

#### CONSTITUTION

# 1. Introduction and objects

This is the constitution of Swiss Connection Cape Town (SCCT), based at 7 Bay View Avenue, Tamboerskloof, 8001, Cape Town, South Africa.

# 2. Objects

- To organize and facilitate network meetings between Swiss business people, Non-Profit organisations, charities, other institution and individuals.
- To maintain contact with organisations which furthers the interest of the group with Swiss abroad and other interested parties.
- To support or subscribe to any charitable or other institutions, Clubs, Societies or Funds,
- To invest monies of the SCCT not immediately required for any of its objects in such a manner that may from time to time be determined by the Committee.
- To institute or defend actions at law in the name of the SCCT.
- To foster cordial relations with other Legal Entities, inter alia Organisations, Clubs and Societies in Southern Africa and with the people of the Western Cape.
- To raise funds and receive contributions where appropriate to finance / organize events or its work.
- The income regardless of where it is derived from, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the SCCT.
- No remuneration shall be paid to any member of Committee of the SCCT except the re-payment of out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the SCCT unless authorised by the members in General Meeting.

### 3. Membership

- Membership of SCCT shall be open to anyone who is interested in helping the group to achieve its goal and is willing to abide by the rules of the group.
- Every member shall have one vote at General Meetings.
- The Committee shall have the power to refuse membership to an applicant, where it is considered such membership would be detrimental to the aims, or activities of the group.

Registration and termination of membership

- Any member of the association may resign his/her membership and any representative of a member organisation or section may resign such position, by giving to the secretary of the association written notice to that effect.
- The Committee may, by resolution passed at a meeting thereof, terminate or suspend the
  membership of any member, if in its opinion his/her conduct is prejudicial to the interests and
  objects of the association, PROVIDED THAT the individual member or representative of the
  member organisation (as the case may be) shall have the right to be heard by the Committee
  before the final decision is made. There shall be a right of appeal to an independent arbitrator
  appointed by mutual agreement.
- The Committee may determine a membership fee.
- Any member agrees that their contact details may be shared with other members of the group.



### 4. Management

• SCCT shall be administered by a Management Committee (Committee) of not less than three (3) members and not more than five (5) members elected at the group's Annual General Meeting (General Meeting). Committee Members must be at least 18 years old.

The Officers of the Committee shall be:

- The Chairperson
- The Treasurer / Secretary
- Swiss Consul General or Consul
- and such other officers that the group shall deem necessary at the General Meeting.
- Voting at Committee meetings shall be by show of hands on a majority basis. If there is a tied vote then the chairperson shall have a second vote.
- Power to set up sub-groups and working parties as deemed necessary who shall be accountable
  to the Committee.

#### 5. Finance

- Any money obtained by SCCT shall be used only for the objectives of SCCT.
- Any bank accounts opened for SCCT shall be in the name of SCCT.
- The Committee will ensure that SCCT stays within the budget.

## 6. Committee Meetings

- The Committee shall meet at least once per quarter.
- If agreed by all Officers of the Committee, such Meeting can be held digitally (Skype, Whatsapp, or similar).
- The quorum (minimum number of Officers required) for a meeting shall be two (2).
- The Committee shall be accountable to the members at all times.
- All meetings must be minuted and available to any interested party.
- All Officers shall be given at least seven (7) days' notice of a Meeting unless it is deemed an emergency meeting.

#### 7. Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting shall be held within six months of the close of the financial year of the SCCT of which shall include:

- (i) the receipt of the accounts and balance sheet,
- (ii) the election of Committee Officers.

The quorum for Annual General Meeting shall be at least eight (8) Members of which no more than four (4) shall be Committee Officers.



# 8. Application of surplus

The SCCT shall not trade for profit. Any surplus of the SCCT shall be used as a general reserve for the continuation and development of the SCCT.

#### 9. Alteration of the Constitution

- Proposals for amendments to this constitution, or dissolution must be delivered to the secretary in writing. The secretary in conjunction with all other officers shall then decide on the date of a meeting to discuss such proposals, giving at least four weeks (28 days) clear notice.
- Any changes to this constitution must be agreed by at least two thirds of those members present and voting at any General Meeting.

#### 10. Dissolution

The group may be wound up at any time if agreed by two thirds of those members present and voting at any General Meeting. Any assets shall be returned to their providers, if they require it, or shall be passed to another group with similar aims.

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......(Consul General)