

Statute of the International Association  
**Small size, network for the diffusion of performing arts for early years**  
Modified by the Extraordinary Assembly of the Members - 28<sup>th</sup> August 2016

### Chapter I – Name, Seat, Duration

#### Art. 1

The “Artistic International Association **Small size**”, Network for the diffusion of performing arts for early years” (abbreviation: “**Small size Network**”) is hereby constituted and it is ruled by the laws of the State in which it has its seat.

The Seat of the Association will be in Bologna (Italy).

The Association remains valid until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2050 and its validity might then be extended upon resolution of the Extraordinary Assembly of the Partners.

### Chapter II – Objects and Aims

#### Art. 2

The main objects and activities for which the Association is established are to promote the diffusion of performing arts for early childhood (0-6 years), and, more generally, to enhance culture for early childhood.

The Association has non-profit and non-commercial aims.

The primary aims of the association are:

- to make the existing festivals and productions for early childhood increasingly deep-rooted and to promote the creation of new opportunities;
- to promote the activities of production and productive collaboration for early childhood;
- to provide the partners with operational tools useful for their activity and development;
- to support the relationships between the partners;
- to network the most significant professional experiences of performing arts for early childhood, coming from different countries and global cultural traditions;
- to foster the exchange of ideas, experiences, methods and research among those who work in the field;
- to foster collaborative projects
- to multiply the chances for children to develop their creative potentialities through the experience of performing arts and the comparison with different cultural traditions;
- to show the importance of art as a catalyst in social culture;

#### Art. 3

In order to reach the aims mentioned above, the Association will be carrying out the following activities:

- promote and organise training and informative events (meetings, debates, training activities, seminars, workshops...) and research opportunities;
- manage and organise a multimedia communication network (website, newsletter, database);
- organise meetings for all partners to discuss, deepen and reflect upon the main themes;
- carry out other related activities, useful for the achievement of its aims.

Finally, the Association can perform all the actions and execute all the legal instruments necessary to reach the mentioned association aims.

### Chapter III – Partners

#### Art.4

The number of partners is unlimited.

Public or private entities and individuals can become partners of the Association, provided that they share its aims and objects and commit themselves to achieve them, demonstrating an actual and specific professionalism in the field of performing arts for early childhood (0-6 years).

It is allowed for those who are not in the artistic field but have interest and proficiency in supporting the development of performing arts for early years to become members of the Association.

The Association has no religious affiliations and is politically neutral. The members will therefore have to guarantee a total autonomy in the definition of the cultural and artistic project.

#### **Art.5**

The members may in exceptional circumstances use the name “Small size” as part of the title for proposed projects for the purpose of applying to Calls for proposals supporting culture by European Union or other public and/or private organisations, and presenting a project that has among its objectives the support to the Network and to its activities, and that involves as partner mainly members of the Association. This must be authorised by the Board of Directors.

#### **Art.6**

Those who wish to become members of the Association will have to submit an application to the Board of Directors, containing:

- a) identification data of the entity (business name, registered office, address, telephone number, email address);
- b) identification data of their pro-tempore legal representatives and possibly the names of the reference persons for the Association;
- c) the entrance fee amount they want to contribute with, to be adjusted to the rules established in article 7;
- d) a statement where they accept the rules of the present Statute and the decisions legally taken by the social bodies.

Once the Board of Directors has ascertained the existence of the requirements contained in article 4, they will deliberate on the application. The decision of admission will become effective and it will be included in the “members book” once the payment of the entrance fee is received.

Unless otherwise stated by the Board of Directors, the payment has to be transferred within 60 days from the date of the decision of admission. After this period, or the one decided by the Board of Directors, if no payment has been received, the decision will become ineffective. The decision by which the application is refused is not impugnable.

#### **Art.7**

Members are required to:

- a) comply with the present statutes and any rules or decisions adopted by the Association’s bodies.
- b) pay an **entrance fee of:**

**€ 200,00 (public or private entities)**

**€ 100,00 (individuals)**

The entrance fee can be changed upon decision of the Board of Directors. In this case, all members previously admitted will have to act accordingly.

The membership fees cannot be transferred, in any case.

- c) pay an **annual contribution** established according to the activities programmes.

This contribution will be determined annually by the month of December for the next year, upon decision of the Board of Directors. The contribution to natural persons will equal 50% of the one granted to public or private entities.

The Board of Directors can suspend the payment of the annual fee for the associates during their first year as members of the Association. In addition, it can waive, suspend or reduce the entrance and/or annual fee for those associates who might find themselves in heavy and documented economic distress. These facilitations do not limit in any way the rights of the associates.

The annual fee, for the amount determined by the Board of Directors, should be paid by the end of the month of April of the relevant year.

Not complying with this deadline may be a cause for exclusion (see Art.8).

#### **Art.8**

Members can:

- a) recede, by means of written communication to the President at least 3 (three) months before the beginning of the accounting period for which they wish to renounce;
- b) be excluded, upon decision of the Board of Directors, if they do not comply with the dues provided in article 7 or if they cause serious damages, even moral, to the Association.

The Association has the right to pursue enforced collection actions for any credit.

#### **Art.9**

Receded or excluded members have no right to the refund of their entrance fee, nor to their annual contribution, if given. They are required to pay to the Association the contribution they still have to pay, if there is any, according to the decision taken by the Board of Directors.

#### **Art. 10**

Upon specific decision of the Board of Directors, the Association will be free to entrust one or more members with specific tasks, including internal organisation and administration, multimedia communication management, press office or any other task necessary for the creation of particular/specific projects or for current management.

The Board of Directors, with their decision, will also have to take into account the costs/remuneration.

### **Chapter IV - Funds, Financial Year and Budget**

#### **Art.11**

The entrance fees as indicated in art. 7 shall comprise the Common Fund of the Association.

The Common Fund is also constituted by the goods purchased through the contributions stated above and increased with any extra management funds and any additional funds not directly related to the association.

#### **Art.12**

The financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December every year.

Within 4 months after the end of the financial year, the President shall prepare the budget to be submitted for approval to the Members' Committee. The budget needs to be approved by the Members' Committee before the year after the end of the accounting period.

The Common Fund shall not be distributed among the Members while the Association is still in place.

Upon termination of the Association, the Common Fund shall be distributed as stated in art. 25. While the Association is still valid, it is forbidden to distribute, even indirectly, profits, extra management funds and funds, unless the destination or the distribution are established by the law.

### **Chapter V – Social Bodies**

#### **Art.13**

The Social Bodies of the Association are:

- a) The Assembly of Members
- b) The Board of Directors

#### **The Assembly of Members**

#### **Art.14**

The assemblies of members can be either ordinary or extraordinary. Members have to be informed with an email, sent at least 15 days before the meeting. It has to contain the agenda, the date and time of the meeting.

If these formalities are not fulfilled, the Assembly can declare itself effectively constituted if all members with voting rights are present or represented.

The second meeting can be fixed on the same day at a later time.

#### **Art.15**

The ordinary Assembly:

1. Approves the budget
2. Defines the number of members of the Board of Directors.
3. Elects the members of the Board of Directors, the President and Vice-President.
4. Approves any internal regulation
5. Takes decision about any topic not expressly delegated to the Board of Directors by the present statute.

It takes place at least once a year.

The Assembly will meet any time the Board of Directors judges it necessary, or if at least one fifth of the members submit written request, indicating the issues to discuss. In these cases, the convocation has to be sent within 30 days from the date of the request.

#### **Art.16**

According to the laws, the Assembly is extraordinary when it meets to take decisions about changes in the statute, the variation of the Association's time validity and its anticipated dissolution, the appointing and the powers of liquidators.

#### **Art.17**

In its first meeting, the Assembly – ordinary and extraordinary – is effectively constituted if one half plus one of the members are present or represented.

In its second meeting, the Assembly – ordinary and extraordinary – is effectively constituted whatever the number of members or representatives with voting rights and it will deliberate – by absolute majority – on each item of the agenda. In order to be able to deliberate and resolve validly on the dissolution and liquidation, the actual or represented presence of one half plus one of the members is needed, as well as the favourable vote of three-fifths of the present or represented members.

Due to the international nature of the Association, the associates are allowed to participate to ordinary and extraordinary assemblies by the means of video-conference. The seat of the Assembly shall be the one where the President is.

#### **Art.18**

The Assembly will vote by show of hands. When it will have to deliberate on appointments or persons, it will proceed by secret vote.

The Assembly's decisions are transcribed in the dedicated social book and can be viewed by the members.

#### **Art.19**

Only members who are up to date with the payment of entrance and/or annual fees have voting rights. Each member has only one vote, whatever the amount of their contribution.

### **The Board of Directors**

#### **Art.20**

The Board of Directors is composed of **5 to 9** members appointed by the Assembly of Members.

The Board's validity is of 3 years. Afterwards, their previous members can be re-elected.

The Assembly of Members can revoke the appointment to one or more members of the Board, upon justified decision.

In case one or more members of the Board resign, substitutes will be appointed in the first Assembly in order to reach the number of members established by the Assembly.

The new members will hold office until the three-year period is over, together with the other members of the Board.

The Board of Directors meets each time the President judges it necessary or upon request of at least one-fifth of the members.

As to the modes of convocation, see article 14.

The Board deliberates by absolute majority.

Due to the international nature of the Association, the members of the Board of Directors are allowed to participate to the Board meetings by the means of video-conference. The seat of the meeting shall be the one where the President is.

#### **Art.21**

The Board of Directors:

1. makes sure the decisions of the Assembly are put into practice
2. deliberates on the applications of admission submitted
3. plans the budgets
4. determines annually – while planning the estimated budget – the amount of fixed contribution for the following accounting period
5. arranges ordinary and not ordinary administrative affairs which do not belong to the Assembly of Members
6. appoints, if appropriate, a Director of the Association, with organisational and administrative tasks
7. in case of need – i.e. in case President and Vice-President are not resident in the country or city where the Association has its legal seat, can appoint an “Administrator” who will take care of accounting and keeping of the Association books, and to whom will be delegated all the necessary authority for accounting efficiency, such as deposit, withdrawal, request for chequebooks, drawing of cheques, operation on any level with the banks on the current account headed to the Association, including the access to online banking and the release of debit and/or credit card headed to the Association, and for signing all the documents required by the bank for the declaration of the account holder.  
Furthermore, the Board of Directors will have to take into account the cost/remuneration for the Administrator.
8. can appoint one or more members for particular tasks, according to what specified in Art.10.
9. has the power to create decentralised offices to carry out the tasks indicated in the previous paragraph, in whatever country it judges it necessary. It can therefore establish a decentralised organisational/administrative seat different from the one of the Association.

The members of the board of Directors, included the President and the Vice-President will not receive any remuneration for their appointments.

#### **Art.22**

The President and the Vice-President of the Board of Directors, **independently**:

- a) have the duty to preside over the Assembly and the Board of Directors;
- b) legally represent the Association;
- c) are delegated for ordinary administration;
- d) deliberate on acts and contracts of any kind concerning the activities of the Association;
- e) are authorised to collect sums of money from public administrations and privates, releasing the related receipts;
- f) are authorised to draw up contracts for professionals and other services;
- g) have the power to appoint lawyers or attorneys for active or passive lawsuits concerning the Association before any judicial and administrative authority in any court of law;
- h) can allow the use of logo and trademark to ordinary associates for their activities.

In case the Board of Directors appoints an “Administrator” (Art.21 par. 7), they can delegate him/her the responsibilities expressly listed in the deliberation.

## **Chapter VI – General Provisions**

#### **Art.23**

In case of dissolution of the Association, the Assembly will decide the destination of the active property of the Association, the modes of winding up and it will appoint one or more liquidators, also determining their powers.

**Art.24**

In case of dissolution of the Association, the Association is obliged to assign its property to another association with similar aims or with aims of public interest, according to the laws.

**Art.25**

For all the topics not expressly provided for in the present statute, the rules of private law of the State in which the Association has its seat and the ones provided by current law in the subject of voluntary association are applicable.

**Approved by the Extraordinary Assembly of the Members - 28<sup>th</sup> August 2016**