

# **Bye-laws for The More and Better Network**

(Approved at the General Meeting on June 20th 2012))

## **Article 1: The name of the organization**

The name of the organization is More and Better Network  
The organization was founded in 2003

## **Article 2: The objectives of the organization**

More and Better support and promote the human right to adequate food and food sovereignty. The organization is established to achieve vital changes in national and international policies geared towards:

- the eradication of hunger, malnutrition and poverty,
- a major increase in support for small scale / family agriculture, fisheries and rural development in developing countries,
- significant improvement in the quality of support for agriculture, rural development and food,
- an agricultural transition into a viable and sustainable future
- to share the best practices on and policies for agro ecological and other forms of sustainable food production systems
- to support and strengthen the joint lobby and advocacy capacities of the members of the network

The organization works on the base of the decisions taken by the General meeting.

## **Article 3: Type of organization**

The organization is a non-profit, autonomous, international civil society organization.

## **Article 4: Members**

All local, national, regional and international non-profit civil society organizations, which agree on the objective of the organization and the common principles (attached), respect the constitution and decisions by the General meeting, can become members of the organization. New members must be accepted by the International coordination committee. A report about new members and members which have withdrawn their membership shall be presented for the General meeting as a part of the report of activities since the previous General meeting.

## **Article 5: General meeting**

The General meeting is held biannually (2012, 2014...) and is the highest decision making body in the organization. The following issues must be in the agenda for the General meeting.

1. Constitution of the meeting (a, Approval of the call for the meeting, b. approval of the delegates with voting rights, c. election of chair and secretary for the meeting)
2. Report of the activities since the previous General meeting
3. Accounts from the previous two years.
4. Plans and budget for the coming two years
5. Election of international coordinator(s) and other members of the international coordination committee of total 9-15 members with representatives from Asia, Africa, South.America, North America and Europe. At least 50 % of the members must be women.
6. Issues brought up by the members or the coordinating committee within the deadlines.

The call for the General meeting must be sent out by the international coordination committee to the members not less than 12 weeks before the meeting. Proposals for issues to be on the agenda for the meeting must be sent to the International coordination committee not later than 6 weeks before the General meeting. The final proposal for the agenda and proposals for decisions must send out by the international coordinating committee to the members not later than 4 weeks before the General meeting.

## **Article 6: Voting rights**

All members of the organization has one vote at the General meeting.

**Article 7: The International coordinating committee**

The International coordinating committee is the highest body between the General meetings. It must follow up and implement the decisions by the General meetings.

**Article 8: Secretariat**

The organization has an international secretariat which works under the leadership, control and guidance of the International coordination committee and the international coordinator(s). The International coordination committee can establish regional secretariats or staff regional members of the international secretariat.

**Article 9: Membership fees**

There is no obligatory membership fee. All members are encouraged to contribute with financial and human resources based on their ability to do so.

**Article 10: Extraordinary General meeting**

Extraordinary General meeting can be called by the International Coordination committee. Extraordinary General meeting must be called by the International Coordinating committee if at least 20 members representing at least three continents ask for it.

**Article 11: Changes of the constitution**

This constitution has been agreed by the majority of the delegates at the General meeting in June 2012. Changes in the constitutions can only be made with a 2/3 majority of the casted votes.

**Article 12: Closing down the organization**

A decision to close down the organization can only be taken by a regular General meeting. If at least 2/3 of the representatives with voting rights at the General meeting approve that the organization should close down, an extraordinary General meeting must be held 3 months later for the final handling of the proposal to close down the organization. To close down the organization there must be a 2/3 majority of the delegates with voting rights both at the ordinary and extraordinary General meeting.