

## **The constitution of**

### **SAMAIKYA TELUGU ASSOCIATION OF ROGALAND**

**If there is a conflict in the language between Norwegian and English, Norwegian version takes precedence.**

#### **Article 1: NAME**

The name of the organization is "SAMAIKYA TELUGU ASSOCIATION OF ROGALAND (STAR)", hereinafter referred to as "organization".

#### **Article 2: PURPOSE**

SAMAIKYA TELUGU ASSOCIATION OF ROGALAND is a non-profit organization. The purpose of the organization is to preserve, promote and celebrate the rich tradition of Telugu culture in Norway. The organization is concerned with creating bonds between the members and delivering the best cultural values through festivals, cultural events, language, art and music etc. The organization will collaborate with other local organizations in the region to contribute to socially beneficial causes, and promote harmony to celebrate and cultivate cultural differences within different local and international communities.

#### **Article 3: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to anyone who has a connection to the culture of Telugu regardless of gender, nationality or religion

#### **Article 4: THE BOARD**

The board shall be responsible for the management of the organization. The board will implement the policy and resolutions at the general meeting. The board shall be responsible for administrative measures, planning and implementation of events, which are agreed in the general meeting. The board shall decide to cooperate with other organizations and financial management for the activities in the organization. The board shall consist of a president, secretary, and a maximum of 5 executive members.

**4.1 PRESIDENT:**

The president shall be the chairman of the board of the organization. The president shall chair the meetings, ensure that the resolutions passed by the general meeting or previous meetings are resolved and sign all official documents.

**4.2 SECRETARY:**

The secretary shall implement the necessary measures to comply with the decisions made by the general meeting and the board. The Secretary shall carry out all correspondence to the members and other authorities when necessary. The Secretary shall be acting President in the absence of the President.

**4.3 TREASURER:**

Must have the authority to sign cheques and operate a STAR bank account. Must receive and pay out all funds with the approval of the board. Must keep an accurate record of all financial transactions. Must submit a financial report at each board meeting. Must submit an annual report at the annual meeting.

**4.4 Executive Members:**

The board shall decide on the delegation of responsibilities to executive members. In addition, there may be up to 5 non-executive members who will provide direct support to the board members in the implementation of respective areas of responsibility in the organization. To be qualified as a board member, the person must be a member of the organization for at least one year from the last financial year to the date of election.

**4.5** The board will be elected by consensus or by a simple majority in the general meeting. All members may be non-executive members of individual interests in addition to by agreement of the board.

**Article 5: ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

The general meeting shall be the supreme authority in the organization. Every year **before end of February the General meeting shall be conducted.** The General Meeting invitation shall be sent to the members at least four weeks in advance. The agenda for the meeting shall be announced in advance of the meeting and the members shall be given an opportunity to include some additional issues that they wish to discuss. The members must inform in writing / email to the board that he / she wishes to take up the matter during the general meeting, one week before the general meeting.

**The agenda for the meeting:**

1. Discuss annual activities and events to be conducted
2. Present the accounts for the current calendar year
3. Election of a new board after two years
4. Planning for the next calendar year
5. Other issues raised by the board and members

The decisions taken at the meeting must be approved by consensus or by a simple majority. The minutes of the meeting must be sent within two weeks of the meeting. The board may convene an extraordinary general meeting in case it does not wish to wait until the next ordinary general meeting. Members may request the board to convene an extraordinary general meeting by writing to the board. At least 20 members must request such a meeting.

**ARTICLE 6: ECONOMICS**

Being a non-profit organization means that there should be no dividends or financial profits declared or paid to the board by managers or members of these. The organization's income will come from private fees for functions, events and charitable donations. All members including the board shall work as volunteers and are not compensated in any way for their time and effort for services rendered or tasks performed on behalf of the organization.

**Article 7: SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

According to the regulations, the following shall not be permitted:

1. Consumption of drugs and smoking in any event under the auspices of the organization shall be strictly prohibited.
2. The carrying of firearms and other weapons shall be strictly prohibited.
3. The organization's board reserves the right to stage events under the auspices of the organization.
4. Participation in organization that has not been agreed at the general meeting shall be approved by the board.
5. The use of organization name for all purposes must be pre-approved by the board.

**Article 8: AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION**

Any amendment to the Constitution shall only be made during an ordinary or extraordinary general meeting. Changes must be approved upon acceptance by more than 50% of the participants.

**Article 9: DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Dissolution of the organization shall be accepted during the annual or extraordinary general meeting with at least two thirds of the participants' acceptance of the dissolution. Disposal and obligations to the authorities shall be discussed and implemented before formal dissolution.