GLOBE INTERNATIONAL

STATUTES

Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment International AISBL
I. **Name & Registered Office**

**Article 1.** The association, which is removed from any spirit of profit earning, is called "Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment International", abridged "GLOBE Int". This association is governed by the provisions of Title III of the Belgian Law of 27 June 1921 on non-profit associations, international non-profit associations and foundations, as amended by the Act of 2 May 2002 and its execution decrees.

**Art. 2.** The head office of the association is established at 1150 Brussels, 235/2 Avenue des Volontaires, in the judicial district of Brussels. It may be transferred to any other place in the Brussels-Capital Region by decision of the General Assembly. This decision must be published on the Annexes to the Belgian Official Gazette within one month of its date.

**Art. 3.** The association is established for an unlimited period.

II. **AIMS**

**Art. 4.** The association, whose aim is scientific and philanthropic, shall work to improve the general situation of the environment through the concerted action of legislators.

For this purpose, GLOBE Int. shall attend to the exchange of all useful information among parliamentarians, the comparison of existing legislation on the environment, to support the action of individuals and groups working to preserve the global environment and to propose similar legislation.

**Art. 5.** The association can perform all acts relating directly or indirectly to its purpose. In particular it may edit publications, organize seminars and conferences, and conduct or commission studies.

II. **MEMBERS**

**Art. 6.** The association is composed of individuals and national and supranational parliamentary associations adhering to the objectives set out in Article 4.
The members are divided into two categories:

- full members, with the right to vote (parliamentary associations) also known as “GLOBE chapters”;
- honorary members (natural persons). Honorary membership of individuals is restricted to active parliamentarians in office within their respective national legislatures and to former GLOBE members.

**Art. 7.** The admission of new members in the first category referred to in Article 6 is subject to the submission of a nomination. This application form must provide proof of compliance with the conditions for membership established in Annex 1 of the present Statutes and is submitted to the Chair of the Board of Directors, for approval by the Board.

Chapter membership applications, having been approved by the Board, are subject to a simple majority vote at the beginning of a General Assembly, after which new members can vote in all subsequent decisions.

All members may resign by submitting a dated and signed registered letter to the Board of Directors. They cannot be excluded by means other than a vote of the General Assembly to be carried by a majority of two thirds.

The membership of a member is automatically terminated by decease. Resigning or excluded members and their dependents hold no share in the assets of the association and cannot demand restitution or compensation for any contributions made.

**Art. 8.** GLOBE chapters who seek incorporation as non-profit organisations in their respective jurisdictions, must agree a Memorandum of Understanding with GLOBE International, as per Annex 2 of the present Statutes, governing the relationship between the chapter and GLOBE International AISBL.

Full members may be required to pay membership fees to be set annually by the General Assembly upon a proposal by the Board of Directors. Members are required:

- to respect the statutes and internal regulations of the association and the decisions of its bodies;
- not to prejudice the interests of the association or its bodies.

Members may request copies of reports to the General Assembly. Full members may consult the register of members at the headquarters of the association as well as all the reports and decisions of the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and those who hold office in the association or on its behalf, as well as all financial records of the association. They must submit this request in writing to the Board of Directors. Documents and records cannot be moved.
III. The General Assembly

Art. 9. The General Assembly is the supreme body of the association. It is chaired by the Chair of the Board. It is composed of all the full members. Each full member will be entitled to one vote.

Honorary members may be invited.

Art. 10. The General Assembly is the forum where members discuss the general policy of the association. Its powers include:

- to appoint the Board of Directors;
- to appoint the Chair and Vice-Presidents of the Board of Directors;
- to appoint, for public representation purposes, a President and five Regional Vice-Presidents from amongst the Members of the Board of Directors, for a 1-year term.
- to adopt accounts and budgets;
- to decide on the admission and exclusions of members, on the basis of the opinion of the Board of Directors, following the rules laid down in Annex 1 of the present statutes;
- to amend the Statutes;
- to voluntarily dissolve the association.

Art. 11. The General Assembly shall meet at least once a year. General Assemblies are held at the place, day and time set by the Board of Directors.

Art. 12. The ability of the General Assembly to validly deliberate on the admission or exclusion of members and the approval of budgets and accounts is subject to the presence or representation of at least half of the full members.

If this quorum is not reached, a second meeting may be convened on the same day, provided that this procedure has been notified in writing when the notice convening the meeting is sent out.

Art. 13. Except as provided by these Articles, resolutions are passed by simple majority of votes.

The resolutions of the General Assembly are recorded in a signed register to be kept at the headquarters, where it will be made available to members.
IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES & DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

**Art. 14.** Without prejudice to the law, any proposal aimed at amending the Statutes or the dissolution of the association must come from the Board of Directors or at least half of the full members of the association.

The Board of Directors must inform the members of the association at least 30 days in advance of the date of the General Assembly to consider the proposal.

The agenda of the General Meeting convened to approve the dissolution of the association can contain only the matter of the dissolution.

The General Assembly may only validly consider the proposal if half of the full members of the association are present or represented. Decisions will be taken on a simple majority vote.

However, if the General Assembly does not achieve this quorum, a new General Assembly will be convened under the same conditions as above, which will rule definitively and validly on the proposal in question, whatever the number of members present or represented.

As per Article 50 § 3 of the Act of 2 May 2002, any changes in the aims of the association will not take effect until approved by the King and published on the Belgian Official Gazette.

If the dissolution is approved, the General Assembly shall appoint the receivers, determine their powers and indicate the allocation of the net assets of the association, provided that the beneficiaries will pursue similar aims to those of the association.

V. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Art. 15.** The association is administered by a Board of Directors composed of at least three members and at most fifteen members; one of the Directors must be of Belgian nationality.

Directors are appointed by the General Assembly for two years; their mandate can be renewed.

**Art. 16.** The Board of Directors is composed of a Chair and, at least, one Director (maximum 2) for each of the five regions of the world (Asia, Africa, Americas, Europe and Oceania), plus one Director for Policy and one Director for Strategy as voting members. The Board of Directors also comprises the chief executive of the International Secretariat and the Financial Comptroller as non-voting members.

**Art. 17.** The Board meets at least once a year, upon convocation by the Chair of the Board.
Art. 18. The Board holds all the powers of management and administration and may delegate the daily management of the association on its Chair or on a Director, or on an officer or appointee. It may, moreover, confer specific powers, as required, to one or several persons under its responsibility.

Art. 19. The decisions of the Board of Directors are taken by simple majority of the Directors present or represented.

Art. 20. All acts binding the association, unless special powers of attorney are conferred, shall be signed by the Chair of the Board, who will not have to justify to third parties the powers conferred to this end.

Art. 21. Legal actions, whether as plaintiff or defendant, are to be pursued by the Board of Directors represented by the Chair.

VI. BUDGETS AND ACCOUNTS

Art. 22. The financial year ends on 31 December.

The Board of Directors is required to submit the accounts for the last financial year and the next year's budget for approval by the General Assembly.

VII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Art. 23. Anything that is not foreseen by the present Statutes, and in particular the submissions for publication on the Annexes of the Belgian Official Gazette, shall be resolved in accordance with the law.
ANNEX 1. Requirements for national / supranational GLOBE Chapters

1. Each GLOBE national Chapter must constitute itself in accordance with any relevant regulations of its respective parliament/legislature. Members of GLOBE Chapters must be active parliamentarians in office within their respective national legislature. A National GLOBE Chapter must be constituted of at least ten founding members reflecting the cross-party nature of GLOBE.

2. Each GLOBE chapter active in a supranational legislature must constitute itself in accordance with any relevant regulations of its respective parliament/legislature. Members of supranational GLOBE Chapters must be active parliamentarians in office within their respective regional legislature. A supranational GLOBE Chapter must be constituted of at least ten founding members reflecting the cross-party nature of GLOBE.

3. Each GLOBE regional chapter comprises national GLOBE chapters and supranational GLOBE chapters within its region. Members of regional GLOBE Chapters must be active parliamentarians in office within their respective national or regional legislatures (e.g. European Parliament, East African Legislative Assembly, Andean Parliament, etc.) A regional GLOBE Chapter must be constituted of at least five founding members distributed across the region.

4. Each GLOBE Chapter must nominate a President, at least one Vice-President, and form a GLOBE Executive Committee of which the President and the Vice-President(s) must be members.

5. The Minutes of the inaugural GLOBE Chapter meeting (its founding GLOBE AGM) must be submitted with the GLOBE Chapter’s application for membership of GLOBE to the Chair of GLOBE International.

6. The Minutes must be signed by the President and Vice President(s). The Minutes must state the following information:
   - The date, time and venue of the formation of the GLOBE Chapter and GLOBE Executive Committee.
   - Statement within the Minutes declaring support for the GLOBE mission set out in Article 4 of the GLOBE Statutes.
   - The name and full contact details for the following GLOBE Chapter office holders:
     - President
     - Vice President(s) (number subject to agreement by the respective GLOBE AGM)
     - Secretary (at the discretion of the GLOBE Chapter)
     - List of the ten Founding Members (this can be inclusive of the office holders), which should be broadly proportional to the political representation within the respective legislature.
     - Nomination of at least two GLOBE Chapter representatives (who will act as alternates) to sit on any relevant Regional GLOBE Executive Committee.
o Key contact person for all correspondence and liaison with the International Secretariat. This person may be within the office of the Chapter President but can be determined by the GLOBE Chapter.

- Confirmation that the appointment of the office holders is subject to re-election at an Annual General Meeting of all members and that the Minutes of subsequent AGMs will be submitted to the GLOBE Int. AISBL Secretariat within one month of the AGM taking place. Attendance at the AGM must be in accordance with the respective legislature's requirements for meetings of cross-party/bi-partisan parliamentary groups (if existing).
- That the GLOBE Chapter meets at least once every six months.
- That the Executive Committee of the respective GLOBE Chapter will have responsibility for appointing their respective delegation to GLOBE International Forums, Regional Forums and other such activities organised by GLOBE.
- That the GLOBE Chapter will use a country specific GLOBE logo consistent with the branding of GLOBE. (Upon recognition by GLOBE a logo will be issued for usage).
- That the GLOBE Chapter commits to provide the GLOBE Int. AISBL Secretariat with regular updates on activities and commits to provide and relevant information for GLOBE Int.'s communications.
- That the Chapter shall refrain from establishing a web presence alternative to the one which the GLOBE Int. AISBL Secretariat may provide upon request via the main internet site of GLOBE Int. AISBL, www.globelegislators.org.
ANNEX 2. Components of a Memorandum of Understanding between GLOBE Int. AISBL and GLOBE Chapters seeking to establish themselves as non-profit organisations

1. Any financing raised to support the activities of a GLOBE Chapter must be declared in accordance with the respective national legislature’s reporting requirements, and reported to the GLOBE Int. AISBL Board of Directors via the GLOBE Int. AISBL Secretariat.

2. The GLOBE chapter shall liaise with and keep informed the GLOBE Int. AISBL Secretariat regarding fundraising opportunities so as to allow the Secretariat ensure the alignment of chapter activities with the mission and activities of GLOBE International.

3. Fundraising proposals and projects of the GLOBE Chapter must seek to include, as much as possible, budget lines to support the work of the GLOBE International secretariat in connection with the Chapter’s project. Such work by the International Secretariat could include staff time contributing to project design, coordination, communication (including IT maintenance) and delivery.