

(29.04.04)

# STATUTES OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF HOMEOPATHIC PATIENTS' ASSOCIATIONS.

## **I. Title, Headquarters, Aims :**

### Article 1 : Title :

An international association pursuing a non-profit aim has been formed under the title of *European Federation of Homeopathic Patients' Associations – E.F.H.P.A.*”. This association is governed by the provision of Title III of the Belgian Law of 27 July 1921 as amended by the Law of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2002 on the non-profit associations, the international non-profit associations and the foundations (articles 46.a and 57).

### Article 2, Headquarters :

The headquarters of the association are in Belgium. They are currently located in :  
.....

The headquarters may be moved anywhere in Belgium by ordinary decision of the Council to be published to the “Annexes du Moniteur belge”.

### Article 3 : Aim :

The association is entirely an international non profit making association with the following aims :

- to bring together European associations of patients using homeopathic medicine and of patients using alternative and complementary medicine provided homeopathy is included in their aim ;
- to defend the rights and interests of homeopathic patients living within Europe;

- to promote and defend the quality of the science of medical homeopathy with the European authorities;
- to defend the practice of homeopathy within medicine with the European authorities;
- to assist all the people it represents in their local activities;
- to promote the harmonisation of the practice of homeopathy in Europe;
- to promote the integration of homeopathy in European healthcare;
- to represent both individuals, as well as local, regional and national organisations throughout Europe which share the same aims.

The association works to achieve its aim defending the patients interests of the European Union relating to the homeopathic medicine in collaboration with the European private organisations pursuing the same or analogous aims.

It will make the necessary steps by the European Authorities having power of decision in homeopathic medicine, free practising and free establishment for people practising homeopathy in the territory of European Union as well as the registration of homeopathic remedies.

## II. **Membership** :

### Article 4 : Admission to membership :

1. The association is opened to Belgians and other nationalities.

The members of the association are organisations having legal right of existence and activity in their country of residence. Individuals can be admitted as associate members without voting rights.

2. Admission of new members is governed by the following conditions :

- a. application must be made to the Council.
- b. applicants must submit a copy of their statutes with an English translation of the articles concerning their aims, their membership and a list of their activities as well as the postal address of their headquarters, phone and fax number and e-mail address.

#### Article 5 : Resignation and Exclusion of members :

1. Members are free resign from the association at any time by sending their written resignation to the Council.

2. Exclusion of members from the association can be proposed by the Council to the General Assembly. Exclusion must be voted by the latter with at least a two-thirds majority of the votes either present or represented.

The member whose exclusion is being considered must have the opportunity to defend him/herself in the General Assembly.

A member who ceases to belong to the association loses any financial rights with regard to the association.

#### Article 6 : Resources :

Every other year, the General Assembly decides the amount of the membership fee for the two forthcoming years. This cannot exceed the maximum of 1.000 €.

### **III. The General Assembly :**

#### Article 7 : General Assembly :

The General Assembly is fully empowered to accomplish the aims of the federation. All full members have voting rights.

The following activities are expressly reserved as powers of the General Assembly :

- a) Admission and exclusion of members,
- b) Approval of budgets and accounts,
- c) Decisions on funding of the federation
- d) Election and dismissal of Council Members,
- e) Amendment of statutes or by-laws of the Federation,
- f) Dissolution of the federation.

The general assembly consists of all full-members that is to say the organisations having legal right of existence and activity and acting in the countries which are registered and admitted as such.

Only full-members have a full vote. Each member has one vote. Associate members can attend the general assembly with an advisory vote.

#### Article 8 : Frequency of meetings :

The General Assembly rightfully meets under the chairmanship of the President of the Council (It can appoint another member of the Council to the chair) every other year at the venue indicated on the notification. Notice of the meeting is given by the secretary of the Council and is sent out at least 2 months prior to the meeting and contains the agenda for the meeting. Proposals for the agenda must be submitted to the council 3 months prior to the meeting.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be called at any time by the President of the Council or at the request of 1/3 of the full members acting jointly. However, such a request is only valid if it is made in writing, signed by all the applicants and is accompanied by a definite and precise objective for the proposed extraordinary general meeting.

The members will be convened to the General Assembly by a letter signed by the secretary which will be sent at least one month before the date of the meeting. This call for a meeting will contain the agenda.

Each year, the Council will approve the accounts of the past financial year and will put to vote before the General Assembly the accounts of the two past financial years.

#### Article 9 : Voting :

Each member may be represented by proxy at a General Assembly. However, if a country is represented by more than one association, these have to agree between each other to cast but one vote. Each member is only permitted to represent by proxy up to three other full members. The General Assembly requires a quorum of 50 percent of the members either present or represented. Should a General Assembly meeting not be quorate, a new meeting of the General Assembly is called for the same reasons, and this meeting may validly proceed whatever the numbers of members present or represented.

#### Article 10 : Decisions :

Excluding the exceptions provided for in these statutes, decisions are taken by a majority vote of full members either present or represented, and these decisions are communicated to the membership as a whole.

Only items on the agenda will be debated.

Each country has one vote. If one country is represented by more than one association, these must agree between themselves to cast the vote for this country.

Decisions of the General Assembly are recorded in the minutes and signed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer. The minutes are held by the Secretary and are available to all members.

The minute book will be kept by the secretary.

#### **IV. Amendments to the Statutes/By-laws – Dissolution :**

##### Article 11 :

Any proposal to amend the statutes or by-laws or to dissolve the federation must come from the Council or from at least 50 percent of the full membership of the federation.

The Council must give at least three months notice to the membership of a General Assembly that is to deliberate such a proposal. Such a General Assembly is only quorate if at least two thirds of the full members with voting rights are present or represented.

No decision can be made without at least a two-third majority of votes.

If the meeting does not have a quorum of two thirds of the full membership, then a new meeting will be called for the same purpose, which will be quorate regardless of the number of members either present or represented. Any amendments to the statutes will only take effect after being submitted to the Minister of Justice of the Kingdom of Belgium and having been published to the “Annexes du Moniteur belge”

The General Assembly will decide the method of dissolution and liquidation of the association.

The potential credit balance after liquidation will have to be assigned to a non profit aim.

V. **Administration** :

Article 12 : Council :

The association is governed by a Council comprising at least 3 and at most 25 members.

Members of the Council are elected by the General Assembly and have a tenure of office of four years, which is renewable.

Members of the Council can be removed by a two-third majority vote of members either present or represented at a General Assembly meeting.

Article 13 : Officers :

The Council will elect from their midst the following Officers: A President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

It may also elect Vice-President and any other members in charge of a special office as defined by the by-laws.

Article 14 : Meetings :

The Council will meet at least once a year or a special meeting will be called if an Officer has been asked for such a meeting by another member of the Council. The dates of meeting must be circulated at least 30 days before the date of the proposed meeting. A Council member may be represented by proxy by another Council member, but any Council member may only represent one other Council member by proxy.

The Council may only proceed providing if there is a quorum of 50 percent of members present or represented.

Each member of the Council can call a meeting. The secretary will send notice of the meeting to the members of the Council one month prior to the meeting the agenda.

Article 15 : Powers :

The Council has full enabling powers other than those specifically reserved for the General Assembly. It may delegate daily management to its President or to another member of Council or to another person who has been proposed. Moreover, it can confer special enabling powers to other or several persons.

Article 16 : Voting – Minutes :

The decisions of the Council are taken by a majority vote of those Council members either present or represented. In the event of equality of voting the President has a casting vote.

The decisions are recorded in the minute book, signed by the President and the Secretary and the minutes are held by the Secretary who will make them available to the membership of the association.

The minute book will be kept by the secretary.

Article 17 : Actions :

Any actions in which the association becomes engaged, ~~other than those with specific powers of attorney~~, shall be signed by three Council members, who shall not have to justify to any third party the powers that they have been conferred to this end.

Article 18 : Legal actions :

Any legal actions whether as plaintiff or defendant will be dealt with by the Council represented by the President or another Council member whom the Council shall appoint for the purpose.

## VI. Budgets and Accounts :

### Article 19 :

The financial year ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> December.

The Council must submit the accounts for the years just ended and the budget for the forthcoming two years for the approval of the General Assembly.

### Article 20 : General Measures :

Anything that is not covered by the present statutes and notably any applications made to the Belgian Administration will be settled in accordance with the letters of the law.

The founders are:

- Homéopathie en Provence  
16 Bd Cieussa  
13007 Marseille  
France  
represented by Mrs Jeanne Ricard.

-Koninklijke Vereniging tot Bevordering der Homeopathie in Nederland-K.V.HN.  
Marius Bauerstraat ,30/3  
1062 AR Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Represented by Mr Wim Menkveld;



-Verein zur Förderung des Klassischen Homöopathie VFKH  
Postfach  
3000 Bern  
Switzerland  
Represented by Mrs Monika Iseli Felder.

-Society of friends of classical homeopathy  
1 Perikleous Street  
Athens  
Greece  
Represented by Mr Spiros Kivellos

-Les Amis de l'Homéopathie  
Avenue du Père Damien  
1150 Bruxelles  
Belgium  
Represented by Mr Jacques Hirsch

-Verein zur Förderung der Homöopathie und Gesundheit  
Postfach 18  
1232 Wien  
Austria  
Represented by Mrs Michaela Zorzi