



**TOGETHER**  
*for a sustainable future*

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## PREAMBLE

RECOGNIZING the increasingly important role which Export Processing Zones must play in promoting the economic development of many developing countries particularly in attracting the right sort of industrial investor, thus creating both new manufacturing industry and employment;

FOLLOWING the recommendation made by the Regional Export Working Group at Barranquilla, Colombia, October 1974, calling for the setting up under the auspices of UNIDO of some form of Free Zone Association; and

NOTING that this association would strengthen developing countries in their negotiating position when settling investment terms with potential investors in Export Processing Zones whether from developed or developing countries;

NOTING also that the proposed Association would be able to represent the interests of Export Processing Zone Authorities on the occasion of international conferences and meetings where matters concerning international trade and industry will be discussed and new regulations considered;

The representatives of those countries concerned with Export Processing Zones

### DECIDE:

To establish an Association in accordance with the following provisions:

## CHAPTER I

### ESTABLISHMENT, AIMS AND MEMBERSHIP

#### Art. 1 DEFINITION

The term Export Processing Zone, hereinafter referred to as EPZ, means and includes all government authorized areas such as, free ports, free trade zones, custom free zones, industrial free zone or foreign trade zones, or any other type of zone as the Council may from time to time decide to include.

#### Art. 2 NAME

An Association is hereby established under the name of: "World Export Processing Zone Association" for the purpose of promoting the aims as defined in Article 4 of the Statute.

#### Art. 3 LOCATION

The seat of the Association shall be situated in that country where the Secretary General is located until such time as the Council decides otherwise.

Art. 4 OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The objectives of the Association are to promote and foster co-operation between organizations concerned with export processing zones with a view to stimulating economic development in general and encouraging industrialization in particular, especially through:

- (a) establishing and maintaining regular contact between members in order to improve their mutual understanding and their appreciation of each other's problems and requirements;
- (b) fostering harmonious relationships and encouraging common action and mutual assistance among the members;
- (c) co-operating with international agencies having similar aims and interests;
- (d) producing and circulating between members relevant statistical information;
- (e) exchanging methods of evaluating industrial investment proposals and information on investors and marketing;
- (f) arranging training courses in EPZ management techniques and also appropriate exchange visits of EPZ staff or potential staff;
- (g) encouraging the transfer of technology;
- (h) taking all necessary and appropriate action to furthering the objectives of the Association.

Art. 5 MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be of three (3) types, subject, in each case to nomination by the Council and subsequent decision of the General Assembly:

- (a) Member -

All government organizations, EPZ's or agencies responsible for EPZ's so authorized by their respective governments, shall be eligible to be admitted as a member with the right to vote in the General Assembly proceedings, provided that one country shall have one vote only.

- (b) Associate Member -

Recognized associations of EPZ enterprises and organizations and/or individuals using or servicing EPZ's shall be eligible to be admitted as associate members with the right to participate in the discussions of the General Assembly but without the right to vote.

(c) Sustaining Member -

Other organizations and individuals interested in EPZs may be admitted as Sustaining members. Sustaining members shall have the right to attend meetings of the General Assembly as observers without the right to participate or vote.

**Art. 6 ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP, ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP AND SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP**

- (a) Application for membership must be communicated to the Secretariat. Decisions on admission shall be made by the General Assembly on the recommendations of the Council, approved by two thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and voting. The decision shall be conveyed to the applicant whose membership shall be deemed to commence on paying the admission fee and the subscription for the first year.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (a) of this Article:
- (i) Representatives of all government organizations and agencies dealing with EPZ activities participating in the Manila 1978 meeting are admitted as founder members subject to Article 5 and on paying the entrance fee and annual subscription within six (6) months.
- (ii) Applicants may be admitted to membership by the Council pursuant to sub-paragraph (i) of Article 11 but subject otherwise to the provisions of Paragraph (a) of this Article.
- (c) Applications for sustaining membership shall be made to, and decided by the Secretary General.

**Art. 7 RE-ADMISSION**

Applications for re-admission of a former member shall be treated as a new application and shall be governed by the provisions of the Statutes and Bye-Laws.

**Art. 8 RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**

- (a) Subject to Article 5, members shall be eligible to hold office and have the right to vote.
- (b) They are entitled to:
- receive all publications, circulars, statistical data, financial information, reports and studies issued by the Association;
  - participate in the sessions of the General Assembly and other meetings open to them.

CHAPTER II

STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION

Art. 9 ORGANS

The Association shall have the following organs exercising the functions as hereinafter defined:

- (a) Save and except the provisions of Article 26, the General Assembly shall be composed of all members duly admitted and having discharged their financial obligation.
- (b) The Council shall be composed of a President and ten (10) members duly elected by the General Assembly.
- (c) The Secretariat shall consist of the Secretary General and his/her staff.

Art. 10 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In addition to exercising other functions specified in these Statutes, the General Assembly shall -

- (a) elect from amongst its members entitled to vote a president and ten (10) members of the Council;
- (b) decide on applications for membership;
- (c) approve the Statutes and the Bye-Laws of the Association including amendments thereof;
- (d) discuss and approve the annual report of the Secretary General;
- (e) determine the general policy and programme of work;
- (f) approve the budget and adopt the accounts and the Auditor's report thereon;
- (g) examine any other matter within the competence of the Association, submitted to it by the Council, or by one or more members, which has been approved by the General Assembly to be placed on its agenda; and
- (h) determine the date and venue of the next session of the General Assembly and approve the draft Agenda.

Art. 11 COUNCIL

In addition to exercising other functions specified in these Statutes or delegated to it by the General Assembly, the Council shall:

- (a) deal with all matters included in the agenda of the General Assembly;
- (b) recommend the budget and scales of subscription for adoption by the General Assembly;

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- (c) recommend to the General Assembly amendments to the Statutes and the Bye-Laws of the Association;
  - (d) consider applications for membership and submit them with appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly;
  - (e) examine the proposals of the Secretary General concerning the budget of the Association for the period of two calendar years and submit them to the General Assembly for approval;
  - (f) recommend for adoption by the General Assembly, the yearly statement of accounts duly audited;
  - (g) recommend to the General Assembly for adoption the initial work programme and any subsequent modification or addition, particularly in respect of such matters as those pertaining to:
    - (i) promotion of industrial investment in EPZs;
    - (ii) transfer of technology;
    - (iii) guidance on information and statistics to be exchanged;
    - (iv) credit facilities;
    - (v) training courses;
    - (vi) promotion of industrial exports;
    - (vii) exchange of visitors;
    - (viii) exchange of experience;
  - (h) The Council shall approve the borrowing of monies for the purposes of the Association up to a limit of US\$50,000 and authorise the Secretary General to execute the documents necessary therefor;
  - (i) The Council shall exercise the functions and assume all the powers of the General Assembly except when the General Assembly is in session;
  - (j) fulfill other functions delegated to it by the General Assembly; and
  - (k) take any such measures within its competence as may be necessary to further the objectives of the Association.

**Art. 12 THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE SECRETARIAT**

The Secretariat is the executive organ of the Association and consists of the Secretary General and his/her staff. The Secretary General shall be appointed by the General Assembly upon the recommendations of the Council. The term of appointment shall be three (3) years. The Secretary General shall be eligible for re-appointment. He shall be responsible for all functions of the Secretariat.

**Art. 13 FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

Subject to the general direction and supervision of the Council, through the President, the functions of the Secretary General shall include all executive, administrative, technical and other matters within his/her competence. The Secretary General shall be delegated such other powers by the Council or by the General Assembly as deemed necessary to enable him to fulfill his/her responsibilities.

**CHAPTER III**

**FINANCE**

**Art. 14 BUDGET**

The Council shall examine the proposals of the Secretary General concerning the budget of the Association for a period of two calendar years and submit them to the General Assembly for approval. Approval shall be by a minimum of two thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting.

**Art. 15 SUBSCRIPTION**

For members there shall be an Entrance Fee of US\$1000. Where in the case of one country, there is more than one member, only one Entrance Fee US\$1000 shall be charged. For Associate Members there shall be an Entrance Fee of US\$1000.

In addition, there would be an Annual Subscription of US\$1000 for Members and Associate Members and US\$200 for Sustaining members.

Such Subscription and Entrance Fee shall be payable in, internationally convertible currency, within six (6) months of the date of admission to membership and, thereafter, on the first day of January each year.

The General Assembly shall determine the subscription for the three (3) types of members in future years, according to the budget of the Association, on the recommendation of the Council.

**Art. 16 SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS**

The General Assembly may accept special subscriptions or donations.

**Art. 17 AUDITORS**

The General Assembly shall, on the recommendation of the Council, appoint and fix the remuneration of, an auditor or auditors, whose nomination shall be for a period of two years and may be renewed.

**Art. 18 BANK ACCOUNTS**

The Council shall authorise the Secretary General to open a banking account in the name of the Association with one of the national banks of the country in which the Secretariat is located, and further authorize the

Secretary General and such other officers of the Secretariat as it may deem necessary, to operate the same.

CHAPTER IV

MISCELLANEOUS

Art. 19 WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language of the Association shall be English, until the Council may decide to add other languages.

Art. 20 AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

Amendments to the Statutes may be proposed by the Council or by at least one third (1/3) of the voting members present or represented by proxies. Amendments validly proposed shall be included in the agenda of General Assembly. Their adoption shall require a majority of two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Association present or represented by proxies.

Art. 21 DISSOLUTION

Dissolution of the Association may be decided by a meeting of the General Assembly convened for that purpose and attended by at least two thirds (2/3) of the members of the Association present or represented by proxies.

Art. 22 Dissolution shall require two thirds (2/3) majority of members of the General Assembly present or represented by proxies.

Art. 23 In case of dissolution, the General Assembly shall decide on the disposition of the assets of the Association and designate a liquidator.

Art. 24 PROCEEDINGS WITH THIRD PARTIES

In respect of legal and administrative acts towards third parties the Association shall be represented by the Secretary General.

Art. 25 EXPENSES

No expenses in respect of work done by individual members or committees charged with special tasks, shall fall upon the general membership of the Association.

Art. 26 ENABLING ARTICLE

(a) The founder members as listed in Appendix I and in session assembled, shall constitute the first General Assembly of the World Export Processing Zone Association;

(b) Founder membership will be provisional for the period of six (6) months specified in Article 6 (b) (i).



- (c) Acts of the General Assembly as constituted under sub-paragraph (a) & (b) of this Article, and in accordance with these Statutes shall be valid as if done by an Assembly of members.
- (d) The Statutes and Bye-Laws shall come into force upon approval by two thirds (2/3) majority of the founder members as listed in Appendix I, and in session assembled;
- (e) The first Budget of the Association shall extend to the period ending 31 December 1979; and
- (f) The first Secretary General shall hold office till 31 December 1980.

A P P E N D I X I

1. Mr. S. M. Al Hussainy (Bangladesh)
2. Mr. J. Gerlein-Camelin (Colombia)
3. Mr. G. ElSahrawi (Egypt)
4. Mr. A. El Fattah (Egypt)
5. Mr. Spyros Papageorgiou (Greece)
6. Mr. G. E. Padilla (Honduras)
7. Mr. S. Rajgopal (India)
8. Mr. F. G. Tumbelaka (Indonesia)
9. Mr. Roushan Shams (Iran)
10. Mr. Aka Bogui T. (Ivory Coast)
11. Mr. P. Donnelly (Ireland)
12. Mr. Byron Lewis (Jamaica)
13. Mr. Ali H. Makahleh (Jordan)
14. Mr. Jin Wook Choi (Republic of Korea)
15. Mr. E. Smine (Lebanon)
16. Mr. J. G. Richards (Liberia)
17. Mr. AbuBakr (Libya)
18. Mr. Amirrudin Bin Kaharudin (Malaysia)
19. Dr. Edward Lim Fat (Mauritius)
20. Mr. Guillermo Teutli Otero (Mexico)
21. Mr. Z. A. Shah (Pakistan)
22. Mr. H. Castro (Panama)
23. Mr. Taher Bin Yahya (PDR Yemen)
24. Mr. Roberto P. Villa (Philippines)
25. Mr. P. M. Diouf (Senegal)
26. Mr. A. H. Y. Ayoon (Somalia)
27. Mr. Sivali Ratwette (Sri Lanka)
28. Mr. Mohamed Ata El Mannan (Sudan)
29. Mr. T. Eali (Joint Syria/Jordan)
30. Mr. C. Vajrabhaya (Thailand)
31. Mr. Labib Al Sadoon (UAE)
32. Mr. John Da Ponte (USA)
33. Mr. Hans Kruse (W. Samoa)