

Based on article 16 of the Law on Associations and Foundations,  
the Assembly of the **Citizens' association**  
**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**  
Skopje, at the constituent session held on 15 October 2018,  
adopted the following

ЗДРУЖЕНИЕ НА ГРАЃАНИ  
РЕГИОНАЛЕН ЦЕНТАР ЗА  
ШУМАРСТВО И РУРАЛЕН РАЗВОЈ

Бр. 02-015  
15.10 2019 год.  
СКОПЈЕ

**STATUTE**  
**OF THE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION**  
**REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**Article 1**

The **Citizens' association REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, Skopje** (further referred to as **association**) is an association that works to promote the sustainable management of natural resources in the function of the development of rural communities.

The goal of **The Citizens' association REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, Skopje** is to function as an expert and network organization in order to improve the management of natural resources and share experiences and knowledge in that area in the Balkan region and beyond.

**Article 2**

The Association will realize its goals and activities in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia and other positive legal norms that regulate issues in this area as well as in the line with the Statute.

**Article 3**

The full name of the association is **The Citizens' association REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FORESTRY AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, Skopje**. The abbreviated name of this association is **REFORD**. The headquarters of the association is at Ognjen Prica 11 St., 1000 Skopje.

**Article 4**

The association is a legal entity and has its own seal and stamp. The seal is round and contains the name of the association in Macedonian and English:

**WORKING PRINCIPLES**

**Article 5**

The association bases its work on the following principles:

- Legality;
- Openness and transparency;
- Eligibility while decision making and variability;
- Rationality and economy efficiency when performing administrative work.

## **Article 6**

The association's work is public. The publicity of actions is provided through regular information on all forms of activities and insight into the implementation of the program tasks through suitable media such as communication by e-mail, web site announcement or in another appropriate way.

## **Article 7**

REFORD is an independent, non-political, non-partisan, non-profit and autonomous citizens' association. The initiative for the formation of REFORD originates from a private initiative of the founders of the association with the support of associations of private forest owners from the Balkans.

## **MISSION, GOALS AND TASKS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND WAYS OF REALIZATION**

### **Article 8**

The mission of the association is aimed at achieving a wider social interest in supporting rural development through sustainable natural resource management.

### **Article 9**

The Association aims to contribute to better management of natural resources through:

- Sharing new technologies, experiences and working methods;
- Increasing and strengthening the awareness, social and economic power of the rural population;
- All other activities that can help achieve the goal.

In addition to other goals, REFORD also aims to provide support in networking of the private forest owners in the Balkans and it will do so, as long as it has adequate resources and support from the national associations of private forests in the region.

Part of the activities that will be undertaken for the realization of the basic goals of the Association are listed below:

- Education of local communities and civic organizations, with an emphasis on rural areas (trainings, consultations, workshops);
- Contribution to the development of private and communal forests;
- Improving the practice of sustainable management of natural resources;
- Promotion of rural development initiatives (land consolidation, development of the production chain, renewable energy sources, agro-forestry, non-timber forest products, climate change);
- Promotion of integrated management of natural resources in order to reduce the negative effects of climate change;
- Focusing on the economic development of local communities;
- Project implementation;
- Cooperation and consultation with local communities;
- Cooperation, consultation and education of local and national institutions.

## **MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBERS' RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

### **Article 10**



Any citizen of the Republic of Macedonia as well as a foreigner, who shares the same values, attitudes, vision as well as professional education that can contribute to the achievement of the goals of the association, can request membership in the association.

The decision to receive new members in the association is made by a two-thirds majority of the assembly.

The members of the association can monitor its work; contribute to its affirmation, implementation of activities, and promotion of cooperation with other similar organizations or institutions. The members of the association are part of the Assembly of the association.

## **PLATFORM FOR COOPERATION "BALKAN NETWORK"**

### **Article 11**

Within the framework of REFORD, a separate networking platform is foreseen, further referred to as "Balkan Network".

Membership in the Balkan network is of associative character and can include citizen associations and other legal entities related to ecology, natural resources, rural development and forestry, as well as other areas important for the development of local communities, which are registered in the regions in which REFORD aims to act.

### **Article 12**

The area of REFORD's activities is the Balkan region. The application for membership in the Balkan Network is done through a submitted application form, including a description of the applicant organization.

Acceptance for membership in the Balkan network of the association is verified by the Assembly with a majority of votes by the participants, after which the candidate is provided with a written decision, delivered by e-mail.

### **Article 13**

The members of the Balkan Network of REFORD actively participate in the implementation and realization of the program goals and tasks of the association, especially in the part regarding to networking, cooperation and sharing of experiences and at the same time contribute to the development and popularity of the association. For the part relating to networking, collaboration and sharing of experiences, the members of the Balkan network decide on their own, and the association provides logistical and financial support if funds are provided for it. The manner of providing support will be regulated by the internal acts of the association.

### **Article 14**

Members of the Balkan Network participate in activities and decision-making through their own representative.

Members of the Balkan Network nominate one member in the assembly of the association.

Members of the Balkan Network nominate one member in the Supervisory Board of the association.

### **Article 15**

Membership in the Balkan network of the association is terminated in writing by a decision of the members themselves.

Membership is terminated in case of:

- Non-fulfillment of obligations related to the activities of the association;
- Non-compliance with the activities of the association; or
- Failure to comply with the provisions of this Statute or the Law on Associations and Foundations.

The proposal to terminate membership can be set by any member of the Assembly. After the proposal for termination, the decision is made by the Assembly with a majority of votes.

## **FINANCES**

### **Article 16**

The Association is provided with funds from: membership fees, donations, gifts, contributions, wills, sponsorships, activities, loans, interest rates and other. The introduction and the amount of the membership fee will be determined by the Assembly's decision.

The association may provide income from the profits of limited liability companies or joint stock companies established with the assets of the association, as well as from other sources.

### **Article 17**

As far as the obligations in legal transactions with third parties are concerned, the association accounts for with its assets and capital.

The association may establish limited liability companies and joint stock companies in order to realize its goals, interests and activities determined by the Statute.

### **Article 18**

The use and distribution of the funds of the association provided according to the conditions mentioned in the previous Article shall be performed in compliance with the Statute, internal regulations of the organization and other legal norms.

### **Article 19**

The Assembly decides on the use and allocation of funds, in accordance with the competence stipulated by this Statute, taking measures for economical and adequate use of funds and preventing and resolving irregularities.

### **Article 20**

The association adopts an annual financial plan for the revenues and expenses of the association.

## **AUTHORITIES AND ASSOCIATION MANAGMENT**

### **Article 21**



The authorities of the association are the following:

- Assembly
- Representative
- Supervisory Committee

## **1. Assembly**

### **Article 22**

The Assembly consists of members of the association. The Assembly is the highest authority that manages the association.

Members of the Balkan Network can participate in the work of the Assembly through nomination of one member.

### **Article 23**

The sessions of the assembly are convened by the Representative of the association at least once a year.

The session may also be convened upon a proposal of the Supervisory Board or at the request of more than half of the members of the Assembly.

If the Representative fails to convene a meeting within 14 days of the proposal, it shall be held by the initiators.

The Assembly makes valid decisions if more than half of the members are present.

The Assembly shall make decisions by a majority vote of the members present.

### **Article 24**

The following comes under within the competence of the assembly:

- Decisions on adoption of amendments to the Statute of the association;
- Decisions on accepting and dismissing members of the Balkan Network of the Association;
- Decisions on the selection and dismissal of the Representative of the association;
- Decisions on selection and dismissal of members of the Supervisory Board;
- Decisions on the adoption of the work program of the association;
- Monitoring the material and financial condition of the association between the two assemblies;
- Adoption of financial plan and annual financial calculation;
- Adoption of decisions for the supply and distribution of fixed assets;
- Making decisions for awards, certificates and recognitions;
- Decisions on complaints and appeals;
- Making decisions on the formation of permanent and temporary committees
- Adopting internal rules for work
- –Discussing the achievements of the association development.

## **2. Association Representative**

### **Article 25**

The Representative is a person who has been elected by a decision of the Assembly. The representative of the association can be an able-bodied physical person with a place of residence on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia in accordance with the law.

#### **Article 26**

The Representative represents the association in the Republic of Macedonia and abroad and has the authority to sign various documents on behalf of the association, according to the description of the authorizations, prescribed by the Assembly.

The Representative is obliged to take care of the legality of the activities of the association, to work according to the provisions of the Statute, as well as in accordance with the legal provisions on the activities of civil associations and other legal regulations.

For his work, the Representative shall be responsible in front of the Law, the Assembly and the Supervisory Board of the association.

#### **Article 27**

The representative acts as the daily manager of the association and is responsible for the implementation of the association's program.

The representative can hire and fire personnel according to the needs of the program implementation and in accordance with the regulations of the associations.

A representative may have a paid function. The appointment and release of the Agent from duty is performed by the Assembly and in accordance with the regulations of the association.

The representative follows and analyzes the conditions and problems in the activities of the association, gives opinions, expresses expectations for future conditions, problems and opportunities.

The representative takes care of strategic planning and prepares perspective annual and periodic programs and action plans, as well as financial plans.

The representative is responsible for the implementation of the program, the plan of activities and the financial plan and reports periodically and annually to the Assembly of the association and the Supervisory Board.

The representative signs the bank account, as well as the financial acts of the association.

The representative also performs other duties in his / her competence in accordance with the law, the Statute and the general acts of the association.

#### **Article 28**

The representative can be dismissed in the following circumstances:

- At their own request;
- By a decision of the Assembly of the association;
- Other constitutional circumstances.

### **3. Supervisory Committee**

#### **Article 29**



The Supervisory Committee is a corporate organization composed of an odd number of members, at least three members with a mandate of two years and entitled to re-election. The Supervisory Committee consists of one member from:

- Assembly of the association
- The Balkan network
- External member

The Assembly elects and dismisses members of the Supervisory Committee from duty. The Supervisory Committee answers for its work to the Assembly.

The Supervisory Committee works independently and upon the order of the Assembly. Its activities are directed to:

- Control the material and financial performance of the association;
- Providing advice and recommendations regarding the better functionality and sustainability of the association.

A member of the Supervisory Board may be dismissed before the expiration period for which he or she was elected on his own request or by a decision of the Assembly.

## **TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### **Article 30**

The association may terminate its work with a decision of the Assembly or if the legal requirements for it are met.

Upon the termination of the association, the property and other rights and revenues remaining after the distribution of the obligations shall be equally divided among the members of the association.

## **TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL REGULATIONS**

### **Article 31**

The rights to interpretation of the regulations of this Statute are owned by the Assembly of the association.

### **Article 32**

This Statute can be changed in the same manner as it was adopted, at the initiative of the Assembly of the Association.

Once an unaccepted initiative or proposal cannot be re-established before the six-month period of refusal of the proposal expires.

### **Article 33**

The draft-statute and the proposal for its modifications and amendments are submitted for public hearing at least seven days before the Assembly sessions where they will be reviewed and adopted in accordance with Articles 23 and 24 of this Statute.

**Article 34**

All acts of the Association must be in accordance with this Statute.

**Article 35**

This Statute comes into force on the date of its adoption.

**REPRESENTATIVE**

**Kristina Buzharoska**

