

Constitution oikos International

Last changes adopted on 25th of October 2018 by the Legislative Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland.

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

“oikos International - Student Organisation for Sustainable Economics and Management“ referred to hereafter as “oikos International” is an association under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code located in St.Gallen, Switzerland.

ARTICLE 2 - NEUTRALITY

oikos is a neutral, non-political and non-religious organisation offering a non-partisan platform for discussion on sustainability.

ARTICLE 3 - VISION AND MISSION

3.1 Vision: Economics and management education purposed for a sustainable world.

3.2 Mission: To transform economics and management education by empowering student change agents, raising awareness for sustainability opportunities and challenges, and building institutional support for curriculum reform.

ARTICLE 4 - ACTIVITIES

4.1 oikos International supports local oikos groups primarily by

- a) assisting promoters of local groups in the start up phase;
- b) permanently providing the groups with organisational know how and seminars to further skills in applying them, helping them to establish contacts to key decision-makers in their region, providing them with an IT-infrastructure and PR-material as well as coordinating common projects, communication and encounters between local groups;
- c) and sustaining an international network of oikos alumni.

4.2 oikos International pursues several key projects on an ongoing basis to empower students as change agents and drive institutional change. The international key projects also provide a platform to develop the oikos organisation and strengthen its impact.

ARTICLE 5 - NO COMMERCIAL INTEREST

oikos International has no commercial interest. Assets are solely used to target the association’s objective. oikos International does not run a commercial business.

ARTICLE 6 - MEMBER GROUPS

6.1 oikos International shall consist of local student groups.

6.1.1 oikos Full Chapter

6.1.1.1 oikos Full Chapter is an entity according to articles I-IX in the appendix and fulfills all membership criteria.

6.1.1.2 oikos Full Chapters are the Voting Members group of the association.

6.1.2 oikos Chapters in Accession

6.1.2.1 Chapter in Accession is an entity according to articles I-IX in the appendix which was accepted by the Board of oikos International and is in the process to gain Full Chapter status.

6.1.2.2 Chapters in Accession are Non-Voting Members groups of the association.

6.2 oikos International Membership Criteria

6.2.1 Applications for membership shall be submitted to the association's Board. Together with its application, the applying group shall submit a report including an English translation of its constitution, a list of its team members, CVs and letters of motivation for the members of the board, a letter of recommendation from a local professor as well as information about the activities that it has conducted so far and plans for the future.

6.2.2 Admission to voting membership shall be decided by a two-thirds majority vote of the Legislative Assembly. Admission to non-voting membership shall be decided by the Board.

6.2.3 Criteria that need to be met once a year to sustain or regain membership are proposed by the Board, approved by the Legislative Assembly and listed in the bylaws.

6.3 Removal of Membership

6.3.1 Any member group not complying with articles and policies of the association or not performing reasonable activities consistently shall forfeit its membership. After consideration of the relevant facts, the Board may propose the expulsion of Voting Member group. Expulsion of a Voting Member shall only be valid upon a two-thirds majority decision of the Legislative Assembly. Expulsion of a Non-Voting Member shall be decided by the Board.

6.3.2 No member group shall be expelled except upon four weeks notice from the Board in writing specifying the ground upon which expulsion is based.

6.3.3 Any member group may resign at any time by giving four weeks notice to be delivered in writing to the Board which shall so inform the Legislative Assembly of member groups.

6.3.4 A member group who resigns or is expelled may not utilize the oikos name and logo for any purpose, activities or communication.

6.3.5 If an oikos Full Chapter does not attend 3 consecutive Legislative Assemblies in a row, oikos Board shall prepare an automatic motion for the removal of Membership.

ARTICLE 7 - ASSOCIATION BODIES

7.1 The bodies of the association are

- a) the Legislative Assembly;
- b) the Board;
- c) the Advisory Council;
- d) and the External Auditor.

ARTICLE 8 - LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

8.1 Representatives of the oikos Full Chapters shall together constitute the Legislative Assembly of member groups of the Association.

8.2 The Legislative Assembly comes together on the two occasions of the Association's Spring and Autumn Meeting. Additional sessions of the Legislative Assembly may be convened on request of the Board, two members of the Advisory Council, or at least one fifth of the association's Voting Member groups.

8.3 The quorum for a Legislative Assembly of Members shall be one-fourth (1/4) of the Voting Members attending the meeting in person or online.

8.4 The Board shall inform the members in writing or through electronic means the date of the Legislative Assembly at least four (4) weeks in advance. The notification, including the proposed agenda, shall be sent to each Voting Member at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting.

8.5 Each oikos Full Chapter has one vote at Legislative Assembly. In general, Voting Member groups are represented by their Presidents. The Board shall be notified in writing, if a Voting Member group is to be represented by a person other than its president.

8.6 Decisions of the Legislative Assembly shall be taken by a simple majority vote of all oikos Full Chapters present or represented, except if the constitution provides otherwise.

8.7 The Legislative Assembly of members shall have all powers for the performance and execution of the purposes of the association, unless otherwise stated in this constitution. The Legislative Assembly:

- A. Shall approve the admission and expulsion of Voting Members;
- B. Appoints the members of the Board and elects, at a minimum, the President;
- C. Notes the contents of the reports and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption;
- D. Approves the annual budget;
- E. Appoints an auditor for the Association's accounts;
- F. Decides on any modification of statutes;
- G. Decides on the dissolution of the Association;
- H. Fixes the annual membership fees.

ARTICLE 9 - THE BOARD

9.1 oikos International shall be administered by the Board consisting of a President and up to 7 Vice-Presidents, all physical persons.

9.2. The President is elected by an absolute majority of valid votes (simple majority). If no candidate succeeds in passing this threshold, a second round of voting is held with the participation of the two candidates who received the largest and second largest number of votes respectively. In case of a tie in the second round the Board votes who will be the President. The oikos International President commits to a two years job. Elections are held every year and it is obligatory for oikos International President to re-apply for the second year.

9.3. Members of the Board (apart from a President) shall be elected individually by a simple majority vote of the association's members at the Legislative Assembly. The elections shall be held once a year, during the Legislative Assembly in autumn. Their term of office shall be of one calendar year. In the event of the election of less than 5 Board members at the Legislative Assembly in autumn, the Board must re-open EB elections to be held at the next Legislative Assembly in spring (or online). Their term of office shall be of one half of the year, lasting until the end of the calendar year.

9.4. All members of the Board (including a President) can be re-elected.

9.5. Within the Board each member shall have one vote. Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the Board members present.

9.6. The Board shall have full power of management and administration, subject to the prerogatives of the Legislative Assembly.

9.7. The Board shall delegate the day to day management of the association to the President.

9.8. The Board shall be responsible for

- a) planning and carrying out the association's activities;
- b) budgeting and securing funding;
- c) preparing the Legislative Assembly;
- d) implementing the decisions taken by the Legislative Assembly.

9.9. The Board will be discharged by the Legislative Assembly during the Spring Meeting based on the submission of an annual report and the financial statement as well as on the report of the External Auditor.

ARTICLE 10 - ADVISORY COUNCIL

10.1 The Advisory Council comprises a minimum of five and a maximum of ten representatives from academia, business, politics, NGOs and other interest groups who actively support the association. At least one member of the Advisory Council should be a former member of a local oikos chapter.

10.2 Members of the Advisory Council are appointed for three years by the Board. Re-appointments are possible.

10.3 The Advisory Council supports the activities of the association primarily by

- a) supporting the planning process for the overall strategy and specific activities;
- b) helping to establish contacts to key decision makers;
- c) and supporting funding efforts.

10.4 The Advisory Council shall meet at least twice per year with the Board. Meetings of the Advisory Council are convened by the Board in writing at least three months prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE 11 - COMMITTEE OF PATRONAGE

11.1 The Association may establish a committee of patronage.

11.2 Members of the committee of patronage are elected by the Board.

ARTICLE 12 - EXTERNAL AUDITOR

12.1 The Legislative Assembly appoints a qualified public auditor as External Auditor. The External Auditor submits his report to the first Legislative Assembly of the following year.

ARTICLE 13 - FINANCES

13.1 The revenues of the association shall consist of membership fees, donations and revenues from events, programs and publications.

13.2 The annual fee per Voting Member group is 50 Swiss Francs.

13.3 Upon dissolution of the association the remaining assets are donated to a non-profit making organization that works for the public interest and that is to be determined by the Legislative Assembly.

13.4 The association's financial responsibility shall be limited to its assets. Members shall not be liable.

13.5 Members have no financial claims of any kind towards the association.

ARTICLE 14 - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

14.1 Any proposal regarding amendments to the constitution or the dissolution of the association shall emanate from the Board, two members of the Advisory Council or one fifth Voting Member groups of the association.

14.2 The Legislative Assembly can amend and revise this constitution or dissolve the association with a two-thirds majority vote of the Voting Member groups represented.

ARTICLE 15 - REPORTING AND FINANCIAL YEAR

The association's reporting and financial year starts on January 1 and ends on December 31.

ARTICLE 16 - EFFECTIVE DATE

This constitution comes into force on October 21, 2007.

Appendix

ARTICLE I - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, OBJECTIVE

Local oikos groups work towards the oikos objective as stated in Article 3 of this constitution.

ARTICLE II - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, ACTIVITIES

I. Activities of local oikos groups comprise the organisation of lectures, conferences, simulation games, seminars, as well as practice-oriented learning projects.

II. The activities are conducted within the framework of a constructive and open-minded dialogue and reflect local realities. They network students with representatives from academia, business, NGOs, politics and media.

ARTICLE III - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION, NAME

Local oikos groups are independent non-profit organisations. They do not run a commercial business. They usually bear the name oikos together with the name of the city where they are located.

ARTICLE IV - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, MEMBERS

Members of local oikos groups are students of the university where the group is located. Other interested persons can be admitted as group members.

ARTICLE V - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, ASSOCIATION BODIES The bodies of local oikos groups comprise

- a) the Member's Assembly;
- b) the Board;
- c) the Advisory Council;
- d) the Auditing Body.

ARTICLE VI - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, MEMBER'S ASSEMBLY

The Member's Assembly is the highest-ranking body of local oikos groups. It decides on all issues which are not explicitly part of the responsibilities of other bodies.

ARTICLE VII - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, BOARD

The Board signs responsible for the following tasks

- a) planning and carrying out the association's activities;
- b) budgeting and securing funding;
- c) preparing the Member's Assembly;
- d) implementing the decisions taken by the Member's Assembly;
- e) submitting a half-yearly activity report in English to the Executive Board of oikos International.

ARTICLE VIII - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Local Advisory Council comprises a minimum of three representatives from academia, business, politics, NGOs and other interest groups who actively support the local oikos group. At least one member of the Advisory Council should be a former member of a local oikos group.

ARTICLE IX - LOCAL OIKOS GROUPS, AUDITING BODY

Local oikos groups appoint an Auditing Body to submit an auditing report on the yearly financial statement to the Member's Assembly.