

Constitution of the organisation “Discover” as amended at the AGM in March 2019

§1 Name and location

1. The organisation has the name “Discover”.
2. It is recorded in the register of charitable organisations in Rems-Murr Kreis, Baden Württemberg, Germany and carries the postscript “e.V”, which indicates its inclusion in this register.
3. The organisation is based in Winnenden.

§2 Aims

1. The organisation pursues exclusively charitable purposes which, according to the fiscal regulations, are deemed not to be subject to taxation.
2. The organisation promotes cooperation in development work and international understanding by working for peace, health and social justice in the world. The members stand for a situation whereby peoples live together in partnership, with the aim of sustainable, self-reliant development, especially in Africa.
3. The aims of the organisation will be achieved particularly by means of training needy people in Africa, free of charge, on the themes of healthy nutrition and the cultivation, processing and use of medicinal plants. The aim is the long term improvement in the living conditions of the local population. In addition, suitable people will be trained, similarly free of charge, to become trainers themselves. This training may also be done by others recruited for this purpose.
4. In its activities the organisation attaches importance to working with people of all social, public, private, church and scientific organisations that promote the aims 1 and 2 of this paragraph.

The organisation undertakes no activity for commercial gain.

The funds of the organisation may only be used in pursuit of its constitutional aims. The members receive no money from the funds of the organisation.

The organisation may give part of its funds, but never more than half, to other registered charitable or public service organisations. Their aims and how they use their funds must be consistent with those of “Discover”.

No person may receive funds from “Discover” who disagrees with its aims, nor may any person receive unreasonably large remuneration.

§3 Membership

1. Both people and registered organisations may become members of “Discover”.
2. Whether the membership is accepted is decided by the management committee upon receipt of a written application.
3. Resignation from “Discover” is possible at any time given one month’s notice. The resignation must be submitted in writing to the committee.
4. A member may be excluded from the organisation if his behaviour is significantly contrary to the interests of the organisation. The decision to exclude a person must be taken at a General Meeting.
5. Membership of “Discover” terminates with the death of the member, or the winding up of the member organisation.
6. A member who resigns or who is excluded has no rights regarding the assets of “Discover”.

§4 Membership fees

Members commit themselves to paying a membership fee each year. The fee is payable in the first 3 months of the year. The amount of the membership fee is determined at the Annual General Meeting.

§5 Organs of “Discover”

The organs of “Discover” are

- a) The Annual General Meeting, and
- b) The Management Committee

§6 The Management Committee

1. The Management Committee consists of up to 4 members.
2. Each member of the Management Committee may represent “Discover” alone.
3. In carrying out its duties, the Management Committee must recompense the organisation and the membership only in the event of deliberate misdeeds or excessive negligence.
4. In the sense of §2 item 1, if the Management Committee pursues another purpose or causes enormous damage in fulfilling its duties, it may ask to be relieved of its responsibilities. This however does not apply if the damage was caused deliberately or through excessive negligence.
5. The committee is elected by Annual General Meeting for a period of two years. The committee continues in position until a new committee has been elected.

§7 The Annual General Meeting

1. The Annual General Meeting takes place every year. In addition, a General Meeting must be held when required in the interest of the organisation, or when at least 10% of the members call for a meeting in writing giving the purpose of and the reason for the meeting.
2. The Committee must issue an invitation at least two weeks in advance of the meeting to all members, giving details of the agenda.
3. The meeting is to be conducted by the Chairman, and in his absence the Vice-Chairman. If neither is present, a chairperson must be elected from the meeting. If the Minute Secretary is not present, then someone must be elected by the meeting to undertake this role.
4. Every General Meeting which has been called in accordance with the constitution is empowered to make decisions, irrespective of the number of people present.
5. Decisions are made on the basis of a simple majority of the valid votes. Changes in the constitution or the aims of the organisation however require a majority vote of three quarters of the valid votes.
6. The decisions of the General Meetings must be minuted, and the minutes must be signed by the Minute Secretary and the Chairman of the meeting.

§8 Dissolution of the Organisation and Disposal of the Assets

1. To wind the organisation up a majority of 4/5 of the valid votes is required.
2. Upon closure of the organisation or cessation of charitable activities the assets of “Discover” must be passed on to another registered public service organisation or another charitable organisation which promotes cooperation in development work and international understanding.