

TITLE I NAME – DURATION -REGISTERED OFFICE – AIM

Article 1. – Constitution and name

On Thursday November 5, 2009 in London (United Kingdom), the following organizers: Fédération Française des Écoles de Cirque (France), Circuscentrum (Belgium), BAG Zirkuspädagogik (Germany), Finnish Youth Circus Association (Finland), Circomundo (Netherlands) found a non-profit association, in accordance with the Waldeck-Rousseau Act 1901 (association du loi 1901) under French law, named „European Youth Circus Organisation“ with the abrevation EYCO.

Article 2. – Registered office

The registered office of EYCO is fixed at the registered office of the Fédération Française des Écoles de Cirque – 13 rue Marceau in Montreuil, France. It can be transfered by simple decision of the Executive Board. The ratification by the general meeting would be necessary

Article 3. – Duration

The duration of the non-profit association is unlimited.

Article 4. – Aims

The non-profit association adheres to the European interest of non-profits associations as of the following:

§ 4/1. Preamble

EYCO defines **Youth Circus** as:

- ◆ A multidisciplinary art form (accessible to all),
- ◆ A way of formal and non-formal learning in terms of personal, social, cultural and artistic development primarily for children and young people,
- ◆ Based among others on: the creativity, the solidarity, the equality, the diversity, the citizenship and „a teaching conducted with the respect of the person“.

§ 4/2. General aims

EYCO has to favour and support botu **on a national and European level:**

- ◆ The process of **recognition and the structuring** of Youth Circus for its practitioners and contributors,
- ◆ **The improvement of the practice** of Youth Circus for its practitioners and contributors,
- ◆ The promotion of Youth Circus which is by nature a folk art, accessible and complement – as a way for its practitioners to have **an active part in society**.

§ 4/3. Operational aims

(Concerning the process of recognition and the structuring of Youth Circus for its practitioners and contributors.

- ◆ EYCO provides and generates a **platform** for the cooperation in terms of the development of Youth Circus, for its practitioners and contributors,
- ◆ EYCO promotes and supports, **the creation of organisations representing, on a national level**, the Youth Circus, in all European countries,
- ◆ EYCO **promotes** of Youth Circus upon the **national and European authorities**,
- ◆ EYCO helps with the promotion of Youth Circus towards the **general public**,
- ◆ EYCO seeks to **collaborate with other partners and networks implicated** in the field of circus, to develop the recognition of Circus as an art form,
- ◆ EYCO seeks to **collaborate with other partners and networks implicated** in the field of professional and social integration of young people,
- ◆ and all activities related to that cause...

(Concerning the improvement of the practice of Youth Circus for its practitioners and contributors.

- ◆ EYCO develops a central resource and information center about Youth Circus in collecting, sharing and distributing the informations with the national partners
- ◆ EYCO **improves the quality** of Youth Circus practice (pratique du cirque pour la jeunesse) in terms of: formation, certification, educational tools, security and health
- ◆ EYCO favors the **new, creative and artistic, developments** in the field of Youth Circus,
- ◆ and all activities related to that cause...

(Concerning the promotion of Youth Circus which is by nature a folk art, accessible and complement – as a way for its practitioners to have an active part in society

- ◆ EYCO favors the **international exchanges** in the field of Youth Circus, and generates a reflexion on the intercultural dialogue and the cross-cultural awareness, in accordance with the national and European programs of youth exchange,
- ◆ EYCO supports and helps with the promotion of circus as a developing tool for youth having difficulties in terms of social integration (social-circus, circus with handicap, etc.)
- ◆ EYCO allows, young European circus artists to access its representational instances inside the association, particularly in organizing the presence of young people inside its managing instances,
- ◆ and all activities related to that cause...

TITLE II

COMPOSITION – ORGANISATION

Article 5. – Members

The non-profit association is composed of three types of members:

§ 5/1. Active members

Active members are the non-profit organizations and the institutions, governmental or non-governmental that represents Youth Circus on a national level. (National Umbrellas)

§ 5/2. Active candidate members

Active candidate members are the non-profit organizations and the institutions, governmental or non-governmental that are in the process of structuration to represents Youth Circus on a national level.

§ 5/3. Associated partners

Associated partners are all the youth-circus-schools and other organizations having expertise in the field of Youth Circus and a specific engagement towards EYCO

Article 6. – Admission, resignation and exclusion

The admission, the resignation and the exclusion of members are subordinated under the following conditions:

§ 6/1, Admission

- ◆ The non-profit association admits the members (as it is noted above) who come from member countries of the European Union. Except particular disposition included in the Rules of Procedure, there shall not be more than one member per country.
- ◆ The applications are submitted to the Executive Board. They imperatively need to collect two thirds (2/3) of the votes, by the administrators or the representatives present who recommends them, to the general assembly, who decides regarding their own modalities.
- ◆ Once admitted, the members have to transfere the written decision to their own Executive Board, appoint their representative and pay the annual membership fee. It will be upon the members to notify the non-profit association of any change regarding their representative.

§ 6/2. Resignation

All members can resign by registered letter with an acknowledgment of receipt, adressed to the chairman.

§ 6/3. Exclusion

The recommended exclusion of a memeber would be subject of a vote by the members of the Executive Board. In order to enact the recommendation, it needs to collect two thirds (2/3) of the votes, by the administrators.

- ◆ The exclusion of a member has to be decided on the proper decision-making modalities of the general assembly.
- ◆ The member who is affected by this exclusion is informed that he can defend himself with the Executive Board and at the general assembly. His member status is suspended until the following general assembly.
- ◆ The criteria motivating a recommendation of exclusion are the following:
 - non-compliance with the disposition of statutes,
 - non-compliance with the rules of procedure, with reservation of the existence of these rules,
 - non-compliance with decisions made by the Executive Board,
 - all other serious reasons, the concerned have been beforehand called out to provide explanations;
- ◆ By non-payment of the membership fee,
- ◆ By termination of the activity

Article 7. – Membership fee

All members of the non-profit association pay an annual membership fee, which is decided by the general assembly on a proposition of the Executive Board. The sum of the membership fee varies according to the type of member. The amounts are defined in the Rules of Procedure.

TITLE III ADMINISTRATION OF THE NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION

Article 8. – Representation of the youth

„As an organization representing Youth Circus on a European level, EYCO, sets up the conditions for a youth representative in all its deliberative bodies.

It organizes an annual European Circus Assembly for Youth. This assembly will only be composed of the EYCO member representatives younger than 26 years old. It appoints a permanent youth representative among the EYCO Executive Board.

The decision of the **European Circus Assembly for Youth** are taken according to the rules of majority and the quorum intended for the ordinary general assembly of EYCO.

In order to make the European Circus Assembly for Youth possible, every EYCO member is obliged to include at least two young people under 26 in its delegation for the NICE meetings.

Article 9. – Ordinary general assembly

§ 9/1. Composition

The general assembly is composed of all three member types of the non-profit association. The assembly is presided by the chairman of the Executive Board, or if absent, by a person designated for this purpose chosen by the members of the general assembly.

§ 9/2. Powers

The general assembly:

- ◆ approves, on proposal of the Executive Board, the admission of new members,
- ◆ approves, on proposal of the Executive Board, the exclusion of members,
- ◆ proceeds with the election of the members of the Executive Board,
- ◆ approves, if required, the Rules of Procedure and its changes,
- ◆ hears, deliberates and adjudicates on the moral report, the financial report and the directional progress report, prepared by the Executive Board,
- ◆ approves annual accounts for the financial year and gives discharge to the Treasurer,
- ◆ ratifies the transfer of the registered office,
- ◆ designates, if required, the auditors,
- ◆ sets, on proposal of the Executive Board, the membership fee,
- ◆ approves the budget plan and its modifications prepared by the Executive Board as well as the corresponding programme of activities.

§ 9/3. Annual general assembly

A general assembly shall be held at least once a year.

The general assembly is summoned by the Executive Board or if at least half of the active members and the active candidate members ask for one. It is held on the day, hour and place mentioned in the convocation. All members shall be convened.

§ 9/4. Method of convening

The general assembly is convened by the Executive Board by regular or electronic mail, addressed to each member at least four weeks before the general assembly, and signed by the chairman or secretary in the name of the Executive Board.

The agenda, set by the Executive Board, is mentioned in the convocation. All propositions signed by half of the active members and the active candidate members has to be included in the agenda.

The ordinary general assembly cannot adjudicate on a topic which is not displayed in the agenda, except if two thirds (2/3) at the ordinary general assembly decide, for urgent reasons, to deliberate on this topic.

§ 9/5. Representation

An active member has the right to appoint only one other active member in its name.

An active candidate member has the right to appoint only one other active candidate member in its name.

Every proxy shall be given in written form. Only one proxy per full member is accepted.

§ 9/6. Voting rights and quorum

All members do not have the same voting rights at the general assembly. The voting rights are allocated in the following manner:

Active members: 2 votes, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

Active candidate members: 1 vote, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

Associated partners: 0 vote.

A general assembly may not be valibly deliberated only if at least half of the active members and active candidate members are present or represented. If this quorum cannot be achieved, a new general assembly is to be convened with the same agenda and with an intervall of at least fifteen days. The new assembly may valibly deliberate regardless of the number of actives members and active candidate members present or represented.

§ 9/7. Method of decision-making

The resolutions are taken with the absolute majority of the votes by the active members and active candidate members present or represented. Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. In case of a tie, the vote of the chairman shall be decisive.

§ 9/8. Publicising decisions

The decision of the ordinary general assembly shall be archived in a registry, signed by the chairman and retained by the secretary at the registered office of the non-profit association.

Every member shall be entitled to consult, without relocation with the registry, and may ask for extracts of the registry.

The decisions and minutes of meeting, taken by the general assembly shall be notified to all members by letter or by electronic means.

Article 10. – Extraordinary general assembly

§ 10/1. Composition

The extraordinary general assembly is composed of all three member types of the non-profit association. The assembly is presided by the chairman of the Executive Board, or if absent, by a person designated for this purpose chosen by the members of the extraordinary general assembly.

§10/2. Method of convening

The extraordinary general assembly is convened by the Executive Board by regular or electronic mail, addressed to each member et least four weeks before the general assembly, and signed by the chairman or secretary in the name of the Executive Board.

The agenda, set by the Executive Board, is mentioned in the convocation. All propositions signed by half of the actives members and the active candidate members has to be included in the agenda.

The ordinary general assembly cannot adjudicate on a topic which is not displayed in the agenda, except if two thirds (2/3) at the extraordinary general assembly decide, for urgent reasons, to deliberate on this topic.

§ 10/3. Representation

An active member has the right to appoint only one other active member in its name. An active candidate member has the right to appoint only one other active candidte member in its name.

Every proxy shall be given in written form. Only one proxy per full member is accepted.

§ 10/4. Voting rights and quorum

All members do not have the same voting rights at the extraordinary general assembly. The voting rights are allocated in the following manner:

Active members: 2 votes, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

Active candidate members: 1 vote, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

Associated partners: 0 vote.

An extraordinary general assembly may not be valibly deliberated only if at least half of the actives members and active candidate members are present or represented. If this quorum cannot be achieved, a new general assembly is to be convened with the same agenda and with an intervall of at least fifteen days. The new assembly may valibly deliberate regardless of the number of actives members and active candidate members present or represented.

§ 10/5. Method of decision-making

The resolutions are taken with the absolute majority of the votes by the active members and active candidate members present or represented.

In exclusion concerning resolutions of the status (art.“17“).

Abstentions and blank or spoiled votes are not taken into consideration in the calculation of the required majority. In case of a tie, the vote of the chairman shall be decisive.

§ 10/6. Publicising decisions

The decisions of the extraordinary general assembly shall be archived in a registry, signed by the chairman and retained by the secretary at the registered office of the non-profit association.

Every member shall be entitled to consult, without relocation, with the registry, and may ask for extracts of the registry.

The decisions and minutes of meeting, taken by the extraordinary general assembly shall be notified to all members by letter or by electronic means.

Article 11. – Executive Board

§ 11/1. Composition

The non-profit association is administered by an Executive Board composed by at least three members. The members of the Executive Board are chosen according to the following conditions:

- ◆ Active members:
 - Every active member has a seat on the Executive Board,
 - Every active member is represented at the Executive Board by its representative such as defined by article „§ 6/1.“,
 - The general assembly ratifies the choice of the representative of an active member,
 - If the representative of an active member resigns another representative can be designated by the member, according to terms stated in article „§ 6/1.“, and can be co-opted by the Executive Board and will be ratified at the next meeting of the general assembly.
- ◆ Active candidate members
 - Each active candidate member has a seat on the Executive Board,

- Every active candidate member is represented at the Executive Board by its representative such as defined by article „§ 6/1.“,
- The general assembly ratifies the choice of the representative of an active candidate member,
- If the representative of an active candidate member resigns another representative can be designated by the member, according to terms stated in article „§ 6/1.“, and can be co-opted by the Executive Board and will be ratified at the next meeting of the general assembly.

The Executive Board may allow, if needed and only in an advisory capacity, to invite to its meetings all persons unrelated to the Executive Board or the association if their attendance may seem useful.

§ 11/2. Terms of offices

The term of office of the members of the Executive Board is three years and they may be re-elected according to its Rules of Procedure.

A term only expires only by the loss of the membership quality defined under article 5, noticed by the Executive Board and ratified by the next general assembly.

§ 11/3. Method of convening

The Executive Board holds meetings at least twice a year, and at least fifteen days in advance by its chairman or upon request by half plus one of its members. The Executive Board is convened by regular or electronic mail, addressed to every member. The agenda, is mentioned in the convocation.

§ 11/4. Representation

Every member of the Executive Board to be represented by a proxy. Though an active member shall only appoint another active member and an active candidate member shall only appoint another active candidate member in its name.

Every proxy shall be given in written form. Only one proxy per full member is accepted.

§ 11/5. Voting rights and quorum

All members do not have the same voting rights. The voting rights are allocated in the following manner:

Active members: 2 votes, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

Active candidate members: 1 vote, except specific provisions of its Rules of Procedure,

The Executive Board may not be validly deliberated only if at least half of the members are present or represented.

§ 11/6. Method of decision-making

The resolutions are taken with the absolute majority of the votes by the members of the Executive Board present or represented.

In case of a tie, the vote of the chairman shall be decisive.

§ 11/7. Publicising decisions

The decisions of the Executive Board shall be archived in a registry, signed by the chairman and retained by the secretary at the registered office of the non-profit association.

Every member shall be entitled to consult, without relocation, of the registry, and may ask for extracts of the registry.

The decisions and minutes of meeting, taken by the Executive Board shall be notified to all members by letter or by electronic means.

§ 11/8. Assignments and Powers

- ◆ The Executive Board shall possess full management and administrative powers other than those vested in the general assembly.
- ◆ The Executive Board may delegate the day-to-day management to a proxy according to the conditions which have been intended for this purpose (The Executive Director)
- ◆ The Executive Board sets, writes and publishes the Rules of Procedure as well as all other policies of internal functioning.
- ◆ Only the chairman or two administrators have the authorities to signing actes which engages the non-profit association and to follow legal matters as a defendant after an agreement by the Executive Board.

Article 12. – Board of Directors

The Executive Board elects, with the majority of its members present or represented, among its active members and from proposal of those, at least a chairman, a secretary and a treasurer.

They are elected for one year and shall be eligibel for re-election according to the Rules of Procedures.

§ 12/1. Powers

The duties of the members of the Board of Directors are defined within the Rules of Procedure.

§ 12/2. Powers of the chairman

The chairman convenes the general assembly and the Executive Board. The president represents the non-profit association in all legal and civil acts and to this end is endowed with all the necessary powers. The president is authorized to be a party to legal proceedings as defendant in the name of the non-profit association and with the authorization of the Exvutive Board as plaintiff.

The president may, under the same conditions, make appeals.

The president may compromise only with the authorization of the Executive Board.

§ 12/3. Representation of the non-profit association vis-à-vis third parties.

All acts, which engage the non-profit association, are signed by a special delegation of the Executive Board; or by the chairman; or by two directors, members of the board, who are acting jointly.

Article 13. – Rules of Procedure

Are proposed by the Executive Board and approved by the general assembly.

Its modifications, proposed by the Executive Board will be approved by the next general assembly.

The Rules of Procedure lay down or complete the modalities of operation of the non-profit association and its bodies non provided for in these statutes.

TITLE IV FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 14. – Ressources of the non-profit association

The resources of the non-profit association consist of:

- ◆ Its membership fees;
- ◆ Subventions which have been granted;
- ◆ The proceeds of its activity;
- ◆ And all other resources which would not be against the laws in force.

Article 15. – Remuneration of members

The members of the non-profit association may claim no compensation whatsoever for the functions they are entrusted within the non-profit association.

However, they may occasionally get paid for an effective involvement of an activity of the non-profit association in accordance with their professional competence within the legal limits.

Article 16. – Financial year

The budget of the non-profit association is set for the period of 1st of January till the 31st of December of each year.

Article 17. –Annual account

Accounting is carried out according to the accounting standards of associations. The annual account of the previous financial year as well as the upcoming financial year are set by the Executive Board every year and submitted to the next general assembly for approval.

TITLE V

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Article 18. – Modification of statutes

The statutes shall only be modified by a majority vote of two thirds (2/3) of the votes of the extraordinary general assembly convened for this purpose.

If the quorum is not met, the extraordinary general assembly is convened again with an interval of at least 15 days. The extraordinary general assembly shall deliberate regardless of the number of members present or represented. Deliberations are taken by a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the votes.

Article 19. – Dissolution

The dissolution of the non-profit association may only occur by the decision of the extraordinary general assembly convened for this purpose. The dissolution requires a majority vote of two thirds (2/3) of the votes.

If the quorum is not met, the extraordinary general assembly is convened again with an interval of at least 15 days. The extraordinary general assembly shall deliberate regardless of the number of members present or represented. Deliberations are taken by a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the votes.

Article 20. – Devolution of assets

In case of dissolution the general assembly of the non-profit association proceeds with the devolution of the assets of the non-profit association.

They dispose the assets in favour of an organization, following a similar aim.

Article 21. – Applicable law

These statutes are subject to French law. The French law shall prevail. Nevertheless, the members are permitted to translate these statutes in their national language.

In Valladolid, September 5, 2015