



DANUBE CHAMBERS OF
COMMERCE ASSOCIATION
(DCCA)
Statute

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1) Name of the Organization

Danube Chambers of Commerce Association (DCCA)

2) Purpose of the Organization

The purpose of the DCCA is to develop sustainable competitiveness of the economies connected by the River Danube. In this respect the DCCA shall discharge the function of promotion of industrial and commercial activities aiming at economic and environmental development of the Danube Region.

To attain the above the DCCA shall:

- a) Support and assist the members in carrying out their duties and tasks with emphasis on:
 - implementation of business contacts service for cooperation,
 - development and improvement of the Chambers' organization,
 - permanent exchange of experience and information.

- b) Launch initiatives and cooperate with governments and organizations in solving economic problems with a special attention to:
 - development of business infrastructure
 - development of transport and communication system
 - development of human resources, especially in the field of economics, and-environmental development.

3) Members of the Organization and membership requirements

Any Chamber of Commerce in the Danube Region may become a member of the DCCA.

The DCCA founding members shall be the Chambers of Commerce whose representatives participated in the DCCA Founding Conference in Hungary on the 30th of June 2010 and declared their will to enter the DCCA and signed the present Statute or chambers who expressed their binding intention of joining up to the above mentioned date in a written legally binding letter of intent.

4) Headquarter of the Organization

The headquarter of the Organization at its establishment is the seat of the Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), where the guestor is obliged to provide basics for the proper functioning of DCCA in terms of technical, logistical conditions. The Headquarter is physically located at H-1016, Budapest Krisztina körút 99. Hungary, at this document's signing date. The General Assembly might decide about subsequent transfer of the headquarters.

5) The Organization's official language

According to the European Union directives the Organization's official languages corresponds to the participating chambers' official languages depending on the nationality of registration.

The Organization's working language shall be English in which documents are produced, and negotiations are conducted.

Members of the Organization are free to translate the English documents and correspondence at any time to their own official language. Costs shall be covered by their respective budget. The Organization focuses on minimizing costs of start-up activities, therefore translations or interpretations from English to any other language will not be financed from the DCCA budget.

6) The Organization's corporate, decision-making bodies

The Organization embraced the principle of bottom-up, loose legal cooperation of members, consequently the Organization delegates the decision making authority concerning long-term, strategic issues to the domain of the General Assembly consisting of the member chambers representatives.

All chambers with membership are entitled to nominate two delegates to the Assembly, the act of appointment being their sovereign decision based on their respective internal competence.

The General Assembly has the exclusive competence of decision making in the following fields of competence:

- Adopting the annual budget
- Accepting the budget report for the previous year
- Hearing the reports of the senior officers
- Electing the Organization's Vice-Presidents
- Adoption of the Statutes, amendments of the text
- Adoption and amendment (if any) of the Organizational and Operational Rules

- Adoption of annual work plan

The General Assembly meets once a year. Members appoint the chamber responsible for organizing the given year's meeting on a rotational basis, according to the Danube's flowing direction. The appointed Chamber is responsible for organizing, and bearing the costs arising out of the Assembly's meeting with the exception of the delegations travelling expenses and accommodation costs which shall be borne by the delegating chambers. Eventual costs of third-party professional lecturers can be financed from the Organization's budget following the approval of preliminary e-mail voting by members.

Decisions of the General Assembly are made by a simple majority of votes, in case of tied voting, the President has the casting vote.

The General Assembly is convened annually by the President, during the period between May 31 and 30 June by default, or it shall be convened, if at least 10 members (representing three different countries) express their intention for an extraordinary convention, giving their reasons in writing.

At the General Assembly, each chamber has one vote.

The President may in urgent cases, prescribe electronic voting, in the form of e-mails. The Organization's website shall be established in a manner ensuring full-scale legal safety for the conducting of voting by e-mail.

7) The Organization's governing bodies

In order to ensure the Organization's continuous operation, the General Assembly elects and confirms annually a Management Board consisting of the following officials:

- President
- Two Vice President
- Secretary General
- Delegates with the mandate of the Regional Chambers

The Management Board convened by the President, or it shall be convened, if at least 3 members (representing three different countries) express their intention for an extraordinary convention, giving their reasons in writing.

The Management Board meets in the Organization's headquarters, the resulting participation costs of the officials must be covered from the Organization's own budget or, in case of lack of funds it must be charged against the members additional payments of funds.

The proposed Agenda for the Management Board's meetings shall be sent by the Secretary-General in writing to the Board members three weeks prior to the meeting date.

Each Board member has one vote. The Chairperson shall have a casting vote. The Management Board shall define during the first Board meeting the own procedural rules in writing. The President shall submit the procedural rules to the General Assembly, following the first Board meeting, for approval.

The Management Board has the exclusive competence of decision about the affiliation of new members in all other questions it shall conduct only preliminary negotiations supporting decision making in respect of matters belonging to the General Assembly' exclusive competence and the Board can not make any decisions in such cases, even if the Board's approval is stipulated.

8) The President of the Organization

The Organization's President shall be the President of the guestor Chamber, who is entitled – upon the mandate from the General Assembly and the Management Board- to independently and unrestrictedly represent the Organization in front of any third party, in particular the European Union and its bodies and organizations, its managing authorities in the Danube Region relevant for the EU Strategy, national governments participating in the program, and national tendering authorities. The President undertakes his tasks in the framework of social work.

9) The Vice-Presidents of the Organization

The Vice-Presidents are elected by the General Assembly from among its members for a period of two years. Vice-Presidents can be re-elected without restriction.

Vice-Presidents are members of the Management Board and represent the Organization upon the mandate from the Management Board and the General Assembly and substitute the President where appropriate. The President is entitled to delegate tasks from his competence to the Vice-Presidents.

The Vice-Presidents undertake their tasks in the framework of social work.

10) The Organization's executive body

The Organization's daily operational tasks being of professional, secretarial services (back office) functions shall be undertaken by the guestor chamber's professional staff being covered by the chamber's own budget.

The costs however do not include travel expenses of a chamber's staff member en lieu of the achievement of the Organization's objectives. These costs must be approved in

advance by the Management Board since those are to be paid by the Organization. The apparatus is directly supervised by the Secretary-General.

11) The Secretary-General

The Organization's Secretary-General is the Administrative Head of the guestor chamber, who is obliged to perform the tasks specified above.

The Secretary-General shall be entitled to undertake all the necessary operational measures, represent the Organization to third parties in an unrestricted and autonomous manner and to make valid legal statements in order to implement the decisions of the Management Board and the General Assembly. The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly.

The Secretary-General shall carry out his activities in the framework of social work.

12) Delegates with the mandate of the Regional Chambers

The chambers of all the states participating in the Organization shall appoint one Delegate with the mandate of the regional Chambers, for a period of two years. Federal states shall appoint a number of delegates in accordance with the number of federal units represented in the organization. This does not include the chambers of the state delegating the President and the Vice Presidents of the Organization. The delegates with mandate of the Regional Chambers are members of the Management Board with one vote per delegate. The Delegates shall have no duties other than participating and exercising their right to vote in the meetings of the Management Board.

13) The management of the Organization

Revenues of the Organization derive either from membership fees paid, or funds resulting from awarded tenders submitted by freelance consultants or by the Organization's professional tendering staff. In order to maintain its operations, the Organization may use any financial donations or in-kind contributions coming from independent companies, individuals, non-profit Organizations, government agencies, government institutions having a legal relationship with the Organization's any members. The Organization may accept donations from political parties and their Organizations and institutions upon the authorization of the Management Board. The annual budget which must be submitted by the Secretary-General and adopted by the General Assembly forms the baseline for the Organizations management.

14) Modalities of paying the Organization's membership fee

The annual membership fee is determined by the General Assembly. Membership fees must be paid by transfer within 15 days following the resolution by the General Assembly to the Organization's membership fee account, over which the Secretary has power to dispose. Invoices about the membership fees of the Organization shall be issued always by the respective guestor unless decided otherwise by the General Assembly.

Any member who fails to pay membership fees during the period between two meetings of the General Assembly can be excluded from among the members of the Organization, without justification. This rule is valid also in case of extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly.

15) The Organization's management control

The General Assembly shall elect annually a controlling committee consisting of three officers, from among its members. The Secretary General shall submit the budget and the report about the budget implementation report to the controlling committee 30 days prior to the General Assembly ordinary meeting, adopting the annual budget. The controlling committee shall elect a spokesperson during the meeting of the General Assembly, who reports to the delegates, both orally and in writing about the committee's observations and views concerning the Organization's management.

16) Liquidation of the Organization

In case of the General Assembly making a motion to liquidate the DCCA, the General Assembly shall appoint a Liquidation Commission to formulate conclusions regarding all matters pertaining to the liquidation of the DCCA.

17) Addendum to the organizational and operational regulations

The General Assembly have the right to supplement the organizational and operational regulations, however the option of amending basic provisions is suspended for the period of 4 years until 31 December 2014 by the Members signing this document, thereby further strengthening the Organization's operational continuity.

The founders of the Organization hereby confirm that they have read, understood, discussed the Statute and after incorporation of their proposals as the same being the full expression of their respective wills, the Parties have signed this document.

Budapest, 10 September 2010.

Signatures:

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Mr. Milan Janković
Belgrade Chamber of Commerce

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Mr. Mihai Andritoiu
Bucharest Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Mr. Kristóf Szatmáry
Budapest Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Mr. Antal Mihalicz
Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Győr-Moson-Sopron

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Ms. Dr. Eva Hahn

Lower Austria Chamber of Commerce and Industry

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Mr. Dragan Lukač

Regional Chamber of Commerce Novi Sad

.....

Ms. Katarina Pekanov

Osijek County Chamber, Chamber of Commerce of Croatia

.....

Mr. Peter Sonnleitner

Chamber of Commerce and Industry for Lower Bavaria in Passau

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Mr. Dr. István Kéri

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Pécs-Baranya

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Ms. Menuta Iovescu

Timisoara Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture

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Mr. Otto Salze

Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ulm

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Mr. Walter Bremberger

Upper Austrian Chamber of Commerce

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Ms. Dr. Gabriele Führer

Vienna Chamber of Commerce