



Changed most recently on May 14th, 2012 in the board meeting

§ 1 Name, registered office, registration, financial year

- (1) The association's name "Akwa-Mmiri" (which is Igbo word for „bridge“). It is meant to be added to the register of associations in the city of Leverkusen and will then carry the addendum „registered association“.
- (2) The registered office is in Leverkusen.
- (3) The financial year is the calendar year.

§ 2 Purpose of the association

- (1) The association only pursues non-profit purposes and public welfare according to §§ 51pp of the part called „tax-privileged purposes“ of the most recent version of the General Fiscal Law.
- (2) The purpose of the association is the advancement of education, health, and support of children in need in Nigeria, realized in particular through the promotion of sponsorships, the support of the orphanage „Charity Home" (funded and maintained by the congregation DDL) in Enugu, Nigeria, as well as the support of projects for children living in the streets of Enugu.
- (3) The association collects donations through pre-planned fundraising activities, by taking over sponsorships, through charity runs, benefit performances, and calls for donation.

The association aims at helping people to help themselves. This happens as follows

- taking over of costs of apprenticeships for children and young adults
- taking over part of the costs of building and maintaining of buildings and facilities of the orphanage „Charity-Home“
- support of the integration into the working life (rehabilitation) of young adults living in the „Charity-Home“
- taking over of the costs of measures to preserve or rehabilitate the health of children and young adults

§ 3. Altruism

- (1) The association pursues altruistic purposes only; it does not pursue commercial purposes for its own good first and foremost.
- (2) The means acquired by the association can only be spent on purposes mentioned in the Articles of Association. The members of the association are not allowed as such to receive grants from the association's means.
- (3) No person is to benefit from cash disbursements which are foreign to the purposes of the association nor can a person benefit from disproportionately high compensations.



§ 4. Membership

- (1) Any natural or juridical person that supports the purposes of the association can become a member. Applications for admission are carried out in writing.
- (2) The board of directors decides about admissions.
- (3) Membership ends if a member leaves the association, is made to leave the association, or in the case of death.
- (4) Leaving the association is possible through submitting a written statement to the board of directors with a notice period of three months to the end of the month.
- (5) If a member acted in violation of the aforementioned goals and interests of the association or has not paid his dues for three months even though he has received a written reminder, he can be excluded by the board of directors from the association effective immediately. The member must be granted the chance for a justification or a statement. The decision to exclude a member can be appealed by calling upon the general assembly within a set period of one month after notification of the exclusion. The general assembly will then make the final decision.

§ 5 Membership dues

Members have to pay dues as required by the decision of the general assembly (§ 8 of the articles of association). A majority of two thirds of the association's members that are entitled to vote and present in the general assembly is required to determine the amount of the membership dues as well as their payment date.

§ 6 Bodies of the association

The bodies of the association are as follows:

- The board of directors
- The general assembly

§ 7 The board of directors

- (1) The board of directors consists of 5 members.
- (2) Board of directors according to § 26 BGB (German Civil Code) are first chairman, two deputy chairmen, recording clerk, and treasurer.

He represents the association in and out-of-court. Every two members of the board of directors combined are authorized to represent.

- (3) The board of directors is elected by the general assembly for a 3 year term. Re-election of the board members is possible. The chairman is to be determined in a separate election. The sitting members of the board remain in their position after their term in office has expired until their successors have been determined.

(4) The board of directors is responsible for conducting the current transactions of the association. The board of directors volunteer their work. They can appoint a manager to take care of day-to-day administrative work. The manager is entitled to take part in the meetings of the board of directors in an advisory capacity.

(5) Board meetings should be conducted at least twice a year. Invitations are issued in written form under observance of a time limit of at least two weeks prior to the board meeting. The board of directors is quorate if three board members are present.

(6) A decision by the board of directors requires a simple majority.

(7) In case of urgency decisions of the board of directors may be made in written form or telephonically, if all board members submit their approval to this process in written form or telephonically. Decisions of the board of directors which have been made in written form or telephonically must be put into writing and signed by two board members.

§ 8 General assembly

(1) The general assembly has to be convene once a year.

(2) An extraordinary general assembly has to be convene if required for the interest of the association or if such a convention is demanded by one third of the association's members. Such a demand must be submitted in writing and include purpose and reasons for it.

(3) The general assembly is asked to convene in written form by the chairman of the board under observance of a time limit of at least two weeks and must include the announcement of the agenda. The time limit starts on the day after the letters of invitation have been mailed out as postmarked. The invitation counts as received by the member if it was sent to the last address the member submitted to the association in writing.

(4) The general assembly as an institution of the association is responsible for all tasks except for the tasks assigned to another institution of the association by these articles of association. It must be provided with first and foremost the annual financial statements as well as the annual report in written form to make decisions about its approval as well as the formal approval of the actions of the managing board. It authorizes two accountants who can neither be members of the board of directors nor another body appointed by the board of directors or employees of the association. They audit the bookkeeping including the annual financial statement and inform the general assembly about the result.

The general assembly in particular makes decisions about:

- (a) duties and responsibilities of the association,
- (b) acquisition and sales as well as charges on real property,
- (c) acquisition of and participation in companies,
- (d) membership fees (see § 5),
- (e) amendments to the articles of association,
- (f) Dissolution of the association.



(5) Every general assembly which has convened according to the principles of the articles of association is accurate regardless of the number of how many members of the association are present. Every member has one vote. The right to vote is not conferrable.

(6) The general assembly makes its decisions by simple majority. In the case of a tie vote the petition is counted as rejected.

§ 9 Change of purpose and of articles of association

(1) In order to change the purpose of the association or to change other parts of the articles of association a two-thirds majority of the votes of the members present at the time of voting is necessary. The general assembly can only take a vote regarding such changes if it was presented to the members as an agenda item on the invitation to the general meeting and if the invitation included the current version of the articles of association as well as the new version.

(2) Changes to the articles of association which are requested by controlling authorities, court authorities, or revenue authorities for specific reasons may be carried out by the board of directors themselves. These changes to the articles of association have to be sent out to all the association's members at once.

§ 10 Certification of resolutions

The resolutions made in board meetings and during general assemblies have to be put in writing and have to be signed by two board members.

§ 11 Dissolution of the association and transferral of assets

(1) In order to make the decision to dissolve the association at least 75 percent of the votes of the members present during the general assembly are required. Such a decision can only be made after it was made public in due time in the invitation mailed out to the members of the general assembly.

(2) In case of a dissolution of the association or in case of a loss of the tax privileges the assets of the association are transferred to the congregation of the „Daughters of Divine Love (registered association), *“Töchter der Göttlichen Liebe e.V.”* which must immediately and exclusively apply them to the purposes of the association laid down in §2.

Leverkusen, den 14.5.2012