



Kosovo Women's Network

Serving, Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Women and Girls

STATUTE OF KOSOVO WOMEN'S NETWORK

This statute will govern the non-profit association Kosovo Women's Network, established in accordance with Law.04/L-57 on Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations in the Republic of Kosovo.

Article 1

Name, form and address

- 1.1. Organisation will be called **Kosovo Women's Network**.
- 1.2. It may also be known as **KWN**.
- 1.3. Organization is a non-for profit association, according to the definition given in Article 5.2 and 6 of Law no. 04/L-57 On Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations in the Republic of Kosovo.
- 1.4. Organization will not distribute any net earnings or profits as such to any person. Wealth, income and profit of the organization will be used to support the goals of the non-profit organization and will not be used to create individual special benefits, whether directly or indirectly, to any founder, director, officer, any member of association, any employee or donor of the NGO. However, the payment of reasonable compensation to such persons may be made for the work they did for this organization.
- 1.5. Any transaction between an NGO and another related member, or among an NGO and members, officers, Board members or employees of such organization shall be prohibited unless the governing body decides, following reasonable review, that the transaction is in the interest of, fair and reasonable to the NGO, and that the NGO could not reach a more favourable agreement within reasonable attempts and given the existing circumstances.
- 1.6. The organization has its head office at Kadri Gjata Str. (former "Feriz Blakçori"), II floor, no. 8, 10000, Prishtina, Kosovo.
- 1.7. The organization may engage in economic activities in order to support its non-profit activities in compliance with paragraph 1.4 hereof and Article 4 of Law no. 04/L-57 on the Freedom of Association, provided that the gained income through economic activities are used exclusively to reach the goals stated herein.

Article 2

Founders

2.1.

Founders of the organisation are:

Igballe Rogova, Prishtina

Luljeta Vuniqi, Prishtina

Arjeta Rexha, Prishtina

2.2. The Assembly of Members shall decide on the NGO authorized representative who shall represent the organization and receive all official notes on its behalf. He or she shall be responsible for informing the relevant administrative authorities of any change in the data declared when registering the organization.

Article 3

Purpose

3.1. The purpose of KWN is to support, protect and promote the rights and interests of women and girls throughout Kosovo, regardless of their political views, religion, ethnicity, age, education level, sexual orientation and ability. KWN fulfils this purpose through the exchange of experience and information, partnerships and networking, research, advocacy and service. More specifically, the objectives of KWN are:

- To ensure equal, active and effective participation of women and girls in political, economic and social life in Kosovo;
- To advocate for the rights of women and girls in all aspects of life;
- To empower the movement of women and girls through solidarity and mutual support;
- To achieve the inclusion of women's groups in regional and international initiatives to promote the rights of women and girls in Kosovo.

3.2. To meet its goals, KWN will undertake, but will not be limited to the following activities:

- Shall identify common and individual concerns and problems of associations and its members;
- Shall provide information and technical assistance for its member associations;
- Shall organize joint campaigns to inform, educate and advocate on important issues to women's rights in Kosovo;
- Shall engage in creating cooperative relationships among KWN and Parliament, Government and the Ministries of Kosovo in order to transmit the concerns and proposals of women and girls in Kosovo. These relationships will be achieved through contacts, reports, public presentations, and other methods;
- Shall engage in media, public discussions and other appropriate means to increase public and institutional awareness concerning the participation of women in all aspects of life;
- Shall engage in creating public and institutional favourable climate on implementation of all rights of women and girls;
- Shall gather, analyse and share information on the laws and regulations of the institutions of the Republic of Kosovo that are important to women and girls.

Article 4 Membership

4.1. KWN membership is open to any person regardless of race, colour, gender, language, religion, political or other opinions, ethnical and societal background, affiliation to a community, property, economic and social status, sexual orientation, birth, disability or another personal status, in compliance with the rules set forward by the KWN Assembly and Board. Every person interested in becoming a KWN member must accept the KWN Statute and Mission and commit himself or herself to fulfilling the KWN goals.

4.2. Assembly of Members shall determine whether membership payment will be required from members. If it is determined that the membership payment must be made, the Assembly will decide on the rules and procedures for membership payment, and taking various measures which shall be specified in the membership regulation.

4.3. Membership of any member can be terminated or suspended by decision of the Assembly of Members in the event of:

- Member association ceases to exist,
- Member voluntarily gives up membership in KWN,
- Member is expelled by the Board of KWN in cases of serious violations of the statute, internal regulations of KWN or decisions of the association.

In case of suspension, the duration of the suspension shall be determined.

4.4. Termination or suspension of membership by the Assembly of Members shall be determined by two-thirds (2/3) of the members' vote.

Article 5 Assembly of Members

5.1. Assembly of Members is the highest governing body of the organization. It consists of all members of the organization.

5.2. Assembly of Members has ultimate responsibility on policy and financial matters of the organization. In this context, the Assembly of Members shall have the mandate to elect and dismiss officers in leading positions of the NGO; approve regular financial and working reports; interpret and amend the Statute; and decide on joinder, division or dissolution of the NGO. For these responsibilities, a two-thirds (2/3) of the Assembly of Members must vote pro, and they may not be deleted to other lower-instance bodies.

5.3. Besides the exclusive powers that the Assembly of Members has by the Statute, it shall also have the following additional powers:

- Approves the Statute of the association, its changes and decides for the distribution of the KWN;
- Elects and dismisses the members of the Board of KWN;
- Defines annual strategy of KWN;
- Approves annual budget of KWN;
- Accepts and approves the annual performance report and annual financial report of KWN;
- Determines the amount of the membership fee that must be paid by the members;
- Decides also on other issues relevant to performance and operation of KWN, which do not fall under the mandate of other KWN bodies.

5.4. Assembly of Members can delegate any of its powers to the Executive Board or any other intermediary body or officer of the organization, by the decision of the majority of its members, except for the responsibilities which may not be delegated in compliance with Article 13 of Law no. 04/L-57 on Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations in the Republic of Kosovo and paragraph 2 of Article 5 hereof.

Article 6

Meeting s of the Assembly of Members

6.1. Assembly of Members will meet at least twice a year at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which shall review and approve the assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and programs of the organization for the previous year, as well as plans for assets, foreseen liabilities, revenues, expenses and programs of the organization for the following year.

6.2. Assembly of Members shall meet in regular members' meetings. The matter and/or change of regular meetings of the Assembly of Members shall be determined by the KWN Rules of Procedure.

6.3. Assembly of Members can also meet at Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) whenever is required (by the half of the members) or by the Executive Board. Such request must be addressed to the President of the Assembly of Members who will announce the meeting to all members, in accordance with the procedure described in the preceding paragraph.

6.4. Written notification for AGM and/or the EGM including date and place of the meeting, along with the agenda for the meeting will be distributed to all members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

6.5. For the AGM and/or EGM meeting to be held, a participation of 50% + 1 of the members is needed. If the quorum is not reached at the first attempt, the meeting will be postponed to a later date for which a new notice will be sent to all members.

6.6. Each member of organization has one vote in the Assembly of Members.

6.7. Decisions in the Assembly of Members shall be taken by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present.

6.8. No member of the Assembly of Members shall be allowed to participate in discussions or decision-making concerning matters for which s/he has a direct or indirect economical interest. A member of the Assembly of Members is considered to have economic interest if he or she or any member of his or her family has a direct or indirect economical interest.

Article 7 **Executive Board**

7.1. Based on the powers conferred by the present Statute, the intermediary governing body, the Executive Body, shall always comply with the organization's goal.

7.2. The Executive Board shall have the following responsibilities:

- Represents KWN in relation to third parties and acting on his behalf;
- Responsible that all operations of KWN to be performed in accordance with laws and regulations in force in Kosovo;
- Assists the Executive Director in ensuring funds for the operation of KWN;
- Accepts and approves quarterly working plans and reports of KWN;
- Prepares Assembly sessions of KWN;
- Takes financial decisions and manages assets of the association;
- Prepares the proposal of changes and amendments of the Statute, and submits it to the Assembly for approval;
- Issues other acts of KWN, except the Statute;
- May propose the KWN's authorized representative;
- Reviews and approves the admission of members to KWN;
- Decides on and provides recommendations concerning cooperation and relation with other associations and institutions;
- Establishes permanent commissions and working groups of KWN;
- Responsible to inform the members and the public on the work and activities of the KWN;
- Performs other duties according to the orders and instructions of the Assembly of KWN.

7.3. The Executive Board is elected by the Assembly of Members. They will be elected individually by a majority vote of the present members of the Assembly of Members. The method of election and rules of procedure of the Board members shall be determined by a special rules of procedure for the Board, which shall be approved by the majority of the members in the Assembly of Members.

7.4. Executive Board shall be composed of at least three (3) members, with one of them being elected as the President of the Board. In case of a higher number of members, the Board must always have an odd number of members. The President shall be elected for a two- (2-) year mandate and will exercise his/her duty until a new President is elected; he/she may rerun and be re-elected.

7.5. Executive Board cannot be composed of two (2) members from the same organization because of conflict of interest.

7.6. Executive Board members may be elected for two (2) consecutive mandates. They must wait one (1) year before they may rerun.

7.7. Executive Board members may be dismissed before the end of their mandate by a majority vote of the Assembly of Members.

7.8. A Board member may be dismissed if:

- Does not attend three consecutive meetings of the Board within one calendar year;
- Breaches the Statute of KWN or the internal regulations of the association;
- Does material or moral harm to KWN.

7.9. A Board member's mandate shall cease in case of:

- Death;
- Resignation; or
- Dismissal by the Assembly of Members.

7.10. In case of early cessation of a Board member's mandate, the Assembly of Members shall elect the successor within 60 days to serve for the rest of the mandate/with a new mandate.

7.11. Decisions in the Executive Board are taken by the majority of present members.

7.12. Voting for important matters must be done in writing. Executive Board members shall have a 48-hour time limit to state their position. In case of silence, this shall be taken to mean that the matter has been approved. Written statements may be given later having regard to extraordinary circumstances such as illness, trip, unfortunate event, etc.

7.13. For any matter, Executive Board may address itself to the Assembly of Members for a decision.

7.14. The work of Executive Board members is voluntary. The payment or reasonable compensation for the work carried out for the organization shall be determined by the special rules of procedure of the Executive Board.

7.15. No member of the Board may participate in discussion or voting for a decision concerning a matter for which he or she has a direct or indirect economic interest. A member of the Assembly of Members is considered to have economic interest if he, she or any member of his or her family has a direct or indirect economical interest

Article 8 Officers and Employees

8.1. If required, KWN shall hire persons to assume the daily tasks of the organization. The Executive Director shall be elected/appointed by the Assembly of Members.

8.2. Officers should be employed in compliance with the Labour Law of the Republic of Kosovo, detailing all income and other benefits to be paid to the officer, and the officer's duties and job description. All payments must be reasonable and should be paid only for work performed for the organization.

Article 9 **Dissolution of the organisation**

9.1. The organization may be dissolved by decision of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Assembly of Members.

9.2. When deciding on the dissolution of the organization, the Assembly of Members shall indicate the name of the association or foundation that will receive the assets remaining after the obligations of the organization are paid. Association(s) or foundation(s) chosen should have the same or similar purposes as the organization.

Article 10 **Amendments to the statute**

10.1. The current statute may be amended by decision of two-thirds (2/3) of majority of Assembly of Members.

Article 11 **Reporting periods and Financial Year**

11.1. Executive Board and appointed officials shall submit annual reports to the Assembly of Members, in the AGM or whenever requested by the EGM.

11.2. The organization's financial year shall coincide with the calendar year.

This statute is approved by the Assembly of Members of KWN on 1 July 2017 in Prishtina.

