

In accordance with Article 12 of the Law on Associations (*“Official Gazette of RS”*, nos. 51/09 and 99/11) and Article 14 paragraph 8 (2) of valid Statute, Assembly of association on 30. September 2021. in Belgrade, adopts the following:

STATUTE

Of the Association

„Renewables and Environmental Regulatory Institute“

- clean version -

Achievement of Objectives

Article 1

Renewables and Environmental Regulatory Institute (hereinafter: **“Association”**) is a voluntary, non-governmental, non-political and non-profit association, established for an indefinite period of time, aiming to achieve objectives in the area of promotion and improvement of right to healthy and preserved environment, sustainable management of natural and renewable energy resources.

Objectives of Association

Article 2

Objectives of Association are:

- improvement and strengthening of institutional mechanisms for enforcement of rights to healthy and preserved environment, protection of human rights, rights to development and access to justice in environmental matters;
- support to adoption and apply of legal standards of EU, United Nation and other relevant international institutions in the area of sustainable development, protection and improvement of environment, sustainable development of natural resources and renewables;
- promotion of energy transition and low-carbon economy, support actions against climate change and strengthening local communities resilience to climate change;
- promotion of law enforcement in the area of environment and renewable energy in domestic legal system, court and legal practice, including domestic legal framework – existing one, comparative law and international treaties, especially from the EU and member countries;
- educating and informing interested public (civil society, citizens, public authorities at central and local level, judiciary authorities and legal experts) and awareness raising concerning importance of environmental protection, promotion of renewable energy and information on legal possibilities available in order to achieve these objectives;
- improvement of public policies and support to the transparent, participative and accountable decision-making in the area of environmental protection and preservation, renewable energy and management of natural resources;
- support to development and improvement of respective kind of legal practice in Serbia, through cooperation with other associations and public authorities.

Key Activities

Article 3

In order to achieve its objectives, the Association will particularly:

- 1) organize trainings, courses, seminars and workshops and other public and professional meetings;
- 2) prepare analyses and policy papers, conduct regulatory analysis and evaluations, publish bulletins, manuals and professional publications of all types and volumes;
- 3) support education and professional development of members and interested public;
- 4) participate in projects aimed at achieving of objectives referred to in Article 2 above;
- 5) provide legal support and counselling to the extent and in the manner prescribed under the Law on Associations and other applicable regulations, to the state and local authorities, natural and legal persons and civil sector alike;
- 6) perform other activities which all contribute to the achievement of the Association's objectives, all in accordance with this Statute and the law that regulates work of non-profit associations.

Commercial Activities of Association

Article 4

- (1) Beside the activities which contribute to achieving of objectives envisaged under the Statute, Association is entitled to perform commercial activities, in accordance with the Law on Association and the applicable laws.
- (2) Association performs strictly those commercial activities which are in accordance with the objectives of Association and contributes to their achievement;
- (3) Association shall register as their dominant commercial activity, the following activity code:
70.22 – Consultant activities in relation with commercial and other management.

Name and Seat

Article 5

- (1) Name of the Association in Serbian is: *Регулаторни институт за обновљиву енергију и животну средину*.
- (2) Name of the Association in English is: *Renewables and Environmental Regulatory Institute*.
- (3) The abbreviated name of the Association, in English is: RERI
- (4) The abbreviated name of the Association is: *РЕПИ*
- (5) Association is seated in Belgrade.

Stamp

Article 6

Association has a stamp of a round shape in a usual size, on the periphery of which is written: *Регулаторни институт за обновљиву енергију и животну средину*, Београд,, in a Cyrillic script in Serbian, while in the middle is written the name in English - Renewables and Environmental Regulatory Institute - RERI.

Legal Capacity

Article 7

Association has the capacity of legal entity (person), with accompanied rights, obligations and responsibilities deriving from the Constitution, applicable laws and this Statute.

Membership

Article 8

- (1) Member of the Association may be a person with particular interest in environmental protection and renewable energy law, who directly or indirectly participate in that field and accepts objectives of Association and its Statute and who submits registration application.
- (2) Based on this application and recommendation of at least one member of the Managing Board, Managing Board will decide on membership, in accordance with the provisions of this Statute, pertaining to decision making process within the Board.

Membership Fee

Article 9

- (1) Each member of the Association is obliged to pay annual membership fee on the regular basis.
- (2) Amount of this fee shall be determined for each year by the members of Board Management.
- (3) Members shall be obliged to pay for annual membership fee not later than 31st December of each year for the following year.

Membership Rights

Article 10

Each Member of Association is entitled to:

- 1) participate in achieving the Association's objectives, equally and jointly with other members of the Association;
- 2) directly participate in decision making process within the Assembly of Association;
- 3) elect and be elected for Association's management bodies;
- 4) be timely and fully informed on work and activities of Association.

Membership Obligations

Article 11

Each Member of Association is obliged to:

- 1) actively participates in achieving of Association's objectives;
- 2) participates in Association's activities;
- 3) pay annual membership fee;
- 4) conscientiously executes tasks entrusted by the Association and acts responsibility within the bodies of the Association, if he/she is elected;
- 5) adheres provisions of the Statute and other decisions and acts rendered and adopted based on this Statute;
- 6) avoid any kind of collision between own (private) activities and interests with the activities and interests of the Association.

Termination of Membership

Article 12

(1) Membership in Association will be terminated in case of:

- 1) death of member;
- 2) voluntary resignation of any member, binding from the day when Association receives the letter on resignation;
- 3) expulsion from membership, in case that member:

1. breaches provisions of this Statute by his/hers actions;
 2. violates the reputation of the Association by its actions, damages its interests or acts against its objectives;
 3. is late in payment of its membership fee longer than one year.
- (2) Motion for expulsion may be filled by any member of Association.
- (3) Prior to decision on exposure is rendered, member will be allowed to give a statement on the reasons stated within the motion for expulsion from membership in the Association.
- (4) Decision on exposure will be rendered by the Managing Board. Upon deciding, all legal rights and obligations of the member will be suspended, until the decision is final, while the written counterpart of the decision should be provided to the expelled member.

Internal Organization

Article 13

- (1) Association's bodies are: Assembly, Managing Board and President (Chairman) of the Board.
- (2) Assembly has its president, who may be also president of the Managing Board.
- (3) Legal representative of Association is President of the Board and/or any other person appointed by the Managing Board, based on President of the Board proposal.

Assembly of the Association

Article 14

- (1) Assembly of the Association ("**Assembly**") is comprised from all of its members.
- (2) Assembly has its president, who may also be member of the Managing Board.
- (3) Assembly meets on a regular basis, at least twice in a year, once not later than 31st March and second time, not later than third Tuesday in December of each year.
- (4) Extraordinary Assembly meeting may be called on the initiative of at least 1/3 of the Assembly members, majority of the Managing Board or by the President of the Board. Initiative will be submitted to the President of the Assembly in written form (printed or e-form) with explicitly listed issues to be included for argument during session.
- (5) Assembly shall be scheduled and called by the President of the Assembly in written form, with the information on place and time of the event and proposed agenda. Notice may be sent also in e-form.
- (6) Assembly session is chaired by the President of the Assembly or by the chairperson elected for the particular session by the majority of present members.
- (7) Assembly session may be also held *via* telephone or internet network or by voting in e-form, except in case from point (3) of this same Article.
- (8) Assembly is entitled to:
- 1) elects and release members of the Managing Board;
 - 2) adopts Statute and its amendments;
 - 3) adopts the Rulebook on Assembly's Work;
 - 4) adopts other general acts of Association, which are not in jurisdiction of the Managing Board;
 - 5) review and adopts financial report, annual report and other reports which are not in jurisdiction of the Managing Board;
 - 6) decides on status changes and cessation of the Association;

- 7) decides on other issues in accordance with the applicable regulations.
- (9) Assembly decides in full capacity, in case there is at least half of all members present on the session.
- (10) Assembly decides with the majority of votes (50%+1) of members present on session.
- (11) For the decision which concerns status changes and cessation of Association, as well as on releasing of members of the Management Board prior the expiration of his/hers mandate, 2/3 of votes are necessary.

President of the Assembly

Article 15

- (1) Assembly elects one of its members for the President, with the majority votes from all Assembly members.
- (2) Mandate of the President lasts for 4 (four) years, with the possibility to be re-elected once.
- (3) President of the Assembly will:
 - 1) schedule regular and extraordinary Assembly sessions and inform members on scheduled session;
 - 2) chair the session and secure order during session;
 - 3) gives and revoke approval to members to address the Assembly;
 - 4) secures the minutes of the Assembly's session are held properly and provides the minutes to the members of the Assembly.

Managing Board

Article 16

- (1) Managing Board is executive body of Association comprised of the President of the Board and 6 (six) members. Managing Board is elected for a 4 (four) years period and members may be re-elected.
- (2) Managing Board will manage work of Association by adopting strategic, programme and financial decisions aimed to improve work and achieve objectives of Association, in accordance with the law, Statute, decisions of Assembly and other bodies of Association.
- (3) Members of the Managing Board are elected by the Assembly, in accordance with this statute.
- (4) Members of the Managing Board are not necessarily the members of the Association (Assembly) and they are usually not employed by the Association.
- (5) Managing Board consists of 7 (seven) members, whereas majority of members must be persons graduated from the Faculty of Law / Lawyers / Attorneys at Law, with particular focus on renewable energy law, environmental law, sustainable development and climate change.
- (6) Number of Board members may be changed by the decisions of the Assembly, but only in manner that its number is odd and that majority of the board consists of persons graduated from the Faculty of Law / Lawyers / Attorneys at Law.
- (7) Managing Board shall meet at least 2 (two) times per year, at least one time immediately before the end of each calendar year, upon written call from the President of the Board.
- (8) In order to held the meeting of the Managing Board, it is necessary to be attended by at least 4 (four) members of the Managing Board.
- (9) Meeting of the Managing Board may be also held *via* telephone or internet call or by deciding in e-form, when the decisions of less importance and daily activities of the Association are in question;

- (10) Managing Board will decide with the simple majority of the total number of members about the following:
- 1) election of the President of the Board;
 - 2) adoption of plan and programme of Association work based on the proposal of the President of the Board;
 - 3) adoption of strategic and planning documents and documents aimed to secure ethics, transparency, credibility and accountable financial management of the Association, based on proposal of the President of the Board;
 - 4) decide on joining to associations on the national and international level;
 - 5) decide on engagement in project proposals and partnerships; and
 - 6) decide on engagement and employment of legal and physical persons on works of significant importance in achieving the objectives of Association.
- (11) Members of the Managing Board are entitled to perform any other activities which are not directly or indirectly linked with the Association, without any obligation to notify any of Association's bodies, as long as they are not confronted with the interest of Association.

President of the Board

Article 17

- (1) One of the members of Managing Board will be elected for a President of the Board, with the majority of their votes, for the 4 (four) years period.
- (2) President of the Board must be a person graduated from the Faculty of Law / Lawyer / Attorney at Law and member of the Managing Board.
- (3) President of the Board represents the Association in legal relations and has responsibilities of the financial signatory. President of the Board is not necessarily registered as legal representative of the Association, as this function may be delegated to other person, based on proposal of the President of the Board, whereas that person may be registered as legal representative individually or jointly with the President of the Board.
- (4) President of the Board secures the integrity, functional operation of Association and negotiates on partnerships and project cooperation with (potential) partners.
- (5) President of the Board reports to Managing Board on the activities conducted in accordance with the previous paragraph (4) of this same Article during meetings of the Managing Board.

President of the Board:

- 1) manages the work of Association between the meetings of the Managing Board and adopts decisions in order to secure objectives achievement of Association;
- 2) organizes regular activities of Association;
- 3) delegates particular tasks to other members of Association;
- 4) prepares annual narrative and financial report of the Association and provides it to the Assembly for the discussion and adoption;
- 5) prepares and proposes the Code of Ethics, Rules on Transparent Work of Association and Rules on Accountable Financial Management;
- 6) performs other activities which are not strictly performed by the Assembly and/or by the Management Board.

Secretary General

Article 18

- (1) Association may have Secretary General, elected by the Assembly and proposed by the President of the Assembly.

- (2) Secretary General is the person full-time employed in Association.
- (3) Secretary General may be a regular legal representative of Association.
- (4) Secretary General secures implementation of the decisions adopted by the Assembly, Management Board or the President of the Management Board and secures prompt and accurate activities of the Association.
- (5) Secretary General cooperates with the President of the Board in preparation of the annual narrative and financial report of Association and secures availability and secure of the documents and data significant for preparation of reports.

Transparency

Article 19

- (1) Association performs its actions in a transparent manner.
- (2) Transparency shall be particularly regulated by the adoption of the Rulebook on Transparent Work of Association.
- (3) Secretary General secures regular informing of the members and public on activities of the Association, directly or *via* internet publications, press releases on the Association's website, or in other proper manner.
- (4) Association announce annual and financial reports on its website.
- (5) Annual and financial reports shall be announced not later than 31st March of each year for the previous year.

National and International Cooperation

Article 20

- (1) For the achieving of its objectives, the Association shall cooperate and establish partnerships with other associations and organizations on the national and international level.
- (2) Association may approach to international associations from the field of environmental protection and renewable energy, as well as other professional associations and networks, which shall be decided by the Managing Board.

Acquiring and Disposal of Financial and other Resources

Article 21

Association may acquire financial and other resources from:

- 1) memberships;
- 2) voluntarily contributions;
- 3) donations, gifts and legacy;
- 4) registration fees for seminars and other forms of education;
- 5) commercial activity of the Association;
- 6) other sources in accordance with the applicable law.

Resources of the Association shall be managed in accordance with the Rules of Accountable Financial Management.

Code of Ethics

Article 22

- (1) Code of Ethics secures integrity, responsibility and effectiveness of the Association.
- (2) Code of Ethics defines standards in the area of human and civil rights, gender equality and right to dignified work of all employees and persons engaged within / by the Association

and rules of activities and actions of the Association's bodies.

- (3) Code of Ethics is prepared by the President of the Board and adopted by the Managing Board, not later than 3 (three) months upon the adoption of this Statute.

Rules on Transparent Work

Article 23

- (1) Rules on Transparent Work of the Association further elaborates transparency of work, access to information on Association's activities and work, access to documents and publications prepared by the Association.
- (2) Rules on Transparent Work are prepared by the President of the Board and adopted by the Managing Board, not later than 3 (three) months upon the adoption of this Statute.

Rules on Accountable Financial Management

Article 24

- (1) Rules on Accountable Financial Management determines rules and standards of responsible and credible management of the Association's property, rules of internal financial control and rules on financial reporting.
- (2) Rules on Accountable Financial Management are prepared by the President of the Board and adopted by the Managing Board, not later than 3 (three) months upon the adoption of this Statute.

Cessation of Association

Article 25

- (1) Association will cease to exist upon decision of the Assembly, when/in case conditions for fulfilment of its objectives does no longer exist, as well as in other situations envisaged under applicable laws.
- (2) In that case, property of Association shall be further transferred to other non-profit legal entity, established for achieving the same or similar objectives as the Association, which will be decided by the Assembly timely and in accordance with the applicable laws.

Final Provisions

Article 26

All questions which are not explicitly regulated under this Statute, shall be governed by the applicable laws.

Article 27

This Statute enters into force on the day of its adoption by the Association's Assembly.

President of the Assembly:


Mirko Popović