

The Statute for “INTERPLAST-Germany e. V.” adopted in Frankfurt on the Main on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1980 by the founder’s meeting was amended into the present version and unanimously voting at the general meeting in Bad Kreuznach on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2020.

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## The Statute of

### **INTERPLAST-Germany e. V. A non-profit association for plastic surgery in developing countries**

#### § 1 Name and Headquarters of the association

- 1.) The name of the association is: **INTERPLAST-Germany**
- 2.) The association has its registered office in Bad Kreuznach and is registered under the Association Registration Number: VR 20928 at the local court in Bad Kreuznach.

#### § 2 The purpose of the association

The purpose of the association is to provide aid in the field of plastic surgery through surgical operations on people with inborn defects and malformations in developing countries as well as to accompany humanitarian and charitable-social measures to a significant improvement in quality of life. Thereby, the association also works together with other organisations and foundations which have similar objectives. The association can also provide resources for such organisations if an adequate usage is guaranteed. The treatment is primarily aimed at patients with facial malformations, cleft lips and palates, malformation of hands, extensive burn scars, tumours located on head and skin, disabilities due to accidents or wound consequences of war and other diseases which require the skills of plastic surgery.

The operations are carried out free of charge by the operation teams either in the developing country concerned or exceptionally in the department of plastic surgery of a German hospital. The association finances either the travel and accommodation expenses of the operation team in the developing country concerned or the travel and hospital stay expenses for the patient into the Federal Republic of Germany. Developing countries are not only those countries recognised as such by the Federal Republic of Germany but all countries in which socially needy people need plastic surgery-aids.

The association exclusively and directly follows charitable purposes in terms of the regulation of § 63 AO. The members of the association and all other persons involved in the association work free of charge. Otherwise, the travel, accommodation and material expenses are only be repaid as far as these actually incurred. Furthermore, the members do not receive any grants from the funds of the association. Funds of the association may only be used for statutory purposes. If required and after approval of the Board, a co-worker (a non-member) may be employed and financed for extensive administrative tasks in the area of the Board and the Sections.

It is not allowed to benefit a person through expenses which are alien to statutory corporation's purposes.

### § 3 Membership

The association has:

- 1.) Regular members
- 2.) Honorary members

Persons having rendered special merits can be nominated as honorary members. Regular members can become both natural and legal persons. Everybody can become a member regardless of profession, race, religion, political attitude or nationality. The admission must be requested in written form.

Membership terminates through death, resignation (only possible at the end of a year and in written form) and through exclusion. Exclusion takes place on written and well-founded request by a member via the resolution of the Board. The person subject to exclusion must have the right to response. Upon leaving the association, any claim to all rights acquired as a member of the association shall lapse.

### § 4 Rights and duties of members

All members are entitled to participate in the general meeting whereby the regular and also the honorary members are empowered of voting and application rights. However, members who are legal persons have only one vote.

### § 5 Membership fee

The amount of the membership fee is determined by the general meeting and is currently 30 Euros per annum. The amount is payable in the current year. If payment is not made after a singular reminder, an exclusion follows.

## § 6 The organs of the association

The organs of the association are:

- 1.) General meeting
- 2.) Board
- 3.) Sections

## § 7 General meeting

- 1.) The General meeting is convened in writing by the Board at least 2 weeks in advance and should take place annually.
- 2.) On current occasions, the Board may convene an extraordinary general meeting or
- 3.) Independently from convocation by the Board, 25 per cent of the member have the option of applying for convocation of a general meeting.
- 4.) The agenda should include:
  - a) Annual report of the chairman
  - b) Report of the cash auditor and the treasurer
  - c) Discharge of the Board
  - d) New elections, if required
  - e) Budget estimate, applications and wishes
  - f) Miscellaneous

The general meeting is managed by the chairman or his deputy. Minutes must be kept of the general meeting itself and signed by at least 2 board members. In the case of a tie vote, motions shall be deemed rejected.

Amendments to the statute can only be decided with the consent  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the members present. The association can only be dissolved by a resolution of the general meeting with a majority of  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the voting members present. At least two cash auditors are elected for a period of four years by the annual general meeting. The cash auditors are responsible for auditing the entire accounting system of the association. They shall report to the annual general meeting and may be re-elected indefinitely.

It is also possible to adopt resolutions via written circulation procedure outside the general meeting.

## § 8 The Board

The Board in terms of § 26 BGB consists of:

- 1.) The chairman
- 2.) The treasurer
- 3.) The vice chairman
- 4.) The recording clerk

Each of the mentioned board members is allowed to represent the association outwardly. According to § 30 BGB, the Board can unanimously convene members for special tasks into the extended Board. Thus, for each individual section of the association, the Board appoints a section leader and, if necessary, a section treasurer.

The Board is elected at the annual general meeting for a term of four years. Re-election is possible. If a member of the Board resigns in the course of the legislative period, the chairman is allowed temporarily to appoint another member of the Board together with the other remaining members of the Board, who then belongs to the Board in terms of § 26 BGB.

## § 9 Sections

- 1.) The association is divided into individual sections.
- 2.) The sections consist of the local members as well as the section leaders and, if required, a section treasurer.
- 3.) Section leader and section treasurers are appointed by the Board for four years and may be reappointed indefinitely.
- 4.) The section leader plans and coordinates all activities from the section. He has the entire responsibility for each activity of his section.
- 5.) Each section has its own section account and is obliged to deliver a cash report at the end of a year. A cash auditor appointed by the section leader has to inspect and sign it together with the section leader. The cash report is forwarded to the Board.
- 6.) The Board provides the necessary quantity of numbered forms of donation receipts. The usage of duplicated donation receipts is not allowed. The section leader or the section cash treasurer acknowledges receipt of the forms. They alone are authorized to sign these donation confirmation and are fully responsible for the proper purpose. Each person issuing an incorrect donation receipt or arranging for it to be issued is liable for the

amount paid.

- 7.) Donation receipts can be issued for the following donations:
- a) Donations by bank transfer and cashed cheques to the account
  - b) Cash donations as soon as the amount is deposited into account
  - c) Donations of materials meaningful in type and dimension corresponding to the purpose of the association. The specified delivery note or acknowledgement of receipt are to be archived with the duplicate of donation certificate.
- 8.) For permanently operated institutions of individual sections (e.g. hospital), the responsibilities and tasks of the operators are regulated in more extensive rules of procedure. The experts employed for the management and implementation of these permanent institutions may be remunerated if they are non-members.

#### § 10 Appropriation of funds

The income of the association, donations, public subsidies and funds from legal restraints may exclusively be used for surgery measures and the related expenses of travel, organisation, accommodation and material as well as for construction, expansion and furnishing of medical institutions according to § 11.3,1 and for advanced and further training according to § 11.5. The members of the operation teams commit themselves to provide all personal commitment free of charge. Travel and accommodation expenses can be covered by the association or supported with a subsidy. Expenses incurred by employees in the countries concerned in organisation and selecting patients are also reimbursed by the association. In certain exceptional cases it is also possible to finance a short-term training in plastic surgery for doctors, nurses or caregivers of the host country if it serves the establishment of a plastic surgical department or the plastic surgical care of local patients.

The participation in operational programmes in developing countries implemented by other organisations with the same purposes can also be subsidised in exceptional cases. Trips with a touristic or private character are excluded.

Revenues from the operation of permanent institutions in developing countries are to be used directly to cover current costs and urgent investments.

Patients in a medically-underdeveloped country can only be operated at the expenses of the association if they are dependent on aid of others as a consequence of their physical condition (§ 53 Ziff. 1 AO 1977) or their income does not exceed the limits specified in § 53 Ziff 2 1977. The patients should be selected regardless of race, religion or political attitude and declared to be operable by the doctors of the countries concerned. In selected cases, if very difficult operations cannot be carried out locally, it is possible to finance travel

and hospitalisation in the Federal Republic of Germany. A surgical team should be sent to the country, if a larger number of patients can be treated together in this region concerned. The people working for the association have especially to abstain from any socially critical and political activity in the corresponding countries.

## § 11 Activities of the association

- 1.) Humanitarian operations of operational teams in developing countries:  
The **head of operations** is responsible for the organisational, medical, social and financial management of the entire operation. This includes the prior registration of the operation with the list of participants with the Board (among others a professional association insurance is only then guaranteed) and the preparation of a final report (spectrum and number of patients operated).
- 2.) Surgeries of patients from developing countries in Germany:  
The **surgeon** is responsible for the organisational, medical, social and financial management of the entire stay. This includes the assumption of costs to be clarified in advance, the accommodation of patients and the entry/return formalities.
- 3.) Construction, expansion and furnishing of medical institutions in areas of particularly severe social need in developing countries to promote long-term projects for plastic surgery there:  
The **project initiator** is responsible for the organisational, medical, social and financial implementation. It should be noted that the agreement with the purpose of the association, the social effectiveness and the economic efficiency are to be considered substantially (e.g. medical-technical equipment, hospital equipment).
- 4.) Plastic surgery training for doctors, nurses and caregivers in developing countries:  
The transfer of plastic-surgical operation and treatment techniques to committed and suitable doctors, nurses and caregivers in the developing country is an important part of an INTERPLAST-operation. In particular cases, a short-term plastic surgery training can also be supported in the Federal Republic of Germany.
- 5.) Advanced and further training of the own association members, for example in the context of the annual conference and academy.

## § 12 Foundation

The association INTERPLAST-Germany e. V. has founded and additionally maintains as a founder a legal foundation for the sustainable support of all purposes of the association and for the promotion of long-term projects for plastic surgery in developing countries. The foundation bears the name INTERPLAST-Stiftung.

## § 13 Rescission clause

In the case of rescission or abrogation of the association or in the case of abolition of its previous purpose, the assets of the association shall be transferred to the **INTERPLAST-Stiftung** for using the funds allocated to it within provisions of the public utility and charitable purposes.

## § 14 Final clause

The Statute for “INTERPLAST-Germany e. V.” adopted in Frankfurt on the Main on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October 1980 by the general meeting was amended into the present version and unanimously voting at the general meeting in Bad Kreuznach on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2020. The amended version comes into force with its registration in the register of associations.