

ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝ Κ. ΓΙΑΝΝΙΜΠΑΣ  
ΔΙΚΗΓΟΡΟΣ - (Α.Μ. / Δ.Σ.Α: 32475)  
ΕΛ. ΒΕΝΙΖΕΛΟΥ 212-214 ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗΣ 183 41  
ΑΦΜ: 104806548 - ΔΟΥ: ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗΣ  
ΤΗΛ: 210 9940580 - ΚΙΝ: 6944 559891  
e-mail: sgiannimbas@yahoo.gr

## AMENDMENT OF THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

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of the "HELLENIC FEDERATION OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS  
(H.F.o.P.w.M.S.)"

### CHAPTER A

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#### *INCORPORATION- NAME-REGISTERED OFFICE- OBJECT -MEANS*

##### **Article 1**

##### **INCORPORATION - NAME**

A non-profit, non-governmental, social and trade union organization of a secondary level Federation is established under the name "HELLENIC FEDERATION OF PERSONS with MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (H.F.o.P.w.M.S.)", which will be constituted by judicially, recognized Associations of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis (PwMS).

##### **Article 2**

##### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

The HFoPwMS has its registered office in Ellinikon in Attica and covers the whole of the Greek territory.

##### **Article 3**

##### **OBJECTS**

1. To unite and organize all the Associations of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis in a legal entity, expressing their collective will as secondary body.
2. To represent at a national level the Persons with Multiple Sclerosis through their organizations who represent them in all the decision making centers that concern them, in all public services and state organs, in the private sector, as well as in other relevant organs, organizations and bodies in a Balkan, European and International level and to participate through representatives of the HFoPwMS to the above mentioned bodies, when necessary.
3. To provide support by any legal means to the material and non-material interests of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis. To co-ordinate the action of all the members of the HFoPwMS for the promotion and support of the rights of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis.
4. To contribute to the dissemination of the statute of voluntarism and of social solidarity, to claim active support of the relative State Authorities and of the wider society, to inform and

ΤΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΕΙΟΝ Κ. Γ.  
ΧΗΦΟΠΩΜΣ - (Α.Μ.)  
ΓΕΝΙΚΗ Δ/ΡΑ 212-21  
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enlighten on Multiple Sclerosis, as well as to improve the structures of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of Persons affected by Multiple Sclerosis.

5. To claim and provide solidarity and aid to association-members in Greece and participate through representatives of the HFoPwMS in help missions, where needed.
6. To promote and develop scientific research regarding the above-mentioned disease.
7. To promote a close relationship (scientific and social), solidarity and co-operation of the members of HFoPwMS whether they come from the scientific community or the community of the patients.
8. To promote international co-operation on subjects related to the disease and its treatment.
9. To provide information regarding recent scientific developments and prospects to combat and to treat the disease, as well as to distribution of any information on the improvement of living conditions of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis.
10. To carry out scientific studies for the medical, social, ergonomic, architectural, environmental, educational, employment and psychological-spiritual problems for the protection, entrenchment and improvement of the life quality of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis with respect to human dignity.
11. To make reports that provide information and raising the problems and issues of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis (PwMS), to the responsible State Bodies, the Local Authorities of all levels, the Governmental and Social institutions in order these Persons to participate equally and without barriers in the educational, productive, economical, social, athletic and cultural life of the country.
12. To undertake initiatives for drafting and vote special laws and introducing measures on the medical and social rehabilitation of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis (PwMS).
13. To constantly endeavor to enroll Persons with Multiple Sclerosis (PwMS) in the active productive population of the country.
14. To co-operate and exchange knowledge, facts and information with relevant national and foreign organizations for the submission and achievement of the aims of the HFoPwMS and to participate with representatives in National, European, International and other disability, scientific, medical, social congresses.
15. To co-operate with other secondary-level union organizations-institutions and to participate in third-level unionist organizations-institutions for the coordination of issues that concern Persons with Disabilities and chronic diseases.
16. To assist with every legal and effective means the members of the HFoPwMS in front of judicial and administrative bodies (authorities).

17. The HFoPwMS shall take active part to the struggles of Persons with Disabilities and chronic diseases ensuring social equity, equality of fair chances, equality of rights as equal members of society.
18. To promote the establishment of primary bodies (associations) with relevant aims and function in favor of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis.

#### **Article 4**

##### **MEANS**

The Hellenic Federation of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis specifically seeks to succeed in its objectives by pursuing:

1. The coordination of the struggles of its first degree Association - members for general requests and demands.
2. The updating and filing initiative memoranda, interventions, attestations, acts, (speeches) etc to the relevant state agencies of our country, scientific associations, universities, social and private entities, and any other Greek, foreign or international body, which would be able and have the willingness to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the HFoPwMS.
3. The organization of all kinds of public events, gatherings, meetings, actions aiming to raise the legitimate claims of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis to the relevant bodies and the information- awareness of Greek society.
4. The systematic information of Persons with MS, their relatives and their environment, of the public opinion, the government, the parties, the organizations and agencies on issues concerning People affected by Multiple Sclerosis, by any appropriate means.
5. The spread of information and promotion of the demands of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis to all media (written and electronic press).
6. The organization of congresses, with subjects on the Agenda concerning Persons affected by Multiple Sclerosis for the acquisition of specialized knowledge.

7. The organization of cultural and leisure artistic events, excursions for persons with Multiple Sclerosis aiming to the exploitation of their abilities-skills, their mental development, and the presentation of these skills to the entire community.
8. The implementation of professional training programs and educative seminars.
9. The organization of congresses, lectures or the participation to round tables at a national or international level.
10. The communication and co-operation with relevant social and medical agencies of our country, of foreign countries, as well as with national and international relevant organizations.
11. The undertaking or the participation with other private persons or legal agencies in the conduct of research programs of the relevant Ministries, of the European Union or of other organizations (national or international).
12. The co-operation with donors from the area of private initiative for social research studies, informative campaigns, funding, etc.
13. Setting up working groups and committees as well as entrusting projects to professionals for the achievement of specific objectives.
14. The appeal or representation in any kind of legislative or judicial bodies (Courts, Committees, Parliament etc) on a national and foreign level in order to achieve the objectives.
15. The provision of:
  - A) Material help and moral support to the association-members of the HFoPWMS and to individuals- members of the Associations of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis, their relatives to the extent of its capabilities, with the consent and indication of its Association- member.

- B) Awards of Prizes or scholarships for efforts of Persons with MS or any person who contributes to improve the condition of Persons with MS, based on decision of the Board of Directors (BoD) of the HFoPwMS and on proposal of its Association-member.
  - C) Encouragement and support for the establishment of sheltered workshops, collaborative workshops and stores, libraries, clubs and other relative activities.
  - D) Social services to the individual members of the Associations, and their families, for the improvement of their quality of life.
16. The publication of a newspaper, magazines or informative brochures, the creation of internet platforms, websites, the creation and promotion of journalism, the interconnection with the media and journalists, as well as the use of any other lawful and adequate means of promotion and presentation, which will aim to the success of the objectives of the HFoPwMS and the promotion of its work.
17. The use of any other lawful and adequate means, aiming to the success of the Hellenic Federation of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis's objectives.
18. The HFoPwMS can establish Fund of Mutual help.

## CHAPTER B'

### MEMBERS- RIGHTS- OBLIGATIONS- RELATIONS

#### Article 5

#### MEMBERS

The members of the "HELLENIC FEDERATION OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS" are divided into: a) Regular, b) Assistant, c) Cooperative and d) Honorary.

#### REGULAR MEMBERS

Regular members of the HFoPwMS may become Associations, societies of Persons with Multiple Sclerosis, which have lawfully been recognized, are registered in Greece, as long as their aims and the terms in their Articles of Association are not opposed to the aims and the role of function of the HFoPwMS.

Regular members of the HFoPwMS are the following:

- 1) "ASSOCIATION OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS", registered in Athens.

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- 2) "THESSALIAN UNION OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS" registered in Larissa, (Thessaly)
- 3) "GREEK UNION OF SOUTH GREECE FOR FIGHTING MULTIPLE SCLEOSIS", registered in Patra.
- 4) "SOCIETY OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS OF FTHIOTIDA", registered in Lamia.
- 5) "SOCIETY OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS OF EORDEA", registered in Ptolemaida.
- 6) "SOCIETY OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS OF KASTORIA", registered in Kastoria.
- 7). "SOCIETY OF PATIENTS AND FRIENDS WITH MULTIPLER SCLEROSIS OF MITILINI "ELPIZO", registered in Mitilini.
- 8) "SOCIETY OF SUPPORT AND MUTUAL HELP OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS OF THESPROTIA", registered in Igoumenitsa.

#### REGISTRATION

1. In order a new member to be registered to the HFoPwMS the following are required:
  - a) Written application of the BoD of the association-society to the BoD of the HFoPwMS, accompanied by a copy of the decision of the General Assembly of its members, adopted with a majority of 2/3 of the members, evidencing that the members of the association making the application for registration are aware of the Articles of Association (AoA) of the HFoPwMS and, based on these AoA, they decided to submit an application of the association-society and accept unconditionally and fully the present AoA.
  - b) Copy of the decision or the order, evidencing the incorporation of the association through court decision.
  - c) Copy of the AoA of the applying association-society certified by the competent Court of First Instance or the District Court or any other court in charge.
  - d) Certificate of the competent Court of First Instance or District Court or any Other Court in charge, showing that the association-society is recorded in the Book of Associations.
  - e) Minutes of the electoral commission, concerning the Election of its Administration bodies and
  - f) Minutes of the establishment of the BoD of the association as a body.

ΕΠΙΧΕΙΡΗΣΙΑΚΗ  
Α: 32475  
ΟΤ: ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗΣ  
ΚΙΝ: 6944 559897  
bas@yahoo.gr

2. The BoD of the HFoPwMS in its first meeting after the submission of the application accepts or rejects the application. Any decision of the BoD is notified in writing to the applicant association, within ten (10) days after a decision has been issued.

In particular, any decision rejecting the application should be accompanied by full justification.

The association-society, whose application was rejected, has the right to appeal to the first General Assembly of HFoPwMS the decision, general or extraordinary, and ask –from the Assembly- to judge and decide on its application. The subject of this appeal must obligatorily be recorded to the items of agenda of the General Assembly.

If eventually the General Assembly accepts the application of the Association-society that is interested, then its application is deemed to be accepted (either) from the day that the relevant application had been submitted to the BoD, without this affecting the validity of the decisions taken since then (or) from the day that the relevant decision of the General Assembly was taken.

The association-member is obliged to promptly submit the relevant registration and annual subscription fees, as it is outlined in article 9 of the present AoA.

3. Are not eligible for regular membership at the HFoPwMS:

- a) Organizations of purely philanthropic or profit character.
- b) Associations or Societies whose AoA go against the goals and objectives of the HFoPwMS or do not concur with democratic principles.
- c) Associations-societies that are registered in the same geographical area of activity as the associations which are already regular members (associations-societies) of the HFoPwMS, without the consent of the already regular member of the HFoPwMS.

### EXIT OF MEMBERS

The regular members may exit the HFoPwMS, after an application accompanied necessarily by a decision of their General Assembly, where the Subject of withdrawal has been explicitly recorded in the agenda.

The deletion takes place upon a resolution of the BoD after the receipt of the application and is notified to the interested ex member in 30 days.

The member that is removed due to its exit stays responsible to the HFoPwMS for the membership fees that are not paid until the year that the withdrawal took place. The year of the submission of the relevant application to the BoD of the HFoPwMS is considered as the year of the exit of the member.

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Indicative offenses are:

- In case of repeated offending of a representative of a member, there is a fully denial of the rights of article 8 of the representative, which means the right to represent the Association-member in which he/she belongs and has the power of representing through the participation in the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS and the voting in its decisions, following the decision of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS, till an extraordinary General Assembly takes place to resolve on the temporary or final deletion of the Association-member in which the representative belongs, since in the case of a representative's repeated offending the Association is also liable for its irregular

and unethical behavior. In that case the BoD must convene an extraordinary General Assembly as soon as possible and the representative that has a fully denial of the right of voting in the General Assembly has the right to participate in it to express his/her opinion and explain.

### MEMBERS DELETION

The deletion has six-month duration or one-year duration (is temporary) or is final.

Every member of the HFoPwMS can be terminated with an explanatory decision, taken by a 3/4 majority of the present representatives at the General Assembly and in no case less than half plus one present voters out the total number of representatives, and this decision shall be notified in written to the within 10 days, when:

- a) The payment of the fees is overdue for a year,
- b) The member repeatedly violates the aims of the HFoPwMS,
- c) The member blocks and sabotages the aims of the HFoPwMS and the implementation of the decisions of its statutory organs,
- d) The member violates the AoA, disobeys the decisions of the Organs HFoPwMS and acts against the aims and the good of the HFoPwMS,
- e) Disciplinary fines has been repetitively imposed to the member.

A member that is removed or deleted for any of the above reasons does not have any right n the assets of the HFoPwMS and cannot ask the refund of his fees.

The legal representative of the Association-member is invited to the General Assembly by the BoD to answer about the reasons of the deletion.

If the Association-member that is invited is not present without reason to apologize and explain, the General Assembly can decide about its deletion or not.

Although, if the Association-member is not present without reason, the decision about the deletion is taken in the following General Assembly without another invitation. The General Assembly resolves if the reason of not being present is intentional or not.

In any case the invited member preserves the right also to apologize by writing a memorandum that is sent to HPoPwMS one day before the General Assembly. The apologizing memorandum is read in the General Assembly and the representatives decide about the deletion according to the above.

In case there is a meeting of the General Assembly to resolve on the deletion of an Association-member because of its representative's repeated irregular behavior according to the above ( article 5- Disciplinary Penalties), if the General Assembly rejects the proposition of deletion of the Association-member, it has to decide simultaneously about the representative's future. In

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Upon their deletion they can no longer benefit from the rights enjoyed as members of the HFoPwMS.

other, material or non material support at regular intervals for the fulfillment of the aims of the HFoPwMS.

The assistant members are registered in special catalogues, are not obliged to pay membership fees, cannot be elected and don't have the right to vote.

## **Article 7**

### **HONORARY MEMBERS**

The BoD of the HFoPwMS can declare as honorary members either individuals or legal entities that have either contributed or can offer due to their personality or their position in society substantial services for the fulfillment of the aims of the HFoPwMS.

Only the General Assembly with an explanatory resolution can delete a honorary Member.

The honorary members are registered in special catalogues, are not paying membership fees, do not participate in the decision making process and cannot be elected and don't have the right to vote.

## **Article 8**

### **RIGHTS-OBLIGATIONS**

The rights of the Regular members-Associations of the HFoPwMS are:

- a) To participate in the General Assemblies of the HFoPwMS with the right of speech and control on the items on the agenda and vote.
- b) To express freely their opinion, to control and criticize the work and actions of the HFoPwMS through the procedures provided in the AoA and the law.
- c) By their request to the BoD of the HFoPwMS to ask and receive the relevant copies from the minute books that are kept in the HFoPwMS (BoD and General Assembly).
- d) To ask from the HFoPwMS any non material and material cover and support for the better enhancement and achievement of their aims within the framework of activity of the HFoPwMS.

The members of the HFoPwMS are required:

- a) To pay the annual membership fees as well as membership fees of past years or any other fees by the end of January of each year. Otherwise, they are being deprived of the above rights (article 8 a, b, c, d) till the fulfillment of their financial obligations. The Association-members that have fulfilled their financial obligations are the ones that have paid to the cashier of the HFoPwMS all of the membership fees with the above way.
- b) To implement the AoA and the decisions of the organs of the HFoPwMS

- c) To submit within a month from the election an official report regarding the election and appointments of their organs and their representatives.
- d) To harmonize their action according to the general interests and aims of their patient members, in the way the Governance of the HFoPwMS responsibly deals with them.
- e) To make known every change of the composition of their BoD as well as the postal, phone and e- mail addresses of the members of their BoD in writing.

7. The revenues from any asset that might be acquired
8. The revenues from any publications of the HFoPwMS
9. Any other financial aid or revenue as well as revenues from feasts, events or games that have been organized in favor of the HFoPwMS.

The members of the HFoPwMS are obliged to pay their membership fees the latest one month before the date of the regular General Assembly otherwise they will not have the right to participate.

## **CHAPTER D**

### **Article 10**

#### **BODIES**

Statutory Bodies of the HFoPwMS are:

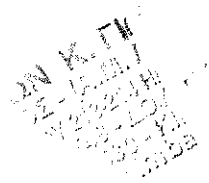
1. The General Assembly of the representatives of the Associations that are members of the HFoPwMS
2. The BoD
3. The Auditing Committee
4. The Election Committee

## **CHAPTER E**

### **Article 11**

#### **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- A. The General Assembly is the supreme and sovereign organ of the HFoPwMS and its decisions when taken according to the present AoA and the relevant legislation are compulsory for every Association-member of the HFoPwMS.
- B. The General Assembly supervises all the activities of the HFoPwMS, in particular:
  1. Elects and terminates the members of the BoD and the Auditing Committee
  2. Decides on the actions and BoD's obligation to be accountable of the Administration
  3. Approves the balance sheet, the accounts and the budget of the HFoPwMS
  4. Decides on the purchase, transfer, exploitation and mortgaging of the HFoPwMS' s real estate property
  5. Has in general a dominant opinion (rules out) on all the decisions of the BoD as well as for the implementation or amendment of the present AoA



6. Decides on the participation or removal of the HFoPwMS to secondary or third degree organizations.
7. Decides on the discharge or not of the members of the BoD.
8. Decides on the dissolution of the HFoPwMS.
9. Approves or modifies the Rules of the Procedure.
10. Decides on the relationship of the HFoPwMS with other organizations and associations of the same or senior level.
11. Decides on any topic that interests the HFoPwMS in general.

C. The General Assembly of the HFoPwMS is constituted of representatives of the Association-members of the HFoPwMS. The number of representatives of each Association-member depends upon the number of their members who voted at the elections of their Associations on the selection of representatives to the HFoPwMS.

To every twenty (20) voters PwMS one (1) representative corresponds and is elected, for the first forty (40) voters to the one hundred and fifty (150) voters one (1) representative every ten (10) voters PwMS corresponds and is elected. From one hundred and fifty one (151) and more voters again one (1) representative every twenty (20) voters corresponds and is elected. In case that the remaining number of voters – PwMS is equal or greater than the 1/2 of the whole number, one more representative is elected and their terms are the same with the terms of the Organs of the primary Association as it is provided for by the AoA of the Association-member.

The above percentage rule on the representatives' election (one per twenty (20) voters- PwMS for the first forty (40) voters and then from forty (one 41) to one hundred and fifty (150) voters one (1) representative every ten (10) voters is elected and for one hundred and fifty one (151) and more candidates votes are again one (1) representative per twenty (20) voters) can change only after a decision of the majority of 3/4 of the present representatives at the General Assembly. The representatives participating in the meeting should in no case be less than half plus one of the total number of the representatives, and such meeting shall take place at least one semester in advance of the implementation of this decision.

The member capacity of a primary Association as a PwMS is certified by the BoD of the Association. For the HFoPwMS, the member of a primary association entitled to vote in the elections of representatives is the natural person that has all of the following characteristics:

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a. is a Multiple Sclerosis patient, something that is proved by a certificate (certified copy) issued by state medical committee or a state hospital medical opinion and

b. has the capacity of the member of the relevant primary association that is registered in its register at least 30 days before the elections.

The capacity of member with the right to vote at the elections of the representatives is certified by the BoD of the HFoPwMS, which delegates through its decision to specified members:

(a) To check the registers of the Association-members to verify if its members have the right to vote at the elections according to the above

(b) To draft a list of the members that are entitled to vote and

(c) To submit a relevant report with their remarks (the reasons specific members of primary associations' are excluded etc) to the BoD of the HFoPwMS.

The member of the BoD that conducts the above check in the register cannot be a member of the primary association in which this member conducts the check.

All the primary associations have to send an updated list of the members registered in the HFoPwMS not later than 31 January of each year for the above purpose. The year that the elections takes place they also have to send a list of all the registered members not later than 20 days before the elections. The list must also include the date of the members' registration and must be accompanied by the aforesaid papers that prove the disease.

If the delivery of the the above certificates and opinions is extremely difficult, the primary associations have to make the documents files available to the members of the BoD of the HFoPwMS who will carry out on-the-spot check at the registered office or the offices of the Association-member.

All efforts must be made to prevent the check of the capacity of the member of the primary association entitled to vote at the elections for the selection of the representatives on the same day the elections take place.

**C1.** At the elections of the Association-members' representatives a specified member of the BoD of the HFoPwMS who has no right to vote and has an exclusive duty to supervise the elections procedure is notified to participate to notice any irregularity, failure or omission of the procedure. The member of the BoD has the right to make suggestions or even submit written objections to the Election Committee about the irregularities he notices. The member of the BoD endorses the minute of the Election Committee and cannot be a member of the Association in which the elections take place.

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**C4.** Only to representatives of regular Association-members to the HFoPwMS, who have fulfilled their financial obligations and have paid their annual membership fees according to article 8 of the given AoA, are entitled to vote and attend the General Assembly.

**C6.** Any member of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS who has been be stripped of his civil rights or is incapacitated cannot be a participant nor a nominee, cannot vote at elections of the HFoPwMS for as long as his probation term lasts and shall be replaced by another representative of his association.

## Article 12

**A.** The General Assemblies, regular or extra ordinaries, of the representatives of the Associations-members, are convened, in accordance with appropriate procedures, provided that a written invitation has been sent with the care of the BoD, through letter or email to certified email address, that stated by the member of the HFoPwMS, to all the Associations-members of the HFoPwMS. This invitation must be sent to all the Associations-members of the HFoPwMS at least thirty (30) days before the meeting of the General Assembly, regular or extraordinary.

In the invitation must clearly be specified:

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- c. The time of the new invitation of the meeting, in case of cancellation due to the fact that there is no quorum, and in case of elections the start and end of the Election Procedure.

The regular General Assemblies take place every year within the first five months. The BoD can decide on changing the time limits of the convention, if there have been important reasons.

**B.1.** In the regular annual General Assembly the following takes place:

- a) The BoD is accountable for all of its activities through the past year, and a voting takes place for a respective approval.
- b) The report of the Auditing Committee regarding the financial management is being read and a voting takes place in order for it to be accepted and to discharge all members of the BoD of any liability.
- c) The approval of the financial report, the balance sheet for the previous year and the budget for the following year are being approved as well.

**B.2.** Before the discussion of the items of the Agenda the Assembly resolves on the following:

- a) Removal of member,
- b) Any request of a removed member by a decision of the BoD,
- c) Any decision of the BoD on the entry of a new member,
- d) Any proposal by a member regarding an item of the Agenda.

**C.** If the General Assembly must decide on the election of members of the BoD and the Auditing Committee, proceeds the same day on the election of a three member Election Committee which will be responsible to conduct the above elections in secret voting.

#### QUORUM OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a) The General Assembly has a quorum when is present at least the one third (1/3) of the representatives of the regular Associations-members and at least the one third (1/3) of the Associations-members entitled to vote and have paid their fees to the HFoPwMS.
- b) When there is no quorum at the first General Assembly, a new one is convened with the same Agenda within a month at the same place at the same time and the quorum is declared regardless of the number of participating representatives.

### **Article 13**

#### ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS – DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

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ss@yahoo.gr

The proceedings of the General Assembly are managed by a three member Directory-Board which is being elected for this purpose by the representatives of the Associations-members and one of them is appointed by the body as president.

These three persons of the Directory Board cannot be members of the BoD or the Auditing Committee or candidates in case of election for one of the Organs of Management of the HFoPwMS.

2. Minutes are being kept at the General Assemblies by General Secretary of the HFoPwMS who can use a tape recorder. These minutes are handed over within thirty (30) working days to the BoD, undersigned by the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary General of the HFoPwMS.
3. At the general Assemblies there are no visitors allowed except those who have been explicitly invited by the BoD and fall under the following categories:
  - a) Representatives of similar Federations
  - b) Public Ministries' employees, representatives of state organs etc who are involved or related to the items of the Agenda.
  - c) Journalists and
  - d) Some people assisting the representatives or helping in the Assembly proceedings
4. The Decisions of the Assemblies are being taken with a majority of the present representatives of the Associations-members who have the right to vote if not stated otherwise at the present AoA.

There is a roll-call vote and takes place following the decision of the President of the General Assembly either by "roll call" or "raising of hands" but never orally.

5. The voting is secret for:
  - a. The election of Organs of Management (BoD and Elective Committee).
  - b. Personal matters
  - c. Removal of Associations –members and representatives
  - d. The election of representatives of the HFoPwMS to other Bodies, only if the BoD of the HFoPwMS resolves that their nomination needs to be decided by the General Assembly.In the first case (a) it is necessary to make a three member elective committee while in cases (b) and (c) and (d) the Presidency of the General Assembly count the votes and announces the results.

#### **Article 14**

#### **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLIES**

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The Extraordinary General Assemblies of the HFoPwMS are convened following a relevant decision of the BoD or if there is a written request by at least 1/3 of all the representatives of the Associations-members. In their written request they have to mention the specific topics that should be discussed. In that case the BoD must decide within ten (10) days upon receipt of the written request if an extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened, the date of which cannot be set later than two (2) months after the decision was taken by the BoD. At this Extraordinary General Assembly it is imperative that the 4/5 of the people made the relevant request participate. If this is not the case, the general Assembly is cancelled and shall not be repeated.

In case a meeting of an Extraordinary General Assembly takes place, the BoD shall invite all the Associations-members of the HFoPwMS to participate. On the invitation it must be included in details the date, the place and the items of the Agenda. This invitation is sent by letter or email to the email address of the Associations-members of the HFoPwMS at least 20 days before the meeting of the Extraordinary General Assembly.

The Extraordinary General Assembly has a quorum when the 1/3 of the representatives of the Associations-members participate. In case it is cancelled because there was not a quorum, it shall be repeated without new invitation needed and without additional items on the Agenda, the following week, the same day, on the same time, at the same place and proceed with its proceedings regardless of the number of the participants.

The Extraordinary General Assemblies undertake their proceedings according to the AoA of the General Assembly.

The President of the General Assembly shall not allow any discussion to take place if the relevant item is not included in the Agenda.

## **Article 15**

### **ELECTIONS**

- A.** A new list of candidates for the BoD and the Auditing committee is opened twenty (20) days before the meeting of the General Assembly which will carry out elections for new BoD and new Auditing committee.

All participants who are representatives of the Associations-members can be candidates. The submission of application to stand as a candidate (for BoD and Auditing Committee) shall take place in writing and sent with registered mail or fax or through internet to the BoD of the HFoPwMS at least ten (10) days before the opening of the proceedings of the

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General Assembly for the election of managing organs and the list of candidates is finalised.

The management of the HFoPwMS announces the names of the candidates at least one (1) day before the General Assembly at a special meeting.

**B.1.** The BoD will prepare a voting in alphabetical order of the names of the candidates in two separate lists, one for the BoD and one for the Auditing Committee.

**B.2.** The representatives who have received most votes shall be elected to the BoD according to the success order and the classification of the total representatives of HFoPwMS' vote. For the Auditing Committee it is prohibited to elect all three (3) of its members from representatives-candidates from the same Association-member, so respectively the third or the fourth representative who has received most votes is elected according to the success order and the classification.

**B.3.** The above rule of the percentages in the election procedure of the members of the Auditing Committee of the HFoPwMS can be altered only after a relevant decision of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS. This decisions must be taken at least one (1) year prior to its application and with 3/4 majority of the present representatives and in no case with a presence of less than half plus one of the total number of representatives.

**B.4.** The above rule of the percentages in the election procedure of the members of the BoD of the HFoPwMS can be altered only after a relevant decision of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS. This decisions must be taken at least one (1) year prior to its application and with 3/4 majority of the present representatives and in no case with a presence of less than half plus one of the total number of representatives.

**C.** Every representative of an Association-member of the HFoPwMS can vote maximum for up to five (5) people (5 cross signs) for the election of members of the HFoPwMS's BoD and up to two (2) for the election of members of the Auditing Committee.

**D.** The Candidates list -ballot form is being handed over to the President of the General Assembly by the BoD. The President makes the announcement of the candidates and makes the list available on a visible spot inside the venue hall.

**E.** The candidates must be Greek citizens or citizens of the European Union or citizens of other countries who legally stay in Greece (with a residence permit), have the right to vote and to be elected according to the present AoA and the law, are not fully incapacitated and are PwMS and are suffering from demyelinating disease of the central nervous system. Also, candidates can be persons who are partly incapacitated but are not partly or supplementary

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incapacitated due to mental or psychological disease and have not been denied the right of financial management.

F. The same person cannot be a candidate for both the BoD and the Auditing Committee. Also a candidate for the Auditing Committee cannot be a relative (up to second degree) of a candidate for the BoD.

G If the number of the candidates is not enough to cover the number of the members of the BoD, which has nine (9) posts or the Auditing Committee, which has tree (3) posts, then the General Assembly has the right to propose candidates from the persons present with the same qualifications. If these candidates accept the offer made to them by the General Assembly they are considered legally elected.

H. During the election of the Management bodies of the HFoPwMS (BoD & Auditing Committee) a representative of the judicial authority is required and, if this is not possible, a lawyer (appointed by the BoD of the HFoPwMS) participates.

## **Article 16**

### **ELECTIOS – ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**

1. The Elections are being held by a three member Election Committee which is elected by the BoD at the opening of the election procedure.
2. The Elections Committee immediately selects a President and a Secretary from its members. The members of the Elections Committee cannot be candidates for any other position on that day.
3. The Elections Committee can ask from the BoD and the President of the General Assembly any help or document related to its duties.
4. Before the members of the Elections Committee undertake their duties any objection towards the validity of their election can be submitted to the General Assembly. This will be discussed immediately by and resolves respectively instantly. If the objection is being accepted a new member of the Elections Committee is elected immediately by the General Assembly.
5. Once the Elections Committee undertake its duties and lists the representatives of Associations-members participating and entitled to vote, proceeds in solving any dispute, deciding on any objection, counting the votes, keeping the minutes of the election and pronounces the result of the voting starting with the candidate who received more votes. After that, the names of all those who have been elected as regular or substitute members of the BoD and the Auditing Committee are announced according to the present AoA.

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6. Every representative of the Association-member has the right to vote if the Association-member has paid its fees.
7. The counting of votes and the relevant record keeping on the election of the Elections Committee takes place in the hall of the venue of the General Assembly, where the election took place.
8. In case this not possible the above takes place at the offices of the HFoPwMS or at an other date.
9. Every ballot form taken out of the ballot-box is numbered, initialized and is considered valid if:
  - a. has up to five (5) cross signs for the members of the BoD and two (2) cross signs for the Auditing Committee
  - b. cannot be recognized by any special marking
10. During the ballot counting the Elections Committee does not allow any candidate or anybody who is not involved in this process to come closer.
11. The representatives watch in silence the work of the Elections Committee and if they remark any wrongdoing or omissions they make a relevant note to its President for take care of the matter.
12. The Elections Committee declares as regular members of the BoD the first nine (9) candidates according to the success order and the classification apart from the association they represent.

In the same way the Auditing Committee declares as the regular members; the first three (3) candidates who received the majority of votes according to article 15, Para B, Subparagraph 3 and the rest candidates as alternate members.
13. In case two or more candidates have received equal votes the Elections Committee will draw lots to give priority to those who will be selected.

## **Article 17**

### **CONSTITUTION OF BoD – ASSUMPTION OF COMPETENCES - DUTIES**

1. The HFoPwMS is being managed by the (9) nine-member BoD which is elected by the General Assembly, according to provision of article 15, Para B of the present statutes and its term last for three (3) years.
2. Within 15days after the election and under the presidency of the Counselor-member who received the majority of the votes, the elected members of the BoD are convened to a special meeting in order to constitute a body and to elect in secret voting: 1. President, 2. Vice-President, 3. General Secretary, 4. Treasurer, 5. Public and International Relation

Counselor, 6. Representative of the youth and three members. The President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General, the Public and International Relation Counselor and the Treasurer constitute the Presidency.

The newly constituted BoD, in no more than seven (7) days will take over from the removed BoD with the relevant record keeping, the archives, the stamp, the records, the books and in general all the asset of the HFoPwMS, and shall take full responsibility thereafter.

3. The members of the BoD are personally liable, jointly liable for the fulfillment of their duties; are liable for all the decisions taken during their meetings unless they protest or constitute a minority on a certain decision. In the event that they constituted a minority it is recorded. Every decision of the BoD taken by a majority is valid and is approved by the rest members, even by the ones that disagree. If they disagree but are absent on that meeting they are obliged to deposit in writing their objections, to the BoD within ten (10) days and a relevant note shall be written in the minutes of the next meeting. If the above procedure is not followed, the member who was absent shall be considered liable as those who voted the decision. The decisions of the BoD are to be correctly followed by all the members of the BoD.
4. The members of the BoD are obliged to apply the decisions taken, which should not be against the regulations and should aim at the fulfillment of the aims of the present AoA. All the members of the BoD shall participate at all meetings and shall dispose appropriate time for the covering of the needs of the HFoPwMS.

## **Article 18**

### **MEETINGS – QUORUM – DECISIONS**

1. The BoD shall meet regularly at least once per month (except from August) following a written and also an electronic invitation by the President of the BoD where it shall be statute the place, the time and the topics of the Agenda. Regular meeting can also take place every two or three months if there are no significant reasons. In addition, due to the members' of the BoD health problems (Multiple Sclerosis with deterioration symptoms, recurrence etc.) some meetings will take place online. Extraordinarily, the President can convene a meeting of the BoD when he judges it necessary or if at least five (5) members of the BoD ask for it.
2. The BoD has a Quorum when at least five (5) members are present; one of them must be the President or the Vice-President.

3. During the discussions the BoD can deal with all matters relevant to the interests and aims of the HFoPwMS except those that must be submitted to the General Assembly.

The decisions of the BoD are taken by simple majority of the present members without secrecy, unless it concerns a private matter when the voting is secret.

In case of equality in votes the matter shall be debated once more during the same meeting and if again the votes are equal then the President's vote counts double.

The meetings of the BoD are kept in the minute book or in a file of printed pages of the minutes that are kept in electronic form autographed or signed electronically. At the following meeting the minutes are read and are undersigned by the members who were present at that meeting. For force majeure reasons this can take place at the next one meeting, but not later.

The decisions of the BoD are automatically validated, immediately applied and are valid for all the members. If at least five members ask to re-examine a non-unanimous decision taken by the BoD within 10 days of its confirmation, then this subject is inserted on the Agenda of the next meeting of the BoD. Out of these 5 members one at least must be part of the Presidency.

In extraordinary circumstances and for urgent matters it is possible to ratify the minutes at the end of the meeting itself.

The members of the BoD are not allowed to announce to third parties decisions, actions, thoughts, debates that took place between them, because they shall be confidential by their nature and if they are revealed to third parties they may harm the HFoPwMS. The member who is found guilty of such actions shall be sanctioned and even terminated.

4. At the above mentioned meetings it is possible to attend without the right to vote:
- a. member(s) of the Auditing Committee
  - b. member(s) of the BoD of the Member-Associations that constitute the HFoPwMS
  - c. Any representative of a state Body or other Organ if this is deemed necessary by the BoD.
  - d. Member(s) with Multiple Sclerosis of the Association-members of the HFoPwMS that wish to be at the meeting as observers if the BoD accepts it unanimously.
  - e. Anyone invited by the BoD with a decision of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the present members.

## **Article 19**

### **ABSENCES – RESIGNATIONS – REPLACEMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE BoD-AUDITING COMMITTEE**

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1. Every delegate that is absent without excuse for (3) three consecutive meetings of the BoD (ordinary or extraordinary) and with an excuse out of (4) four, is considered as resigning from his duties as a member and that his resignation has been accepted.

Any member who has resigned from his duties, as stated above shall be informed in writing by the Secretary and its duties is assigned to the first alternate member.

2. If the president quits or resigns, then all the members of the BoD are convened at a special meeting under the Presidency of the Vice-President and they proceed immediately to the election of a new President.

Any delegate who has submitted a resignation keeps his position until the next available meeting (regular or extra ordinary) of the BoD.

Until then the delegate can recall his resignation. If it has already been accepted by the BoD during the above mentioned meeting, it can no longer be recalled and his position is given to the first alternate member.

His resignation is also considered irrevocable if a month has elapsed and he did not recall it. In case five (5) delegates resign, then the all BoD and the Auditing Committee are terminated. In that case the article 14 applies and an extra-ordinary General Assembly is convened in order to elect new delegates to both the BoD and the Auditing Committee.


3. In case that before the end of term of the BoD or the Auditing Committee there is a need to fill a vacant seat of a regular delegate there are called upon:

- a) The alternate members consecutively from the relevant list.

- b) If the above list was not enough or if the alternate members do not accept their appointment, then the members of the BoD of the HFoPwMS can elect one regular member of the BoD or the Auditing Committee from the representatives of the Associations-members to the HFoPwMS without referring the matter to the General Assembly. For this purpose at least five (5) delegates that are interested for the HFoPwMS are convened, drawn and will draw lots to give priority to those who will be selected. The procedure of -Para b- can be applied for the replacement of 3 members (BoD, Auditing Committee).

## **Article 20**

### **JURIDICTION – COMPETENCE OF BoD**

 A The BoD manages the HFoPwMS according to the law, the AoA and the decisions of the General Assembly.

The BoD when in session:

1. Resolves and decides on all matters concerning persons with MS relative to the aims of the HFoPwMS
2. Manages the assets and all issues in general relating to the HFoPwMS
3. Prepares the resolutions of the General Assembly.
4. Sets the items of the Agenda.
5. Ensures the application of the decisions of every General Assembly.
6. Ensures the respect of the rules set out in the present AoA.
7. Ensures the respect of the internal regulations.
8. Ensures the respect of in the decisions of the BoD.
9. Corresponds with all Authorities, Public services and Institutions and in general with all private or legal entities
10. Chooses and employs for the need of the HFoPwMS a legal advisor when this is deemed necessary
11. Drafts along with the Treasurer or the Auditing Committee who takes full responsibility until the 31<sup>st</sup> December every year :
  - a. the budget containing the income and the expenses of the year to come and
  - b. the financial statement of the current year which is submitted to the annual regular General Assembly for approval
12. Approves payments up to one thousand five hundred (1.500,00€) Euros per expenditure, which cover extraordinary expenses deemed necessary, which can be made with the President's instruction and this order shall be submitted for approval to the following meeting of the BoD of the HFoPwMS.

Payments exceeding one thousand five hundred (1.500,00€) Euros up to an amount of three thousand (3.000,00€) Euros in case of need can be made only after the instruction of the Presidency and this decision shall be submitted to the next meeting of the BoD for approval.

If the budget runs out of cash then the BoD can take the responsibility and deposit this amount, up to 20% of this, from the available funds in cash. For an amount exceeding the 20% of this amount the BoD needs to convene an extraordinary General Assembly, for approval.

- 12a. Monthly payments for amounts exceeding three thousand (3.000, 00€) Euros can be made only after the BoD approval. The BoD can approve monthly partial instalments up to five thousand (5.000,00€) Euros for the payments of invoices only through electronic disbursement of installments via internet banking for the accommodation of the HFoPwMS.
13. If a matter arises that is not covered by the present AoA, the laws of the State apply and in particular the Civil and Corporate law. For this matter the BoD can decide after consultation with the Legal Advisor.
14. Keeps accounts for all its actions to the annual regular General Assembly
15. Decides on the convocation of all regular and extra-ordinary General Assemblies
16. Forms the various Committees composed by representatives of the Association-members or assistant members of the HFoPwMS or specialized scientists to prepare actions aiming at the fulfillment of the purposes of the HFoPwMS.
17. The BoD keeps in books, files or electronic records the following:
- a. Registry of correspondence.
  - b. Book or file of Association-members', representatives' and natural members' of primary associations records.
  - c. Book or file of General Assembly minutes.
  - d. Book or file of Auditing Committee minutes.
  - e. Book or file of the minutes of meetings of the BoD.
  - f. Book or file of the Fund.
  - g. Book or file of compositions of the Election Committee.
  - h. Copies of receipts and orders to pay (in a two or three copies bloc) or any other means is considered useful and necessary.
  - i. Book or file of the assets of the Federation.
18. The BoD when in session decides on all of the above and on any topic is proposed or is judged as necessary by the President and its members.
19. In case of an important matter on which the BoD cannot decide, the matter is referred to the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS, which is from that time responsible to reach a decision.

## **Article 21**

### **DUTIES – COMPETENCE OF MEMBERS OF THE BoD**

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**A. Duties and competences of the President:**

The President of the BoD is the President of the HFoPwMS.

The President is the legal representative of the HFoPwMS. This means that he is representing the HFoPwMS in front of all State Authorities, Judicial Authorities, Municipal Authorities, Private and Legal Entities and in general in any relationship of the HFoPwMS.

1. Convenes the meetings of the BoD.
2. Convenes all the members to the General Assembly with the General Secretary as it is stated in the present constitution.
3. Along with the Vice-President sets up the items of the agenda of the BoD.
4. Declares the beginning and the end of the meetings of the BoD at which he is the chairman, he invites the members wishing to express their opinion to speak ,he refuses the floor to those who are deviating from the subjects debated and sets to be put to the vote.
5. Along with the Secretary General of the HFoPwMS signs every document of the HFoPwMS as well as the certified minutes of the General Assemblies.
6. With the view to implement a decision of the BoD or of the General Assembly, he binds up the HFoPwMS by signing all relevant documents the documents accompanying any agreements.
7. Co-signs where needed in the books and files of the Treasurer and the General Secretary.
8. He is the chairman of the BoD and takes care its decisions to be implemented within the respective time limit.
9. Supervises the implementation of the rules and regulations of the present AoA, as well as of the internal rules and audits the members who do not comply with their obligations towards the HFoPwMS.
10. Can participate and then be the chairman at all meetings of the Committees of the HFoPwMS.
11. Supervises in general all the matters regarding the HFoPwMS and in special cases has the right to decide, on his own responsibility, for any action that will serve, favor or secure the needs and interests of the HFoPwMS even without any prior decision of the BoD if circumstances so require, or if for instance any delay might harm the HFoPwMS; also for similar reasons he may give the order to the Treasurer to pay up to the amount of one thousand five hundred (1.500,00) Euros to cover up some fees of the HFoPwMS which

are obligatory. He is obliged though to inform the members on these actions and ask for their approval at the first meeting (regular or extra-ordinary) of the BoD.

12. He should be accountable for all of the actions of the BoD to the General Assembly.

13. The President must have adequate time for the fulfillment of all his obligations towards the HFoPwMS.

14. The President must inform the Vice-President for all the matters of the HFoPwMS.

#### **B. Duties and Competence of the Vice-President**

The Vice-President of the HFoPwMS replaces the President when he is absent or or prevented from attending.

The BoD can decide to assign momentarily or permanently part of the duties of the President, to the Vice-President. The Vice-President must, even if he is not replacing the President, take active part in the application of the decisions of the BoD and find adequate time for this purpose like the President.

#### **C. Duties and Competence of the General Secretary.**

The General Secretary is running the offices of the HFoPwMS, keeps the records, the books, the official stamp, the records of the Associations-members and any other asset of the HFoPwMS.

Edits and undersigns together with the President the recorded minutes of the meetings of the BoD, the orders to pay any expenses and all the documents, and in general keeps all the recorded minutes that are signed by all the present members at those meetings.

He is responsible for safe-keeping of all items and supplies that belong to the HFoPwMS and informs the President on the items of the Agenda of the BoD meetings. If the President is absent or prevented from attending he is replaced by the Public and International Relations Counselor or anyone appointed by the President.

#### **D. Duties and Competence of the Treasurer**

The Treasurer is responsible for all the receipts and payments of the HFoPwMS.

Amounts recoveries are implemented by a booklet with three or two copies of each transaction in the name of the HFoPwMS, the payment of expenditures by three or two-copy vouchers or other receipts.

He can recover all the post or bank checks in the name of the HFoPwMS with full responsibility and reports in writing these actions to the BoD.

Without prejudice to the Article 20 Para 12 in urgent situations the Treasurer can pay in cash up to one thousand five hundred (1.500, 00) Euros by written instruction of the President and up to three thousand (3.000, 00) Euros by instruction of the President provided that this expenditure shall be approved by the BoD at its first meeting, according to article 20.

Keeps a book of accounts, balance sheet records or assets book of the HFoPwMS and in general any book or file that may seem necessary for the good and transparent management, but all of the above can also be kept electronically. It is crucial that every transaction – payment and/or receipt of funds is registered in the accounts book and this book needs to be updated in a timely manner, not later than 7 days after it each transaction takes place.

The Treasurer is not allowed to keep in cash more than one thousand (1.000, 00) Euros and if so only for urgent matters of the HFoPwMS.

Beyond this sum he must, within seven days, deposit the available amount to a bank account in the name of the HFoPwMS.

Informs on the financial situation of the HFoPwMS in every meeting of the BoD, asks for approval regarding payment orders and proceedings for the benefit of the HFoPwMS.

He is responsible and liable for any wrongdoing at the Treasury of the HFoPwMS and is disciplinary, civil and criminal liable.

Drafts and submits to the BoD the Balance sheet of the current year until the 31<sup>st</sup> of January of same year and a budget with income and expenses for the following year and asks that all the above be submitted to the General Assembly for approval. When the Treasurer is prevented from attending or absent he is being replaced by the Public and International Relations Counselor or any other member of the appointed by the President.

When the Treasurer even if he is being replaced is absent for more than three (3) months, he is replaced by the BoD unless he had received a permission for his absence.

If the Treasurer doesn't perform his duties according to the provision of the current AoA he is replaced by a decision of the BoD within eight (8) days, after notification of his wrong doing.

The Treasurer must have adequate time for the performance of his duties.

#### **E. Duties and Competence of the Public and International Relations Counselor.**

The Public and International Relations Counselor takes care of the communication between the HFoPwMS and the State Authorities, regional government and public organs.

He looks after the Press Conferences, the press releases to the Mass Media for the actions and requests of the HFoPwMS. He takes care and suggests the organization of receptions, lectures, conferences, festivals or any other similar event which will ensure the promotion of the aims of the HFoPwMS. In addition, the Public and International Relations Counselor takes care of the contacts between the HFoPwMS and same or similar organizations abroad and examines any possibilities of funding from the European Union Funds or other sources from abroad.



**CHAPTER F**  
**Article 22**  
**AUDITING COMMITTEE – SET UP, DUTIES**

The Auditing Committee has 3 members which are elected from the General Assembly of the representatives of all the Association-members, which also elects the BoD –as stipulated in articles 15, 16, 19- ELECTIONS-ABSENCES with secret voting and a majority depending on the number of votes each received but in no case there can be all members from the same Association-member.

The three members of the Auditing Committee serve a 3-year term.

The elected members of the Auditing Committee must, within fifteen (15) days from their election and under the presidency of the Counselor, who received the majority of the votes, convene the first meeting where via secret voting they elect:

- a) President and
- b) Secretary of the Auditing Committee.

The office of President of the Auditing Committee cannot be assigned to a member who has held the same position in two consecutive terms of the HFoPwMS.

The purpose of the Auditing Committee is to check the finances of the HFoPwMS, to manage the incoming revenues, its assets and in general all actions and decisions relating to financial matters, of the Management.

The Auditing Committee is allowed whenever it considers it necessary, and is obliged under instructions of the BoD, to proceed to an audit of the all the actions regarding the financial management of the HFoPwMS, of any Committees and to check all sources of income, the level of expenditures as well as the legal justification of those expenses according to the AoA, the Budget and the Greek Laws.

After every Audit, the Auditing Committee is obliged within seven (7) days to draft a report where the results of its audit will be included in full details, especially any irregularities and to submit the signed by all its members report to the BoD of the HFoPwMS.

Regularly the Auditing Committee checks the treasury. In case of any irregularity the Auditing Committee reports its findings to the BoD following the procedure stated here above in Para 5.

At the end of every financial year the members of the Auditing Committee are obliged to undertake an annual regular audit of the whole management and to submit a detailed report to the BoD within the first forty days of the following year. At least the President of the Auditing Committee must be present at the meeting of the BoD where the Audit Report shall be

presented by him/her, who will inform the members in details and gives clarifications to any questions arising regarding the financial management of the HFoPwMS.

The Auditing Committee must present to the Annual General Assembly the above report which shows:

- a) accounting results of the financial management of the previous year
- b) inventory of the wealth of the HFoPwMS
- c) judgment for the actions and decisions of the BoD, regarding the financial management of the HFoPwMS. The report must be signed by all the members of the Auditing Committee and it will be submitted by the BoD to the General Assembly and communicated by the President of the Auditing Committee to the representatives of the Associations-members in the General Assembly.

In order to perform her duties the Auditing Committee checks the Accounting Books, the authorizing decisions for expenses and asks to be shown the cash of the Treasury.

It also has the right to examine all books, documents and other evidence which are crucial for the auditing procedure.

The Auditing Committee when supported by at least fifteen (15) representatives of Associations-members can request the convening of an extra-ordinary General Assembly when important irregularities regarding the financial management have been discovered, according to articles 15, 16 and 19.

- d) The President of the Auditing Committee or any other member of it, who is appointed in written, is entitled to be present at the meetings of the BoD and of the Presidency without a right to vote, as well as to be present at any meetings of the various committees of the HFoPwMS.

### **Article 23**

#### **BoD MEMBERS REMUNERATION AND AUDITING COMMITTEE AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HFoPwMS**

- 1) No member of the BoD or the Auditing Committee or representatives of the HFoPwMS are entitled to receive a reward for his/her services to the HFoPwMS, which are described in this Constitution regarding the time and effort they are obliged to spend for the fulfillment of their duties.
- 2) In case of fund availability and only after the cover up of the running costs, the BoD may decide to cover the travel expenses of the counselors, the members of the Auditing Committee or the representatives of the HFoPwMS residing outside the Prefecture of

Attica as well as part or all the expenses needed in order the members to provide their services for the benefit of the HFoPwMS.

**Article 24**  
**COMMITTEES**

1. The BoD if it considers it necessary may convene temporary or permanent Committees to address with the various needs of the HFoPwMS and in general for the smooth running of its affairs.
2. The term of the members of the committees shall be decided by the BoD. All the members of the Committees must be Greek citizens or European citizens or citizens of other countries that legally live in Greece (with residence permission) and their public rights have not been deprived.
3. The BoD can relieve any member of its duties if there is a significant reason.
4. The General Secretary or any other member that is defined by the BoD participates to all these committees and informs the BoD of the HFoPwMS for their activities. The decisions of the committees have an advisory role and are submitted to the judgment and approval of the BoD.
5. The Committees operate strictly within the framework of competence as attributed to each of them and cannot get involved in actions independently and uncontrollably from the BoD.
6. During the discussion of the ratification or not of the decisions of the various committees before the BoD of the HFoPwMS it is possible for any member of any Committee to submit a written memorandum containing his personal views regarding the matter in question and under extraordinary circumstances the BoD may allow the oral presentation of the matter in question.
7. The HFoPwMS' BoD cannot decide against a member of a Committee, if the member has not been informed in writing, at least eight (8) days in advance, to submit his/her defence..
8. The cash that is collected by any committee must be immediately handed over to the Treasurer and a relevant receipt from the HFoPwMS must be issued.
9. The committees are regularly meeting once (1) every two months and extraordinarily every time their presidents consider it necessary.

10. No member of any Committee is rewarded for his services with the framework of its activity in the Committee, but is entitled to receive the necessary travel expenses in accordance with the BoD's decision.

11. The Auditing Committee has the right to check the financial management of every Committee whenever they deem it necessary.

## **CHAPTER G**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AoA – DURATION – DISSOLUTION - ENTRY TO ANOTHER ASSOCIATION**

#### **Article 25**

##### AMENDMENTS TO THE AoA

The present AoA can be amended at least two years after the date of the approval of the last amendment, according to the law. There can be no time limit in which any amendments must be completed.

The amendment of this AoA can be requested by the one third (1/3) of the Associations - Members or following a decision of the BoD in the General Assembly which was convened for this purpose.

The General Assembly has quorum when half plus one of the representatives of the Associations – members are present. The amendment is approved by (3/4) three quarters of the present representatives.

Without any amendment to the present AoA any deviation of its aims, goals and rules of procedure is forbidden..

#### **Article 26**

##### DURATION – DISSOLUTION

The duration of the HFoPwMS is unlimited.

The Dissolution of the HFoPwMS can be conducted only under the following preconditions or provisions:

- a) The HFoPwMS cannot be dissolved if at least two (2) of its members-Associations remain active
- b) The dissolution of the HFoPwMS can be decided by the General Assembly of the representatives, which has been convened for this purpose, and this decision shall be valid

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when the three quarters (3/4) of the representatives of the Associations-members, who are on time with the payment of their fees, are present in the respective meeting. The decision of dissolution requires the majority of four fifths (4/5) of the present delegates.

c) In case of a dissolution the total assets of the HFoPwMS that are left after liquidation shall be distributed following a decision of the General Assembly to the Associations-members of the HFoPwMS proportionally to their importance as the latest elections would have declared.

## **Article 27**

### **ENTRY TO ANOTHER ASSOCIATION – REMOVAL**

Once the HFoPwMS has been officially recognized by the Court of First Instance in Athens and following a decision of the General Assembly taken by the majority two thirds (2/3) of the present representatives of Associations-members, can ask for to enter to an equivalent third degree organ of Association for the disabled in Greece

The General Assembly of the representatives of the Associations-members can decide on the entry to another association –removal of the HFoPwMS to any other second or third degree Association with similar aims, regardless of its a resident or non resident (it can be in the same country or abroad). In order a decision of entry to another association –removal by the General Assembly to be valid a quorum of one half (1/2) of the representatives of the Associations-members must participate to the meeting and at least one third (1/3) of the regular Associations-members and the majority of (2/3) two thirds of the present representatives must resolve on this item.

## **CHAPTER H**

### **Article 28**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

The following cannot participate in the Management and the various Committees of the HFoPwMS:

- a. If his political rights have been deprived due to an irrevocable conviction for as long as it lasts.
- b. Those who have been irrevocably sentenced for high treason, intentional homicide, espionage, , robbery, theft, misappropriation, causing bankruptcy intentionally , corruption, defection, counterfeiting, forgery, , fraud, blackmail, crime against morals as per articles 336-353 of the Penal Code, defamation, violation of the laws regarding drugs, violation of the laws

regarding mediators as well as violation of no. D/18/11/1975 resolution of the 5<sup>th</sup> Revisional Greek Parliament.

c. Those who whatever means seek a personal material gain from the activities of the HFoPwMS.

d. Those who offer their services to the HFoPwMS and receive remuneration therefore and for as long as their remuneration lasts.

Members who fall into the above categories as stated in paragraphs a, b and c during their term are thus automatically excluded.

### **Article 29**

The HFoPwMS has its own stamp which is circular and has inscribed in a circular pattern the words "HELLENIC FEDERATION OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS", lower of the seal it is inscribed the "DATE OF ESTABLISHMENT 2008" and in the centre the logo of the HFoPwMS "MS" and underneath "HELLAS".

The HFoPwMS shall celebrate its establishment annually the last Wednesday of every May, which is acknowledged as the date for battle against Multiple Sclerosis, with the name MS DAY.

### **Article 30**

The financial year for the HFoPwMS starts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January and ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December every year. The budget is edited for every financial year until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year and the balance sheet and accounts are edited for every financial year until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the next year. Thereafter they are approved by the BoD and are submitted obligatorily for approval by the annual regular General Assembly of Representatives.

### **Article 31**

#### **INTERNAL REGULATION**

The internal regulations are drafted in due time with the caring of the BoD and is voted by the General Assembly, with the quorum and majority that is required for the amendment of the Constitution. It foresees all the details of the application of the present Constitution and in general the operations of the HFoPwMS.

### **Article 32**

The HFoPwMS can deny the issuance of certificates or any other services to Associations-members, who are not up to date with their fees.

The BoD gives all information that maybe requested regarding the activities of the HFoPwMS to the supervisory Authorities.

### **Article 33**

#### **COMPENSATIONS**

1. The BoD may decide that the HFoPwMS should be remunerated employees for the purpose of performing adequately.
2. The HFoPwMS can hire a remunerated secretary who will be responsible for the written tasks of the HFoPwMS and shall be present at all meetings of the BoD and General Assembly without the right to vote.
3. The duties, the remuneration and the conditions of work of those people shall be determined according to the laws in force.
4. The HFoPwMS can cover any need of accommodation by renting appropriate properties following a decision of the BoD. The relevant renting shall be in writing and the HFoPwMS shall conclude an agreement through her legal representatives with the owner of the property. From this contract of renting, there can be no legal claims for the representatives of the HFoPwMS who signed on her behalf.
5. To the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General, the Treasurer, the Consultant of Public and International Relationships and the members of the BoD or any member of the HFoPwMS who has been assigned by the BoD to complete a task, it is possible to grant remunerations if they are to be occupied with tasks pertaining to the HFoPwMS and after suggestion of the President and decisions of the BoD. The amount of remuneration shall be fixed in Budget that is accepted by a decision of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS.

### **Article 34**

The present amended AoA has (34) thirty four articles. It has been accepted by voting for each of its articles and in total from the members of the General Assembly of the HFoPwMS present to the General Assembly of 10 November 2018 that were convened for this purpose and has been signed by the Bureau of the General Assembly to be granted by the Court of First Instance in Athens or any other Court in charge and to be implemented after the registration to the Public Book of Associations that is kept the Court of First Instant in Athens or any other Court in charge.

ΑΝΝΙΜΠΙΑ  
Δ.Σ.Α. 3247  
Υ. ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗ 153 4  
IN: 60  
asG

Athens 10/11/18

[signature]

[signature]

Vasiliki Maraka  
President of HFoPwMS

Maria Mamalaki  
General Secretary of HFoPwMS

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I confirm that this is a true translation from the Greek original document into the English language.

Date: 25/11/2019

The certifying lawyer

ΣΠΥΡΙΔΩΝ Κ. ΓΙΑΝΝΙΜΠΙΑΣ  
ΔΙΚΗΓΟΡΟΣ - (Α.Μ. / Δ.Σ.Α. 32475)  
ΕΛ. ΒΕΝΙΖΕΛΟΥ 212-214 ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗ 153 4  
ΑΦΜ: 104806548 - ΔΟΥ: ΗΛΙΟΥΠΟΛΗΣ  
ΤΗΛ: 210 9940580 - ΚΙΝ: 6971 69559  
e-mail: [spyrnidon@yahoo.gr](mailto:spyrnidon@yahoo.gr)

ΣΥΝΔΙΑΣΤΗ  
ΔΙΚΗΓΟΡΟΣ  
ΙΕΛ BENZEDOU 21  
ΑΘΗΝΑ 114630654  
ΤΗΛ: 210 9940  
e-mail: sylla

ΣΥΝΔΙΑΣΤΗ Κ. ΠΑΝΝΙΜΠΑΣ  
ΔΙΚΗΓΟΡΟΣ - ΑΔΑΠ / ΑΔΑΕΚ 32/251  
ΙΕΛ BENZEDOU 21  
ΑΘΗΝΑ 114630654  
ΤΗΛ: 210 994038  
e-mail: kpannibas@yahoo.gr