

Bylaws

Malteser International

Cologne/Paris/Rome/Malta, February 29th, 2008

§ 1 Name, seat and language

The name of the institution is Malteser International. The name will be used without any abbreviation. Malteser International has its headquarters at Cologne/Germany.

The common language of Malteser International is English, while the working languages in the headquarters are English and German.

The emblem of Malteser International is the white eight pointed cross in a red shield surrounded by a white orle. The right to use this emblem and the name "Malteser" is granted by the Sovereign Order of Malta (SOM). It can be revoked by the SOM at any time at its sole discretion. Malteser International is in the framework of the International Hospitaller Committee under the Presidency of the Grand Hospitaller.

§ 2 Purpose

Malteser International is the international relief agency of the SOM founded to provide humanitarian assistance irrespective of race, sex, religion or political persuasion. Its work is based on the principles of the SOM and the humanitarian principles of impartiality and neutrality.

§ 3 Subsidiaries, Affiliates and Branches

Malteser International can facilitate the incorporation of subsidiaries or affiliates, or establish branch-offices, in other countries. If a Priory or Association of the SOM exists in this country, they have to agree to this. If a subsidiary organisation of the Order with the status of an NGO does exist in the country, the subsidiary, affiliate or branch office can be legally integrated in this sub organisation but still has to report to the Malteser International headquarters.

§ 4 Mission and fields of activities of Malteser International

Malteser International shall carry out the following missions:

- a) To provide relief to emergencies in the world
- b) To implement rehabilitation measures with a development perspective
- c) To plan and carry out concepts of linking relief, rehabilitation and development (LRRD)
- d) To inform the public about its work
- e) Malteser International can carry out additional missions if they are requested to do so and are financed by an Association, a Priory or by the Grand Hospitaller of the Sovereign Order of Malta.

§ 5 Membership

Malteser International has Ordinary Members, Supporting Members and Honorary Members.

a) Ordinary Members

All Associations and Pories of the Order can become Ordinary Members, if they actively support the work of Malteser International in their Area of Responsibility by the following activities:

- Active Public Relation and Press Work
- Recruiting of adequate staff

- Fundraising
- Payment of a yearly membership fee

Ordinary Members have a seat and a vote in the General Assembly. They apply for membership to the Board of Directors in writing; decision is made by the Board of Directors, approval of the Grand Hospitaller of the SMOM is mandatory.

Membership for ordinary members shall terminate upon written declaration to the Board of Directors.

b) Supporting Members

Corporate organisations and individuals who wish to support the work financially may become Supporting Members. Supporting Members are neither endowed with a seat nor a vote in the General Assembly and are not eligible for any office. Supporting Members may apply for membership to the Board of Directors in writing; the decision on the membership is made by the Board of Directors.

For supporting members, membership shall terminate

- Upon death
- Upon written notice of intention to leave, which must be forwarded to the Board of Directors no later than the end of the financial year.
- Upon expulsion at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

c) Honorary Members

Honorary Members may be nominated by the General Assembly.

d) Membership Fees

Membership contributions for ordinary members and the membership fee for supporting members shall be agreed upon by the General Assembly. Honorary Members are exempt of membership fees.

§ 6 The Chaplain of Malteser International

A Chaplain may be appointed by the President with the consent of the Prelate of the SOM.

§ 7 Organs of Malteser International

Organs of Malteser International comprise

- The General Assembly
- The Board of Directors
- The Secretary General

§ 8 General Assembly

a) Members

The General Assembly is the policy making authority of Malteser International. Members are:

- The Ordinary members
- The Board of Directors
- The Chaplain of Malteser International without voting rights
- The Secretary General and his Deputy without voting rights

b) Regulations

The General Assembly shall be convened at least once per annum by the President. Notice of meetings shall be forwarded in writing (electronic form is sufficient) no less than 4 weeks before the meeting is held.

Delegates shall be directly appointed by the Ordinary Members who shall give their names to the General Secretariat no less than 2 weeks prior to the meeting.

Each voting member shall have one vote that is not transferable. The election of the President and of the members of the Board of Directors shall be by secret ballot. Elections and resolutions require a simple majority of all votes cast. Any alterations to By-laws or the dissolution of the Institution require a two-thirds majority of voting members present.

c) Responsibilities of the General Assembly

- Review of the reports of the President and the Secretary General
- Review of the annual budget of Malteser International
- Ratification of the actions of the Board of Directors
- Election and revocation of the Board of Directors
- Assessment of membership fees for Ordinary Members and of the minimum contribution for Supporting Members
- Resolution of any alteration to By-laws subject to the approval of the SOM
- Resolution of extraordinary petitions
- Resolution of the dissolution of the Institution subject to the approval of the SOM

§ 9 Board of Directors

a) Members

The Board of Directors shall comprise the following members:

- The President
- Up to six (6) further Directors.
- One of the up to (6) further Directors acts as the Financial Supervisor of Malteser International

The President and at least four (4) further members of the Board of Directors must be members of the Order of Malta.

b) Election of the Members of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of four (4) years. There are no term limits. Eligibility for the position of President is subject to prior approval by the Grand Hospitaller. In the event of a permanent vacancy during a term, a substitute may be selected by the Board of Directors until the next meeting of the General Assembly, when a replacement shall be elected to complete the term of the officer he is replacing.

A two-thirds majority of active members present at the General Assembly may remove members of the Board of Directors.

c) Regular meetings of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall meet at least four (4) times per annum. Each meeting shall be convened by the President in writing with no less than two (2) weeks prior notice. The Secretary General and the Vice Secretary General shall participate in the meetings of the

Board of Directors in a consultative function. The Chaplain of Malteser International has the right to participate at the meetings.

The Grand Hospitaller of the SOM shall be invited to all meetings.

§ 10 Secretary General

The Secretary General is the Director of the General Secretariat. He is endowed with the executive management of Malteser International within the framework of the strategy and the annual budget. Further, his duties shall include the representation of Malteser International vis-à-vis all relevant national and international partners. The Secretary General shall report directly to the President.

§ 11 Dissolution

The General Assembly shall define the conditions pertaining to the dissolution and the liquidation of Malteser International subject to the approval of the SOM.