

The Sudanese Environment Conservation Society

Statute of the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society

May 2007

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, Most Merciful

Statute of the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society

As per the Humanitarian Aid Commission Law for the year 2006, the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society, upon the approval of the Humanitarian Aid Commissioner, hereby issues the following text of the Statute:

Chapter One

Preliminary Provisions - Objectives - Means

1- The name of this Statute shall be “the Statute of the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society, amended 2006”, and shall enter into force as from the date it is passed.

Repeal and Exclusion

2- The Statute of the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society for the year 1992 shall be repealed, provided that all the procedures and measures taken based on it shall be accurate as if issued according to the provisions of this Statute.

The Society’s Establishment

3- A voluntary society shall be established under the name the Sudanese Environment Conservation Society that has its legal capacity, sequential status and seal; besides the right in litigation under its name.

The Society’s Domicile

4- The Society’s main premises shall be in Khartoum State and other state Branches shall be chosen according to the decision of the state Congress.

Interpretation

5- In this Statute:

The following words and phrases shall have the meanings stated in the Humanitarian Aid Commission Law for the year 2006 unless the context otherwise requires:

The Society:
established according to the provisions of Article 3.

Shall mean the Society

The General Congress:
established according to the provisions of Article 15.

Shall mean the Congress

The General Board: Shall mean the Board established according to the provisions of Article 21.

The Federal Executive Committee: Shall mean the Executive Committee established according to the provisions of Article 27.

The State's Congress: Shall mean the Congress established according to the provisions of Article 38.

The State's Executive Committee Shall mean the Executive Committee established according to the provisions of Article 42.

The General Assembly: Shall mean the General Assembly established according to the provisions of Article 45.

The Branch's Executive Committee: Shall mean the Executive Committee established according to the provisions of Article 47.

The Member: Shall mean the Society member stated in Article 8.

A Specialized Office/ A Specialized Committee: Shall mean any of the offices or committees formed by the executive committees of its different levels according to the provisions of this Statute for the purpose of realizing the Society's objectives.

The Branch: Shall mean the Branch in any part of the Sudan or in any field or the workplace or a branch in the different specializations according to the opinion of the General Assembly of the branch subsequent to obtaining the approval of the General Board.

Environment: Shall mean the set of natural systems with its components of basic elements such as water, air, soil and living organisms, in addition to the set of social and cultural systems in which human beings live, gain strength and carry out activity.

Environmental Equilibrium: Shall mean balance in the ongoing interaction between living organisms and their natural environment.

Objectives

6- The Society seeks to realize the following objectives:

- a) Seeking to protect and sanitize environment for the purpose of realizing sustainable development and positive support, besides defending any activity that might cause environmental degradation according to the scientific criteria, specifications and environment laws.
- b) Spreading environmental awareness among citizens and their different organizations and activating their participation in maintaining and developing environment.
- c) Building and developing links and ties such as coordination and cooperation with the relevant bodies on the local, regional and international levels.

- d) Encouraging scientific research and purposeful theoretical and empirical studies for ensuring environment protection and maintaining environmental equilibrium, besides recording the natural history of the Sudanese environment.
- e) Encouraging and patronizing positive environmental initiatives.
- f) Realizing peace and ending wars and conflicts particularly those related to natural resources and treatment of its impacts.
- g) Disseminating and consolidating the comprehensive concept of sustainable development and realizing it since it targets all sectors of the society; further, it aims at promoting all needs and wishes of humans whether they relate to living, material or non-material needs.
- h) Protecting and fostering human rights particularly those related to environment, in addition to combating poverty and its negative impacts on environment.

Means

7- The Society seeks to realize its objectives by the following means:

- a) Sticking to the rules of good governance as regards its formation, activity and fields of work; besides, realizing that for the sake of maintaining a sound and healthy environment.
- b) Encouraging the establishment of branches for the Society at the work places, domiciles and educational institutions, in addition to establishment of specialized branches...etc. inside and outside the country.
- c) Establishing specialized committees and offices.
- d) Utilizing the different means of communications such as media and information technologies for the purpose of realizing an ongoing contact with the various sectors of the society and with the outside world.
- e) Attracting and activating membership particularly the base groups and those affected by environmental questions and those who are competent in the varied fields to work for realizing the Society's objectives.
- f) Cooperating with the official and public authorities for the purpose of enacting and ratifying environmental laws and legislations.
- g) Providing positive models and experiences in environment protection.
- h) Publishing magazines and specialized newsletters that aim at spreading environmental awareness.
- i) Building the capacities of the Society members and others through the means that aim at protecting and sanitizing environment and realizing sustainable development.
- j) Taking the necessary procedures to enhance and protect humanitarian rights, particularly those related to environment.
- k) Inserting environmental sciences in educational curriculums and developing them.
- l) Seeking to obtain legal financial resources.

m) Adopting projects that contribute in combating poverty and realizing sustainable development and human & environmental security.

Chapter Two Membership

8- Membership:

The Society shall constitute a number of members who believe in the Society's objectives and who meet membership conditions:

9- Classes of Membership:

a) Full Membership: where member shall be registered in the Society's general registers and all specified fees are paid, he shall be entitled to enjoy full rights of membership including the right to vote and to stand for election and to occupy executive posts.

b) Associate Membership: it includes the Sudanese living abroad and the expatriates where a member enjoys full membership rights with the exception of the right to vote, to stand for election or to occupy executive posts.

c) Joint Membership: Includes all institutions, organizations and national authorities wish to collaborate or take part in the Society's activities, including their branches outside the country. Such a member shall enjoy the right to attend the meetings of the General Congress as a supervisor after payment of the specified fees.

d) Honorary Membership: It is offered for persons deemed worthy of that in the opinion of the Society due to their contribution in one of the environmental fields. The society nominate such an honorary member according to the provisions of the regulations where the member enjoys the full rights of membership except the right to vote, to stand for election or to occupy an executive post.

10- Conditions of Membership:

The Society's membership is open for all those concerned with environment pursuant to the following:

- a) He shall not be below 18 years old.
- b) He shall be of his full legal capacity
- c) He shall be of a good conduct
- d) He shall be bound to the Statute, regulations and objectives of the Society.
- e) He shall be recommended by two members of the Society.

11- Procedures of Membership:

a) A membership request shall be submitted to the Branch's Executive Committee which has the right to accept or reject based on the Statute.

- b) In case of a membership request rejected by the Branch's Executive Committee, the natural or legal person shall appeal to the Branch's General Assembly.
- c) If the request is rejected by the Branch's General Assembly, the applicant shall appeal to the state Congress, and if rejected, the General Board's decision shall be final.

12- Annulment and Freezing of Membership:

- a) The decision of membership annulment shall be taken after carrying out the necessary investigation by a neutral committee for the following reasons:
 - 1- If any of the membership conditions stated in Article (10) were not met
 - 2- If subscription fees payment stopped without an acceptable reason.
 - 3- If the concerned member served to hamper the Society's activity and opposed realizing its objectives.
- b) Freezing of membership shall be made upon a decision by the Branch's Executive Committee after carrying out the necessary investigation by a neutral committee and in compliance with Article (11).
- c) Resignation.

13- Retrieval of Membership:

- a) A member whose membership was annulled may retrieve membership by requesting such following the disappearance of the past causes, and the Executive Committee shall have the right to reject or accept such a request pursuant to Article (11/b).
- b) A member whose membership was annulled may appeal to the supreme authority pursuant to Article (11/b & c).

Chapter Three Structure and Jurisdictions

14- The Society's Structure:

The Society shall commence its jurisdictions pursuant to the Statute and it shall serve to realize its objectives through the following basic bodies:

- a) The General Congress.
- b) The General Board.
- c) The Federal Executive Committee.
- d) The Congress of the state.
- e) The State's Executive Committee.
- f) The Branch's General Assembly
- g) The Branch's Executive Committee
- h) The branch

First: the General Congress

15- The General Congress:

The General Congress is the supreme authority of the Society and the power owner as regards drawing its policies, directing its activities and issuing the decisions that serve to realize its objectives.

16- Membership of the General Congress:

The membership of the General Congress constitutes:

- a) The whole number of the members ascended from the state's congress or the branches (as per circumstances) and according to the percentage specified by the general assembly who meet the following requirements:
 - 1- At least one year passed after his membership in the Society.
 - 2- That he paid the specified subscription fees.
- b) The associate and the joint members, in addition to the honorary members who shall not have the right to vote, to be elected or to occupy executive posts.

17- Jurisdictions of the General Congress:

- a) Passing the Society's general policies.
- b) Passing, amending or abating the Statute pursuant to the provisions stated herein.
- c) Discussing and passing the session speech and the financial report.
- d) Election of the federal executive committee.
- e) Imposing penalties on the federal executive committee and divesting it of trust.
- f) Supervising and monitoring the Society's organs and premises.

18- The General Congress Meetings:

- a) The General Congress holds its ordinary meeting at least once every two years.
- b) The General Congress may be convened in an extra-ordinary meeting whenever necessary according to a request signed by the majority of the members who are entitled to attend such a meeting and vote, and that is during one month subsequent to the date of submitting the request.
- c) The Chairman of the Federal Executive Committee may invite the General Congress upon the approval of the two-thirds of the General Board's members.

19- The Quorum:

The Quorum shall be obtained by the simple majority of the Congress members present, and if a quorum is not attained, the meeting shall be adjourned and the next reconvened meeting shall be legally held regardless of the number of members attended.

20- The Decisions of the General Congress:

The decisions of the General Congress are issued by the simple majority unless the Statute states a special majority for that.

Second: The General Board

21- The General Board:

The Society shall have a Board to be named the “General Board” domiciled in Khartoum, and the Federal Executive Committee shall be its Secretariat-General.

22- The General Board Membership:

- a) The General Board is formed of the Federal Executive Committee and representatives from each state executive committee.
- b) No state executive committee shall have the right to participate in the business of the Board unless 10% of the total branch member subscriptions are paid as a contribution for running the Board’s businesses.
- c) No state executive committee shall have the right to participate in the business of the Board unless the state Congress’s convocation procedures were carried out according to the regulations pursuant to the Statute.

23- The General Board Jurisdictions and Powers:

Pursuant to the provisions of this Statute, the Board shall be responsible of setting out, following up and executing the Society’s general policies and monitoring its management; besides, seeking to realize its objectives without prejudice to the generality of the aforementioned, with the following jurisdictions:

- a) Setting up the Society’s policies and strategies according to directives of the General Congress, besides following up the work plan and evaluating performance on the national and state levels.
- b) Providing advice and support for the authorities in the field of environment and sustainable development of human and natural resources.
- c) Setting up and passing a plan of sharing the non-allocated resources of the Society among its branches.
- d) Discussing the decisions raised by the Federal Executive Committee as regards environmental conditions in Sudan.
- e) Specifying the general rate of sublimation from the state Congress or the General Assembly of the Branch -as per circumstances- to the General Congress, provided that the representation of each branch shall be put in consideration without the general fixed rate of sublimation.
- f) Deciding upon the decisions of the state Congress as regards rejecting or freezing membership.

- g) Deciding upon any issues governing the vertical and horizontal relations between the Society's structures.
- h) Passing the internal regulations.
- i) Assigning the Federal Executive Committee to run an investigation in any issue relating to any of the branches.
- j) Taking any measures on the face of any branch up to the dissolution of the branch following the necessary investigation.
- k) Putting the disciplines and criteria for the representation of the Society and monitoring the authorities of the Federal Executive Committee in implementing such disciplines.

24- Meetings of the General Board:

- a) The General Board shall hold its ordinary meeting at least twice a year and the last meeting shall be the annual meeting stated in the Law or Regulations of the Humanitarian Aid Commission for the year 2006.
- b) The General Board may be convened for an extra-ordinary meeting whenever necessary as per a request signed by the majority of the General Board's members.
- c) The Board may invite any person to attend its meetings or any part of them in an advisory status without having the right to vote.

25- The Quorum:

The quorum of the General Board's meetings shall be formed by the simple majority. If a quorum is not attained, the meeting shall be adjourned. At the next reconvened meeting, even if a quorum is not present, the members present shall be entitled to consider the resolutions put to the next meeting as valid regardless of the number of members attended.

26- The Decisions of the General Board:

The General Board shall take its decisions by the simple majority, and at equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote. The casting vote of the Board's members depends on the number of members from the state.

Third: The Federal Executive Committee

27- The Federal Executive Committee

It refers to the committee nominated by the general congress and that to which the implementation of the general congress and the general Board's decisions and instructions are assigned, in addition to the realization of the Society's objectives.

28- The Membership of the Federal Executive Committee:

- a) The Federal Executive Committee is composed of at least eleven members and a maximum of fifteen members.
- b) Among the Federal Executive Committee's members are the following:
 - The President
 - The Vice President
 - The Secretary General
 - The Deputy Secretary General
 - Treasurer
 - Deputy Treasurer
 - Foreign Relations Secretary
 - State Affairs Secretary
- c) A member of the Federal Executive Committee shall be domiciled in the Federal Capital.

29- The Jurisdictions of the Federal Executive Committee:

In compliance with the provisions of the Statute and the regulations issued therein, the Executive Committee shall be responsible of realizing the Society's general objectives and the daily direct supervision over the Society's affairs and course of work. Thus, and without prejudice to the generality of the aforementioned, the Federal Executive Committee shall have the following jurisdictions:

- a) Laying out, following up and monitoring the Society's work plan in the light of the Society's objectives and the policies, instructions and decisions ratified by the General Congress, the General Board or the Federal Executive Committee.
- b) Laying out the plans deemed necessary for promoting and developing the Society's management and its methods and manners of work to be presented before the General Board for passing.
- c) Coordinating and assessing the activities of the offices and permanent & interim committees for presenting its reports in that respect to the General Board.
- d) The representation of the Society on the national, regional and international levels.
- e) Preparing a periodical report on the environmental conditions in Sudan and the activities of the different branches to be presented to the General Board.
- f) Settling the Society's financial affairs.
- g) Preparing the session address and the financial report.
- h) Issuing of internal regulations for organizing work to be passed by the General Board.

30- Meetings of the Federal Executive Committee:

- a) The Executive Committee shall hold at least one meeting per month.
- b) The Chairman may convene the Executive Committee at any time for an extraordinary meeting.
- c) The Committee's Chairman shall chair the meetings of the Committee, the General Board and the General Congress, and in his absence, his deputy shall chair such meetings, and in the absence of both, the conveners shall choose one of them to chair the session.

31- The Quorum:

The quorum of the Federal Executive Committee's meetings shall be formed by the simple majority. If a quorum is not attained, the meeting shall be adjourned and reconvened within one week and it shall be deemed legal just if one-third of the members are attended.

32- Attendance of the Executive Committee's Meetings:

The Executive Committee may call any person to attend its meetings or any part of them, just in an advisory status with no right to vote.

33- The Decisions of the Federal Executive Committee:

The decisions of the Executive Committee shall be passed by the majority of the attendance, and in case of obtaining equal votes the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

34- The Liability of the Federal Executive Committee:

- a) The Executive Committee shall be jointly responsible before the General Congress and the General Board of carrying out its duties.
- b) The members of the Executive Committee shall be individually responsible before the Committee of carrying out their duties.

35- The Offices and Committees of the Federal Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee shall have special permanent and temporary offices and committees that it deemed necessary for running its work and realizing the Society's objectives.

36- Filling the Vacancies in the Federal Executive Committee

The Federal Executive Committee's vacancies are filled by the members of the highest votes in the reserve list as from the last meeting when the Executive Committee was elected.

37- The Society's Representation:

The Executive Committee may nominate one person or more from inside or outside the Society to represent it before Courts or contracting with any natural or legal person.

Fourth: the State Congress

Each of the state branches may form a state group for realizing the Society's objectives on the state level.

38- The State Congress:

The State Congress is the supreme authority of the Society on the state level in the case of forming the state group. It shall be the power owner as regards drawing its policies and directing its activity on the state level according to Society's general policies.

39- The Membership of the State Congress:

- a) The state Congress is formed of the whole members of the Executive Committees of the branches in the state which at least one year has passed after its establishment.
- b) No branch inside the state shall have the right to vote or stand for election or obtain state support unless 20% of its subscription fees have been paid to the state Executive Committee.

40- The Meetings of the State Congress:

Articles governing the meetings, the decisions and quorum of the General Congress shall prevail on the state Congress as adequately as the nature of the state.

41- The Jurisdictions of the State Congress:

The State Congress shall be responsible of the following:

- a) Discussing and passing the session's speech and the financial report on the state level.
- b) Electing the state Executive Committee, imposing penalties upon it and divesting it of trust.
- c) Supervising and monitoring the Society's organs and offices on the state level.
- d) Electing the members ascended from the General Congress.
- e) Passing the regulations governing the Society's work on the state level.

Fifth: the State's Executive Committee

42- The State's Executive Committee:

- a) It is the institution that is elected by the state Congress to be responsible of implementing the decisions and instructions of the General Congress, General Board, the Federal Executive Committee and the state Congress, besides realizing the Society's objectives on the state level.
- b) Articles (30-37) organizing the Federal Executive Committee are put into force on the state Executive Committee as adequate as its state nature.

43- The Membership of the State's Executive Committee:

- a) The State's Executive Committee is composed of at least (7) members and a maximum of (15) member.
- b) Amongst the members of the state's executive committee are the following:
 - The President
 - The Vice President
 - The Secretary General
 - The Deputy Secretary General
 - Treasurer
 - Deputy Treasurer
 - The Secretary of the Branches and Membership Affairs

44- The Jurisdictions of the State's Executive Committee:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Statute and the issued regulations therein, the Committee shall be responsible of realizing the Society's general objectives and the daily supervision over the Society's affairs and course of work. Without prejudice to the generality of the aforementioned, the Committee shall have the following jurisdictions:

- a) Laying out and following up the implementation of the state work plan set up by the state General Congress and the decisions it takes.
- b) Preparing a report on the state's environmental condition and submitting it before the federal Executive Committee, and such a report may be submitted to the concerned state authorities.
- c) Representing the state Committee in the activities in which the Committee decides to take part.
- d) Preparing the session's speech and the state's financial report.
- e) Running the state's financial affairs.
- f) Issuing internal regulations for organizing work.
- g) Coordinating between the federal Executive Committee and the state Branches.

h) Ascending representatives from the state Executive Committee's members for the General Board.

Sixth: The Branch's General Assembly

45- The Branch's General Assembly:

The General Assembly of the Branch is the is the supreme authority of the Society and the power owner as regards drawing its policies, directing its activities and issuing the decisions that serve to realize its objectives according to the Society's general policies.

46- Membership of the General Assembly:

- a) It is formed of the members who fully meet membership conditions stated in Article (10) of the Society's Statute on the branch level.
- b) Articles (18-20) organizing the General Congress shall prevail on the Branch's General Assembly as adequate as its nature.

Seventh: The Branch's Executive Committee

47- The Branch's Executive Committee

- a) It is the Committee elected by the General Assembly and assigned to implement the decisions and instructions of the higher structures in the Society and realizing its objectives on the branch level.
- b) Articles (30-37) organizing the Federal Executive Committee are put into force on the state Executive Committee as adequate as its nature.

48- The Membership of the Branch's Executive Committee:

- a) The Branch's Executive Committee is composed of at least (7) members and a maximum of (15) member.
- b) Amongst the members of the state's executive committee are the following:
 - The President
 - The Vice President
 - The Secretary General
 - The Deputy Secretary General
 - Treasurer
 - Deputy Treasurer
 - The Secretary of the Membership Affairs

49- The Jurisdictions of the Branch's Executive Committee:

Pursuant to the provisions of the Statute and the issued regulations therein, the Committee shall be responsible of realizing the Society's general objectives and the daily supervision over the Society's affairs and course of work. Without prejudice to the generality of the aforementioned, the Committee shall have the following jurisdictions:

- a) Implementing the work plan set out by the General Assembly for that branch in the light of Society's objectives, policies, directives and decisions taken by the higher structures.
- b) Representing and leading the branch as regards various activities.
- c) Preparing a report on the local environmental conditions to be submitted to the state Executive Committee.
- d) Running the branch's financial affairs.
- e) Preparing the session's speech and financial report for the branch.
- f) Approving membership requests and imposing penalties on the Branch level.
- g) Issuing internal regulations for organizing the work.

Chapter Four Elections

50- Elections:

- a) The Executive Committees of its different levels shall specify the time of convening the General Congress, the State Congress and the General Assembly according to circumstances at least one month before the end of its session stated in the Statute as regards the state Congress and before two months as regards the General Congress.
- b) The Executive Committees of its different levels shall fully notify the members of the date of convening the General Congress, the state Congress and the General Assembly, clarifying to them the principles of participation, nomination and standing for elections according to the Statute and the regulations.
- c) The Executive Committees of its different levels shall set out the time schedule for the elections, provided that they shall put into consideration the adequate time and sufficient period for distributing the final lists and the convocation of the General Congress, the state Congress and the General Assembly as per circumstances.

d) The official authority assigned to register the Society shall take part in the procedures of establishing the General Congress, the state Congress and the General Assembly as per circumstances, besides reconsidering the filed appeals so as to distribute the final lists for the members and the candidates.

51- Nomination:

Every members of the Society shall have the right to nominate himself or another person for the membership of the Executive Committee on its different levels based on the following:

- a) He shall fully comply with Article (10) of the Statute.
- b) At least one year should have passed after his membership, except for the newly established branch.
- c) He shall not be a worker or an employee who is monthly paid by the Society at the establishment of the General Congress, the state Congress and the General Assembly.
- d) The member shall accept nomination in writing if he was not present during the nomination procedures.
- e) The nominated member shall be seconded by two of the Society's members.

52- Balloting and Vote Count:

Balloting shall be carried out secretly and under the supervision of a neutral committee ratified by the conveners, in addition to the representative of the official body assigned to register the Society.

53- Result of Elections:

Following the completion of its duties, the balloting and vote count committee shall announce the result of elections showing the name of the candidate and the number of votes he attained, then the names of the Executive Committee members are announced besides the names of five members as a reserve list according to the votes each of them attained.

54- Membership of the Executive Committee:

No member of the Society shall be nominated for the membership of the Executive Committee for more than two consecutive sessions.

Chapter Five Preliminary Provisions

55- Preliminary Provisions:

- a) All the jurisdictions and powers of the state Congress and its Executive Committee shall be vested in the General Assembly of the state Capital's branch and its Executive Committee as per circumstances in the case of not establishing a group for the state branches.
- b) All the jurisdictions and powers in Article (55/a) shall be vested in to the biggest branch in the state as regards membership in the case of non-availability of a branch in the state's Capital.
- c) The Centre represents the main domicile which is the main premises of the Federal Executive Committee, the Board's Secretariat-General and the General Congress.

Chapter Six

56- The Society's financial resources are formed of the following:

- a) Membership and subscription fees.
- b) Donations.
- c) Gifts and endowments approved by the Executive Committee.
- d) The Society's sales and the revenue of the technical and advisory services it provides.
- e) Any other legal resources.

57- Member Subscriptions:

- a) The Federal Executive Committee may specify membership fees for the new members or the annual subscription according to the budget presented and approved by the General Assembly or the General Congress.
- b) The Federal Executive Committee may amend the membership and subscription fees during the fiscal year if necessary, provided that they shall be submitted to the General Assembly or the General Congress when they are convened for passing them.

58- Depositing the Society's Funds:

The Society's funds shall be deposited in any of the local Banks and they shall be drawn by at least two signatories according to the financial regulations, the Society's branches abroad are excluded.

59- Audit of the Society's Accounts:

- a) The Society's annual accounts are audited by a legal auditor specified by the General Board and a copy of the budget shall be sent for review to the Humanitarian Aid Commission.
- b) The Executive Committee may submit its accounts any time for audit whenever it deemed necessary.

**Chapter Seven
Provisions Relating to the Statute**

60- Amending the Statute:

The Statute shall be amended upon the approval of two-thirds of the General Congress members who are entitled to vote.

The Society's Dissolution

61- The Society's Dissolution:

- a) The Society shall be dissolved upon the approval of four-fifths of the General Congress members who are entitled to vote.
- b) After payment of the Society's debts and meeting all of the current obligations towards it, the ownership of the whole properties of the society – and subsequent to its dissolution- shall belong to the organization/s specified by the General Congress in the session devoted to the Society's dissolution.