civil Code). They are each individually authorised to represent the Association in and out of court and to make legally binding declarations of intent on its behalf.

§ 10 Amendment of the Articles of Association

- (1) These Statutes may be amended by the General Assembly or replaced by a new Statute. This requires a two-thirds majority of the votes of the members present and entitled to vote (see § 7 para. 6).
- (2) Amendments to the statutes may only be adopted if the intention to do so has been announced in advance in the agenda (see § 7 Para. 3).
- (3) The Synod of the Evangelical Brüder-Unität has a right of objection against changes to the statutes. The right of objection may be exercised for the Synod between two Synodal Sessions by the Directorate. If such an objection is made, the amendment of the Statutes shall not be made until the next Synodal Meeting.
- (4) The executive committee is authorized to make all changes to the statutes which are pending with the recognition of the statutes by the district court. Content and programmatic points may not be affected by this. The members of the association are to be informed immediately about such changes.

§ 11 Dissolution of the Association

- (1) The dissolution of the association can be decided by the general meeting. This requires a two-thirds majority of the votes of the ordinary members present (see § 7 Para. 6).
- (2) The dissolution of the association can only be decided if the intention was announced in the invitation to the general meeting (see § 7 para. 3).
- (3) In the event of the dissolution of the Association or the discontinuation of tax-privileged purposes, the Association's assets shall be transferred to the Evangelical Brüder-Unität with the obligation to use them again for the purposes previously stipulated in the Statutes or if this is not possible for their direct and exclusively ecclesiastical, charitable and benevolent purposes.
- (4) Liquidators of the association are the board members according to § 26 BGB with the same powers of representation (see § 9), unless the general meeting decides otherwise.

This new statute was approved by the general meeting of Herrnhuter Missionshilfe e. V. at 23.06.2012 in Ringe-Neugnadenfeld. The present version found the unanimous approval of the Approval of the general meeting on 05.07.2014 in Bielefeld-Ubbedissen.

Raimund Hertzsch (Vorsitzender)

Katharina Goodwin

(stellvertretende Vorsitzende)

(Schatzmeister)

The approval of these statutes and the entry of the statutes in the register of associations of the Göppingen Local Court was effected on 30.08.2012 under the number VR 35. The first amendment was entered by the Ulm Local Court on 11.08.2014 under the number VR 530035. The second change was registered on 00.00.2016 under the number VR 530035 by the Ulm Local Court.

Bad Boll, the 15.07.2016