

Statutes
New Apostolic Church International

as of 6 June 2022



Table of Contents

Preface.....	4
Article 1 Name and Domicile.....	5
Article 2 Purpose.....	5
Article 3 Functions.....	6
Article 4 Membership.....	8
Article 5 Finances.....	11
Article 6 Organisation and Governing Bodies.....	12
Article 7 The Chief Apostle.....	13
Article 8 The District Apostle Meeting.....	16
Article 9 The Delegate Meeting.....	19
Article 10 The Apostle Meeting.....	21
Article 11 The Board of Directors (Finance Committee).....	22
Article 12 Virtual Meetings.....	23
Article 13 The Statutory Auditors.....	23
Article 14 Statutes of the Regional Churches.....	24
Article 15 Data Protection.....	24
Article 16 Amendments to the Statutes.....	24
Article 17 Duration and Dissolution.....	25
Article 18 Final Provisions.....	25
Acceptance of the Statutes.....	26
Confirmation of Membership.....	26

Preface

The New Apostolic Church International (hereinafter called NACI) is an independent association under Swiss law. NACI incorporates as its members the active Chief Apostle as well as all active Apostles from all countries of the world. NACI forms, together with all New Apostolic Regional Churches – by safeguarding their legal independence – a Church as a whole with a global presence and uniform doctrine, under the leadership of the Chief Apostle as its supreme spiritual authority.

The Doctrine of the New Apostolic Church is based on the Holy Scripture. The goal of faith of the New Apostolic Doctrine is to prepare the faithful for Christ's Return to attain eternal communion with God.

Article 1 Name and Domicile

- 1.1 Under the name of “New Apostolic Church International” (NACI) exists an association within the meaning of Article 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code (“Schweizerisches Zivilgesetzbuch” – ZGB).
- 1.2 The Association is registered with the Commercial Register of the Canton of Zurich (Switzerland).
- 1.3 The permanent domicile of the Association is Zurich (Switzerland).

Article 2 Purpose

- 2.1 The purpose of the New Apostolic Church International is to cultivate, foster and preserve the spiritual unity of all Apostles of the New Apostolic Churches in all countries of the world with the Chief Apostle and among themselves.
- 2.2 NACI promotes the unity of all New Apostolic Regional Churches as part of a globally active Church as a whole.
- 2.3 NACI endeavours to ensure the economic viability of the various Regional Churches and to contribute to their development including the support of financially weak Regional Churches.
- 2.4 NACI pursues charitable objectives, either directly or indirectly via the Regional Churches, worldwide.
- 2.5 NACI may take any measures suitable to achieve its purpose.

Article 3 Functions

- 3.1 The cultivating, fostering and preserving of the unity of the Apostles (Art. 2.1) is, in particular, effected by the following:
 - 3.1.1 District Apostle Meetings
 - 3.1.2 Delegate Meetings
 - 3.1.3 Apostle Meetings
 - 3.1.4 Travels of the Chief Apostle to the various Regional Churches for the purpose of conducting divine services and cultivating fellowship
 - 3.1.5 Inviting District Apostles and Apostles at regular intervals to attend divine services conducted by the Chief Apostle
 - 3.1.6 Regular communication between the Chief Apostle and the District Apostles and Apostles.
- 3.2 The promoting of the unity of the Regional Churches (Art. 2.2) is, in particular, effected by the following:
 - 3.2.1 Providing inspiration for the development of the Church as a whole, both internally and externally
 - 3.2.2 Safeguarding a uniform Doctrine, preparing guidelines on all matters pertaining to the Church and dealing with present-day issues
 - 3.2.3 Drawing up guidelines and ordinances conducive to spiritual, organisational and international cooperation between the Regional Churches
 - 3.2.4 Directing the project and work groups set up by the Chief Apostle
 - 3.2.5 Protecting the unity of the New Apostolic Church against disruptive and/or undermining activities
 - 3.2.6 Promoting the interests of the Church as a whole and representing the latter in public
 - 3.2.7 Devising and promoting a church strategy for the Church as a whole
 - 3.2.8 Devising and promoting a financial strategy for the Church as a whole.

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- 3.3 The supporting of financially weak Regional Churches (Art. 2.3) is, in particular, effected by the following:
- 3.3.1 Complying with the church strategy
 - 3.3.2 Complying with the financial strategy
 - 3.3.3 Assisting the administrations of the Regional Churches in achieving optimal coordination of all administrative tasks and in utilising available synergies
 - 3.3.4 Assisting the various Regional Churches in obtaining state recognition.
- 3.4 The pursuit of charitable objectives (Art. 2.4) is, in particular, effected by the following:
- 3.4.1 Rendering development aid
 - 3.4.2 Supporting the needy (such as through financial donations, delivering medication and making allowances to hospitals and homes)
 - 3.4.3 Rendering assistance in case of disasters (such as through financial donations, supplying food and clothing)
 - 3.4.4 Promoting the school system (through financial support in the form of grants and allowances)
 - 3.4.5 Promoting musical education (such as through contributions for buying instruments, training and schooling)
 - 3.4.6 Making allowances to other charitable institutions.
- 3.5 NACI archives church-relevant documents in paper form (books, dossiers, records, etc.) and/or in electronical, visual or in any other form.
- 3.6 NACI supervises the church products of the publishing house Friedrich Bischoff GmbH. Publications for the Ministers, teaching material, the church magazine "Our Family" and comparable publications as well as music products for use in divine services require NACI's approval.

Article 4 Membership

4.1 Members of NACI are: the active Chief Apostle and all Apostles in the active service of the New Apostolic Church throughout the world.

4.2 Membership is acquired by being ordained as an Apostle.

The Apostles are ordained by the Chief Apostle. The Chief Apostle may commission a District Apostle to carry out an ordination in his stead. This commission must be given in written form.

If an Apostle is to be ordained, the responsible District Apostle proposes to the Chief Apostle a Minister out of his District Apostle Area. The Chief Apostle may also contact other District Apostles in order to appoint an appropriate Minister to the Apostle Ministry, also from another District Apostle Area. The Chief Apostle decides on the ordination.

4.3 In the case of new ordinations, Apostles will take the following vow in the presence of the Chief Apostle or his representative prior to their ordination:

"Before God, the Father, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, I vow to love God, the Almighty, the Creator of all things, with all my heart, with all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength, and to love my neighbour as myself.

It is my sacred duty to proclaim the doctrine of Jesus Christ, especially the redeeming power of His sacrifice and His return, and to allow myself to be led by the Holy Spirit alone, in order to fulfil the mission I have received in the name of Jesus truthfully, diligently, conscientiously and justly. I resolve to serve in humbleness and conduct myself worthily and honourably before God and man.

I acknowledge the Chief Apostle as the supreme Minister, and assure him of my full support. I pledge myself to the Chief Apostle and the District Apostles and Apostles of the New Apostolic Church united with him, whose highest duty is obedience in faith, whose greatest honour is faithfulness to the work of God, and whose ultimate goal is perfection in Christ.

In my exercise of this leading ministry of the New Apostolic Church, I shall always stand behind this profession unambiguously, and live in accordance with the Gospel as an Apostle of the New Apostolic Church."

4.4 Only after having taken this vow and having signed the Statutes personally (which must be countersigned by the Chief Apostle and the responsible District Apostle) can the prospective Apostle be ordained. The Statutes must be signed in triplicate. Copies go to the Chief Apostle, the responsible District Apostle and the newly ordained Minister.

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- 4.5 In their capacity as representatives of the New Apostolic Church, it is expected of the members that they conduct themselves at all times in line with the vow they have taken (Art. 4.3). The members are obliged to actively promote the continuing viability and development of the New Apostolic Church and to stand up for the Doctrine of the New Apostolic Church.
- 4.6 The members avail themselves of their respective civic rights and duties. A political activity can only be exercised upon prior agreement with the District Apostle as well as the Chief Apostle's approval.
- 4.7 Each member has the right to be informed. The Chief Apostle and the District Apostles are obliged to inform the Apostles about the main activities of the Association, in particular about the topics dealt with by the governing bodies of the Association as well as the resolutions passed by them.
- 4.8 During the leave of absence of an Apostle, which may be pronounced by the Chief Apostle in the event of an important reason (such as sickness-related, family-related, marital, or personal), all membership rights are suspended. The Chief Apostle may appoint a representative.
- 4.9 The membership of the Apostles with NACI terminates upon the following occurrences:

4.9.1 Death

4.9.2 Retirement

In the absence of any other regional provision, every Apostle, who reaches the age of 65, is entitled to retirement. Retirement commences with the Act of Retirement, pursuant to Art. 7.7.2.

In the event of particular circumstances, the Chief Apostle may, with the consent of the person concerned, extend the period in office of an Apostle.

With the Chief Apostle's approval, each member is entitled to take early retirement, i.e. before reaching the age of 65 years, or else be placed into retirement, particularly when his state of health so requires.

4.9.3 Dismissal from office

Dismissal from office may be effected by the Chief Apostle in the event of an important reason. The member concerned is given the opportunity to inform the Chief Apostle of his position with respect to the reasons given for his dismissal within a period of two weeks.

4.9.4 Resignation from office

Each Apostle can resign from office at any time subject to submitting to the Chief Apostle a written declaration to this effect. The office will expire with the Chief Apostle's respective confirmation.

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- 4.10 The Chief Apostle's membership in NACI ends with his death, with the ordination of a successor, with his resignation from office as made known to the District Apostle Meeting, with his definitive disability to serve, or with his being voted out of office.
 - 4.11 With the termination of the membership, all signature rights and powers granted by NACI will lapse.
 - 4.12 Upon request, each member must provide the Chief Apostle – even after termination of his membership – with information regarding his official activities and give an account of them. The obligation of confidentiality vis-à-vis third parties is in force both during the term of office as well as after termination of the membership.
 - 4.13 Each member must exercise due care that, after his membership terminates, all objects belonging to the New Apostolic Church, plus all writings, documents, databases, files, books, inventories, movables, etc., as well as all other assets belonging to the District Apostle Area in question that are of relevance to ministerial and business management, are passed on to the responsible representative and that they are not misused. If applicable, the Chief Apostle may designate a responsible representative.

Article 5 Finances

- 5.1 Subject to the applicable legal provisions (Art. 7.7.7), the various District Apostle Areas or respectively Regional Churches allocate funds to NACI.
- 5.2 NACI waives a membership contribution.
- 5.3 The funds are used by NACI for the following purposes:
 - 5.3.1 Covering the administrative costs
 - 5.3.2 Performing charitable activities of international significance
 - 5.3.3 Supporting financially weak Regional Churches
 - 5.3.4 Subsidising Church products such as divine service guides
 - 5.3.5 Settling all other activities of NACI
 - 5.3.6 Accumulating reserve funds.
- 5.4 The Chief Apostle takes steps to ensure orderly bookkeeping and annual financial statements that are in compliance with the recognised rules of business accounting.
- 5.5 Members – including those who have resigned or have been dismissed and/ or former members who are in retirement – have no claim to NACI assets.
- 5.6 The liability of NACI is restricted to its assets.

A personal liability on the part of the members of NACI is excluded.
- 5.7 For the purpose of devising and promoting a financial strategy, the District Apostles shall forward to NACI within a period of six month after the end of each business year, without being asked to do so, the signed annual financial statements together with the business reports and the Auditor's reports, namely separately for:
 - 5.7.1 The District Apostle Area (either separately for the different Regional Churches or in the form of a consolidated business report)
 - 5.7.2 The charitable bodies
 - 5.7.3 The non-profit organisations
 - 5.7.4 The church-owned economic enterprises.
- 5.8 The business year of the Association is the calendar year.

Article 6 Organisation and Governing Bodies

- 6.1 The Chief Apostle, the District Apostles and the Apostles lead the New Apostolic Church.
- 6.2 The Chief Apostle appoints a District Apostle and commissions him with the leadership of a District Apostle Area. A District Apostle Area comprises one or several Regional Churches, which, as a rule, are legally independent institutions of the respective country.
- 6.3 In order to support the Chief Apostle, a Chief Apostle Helper may be assigned. In order to support a District Apostle, District Apostle Helpers may be assigned. The Chief Apostle decides, who is assigned the function of Helper; he determines the content and duration of the assignment. As a rule, the Chief Apostle performs the assignment himself, although he may also commission this to a District Apostle. The commission must be in writing.
- 6.4 Governing Bodies of NACI are:
 - 6.4.1 The Chief Apostle
 - 6.4.2 The District Apostle Meeting
 - 6.4.3 The Delegate Meeting
 - 6.4.4 The Apostle Meeting
 - 6.4.5 The Board of Directors (Finance Committee)
 - 6.4.6 The Statutory Auditors.

Article 7 The Chief Apostle

7.1 The Chief Apostle is appointed by his predecessor (Art. 7.7.11). In the absence of such an appointment, or if the Chief Apostle has been voted out of office, the new Chief Apostle is elected at a District Apostle Meeting (Art. 8.3.5) or respectively an Apostle Meeting (Art. 10.3.2) from the ranks of the members of NACI.

His duties commence with his ordination. The ordination follows the death of the previous Chief Apostle, or his ascertained definitive unfitness for office, or his entry into retirement, or his resignation from office or his having been voted out of office, as per appointment by his predecessor or as per election at a District Apostle Meeting or respectively an Apostle Meeting.

The ordination of the new Chief Apostle is performed by the retiring Chief Apostle or respectively by the longest-serving District Apostle. It shall be announced without delay to all New Apostolic Congregations around the world.

7.2 Upon reaching the age of 65 years, the Chief Apostle is entitled to retire. However, he should not continue in office beyond the age of 70 years.

7.3 In the event of an important reason, if the relationship of trust is undermined and his remaining in office would be unreasonable, the Chief Apostle may be dismissed through proceedings to vote him out of office (Art. 8.13).

7.4 It is the duty of the Chief Apostle to continually and conscientiously proclaim the Doctrine of Jesus Christ and to preserve its purity. As the supreme spiritual authority of all New Apostolic Regional Churches on earth, he directs the Church as a whole in all spiritual matters.

7.5 The Chief Apostle has the right and duty, within the competences that these Statutes endow him with, to attend to all matters pertaining to NACI. He has single signature power.

7.6 The Chief Apostle may, at any time, delegate his functions to representatives, as well as confer and revoke authorisations.

7.7 The Chief Apostle has sole decision-making power concerning all NACI-related matters that are not, by these Statutes or by binding legal provisions, assigned to another governing body.

He is, in particular, responsible for:

7.7.1 Ordaining the Apostles (Art. 4.2), appointing the District Apostles (Art. 6.2) and performing assignments (Art. 6.3).

7.7.2 Placing in retirement and dismissing Chief Apostle Helper, District Apostles, District Apostle Helpers and Apostles. He may commission this to a District Apostle. The commission must be in writing.

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- 7.7.3 Suspending Chief Apostle Helper, District Apostles, District Apostle Helpers and Apostles for a specified period of time. He can commission this to a District Apostle. The commission must be in writing.
 - 7.7.4 Defining and altering the boundaries of Regional Churches and setting up new District Apostle Areas as well as reassigning areas to District Apostles for pastoral and administrative purposes.
 - 7.7.5 Proposal of the members of the Board of Directors (Finance Committee) (Art. 11).
 - 7.7.6 Preparing the annual budget of NACI.
 - 7.7.7 In consultation with the responsible District Apostle: determining the financial contribution to be made to NACI (Art. 5.1).

With respect to Regional Churches where it is illegal to make contributions to a foreign organisation, or where such contributions would entail legal or fiscal disadvantages for the Regional Church or its members, NACI waives the remittance of such contributions.

- 7.7.8 Decision-making power over NACI expenditure and investment in tangible assets up to CHF 500,000 that is not already included in the annual budget as well as managing its assets. He has single power to represent NACI in court and outside court, including for legal transactions of real estate.
- 7.7.9 Preparing and devising the annual report of NACI.
- 7.7.10 Mediating in cases of differences of opinion among the members of NACI.
- 7.7.11 Appointing his successor from the ranks of NACI members. To this effect, the Chief Apostle will deposit a document in the safe of NACI. A corresponding note and an authorisation for disclosing this document are deposited with the Administration of NACI.
- 7.7.12 Provision for the Chief Apostle being presumed temporarily prevented from holding his office and exercising his functions: to this effect, the Chief Apostle will deposit a document in the safe of NACI. A corresponding note and an authorisation for disclosing this document are deposited with the Administration of NACI.
- 7.7.13 Decreeing regulations and ordinances in matters of the Church as a whole.

7.8 Regulations and ordinances of the Chief Apostle are to be implemented in all Regional Churches, subject to conflicting and compulsory legal provisions and in consideration of their legal independence.

7.9 Should the Chief Apostle be presumed temporarily prevented from exercising his functions due to serious sickness or any other serious event (if applicable, certification from two independent physicians is required here), the Administration of NACI shall invite, after a period of two weeks upon the event occurring, the three longest-serving District Apostles to appear within seven days at the domicile of NACI.

In the event that the three District Apostles jointly ascertain a temporary unfitness for office, then, in the presence of all, pursuant to Art. 7.7.12, the safe and the document deposited therein – "In case I am presumed to be temporarily unfit to discharge my duties" – are to be opened and the measures stipulated therein are to be implemented without delay.

7.10 In the case of the Chief Apostle being definitively unfit to discharge his functions due to serious sickness or any other grave event (in the case of sickness, certification from two independent physicians is required here), the Administration of NACI shall, within seven days upon receipt of the medical certification or the grave event occurring, convene a District Apostle Meeting.

In the event that the District Apostle Meeting pursuant to Art. 8.10 has decided that the Chief Apostle is definitively unfit to discharge his duties, then during the Meeting and in the presence of all, the safe and the document deposited therein – "In case I am definitively unfit to discharge my duties" – are to be opened pursuant to Art. 7.7.11. The measures stipulated therein are to be implemented without delay.

In the event that it was decided at a District Apostle Meeting to wait a certain time before declaring the Chief Apostle to be definitively unfit to discharge his duties, the procedures pursuant to Art. 7.9 may be adopted.

7.11 In the case of the Chief Apostle's death, Art. 7.10 applies accordingly.

7.12 The Chief Apostle heads a permanent Administration at the domicile of NACI. The Administration deals with all administrative matters of NACI and supports the Chief Apostle in implementing his directives and the resolutions passed at the District Apostle Meeting.

7.13 The Chief Apostle can define details of the organisation of the Administration in a regulation. Signature powers may be granted by the Chief Apostle to the Manager of the Administration and to additional staff members.

Article 8 The District Apostle Meeting

- 8.1 The District Apostle Meeting (DAM) is composed of the active Chief Apostle as well as all active District Apostles. District Apostle Helpers participate in the District Apostle Meeting (without electoral sessions), however without having a right to vote.
- 8.2 The District Apostle Meeting advises and assists the Chief Apostle in all ecclesiastical matters and, together with the Chief Apostle, bears the responsibility for the unity of all New Apostolic Regional Churches.
- 8.3 The following responsibilities are in particular incumbent on the District Apostle Meeting:
 - 8.3.1 Deliberating on issues presented by the Chief Apostle, by District Apostles, Apostles, and/or work/project groups.
 - 8.3.2 Passing resolutions concerning matters submitted for decision by the Chief Apostle and the work and/or project groups commissioned by him; as far as these decisions have financial impacts on NACI, an explicit approval of the Chief Apostle is required.
 - 8.3.3 Enacting regulations and ordinances in matters pertaining to the Church as a whole and which are subject to the Chief Apostle's approval.
 - 8.3.4 Discussing and passing resolutions on matters pertaining to the Regional Churches.
 - 8.3.5 Electing and voting the Chief Apostle out of office (electoral sessions).
 - 8.3.6 Passing resolution on the Chief Apostle's definitive unfitness to discharge his duties.
- 8.4 The District Apostle Meeting convenes ordinary and extraordinary sessions under the chairmanship of the Chief Apostle. As a rule, its ordinary sessions are held at least once a year on the invitation of the Chief Apostle. A minimum of two thirds of the members entitled to vote may submit a motion to the Chief Apostle requesting an extraordinary session. Invitations are issued in writing one month in advance and including the agenda. Documents are delivered in advance. Resolutions, including rules for corresponding implementation, are recorded in minutes to be signed by the Chief Apostle and the Secretary of Record.
- 8.5 Electoral sessions of the District Apostle Meeting are held if a new Chief Apostle has to be elected (Art. 8.12) or if a motion has been tabled to vote him out of office (Art. 8.13).

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- 8.6 The District Apostle Meeting constitutes a quorum if at least three quarters of its members entitled to vote are present or represented in a legally valid manner. A District Apostle may appoint another NACI member to represent him by written authorisation. Such representation is subject to approval by the Chief Apostle.
- 8.7 Unless otherwise provided for by these Statutes, the resolutions at District Apostle Meetings are passed with a three-quarters majority of the members present or represented in a legally valid manner. The Chief Apostle has one vote, and each District Apostle has one vote.
- 8.8 Resolutions at District Apostle Meetings can also be passed by way of correspondence, provided no District Apostle requests that a session be convened for discussion purposes.
- 8.9 Resolutions passed at District Apostle Meetings are to be implemented in all Regional Churches, subject to conflicting and compulsory legal provisions and in consideration of their legal independence.
- 8.10 The District Apostle Meeting decides on proposals concerning the Chief Apostle being definitively unfit to discharge his duties (Art. 7.10).

Invitations to such a meeting are issued by the Administration of NACI in writing including the agenda. The meeting is to be chaired by the longest-serving District Apostle.

Such a District Apostle Meeting constitutes a quorum if – apart from the Chief Apostle – all District Apostles are present or represented in a legally valid manner. A District Apostle may appoint another District Apostle to represent him by written authorisation. Art. 8.8 does not apply.

The resolution must be passed unanimously. The Chief Apostle has no voting right.

- 8.11 Electoral sessions of the District Apostle Meeting are held without the Chief Apostle being present.

Invitations to an electoral session containing the agenda are issued in writing by the longest-serving District Apostle. Sessions should be convened within seven days following the invitation. They are to be chaired by the longest-serving District Apostle.

In electoral sessions, the District Apostle Meeting constitutes a quorum if at least nine tenths of its members are present or represented in a legally valid manner. A District Apostle may appoint another District Apostle to represent him by written authorisation. Each District Apostle has one vote. Art. 8.8 does not apply.

8.12 An electoral session of the District Apostle Meeting for the purpose of electing a new Chief Apostle is required when the previous Chief Apostle has not designated his successor, when the said designated successor is not available, or when the Chief Apostle was voted out of office.

The Chief Apostle is elected by secret ballot.

The resolution is deemed to have been passed when two thirds of the District Apostles present or represented in a legally valid manner could agree on a successor.

Electoral sessions of the District Apostle Meeting for the purpose of electing a new Chief Apostle shall be carried out within seven days at the most. If after this time no Chief Apostle has been elected, the election is delegated to the Apostle Meeting (Art. 10.5).

8.13 An electoral session of the District Apostle Meeting for the purpose of voting the Chief Apostle out of office is required when a motion stating reasons by at least one quarter of the members of NACI has been tabled (Art. 7.3).

The resolution to proceed with voting the Chief Apostle out of office is taken in secret.

The said resolution must be passed with nine tenths of the District Apostles present or represented in a legally valid manner.

No more than one ballot is to be held. Should the necessary majority not be obtained, the motion is deemed to have been rejected. Should the necessary majority be obtained, the Chief Apostle is deemed to have been voted out of office; the procedure set out in Art. 8.12 must immediately follow.

8.14 The Chief Apostle may invite the District Apostles of a certain region to attend meetings for the treatment of regional issues (DAM Europe, DAM Asia, DAM Africa etc.). The rules for the District Apostle Meeting shall apply by analogy.

Article 9 The Delegate Meeting

- 9.1 It is the function of the Delegate Meeting to represent the interests of the members of NACI.
- 9.2 The Delegate Meeting is composed of the Delegates.
- 9.3 Delegates are elected for a period of four years. The period of office shall end at the ordinary Delegate Meeting of the fourth year. An Apostle or District Apostle shall be elected as Delegate for each District Apostle Area. Delegates can be re-elected.

In an election the Chief Apostle has the right of first proposal. His proposal for election must be communicated in writing to the District Apostle and the Apostles of a District Apostle Area. These may submit additional proposals for election to the Chief Apostle in writing within four weeks following the communication. No one can propose himself for election. At least twenty percent of all NACI members of a District Apostle Area must have signed the proposal for election of a Delegate.

If no further proposals for election are submitted, the Delegate proposed by the Chief Apostle is deemed to have been elected in silent vote.

If additional proposals for election are submitted, the Chief Apostle shall give due notice to the District Apostle and the Apostles of the District Apostle Area of any NACI members standing for election, and within a period of eight weeks he shall initiate the electoral procedure. The NACI member who secures the largest majority of votes (relative majority) is deemed elected. In the event where there is an equal number of votes for all candidates, the Delegate proposed by the Chief Apostle is deemed elected.

Should a Delegate retire during his term of office (Art. 9.3, para.1) or otherwise withdraw as a member of NACI, a by-election must be held. In such a case, the newly elected Delegate shall serve for the remaining term of his predecessor.

- 9.4 The Delegate Meeting convenes ordinary and extraordinary sessions under the chairmanship of the Chief Apostle. On the invitation of the Chief Apostle, an ordinary Delegate Meeting will be held at least once a year. A minimum of one half of the members may submit a motion to the Chief Apostle requesting an extraordinary session. Invitations are issued in writing at least one month in advance by indicating the agenda.

9.5 The Delegate Meeting is responsible for the administrative and financial affairs of NACI. The following functions are, in particular, to be performed:

9.5.1 Discussing and passing resolutions on all matters presented by the Chief Apostle

9.5.2 Electing the members of the Board of Directors (Finance Committee)

9.5.3 Electing the Statutory Auditors for one year at a time

9.5.4 Approving the annual financial statements and the annual report

9.5.5 Granting discharge to the Chief Apostle and to the members of the Board of Directors (Finance Committee)

9.5.6 Passing resolution on amendments to the Statutes (Art. 16.1)

9.5.7 Passing resolution on dissolution of the Association without liquidation (merger or change of legal form); in any case, this requires an amendment to the Statutes (Art. 16.1)

9.5.8 At the request of the Chief Apostle: passing resolutions on applying for dissolution of the Association with liquidation to the attention of the Apostle Meeting (Art. 10.3.3).

9.6 The Delegate Meeting constitutes a quorum, if at least three quarters of the Delegates are present or represented in a legally valid manner. Each Delegate may appoint another Delegate to represent him by written authorisation.

Resolutions of the Delegate Meeting are passed with a three quarters majority of the Delegates present or represented in a legally valid manner.

Each Delegate and the Chairperson have one vote.

The members of the Board have no vote and no right of representation in the passing of resolutions and discharge according to Art. 9.5.3, 9.5.4, 9.5.5.

An absolute majority of votes in the first ballot or a relative majority in the second ballot is sufficient for the election of a member of the Board of Directors. The members of the Board of Directors are elected by secret ballot. In the event of a tie (9.5.2), the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

Article 10 The Apostle Meeting

- 10.1 The Apostle Meeting is composed of all members of NACI.
- 10.2 The Apostle Meeting convenes ordinary and extraordinary sessions under the chairmanship of the Chief Apostle. On the Chief Apostle's invitation, it convenes ordinary sessions. A minimum of one half of its members may submit a motion to the Chief Apostle requesting an extraordinary session. Invitations are issued in writing at least one month in advance indicating the agenda.
- 10.3 The following responsibilities are incumbent on the Apostle Meeting:
- 10.3.1 Discussing and passing resolutions on all matters submitted by the Chief Apostle
 - 10.3.2 Election of the Chief Apostle (Art. 8.12)
 - 10.3.3 Passing resolution on the dissolution of the Association with liquidation (Art. 17.2-17.4).
- 10.4 The Apostle Meeting constitutes a quorum if at least three quarters of the members are present or represented in a legally valid manner. Each member may appoint another member to represent him by written authorisation.
- Resolutions of the Apostle Meeting are passed with a three quarters majority of the members present or represented in a legally valid manner. Each member has one vote.
- 10.5 The Chief Apostle is elected (Art. 10.3.2) as follows:
- 10.5.1 Electoral sessions of the Apostle Meeting are held without the Chief Apostle being present. Invitations containing the agenda are issued in writing by the longest-serving District Apostle. The sessions are to take place without delay. They are to be chaired by the longest-serving District Apostle.
 - 10.5.2 In electoral sessions the Apostle Meeting constitutes a quorum if at least three quarters of its members are present or represented in a legally valid manner. Each member can represent no more than five other members subject to their written authorisation.
 - 10.5.3 The Chief Apostle is elected by secret ballot. Each member of the Apostle Meeting has one vote. The resolution is deemed to have been passed when three quarters of the members present or represented in a legally valid manner were able to agree on a successor.
- 10.6 The Chief Apostle may invite the Apostles of a certain region for an exchange of experiences and the discussion of regional issues (Regional Apostle Meeting). The regulations applicable to Apostle Meetings apply accordingly.

Article 11 The Board of Directors (Finance Committee)

11.1 The Board of Directors is composed of the Chief Apostle (Art. 7) and four additional members of the NACI (Art. 4).

11.2 The District Apostles or Apostles who are members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by the Delegate Meeting at the proposal of the Chief Apostle for a period of office of 4 years. The period of office shall end at the time of the ordinary Delegate Meeting of the fourth year. They may be re-elected once.

If a member of the Board of Directors resigns or withdraws as a member of NACI during the term of office, a by-election must be held. The newly elected board member shall serve for the remaining term of his predecessor.

11.3 The Board of Directors has in particular the following tasks:

11.3.1 Determining a financial strategy of the NACI

11.3.2 Determining an investment strategy for the assets as well as issuing and amending guidelines for the management of the assets of the NACI (Investment Guidelines)

11.3.3 Approving the annual budget of the NACI

11.3.4 Approving expenditure and investment in tangible assets of more than CHF 500,000 that is not already included in the annual budget

11.3.5 Submitting a motion to the Delegate Meeting concerning the acceptance of the annual financial statements

11.3.6 Preparing guidelines and recommendations for the management, decision-making and notification of the members (governance) of the NACI and the Regional Churches

11.3.7 Issuing the Rules of Procedure of the Board of Directors

11.3.8 Advising the Chief Apostle in conjunction with the development of rules for the remuneration and benefits of the Apostles

11.3.9 Other tasks delegated by the District Apostle Meeting (Art. 8) or Delegate Meeting (Art. 9).

11.4 The Board of Directors (Finance Committee) shall meet under the chairmanship of the Chief Apostle for ordinary and extraordinary meetings. It shall be convened by the Chief Apostle at least twice per annum for ordinary meetings. At least 3 members may ask the Chief Apostle to convene an extraordinary meeting. The Administrative Director shall take part in the meetings in an advisory capacity.

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- 11.5 The Board of Directors (Finance Committee) shall constitute a quorum if at least 3 of its members with voting rights are present or represented with legal effect. The members may arrange for themselves to be represented by another member of the NACI by means of a written power of attorney. The representative shall be subject to the consent of the Chief Apostle.
- 11.6 Resolutions of the Board of Directors (Finance Committee) shall be passed with a 2/3 majority of the present and legitimately represented votes. Each member shall in each case have one vote.
- 11.7 Resolutions of the Board of Directors (Finance Committee) may also be passed by circular means, provided that no member demands consultation in a meeting.

Article 12 Virtual Meetings

- 12.1 If there are special circumstances, the Chief Apostle may conduct the District Apostle Meeting (Art. 8), the Delegate Meeting (Art. 9), the Apostle Meeting (Art. 10) or a meeting of the Board of Directors (Art. 11) in virtual form (without the physical presence of the participants). In this event, steps must be taken to ensure that the deadlines for the invitations are adhered to, that a discussion is possible, and that ballot and election procedures can be conducted in a secure manner. In this conjunction, the same quorum rules are applicable in respect of invitation, presence and majority as apply to meetings where the participants are present in person (Art. 8.4, 8.6 and 8.7, Art. 9.4 and 9.6, Art. 10.2, 10.4 and 10.5, Art. 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6).
- 12.2 In the event of special circumstances, the Chief Apostle may also hold elections and ballots by written or electronic means. In this conjunction, the same quorum rules are applicable in respect of invitation, presence and majority as apply to meetings where the participants are present in person (Art. 8.4, 8.6 and 8.7, Art. 9.4 and 9.6, Art. 10.2, 10.4 and 10.5, Art. 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6).

Article 13 The Statutory Auditors

- 13.1 A reputable and internationally active auditing company, recognised in circles of experts, shall be elected as Statutory Auditors.
- 13.2 The Statutory Auditors are to be elected annually by the Delegate Meeting.
- 13.3 The Statutory Auditors shall audit the annual financial statements and issue a report to the Chief Apostle to the attention of the Delegate Meeting.

Article 14 Statutes of the Regional Churches

- 14.1 Each District Apostle is obliged to deposit with the Chief Apostle a copy of the valid Statutes (Constitutions) and regulations concerning the Regional Churches under his jurisdiction, as well as all associated economic enterprises and charitable bodies and non-profit organisations.
- 14.2 Decisions concerning new and revised Statutes (Constitutions) and new and revised regulations of the Regional Churches, shall only be taken subject to the Chief Apostle's prior written consent. Should such consent not be refused within a period of three months following receipt of the relevant documents, it shall be deemed granted.

Article 15 Data Protection

- 15.1 Data compiled, processed and utilised by NACI for church purposes are used according to data protection guidelines laid down by the Chief Apostle and also according to the directives given by the data protection commissioner appointed by him.

Article 16 Amendments to the Statutes

- 16.1 Amendments to the Statutes may be proposed by the members of NACI. Upon the Chief Apostle's statement, the Delegate Meeting resolves on the application. Amendments to the Statutes must be communicated to all NACI members without delay.
- 16.2 Amendments to the Statutes come into immediate effect upon resolution by the Delegate Meeting unless the entry into effect is otherwise determined in the resolution.
- 16.3 Amendments to the Statutes are to be registered by the Chief Apostle with the Commercial Register at the domicile of NACI.

Article 17 Duration and Dissolution

- 17.1 The duration of NACI is unlimited.
- 17.2 On request of the Chief Apostle and the Delegate Meeting, the Apostle Meeting may decide with a three quarters majority of all members to dissolve NACI with subsequent liquidation.
- 17.3 The liquidation is carried out by the Chief Apostle. The Chief Apostle may appoint particular liquidators for this purpose.
- 17.4 In the event of the dissolution of NACI, its members have no claim to any portion of its assets. The liquidation results are to be transferred to the District Apostle Areas – if applicable to successor areas – in the proportion of the funds allocated to NACI over the last three years (Art. 5.1).

Article 18 Final Provisions

- 18.1 In addition, the provisions of the Swiss Civil Code (ZGB) and the Code of Obligation (“Obligationenrecht” – OR) shall be applied.
- 18.2 The place of jurisdiction for any disputes arising in connection with the Association is Zurich.
- 18.3 The present Statutes replace the previous ones dated 21 May 2010 and shall come into force on 6 June 2022.
- 18.4 The original version of these Statutes is formulated in German. It shall be translated into other languages. In cases of lack of clarity and possible differences, the German version shall prevail.
- 18.5 A complete copy of these Statutes will be filed with the Commercial Register of the Canton of Zurich.

Resolution of the Delegate Meeting
according to Minutes
Buenos Aires, 2 June 2022

Acceptance of the Statutes

The Apostle to be ordained consents to being a member of NACI, he accepts the present Statutes and confirms the vow he took in compliance with Article 4.3.

Place and date:

The Apostle to be ordained:

Confirmation of Membership

The Chief Apostle hereby confirms the future Apostle's membership as recommended by the responsible District Apostle.

Place and date:

Place and date:

The Chief Apostle:

The responsible District Apostle:

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