

# Statutes of association

## SciFilmIt

### Name and headquarters

#### Article 1

SciFilmIt is a non-profit association governed by the present statutes and, secondly, by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. It is neutral politically, and non-denominational.

#### Article 2

The Organization's headquarters are located in Geneva.  
The Association shall be of unlimited duration.

### Aims

#### Article 3

The Association shall pursue the following aim:

Our purpose is to empower people to make decisions that are as autonomous and forward-thinking as possible. We achieve this by inviting people onto the playground of science using the medium of film. SciFilmIt designs and implements multiple projects that create opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with science and film.

### Resources

#### Article 4

The Association's resources are derived from:

- donations and legacies;
- sponsorship;
- public subsidies;
- any other resources authorized by the law.

The funds shall be used in accordance with the Association's social aims.

### Members

#### Article 5

Any physical person may become a member if they have demonstrated their dedication to the goals of the Association through their commitments or actions.

The Association comprises:

- Founding members: the founding members will always have a decisional vote on the election of the Executive Committee and decisions taken by the General Assembly, in order to ensure that the Association's aims are continued
- Active members

The founding members are: Robert l'Anson Price, Eleonora Aquilini, Enrico Milanese, Kerstin Preuschoff, Aurélie Lattion and Theodore Blossom.

Requests to become a member must be addressed to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee admits new members and informs the General Assembly accordingly.

Membership ceases:

- On death;
- By written resignation thereby notifying the Executive Committee at least six months before the end of the financial year;
- By exclusion ordered by the Executive Committee, for just cause, with a right of appeal to the General Assembly. Appeals must be lodged within 30 days of the Executive Committee's decision being notified;

Members who have resigned or who are excluded have no rights to any part of the Association's assets.

Only the Association's assets may be used for obligations/commitments contracted in its name. Members have no personal liability.

## Organs

### Article 6

The Association shall include the following organs:

1. General Assembly,
2. Executive Committee
3. Auditor

Leaders of projects can be invited to Executive Committee meetings to represent the projects' needs, but project leads do not vote on the committee.

The Executive Committee can create working subgroups when it deems it necessary to achieve the Association's aims.

## General Assembly

### Article 7

The General Assembly is the Association's supreme authority. It is composed of all the members.

It shall hold an Ordinary Meeting once each year. It may also hold an extraordinary session whenever necessary, at the request of the Executive Committee or at least of one-fifth of its members.

The General Assembly shall be considered valid regardless of the number of members present.

Except for the Constituent General Assembly, the Executive Committee shall inform the members in writing of the date of the General Assembly at least six weeks in advance. The notification, including the proposed agenda, shall be sent to each member at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.

#### **Article 8**

The General Assembly:

- Shall approve the admission and expulsion of members;
- Appoints the members of the Executive Committee and elects, at a minimum, the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer;
- Notes the contents of the reports and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption;
- Approves the annual budget;
- Supervises the activity of other organs, which it may dismiss, stating the grounds therefore;
- Appoints an auditor for the Organization's accounts;
- Decides on any modification of statutes;
- Decides on the dissolution of the Association.

#### **Article 9**

The General Assembly is presided over by the President of the Association or by a member of the Executive Committee.

#### **Article 10**

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present. In case of deadlock, the President shall have the casting vote.

Decisions concerning the amendment of the Statutes and the dissolution of the Association must be approved by a two-third majority of the members present.

#### **Article 11**

Votes are by a show of hands. Voting can also take place by secret ballot, if at least five members request it.

#### **Article 12**

The agenda of the ordinary annual session of the General Assembly must include:

- Approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly
- Approval of the Executive Committee's annual Activity Report
- Approval of the report of the Treasurer and of the Auditor

- Approval of the budget
- Approval of reports and accounts
- Election of Executive Committee members and Auditor
- Miscellaneous business

## Committee

### Article 13

The Executive Committee is authorized to carry out all acts that further the purposes of the Association. It has the most extensive powers to manage the Association's day-to-day affairs.

### Article 14

The Executive Committee is composed of at least three members elected by the General Assembly (President, Secretary and Treasurer). Each member's term of office shall last for 1 year. The term of office is renewable. The Executive Committee meets as often as the Association's business requires.

### Article 15

The Executive Committee members work on a volunteer basis and as such can only be reimbursed for their actual expenses and travel costs. Potential attendance fees cannot exceed those paid for official commissions.

For activities beyond the usual function, each Executive Committee member is eligible for appropriate compensation.

For activities extending well beyond the function expected from Executive Committee members, each Executive Committee member is eligible for appropriate compensation according to the following conditions:

- a call for candidates amongst association members has been made prior, which did not result in finding a member with the necessary competencies willing to commit her/himself, other than the Executive Committee member in question;
- the extended activity of the Executive Committee member is in the interest of the association, in particular in case of knowledge required for the task entrusted;
- the compensation of the Executive Committee member is lower than market price, shall be set in the association's interest, and shall take into account the expected function of a board

The paid employees of the Association have only a consultative vote on the Executive Committee.

### Article 16

The functions of the Executive Committee are:

- to take the appropriate measures to achieve the goals of the Association;
- to convene the ordinary and extraordinary General Assemblies;

- to take decisions with regard to admission of new members as well as the resignation and possible expulsion of members;
- to ensure that Statutes are applied, to draft rules of procedure, and to administer the assets of the Association.

## Auditor

### Article 17

The General Assembly shall appoint an Auditor who will audit the Association's accounts every year.

## Signature and representation

### Article 18

The Association is legally bound by the signature of the President and one of the Executive Committee members.

## Various provisions

### Article 19

The financial year shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December of each year.

### Article 20

Should the Association be dissolved, the available assets should be transferred to an organization pursuing public interest goals similar to those of the Association and likewise benefiting from tax exemption. Under no circumstances should the assets be returned to the founders or members. Nor should they use a part or a total of assets for their own benefit.

The present Statutes have been approved by the Constituent General Assembly of SciFilmIt in Lausanne, on August 13th 2019.

For the Association

President

Robert l'Anson Price

Secretary

Enrico Milanese

