



In accordance of Articles 18 and 104 of the Law of Associations and Foundations from April 16th 2010 and the Statute of YMCA Bitola brought on April 5th 2002, the Statute's changes brought on December 4th 2006, the Assembly at the meeting held on 10th March 2011 has adopted the following updated text of the

STATUTE

of the Youth Association YMCA BITOLA

I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The Youth Association YMCA Bitola (hereinafter The Association) is an association of citizens who freely and voluntarily organized themselves to fulfil and protect the common interests i.e. carrying out activities aimed at building a humane society based on love, peace and tolerance among people through respect of cultural differences and developing interpersonal relationships characterized by love, understanding and solidarity with all people.

The Association is a non-profit, apolitical, nongovernmental, nonreligious and inclusive youth association which aims to provide opportunities, empowers young people, and actively works with them in our community. The Association works in the fields of: culture and art, non-formal education, promoting healthy lifestyle, and civil society.

The principles of the Association are based on international documents of the YMCA movement in the world, including in particular the fundamental documents of the YMCA movement which are: the Paris Basis of 1855, Kampala principles of 1973 and "Challenge 21" from 1998.

II STATUS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 2

The Association has the status of a legal entity with rights, obligations and responsibilities determined by law and this Statute.

Article 3

The Association has a seal which has a round shape and inside it appears the text "Youth Association YMCA Bitola" in the Macedonian language (written in the Cyrillic alphabet) and in the centre is the logo of the Association.

III NAME AND HEADQUARTERS

Article 4

The name of the Association is "Mladinska Asocijacija IMKA Bitola" and the abbreviated name is "IMKA Bitola". IMKA Bitola also uses the abbreviated name in English language - "YMCA Bitola".

Article 5

The headquarters of the Association is at str.Vasko Karangelevski REMO 1/3/42, Bitola. The Association is self-organized and works primarily within the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, with some activities taking place in other locations.

IV GOALS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 6

The main goal of the Association is to provide activities and opportunities in the fields of culture, art, non-formal education, promoting healthy lifestyles, and civil society that develop positive values and attitudes among young people.

Article 7

Other goals of the Association are to:

- Build a society based on love, peace and tolerance
- Build bridges of cooperation among cultures and nations by bringing people together and promoting interpersonal relationships characterized by love and understanding
- Raise youth's awareness about the Christian values and encouraging interreligious dialogue
- Empower young people in order their bigger engagement in the community through accepting greater responsibilities
- Provide a space where young people can express themselves through art and culture
- Promote healthy lifestyles and protection from negative influences brought by modern lifestyles
- Fight against addictions and vices such as drugs, alcoholism, and smoking
- Protect and support the rights of children
- Cooperate with local and foreign organizations engaged in the development of positive values among young people.

V MEANS OF ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS

Article 8

The Association's established objectives are accomplished through implementation of activities within programs and projects, in particular with the following means of actions:

- Running relevant program activities based on direct communication with young people
- Providing space for communication between young people and relevant entities in our society through seminars, presentations, roundtables, focus groups, public debates and electronic conferences on the internet
- Increasing youth competencies through organizing workshops and trainings for vocational skills and personal development

- Promoting positive attitudes and behaviours that support our society like volunteerism and youth activism
- Organizing campaigns for raising public awareness of problems threatening our society such as: abuse of children rights, health issues, environmental issues, promoting peace, etc.
- Organizing public events that promote culture, art, healthy lifestyle, and civil society
- Organizing international seminars, trainings, and youth exchanges
- Initiating and offering professional assistance to local authorities and other organizations in developing positive values among young people
- Carrying out other activities related to the goals of the Association.

VI BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. Assembly of the Association

Article 9

The Assembly consists of all active members of the Association who pay a membership fee.

Article 10

The Assembly works through meetings. The Assembly holds regular annual meeting and emergency meetings as needed.

The President of the Association calls the regular meetings. Emergency meetings are called by the President of the Association at his/her own initiative, or at the written request of at least 1/3 (one-third) of the members of the Assembly, or by a proposal of the Executive Board. If the President of the Assembly does not call a meeting within 30 (thirteen) days from the meeting proposal, then the meeting will be called by the Executive Board or the initiators.

The meeting is called in written or electronic form disseminated to each member of the Assembly along with the materials for the session at least 7 (seven) days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

Article 11

The Assembly:

- Adopts the Statute and its changes, the association's program and other acts
- Decides about changes the goals of the Association
- Decides about association with and separation from other associations, as well as about membership in other alliances and international organizations
- Adopts the Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Annual Program
- Adopts the final account and financial plan
- Elects and dismiss members of the Executive Board of the association
- Decide for changing the goal of the association
- May establish a Commission for Revision, if needed
- Decides for transformation of termination of the Association, which requires a 2/3 (two thirds) majority votes
- Decides about other matters which are not under authority of other bodies of the Association
- Miscellaneous activities in accordance with this Statute and with the general acts of the Association.

Article 12

The Assembly has a quorum if more than half of the members are present.

The Assembly may pass a decision with a simple majority votes when there is a quorum, except when the Statute calls for a different majority.

Article 13

The Assembly can decide to establish Commission for Revision (hereinafter The Commission) if there is need to monitor the work of Executive Board for specific period.

The purpose of the Commission is to monitor the usage and management of assets and revenues of the Association as well as to monitor the legality of the organizational body's work. The Commission prepares a report and gives it to the Assembly.

The Commission has the right to call a meeting of the Assembly regarding its findings. The Commission is responsible to the Assembly for its work.

2. Executive Board

Article 14

The Executive Board is also the management board of the Assembly. Its rights and responsibilities are executed on the basis of and within the frames of the Statute and general acts of the Association.

Article 15

The Executive Board consists of the President and at least 2 (two) members, but not more than 8 (eight) members.

A member of the Executive Board is exempt from voting about matters concerning his/her self, the relatives and on matters related to legal entities which he/she has control over or economic interest.

Article 16

The members of the Executive Board are chosen by the Assembly with a simple majority votes. The majority of the Executive Board members must be citizens of the Republic of Macedonia.

Article 17

The term of an Executive Board member is 2 (two) years with the possibility of re-election.

Article 18

The Executive Board and its members are responsible to the Assembly. The Assembly can conduct a vote of mistrust to the Executive Board or any of its members.

The President of the Executive Board can propose repealing a member of the Executive Board, which then goes to the Assembly for approval or disapproval by a simple majority vote. Members of the Executive Board are at-will and may resign if they so desire.

In the case of resignation of a member of the Executive Board, the Executive Board appoints temporary member until the first meeting of the Assembly. If the number of the members of the Executive Board drops under 3 (three) members, the President of the Association should call emergency meeting of the Assembly.

Article 19

The Executive Board of the Association:

- Prepares the meetings of the Assembly
- Prepares the draft version of the Statute, its changes, and other decisions which should be taken by the Assembly
- Implements the policy, conclusions and decisions made by the Assembly

- Implements and decides about the activities determined by the Assembly with the annual action plan
- Prepares annual program, strategic plan, and action plan
- Prepares the final account and financial plan
- Establishes program groups to accomplish the Association's goals and objectives and oversees their work
- Establishes focus groups and commissions to deal with specific tasks given by the Executive Board and oversees their work
- Oversees admission of new members and termination of membership
- Makes decisions about awards and certificates
- Takes responsibility for management of the property of the Association
- Miscellaneous activities in accordance with this Statute and with the general acts of the Association.

3. President of the Association

Article 20

The President of the Executive Board is the President of the organization. The Executive Board chooses the President from its members through a simple majority vote.

Article 21

The President of the Association is elected with mandate of 4 (four) years with the possibility of re-election.

Article 22

The President of the Association:

- Acts as a representative of the Association
- Calls the meetings of the Assembly and of the Executive Board of the Association and run the meetings
- Signs all acts of the Association
- Prepares the annual report and gives it to the Assembly
- Takes responsibility for the legality of the work of the Association
- Appoints a person who will replace him/her in his/her absence
- Miscellaneous activities in accordance with this Statute and with the general acts of the Association.

Article 23

The President of the Association is responsible for his/hers work in front of the Executive Board and Assembly.

VII PROPERTY AND MANAGEMENT

Article 24

The Association is financed from:

- Project grants from the state, ministry or municipal's budgets, foreign and domestic foundations, organizations and agencies
- Membership and program fees
- Donations and sponsorships
- Contributions, gifts, and heritage
- Publication of educational magazines, multimedia materials, etc.
- Other incomes in accordance with the Law and the Statute

Article 25

Assets of the Association are used for:

- Implementing the Annual Program
- Carrying out the work of the Association
- Other needs that are in accordance with the Association's goals approved by the Executive Board.

Article 26

The members of the bodies of the association and the legal representative by the law are responsible to manage with caution and in accordance to the principles of good management for the benefit of the organization and above the personal interests aiming to achieve the goals in accordance of the law and the Statute.

The assets cannot be disbursed to members, the founders, members of the bodies, the legal representative, and the employees or close to them persons, except in case if a member of the organization is beneficiary of the services of the organization in accordance with the goals of the Statute and the organization's program.

The work of the bodies of the association is on voluntary basis and the members of the bodies of the association can receive and allowance for travel costs and per diems as well as allowance for doing actions within the bodies of the association in accordance with the law.

The employees have the right of salary and allowance in accordance with the law and employment contract.

Article 27

The financial year matches the calendar year. The financial plan for each year is approved at the end of the current calendar year for the following year. The amount and distribution of resources of the Association is set each year within the financial plan and is based on the annual action plan.

The Executive Board propose the financial plan and The Assembly adopts it.

The financial report is adopted at latest by 1st February in the current calendar year.

Article 28

The Executive Board manages the assets of the Association in accordance with legal regulations for the purpose of ensuring balance between revenues and expenditures.

The President signs the financial acts of the Association.

VIII TRANSPARENCY

Article 29

The work of the Association is public.

Article 30

The bodies of the Association are obligated to provide a system of disseminating information to the membership. All official acts to be presented to the members of the Association at the regular and emergency meetings.

The Association will inform the public of its work through its web page, press, magazines, radio and television.

Article 31

The Association can issue periodical publications and give media presentations in order to accomplish its goals and objectives.

IX MEMBERSHIP

Article 32

The membership of the Association is individual.

The Association can establish partnerships or enter in networks with other organizations.

1. Individual membership

Article 33

Individual membership in the Association is open to all citizens of the Republic of Macedonia as well as to individuals from abroad who accept the goals and Statute of the Association and who voluntarily fill out the application form for membership.

The Association guarantees the anonymity of the member, if he/she requires that during the signing of the application form.

Article 34

The individual member has the following rights and obligations:

- To participate in the activities of the Association
- To participate in the work of the meetings organized by the Association
- To elect and to be elected, as well as to propose representatives for the Association's bodies
- To vote for all questions which are brought before the Assembly
- To pay membership and program fees
- To advocate for and represent the Association's interests and positions
- To contribute to the development and growth of the Association
- To act according the provisions of the Statute and decisions of the Association's bodies.

Article 35

Individual membership is on a voluntary basis and members may leave the organization freely at any time.

If an individual member's actions are not in accordance with the goals and objectives of the Association then he/she may have his/her membership revoked by a decision of the Executive Board.

2. Honorary membership

Article 36

Honorary membership is granted to persons who make special contributions towards accomplishing the goals of the Association. Honorary membership is granted by the Assembly of the Association.

3. Partnerships and networking

Article 37

The Association can establish partnerships or enter into a network with other organizations if such actions contribute to fulfilling of Association's goals and objectives.

Cooperation between YMCA Bitola and other organizations will be regulated with a mutual agreement, containing the specifics of the relationship.

Article 38

The Executive Board of the Association approves entering into cooperation with a partner organization or network and the specifics of that cooperation.

Article 39

Partnership agreements or network membership terminates if the partnering organization ceases to meet the conditions of the first paragraph of article 37 of the Statute, as judged by the Executive Board.

Partner organizations or networks can withdraw at-will from the partnership or membership with the Association. The decision to withdraw should be reported to the Executive Board in written form.

Partnership or membership within a network may terminate after finishing all agreed-upon tasks and obligations.

X REPRESENTATION IN LEGAL OPERATIONS

Article 40

The Association in legal operations and towards third parties is represented by the President of the Association.

The President of the Association may authorize a member of the Assembly to act on his/hers behalf in the case of absence or inability to act, but also can give authorization to another non-member who will represent the Association.

XI ACTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 41

The Association adopts the Statute, programs, manuals, decisions and other acts to support the governance of the organization.

Article 42

The Assembly adopts, changes, and amends the Statute.

Proposals for changes and amendments may be submitted for consideration if they have the support of at least 5 (five) members of the Assembly. The proposal is then reviewed by the Executive Board and an opinion on the proposal is delivered to all members of the Assembly 15 (fifteen) days before an Assembly meeting is being held.

The Assembly must adopt the Statute with a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority votes.

Article 43

Official documents are signed by the President of the Association.

XII TRANSFORMATIONS AND TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 44

The Assembly of the association decides about the transformation or termination of the association, with 2/3 (two thirds) majority votes. All the transformations are adopted by the Assembly with decisions based on made contract between the sides that join/affiliate or divide.

Article 45

The Association terminates its work if:

- A decision to dissolve the Association is adopted with a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote by the Assembly
- The number of the members of the Association is reduced under the determined number for establishment
- The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Macedonia decides that the program and the Statute of the Association are not in accordance with the State's Constitution
- It is determined that the Association has terminated its work
- Other legal circumstances call for termination.

In case of work termination, the property of the Association will belong to the Macedonian Orthodox Church.

XIII TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 46

This Statute will enter into force on the 8th (eighth) day after its adoption.