

In accordance with the provisions of the articles 10, 11 and 12 of the Law on Associations ("the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia," number 51/19), the Inaugural Assembly held on 7 November 2014, adopted the following

STATUTE

of the Network of Organizations for Children of Serbia

Article 1

The Network of Organizations for Children of Serbia (hereinafter: MODS) is an association of voluntary, non-governmental and non-profitable organizations, established for an indefinite period to achieve objectives in the field of realization of the needs, rights, protection of children and young people up to 18 years of age.

Members of MODS retain autonomy in their activities and goals for which they are organized.

Article 2

The Objectives MODS are:

Improving cooperation between civil society organizations in the field of respect and fulfillment of the rights of all children and young people up to 18 years of age.

Strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations aimed at improving the situation of children and young people up to 18 years of age.

Increasing participation of civil society organizations and children in the formation of policies on children and young people up to 18 years of age.

Improving implementation of child rights and promotion of child rights in Serbia.

Article 3.

To achieve its goals, MODS undertakes the following activities in particular:

- organizing thematic groups to discuss and initiate activities for those thematic areas;
- contributing to the development of policies on children through the work of thematic groups with the aim of formulating recommendations and defining policies on children;
- informing the public about the situation of children, important issues and preparation of reactions and statements in the event of violations of the rights of the child;
- promoting children's rights and the aims and work of MODS;

- facilitating the exchange of information on activities, programs, and projects of its members;
- representing the interests of member organizations in international conferences and communication with the state.

Article 4

The name of the association: The Network of Organizations for Children of Serbia.

The abbreviated name: MODS

The name in the English language: The Network of Organizations for Children of Serbia – NOCS.

MODS has its seat in Niš.

MODS exercises its activities on the territory of the Republic of Serbia and abroad.

Article 5

A member of MODS can be an organization that deals with the realization of the needs of children, child protection and child rights, which accepts the goals of MODS and the Statute and submits an application to the Steering Committee of MODS, which submits the proposal to the Assembly to decide in favor of joining, based on the established criteria

Article 6

The decision on the membership is decided upon by the Assembly, about which the Director shall immediately notify the applicant.

A member may withdraw from membership by issuing a written statement of resignation.

Membership in MODS can be terminated due to a prolonged inactivity of a member, non-compliance with the provisions of this Statute or damage to the reputation of MODS.

The decision on termination of membership (exclusion) is adopted by the Assembly, upon a reasoned proposal of the Steering Committee.

A member must be able to submit its standpoint on the reasons for which a proposal for a decision on the termination of its membership in MODS is submitted in a reasonable period.

Article 7

An organization, as a member of MODS, has the right:

- 1) to participate in achieving the objectives of MODS on an equal basis with other organizations;

- 2) to participate in decision-making at the Assembly through its representative;
- 3) that its representatives elect and be elected to bodies of MODS;
- 4) to be promptly and comprehensively informed about the work and activities of MODS.

An organization, as a member, is obliged:

- 1) to actively contribute to the achievement of the objectives of MODS;
- 2) to participate in the activities of MODS in accordance with its interest;
- 3) to pay an annual membership fee in accordance with the decision of the Assembly.

Ways of meeting these requirements shall be closely regulated by a special act adopted by the Assembly.

Article 8

The bodies of MODS are the Assembly, the Steering Committee, the Director and the Supervisory Board.

The Circle of Friends of MODS and the Council of Children of MODS are formed as advisory and professional bodies of MODS.

MODS can establish other permanent or temporary working and advisory bodies.

Article 9

MODS Assembly is comprised of all member organizations.

The Assembly meets regularly once a year. An extraordinary session of the Assembly can be scheduled upon a reasoned proposal of the Steering Committee, as well as the initiative of at least one third of the Assembly members. The initiative is submitted to the Steering Committee in writing, and it has to specify the issues which should be considered.

An Assembly session is convened by the Director of MODS, by a written notice of the place and time of the Assembly and the proposed agenda. The session is chaired by the Assembly Chairperson who is to be elected by a public vote, at the beginning of the session.

The Assembly:

- 1) adopts the plan and the program of work upon the proposal of the Steering Committee;
- 2) adopts strategic documents and policies of MODS;
- 3) adopts the Statute, as well as changes and amendments to the Statute;
- 4) appoints and dismisses members of the Steering Committee and the Supervisory Board;

- 5) considers and approves, at least annually, a report of the Steering Committee;
- 6) considers and adopts a report of the Supervisory Board;
- 7) reviews and adopts a financial plan and report;
- 8) decides on the amount of a membership fee for the next year and deadlines for payment;
- 9) decides on status changes and termination of MODS;
- 10) decides on admission of new member organizations;
- 11) adopts the act on the manner of fulfilling the obligations of member organizations;
- 12) decides on MODS standpoints especially on important issues in the field of MODS operations;
- 13) adopts the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

Each member has one vote when voting, no matter how many of its representatives are present at the Assembly meeting. The Assembly decides in its full competence if there are representatives of more than a half of members.

The Assembly shall decide by the two thirds majority vote of members present.

The Assembly may decide electronically on urgent matters. The decision is considered adopted if more than a half of members participated in the vote; the decision itself shall be taken by the two thirds majority of the members which voted.

Article 10

The Steering Committee is the executive body of MODS, which ensures the implementation of the objectives of MODS that are established in this Statute.

The Steering Committee has nine members, appointed and dismissed by the Assembly.

The mandate of the members of the Steering Committee shall be three years, and they may be reappointed to the same positions.

The Steering Committee elects the President and the Vice President from among its members.

Article 11

The Steering Committee:

- 1) proposes strategic directions of development of MODS, policies, and programs to implement the objectives set out by the Statute and proposes strategic documents to the Assembly;
- 2) proposes an annual work plan and a financial plan;
- 3) proposes an annual report and an annual financial report;

- 4) controls the operations of MODS between the two sessions and makes decisions in accordance with the approved work plan of MODS;
- 5) decides to initiate the procedure for changing and amending the Statute, on its own initiative or at the request of at least five members of MODS or the Director, and prepares the proposal of changes and amendments, submitting it to the Assembly for adoption;
- 6) decides on initiating proceedings for damages in the cases referred to in the Article 25., paragraph 2 of the Law on Associations and, if necessary, determines a special representative of MODS for this procedure;
- 7) appoints and dismisses the Director;
- 8) decides on other matters for which there are no other authorized bodies of MODS, by law or by statute;
- 9) adopts the Rules of Procedure of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee decides in its full competence if there are representatives of more than a half of members, while decisions are taken by the majority of all members.

The decisions on election or dismissal of the Director is taken by the two-thirds majority of the members present at the meeting.

Article 12

The Director of MODS is elected and dismissed by the Steering Committee.

The Director shall be appointed on the basis of an internal call to MODS members to propose a candidate for this function.

The term of office of the Director is four years, and a candidate can be re-elected to this position.
The Director of MODS:

- 1) represents the Network in legal matters with third parties and has rights and obligations of a financial executive;
- 2) is responsible for legal compliance of MODS operations;
- 3) passes general regulations of MODS;
- 4) assigns specific tasks to particular members;
- 5) implements decisions of the Assembly and executes orders of the Steering Committee;
- 6) performs other duties in accordance with law;
- 7) organizes regular activities of MODS;
- 8) submits reports to the Steering Committee.

Article 13

The Supervisory Board has three members elected by the Assembly. The term of office of members of the Supervisory Board lasts three years, and they can be re-elected.

The Supervisory Board shall meet at least once a year.

The Supervisor Board:

- 1) controls legal compliance and financial operations of MODS and informs the Steering Committee about observed irregularities without delay;
- 2) reviews an annual financial plan and report and gives an opinion on its adoption to the Steering Committee;
- 3) submits a report at a regular annual session of the Assembly;
- 4) adopts the Rules of Procedure of the Supervisory Board;

The Supervisory Board shall decide by majority vote of the members.

Article 14

MODS has the Circle of Friends of MODS. It is composed of prominent individuals and representatives of institutions, international organizations, the corporate sector and the academic community.

Each network member may propose a new individual as a member of the Circle of Friends.

The Steering Committee shall give its consent to a proposal, and the Director invites nominees to sign a Joint Statement of Intent for Cooperation. By signing the statement, they shall become members of the Circle of Friends of MODS.

The Circle of Friends of MODS has an advisory role and the role of strengthening cooperation with the media, the business sector, donor organizations, universities and independent institutions that are interested in the rights of the child or in encouraging social responsibility in a broader sense.

Article 15

MODS has as an advisory body - the Council of Children of MODS.

The Council of Children of MODS is an advisory body of MODS which:

- 1) provides active participation of children in making decisions related to children;
- 2) ensures that the voice of children is heard and respected in the work of MODS;
- 3) participates in proposing initiatives and solving problems in order to promote and improve the rights of all children in Serbia.

The Council of Children has 7 members.

The Council members are elected for two years.

The members of MODS delegate children for training on participation and the meeting where children choose members of the Council of Children among themselves.

The election is carried out by a simple majority of children present, by public vote or secret ballot, on which children decide shortly before voting.

Article 16

The work of MODS is public.

The Director shall timely inform members and the public about the work and activities of MODS, directly or through internal publications, that is, through press releases, or in any other appropriate manner.

The annual accounts (balance sheet and income statement) and reports on the activities of MODS shall be submitted to the members at the meeting of the Assembly of MODS.

Article 17

In order to achieve its objectives, MODS establishes contacts and cooperation with other associations and organizations at home and abroad.

MODS can join international associations for the rights of the child, as decided by the Assembly.

Article 18

MODS raises funds through membership fees, voluntary contributions, donations and gifts, financial subsidies and other legally permitted manner.

Article 19

MODS raises funds by selling its publications.

MODS can start with a direct pursuit of this activity only upon the registration in the Register of Business Entities.

Article 20

MODS can obtain funds from registration fees for seminars and other forms of education in the field of children's rights.

The profit of economic and other activities can be used exclusively for the attainment of the objectives of MODS, including the costs of the regular work of MODS and its own participation in the financing of specific projects.

Article 21

MODS terminates its operations by the Assembly decision, when the conditions for achieving the goals of MODS cease to exist, as well as in other cases defined by law.

Article 22

In the event of termination of MODS, its assets will be transferred to a non-profit organization that has the same goals as MODS, by decision of the Assembly.

Article 23

MODS has a round seal with an inscription in the top half: Mreža organizacija za decu Srbije-MODS, in the lower half: Niš, as the seat of MODS.

MODS has a seal in the English language too, with an inscription in the top half: the Network of Organizations for Children of Serbia - NOCS, in the lower half: Niš, as the seat of MODS.

Article 24

The provisions of the Law on Associations will be applied to all matters which are not directly regulated by this Statute.

The Chairperson of
of the Inaugural Assembly of MODS

Saša Stefanović

(name and signature)