## World Electronic Port and Logistics Organization (WEPO)

# Association sans but lucratif Registered office: 12 Rue Sigismond L-2537 Luxembourg

#### **ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION**

## Article I General

1. The World Electronic Port and Logistics Organization (hereinafter referred to as the "WEPO") is hereby established.

2. The organization is a global, industrial and non-profit social organization voluntarily formed by international organizations, enterprises, institutions, social organizations and other organizations established by various countries according to law to engage in e-ports, ports (including sea transportation, airport, railway, highway, etc), international logistics, international trade, international business communication and other commercial activities.

3. The organization's purpose is to promote the construction of worldwide channels of trusted trade modes, promote global trade implementation cooperation, and promote communication and cooperation among Members such as single windows, e-ports, logistics enterprises and international trade enterprises in the world (regions), and provide Members with relevant international business cooperation services. To promote communication and cooperation between Members and other countries (regions) around the world. To promote win-win cooperation among global e-ports, ports and international logistics-related businesses. To provide comprehensive services for transnational (cross-regional) cooperation for Members.

4. The organization is registered in Luxembourg City of Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, for an unlimited duration. Observe and respect the national constitution, laws, regulations, policies, cultural customs and religious beliefs of the member states.

#### Article II Functions of the WEPO

5. The function of the organization includes:

a. Solicit opinions and requirements of Members, communicate and coordinate with relevant international organizations, international institutions, relevant government departments, business competent departments and others on behalf of Members, convey or put forward suggestions and appeals, and help Members solve problems encountered in business activities.

b. Promote the construction of globally trusted trade channels, introduce and report the construction and operation of ports in various countries, provide advisory services to Members on laws and policies concerning ports, trade and economic cooperation of various

countries, and promote the comprehensive cooperation services of e-ports and cross-border logistics in various countries.

c. Strive for the strength of various international organizations to carry out training related to international port implementation and international trade standards, management theory and practice, market operation ability, professional level and qualification, technical skills, etc., to help Members actively respond to market competition.

d. Organize Members to participate in international trade exhibitions, business seminars, negotiation activities and other businesses, and provide market development services and international operation services for Members.

e. Provide Members with opportunities and platforms for communication, negotiation, promotion and publicity, and help Members promote international cooperation and obtain more opportunities for sustainable development.

f. Promote the trade digitization process of developing countries within the framework of the concept of sustainable development of the United Nations.

## **Article III Membership**

6. The number of Members may not be less than three. Type of Members of the organization: Unit Members.

7. Members applying to enter into the WEPO must meet the following conditions:

a. Uphold and abide by the articles of Association.

b. Volunteer to enter the WEPO.

c. Operate according to law, be honest and trustworthy, protect the environment and fulfill

international social responsibilities.

8. Membership procedures:

a. Submit the membership application form.

b. Submit copies of business license, association registration certificate or other certificates with similar functions issued by relevant administrative authorities.

c. It shall be reviewed by institutions authorized by the WEPO, signed and approved by the Secretary-General, and submitted to the Council for discussion and adoption.

d. Membership certificates are issued by institutions authorized by the Council.

9. Members shall own the following rights:

a. Own the right to elect, to be elected and to vote.

b. Give priority to joining the activities organized by the WEPO.

c. Own the priority and preference for the services of the WEPO.

d. Own the right to criticize, suggest and supervise the work of the WEPO. e. Volunteer to enter the WEPO and drop freely.

10. Members shall perform the following obligations:

a. Abide by the articles of Association.

b. Defend the legitimate rights and interests and reputation of the organization.

c. Implement the resolutions and decisions made collectively by the organization. d. Pay membership fees as required.

11. Members shall give written notice of withdrawal and return the membership certificate and other relevant materials which can prove identity. If Members fail to fulfill the obligation of the membership fee for more than one year, it shall be deemed to withdraw from the organization automatically.

12. If Members commit any act in serious violation of the Articles of Association or causes an adverse impact on the reputation of the organization, the Members shall be removed from the list by the affirmative vote of the Council.

## Article IV Structure of the WEPO and Principal

13. There shall be a Member Conference, and a Council.

14. The Member Conference shall be the highest authority body of the organization, which shall:

a. Establish and modify the articles of the Association.

b. Elect and dismiss the Director.

c. Review the Membership Fee Management Measures and establish and modify the membership fee standard.

d. Decide on the work policies, tasks and plans of the organization.

e. Hear the work report and financial report of the Council.

f. Discuss relevant important issues and make resolutions.

g. Decide on termination matters.

h. Decide on other major matters to be collectively decided by the organization's members.

15. There shall be a Member Conference composed of representatives of more than 1/2 Members presenting, which shall meet once every five years. The resolutions shall not take effect until it adopted by more than half of the representatives presenting at the conference.

16. As the enforcement machinery of the Member Conference, the Council leads and carries out daily work in the intervals between meetings of the Member Conference and is responsible to the Member Conference.

17. The functions of the Council are:

a. Implement resolutions of the Member Conference.

b. Elect and dismiss the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary-General.

c. Prepare and convene the Member Conference.

d. Review the financial report, work report and next year's work plan submitted by the Member Conference.

e. Examine the annual budget and final accounts submitted by the Member Conference.

f. Decide on the Financial Management Measures of the organization.

g. Decide on the establishment, alteration and cancellation of the Secretariat, offices,

branches, representative offices and other entities.

h. Decide on the admission and removal of new Members.

i. Under special circumstances, in the intervals between meetings of the Member Conference, the Council decides whether to agree to admit a minority of Directors, and it shall consult the representatives of the Members and submit the list of new Directors to the Member Conference.

j. Decide on appointing the Deputy Secretary-General and the principal of each institution.

k. Lead the work of all institutions of the organization.

1. Formulate the internal management system of the organization.

m. Decide on the agenda or other matters authorized by the Member Conference.

18. There shall be a Council Conference composed of more than two-thirds of Directors presenting, meeting at least once every year. The resolutions shall not take effect until it adopted by more than two-thirds Directors presenting at the conference.

19. The Secretary-General of the WEPO must meet the following conditions:

a. Have great influence in the industry field involved in the business of the organization and be familiar with and love the work of the industry.

b. The maximum working age shall not exceed 70 years old.

c. Healthy and able to work normally.

d. Have total capacity for civil conduct.

20. The term of office of the Secretary-General is five years, and it is renewable.

21. The President shall be the supreme representative of the organization and the convener of the Member Conference. On behalf of the organization, the President in office signs and publishes Member Conference resolutions and relevant important documents.

22. The President is entitled to exercise the following authorities:

a. Convene and handle the Member Conference.

b. Inspect the implementation of the resolutions of the Member Conference. c. Inspect and supervise the annual work plan of the Secretariat.

23. The Secretary-General is entitled to exercise the following authorities:

a. Organize the daily work of the office and the implementation of the annual work plan.

b. Coordinate the work of each branch, representative office and other entities.

c. Nominate Deputy Secretary-General and principal of various agencies, and submit them to the Council for final decision.

d. Decide on the staff employment of administrative offices, branches, representative offices

and other entities.

e. Handle other daily affairs.

## Article V Finance and Asset Management

24. Main sources of funds:

a. Membership fees.

b. Donations.

c. Government funding.

d. Legal fees for activities and services carried out within the approved business scope. e. Other legitimate income.

25. The WEPO shall collect membership fees in accordance with international law, international practice and relevant regulations of the Member States and in accordance with the membership fees standards proposed by the Secretary-General and approved by the Council. The maximum annual membership fee is 15,000 euros per year.

26. The WEPO is a non-profit organization. Its funds shall be used for the business and career development specified in the articles of Association and shall not be distributed among the Members.

27. The WEPO shall conduct independent financial accounting and establish a strict financial management system to ensure that the accounting data are legal, true, accurate and complete.

28. The WEPO shall have or entrust accounting personnel or institutions with professional qualifications to conduct accounting and exercise accounting supervision. When the

accountants transfer or leave, they must go through the transfer procedure with the receiver.

29. The financial management and asset management of the WEPO are carried out in accordance with international law, international practice and relevant systems stipulated by the host country and are subject to the supervision of the Member Conference.

30. No unit or individual may misappropriate and secret distributions of the assets of the organization.

31. The salaries, insurance and welfare of the full-time staff of the organization shall be implemented with reference to the relevant regulations of the country where they work.

## **Article VI Amendments**

32. Any amendment to the Articles of Association shall be submitted to the Member Conference for deliberation after being adopted by the Council. 33. The amendment to the articles of Association shall be submitted to the original registration authority for examination within 15 days after being adopted by the Member Conference.

## Article VII Withdrawal

34. If the organization needs to be disbanded due to its purpose or due to separation, merger and other reasons, the termination motion shall be proposed by the Council.

35. The motion for termination of the organization shall be adopted by the Member Conference and be reported to the registration authority.

36. The organization shall terminate all matters after the registration management department completes the cancellation registration.

37. The remaining assets after the termination of the organization shall be donated to the related cause of the Association under the supervision of the Member Conference.

## **Article VIII Supplementary Provisions**

38. The articles of Association were voted and adopted at the first Member Conference on 6th February 2023.

39. The right to interpret the articles of Association belongs to the Council of the WEPO.

40. The articles of the Association shall take effect from the date of approval by the registration authority.

41. The articles of Association are written in both English and Chinese, which are equally authentic. A translation into the French language shall be made where required by the laws of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In case of divergences between the French and English version, the English version will prevail.