

The following is a short version of the articles of cooperation of Global Micro Initiative e.V. that has been translated from the original German version. This document is meant for people who don't speak German in order to inform themselves about GMI. The only legally valid and approved version is the German one.

Preamble

The goal of the association is poverty alleviation in the so-called developing countries. It is to be implemented by appropriate local development projects that follow the capacity building principle. By supporting existing and founding micro enterprises, people who did not yet have access to support shall be given the opportunity to work for their own income that enables them and their families to live above the poverty line. In order to achieve this aim, local implementation partners are to be founded, consulted, supervised, and equipped with the means to be able to provide micro loans, training programs, and the like.

In Germany, awareness and information about the fight against poverty is to be raised as well as promoting partnerships.

§ 1

Name, legal status, registered office

(1) The association is named:

“Global Micro Initiative”

(2) The association is registered in 63768 Hösbach, Germany.

(3) After registration into the register of associations, e.V. is added to the Name.

§ 2

Purpose

- (1) The association exclusively pursues charitable and not-for-profit goals according to law.
- (2) The purposes of the association are in detail:
 - Development aid and poverty alleviation
 - Development cooperation with developing countries
 - Promotion of civil social engagement
- (3) These goals shall be implemented with/by:
 - Poverty alleviation programs in developing countries and among people groups that are living below the poverty level defined by the United Nations. There, the focus is to assist, enable, and support employment as well as small and micro enterprises. These capacity building programs happen in close cooperation with non-profit local implementation partners. Partners are trained in delivering these services, and in providing the suitable aid and access for poor people to microfinance services and trainings.
 - Development and planning of optimal ways to fight poverty while respecting local and cultural differences.
 - Founding new implementation partners.
 - Public events and programs in order to raise awareness about development work and poverty alleviation, as well as promoting partner projects.
- (4) The organization is charitable and does not pursue profits.
- (5) The funds of the association are only to be used for the purposes stated in the articles of cooperation. The board of directors decides about the use of funds.

- (6) The association is entitled to cooperate with other organizations that are recognized as not-for-profit/charitable and that have similar aims.
- (7) In order to collect donations, the association is entitled to found other organizations as long as that is in accordance to local law and does not endanger the non-profit requirements of German law.

§ 3

Prohibition of Remunerations

- (1) Nobody is allowed to benefit from payments that are not in accordance to the purpose of the organization or from inexplicably high remunerations
- (2) The funds of the association are used exclusively for purposes in accordance with the articles of cooperation. Members do not receive payments from funds of the association.

§ 4

Position of Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of the organization do not have any legal claims on payments.

§ 5

Business Year

The business year is the calendar year.

§ 6

Funds

In case of liquidation, the assets of the organization go to World Vision e.V. in Friedrichsdorf, which can use the funds solely for charitable purposes abroad.

§ 7

Membership

(1) Any person can become a member of the association. Minors require parental permission and are liable for the payment of the membership fee. The membership request form has to be addressed to the board in written form. The board decides on the membership request. There is no right of membership.

(2) Members have:

- The right to be in and vote in the general assembly
- The right to receive information
- Obligation to confidentiality about matters concerning the organization
- The right to make use of the offer of the association
- Duty of loyalty
- To pay their membership fees in time

All members above the age of 14 have the right to vote. This counts for minors as well. However, parents or the person entitled to custody of the minor may renounce that right until the start of the general assembly.

(3) Membership ends

- With death
- By resignation
- By exclusion

- By deleting from the member list, provided a member is 6 months late with paying the membership fee.

The resignation has to be addressed to the board in written form. A resignation is only possible within four weeks at the end of the calendar year.

- (4) A member can be excluded from the association if they behave in a way that damages the organization or acts against the interests of the association.
- (5) The board decides about exclusion with simple majority. There is no legal remedy against such a decision. Any member has entitlement.
- The respective member can appeal within four weeks and will be heard by the board. Within this period all membership rights lie dormant. Former members do not have any claims for the association's funds.

§ 8

Membership fees

Members pay a membership fee. The amount and due date are determined by the general assembly.

§ 9

Entities

The entities of the organization are:

- The board
- The general assembly

§ 10

Board

(1) The board includes:

- The board director
- The treasurer
- The secretary
- Other general board members? Is there a limit to the number of board members?

All board members have to be members of the association. They are entitled to divide the tasks among themselves.

(2) The board members represent the association legally. Within the organization, the treasurer and the secretary only fulfill this duty when the board director is unable to do so. The board is elected for two years and stays in office until successors are elected. Re-election is possible.

(3) The board is in charge of all activities concerning the association, such as implementing the decisions of the general assembly and preparing and leading the general assembly.

(4) Board members stay in office until another board has been elected.

(5) If a board member resigns during his or her term, the other board members can select another member.

(6) Decisions are made in board meetings.

(7) If needed, decisions can also be made via email, phone, or online.

§ 11

General Assembly

(1) The general assembly is in charge of:

- Receiving the annual report
- Approval of the actions of the board
- Electing the board members and auditors
- Changing the articles of cooperation
- Liquidation of the association
- Deciding upon requests of members

(2) The general assembly takes place once a year. An extraordinary assembly can be called if:

- The board decides to do so
- At least one third of all members demand one. This has to happen in written form, and reasons have to be named.

The general assembly has to be announced four weeks prior by the board. The agenda has to be attached to the invitation. Invitations can be sent via email or mail. Changes of address have to be communicated by members. Any member can ask for changes in the agenda until two weeks before the general assembly.

(3) The general assembly is led by the board director or by another board member. If no board member is present the general assembly chooses a leader. If not explained differently in this document, the leader decides about the conduct of the proceedings. In case of board member elections, the general assembly chooses two members to be the election committee.

(4) Votes are made openly, but members can ask for votes to be made secretly.

Neutral votes are counted as not voted and are therefore not taken into consideration. As long as the general assembly was called according to articles, it always has a quorum. Every member has one vote, and votes cannot be transferred. Usual decisions need a simple majority. Changes in the articles of cooperation or liquidation require a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority.

(5) The minutes are to be signed by the minute taker (secretary?) and the leader of the general assembly. It must include:

- Time and place
- Name of the leader and minute taker
- Number of the present members
- Agenda
- Decisions and results
- Requests

§ 12

Data Protection

The association collects and uses personal data of its members. Those are for example: Name and address, bank details, phone numbers, email address, birthdates, licenses and responsibilities within the association.

§ 13

The general assembly entitles the board to change the articles of cooperation without the normal conduct if law or court or other authorities require these.

§14

Changes, Liquidation

- (1) Changes in the articles of cooperation are decided by general assembly

- (2) Changing the Purpose of the association and its liquidation can only be done in accordance with the articles of cooperation. In the case of liquidation, the board members serve as liquidators.