

Coalition for Independent Living

Statute



Tbilisi
2016

Article 1

General Regulations

- 1.1. Coalition for Independent Living (hereafter "Coalition") is a non-profit legal entity that works in line with Georgian Constitution, legislation and the regulations given in this statute as well as international conventions, declarations and documents related to protection of the rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- 1.2. Coalition is a legal successor of Coalition of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and Veterans. Coalition was registered by the Court of Vake-Saburtalo district on 05.05.2003. Registration number is №5/9-738.
- 1.3. Coalition works in Georgia and abroad according to its goals.
- 1.4. The legal address of Coalition is 0179, Phaliashvili Str. №72 Tbilisi, Georgia. Actual address of Coalition is 0154, Kedia Str. 7, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Article 2

Goals of Coalition

2.1. The goal of Coalition is to:

Support the independence and prosperity of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in the society;

- a) Raise public awareness about disability and support legal interests of PWD;
- b) Develop the legislation foundations on disability;
- c) Protect the rights and dignity of and create equal opportunities for PWD;
- d) Support the development of civil society organizations acting in this field;
- e) Accumulate and award funds, including grants, required to achieve the goals described in paragraphs a-f of Article 2.

Article 3

Areas of Activity

3.1. In order to achieve the goals identified in this Statute, Coalition:

- a) Carries out educational activities to help PWD understand and protect their rights better;
- b) Works to develop the network of libraries equipped with modern literature on disability;
- c) Conducts translation and publishing activities;
- d) Supports the creation of effective infrastructure and resource centers for legal protection of PWD;
- e) Creates information centers and legal services, conducts advocacy activities;
- e) Lobbies for the harmonization of Georgian legislation with international standards on the rights of PWD;
- f) Promotes the rights of PWD and supports the establishment of respectful attitude toward disability;
- g) Supports the development of legal and civil educational systems according to international standards;
- h) Cooperates with local and international organizations, including trade unions;
- i) Carries out public education campaigns;
- j) Organizes solidarity campaigns and/or protest and demonstration activities;
- k) Monitors and evaluates relevant programs effective in Georgia;
- l) Participates in discussions of social-political issues by means of legal expertise, evaluation, monitoring and publicizing of the organization's perspectives on these issues;
- m) Sets up structural entities of Coalition on the whole territory of Georgia;
- n) Carries out assistive commercial activities, which do not change the nature of Coalition as a non-profit legal entity;
- o) Carries out other activities, which do not violate the legislation of Georgia;

Article 4

Membership

4.1. Coalition has three forms of membership:

- a) Full Member;
- b) Associated Member;
- c) Honorary Member;

4.2. The following are entitled to be Full Member of Coalition:

- a) Non-governmental organization of persons with any form of disability (including parent/guardian organization);
- b) Any kind of a disability-related service provider organization providing services to PWD. Number of such organizations must not exceed 25% of the overall number of Full Members;

4.3. The following are entitled to be Associated Member of Coalition:

- a) Non-governmental organization of people with any form of disability (including parent/guardian organization);
- b) Individual with any form of disability (also parent/guardian);
- c) Any person without disabilities whose activities are directly or indirectly related to the goals of Coalition;

4.4. Honorary Member of Coalition may become a person who has significantly contributed to and supported the goals of Coalition;

4.5. Candidate wishing to be a member of Coalition must apply to the Board of Coalition filling out the special form. The Board examines the application and if it meets the established membership requirements, the Board presents it to the nearest General Meeting session. Before the final decision regarding the membership is made the candidate has to make a presentation of their activities over the last two years as well as written reference letters issued by two Full Members of Coalition.

4.6. Founders and Members of Coalition have equal status;

4.7. Authority of a Member is terminated when:

- a) Based on his/her statement;
- b) When failing to pay membership dues for three months;
- c) In case of Court announcing them as incapable;
- d) In case of decease (private person) or liquidation (legal person);

4.8. The General Meeting is entitled to exclude the Member if his/her activities contradict the goals of Coalition or s/he does not fulfill obligations and breaks the norms of ethic;

Article 5

Rights and Obligations of Members

5.1. Full Member of Coalition is entitled to:

- a) Participate in the work of General Meeting of Coalition;
- b) Elect the Board and be elected;
- c) Participate in programs of Coalition according to his/her qualification and capacities;
- d) Attend the meetings of the Board with the right to vote;
- e) Get any kind of information from the Board and personnel of Coalition about the activities of Coalition;
- f) Use the information and material-technical means in possession of Coalition according to goals of Coalition and within the range of available possibilities;
- g) Wear the logo of Coalition;

5.2. Member of Coalition is obliged to:

- a) Obey the Statute of Coalition, Operational Manual and decisions made by the Board;
- b) Defend dignity, authority and property of Coalition;
- c) Participate in the activities of Coalition in line with his/her capacities and interests;
- d) Guide with the goals of Coalition and principles of ethical codex of Georgian public organizations while engaged in professional activities;
- e) Pay membership dues in established quantity and according to the established rules;

5.3. Rights and obligations of Associated Member of Coalition:

- a) S/he has all the rights and obligations of Full Member except for the right to vote and attend the meetings of the Board;
- b) Individuals with disabilities (also parent/guardian) have the right to be elected in the Board of Coalition after presenting information about their activities over the last three years;

Article 6

The General Meeting

6.1. The highest ruling body of Coalition is General Meeting of Members of Coalition. The General Meeting is held upon request of the Board or 1/4 of Full Members at least twice a year;

6.2. The Board is entitled to raise the issue of amending the statute in the General Meeting agenda except when the changes and additions are proposed by 1/10 of Coalition Members;

6.3. The General Meeting makes decisions by the majority of votes if the Statute or other regulations do not require otherwise. Every member has one vote. Vote transmission is unacceptable;

6.4. The General Meeting

- a) The General Meeting is authorized when attended by the 2/3 of its Full Members;
- b) 2/3 of General Meeting participants are entitled to approve and/or amend the Statute of Coalition;
- c) The majority elects the members of the Board by means of secret ballot. If votes are equally distributed then the additional voting takes place;
- d) The General Meeting hears and approves the financial and progress report of Coalition;
- e) The majority of General Meeting attendants approve the strategy objectives presented by the Board;
- f) Majority of attendants elects the Revision Committee for a 5-year term;
- g) Coalition can be re-organized by decision of 2/3 of attendants;
- h) Coalition is self-liquidated by decision of 2/3 of members;
- i) Member is excluded or his/her authority is terminated by decision of 2/3 of members;

6.5. The Board of Coalition is entitled to summon an unscheduled meeting:

- a) On its own initiative;
- b) By request of 1/4 of members no later than two months after the request;
- c) On the initiative of Revision Committee;

Article 7

The Board

7.1. Coalition's managing body is the Board. The Board consists of 5 members. The General Meeting elects the members for a 5-year term. A person who is not attending the General Meeting but has submitted a written consent to be elected as the member of the Board can become a Member of the Board;

7.2. The Chairman of the Board (hereafter "Chairman") can be elected by the majority of votes through secret ballot;

7.3. The Board sessions take place during the last week of every month. An unscheduled session can be summoned by 1/3 of the Board's members or by the Chairman. The Board is eligible if more than half of the members are present. Decisions are made by the majority of attendants. Members of the Board are informed about the date and agenda of the session at least 5 days earlier except for the unscheduled meetings when they are informed immediately;

7.4. The Board:

- a) Summons and holds the General Meeting, informs the Members of Coalition about the date and agenda of the meeting at least two weeks earlier;
- b) Disseminates the draft document of additions and amendments in the Statute at least 5 days earlier before the General Meeting;

- c) Provides a recommendation letter to the Member of Coalition whose activity contradicts the goals of Coalition or who does not fulfill the obligations imposed by these regulations;
- d) Develops and submits to the General Meetings for approval a draft document describing strategic objectives of Coalition activities;
- e) Approves financial and progress reports and presents them to the General Meeting;
- f) Approves strategic development plan and budgetary parameters of Coalition;
- g) Decides on the membership issues in one of Coalition's registered member organizations;
- h) Approves employee salary rates presented by the Chairman;
- i) Approves the organizational structure of Coalition presented by the Chairman;
- j) Presented by the Chairman, makes decisions about the establishment and liquidation of Coalition's regional entities; approves their regulations and appoints leaders;
- k) Authority of the Chairman can be terminated by the majority of attending members through secret ballot;
- l) Establishes the Coalition's enterprises, appoints and dismisses their leaders presented by the Chairman of the Board;
- m) Considers other issues, which under these regulations are of no prerogative for the General Meeting and other authorities;

7.4. Each member of the Board has the right to participate in projects of Coalition. Aside from the Chairman, only two members of the Board can be involved in the same project;

7.5. In case of terminating a Member's authority ahead of time, a person who has received more but not enough votes at the last General Meeting can become a new Member. If several persons have equal votes, then the Board votes again. The Board's new Member exercises power during the period that the previous Member had left in his/her term.

Article 8

The Chairman

8.1. Members of Board elect the Chairman of the Board for five years term at the very first session. Any member of the Board has the right to present his/her candidate for the post of the Chairman. The term of Chairman begins from the moment of election and lasts until the election of the new Chairman.

8.2. The Chairman:

- a) Acts on behalf of the Board of Coalition and represents Coalition while communicating with the third parties;
- b) Reports to the Board once in 6 months;
- c) Handles financial and material resources of Coalition in compliance with the rules established by the Board and is responsible for their proper disposal; signs relevant official and financial documents;
- d) In agreement with the Board approves the projects to be implemented by Coalition;
- e) Forms agreements on behalf of Coalition about the issues related to the programs/projects;
- f) In agreement with the Board appoints and dismisses project coordinators;
- g) Appoints and dismisses employees of Coalition;
- h) Facilitates the Board sessions and is responsible for the operation of the Board as an ordinary member and not as the Chairman;
- j) Guides the work with existing Members of Coalition as well as candidates for membership according to the rule established by the Board;
- k) Signs official documentation of Coalition;
- l) Performs other duties imposed on him/her by these regulations;

8.3. The functions and activities of the Chairman are identified by this Statute and the relevant regulations of the Board;

8.4. In case of failing in his/her obligations, exceeding his/her authorities and/or acting in contradiction with the goals of Coalition the Board (and only) has the right to terminate the authority of the Chairman ahead of time. In this case the Board elects a new Chairman in a month for the period that is left from the term.

8.5. The Chairman has no right to work in a state sector or be involved in the activities that might interfere with his obligations as the Chairman of Coalition.

Article 9

Revision Committee

9.1. The Revision Committee controls the process of utilization of financial resources and other capital carried out by the Board and officials appointed by the Board as well as it works to make sure that all the regulations of Coalition are taken into consideration. The General Meeting elects three members of the Committee for a 2-year term. The Committee elects the Chairman from its members in a month's time after its establishment. The Revision Committee works in compliance with the regulations identified by the Committee itself.

9.2. Member of the Board of Coalition or an employee on a regular payroll cannot be a Member of the Revision Committee at the same time.

9.3. The Revision Committee examines financial records and accounting as well as registers available material stock at least once a year. Revision outcomes are reported to the Board and the next General Meeting. The Committee makes decisions through the majority of votes;

9.4. In case of serious violations the Revision Committee summons an unscheduled session of the Board or the General Meeting and facilitates it.

9.5. If the authority of the member of Revision Committee is terminated ahead of due time, a person who gathered more but not enough votes at the last General Meeting becomes the new member. If several persons have equal votes, then the Revision Committee applies the sortition method. The newly elected member exercises his/her power for the period that the previous member had left in his/her term.

Article 10

Property of Coalition

10.1. Property of Coalition is composed of membership dues, members' and other persons' donations, grants, assistive enterprises and other legal income;

10.2. Property of Coalition can only be utilized in service with the goals established within this Statute;

Article 11

Liquidation of Coalition

11.1. Coalition is liquidated:

- a) By decision of the General Meeting;
- b) By decision of the Court in frames of the legislation of Georgia

11.2. Upon liquidation the property of Coalition is handed by the Liquidation committee to a non-profit legal entity with similar goals and objectives;