**ExCo Statutes Review Process Agreed**

**1. Background**

In the ExCo meeting of 26/2/2021, the Bureau presented proposals for organising the structure and scope of the statutes review process.

Regarding the structure of the statutes review process, option A was approved, with the approved sequence of activities:

* The Statutes Review Committee (SRC) submits the document to the ExCo members
* The ExCo members submit a written response within a given time and a clear deadline
* The SRC compiles and analyses the responses from the members, re-drafts the statutes consequently, and submits the redrafted proposal to the ExCo members
* The ExCo members discuss orally the redrafted proposal
* The SRC revises the proposal according to what was agreed by the ExCo members.

At the same meeting (26/2/2021), it was also decided that the scope of the statutes review process would be organised by chapters.

Consequently, the SRC develop a calendar proposal for the process of the statutes review process, based on the following principals:

* The process should be carried during 2021, with the first semester of 2022 available for final approval by Ex Co members, followed by verification of the amendments compliance with Belgian law by Denton’s; the goal is to approved the statutes review in the General Assembly of 2022;
* The process to be developed during 2021 should provide adequate time for:
* Members to analyse the proposed amendments and submit written comments;
* the SRC to compile and analyse the responses from the members and re-draft the statutes consequently
* Members to discuss collectively the chapters of the statutes, re-drafted by the SRC according to their written contributions.

After all the 3 chapters of the Statutes are re-drafted following this process, a compiled version of the re-drafted statutes will be presented to members, for their final approval, before the end of 2021. The aim of Bureau is not to have open issues when we send the revised statutes to the GA.

Below we provide the calendar proposal, with timelines and expected actions.

**2. Calendar for the Statutes Review process**

The SRC proposes the following calendar and timelines for the process of the statutes review:

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| **Chapter** | **Date** | **Action** |
| **Titles I-XI**  **In**  **Part**  **Part II**  **Part III**  **(3 different parts as document and in tables)** | October 14, 2021 | The SRC sends the Statutes to **all** members (ExCo members/ EO’s not in ExCo) |
| November 4, 2021 | ExCo / EO members submit written responses with their proposals for the statute’s revision |
| November 5, 2021 | Members discuss the Statutes Amendments at the ExCo meeting, and highlight their proposals (to support the integration on the revised draft) |
| November 6 to  November 30, 2021 | The SRC compiles and analyses the responses from the members, re-drafts the statutes consequently, and submits the re-drafted proposal to the ExCo members by November 30, 2021 |
| December 2021 (TBD) | Members discuss at ExCo meeting the re-drafted proposal for the Statutes. In the meeting we provide space for participation to members of EAPN that are not ExCo members. |
| December 2021 (TBD) | The SRC starts revising the proposal according to what was agreed by the ExCo members |
| **Final Re-drafted version** | Date TBD | The SRC integrates submits the final draft for approval by the ExCo members (early 2022, date TBD) |

Please note that changes to the Standing Orders will happen after, and according to the changes agreed by the members in the Final Re-drafted version**.**

Belgian Law

In the Belgian Law on NGOs, in article 48 there is a description of the Minimum requirements that an NGO needs to have in its Statute. I share with you here Art 48 of Law which specifies that

***“Article 48:***

*The statutes must specify:*

1. *the name of the international non-profit association and the address of its registered office;*
2. *the precise description of the purposes for which the international non-profit association is established and the activities it proposes to implement to achieve these goals;*
3. *the conditions and formalities for admission and withdrawal of members and if any, the members of the various categories;*
4. *the rights and obligations of members and, if applicable, the members of the various categories;*
5. *duties, the manner of calling and mode decision of the general management body of the international non-profit association and the conditions in which its resolutions are brought to the attention of the members;*
6. *the responsibilities, the manner of calling and mode of decision of the administrative organ of the international non-profit, the mode of appointment, termination of office and dismissal of Directors, their minimum number, their term, the extent of their powers and how to exercise them, and the method of selecting people who have the power to bind vis-à-vis third parties Association and represent it in the proceedings and in legal proceedings;*
7. *the conditions for amending the statutes, dissolution and liquidation of the association, and the destination of the heritage of international non-profit association. In case of dissolution, the latter must be affected to a disinterested purpose.”*