**Statutes for Hiv-Norden/HIV-Nordic**

**Annual meeting 2015**

**§ 1. Denomination and Seat**

The organizations name is Hiv-Norden Samarbetsorgan för de nordiska organisationerna för hivpositiva, or in English HIV-Nordic –The co-operative body of the Nordic organizations for people living with HIV (PLHIV). The seat of HIV-Nordic is decided by the board.

**§ 2. Objectives**

HIV-Nordic is a politically and religiously independent co-operative body of the Nordic organizations for people living with HIV. The objectives of the organization are as follows:

a) Develop collaboration between member organizations.

b) Promote solidarity between people living with HIV.

c) Strengthen the self-esteem of people living with HIV.

d) Counteract discrimination against people living with HIV

e) Increase the knowledge about HIV and of people living with HIV in The Nordic countries.

 f) Support capacity building and collaboration between organizations for People living with HIV on a national and international level.

g) Contribute to no new HIV infections through information and advocacy work.

**§ 3. The members**

The members of HIV-Nordic are the national organizations for people living with HIV in each Nordic country. Board members or member organization can propose new members, but the final decision lies with the Annual Meeting.

**§ 4. Exit**

 The member organizations must notify The Board if they exit HIV-Nordic.

**§ 5. Composition of organization**

HIV-Nordic’s governing body is the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting elects The Board. The Board can establish executive committees among board members. Each member organization are entitled to two board members.

**§ 6. Language**

HIV-Nordics official language is the Nordic languages and English. Meeting documents, Annual reports, and minutes are in English.

**§ 7. The Board**

1. The Board is the governing body between Annual Meetings. The Board is responsible for overseeing that HIV-Nordics operations are done according to statutes and resolutions.

b) The Board is responsible for HIV-Nordics finances.

d) The Board elects chair, vice chair and treasurer among its own members.

e) Board Members are elected for one year.

f) The quorum of the Board is the attendance of half its members and the majority of those are people living with HIV.

g) Decisions are made with simple majority. In case of a tie, the chair has the deciding vote, except election of persons that is decided by a draw. On request election of person can be a ballot vote.

h) The Board is summoned by the chair, or if requested by half of the board members. The board shall meet at least twice a year

i) All Board Members must be summoned to the Board Meetings.

j) Board Members that wish to resign during their elected period have to notify the organization they represent as well as The Board of HIV-Nordic.

k) If a Board Member resign during his/her elected period, he/she should be replaced with another Board Member or observer from the same organization until the next annual meeting.

l) If both Board Members from a national organization resign during their elected period an Additional Annual Meeting shall be called.

m) Board Members that have counteracted the reputation and/or work of HIV-Nordic can be suspended until next Annual Meeting. The Board makes decisions on suspension. Decisions on exclusion from The Board are made by the Annual Meeting. The suspended Board Member has the right to plead his/her case at the Annual Meeting. The Member Organization that the suspended represents has the right to elect a new Board Member to HIV-Nordic for the rest of the period.

n) All Board Meetings shall have written minutes. The minutes must state what issues have been discussed and what resolutions that are made. The minutes are sign by the Meeting Secretary and the Chair.

**§ 8. Working Committee**

a) The Board will establish a working committee consisting of Chair and two board members.

 b) The Working Committee has decision making powers relating to the day-to-day running of the organization.

c) Quorum is established when The Working Committee are present.

d) The Working Committee must keep minutes from their meetings. The Minutes must state what issues have been discussed and what decisions or resolutions are made. The Minutes shall be presented at the board meeting and be attached to the board meeting minutes.

**§ 9. Authorized Signatory**

The Authorized Signatory for the organization is decided by The Board and has to be stated in the Minutes.

**§ 10. Financial year**

HIV-Nordics financial year follows the calendar year

**§ 11. Economy**

1. The Board decides which member organisation that will manage the finances of HIV-Nordic. Funds shall be kept in a separate account.
2. Withdrawal from this account is done after permission from The Board to expenses towards HIV-Nordics activities and expense to accountant.
3. If the Member Organization that manages the finance is dissolved, The Board will move the finances to another member organization. The same will be if the Member Organization decline from the responsibility.
4. The Board is responsible to apply for funding for HIV-Nordics activities.
5. The Board shall keep accounts of incomes and expenses.

 **§ 12. Accounting**

 The financial management is responsible for presenting audited accounts from the previous year one month before the Annual Meeting. The member organizations are provided with the Annual Report and the account report.

Freedoms from liability are decided by HIV-Nordics Annual Meeting.

**§ 13. The Annual Meeting**

1. HIV-Nordics governing body is The Annual Meeting.

b) The Annual Meeting is held yearly at date and location decided by the board. Notice for The Annual Meeting has to be sent out to the member organizations no later than two months prior the meeting.

c) Member organizations can send up to four delegates, where at least one of these have to be part of the sitting board of HIV-Nordic.

d) Member Organizations shall notify The Board of the delegates they are sending and who proposed Board Members are, at least one month prior to The Annual Meeting.

e) At least one of the delegates from each Member Organization has to be a person living with HIV. Only one HIV negative candidate from each member organization can be elected to The Board.

f) The Member Organizations have four votes independent of how many delegates they have, as long as one of the delegates is a person living with HIV. Voting is compulsory. If the Member Organizations only have HIV negative delegates they do note have the right to vote.

g) Suggestions that Member Organizations want The Annual Meeting to address shall be submitted to The Board no later than one month prior to The Annual Meeting. These will be distributed to the Member Organizations for comments prior to the meeting. Response and comments shall be submitted to The Board at least one week prior to The Annual Meeting.

h) The Annual Meeting makes decisions and resolutions with a simple majority. In case of a tie, the chair has the deciding vote, except election of persons that is decided by a draw. On request election of person can be a ballot vote.

i) The Annual Meeting can give anyone the right to attend, speak or submit suggestions at the meeting.

j) Member organizations can send two observers to The Annual Meeting, HIV-Nordic is not covering any expenses for observers.

**§ 14. Agenda for the Annual Meeting.**

The Annual Meeting shall decide on the following issues:

1. Election of a) Chair of the meeting

 b) Minute writer

 c) Two vote counters

2. Approve the notice for The Annual Meeting

3. Determination of the agenda

4. Determination of number of votes

5. Annual report

6. Financial report

7. Auditor’s report

8. Discharge of liability for the board

9. Suggestions from the board

10. Election of board members

11. Election of accountant

12. Information from member organizations

13. Questions from the member organizations

14. Vote on Resolutions

15. Other questions

**§ 15. Additional Annual Meeting**

1. An Additional Annual Meeting shall be held if the Annual Meeting, The Board, or half of the Member Organizations request it.
2. Member organizations should be notified of an Additional Annual Meeting at least two months prior to the meeting, and at the latest one month before. The notice must clearly state the issues on the agenda for the meeting.
3. Only issues stated in the notice can be the agenda at the extraordinary Annual Meeting.
4. The member organizations can elect at least two, or at most four delegates, one of them have to be a member of the HIV-Nordic board.

**§ 16. Statutes**

Suggestions for amendments to the statutes must be sent to The Board three months prior to the Annual Meeting. The proposal must be distributed to member organizations for comments. Comments must be submitted to The Board no later than one month prior to The Annual meeting.

Amendments to the Statutes can only be done at The Annual Meeting and can only be passed by a majority of two thirds of the votes.

**§17. Honorary member**

The Annual Meeting can on suggestion from The Board appoint Honorary Members. This is a person who has contributed especially to the Nordic HIV-field.

**§18. Dissolution**

The decision on dissolution of HIV-Nordic requires a two-third majority at two following Annual Meetings where at least one has to be an ordinary Annual Meeting. There has to be at least three months between the meetings.

If HIV-Nordic is dissolved, its financial assets shall be returned to the contributors, and remaining assets are equally shared between the member organizations or as The Annual Meeting decides.