Pursuant to Article 104 of the Law on Associations and Foundations 2010 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia No.52/2010) and the Assembly of the Association of Citizens **"AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje,** at the session held on 31.07.2015 adopted the following:

STATUTE

of the Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje,

BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

- This Statute regulates the following:
- The name and the registered address of the association of citizens;
- The goals and objectives of the association of citizens, the forms and the manner of acting;
- The bodies, the manner in which they are elected, their respective rights and obligations and their mutual relations;
- The duration of the mandate of the bodies and the manner in which their members are making the decisions;
- Acquisition of and management with assets;
- Ensuring publicity in the operations;
- Setting of conditions for establishment of branches (organizational units);
- The conditions and manners of membership of citizens and their exclusion from the membership of the Association;
- Advocacy and presenting in the legal doings and towards third parties;
- Termination of the association of citizens;
- Dealing with the assets of the association of citizens in a case of ceasing of the association;
- Other issues established by Law.

Article 2

The Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje, is a voluntary, non-governmental, non-political party and non-profit organization that is active on national level in Macedonia, established through free association of the citizens.
The vision of the organization is successful democratic progress of people and communities.
The overall objective of AGORA is development of the democratic society by advancing the

local communities and the civic sector, by undertaking activities for empowerment of gender equality, interethnic relations and the economic development in Macedonia and beyond. In the course of its work, the Association can cooperate with organizations, associations, foundations and institutions, and can be a member of associations in Macedonia and abroad, in accordance with this Statute, the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Macedonia.

NAME AND REGISTERED ADDRESS

Article 3

The name of the Association is: Association of Citizens **"AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje.** The abbreviated name of the Association is: **AGORA.** The registered address of the Association is: Pirinska Street 45-2/13, 1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia**.**

Article 4

The Association has stamp and seal in Cyrillic letters, with round shape that reads the following text: **Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje,** and the logo of the Association is shown in the middle. The Association also has its rectangular stamp, with Cyrillic inscription which reads: **Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje**, the number and a blank space for entering reference number and a date.

Article 5

The Association has a status of legal entity, with respective rights, obligations and responsibilities in accordance with this Statute and the Law.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Article 6

The citizens are associated in the Association for the purpose of meeting of a wider common interest. The mission of the Association is strengthening of all stakeholders in society and promotion of processes that lead towards development of the democratic society. The Association implements the following objectives and activities:

- Promotion of gender equality through research, advocacy and activities for introduction of the gender equality principle in all areas of activity,
- Promotion of participatory decision making methods in institutions and organizations on all levels,
- Support to the local economic development through trainings, networking and

technical assistance,
- Promotion of progressive ideas and skills related to the implementation of the main objectives and tasks of the Association,
- Development of significant network of professional and business contacts among all stakeholders active in areas also covered by the Organization.

Article 7

The Association can adopt a decision for establishment of joint stock company, limited liability company or other forms, in accordance with the Law on Companies of the Republic of Macedonia. The Association works on the basis of operational plan and program.

Article 8

The Association carries out its activities through the established Operational Program i.e. through the following activities:
- Organizing of specific program activities;
- Implementation of joint projects;
- Organizing of conferences, seminars, events, trainings and other types of activities;
- Stimulation of initiatives among the relevant bodies and institutions in order to meet the objectives of the Association;
- Does other activities in accordance with this Statute.

BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 9

The bodies of the Association are:

- **The Assembly**
- **The President, and**
- **Professional staff**

ASSEMBLY

Article 10

The Assembly is the highest body of the Association. The Assembly consists of all members of the Association. The Assembly has the power to make decisions if more than half of the total members are present. The decisions are valid if they are accepted by the majority of the present members. The President of the Association convenes a session of the Assembly. Session of the Assembly can also be convened if proposed by 1/5 of the total number of Assembly members. The Assembly can be regular and extraordinary. The regular Assembly takes place every year.

The Assembly:

- Adopts rules and procedures for its work;
- Adopts the Statute and the changes and amendments thereof, including other acts;
- Adopts annual report, guidelines and operational plan;
- Adopts the final account and the financial plan;
- Decides on change of the objectives of the Association;
- Decides on establishment and abolishment of branches and other forms of association;
- Elects executive body;
- Adopts the Program and the Operational Report;
- Adopts decision for ceasing of the Association;
- Does other activities in accordance with the Statute and other acts;
- Extraordinary Assembly can be convened if requested by at least 2/3 of the total number of members.

The Assembly elects and dismisses the President of the Association with minimum 2/3 vote. The mandate of the President is four years, with possibility of re-election. The Assembly can also use electronic means to adopt urgent decisions related to its area of work. In order to ensure smooth and efficient implementation of the activities of AGORA, the Assembly can adopt a decision for electronic voting (email voting). This electronic voting can be used in situations when it is necessary to adopt quick decision and/ or when the session of the Assembly does not have the quorum for decision making. The electronic voting is implemented so that the President invites all members of the AGORA, via email, to speak up about the decisions that are supposed to be adopted, within a particular time limit, which cannot be less than five working days. Immediately after the deadline, the President will notify the AGORA members via email about the results of the electronic vote. Email voting shall have the same legal power and shall be considered binding as voting that took place on a regular session of the Assembly of AGORA.

Article 9

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

The President if executive body of the Assembly. He/ she is elected by the Assembly upon proposal by the members. The mandate of the President is four years, with possibility of re-election.

Article 10

The President does the following activities:

- Prepares the sessions of the Assembly;

- Prepares the draft text of the Statute and other decisions supposed to be adopted by the Assembly;
- Implements the policy, the conclusions and decisions adopted by the Assembly;
- Can establish professional staff and control its work;
- Manages and is accountable for the management with the Association's assets;
- Prepares annual or periodical report about his/ her work;
- Does other activities.

The President is accountable to the Assembly for all issues he/ she has the mandate for, in accordance with this Statute and other acts adopted by the Assembly.

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Article 11

A professional staff is established in the Association for the purpose of performing of the administrative, professional, auxiliary and similar activities of common interest for implementation of the objectives and tasks of the Association.

Article 12

The rights, duties and responsibilities of the professional staff of the Association – Program Coordinators – are established by the Chief Coordinator of the Program who in the same time acts as a manager of the professional staff of the Association.

Article 13

The Chief Coordinator of the Program is also a Coordinator of the Association. He/ she can be employed, same as the other coordinators with all rights, obligations and responsibilities that derive from the Labor Code, the Statute and acts of the Association.

Article 14

Chief Coordinator and the Coordinator/s of Program/s can be person with minimum five years of working experience in local and international non-governmental organizations. It is desirable for this person to have higher education, knowledge in foreign language and computer skills, projects writing and management, and a high level of knowledge of the area in which the Association is active, including excellent organizational and managerial abilities and qualities.

Article 15

The professional staff members cannot be elected as members of the executive bodies of the Association.

Article 16

The Chief Coordinator of a Program is responsible for implementation of the financial plan. He/ she also takes care of implementation of the decisions and conclusions adopted by the Assembly of the Association. The Chief Coordinator and the program coordinators are accountable for their work to the Assembly of the Association.

Article 17

The funds required for operation of the professional staff and the coordinators of programs are determined by the annual financial plan. This includes funds for salaries, overheads and other funds required for operation of the Association.

MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Article 18

The work of the Association is public. The Association operates on the territory of the Republic of Macedonia and cooperates with similar organizations, associations and companies in Macedonia and abroad.

Article 19

In the realization of its goals and objectives, the Association, in accordance with the Law, also takes care for implementation of the objectives set through its bodies and founders.

Article 20

Requirements for membership in the Association: A member of the **Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje** can be any person over 18 years of age, Macedonian national and/ or foreigner, who voluntarily accedes to the Association by signing a written statement. A juvenile person (at minimum 14 years of age) can become member of the Association with signing of a Statement of Consent by his/ her legal custodian, in accordance with a Law. A person becomes member of the Association by signing a Statement of Admission. This Statement must be returned, with signing of personal written statement, in a case of exclusion or termination of the membership in the Association.

Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje does registry of its members which is updated once a year. The data in this registry are classified in accordance with the rules that apply for personal data protection and classified information.

TERMINATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Article 21

Membership in the Association ceases:

- On voluntary basis;
- With exclusion;
- In case of death.

The termination of the membership is solely decided by the Assembly of the Association.

The Assembly adopts a special decision which excludes the member, if the member:

- Does not adhere to the Statute or Operational Program, or if he/ she, in the course of his/ her work and behavior damages the reputation of the Association;
- Does not respect the decision of the Assembly.

RIGHTS, OBLGIATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS

Article 22

The members of the Association have the right to:

- Participate in the work of the Association;
- Elect and be elected in the bodies of the Association.

Each member of the Association has the duty to comply to the Statute and the Operational Program, and to contribute with his/ her work towards betterment of the reputation of the Association.

TRANSPARENCY IN THE WORK

Article 23

The work of the **Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje** is public. The transparency in the operation is ensured through regular reporting (to the members, other associations or the wider public) about the operations and activities of the Association, with insight in the implementation of the program tasks, with submission of operational reports to the bodies of the Association, on the material and financial operations, etc. All available media are used for informing of the members and the wider public (press, radio, TV, Internet, social networks, etc.).

SOURCES OF FUNDING

Article 24

The Association generates income from:

- Membership fees,
- Donations and voluntary giving,
- State and local administration budgets,
- Provision of services to other associations, organizations and institutions

- Fees from bodies, organizations,
- Communities and from other institutions,
- Companies and other legal entities;
- Other services (property rights and similar),
- From other sources foreseen in the Law and the Statute

The President manages the funds of the Association. At the end of each year, he/ she submits Financial Report to the Assembly. The manner of use of the Association's funds is regulated with special act, in accordance with the legislation.

Article 25

The funds shall be used for implementation of the objectives and the Program of the Association. The bodies of the Association decide on the use of the funds, in accordance with their mandate vested in them with this Statute. They implement measures for bona fide and comprehensive use of the funds as well as for prevention and remedying of the irregularities.

Article 26

The Association of Citizens "AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje adopts annual financial plan on the revenues and expenditures of the Association. The financial plan includes the revenues acquired in accordance with Article 17 of the Statute, including the expenditures for the activities, staff salaries, running expenses, costs for work of the Association and other expenditures related to the work of the Association. The financial plan can be changed at any time.

ADVOCACY AND REPRESENTATION

Article 27

The Association is represented by the President of the Association. In the case of his/ her absence, this role is carried out by a member of the Assembly, in accordance with this Statute. The President decides on the employment and termination of employment, following recommendation by a special committee established for that purpose.

MANNER OF ASSOCIATION AND MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASSOCIATION

Article 28

The Association can associate into higher forms of association with same or similar organizations and associations, thus establishing special associations. The Association can also accede to particular associations both in Macedonia and abroad. The decision for acceding or associating, including a decision for membership, is adopted by the Assembly.

CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS OF THE STATUTE

Article 29

The changes and amendments of the Statute can be done in the same way and with the same procedure as the ones that apply for adoption of this Statute, with prior written proposal by the Presidency or by at least 2/3 of the founders of the Association.

INTERPRETATION OF THE STATUTE

Article 30

The Assembly of the Association interprets the Statute and the internal acts. All internal acts to be adopted by the Association must conform to the Statute.

TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 31

The Association shall terminate its operation in the following cases:

- If such decision is made by 2/3 of the members of the Association's Assembly;
- If the number of the members falls below the number determined by the Law on Establishment of Association;
- If reasons established in Article 63 of the Law on Associations and Foundations occur.

The Assembly adopts the decision for termination of the Association with two-third majority.

The founders of the Association have the right to terminate the Association.

MANAGEMENT WITH THE ASSETS IN THE CASE OF TERMINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 32

In the case of termination of the Association, the assets shall be donated to other associations of citizens.

Article 33

This Statute enters into force on the day of its adoption - 31.07.2015.

Done in Skopje, 31.07.2015.

President of the Association **"AGORA – Center for Promotion of Civic Values" Skopje**
Kristina Hadji-Vasileva