



§ 1 – Name and registered Seat of the Association, fiscal year

1. The Association's name is "Bonobo Alive". It shall be entered into the *Vereinsregister* (German Association Register); after registration the Association shall use the addendum "e.V." ("registered association").
2. The Association's registered seat is Leipzig/Saxony.
3. The fiscal year is the calendar year. The first fiscal year is a short fiscal year ending on 31 December 2011.

§ 2 – Purpose, tasks, non-profit status of the Association

1. The Association shall exclusively and directly pursue non-profit aims as defined in the section on tax-privileged purposes of the *Abgabenordnung* (German General Tax Code).
2. The Association's purpose is the promotion of animal welfare. In particular, the Association wants to contribute to the conservation of bonobos (*Pan paniscus*) and their natural habitat in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).
3. The Association's activities comprise specific animal welfare projects, environmental education in schools, information events, the production and distribution of information material and the call to donate for these activities.
4. The Association is working selflessly; it does not pursue in the first place own economical purposes.
5. The funds of the Association must be exclusively used for statutory purposes. Members do not receive benefits from the Association's funds. No person may be favored by way of expenses foreign to the Association's purpose, nor through disproportionately high remuneration.



§ 3 – Acquisition of Membership

1. The Association consists of Full Members and Sponsoring Members.
2. Full Members are actively committed to the objectives of the Association and support them with their work. Sponsoring Members are actively committed to the objectives of the Association and support them with their financial contribution.
3. Only natural persons can become Full Members of the Association.
4. The founders are Full Members of the Association.
5. The Executive Committee decides on the acceptance of further Full Members upon written request.
6. In case of refusal from the Executive Committee which must be formally justified, the applicant may file a complaint. The complaint shall be filed in writing at the Executive Committee within one month after the date of negative notification. The next Ordinary General Meeting will decide on the complaint.
7. Natural and legal persons can become Sponsoring Members. They support the Association through regular financial contributions according to the Contribution Rules. They commit themselves to the objectives of the Association and they commit themselves to prevent anything that could damage the reputation of the Association or prevent the Association from achieving its objectives. They are entitled to get information about the use of funding contributions, but have no voting, election or petition rights.
8. The Executive Committee decides on the acceptance of Sponsoring Members upon written request.
9. Upon the Executive Committee's recommendation, the General Meeting can appoint supporters, who are to be recognized for the special contributions, Honorary Members of the Association for life time.



§ 4 – Termination of membership

1. Membership terminates in case of death, resignation or expulsion.
2. The Executive Committee shall be notified of any such resignation in writing. The resignation from membership can only become effective at the end of a fiscal year, 2 months notice must be given.
3. A Member can be excluded from the Association by a decision by the General Meeting if he/she has culpably and seriously damaged the reputation or interests of the Association or has repeatedly failed to fulfill his/her duties under the Statutes.

The Member is to be given an opportunity to state his/her opinion on the reasons for expulsion to the General Meeting verbally or in writing. He/she is to be informed about the reasons for expulsion at least two weeks in advance.

§ 5 – Rights and duties of the Members

1. Every Member has the right to actively contribute to support the Association and to attend joint events. According to §3, paragraph 7, Sponsoring Members and Full Members have equal rights and duties. However, Sponsoring Members have no voting, election or petition rights.
2. Every Member has the duty to promote the interests of the Association.

§ 6 – Admission fee, membership fee

1. Sponsoring Members are obliged to pay annual membership fees.
2. The Executive Committee decides upon the amount and due dates of the annual membership fee of Sponsoring Members. Admission fees are not imposed. Admission is granted upon the payment of the first annual membership fee.



3. The Executive Committee may fully or partly abate fees if necessary to prevent an undue hardship.

§ 7 – Organs of the Association

1. Organs of the Association are the Executive Committee and the General Meeting.

§ 8 – Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the representation of the Association according to § 26 of the *BGB* (German Civil Code) and for its management. In particular, the Executive Committee has the following duties:
 - a. the convening and preparation of the General Meeting including drafting the agenda,
 - b. the execution of decisions of the General Meeting,
 - c. the administration of the Association's funds and the drawing up of the annual report,
 - d. the admission of new Members.
2. The Executive Committee consists of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman and the Treasurer.
3. The Members of the Executive Committee represent the association and each is authorized as a sole signatory.
4. Members of the Executive Committee are elected individually by the General Meeting for a two years period. Only Full Members of the association can be elected Members of the Executive Committee; Termination of full membership results in the termination of membership of the Executive Committee. Re-election or premature removal of a Member of the Executive Committee by the General Meeting is permitted. A Member of the Executive Committee remains



in office until his/her follower has been elected. If a Member of the Executive Committee is ruled out prematurely, the remaining Members of the Executive Committee have the right to elect a Member of the association to become a Member of the Executive Committee up to the election of a successor to the Executive Committee by the General Meeting.

5. The Executive Committee meets when required. Meetings are to be convened by the Chairman, or in case of his/her disability, by his/her deputy. A period of one week must be given prior to the meeting. The Executive Committee has a quorum when minimum two Members are present. The Executive Committee takes its decision by simple majority of the valid votes cast. In case of a tie, the Chairman casts the deciding vote, in case of his/her disability, the Vice Chairman.
6. The decisions of the Executive Committee shall be recorded as minutes. The minutes shall be signed by the keeper of the minutes as well as the Chairman, in case of his/her disability, by his/her deputy or another Member of the of the Executive Committee.

§ 9 – General Meeting

1. The General Meeting is responsible for deciding on the following issues:
 - a. amendment of the Statutes,
 - b. dissolution of the Association,
 - c. appointment of Honorary Members and the expulsion of Members from the association,
 - d. election and dismissal of the Executive Committee,
 - e. receipt of the annual report and resolution approving the actions of the Executive Committee,



2. An Ordinary General Meeting is to be convened by the Executive Board at least once a year. The meetings are convened in writing at least three weeks prior to the scheduled date by submitting an agenda.
3. The Executive Committee drafts the agenda. Each Member of the Association may apply for an extension of the agenda. Such applications must be filed in writing to the Executive Committee, one week before the General Meeting at the latest. The Executive Committee will decide on the application. The General Assembly will decide by a majority of the present Member votes on proposals to the agenda which have not been accepted by the Executive Committee or which are made in the General Meeting for the first time; this does not apply for proposals which involve an amendment of the Statutes or the dissolution of the Association.
4. The Executive Committee shall convene an extraordinary General Meeting if the interests of the Association require it or the convening of an extraordinary General Meeting is required in writing by $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Members, giving details of the purpose and reasons of the meeting. If circumstances allow, at least two weeks notice of the meeting shall be given and the agenda shall be announced with the invitation.
5. The General Meeting will be directed by the Chairman, in case of his/her disability, by his/her deputy, and by his/her disability by a meeting director to be elected by the General Meeting.
6. The General Meeting shall be quorate without regard to the number of Members attending.
7. The General Meeting takes decisions in general by simple majority of the votes cast; abstentions are regarded as invalid votes. However, changes to the Statutes require a three quarters majority of valid votes cast; dissolution of the Association requires a majority of nine tenths of valid votes cast.
8. A person is elected if he/she receives more than half of the cast valid votes. If nobody has received more than half of the cast valid votes, a ballot takes place between the two candidates who received most of the votes. The



candidate who received most of the voices is then elected. In the event of a tied vote, the lot drawn by the meeting director shall decide.

9. The procedure and the decisions of the General Meeting shall be recorded as minutes. The minutes shall be signed by the keeper of the minutes as well as the meeting director.

§ 10 – Dissolution of the Association, termination for other reasons, cessation of non-profit status

1. In the event of the dissolution of the Association, the Chairman of the Executive Committee and its deputy are together authorized to act as liquidators, in case the General Meeting does not appoint different persons.
2. In case of dissolution of the Association or in case of cessation of its non-profit status, the resources of the Association devolve to the LuiKotale Bonobo Projekt (LKBP) at the Max Planck Society for the Advancement of Sciences which must employ them directly and exclusively for charitable purposes in accordance with the Statutes.
3. The preceding regulations apply accordingly if the Association will be dissolved for another reason or loses its legal capacity.