

## Charter

### **§1 Name and registered office**

1. The name of the organization is pro filia.
2. pro filia's registered office is in Münster.
3. pro filia has been entered into the register of associations at the county court Münster (registration number VR 4819).
4. A business year is starts and ends with the calendar year.

### **§2 Purpose**

1. The organization pro filia has the sole and immediate purpose of pursuing charitable goals as mentioned in point
2. The purpose of the organization is the advancement of education, health and emancipation primarily for girls and women as well as the protection of families.
3. The general purposes of the organization will be pursued in practice by promoting and supporting girls and women in countries where they are socially as well as physically and psychologically disadvantaged, in virtue of the country's constitution or its cultural and religious practices. The following activities shall be of primary importance:
  - Support for women before, during and after giving birth to a girl in order to prevent abortion, lack of adequate care for the child or even infanticide.
  - Support for families who provide adequate care for their daughters, who send them to school and allow them to obtain vocational training and who do not force them into marriage.
  - Promotion of adequate health care for girls by enabling visits to doctors, immunizations, etc.
  - Creation of accommodation for girls abandoned by their families.
  - Development of schools designed to advance the education and independence of girls
  - Promotion of training positions for girls and young women giving them the opportunity to earn their own money.
  - Granting micro-credits to women so they achieve economic independence.
  - Development and running of public awareness campaigns for the improvement of education and health care for girls, together with local partners.
  - Development and active support of projects for the institutionalization of locally developed schemes, in order to attain sustainability of these local schemes.
  - Training of local associates from different fields of work, who will continue with all these activities and who will have a disseminating effect.
  - Support for local institutions and organizations which share pro filia's purpose and objectives

### **§3 Charitable nature**

1. The organization is a non-profit organization. All its purposes are non-profitable.
2. All the organization's available means are to be used for purposes outlined in the constitution. Members, members will not receive any material benefit from the means of the organization in virtue of being a member of pro filia.
3. Members will not receive shares of the organization's assets when they leave the organization, or when the organization is dissolved.
4. No person can benefit from resources of the organization because of expenses that are unrelated to the organization's purposes, or because of expenses that are disproportionately high.

### **§4 Membership**

1. Any natural and any legal person who supports the purposes of pro filia can become a member of the organization.
2. The executive committee will decide to accept or reject applications for membership. To appeal rejection, a general meeting can be called.
3. Cancellation of membership is possible only the end of the business year. A written notice must be given to the executive committee, observing the notice period of one month.
4. A member who seriously violates the purposes and interests of the organization can be expelled from the organization by resolution of the general meeting with immediate effect.

### **§5 Contributions**

The amount of membership contributions is decided by the general meeting with a simple majority vote.

### **§6 Executive committee**

1. The executive board or committee consists of one chair, as well as five further executive committee members and it is occupied by three women and three men.
2. The executive board in the sense of § 26 BGB is the chair together with at least one further member of the executive committee. Together they represent the organization legally and non-legally.
3. The executive committee is elected by the general meeting for a period of two years. Re-election is possible. The chair is elected separately. A member of the executive committee retains his or her office until a successor has been elected and is ready to resume office.
4. The executive committee is responsible for the active business of the organization.
5. Decisions by the executive committee may be taken by writing or by telephone in case of urgency, if no member of the executive committee disagrees.
6. Changes in the constitution which are due to formal demands by regulatory, judicial, or revenue authorities may be taken by the executive committee alone.

#### **§7 General Meetings**

1. There is at least one general meeting in a year.
2. Additional general meetings may be convened if these are necessary to pursue the interests of the organization or if a demand - supported by at least one quarter of the total members - for them is submitted to the executive committee along with reasons for the meeting cited.
3. General meetings are convened by the executive committee in writing and the invitation is issued at least four weeks before the meeting. At this time, the agenda for the meeting is also made available.
4. At the first general meeting of each year, members are presented with the annual budget and an annual report about the decisions concerning the authorization and relief of the executive committee. Two accountants, who must not be members of the executive committee, are employed to audit the accounts including the annual budget and to report to the general meeting.

Furthermore, the general meeting decides about:

- The budget of the organization
- The activities and tasks of the organization
- Changes in the constitution
- Dissolution of the organization

#### **§8 Participation**

Participation by core and voluntary staff, and by co-workers on projects, is regulated by a special rules of procedure which are decided upon by the general meeting.

#### **§9 Dissolution of the organization and disposition of assets**

1. The resolution to change the constitution or to dissolve the organization requires a three-quarter majority of the members present at the general meeting. The resolution can only be taken if timely notice has been given in the invitation to the relevant general meeting.
2. In case of dissolution or abolition of the organization, or in case of cessation of its current purpose, the organization's assets are transferred to Plan International. Plan International must use these assets immediately and exclusively for non-profit or charitable purposes relevant to the advancement of health care and education for girls.

Münster, 22. November 2013

Executive committee pro filia:

Mechthild Spener  
Brigitte Wierling  
Josef Humbert  
Bernd Brixius