

## Constitution – Global Greens LGBT+ Network

### 1. Name

The name of the network shall be the Global Greens LGBT+ Network.

### 2. Purpose

The Global Greens LGBT+ Network is a world-wide network of LGBT+ green activists and organisations committed to pursuing and promoting the civil liberties, human rights and democratic freedoms of all lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and sexual and gender diverse (LGBT+) people, affiliated to the Global Greens.

### 3. Aims

The aims of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network shall be to:

- promote and facilitate the involvement of LGBT+ people in the Global Greens;
- assist and encourage members to become involved and engaged in LGBT+ rights and issues;
- advocate in the interests of LGBT+ people within the Global Greens and across the broader global community, and generate awareness of the issues facing LGBT+ people and their families across the globe;
- contribute to and promote the LGBT+ policies of the Global Greens and its Member Organisations;
- propose, coordinate and promote LGBT+ rights campaigns and participate in LGBT+ cultural events in collaboration with the Global Greens and its Member Organisations;
- develop connections with Member Organisations to ensure networking and communication, to stay aware of issues, and to encourage global participation in relevant local campaigns; and
- raise funds on its own behalf or for the Global Greens to promote the network's aims.

### 4. Membership

*Individual membership* of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network shall be open to any member of a Member Organisation who identifies as LGBT+ and has a commitment to sexual and gender equality.

*Organisational membership* of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network shall be open to any network, working group or wing of a Member Organisation that clearly defines itself as LGBT+ and has a commitment to sexual and gender equality. Organisational members should have terms of reference that clearly identify the group as a Member Organisation's LGBT+ network.

LGBT+ allies are welcome to participate in the Global Greens LGBT+ Network but may not vote. Check consensus with the officers/elected members.

The usual method of joining will be via the Global Greens LGBT+ Network webpage. The Steering Committee decides on requests for new membership and carries out an audit of all organisational members between Congresses.

### 5. Organisational Structure

#### 5.1 The Congress

The Congress is the highest decision-making body of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network and meets in conjunction with the Global Greens Congress. The Congress decides in particular about:

- the broad political guidelines and basic documents of the network;
- the appointment and discharge of the Steering Committee;
- the main activities and work programme;
- common campaigns that carry the network's logo; and
- the approval of the network's previous years budgets and future budget.

A quorum for a meeting of Congress shall consist of a minimum of 10 voting members.

#### 5.2 The Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is the second highest decision-making body. It steers the network and is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network. It takes decisions in between the Congresses in order to carry out the decisions of the Congress, including:

- facilitating interaction between members and issuing political statements on behalf of the network after appropriate consultation with members;
- communicating with the Global Greens and its Secretary;
- taking financial decisions and managing financial obligations, including approving an annual budget within the framework set by the Congress;
- developing and publishing an annual report of its activities and decisions of the last year and a plan of activities for the coming year following discussion with members; and
- deciding on the acceptance and suspension of members.

The Steering Committee shall comprise the following core roles elected by all members at each Congress:

- Coordinator(s)
- Secretary
- Treasurer

In addition there shall be regional representatives elected by members in the region at each Congress:

- African Liaison
- American Liaison
- Asian-Pacific Liaison
- European Liaison

The network may elect co-office bearers. In the event that the network elects to have co-office bearers, it is desirable that at least one of these hold office as a woman. Other non-portfolio posts may be created by the Steering Committee as necessary.

If a member of the Steering Committee needs to be replaced before the next Congress, an election shall be held by online ballot of relevant members.

Meetings and decision-making of the Steering Committee may be called as required and may take place by telephone, video, or online conference. Any decisions made by meetings of the Steering Committee shall be minuted and circulated to the network by email. Regional representatives may appoint a member from that region as a proxy for a meeting/s they are unable to attend. A quorum for a meeting of the Steering Committee shall be four.

### **5.3 The Working Groups**

The Congress or Steering Committee can form further bodies in order to carry out specific tasks, such as an organisational committee to carry out administrative tasks or preparation teams for major activities. These shall be known as working groups.

## **6 Decision-making Principles**

At meetings of the Global Greens LGBT+ Network, every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. In the absence of consensus, decisions shall be made by a two thirds majority vote. Contentious or tied issues may be decided by a poll of all Global Greens LGBT+ Network members. Only individual members and delegates from organisational members can vote.