

fair-fish.net association
Zentralstrasse 156 · 8003 Zurich · Switzerland
Tel. 0041 44 586 97 45 · international@fair-fish.net
www.fair-fish.net



Statutes of the fair-fish.net association

Art. 1: Name, headquarters

“fair-fish.net” is the name of an association in accordance with art. 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code. The association’s headquarters is at the residence of the administrative office.

Art. 2: Purpose

The aim of the association is to contribute to the international breakthrough of animal welfare for fish, in particular food fish. At the same time it takes the criteria of sustainability and fair trade into account.

The association is the holder of the *fair-fish* name and brand. It defines the guidelines that authorise the use of the *fair-fish* label.

The association provides information to the public and cooperates with interested experts, marketers and organisations with related objectives, in particular with national *fair-fish* associations.

The association pursues neither profit-making nor self-help purposes.

2.1. The association’s tasks

- Developing guidelines for fishing and fish-farming
- Conclusion of license agreements
- Assignment of certification and control agencies
- Proclamation and protection of the *fair-fish* name and brand within the scope of the means available
- Laying the groundwork, in terms of content, for the activity of fair-fish associations in the context of defined projects, and relieving these associations by taking on individual tasks within the scope of the means available.

Art. 3: Means

The association finances itself from the fees paid by its members, from further gifts and grants, from contributions towards costs for services that it renders for its account and for its benefit, as well as from any possible income from interest.

The financial year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year.

Art. 4: Membership, membership fee, resignation, exclusion

There are three categories of members, one for natural persons and two for juridical persons:

4.1. Individual members (natural persons) include the founding members as well as individual members subsequently admitted by them. A new individual member may be admitted:

- if the majority of members in accordance with 4.1. argue in favor of this, and
- if no member in accordance with 4.1. speaks against this, and
- if the number of individual members does not, as a result, exceed the number of other members.

The annual membership fee of EUR 100 (one hundred euros) is due at the beginning of a new financial year, on July 1, in each case. The founding members are exempt from the duty to pay fees.

4.2. National *fair-fish* associations

One organisation per country can attain the status of a *fair-fish* association. The prerequisites are determined in the licensing agreement for national *fair-fish* associations.

This agreement and thus the inclusion in membership and the right to use the name and trademark *fair-fish* is valid:

- if the majority of members in accordance with 4.1. and 4.2. argue in favour of this, and
- if no member in accordance with 4.1. or 4.2. speaks against this.

The annual membership fee of a national *fair-fish* association is equal to five percent of the sum of the fees paid by its own members, but at least EUR 500,00. It is due at the beginning of the new financial year, on July 1.

4.3. Further organisations

At the request of a member, other organisations may be included in the membership:

- if the majority of members in accordance with 4.1. and 4.2. and 4.3. argue in favor of this, and
- if no member in accordance with 4.1. or 4.2. or 4.3. speaks against this.

The annual membership fee of such organisation is agreed upon jointly, but amounts to at least EUR 500,00. The agreed contribution is to be recorded in the minutes of the general members assembly at which the member is admitted. It is due at the beginning of the new financial year, on July 1.

4.4. Resignation

Every member may resign at the end of a financial year by sending a declaration in writing to the headquarters of the association before April 1.

The obligations entered into during the period of membership remain to be fulfilled.

4.5. Exclusion

A member may be excluded under the following conditions:

- if postal consignments or e-mail messages from the association to the member are returned as undeliverable at least twice;
- if it does not pay its annual membership fee for longer than six months, despite being reminded twice;
- if it acts or behaves against the purpose of the association;
- in addition, a national fair-fish association may be excluded if it no longer fulfills the prerequisites for membership in accordance with the licensing agreement even after it has been reminded once.

The decision to exclude a member is taken by the executive committee, with immediate suspension of the member's voting right and its authorisation to use the *fair-fish* name and brand.

Rejected or expelled members have the right of appeal to the general members assembly, which will decide conclusively.

Art. 5: Voting right

Every member has one vote.

The right to vote and to propose motions in the general meeting presupposes that the membership was applied for before April 1 before the next ordinary general meeting, that it was not rejected or excluded by the board of directors, and that the membership fee for the current financial year has been paid.

Art. 6: Liability

The association's assets are exclusively liable for the liabilities of the association. Any further liability of the members is excluded.

Art. 7: Organs

7.1. the General Members Assembly

- The ordinary general members assembly is convened once a year in the fourth quarter.
- An extraordinary general members assembly is convened at the latest on the 90th day after receipt of a request to this effect made by at least three members. It is convoked by the executive committee at least 30 days in advance.
- Proposals of members will be placed on the agenda if they are substantiated and arrive in writing at the registered office of the association before August 1 before the next ordinary general members assembly, or together with the request for an extraordinary general members assembly.
- Resolutions are valid if at least half of the members have expressed their views.
- Negotiations and resolutions by correspondence (letter, e-mail) are permitted.

7.2. The executive committee

- The executive committee consists of at least three persons who are individual members or have been proposed by a collective member for a period of office.
- It constitutes itself and fulfills all the responsibilities that are not reserved for another organ either by law or by the statutes.
- It determines the annual plan and budget and outlines its work in rules of procedure.
- It instructs and supervises the administrative office.
- It elects a guidelines committee and an advisory board.
- It may issue mandates in the sense of the association's purpose, which shall be adequately compensated.
- The members of the executive committee and the advisory board act in an honorary capacity and are, in principle, only entitled to reimbursement of their effective expenses and cash expenses. For special services rendered by individual members of the executive committee or the advisory board that exceed the normal tasks of a member of the executive committee or the advisory board, the executive committee can pay a fair compensation in accordance with the rules of procedure.
- Resolutions are valid if all the members of the executive committee have expressed their views.
- Deliberations and resolutions by way of correspondence (letter, e-mail) are permitted.

7.3. The audit office is elected by the general members assembly. It supervises the accounts and activities of the association and reports annually to the general members assembly.

Art. 8: Amendments of the statutes, dissolution

Amendments to the statutes and the dissolution of the association require the approval of two thirds of the members' votes cast.

In the case of a dissolution, the executive committee is responsible for the orderly liquidation, in particular for handing over the remaining assets, as well as the groundwork laid and contacts established to a tax-exempt institution that pursues the same or related aims. A distribution of the funds among the members is excluded.

Adopted by the founding members on August 16, 2010, and revised by the general members assembly on February 20, 2014.