

CONSTITUTION

(Wording of Dec.12, 1981, amended on Dec.13, 1983, Nov.29, 1986, July 31, 1987 and July 17, 1996)

§1 Name, Seat, Business Year

1. The name of the association shall be „INDIENHILFE - Association for Indo-German Development Cooperation“.
2. It is to be registered in the register of associations at the District Court in Starnberg.
3. Seat of the association is Herrsching at Ammersee, Germany.
4. The financial year corresponds with the calendar year.

§2 Objects

1. The association solely and directly pursues objects of public benefit as defined by the paragraph on „tax-privileged purposes“ in the German Abgabenordnung (legal regulations for the German taxation system).

2. The object and purpose of the association is

a) to support social welfare in India by working with local organizations and institutions which are recognized as being non-profit based and which in particular are active in the following areas:

- support for the needy
- health care/prevention of epidemics
- youth support
- schooling, adult education and job-training
- care for political, racial and religious refugees
- relief work

The partner organizations working in India and the projects that are to be supported are chosen according to the principle „help for self-help“. The predominant focus is on people who can not satisfy their basic needs such as food, clean drinking-water, energy for cooking, medical care, clothes, housing and education (based on their own culture) and who, despite all efforts, can not solve their problems without outside help.

b) to support an international mentality and tolerance in all areas of culture and communication and to improve schooling, adult education and job-training in Germany.

The goals in Germany are achieved through:

- educational work (lectures, seminars, publications, audio-visual media use)
- counselling, supply of information (i.e. with the help of an archive and a library)
- providing and organizing contacts, partnerships, working- and learning-trips, exchange programs in India/Germany
- training interns
- collaborating with religious, governmental and non-governmental organizations with similar objectives and working with the providers of (developmental) education work and with the media
- spreading information about world-trade and its effects on the living standards of people of the third world and trading in goods that are supplied by non-profit, socially beneficial or co-operative institutions in developing countries (so-called third world trade).

The intention is to collect and spread information which will increase the understanding for social and economic connections between the third world and the industrial nations and which will strengthen the feeling of social responsibility and goodwill in the citizens of Germany towards people living in developing countries. The nation India is used as an example. At the same time, respect and understanding for the dignity, respect and culture of people from foreign cultures should be strengthened.

3. The work of the association is independent of party politics or religious denomination.
4. The association is non-profit-making; it does not primarily serve any economic purposes.

§3 Membership

1. There is a distinction between regular (active) and supporting members. Regular membership is acquired by a resolution of admission which is passed by the Managing Board with a simple majority.
2. The resolution of admission is valid only if it is made on the basis of a written application from the person interested in membership and is confirmed by a record signed by the members of the Managing Board who voted on the resolution of admission.
3. Regular membership is ended by death, by resignation or by exclusion of a regular member.
4. Resignation can be declared by a written declaration without prior notice.
5. Exclusion takes place by resolution of the Managing Board if a member behaves in a way which is grossly contradictory or detrimental to the objectives of the association. The member in question must be heard beforehand. Exclusion takes place without resolution of the Managing Board if a member does not pay his or her due membership fees within two months after being reminded by the Managing Board. A resolution of exclusion must be submitted to a General meeting which is to be convened immediately, and enters into effect through the confirmation at this meeting. The membership of the member concerned is suspended up to that time.

§4 Organs

The organs of the association are:

1. General Meeting of Members
2. Working Committee
3. Managing Board

§5 General Meeting of Members

1. The General Meeting of Members is the supreme organ of the association. It convenes at least once a year. The invitation to the General Meeting of Members is made in written form with ten days notice and includes the agenda. On request of at least one third of the regular members or half of the supporting members, the Managing Board must call a General Meeting at any time in due form and in keeping with the prescribed schedule.
2. The General Meeting of Members is responsible for every task not assigned to the Managing Board or the Working Committee. In particular, the General meeting of Members has the right to
 - elect the members of the Managing Board
 - appoint the auditors
 - accept the statements of accounts and activities and the auditors' report
 - discharge the Managing Board
 - establish the guidelines for all practical (and theoretical) work
 - amend the constitution
 - dissolve the association
3. To constitute a quorum in the General Meeting, the invitation must have been served according to the prescribed schedule and one third of the regular members must be present. If these requirements are not met, the General Meeting shall be convened to a later date, maintaining the same agenda. This new General Meeting constitutes a quorum regardless of the number of regular members present.
4. Every regular member who is present and has paid the due membership fees is entitled to vote. Supporting members who are present are entitled to speak and make proposals.
5. The General Meeting of Members elects the chairman of the meeting. All resolutions passed by the General Meeting must be recorded in the minutes, which is to be signed by the chairman and the secretary and must be sent to each regular member within a reasonable period of time. A general report of activities and a statement of accounts are sent to all members once a year.

§6 Working Committee

1. The Working Committee meets at regular intervals and makes current decisions according to the guidelines laid down by the General Meeting of Members.
2. Meetings of the committee are open to the public.
3. The date for the next meeting is fixed at each meeting and can be requested from the Managing Board. As a rule there are no written invitations.

4. The minutes of each meeting can be inspected by every member and supporter of INDIENHILFE.
5. Resolutions are passed by simple majority of the regular members present.

§7 Managing Board

1. The Managing Board consists of three regular members with equal rights, namely the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer.
2. The Managing Board is elected by the General Meeting of Members for a period of two years. Its members can be voted out of office by the General Meeting of Members with a two thirds majority. If a member withdraws from the Managing Board for any reason, a new election by the General Meeting of Members must take place within a month.
3. The Managing Board is bound to the resolutions of the General Meeting of Members.
4. The Managing Board is authorized to deal with current business and to represent the association.

§8 External Representation

The association can be represented in court and elsewhere by any two members of the Managing Board acting jointly.

§9 Membership fees, Finances

1. The association covers its expenses with
 - a) membership fees
 - b) donations.
2. The minimum amount for the current membership fee is determined by the General Meeting of Members.
3. Financial resources of the association shall only be used for statutory purposes. Administrative costs are to be kept as low as possible and are to be covered through membership fees and subsidies so that money voted for projects is exclusively used for those projects in India.
4. Members receive no payments from the funds of the association.
5. Regular members are obliged to put their working capacity at the disposal of the association, as much as possible, for the promotion of the objects of the association.
6. In case of resignation from the association, fees and donations are not refunded.
7. No person may receive payments which are foreign to the purposes of the association or which are excessively high.

§10 Amendments to the Statutes, Dissolution of the Association

1. Amendments to the statutes are decided by the General Meeting of Members with a two thirds majority of the members present.
2. Amendments to the statutes must not touch the central ideas of the objects of the association as stated in §2.
3. The decision on the dissolution of the association is made by the General Meeting of Members with a two thirds majority.
4. In case of the dissolution of the association or if its original objects become redundant, the property of the association is to be used for „tax-privileged purposes“ in the area of development politics. The decision made the General Meeting can only be implemented after agreement from the tax-office.

Herrsching, 17 July 1996

Signatures of the members of the Managing Board: