

CYPRUS YOUTH COUNCIL

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CHAPTER 1 Introduction

Article 1 A society is established under the appellation “Cyprus Youth Council” in accordance with the provisions of The Societies and Institutions Laws 1972 and 1997 of the Republic of Cyprus. The Cyprus Youth Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council” is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation, in which the youth organisations in Cyprus may become members.

Article 2 The “Council” is established in Nicosia.

Article 3 The Council acts as a coordinating entity between the non-governmental youth organisations in Cyprus and the state and as a representative entity in various European and other international fora in which the non-governmental organisations of Cyprus are invited to be represented.

Article 4 The Council is the official representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the European Youth Forum. The Council is bound to adhere and follow the regulations as provided in the respective Statutes of the European Youth Forum in relation to its obligations as a member.

Article 5 The Council does not substitute its member-organisations and does not interfere with their operation in any manner.

Article 6 The Council operates under the principles enshrined in the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic of Cyprus, duly respecting the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

CHAPTER 2 Vision and Objectives of the Council

VISION

Article 7 The Council, as the official representative of the youth of Cyprus, promotes and defends the rights of the youth of Cyprus.

OBJECTIVES

Article 8 The Council has the following objectives:

- a) To contribute to the advancement and promotion of policymaking for youth, based on, inter alia, the resolutions, decisions and recommendations of the United Nations, the European Union and the Council of Europe.
- b) To promote the development of policymaking, research, the organisation of seminars, conferences, meetings, publications and campaigns on issues relating to young persons.
- c) To promote the participation of youth to the decision-making process on issues relating to young persons.
- d) To help young people develop a European and international conscience, based on mutual respect, understanding, interculturalism and multiculturalism.
- e) To promote active citizenship through the empowerment of the participation of young people in the political, social and cultural happenings.
- f) To promote dialogue, cooperation and the exchange of good practices between youth organisations in a local, European and international level.
- g) To offer a cooperative framework to its member-organisations for the development of initiatives, the implementation of action plans, the exchange of information and experiences and the advancement of dialogue on the subject matters that affect young people.
- h) To assist its member-organisations achieve their goals by providing support, enhancement and infrastructure.
- i) To promote the impact of non-governmental organisations and volunteerism to the state and the wider community.
- j) To promote the impact of non-formal education to the state.
- k) To enhance the protection of Human Rights and ensure Fundamental Freedoms all over Cyprus, as provided for in the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic of Cyprus, the European Convention on Human Rights and the resolutions of the United Nations.

CHAPTER 3 Means of Achieving the Objectives of the Council

Article 9 In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the Council:

- a) Promotes policymaking on issues relating to young people through the decisions and recommendations of its organs.
- b) Undertakes and implements projects, in pursuit of further developing the collaboration within young people in a local, national, European and international level.
- c) Gathers, studies and informs its member-organisations in relation to social, educational and political matters that affect young people.
- d) Contributes to the exchange of good practices within its member-organisations through conferences, seminars, workshops, research and informative campaigns.
- e) Promotes the networking with the equivalent coordinating organs of youth organisations in a European and an international level.
- f) Coordinates the implementation of projects and action plans in Cyprus which emanate from its participation in European or other international organisations and fora.
- g) Promotes networking and collaborates with the Cyprus Youth Board, governmental and semi-governmental organisations and non-governmental organisations.
- h) Promotes the decisions of its organs to governmental, European and international organisations.
- i) Promotes the idea of direct and universal participation of youth organisations in the process of decision-making on issues that affect young people.
- j) Undertakes other activities which promote its objectives.

CHAPTER 4 Members of the Council

Article 10 Youth organisations may become members of the Council with the status of either:

A. Full Members

B. Associate Members

C. Observer Members

(A) Full Members

All youth organisations in Cyprus may become Full Members of the Council, provided that they:

- a) Accept the principles and objectives of the Council.
- b) Adhere to the principles which are set in the European Convention on Human Rights, operate based on democratic principles, have governing bodies and democratic election procedures, pursue their purpose and goals through democratic procedures and their Articles of Association do not contain non-democratic provisions.
- c) Act in a pancyprian level, with a minimum number of 150 members at least in three districts (at least three student centres as regards student organisations) and their action is proven, they act independently, they have registered their Articles of Association or have procedural regulations and a schedule and the majority of their members (50% plus one) are young persons of 12-35 years of age.
- d) Have a proven action (activities, workshops, conferences, campaigning).
- e) Have paid the annual subscription which is required for Full Members.
- f) Held the status of an Associate Member for at least one year.
- g) Where they operate as a youth team within larger organisations, they are required to operate under separate procedural regulations which shall establish the autonomy of the decisions taken by young people and will give young people the capability to choose democratically their own representatives.

(B) Associate Members

Organisations which operate in a pancyprian level may become Associate Members of the Council, provided that they:

- a) Meet the same criteria as Full Members, as outlined in Chapter 4, Article 10 (A), except paragraphs c), e) and f) and accept the principles and the objectives of the Council.
- b) Adhere to the principles that are set in the European Convention on Human Rights, operate based on democratic principles, have governing bodies and democratic election

procedures, pursue their purpose and goals through democratic procedures and their Articles of Association do not contain non-democratic provisions.

- c) Have at least fifty members.
- d) Have paid the annual subscription which is required for Associate Members.
- e) Associate Members may participate in the Members' Meeting, have the right to express their opinion but they do not have the right to vote. They have the same rights as Full Members as regards the programmes and activities of the Council.

(C) Observer Members

Organisations which operate in the youth field and their status does not meet the criteria of a Full nor an Associate Member may become Observer Members of the Council, provided that they:

- a) Accept the principles and objectives of the Council.
- b) Adhere to the principles that are set in the European Convention on Human Rights, operate based on democratic principles, have governing bodies and democratic election procedures, pursue their purpose and goals through democratic procedures and their Articles of Association do not contain non-democratic provisions.

Article 11 Submission of Applications for Obtaining Membership

- a) Each interested organization shall submit its application to the Administrative Board by filing the specific forms for either a Full, Associate or an Observer Member.
- b) Each application for obtaining the status of either a Full, Associate or Observer Member on behalf of an organization is examined at the subsequent meeting held by the Administrative Board. The decision of the Administrative Board is presented at the subsequent Members' Meeting. The particular organization is invited to the Members' Meeting in order to support its candidacy. The Members' Meeting, by an absolute majority of the organisations present, accepts or rejects the new application. If the application is rejected, the particular organisation may reapply a year after the date on which the Members' Meeting in which the application was rejected was held.
- c) Until the validation of the status as a Full Member, the applicant organisation enjoys the rights of an Associate Member in accordance with Article 10 (B).

Article 12 Obligations of Member-Organisations

- a) The members of the Council are required to inform the Council of any changes in their Articles of Association which may affect their participation in the Council and of any changes about their contact details, so that the Council keeps its registry updated.
- b) In case a member-organisation has not paid the subscription for the preceding year, the right to vote is suspended. This right is given provided the annual subscription is paid up to prior the commencement of the Members' Meeting.
- c) The Members of the Council (Full, Associate, Observer Members) pay an annual subscription which is decided by the Members' Meeting, upon suggestion of the Administrative Board. Associate Members pay half of the annual subscription.

Article 13 Suspension of Membership

- a) The suspension of membership is imposed on member-organisations which omit to fulfil their financial obligations for two consecutive years. This means that:
 - i. The right to participate as a representative of the Council is suspended.
 - ii. The right to vote is suspended.
- b) The particular organisation may regain its previous membership status provided it fulfils its financial obligations at least a week prior to the commencement of the Members' Meeting.

Article 14 Deprivation of Membership

Membership is deprived following the dissolution of the organisation or if the criteria for obtaining full membership are not met or following a statement of withdrawal which is communicated to the Administrative Board of the Council, following a decision by the relevant organ of the organisation.

CHAPTER 5 Administration – Operation

Article 15 The bodies of the Council are:

- a) the Members' Meeting of Member-Organisations,
- b) the Administrative Board,
- c) the Financial Control Committee and
- d) The Consultive Body on Membership Applications.

Article 16 Members' Meeting

Convocation and Tasks of the Members' Meeting of Member-Organisations:

- a) The Members' Meeting is the supreme body of the Council. The Members' Meeting is proclaimed two months prior to its convocation following a decision of the Administrative Board, by publicising it in the official website of the Council and by giving notice to the members by e-mail and is convoked in October of each year.
- b) Each Full Member-organisation which has fulfilled its financial obligations, i.e. the payment of the annual subscription to the Council, has the right to be represented with up to five conveners and has one vote. The Associate Members - organisations, as long as they have fulfilled their financial obligations, have the right to be represented with up to three conveners without having the right to vote. The Observer Members - organisations have the right to be represented with up to two conveners without having the right to vote.
- c) A quorum is formed if the 2/3 of the Full Member-organisations are present. In case a quorum is not formed, within an hour, provided that half plus one of the Full Member - organisations are present, a quorum is regarded as having been formed. In case a quorum is not formed within an hour, a new Members' Meeting is convoked within 15 days.
- d) The decisions are taken by absolute majority of half plus one of the Full Member - organisations present. The same procedure is followed in relation to the voting of policy documents.
- e) An Extraordinary Members' Meeting may be convoked upon a request of half plus one of the Full Member -organisations by giving notice of the request. Notice of the request shall be given to the Council's offices and shall be signed by each representative of the signatory organisation. An Extraordinary Members' Meeting may be convoked upon a decision of the Administrative Board by majority of half plus one of its members. The Extraordinary Members' Meeting is convoked within 40 days from the receipt of the request or the decision of the Administrative Board.

Article 17 Responsibilities of the Members' Meeting

- a) The Members' Meeting deals with the subjects set in the agenda such as:
- 1) Activity Reports,
 - 2) Financial Reports,
 - 3) Discussion of issues that affect young people,
 - 4) Setting the general framework for the Council,
 - 5) Presence and participation of the Council in a local and an international level and
 - 6) Decision making and drafting of resolutions.
- b) The Members' Meeting decides, following a proposal by the Administrative Board, the modification of the status of one or more member-organisations, as provided in article 21 (h).
- c) Elects the President, the members of the Administrative Board and the members of the Financial Control Committee.
- d) Makes amendments to the Articles of Association in a specially convened Members' Meeting. Any amendment in the Articles of Association requires a majority of 2/3 of the Full Member - organisations (as well as a majority of 2/3 of the present organisations).
- e) The Members' Meeting may deprive the President or the Vice-Presidents or members of the Administrative Board of their duties by a quorum and a majority of the 2/3 of the Full Member - organisations present.
- f) Prior to the commencement of voting, the resigned Administrative Board proposes a five-membered Electoral Committee for conducting elections for the appointment of new members of the Administrative Board, which the Members' Meeting approves by majority of half plus 1 of the Full Member-organisations present. The Electoral Committee appoints the President of the Committee for the specific elections. The proposal of the resigned Administrative Board is made prior to the commencement of the voting for the new members of the Administrative Board.
- g) In relation to all the procedures conducted by the Members' Meeting, each Full Member-organisation shall appoint, through a written form which is sent by the Administrative Board of the Council, the organisation's representative who shall vote on behalf of the Full-Member - organisation, by the time of registration for the Members' Meeting.

Article 18 Election Procedure of the Administrative Board

- a) The election procedure of the Administrative Board is convened and controlled by the Electoral Committee, which is elected as provided in article 17(f) above. The members of the Electoral Committee shall not be members of the Full Member-organisations which have a candidacy for the Administrative Board. The Electoral Committee has the responsibility for conducting a fair secret voting and for counting the votes.
- b) The candidacies for the Administrative Board are submitted by the Full Member-organisations on a specific form in Greek and English and/or in Turkish and English, attaching a short curriculum vitae of the candidate person and a motivation letter, at least 30 days prior to the commencement of the Members' Meeting in which the new Administrative Board will be elected. In any case, candidates shall not be older than 33 by the commencement date of the Member's Meeting. The relevant documents for the submission of candidacy shall be sent by the Secretary-General to the member-organisations at least 20 days prior to the commencement of the Members' Meeting.
- c) The members of the Administrative Board are elected within candidacies which are submitted by the Full Member-organisations of the Council for a two-years term. Each Full Member-organisation may submit only one candidacy and in case of election the candidate has a right to be re-elected only once.
- d) The President and the other eight members of the Administrative Board are elected at the Members' Meeting every two years. The elections are conducted in two separate ballots: one ballot for the position of the President and another ballot for the remaining eight positions of the Administrative Board, which is separated in two columns: Political Parties' Youth Organisations and Non-Political Parties' Youth Organisations.
- e) The candidate who has received the most votes shall be elected as the President. The candidates who have received the most votes: one from the group of the Political Parties' Youth Organisations and one from the group of the Non-Political Parties' Youth organisations shall be elected as Vice-presidents. The elected Vice-President who has received the most votes shall be elected as Vice-President A'. In the event of a tie the Administrative Board, during its first session, declares who the Vice-President A' and who the Vice-president B' shall be. As regards the remaining six positions of the Administrative Board the candidates who have received the most votes shall be elected as follows: the first three from the group of Political Parties' Youth Organisations and the first three from the group of Non-Political Parties' Youth Organisations. The Administrative Board in its first session forms a body and the remaining six members of the Administrative Board undertake specific responsibilities as these are itemized in article 22.

- f) As regards the positions at the Administrative Board, except the position of the President, 4 Political Parties' and 4 Non-Political Parties' Youth Organisations shall be elected. The Political Parties' Youth Organisations are comprised of: the Political Parties' Youth Organisations of the Political Parties and Student Unions.
- g) The Electoral Committee ensures that each of the two ballots are differently coloured. Subsequently, it counts and seals the ballots that will be provided for election purposes. The ballot for the election of the eight members of the Administrative Board, except the President, shall be separated in two columns. One column shall include the candidates of Political Parties' Youth Organisations and the other column shall include the candidates of Non-Political Parties' Youth Organisations. Following the commencement of the voting procedure, the counting of the votes for each separate voting is conducted. The results are entered in a special document which shall be signed by all members of the Electoral Committee. Following that, the President of the Committee announces to the plenum the results of the voting. The ballots and the documents in which the results are entered shall be kept in a special area at the Council's offices and shall not be destroyed. In case further arrangements are needed in relation to the voting procedure, these shall be determined by internal regulations or following a decision of the Members' Meeting.
- h) During the voting procedure the representative of each Full Member - organisation is required to mark on their ballot using the symbols x, + or √ at least once candidacy from a Political Party Youth Organisation and a candidacy from a Non-Political Party Youth Organisation, with a maximum of four votes. If they mark lesser than 2 or more than 4 votes or at least one vote for a Political Party Youth Organisation and at least one vote for a Non-Political Party Youth Organisation is not marked, the ballot shall be invalid and shall not be counted.
- i) Each candidate shall run for only one position. Each organisation has the right to nominate only one candidate.

Article 19 Composition of the Administrative Board

- a) The Administrative Board is comprised of 9 members.
- b) The Administrative Board serves a two-year term.

- c) The Administrative Board is consisted by the President, two Vice-presidents, the Secretary-General, the Projects Officer, the Public Relations Officer, the International Relations Officer, the Press and Information Officer and the Finance Officer.

Article 20 Replacing Members of the Administrative Board

- A. A member of the Administrative Board is expelled and replaced:
 - a) If unjustifiably misses three consecutive meetings or six meetings overall. The vacancy shall be filled through a reserve list which is comprised with the candidates who have not been elected during the previous electoral Members' Meeting, in accordance to the number of votes received, starting from the candidate who had received the most votes.
 - b) If convicted by a criminal court for an offense which is punishable by imprisonment.
- B. If a member of the Administration Board, except the President, wishes to resign, that person shall give written notice for his/her resignation to the Administrative Board of the Council. The resignation shall be effective from the date the Administrative Board of the Council receives the written resignation. The vacancy shall be filled by a person of the same organisation and the selection of that person lies on the organisation. In case the organisation does not wish to fill the vacancy, elections are conducted at the next Members' Meeting, the elections being limited to the same pillar from which the resigned member was elected.
- C. The Administrative Board may decide to deprive one of its members of its duties, if that member is incapable of fulfilling its obligations due to serious and proven health grounds or transition abroad for a long period. The vacancy at the Administrative Board, except the President, is filled by a person of the same organisation, who is selected by the organisation.
- D. In case of death of a member of the Administrative Board, except the President, the vacancy is directly filled with a person of the same organisation.
- E. In case of vacancy of the position of the President an Extraordinary Members' Meeting is convoked in order to conduct elections for filling the vacancy.
- F. In case of dissolution of an organisation that has elected a member in the Administrative Board, the vacancy is filled with the runner-up in the reserve list at the elections at the previous Members' Meeting. In case of dissolution of an organisation that has elected the President in the Administrative Board, an Extraordinary Members' Meeting is convoked in order to conduct elections for filling the vacancy.

- G. In case a member of the Administrative Board leaves for any reason the organisation with which he/she was elected as a member at the Administrative Board, the vacancy, except the position of the President, is filled with a person from the same organisation, who is selected by the organisation.

Article 21 Responsibilities and Operation of the Administrative Board

- a) Represents the Council in a local and an international level.
- b) The decisions are taken by simple majority of the present members of the Administrative Board. In the event of a tie, the President has a casting vote.
- c) The Administrative Board executes the provisions of these Articles of Association and the decisions taken at the Members' Meeting.
- d) The Administrative Board has the obligation to keep the members-organisations informed in relation to issues of common interest.
- e) The Administrative Board has the obligation to keep minutes of the Members' Meetings and of the meetings of the Administrative Board.
- f) The Administrative Board may collaborate with volunteers, any team and/or committee, inter alia, which shall be established by a relevant regulation of the Council, in order to accomplish its objectives.
- g) The Administrative Board drafts and publishes the vacancies at the Council, as well as the contracts of employment for the professional staff of the Council. The Administrative Board also decides on the filling of vacancies and the hiring of professional staff in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- h) The Administrative Board receives the proposals from the Consultive Body on Member Applications in relation to the status of the members of the Council as Full, Associate or Observer Members and makes suggestions to the Members' Meeting in relation to the modification of their status.
- i) The Administrative Board meets in regular meetings once a month and in exceptional meetings following a written request by the President of the Council, as long as the

President decides that it is necessary to do so, or following a written request to the Administrative Board from the 2/3 of its members.

Article 22 Responsibilities of the Officers in the Administrative Board

a) The President:

- 1) Represents the Council at court and out of court.
- 2) Presides over the meetings of the Administrative Board and the Members' Meeting of the Council.
- 3) Convenes an Extraordinary Members' Meeting in accordance with article 21(i).
- 4) Represents the Council in public and in relations with other organisations in Cyprus and abroad.
- 5) Is in charge for the implementation of the decisions of the bodies of the Council.
- 6) Is in charge of the general coordination of the Council.
- 7) Signs the minutes of the Administrative Board's meetings.

b) Vice-president A':

- 1) Replaces the President in case of the President's absence.
- 2) Has the responsibility for the matters in relation to the European Union.
- 3) Has the responsibility to contact the member-organisations and is in charge of the organisations' participation in the activities of the Council.

c) Vice-president B':

- 1) Replaces the President and Vice-president A' in case of their absence.
- 2) Has the responsibility for the matters in relation to the Council of Europe.
- 3) Has the responsibility for the observation of the National Youth Policy.
- 4) Has the responsibility to promote research on topics that affect young people.
- 5) Has the responsibility for the operation of the Council's office.

d) The Secretary-General:

- 1) Keeps a Members' Record.
- 2) Has the responsibility for the prompt expedition of the Council's correspondence.
- 3) Has the responsibility of keeping the records of the Council.
- 4) Prepares the daily agenda in consultation with the President.

- 5) Has the responsibility of keeping and preserving the minutes of the Members' Meeting and the meetings of the Administrative Board.
- 6) Signs the minutes of the Administrative Board's meetings.

e) The Projects Officer:

- 1) Has the responsibility for the preparation and submission of applications for projects.
- 2) Has the responsibility for the coordination of projects which the Council may undertake.
- 3) Has the responsibility of representing the Council in meetings with other bodies for the co-organisation or participation in other projects.
- 4) Has the responsibility for the development of educational projects and training projects either of the Council or in direct collaboration with the member-organisations.

f) The Public Relations Officer:

- 1) Maintains contact with the various bodies with which the Council may cooperate.
- 2) Has the responsibility to promote the Council in coordination with the Press and Information Officer.
- 3) In collaboration with the Administrative Board organises and implements campaigns in relation to issues that affect young people.
- 4) Has the duty of finding new organisations which may become members of the Council.

g) The International Relations Officer:

- 1) Has the responsibility for the networking with other National Youth Councils and other youth organisations abroad.
- 2) Is in charge of the Euromediterranean Collaboration, the United Nations Youth Program and the Commonwealth Youth Program.
- 3) Has the responsibility for the wider development of intercultural dialogue and collaboration, equality and human rights.
- 4) Closely collaborates with the Secretary-General for the prompt expedition of the Council's international correspondence and anything arising from that.
- 5) Represents the Council in European and international fora.

h) The Press and Information Officer:

- 1) Promotes the communication between the Council and the media.
- 2) Has the responsibility for issuing informative material and newsletters for the Council.
- 3) Has the responsibility for updating the Council's webpage and the Council's social media webpages.
- 4) Has the responsibility for organising campaigns together with the Public Relations Officer.
- 5) Is in charge of the publications issued by the Council.

i) The Finance Officer:

- 1) Has the responsibility of maintaining and updating the account books of the Council.
- 2) Is in charge of the financial collaborations with private and public bodies.
- 3) Is in charge of collecting and monitoring the subscriptions, of updating the account books, of the prompt fulfillment of the financial obligations of the Council and of fundraising to cover the financial needs of the Council.
- 4) Has the responsibility for preparing the annual budget and the annual final accounts, as well as the preparation of the annual financial report.
- 5) Has the responsibility for the presentation of the annual financial report at the Members' Meeting.

Article 23 The Financial Control Committee

1. Composition

The Financial Control Committee is comprised of the following members who have the right to vote:

- Three (3) members from Full Member-organisations are elected at the Members' Meeting for a period of two (2) years starting from the date of election.

Participation to the Committee without the right to vote:

- One (1) member of the Administrative Board of the Council, who is assigned by the Administrative Board
- An Executive Officer

The Committee elects its President within the members who have the right to vote. The President of the Committee shall represent the Committee to the Administrative Board of the Council if necessary, as well as to the Members' Meeting. The President of the Committee presides over the meetings of the Committee and has a casting vote in the event of a tie during its operation.

Candidacies for the Committee are submitted to the Administrative Board of the Council a month prior to the Members' Meeting and they are communicated to the members of the Council together with the documentation relating to the Members' Meeting.

2. Powers

The Committee has the responsibility to conduct internal checks to the financial affairs of the Council, to control the financial agreements of the Council and to prepare a report for the Members' Meeting in relation to the annual budget and the bills of the Council. Also, it acts as a consultive body to the Administrative Board of the Council, the members-organisations and the Members' Meeting in relation to the allocation of the existing resources according to the strategic priorities and the agenda of the Council, as well as in relation to fundraising. Candidacies for the Committee are submitted to the Administrative Board of the Council a month prior to the Members' Meeting and they are communicated to the members of the Council together with the documentation relating to the Members' Meeting.

3. Meetings

The Committee meets at least twice a year following a call from its President.

4. Quorum and voting

A meeting of the Committee is valid as long as all the members that have the right to vote are present. The decisions of the Committee are taken with a majority of those that have voted.

In the event of a tie the President or his/her representative has a casting vote. The President has the responsibility of keeping minutes of the meetings of the Financial Control Committee, which shall be signed by all three members of the Committee who have the right to vote.

5. End of term

The composition of the Financial Control Committee is automatically terminated in case of:

- End of term of the Financial Control Committee
- Death
- Resignation

Every elected member of the Financial Control Committee may be deprived of its duties following a decision of the Members' Meeting.

6. Replacing a member of the Financial Control Committee

A member of the Financial Control Committee shall be replaced in accordance to the provisions of these Articles of Association for the replacement of a member of the Administrative Board of the Council (Article 20).

Article 24 Consultive Body on Membership Applications (CBMA)

1. Composition

The Consultive Body on Membership Applications is comprised of the following members who have the right to vote:

- Three (3) members from Full Member-organisations are elected at the Members' Meeting for a period of two (2) years starting from the date of election.

Participation to the CBMA without the right to vote:

- One (1) member of the Administrative Board of the Council, who is assigned by the Administrative Board
- An Executive Officer

The CBMA elects its President within the members who have the right to vote. The President of the CBMA shall represent the CBMA to the Administrative Board of the Council if necessary, as well as to the Members' Meeting. The President of the CBMA presides over the meetings of the CBMA and has a casting vote in the event of a tie during its operation.

2. Powers

The CBMA examines the completed applications of the candidate members and drafts a fully reasoned report to the Administrative Board in relation to them. Additionally, it submits a fully reasoned report in relation to the differentiation of the status of the members of the Council as Full, Associate or Observer Members. The CBMA examines whether the existing members-organisations (Full, Associate or Observer Members) keep fulfilling the membership criteria of the Council and drafts a fully reasoned report to the Administrative Board in relation to them.

3. Meetings

The CBMA meets at least twice a year following a call from its President.

4. Quorum and voting

A meeting of the CBMA is valid as long as all the members that have the right to vote are present. The decisions of the CBMA are taken with a majority of those that have voted. The President has the responsibility of keeping minutes of the meetings of the CBMA, which shall be signed by all three members of the CBMA who have the right to vote.

5. End of term

The composition of the CBMA is automatically terminated in case of:

- End of term of the CBMA
- Death
- Resignation

Every elected member of the CBMA may be deprived of its duties following a decision of the Members' Meeting.

6. Replacing a member of the CBMA

A member of the CBMA shall be replaced in accordance to the provisions of these Articles of Association for the replacement of a member of the Administrative Board of the Council (Article 20).

Article 25 Working Committees of the Council

- 1) For the best facilitation of the operation of the Council, the Administrative Board may assign temporary or permanent working committees with a specified jurisdiction under its control. A member of the Administrative Board shall be in charge of a working committee, whose responsibilities are familiar to the operation of the working committee.
- 2) Representatives of the member-organisations of the Council, excluding the members of the Administrative Board, may also become members of the working committees.

Article 26 International Presence of the Council

In relation to its international presence, the Council may be represented from representatives of the member-organisations who have a special interest in that field, depending on the subject-matter.

Article 27 Financial Resources of the Council

The financial resources of the Council may come from:

- a) Members' subscriptions,
- b) Annual state aid,
- c) Incomes from lawful activities within its objectives,
- d) Grants for local, European and international projects,
- e) Income from donations, events, sponsorships or advertisements and activities within the objectives of the Council.

Article 28 Financial Year

The financial year of the Council starts on the 1st September of each year and ends on the 31st of August of the following year.

Article 29 Languages

- a) The formal languages of the Council are Greek and Turkish.
- b) The English language may be used as the working language.

Article 30 Dissolution of the Council

- a) The Council shall be dissolved following a decision of the 2/3 of Full Member-organisations, which is taken at an Extraordinary Members' Meeting which is convened for this purpose.
- b) The assets of the Council shall be given to non-governmental organisations which perform humanitarian work, following a decision by the Members' Meeting, by simple majority.

CHAPTER 6 Provisional Provisions

Article 31

- a) The founding members shall automatically become Full Members.
- b) For matters that no provisions are made in these Articles of Association the Administrative Board shall decide with absolute majority and the decision taken is validated or rejected at the forthcoming Members' Meeting.
- c) The duration of the first term of the Financial Control Committee shall be one year.
- d) The provisions of these Articles of Association shall have immediate and binding effect on all member-organisations.
- e) The term of the Administrative Board currently in power is extended up to the electoral Members' Meeting which shall be convened the forthcoming fall.