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**LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN  
ON  
NON-GOVERNMENTAL, NON-COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 1. The Purpose of This Law**

The purpose of this Law shall be regulation of the operations of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization as well as international non-governmental, non-commercial organizations, representational offices and the affiliates of foreign non-governmental, non-commercial organizations on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Article 2. Definition of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization established on the voluntary basis of natural and legal persons; shall not pursue gaining income (profits) as the main purpose of its activities, and shall not distribute income (profits) among its participants (members).

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be established to carry out charitable activities; achieve social, cultural and educational goals; satisfy spiritual and other non-material needs; protect rights and lawful interests of natural and legal persons, and; carry out other public benefit purposes.

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**Article 3. Legislation on Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations**

Legislation on non-governmental, non-commercial organizations shall consist of this Law and other legislative acts.

Peculiarities of creation, activities, reorganization, and liquidation of political parties, trade unions, religious organizations, and of some other non-governmental, non-commercial organizations shall be regulated by special laws. If the special laws fail to regulate certain terms in the operation of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations, provisions of this Law shall be applied to them.

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If an international treaty of the Republic of Uzbekistan provides for other rules than those established in the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan on non-governmental, non-commercial organizations, the rules of the international treaty should prevail.

#### Article 4. Relations between Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization and Government Bodies

The state ~~shall observe the rights~~ and lawful interests of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization. The state shall create equal legal opportunities for a non-governmental, non-commercial organization to participate in social life.

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The state can provide support to separate public benefit programs of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations.

Interference of state agencies and their officials in the activities of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization, as well as interference of non-governmental, non-commercial organization in the activities of state agencies and officials, is ~~prohibited~~.

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#### Article 5. International Links of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization

In accordance with this legislation and the ~~organization's charter, a non-~~governmental, non-commercial organization can join international non-governmental, non-commercial organizations; it can also maintain direct international links, and accordingly enter into agreements on cooperation.

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### PART II. LEGAL STATUS OF NON-COMMERCIAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION, ITS RIGHTS AND DUTIES

#### Article 6. Legal Status of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization is a legal entity.

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization is established without limitation on the term of its activities, if otherwise is not provided in its ~~founding documents~~.

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#### Article 7. Rights of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall have the right:

to represent and defend the rights and lawful interests of its members and participants;

to present initiatives on different issues of social life and to introduce proposals to the state authorities and administrative agencies;

to participate in developing the decisions of state authorities and administrative agencies by the order established in governing legislation;

to distribute information about its activities;

to found mass media and carry on publishing activities according to the established procedures;

to establish ownership structures in order to carry out the by-law purposes of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization;

to create its symbols;

to organize meetings, conferences relative to its activities;

to establish affiliations and to open representational offices in compliance with the legislation;

non-governmental, non-commercial organizations also benefit from other rights as provided by law .

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### **Article 8. Duties of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization must:

abide by law;

insure the access to information on the usage of its property and monetary assets;

insure the access to all activities to the authority, which carried out the registration of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization;

submit annual reports about its activities to tax and statistic bodies;

Non-governmental, non-commercial organization bears other duties established by law .

### **Article 9. Affiliations and Representation Offices of Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations.**

A representational office of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization is an independent subdivision located outside the main office, which represents the interests of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization and implements its defense.

An affiliation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization is an independent subdivision located outside its location, carrying out all its functions or their part including the functions of a representation.

Representational offices and affiliates of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations can obtain status of a legal entity from the moment of their governmental registration.

### **Article 10. Legal Organizational Forms of Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations**

Non-governmental, non-commercial organizations can be established in the form of a public association, a public foundation, an institution, and in other forms provided by legislative acts.

In order to coordinate their activities and the representation and defense of their common interests, non-governmental, non-commercial organizations can together establish an association ( union).

#### **Article 11. Public Association**

A public association is recognized as a voluntary association of citizens, who have joined based on their common interests and for the purpose of satisfying their spiritual and other non-material needs.

Members of a public association shall not retain the property rights to assets ~~transferred~~ to the association, including membership fees. Members are not liable for obligations taken by the public association, as well as this association is not liable for personal obligations of its members.

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#### **Article 12. Public Foundation**

A public foundation is recognized as an organization without membership, founded by natural and (or) legal persons on the basis of voluntary property contributions. A public foundation pursues charitable, social, cultural, educational, or other public benefit purposes.

~~Assets transferred to the public foundation by its founders constitute~~ the property of the foundation. Founders shall not be liable for obligations of the foundation they establish, and the foundation shall not be liable for personal obligations of its founders.

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A public foundation shall use its property for the purposes defined in its charter.

A public foundation annually shall publish reports about the use of its property.

### **Article 13. Institution**

An institution is recognized as a non-governmental, non-commercial organization established by natural and (or) legal persons for conducting social and cultural, and other functions of non-commercial nature.

### **Article 14. International Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations**

An international non-governmental, non-commercial shall be considered an international organization, if its activities, according to its charter and the legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan, are carried out on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan and one or more foreign countries.

## **PART III. CREATION, REORGANIZATION, AND LIQUIDATION OF A NON-GOVERNMENTAL, NON-COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATION**

### **Article 15. Creating a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be established by decision of its founders (members) in compliance with the legislation.

Associations or unions of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations can be created on the initiative of two or more non-governmental, non-commercial organizations.

Initiators or founders of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall call a founding assembly (conference) or a general meeting, where the charter is adopted and where the governing bodies are formed.

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization is considered to be established from the date of its registration.

### **Article 16. By-law Documents of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

By-law documents of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be:

charter approved by the founders (members);

"establishing agreement", which forms an association (union), signed by founders,

Requirements stated in organizational documents of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be obligatory for the non-governmental, non-commercial organization itself and its founders and participants (members).

In an "establishing agreement" the parties (founders) commit to creating an association (union) of non-governmental, non-commercial organizations. They shall define the order of joint activities aimed to establish this association (union), the terms of transfer of their property to the association (union), and the terms of their participation in the activities and management of this non-governmental, non-commercial organization, as well as the terms of termination of the membership in it. "Establishing agreement" can also include other terms as agreed by the founders.

### **Article 17. Charter of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A charter of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization must state:

name, goals and purposes of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization,  
its organizational legal form,  
the territory within the limits of which it carries out its activities, its structure and governing bodies of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, and, if necessary, its controlling body (obligatory for social foundations) or obligation to involve auditors (auditing agencies);

authority and the procedure of forming governing bodies, terms of their offices, location of a permanently operating governing body;

terms and procedure of acquiring/ terminating the membership, and rights and duties of members-- for organizations with fixed membership;

sources of forming monetary funds and other property, rights of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, and structure of property management for its subdivisions;

procedure of reorganization and liquidation of the non-governmental, non-

commercial organization;

procedure of introducing changes and amendments into the charter.

charter of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization can also contain description of its symbols.

Charter may also contain any other provisions in relations to activities of non-governmental, non-commercial organization which do not contradict legislation.

#### **Article 18. General Requirements to Founders, Participants (Members) of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Founders, participants (members) of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be a natural person over 18 years of age, as well as legal entities, if otherwise is not stipulated in legislation.

Members of a youth non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be persons over 14 years of age, and members of a children's non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be persons over 10 years of age. Conditions and procedure of acquiring and terminating the membership including conditions of termination of membership due to age of a member, shall be defined in charters of appropriate non-governmental, non-commercial organizations.

The requirement to state one's membership or participation in a non-governmental, non-commercial organization in official documents is prohibited. Participation or non-participation of citizens in non-governmental, non-commercial organizations cannot be considered as grounds for restriction of their rights and freedoms.

Foreign citizens and persons without citizenship equally with citizens of the Republic of Uzbekistan can become founders and participants (members) of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization, except for the cases defined by legislation and international treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

#### **Article 19. Symbols of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization can have a flag, emblem, or a pennant, and other symbols. Symbols of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall not coincide with state symbols.

Symbols of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be subject for approval by its governing body, in accordance with its charter, and they shall also be subject to state registration.



**Article 20. Re-organization of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Reorganization of non-governmental, non-commercial organization may be carried out based on the decision of its highest body in the way of merger, joining, dividing, separating, or modifying.

Re-organization of non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be carried out according to procedure established in legislation.

**PART IV. PROCEDURE FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF NON-COMMERCIAL, NON-GOVERNEMENTAL ORGANIZATION****Article 21. State Registration of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

The state registration of a non-governmental, non-commercial shall be carried out by the body of the Ministry of Justice.

International non-governmental, non-commercial organizations, representational offices and affiliates of foreign non-governmental, non-commercial organizations acting in the Republic of Uzbekistan, and republic, inter-regional non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be registered with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization which activities are expanded to a territory of an oblast, region, city, settlement, a village, or an aul shall be registered with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, oblast and Tashkent City departments of the Ministry of Justice.

A body, which carried out registration of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, shall carry out control so that its activities comply with its by-law purposes.

**Article 22. Documents Required for Registration of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

The following documents shall be presented by a non-governmental, non-commercial organization to be registered:

application signed by members of a managing body of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, which shall stipulate the last name, first name, and

middle name, the year, place of birth, place of residence of each of them;

charter of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization in two copies;

minutes of the founding assembly (conference) or general meeting, which shall contain information; about the creation of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization; about the members; about approval of its charter, and; about the formation of governing bodies and other organs ;

receipt from a bank proving payment of registering fee.

Documents for state registration shall be submitted within two months from the date of a founding assembly (conference) or general meeting, which adopted the decision to register the non-governmental, non-commercial organization.

State registration of affiliations and representational offices of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be held by the appropriate Ministry of Justice bodies, on the basis of documents submitted by a representational office or affiliation, and signed by a central governing body of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, and a notarized copy of the certificate of the state registration of the non-governmental non-commercial organization.

Recording of representational offices or affiliations of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization which does not have status of legal entity, shall be carried out based on the documents presented and approved by the central governing body of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, together with a notarized copy of the certificate of state registration of non-governmental, non-commercial organization.

It is necessary to submit a copy of the certificate of registration of its head organization and the charter translated into the state language in order to register a representational office and affiliations of international non-governmental, non-commercial organization.

### **Article 23. Decision on Governmental Registration of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

The body of the Ministry of Justice (agency) that receives documents for the governmental registration of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization, shall consider and make a governmental decision on registration or refusal to register a non-governmental, non-commercial organization within two months of receipt. Within three days from the moment of making the decision, this agency shall give to the founders a certificate of state registration or the refusal of state registration. A refusal shall contain a list of the laws and the violations, which justified the refusal.

**Article 24. Data Entry of Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations in the Unified State Register**

Non-governmental, non-commercial organizations that passed state registration shall be entered in the Unified State Register of legal entities which shall be open to all public witnesses.

The Unified State Register of legal entities shall contain the following information:

date of foundation;  
appellation and location;  
governing bodies;  
names of persons who are authorized to act as representatives;  
sphere of activities.

**Article 24. Grounds for Refusal to Register a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A refusal to register a non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be given if:

the founding documents of a non-governmental non-commercial organization state purposes of a forced change of the Constitutional system, undermining sovereignty, integrity and safety of the Republic of Uzbekistan, restriction of the constitutional rights and freedoms of citizens; if they propagandize war, social, national, racial and religious enmity; if it encroaches on health and morality of citizens;

not all required documents are submitted for registration, or if they were prepared in a wrong way;

the documents are submitted after two months since the date of adoption of the charter;

there is another non-governmental, non-commercial organization registered under the same name;

violation of established by the law procedure of formation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization, or disparity to the law takes place in its by-law documents;

it is found that the documents filed for registration contains false information knowingly made by the applicants;

name or symbols of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization encroaches on morality, national or religious feelings of citizens;

the by-law documents of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization provides for formation of military units;

State registration of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be refused in other cases when the by-law documents contain provisions contradicting the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan and legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

A refusal to register cannot be based on the moot creation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization.

A refusal to register a non-governmental, non-commercial organization does not bar the re-filing of documents for state registration, on conditions that the reasons caused the refusal were eliminated.

Considering a repeated appeal filed to a registering body of Justice, and making a decision on this appeal shall be done in the order provisioned by this Law.

**Article 26. Appealing against a Refusal to Register a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A refusal to state registration of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization as well as violations in the terms of registration can be appealed against in a court of law.

**Article 27. Re-registration of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Changes and amendments in by-law documents of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be subject for state registration within the same terms as the terms for state registration of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization itself.

In case of re-organization of non-governmental, non-commercial organization into an international non-governmental, non-commercial organization or in its affiliation the re-registration shall be obligatory.

**PART V. ECONOMIC BASIS FOR ACTIVITIES OF NON-COMMERCIAL NON-GOVERNEMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

**Article 28. Property of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization can possess buildings, constructions, living spaces, equipment, inventory, and monetary funds, including those in international currency, securities, and other property.

Property of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization is protected by law.

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be liable for its obligations by its property, to which a claim can be made in compliance with legislative acts.

**Article 29. Sources of Forming a Property of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Sources of forming a property of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be:

initial and regular membership fees, if payment thereof is provisioned in its charter;

regular and lump contributions from the founders, participants (members);

voluntary property contributions and donations;

income (profits) from entrepreneurial activities used only for the bylaw purposes;

other sources, not prohibited by law .

**Article 30. Types of Activities of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization can conduct any type of activities, that does not contradict law, and that complies with the purposes declared in its by-law documents.

Some types of activities can be conducted by a non-governmental, non-commercial organization only on the basis of licenses. The legislation shall define the list of these types of activities.

**Article 31. Entrepreneurial Activities of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization, can carry on entrepreneurial activities within the framework of its by-law purposes in accordance with legislation.

**Article 32. Taxation of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall pay taxes, duties, and other payments to the budget and non-budgetary funds, and shall also benefit from advantages according to the procedure established by the legislation.

**PART VI. CONCLUSION**

**Article 33. Recording and Reporting of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

A non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall keep records of the results of its activities, and it shall submit these reports to statistic and tax bodies according to the established procedure.

**Article 34. Suspension of the Activities of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Activities of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization can be suspended by a court decision in case of violation of the Constitution and legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In the case of a violation by a non-governmental, non-commercial organization of the provisions of this Law, and in the case of committing actions contradicting a non-governmental, non-commercial organization's by-law goals, the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Uzbekistan, or the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall make a recommendation to the governing bodies of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization about the violations, and it shall establish a term within which these violations should be eliminated. If a non-governmental, non-commercial organization fails to eliminate these violations, its activities shall be suspended for the term of up to 6 months by a decision of a Court, on the basis of the recommendation suitable to the bodies of prosecution and justice.

Procedure of suspending the activities of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization in the time of emergency on the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall be established by legislation.

**Article 35. Consequences of Suspension of Activities of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

When activities of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization are suspended for a term established by a court, suspended also shall be rights of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization to be a founder of a mass media. This non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be prohibited from conducting public actions, using its bank deposits, with the except to cover expenses needed for economic activities, labor contracts, damage compensation, when damage was caused by the non-governmental, non-commercial organization's activities, and for payment of fines.

If within the suspension term established by a court, a non-governmental, non-commercial organization eliminates the violations that served the grounds for the suspension of its activities, then after expiration of the suspension term the non-governmental, non-commercial organization can resume its activities. If a non-governmental, non-commercial organization fails to eliminate the cited violations, a body, which has filed a recommendation to a court about suspension of the activities of the non-governmental, non-commercial organization, can file a recommendation about liquidation of this non-governmental, non-commercial organization to a court.

### **Article 36. Liquidation of a Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organization**

Liquidation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be carried out by a decision of its highest body, or by a court decision.

Founders, participants (members) of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization or a body, which took a decision about liquidation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization, shall appoint a liquidation commission on the basis of an agreement with the body of Justice where state registration took place.

Liquidation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization shall be performed in the procedure established by the Civil Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The body of justice, which registered the applying non-governmental, non-commercial organization, shall make a record to the Unified State Register about termination of the activities of this non-governmental, non-commercial organization based on the following documents:

application to enter a record on liquidation of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization into the Unified State Register of legal entities (in case of voluntary liquidation);

decision of an appropriate body about liquidation or termination of the activities of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization;

charter and other by-law documents of a non-governmental, non-commercial organization and a certificate of its state registration;

liquidation bookkeeping balance, or an endorsement, or a division budget.

After the satisfaction of debts of the liquidated organization, the remainder cannot be distributed among the members of the liquidated organization or the members of the governing bodies, staff members. Distribution of the remainder shall be distributed in accordance with the order established in the bylaws of the organization and governing laws.

**Article 37. Responsibility for Violation of Legislation on Non-Governmental, Non-Commercial Organizations**

Persons guilty of violation of the legislation on non-governmental, non-commercial organizations bear responsibility in accordance with the law.