

According to the Article 13 of the Associations Act (Narodne Novine 74/2014) the Founding Assembly of the South eastern Europe Advisory Service Network Association - SEASN, at the meeting held on 22nd October 2015 in Sofia, Bulgaria, adopted the following:

S T A T U T E
OF
SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE ADVISORY SERVICE NETWORK

I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Statute regulates the name of the Association; headquarters of the Association; representation of the Association; the appearance of the Associations stamp; activities of the Association in accordance with the Associations objectives; conditions and way of becoming a member in Association, termination of membership, rights, obligations and responsibilities of members; disciplinary accountability of members; Governing Bodies, their composition and the manner of convening Assembly meetings, selection, recall, powers, decision-making and the duration of the mandate of the Governing Bodies and the manner of convening the Assembly in the event of expiry of the mandate; election and recall of the Association's liquidator; the termination of the Association; its assets, and the method of acquisition and disposal of assets; procedure with assets in case of termination of the Association; way of resolving disputes and conflicts of interest within the Association and other issues of importance for the Association South eastern Europe Advisory Service Network.

Article 2

The name of the Association: Mreža savjetodavnih službi jugoistočne Europe.

The name of the Association in English: South eastern Europe Advisory Service Network

Abbreviation of Association's name: MSS-JE

Abbreviation of Association's name in English: SEASN

Article 3

Decision about Associations headquarters is brought by the General Assembly.

Associations headquarters is in Zagreb, Savska cesta 41, Croatia.

Association is active on territory of countries which Association's members are from.

Article 4

The Association is represented by the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Deputy Secretary.

The Executive Board may order or authorize other persons to represent the Association.

Article 5

Association has a logo. It is a net with Associations name abbreviation in English.

Article 6

Association has the stamp.

The stamp is round with a diameter of 38mm, and in its periphery is Association's full name in Croatian and abbreviation in English is in the center.

The Secretary keeps the stamp of the Association and is authorized to use it, as well as the other members who are authorized by the Association's President.

Number of the stamps and manner of use shall be determined by the Associations Executive Board.

II

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE OF ACTION, TARGET GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

Article 7

The objectives of the Association are:

- increasing the efficiency of agricultural advisory services in order to develop agriculture and rural areas in the region;
- a dynamic exchange of knowledge and experience about the mode of financing of advisory services;

- simple exchange of experiences, knowledge and information, on an understandable local languages;
- easier cooperation with similar organizations in the region and Europe;
- regional projects cooperation.

Article 8

Scope of Associations action in accordance with the objectives are:

- economy;
- international cooperation;
- education, science and research;
- sustainable development.

Article 9

Activities for the realization of the Associations objectives are:

- organizing workshops, seminars, lectures, panel discussions, symposiums, promotions and other events about current problems and issues;
- connecting interested advisors and other stakeholders to work together and implement various projects relevant to knowledge transfer in agriculture, rural areas and increase sustainability and competitiveness of the sector;
- release of publications, manuals, brochures and flyers about the activities of the Association;
- taking care of vocational and professional training of members by creating conditions for the improvement of professional performance;
- proposing projects important for the region in which Association operates, as well as wider;
- establishing cooperation with local government and regional governments, as well as with other similar associations and organizations at home and abroad;
- other activities that could contribute to achieving the Associations objectives in accordance to the Act;
- the overall activities of the Association should promote an understanding and adoption of ethical values through engaging advisory services in agriculture and rural areas;

III

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 10

Association activities are public. It is provided by:

- submitting report on the work of the Association to members at the session of the Association bodies;
- public session of the Association bodies, except in exceptional cases, when the session are closed to the public;
- preparation and publication of annual financial reports on the work of the Association;
- the use of communication technologies (website, social networks, etc.);
- public communication;
- organizing special events;
- any other appropriate activities.

IV

MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION

Article 11

Member of the Association can become any public or private advisory service; advisor individual; other institution, NGO and individual person working in agriculture and rural areas if they are interested in working in the Association and willing to contribute achieving the objectives of the Association and accept the provisions of the Statute.

Article 12

The Association keeps a database of its members. Members Database shall be kept electronically or in a written Book of members and should contain following data: name of person or institution, the Personal Identification Number, date of birth, date of accession to the Association, and the date of termination of membership in the Association.

The list of members is available for inspection to all members of the Association and the competent authorities, at their request.

Technical Assistant is keeping the Members Database.

Article 13

Membership in the Association can be: Regular, honorary or supporting. Regular members are person who continuously participate in the work of the Association and contribute to achieving the objectives of the Association. Institution or individual can become regular member of the Association by the decision of the Executive Board on the basis of the completed membership form.

Supporting members are person who financially or in any other similar way contribute to achieving the objectives of the Association.

Honorary members are person who have authority in society, and their actions are contributing significantly to achieving the objectives and the improvement of the Association or whose membership would significantly contribute to the reputation of the Association.

Institution or individual is becoming supporting or honorary member by the decision of the General Assembly.

Article 14

Rights, obligations and responsibilities of Association's members are:

- to participate in activities of the Association;
- to participate in the management of Association's affairs (regular members)
- to protect and improve the reputation of the Association;
- to take care of material goods and fulfill its obligations;
- to pay membership fee (regular members).

Article 15

Membership in the Association is terminated because of:

- dissolution of the Association;
- resignation, when the signed statement of resignation from the membership is submitted to the Executive Board;
- exclusion for violation of membership obligations and the responsibilities;

- exclusion for non-payment of membership fees for two years (valid only for regular members);
- death of a member.

Disciplinary responsibility of members

Article 16

Association's members have commitments and responsibilities in accordance to the law and other legal regulations, this Statute and other acts of the Association.

Members of the Association are disciplinary liable for violation of membership obligations and responsibilities:

- violations of the legal and other obligations in respect of the Association's activity;
- failure to comply with the provisions of the Statute;
- failure to comply with decisions of the General Assembly or Executive board of the Association;
- failure to perform commitments and duties;
- negligent performance of obligations which caused damage to the Association;
- negligent or illegal disposal of assets of the Association;
- damaging the reputation of the Association;

Article 17

Disciplinary responsibility of members of the Association shall be determined in the disciplinary proceedings.

Disciplinary proceedings may be initiated by any member of the Association.

Disciplinary proceedings are conducted and disciplinary measures imposed by General Assembly.

In the disciplinary proceedings it is determined which circumstances led to a violation of membership obligations and responsibilities, the severity of the violation and the damage caused to the Association.

Article 18

For violation of membership obligations and responsibilities it may be imposed the following disciplinary measures:

1. Warning
2. Warning before exclusion from the Association
3. Exclusion from the Association

Article 19

Member of the Association who is subjected to a disciplinary measure of expulsion from the Association shall have the right, within fifteen days from the day of delivery of the decision, to submit an appeal to the Executive board.

Executive Board is obligated to make a decision about expulsion of the member within 30 days, counting from the day of the appeal's delivery.

Article 20

Each member of the Association has right to written complaints to warn the Executive board on non-compliance with the provisions of the Statute or irregularities in the implementation of the decisions of the Association.

Each member of the Association has right to written complaints to the Executive board about the work of individual members or the Associations bodies.

The warnings and complaints should be sent to the Executive Board which is obliged to respond in writing within 30 days of the receipt of the warnings and complaints.

V

MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION AND WORKING BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 21

Association members are managing the Association directly through the General Assembly and with the elected representatives of the other bodies of the Association.

Article 22

Working bodies of the Association are:

1. General Assembly
2. Executive board
3. President
4. Vice-presidents
5. Secretary
6. Deputy Secretary
7. Technical Assistant

1 General Assembly

Article 23

The General Assembly is the highest governing body of the Association.

The General Assembly consists of representatives of Association's regular members:

- each legal person, regular member has one representative in the Assembly,
- natural person, regular members, have right on one representative on 50 members. Natural person, regular members, elect their representatives regarding the position in Members Database (1-50 elect 1st representative, 51-100 elect 2nd representative, 101-150 elect 3rd representative etc.). Natural person, regular members shall elect their representatives before General Assembly session in person or via e-mail or Skype or any other ways of communication.

The mandate of the representatives in the Assembly lasts two years.

Article 24

General Assembly can be regular, electoral and special.

The regular Assembly will meet once a year, while electoral assembly will meet every two years.

General Assembly meeting is public.

Article 25

General Assembly meetings are convened and chaired by the President of the Association, on his own initiative.

In the case of his inability Assembly meeting is convened and chaired by Vice president of the Association authorized by President or Executive board.

The Assembly is convened at least 20 days before the session and written invitation is sent to all members of the Association.

The invitation to the session contains the draft agenda of the session, the date and place of the session.

Article 26

Assembly has to be convened by the President on the request of at least 1/3 of Association's regular members.

To make a request for convening of the Assembly, proponents must have planned and prepared detailed agenda of the assembly.

If the President does not convene a Assembly within 30 days of receipt of the request referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, Assembly will be convened by the proponents (the decision has to agenda proposal and exact date of the session).

Article 27

In the case of the expiry of the mandate of the Association's bodies which are authorized to convene a session of the Assembly, the Assembly shall be convened by 1/3 of the Association's vote holders members.

Article 28

The Assembly makes decisions by majority vote of present members.

Voting at session of the Assembly shall be public. The Assembly may decide that certain matters are voted in secret ballot.

Proceedings of the Assembly sessions shall be kept and permanently preserved in the archives of the Association and the scorer is determined by the Assembly.

Article 29

The General Assembly has the following rights and obligations:

- adopts the Statute of the Association and its changes and amendments;
- chooses and dismisses the members of the Executive Board;
- chooses and dismisses the President, Vice-presidents, the Secereta and the Deputy Secretary of the Association;
- chooses and dismisses the Treasurer of the Association;
- chooses and dismisses the Liquidator of the Association;

- decides on joining in associations, communities, networks and other forms of co-associations;
- adopts a work plan and financial plan for the next calendar year and annual work report for a previous calendar year;
- adopts annual financial report;
- decides on changing the agenda and the activities, economic activities, cessation of work and asset allocation;
- enacts the decision on Statute changes;
- decides on other matters which are not under the jurisdiction of other Association's Bodies prescribed by the Statute;
- adopts the plan and the working directions of the Association;
- optionally, establishes and names the Commissions and similar bodies and determines their tasks;
- appoints individuals and institutions to become Honorary or Supportive Members;
- determines the membership fee;
- decides on appeals brought by the members;
- adopts other documents and decisions important for the Association's work;
- assigns recognitions and awards on the Executive Board's proposition;
- makes decisions about joining another associations/organizations and disassociation;
- decides on the termination of the Association;
- performs other tasks defined by the law or by the Statute of the Association.

2 The President of the Association

Article 30

President of the Association conducts executive and other tasks determined by this Statute. The President is elected by the Assembly for a term of two years after which it may be re-elected.

Article 31

The President is also Chairman of the Executive Board.

President of the Association is responsible to the General Assembly for his work and submits an annual report on it to the Assembly.

Article 32

The mandate of the Associations President can end before the time prescribed by the Statute:

- on his own request;
- in the event that he cannot perform his duties longer than 6 months;
- by revocation.

Article 33

The President of the Association can be revoked for reasons prescribed in the Article 16 of this Statute.

The procedure for the revocation of the President of the Association can be initiated on the request of at least 1/3 regular members of the General Assembly.

The request for the revocation of the President of the Association is discussed and decided on a regular or special Assembly's session which convenes according to the provisions of the Statute.

The President of the Association will be revoked if the decision of revocation has been voted by one half of members of the General Assembly members.

Article 34

In the event of termination of the President of the Association's mandate before the expiry of the term he was elected for, the procedure for the election of the new President of the Association for the remaining term of mandate will be carried out on a special Assembly's session.

In the event of revocation of the President of the Association, a new President of the Association will be elected for the remaining term of mandate on the same session on which the previous President has been revoked.

Article 35

The President of the Association has the following rights and obligations:

- represents the Association
- is responsible for the legitimacy of the Association's work;
- presents and represents the Association;
- initiates the discussion on certain issues from the Assembly's and the Executive Boards scope;
- conducts the Association's work according to the Assembly's decisions;
- convenes Associations Assembly Sessions;

- concludes contracts for the Association after the Executive Boards decision;
- takes care for informing the public with the work of the Association and its Bodies;
- manages the work of the Assembly and the work of the Executive Board;
- is responsible for the submission of annual financial report to the Assembly;
- delivers the record from the regular Assembly's session to the competent office which leads the Register of the Associations;
- enters into contracts and takes other legal actions on behalf of the Association;
- performs other duties according to law, the Statute and the Association's documents.

3 The Executive Board

Article 36

The Executive Board is the Association's body which, within its jurisdiction, decides on the activities of the Association and performs the executive functions and other duties prescribed by this Statute. The Executive Board is the Association's executive body.

Article 37

Executive Board members are elected by the General Assembly for a mandate of two years. The Executive Board is composed of: The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and 1-10 other members of the Association elected by the General Assembly. If two people from the same organization hold function in the Association, then only one person is Executive board member.

Article 38

The Executive Board:

- decides on organization of seminars, workshops, lectures and conferences;
- takes care about execution of decisions, conclusions and observation points of the Assembly;
- appoints representatives of the Association in the bodies of other organizations and associations;
- manages the assets of the Association;
- appoints commissions and similar bodies when necessary, and defines their tasks;
- adopts general document for deciding on redress, awards and financial support;
- oversees financial activities of the Association;
- adopts business decisions according to working directions which are terminated by the Assembly of the Association and according to the Statute of the Association;

- decides on employment of professional staff in the Association;
- performs other duties set out in the Statute and other general documents of the Association.

Article 39

The President of the Executive Board convenes the sessions of the Executive Board. The Executive Board's decisions are made by the majority votes of its members who are present at the session, and it can decide when one half of its members are present. The Executive Board's sessions are being held at least 2 times a year. The Executive Board submits an annual report on its activities.

4 The Vice-Presidents of the Association

Article 40

In the event of the President's incapacity or absence he will be replaced by Vice-President of the Association in all of his activities.

Number of vice-presidents can be from 1 to 7.

President decides which Vice-president shall take over his function, and in case if President is not able to nominate his deputy out of Vice-presidents, Executive Board shall make a decision which Vice-president shall be deputy President.

The provisions of this Statute on election, duration and termination of the President of the Association's mandate are being appropriately applied on the Vice-President of the Association.

5 The Secretary and the Deputy Secretary

Article 41

The Secretary and the Deputy Secretary are being elected and appointed by the Assembly of the Association for a mandate of two years.

Article 42

The Secretary of the Association has the following rights and obligations:

- carries out professional tasks in the Association;
- executes the decisions of the President, Executive Board and the Assembly of the Association;
- is a member of the Executive Board;

- takes care on information flow within the Association
- takes care on collaboration and joint actions of Association members,
- performs other tasks within his jurisdiction.

Article 43

In the event of the Secretary's incapacity he is being replaced in all of his duties by the Deputy Secretary.

6 The Technical Assistant and The Treasurer

Article 44

The Executive Board nominates person for Technical Assistant function.
 The Technical Assistant is always working in Associations headquarters.
 Technical Assistant is elected for a mandate of two years.

Article 45

The Technical Assistant has the following rights and obligations:

- carries out administrative tasks in the Association by order of the President or/and Secretary;
- manages and takes care of the Association's documentation;
- is contact point for all Associations members;
- keeps a stamp of the Association;
- implement financial activities;
- conducts the Members Database.

Article 46

The Executive Board nominates Treasurer of the Association. The Treasurer is elected and revoked by the Assembly of the Association for a mandate of 2 years. The same person can be elected for a Treasurer function more than once.

Article 47

The Treasurer has following rights and obligations:

- takes care of financial activities of the Association;
- takes care of membership fees payment;

- presents financial reports to the General Assembly;
- performs other tasks within his jurisdiction in accordance with the Technical Assistant.

VI JOINING ASSOCIATIONS

Article 48

The Association can join the alliance of associations, communities, networks and international organizations.

The decision on joining is carried out by the decision of the General Assembly.

VII ASSETS, ACQUISITION OF ASSETS AND DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Article 49

The assets of the Association consists of funds from the membership fee, voluntary contributions and offerings, funds from the Association's activities which serve to achieve the agenda, programs and projects of the Association which are financed from the state's budget and the local and regional municipality's budget and funds or foreign sources, other funds gained according to law, and the Association's movable and immovable property, and other property rights.

Article 50

The Association disposes with its assets only for achieving the agenda and for performing the activities prescribed by the Statute, according to law.

The Assembly of the Association decides on disposal of assets.

VIII TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AND DEALING WITH THE ASSETS IN THE EVENT OF TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 51

The Association ceases to exist:

- by the decision of the Assembly of the Association about the termination of the Association;

- by the decision of the Assembly of the Association on annexation with another association, joining with another association, a division of the association by separation;
- in other cases prescribed by the law.

Article 52

The decisions of the Assembly of the Association from the previous article are made by two-thirds (2/3) majority of all members of the General Assembly.

In the event of termination of the Association its remaining assets will belong to an association or institution which has the same or similar statutory objectives, based on the decision of the General Assembly.

The Liquidator of the Association

Article 53

The Liquidator represents the Association in the liquidation procedure and with the opening of liquidation procedure shall be enrolled into the Register of the Associations as a person authorized for the representation of the Association until the liquidation procedure terminates and the Association is erased from the Register of the Associations.

IX

DISPUTE SETTLEMENT AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Article 54

A conflict of interest exists if the Associations members and/or members of the governing bodies in the performance of their duties come into a situation that its decisions or other action are favorable to themselves or persons close to them, and at the expense of the interests of other members of the association. About every conflict of interest shall be decided separately.

In the event of a dispute between the members of the Association which prevents and complicates the activities of the Association and which cannot be resolved through the procedures prescribed by this Statute, the members of the Association shall attempt to settle the dispute by conciliation.

Article 55

The members of the Association must, in all affairs of interest and importance for the Association, act honorably, in good faith (bona fide), with conscience, responsibly and objectively, keep their own credibility and the credibility of the Association.

In performing the activities of the Association the members must not place their private interest above the interest of the Association.

Article 56

In the event that private interest of the Association's member is in a contrary to the interest of the Association or in the event of private interest affecting or when it can affect the objectiveness of the Association's members work in performing the Association's activities, the Association's member who is found to be in conflict of interest must, without delay, inform the Executive Board on it, and, if possible, exempt himself from further work on the concrete activity.

Article 57

In the event of doubt whether there is conflict of interest or not, any member of the Association can ask for the Executive board opinion.

X

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 58

The Assembly of the Association adopts the Statute of the Association, respectively its changes and amendments, by the majority of votes of all General Assembly members after the discussion is carried out.

Article 59

The initiative for changes and amendments of the Statute may be started by at least 1/3 of regular Association's members.

The initiative for changes and amendments of the Statute are submitted in written form to the President of the Association or, in the event of his incapacity, to the Vice-Presidents of the Association, who shall include the proposition of changes and amendments on the timetable of the next Assembly's session.

The proposition of changes and amendments of the Statute must contain the new formulation of the Statute's articles whose changes are proposed along with the explanation of it.

Article 60

The interpretation of the provisions of this Statute gives the Assembly.

The interpretation of other Association's documents gives the Assembly.

Article 61

The Assembly decides on all procedural-statutory matters which are not regulated by this Statute.

Article 62

This Statute enters into force on the day it is adopted.

In Sofia, Bulgaria,

22nd October 2015

Mr. sc. Milan Husnjak, DVM
The President of the South eastern Europe Advisory Service Network