



**International  
Family  
Equality  
Day**

International Family Equality Day  
c/o Association 360  
36, rue de la Navigation  
Case postale 2217  
1211 Genève 2

## **ASSOCIATION BYLAWS**

# **International Family Equality Day**

## **I. GENERAL**

### **Article 1: Name**

A non-profit Association, under the name “International Family Equality Day” (hereinafter IFED), is hereby constituted per the meaning of Articles 60 *et seq.* of the Swiss Civil Code. This Association is politically neutral and nondenominational.

### **Article 2: Registered Offices and Term**

The Association’s registered offices are at Rue de la Navigation 36, Case Postale 2217, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland, and the Association’s term is unlimited.

### **Article 3: Objectives**

The objectives of the Association are to:

- raise awareness about LGBTIQ\* families.
- promote acceptance of LGBTIQ\* families, both socially and legally, and promote family diversity around the world.
- ensure that International Family Equality Day (IFED) is celebrated in the form of an event or events open to all.
- fight homophobia, biphobia, lesbophobia, transphobia, and sexism to help foster a tolerant society.
- create visibility for LGBTIQ\* communities.

### **Article 4: Resources**

The Association’s resources come from:

- donations, gifts, and bequests
- patronage
- public and private subsidies
- membership dues
- any other resource allowed by law.

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The funds are used in pursuit of the Association's objectives.

Members are not paid employees of the Association. The Association's assets shall be its sole guarantee against commitments undertaken on its behalf.

### **Article 5: Membership**

Natural or legal persons, including public bodies (represented by a designated representative), who so request may be admitted as members of the Association, provided they adhere to the Association Bylaws.

The Association has several member categories:

- active members: persons who support the Association (with time and resources) and who take part in the Association's activities.
- allied members: persons who call upon the services of the Association.
- passive members: interested persons outside the Association.

Public authorities are associate members.

Active-member status is formalized when the person takes part in a General Meeting and adheres to the Bylaws.

## **II. Organization**

### **Article 6: Association Bodies**

The Association bodies are:

- A The General Assembly
- B The Committee
- C The Auditing Body

#### **A. General Assembly**

### **Article 7: General**

The General Assembly is the supreme power of the Association. It is composed of all the members. Its decisions and resolutions must mandatorily be respected by all Association members, whether or not they were present at the time of their making.

This body meets once a year in ordinary session. It may also meet in extraordinary session, whenever necessary, at the request of the Committee or one-fifth of the members.



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## **Article 8: Powers**

The General Assembly:

- elects the members of the Committee and nominates at least two Co-Chairpersons, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- ensures that LGBTIQ\* family members constitute the majority of the Committee and that, if possible, all genders are equally represented.
- reviews the reports and accounts of the financial year and votes to approve them
- approves the annual budget
- oversees the activity of other bodies, which it can revoke for just cause
- appoints an auditor or auditors for the accounts
- establishes the amount of annual membership dues
- decides upon any modification of the Bylaws
- ensures that the objectives and means established by the Association's founding members are pursued
- decides upon the dissolution of the Association.

The General Meeting of the General Assembly is chaired by either of the Co-Chairpersons, or another member of the Committee.

## **Article 10: Decisions**

Decisions of the General Assembly are made by a simple majority of the votes of the members present at the General Meeting (other than stipulated exceptions).

In the event of a tie vote, the Co-Chairperson chairing the General Meeting shall have two votes.

Voting and elections are held by a show of hands. If requested by three or more members, voting and elections will be held by secret ballot.



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### **Article 11: Agenda**

The agenda of the Annual General Meeting, an ordinary meeting, must include:

- approval of the minutes of the last General Meeting
- presentation of the Committee's report on the Association's activities since the last report
- presentation of the account reports from the Treasurer and Auditing Body
- establishment of membership dues
- adoption of the budget
- approval of reports and accounts
- election of the Committee and Auditing Body members
- individual proposals.

## **B. Committee**

### **Article 12: General**

The Committee is authorized to perform all acts relating to the objectives of the Association. It has the broadest powers in managing the Association's daily affairs.

### **Article 13: Composition**

The Committee is composed of at least three members elected by the General Assembly. The term of office of Committee members shall be renewed by vote at each General Meeting.

The Committee meets as often as the business of the Association demands.

### **Article 14: Remuneration**

The Committee members serve voluntarily and may only claim compensation for their actual expenses and travel expenses.

For activities beyond the usual scope of the duties of the position, each Committee member may receive appropriate compensation, to be specifically determined by the General Assembly.

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### **Article 15: Powers**

The Committee is responsible for:

- taking the necessary steps toward achieving the Association's objectives
- convening Ordinary and Extraordinary General Meetings
- making decisions regarding the admission and resignation of members, as well as their possible expulsion; persons whose membership is refused are entitled to appeal at the next General Meeting;
- ensuring the Bylaws are assiduously applied, drafting the bylaws, and managing the Association's property.

### **Article 16: Signature**

The Association is validly bound by the signature of either of the Co-Chairpersons or the Treasurer of the Association, and by the signature of another member of the Committee.

## **III. Miscellaneous**

### **Article 17: Financial year**

The financial year begins on January 1 and ends on December 31 of each year; the first financial year will take effect from the date of the constitution of the IFED Association, with the acceptance of these Bylaws, until December 31, 2018.

Management of the accounts is entrusted to the Treasurer and/or the Secretary and/or either of the Co-Chairpersons of the Association and audited each year by the auditor(s) appointed by the General Assembly.



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### **Article 18: Assignment of assets in the event of dissolution**

In the event of the Association's dissolution, the available assets will be entirely allocated to an institution having tax-exempt status with an objective that is of public interest and similar to that of the Association. In no event may the property be returned to the physical founders or members, or used for their benefit, in whole or in part, in any manner whatsoever.

## **C Auditing Body**

### **Article 19: Appointment**

The General Assembly appoints from among its members one or more auditors and, if so decided, substitute auditors, who are appointed for one year and eligible for reappointment. Auditing responsibilities may also be performed by a trust company.

The auditors take office after the close of the annual financial year for which they were appointed. Their duties end at the General Meeting at which the last report is to be submitted.

The Auditing Body must attend the Ordinary General Meeting.

### **Article 20: Report**

The auditors are responsible for submitting a written report to the General Assembly at the General Meeting on the balance sheet and accounts of the Association.

## **IV. MODIFICATION OF THE BYLAWS**

### **Article 21: Powers**

The General Assembly has sole authority to amend the Association Bylaws.

For any amendment to be valid, it must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.



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## V. DISSOLUTION - LIQUIDATION

### Article 22: Powers

The General Assembly may decide at any time to dissolve the Association.

The decision must be approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

### Article 23: Liquidation Operations

Liquidation is carried out by the Committee, unless otherwise decided by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly retains the right to approve the final liquidation accounts and grant discharge for the same.

Upon payment of any outstanding debts, the disposition of the available assets will be allocated in accordance with the decisions of the General Assembly and for the pursuit of objectives similar to those of the Association.

### Article 27: Ratification

The Bylaws were adopted by the Founding General Meeting of May 1, 2018. The bylaws take effect immediately.

Read and approved by the Committee:

Co-Chairperson

Derricia Castillo-Salazar

Co-Chairperson

Maivon Wahid

Secretary

Amanda Hopping-Winn

Treasurer

Maria von Känel

Location and date: Geneva, Switzerland, May 1, 2018.