

Indian Cultural Association of Switzerland (ICAS)

Articles of Association

Preamble

Whereas the need exists for cohesive action on the part of the people of Indian origin residing in Switzerland, it is hereby resolved that this not-for-profit organization preserve and propagate the Indian cultural heritage and maintain the identity of said group of people, and provide a forum for Indian literary, cultural, educational, social, and charitable interaction among its members.

History

ICAS was founded on 1st of December 2005 as humble gatherings of the people of Indian origin to celebrate festivals and functions

Articles of Association:

Article I

NAME and Location

The name of the corporation is Indian Cultural Association of Switzerland, hereafter referred to as ICAS Under Indian Cultural Association of Switzerland (ICAS) exists within the meaning of Swiss Civil Code Article number 60 - 79.

HEADQUARTERS

Section 1. Location. ICAS may maintain a main office based in Baselland, Switzerland, at a location approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Staffing. The Main Office may, at the sole discretion of the Executive Committee, be staffed by an Office Manager and other personnel as approved by the Executive Committee.

Article II

OBJECTIVES

Section 1. Objectives. The objectives of ICAS shall include:

- a) To preserve, maintain, and perpetuate the cultural heritage of the people of Indian origin in Switzerland.
- b) To foster friendship and understanding among Indian people, and between people of Indian origin and other people. This would include but not limited to

- i. Conducting events and gatherings related to Indian culture, festivals and major occasions
 - ii. Encouraging, promote adults & children to perform Indian cultural shows/activities during ICAS gatherings.
 - iii. As a part of entertainment - screening of Indian regional movies in Switzerland.
- c) To encourage, support and assist the integration of the people of Indian origin to Switzerland.
- d) To support and encourage cultural, educational, and charitable purposes serving both the Indian community and the community at large.

Article III

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Section 1. Binding Effect. The following rules and regulations shall conclusively bind ICAS and all persons acting for or on behalf of it.

a) No part of the net earnings of ICAS shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, office bearers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered, and to make payment and distributions in furtherance of the objectives set forth herein.

c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, ICAS shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from tax under Law.

“Pursuant to Article 56 (g) Federal Law on Direct Tax, Article 23 para. 1 (g) Federal law of December 14, 1990 on the Harmonization of Direct Taxation of Cantons and Municipalities, legal entities which pursue a public or non-profit purpose are tax-exempt with respect to profit and capital that is exclusively and irrevocably dedicated to such purposes.” with reference to article:

http://www.froriep.ch/download/FR_Newsletter_Swiss_Charitable_Foundations1.pdf

Article IV

MEMBERSHIP

Eligibility. Any Indian citizen or any person or family of Indian origin or the lineal descendants of such person or family, or any person interested in Indian cultural events, residing in Switzerland, is eligible to be a member of ICAS provided that such person: (a) subscribes to the objectives of ICAS; (b) abides by the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of ICAS; (c) submits an application in the prescribed form setting forth the applicant’s full legal name, regular mailing address, electronic mailing address, and telephone number; (d) is approved for membership by the Executive Committee of ICAS; and (e) pays the prescribed dues, fees, and assessments prescribed from time to time by the Executive Committee and approved by the Board of Directors. ICAS reserves the right to verify the information provided and the qualifications for membership of any applicant. Such verification may include requesting additional supporting documentation from some or all of the applicants for membership.

Membership is of the following kinds

Founding membership: This is a lifetime membership and is not transferable. This membership is reserved for the founders and their immediate family including spouse and children.

Annual membership

Individual membership: This membership is meant for a single person. This is non-transferrable and is valid from 1st of January to 31st December of any calendar year.

Family membership. A family membership is meant for a married couple who wish to avail the membership jointly. Children of a members who avail the family membership option are considered members automatically.

Life Time Membership

Aspiring annual members can apply to become Life time members. They will be approved as life time members based on EC recommendation.

Contact Information. It shall be the responsibility of each ICAS member to keep on file with the Secretary such member's current valid regular mailing address, telephone number, and electronic mail address to which all notices and other communications of ICAS may be sent. ICAS reserves the right to remove any electronic or regular mail address which is no longer current from ICAS's files.

Termination. Membership is terminated by resignation, expulsion or death. A possible exclusion is decided by the EC.

Membership fees

The Board will vote on the membership fee in an annual EC meeting in the winter session. The proceedings will then be included into the membership chapter of the ICAS article IV and will be valid until a subsequent change is voted for by the EC.

Benefits

Benefits of members will be decided and announced by the president during events. Benefits to members can be multifold. For example, reduced entrance price for the entertainments and events conducted by ICAS, as decided by board on event to event basis.

Article V

ORGANIZATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

Composition: The EC will consist of a President, Secretary, Cultural Secretary, Sports Secretary and Treasurer. All officers shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified. The EC constitutes itself and regulates the authority to sign. It decides by majority of the votes, in a tie, the President casts the deciding vote. President can nominate more members in to EC for administrative support, but without a voting right in EC.

Term of Office: The term of office is valid until requested by 3/4ths of the general body for the re-election.

Members of the BOARD, Duties and Functions.

- a. **President:** The President shall preside over the meetings and implement the decisions
- b. **Vice President**
- c. **Secretary.** The Secretary shall call for meetings, maintain minutes of meetings, and keep the records of the EC. In the absence of the President, the Secretary shall assume the role of the President.
- d. **Cultural Secretary**
- e. **Sports Secretary**
- f. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall ensure account maintenance
- g. **Internal Auditor.** The EC shall have an internal auditor of ICAS Funds
- i) **Oversight of Elections:** Proportional Representation model.

Meetings.

a) **Regular Meetings.**

- i) Frequency: Regular meetings of the EC shall be held at least four times a year,
- ii) Where Held: EC meetings may be held anywhere in Basel.
- iii) Teleconference: EC meetings may be conducted in person or by teleconference provided that all of the participants can hear each other at the same time.
- iv) Agenda. The EC Secretary, in consultation with the President where practicable, shall prepare the agenda. New business may be added to the agenda at any regular meeting
- v) Minutes. The EC Secretary shall send the minutes of the meeting to all EC members within two weeks of the conclusion of the meeting. The Secretary shall post the
- vi) *Quorum.* The quorum shall consist of two thirds of the Board.
- vii) *Electronic Mail.* For the purposes of this Article, wherever any notice, request or other communication is required to be “in writing” or “written”, the use of electronic mail shall be deemed to satisfy such requirement.

GENERAL BODY

Composition: The General Body shall consist of Founding and life time ICAS members.

Members, Duties and Functions.

a) Unless otherwise expressly provided in these Bylaws, the General Body of ICAS shall elect the President and executive committee of ICAS.

Meetings.

i) Frequency. A meeting of the General Body shall be held during annually

ii) Where Held. General Body meetings may be held anywhere in Basel.

iii) Teleconference. General Body meetings may also be conducted via electronic media like teleconference or internet

iv) No Binding Action. The purpose of the General Body meeting is to provide a forum in which the Executive committee may have an opportunity to discuss the affairs of ICAS with ICAS members and to receive feedback from the General Body concerning same. As such, the General Body shall not be authorized to take any action binding on ICAS at the meeting.

v) No Minutes. The Secretary shall not be required to keep or post any minutes of the General Body meetings.

vi) Quorum. Where no binding action may be taken by the General Body, no quorum is required.

Article V

ICAS NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

ICAS elections will be conducted upon call by the outgoing President in a message to the EC and to the General Body. The EC members have the bounden duty to elect the new President. The General Body will/should have a chance to recommend a candidate for the President ship. The President should have been a member for at least two or more years and should have served in various capacities as an office bearer in the EC.

The incoming President has a commitment to revisit the EC membership and nominate appropriate people for the positions if necessary.

Article VI

ICAS FUNDS

Section 1. General Operations Fund. The ICAS Treasurer shall maintain a General Operations Fund. The association year closes on the 30th of June and are submitted to the internal auditor for approval.

a) Sources of Funds. **A)** Income generated by memberships

B) Positive Balances of events

b) Use of Funds. Unless the EC otherwise directs, the General Operations Fund may be expended for administrative purposes to cover all of the day-to-day operating expenses of the corporation under the direction and control of the ICAS EC. The use of funds include but are not limited to

Organization of events

Screening of Indian regional movies

Expenses compensation

Administrative costs

Marketing and advertising

Website maintenance

other expenses approved by Board.

Article VII: Liability

For all liabilities of the Association shall be liable only on its assets. Personal liability of the members is excluded.

Article VIII: Resolution

In case of dissolution of the Association its assets falls to social institutions.

The Board determines the institution.

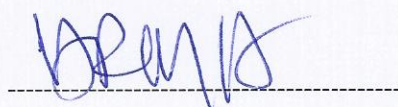
Article IX : INTERPRETATION AND AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

the EC shall have plenary authority to amend these Bylaws at any regular meeting or at any special meeting held for that purpose at which a quorum is present with affirmative approval by at least two thirds of the General Body (including those not in attendance).

These Articles were adopted at the General meeting on March 19, 2013 in Basel-land

Accepted.

The President of the Board



Name of the president: Vegesna Varma

First Version: Informal meeting on 01.12.2005

First Revision: General meeting on 20.02.2013

Founding members:

Niranjan Thotakura, Yashoda Thotakura, Srinivas Gonukula, Anitha Gonukula, Vegesna Varma, Annapurna Vegesna, Sridhar Ponnada, Hyma Ponnada, Bala Chandar Muppala, Tirumala Devi Muppala, Kishore Ravuri, Sarvani Akella

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Version History

Version	Change made	Date
1.0	Institution of the document	