

The Union to Union statutes

Adopted by the annual general meeting of 7 May 2015, adjusted 2017-05-08, 2018-05-14

Union to Union is a nonpartisan and religiously unaffiliated association. *Union to Union* is domiciled in Stockholm.

The members of the association are the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO), the Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO) and the Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations (Saco). *Union to Union's* financial concerns and the basis of its operations are regulated by special agreement between the member organisations and by these statutes.

§ 1 Fundamental values and aims

Union to Union's fundamental values derive from the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, upon which union-led development cooperation is also based. Equal worth, rights and treatment for all people, solidarity and sustainable development inform every aspect of *Union to Union's* work

Union to Union promotes respect for union rights as well as other human rights, and in so doing works for greater democracy and equality, the global and equitable distribution of power and resources, and poverty reduction.

Union to Union is committed to helping the establishment of independent, democratic and egalitarian union organisations with the capacity to represent the interests of their members and to actively promote democracy, human rights, respect for international law, the fair distribution of resources and sustainable development.

§ 2 Mission

Union to Union is an organisation that:

- supports and coordinates LO, TCO, Saco and their member organisations in their global development cooperation efforts,
- secures and develops methods and processes for the implementation and quality-assurance of *Union to Union's* various tasks and for the evaluation of results and impacts,
- runs communication and information campaigns in Sweden in order to increase awareness of, boost confidence in and strengthen support for international union-led development cooperation.

As an aid organisation, *Union to Union* is subject to donor rules and is committed to upholding proper internal control, transparency and ethics, and to preventing conflicts of interest.

§ 3 General Principals' Meeting

A General Principals' Meeting attended by the chairpersons of each of the three member

organisations and *Union to Union's* Presiding Committee and Secretary General is held at least once a year.

§ 4 Collaboration

All collaboration that takes place within *Union to Union* is based on the common interests of the member organisations. *Union to Union* shall therefore endeavour to take consensus decisions that have the support of all member organisations.

§ 5 The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is *Union to Union's* supreme decision-making body. The meeting is held once a year within six months of the end of the financial year.

Written summons shall be sent out at least four weeks before the meeting, and shall be accompanied by a proposed agenda and the documents to be decided upon at the meeting.

The meeting comprises two members each from LO, TCO and Saco.

Each Annual General Meeting follows a set agenda:

1. Election of officers
2. The question as to whether the meeting has been convened in due order
3. The presentation and adoption of the annual report and the report of the board
4. The presentation and adoption of the auditors' report
5. The question of the discharge from liability of the board
6. Election of chairperson and two deputy chairpersons for the board
7. Election of nine additional board members
8. Election of four auditors, of which one shall be authorised
9. Election of Nominations Committee comprising three members, and appointment of its convenor
10. Other matters

Election procedures:

The chairperson and deputy chairpersons are elected in such a way so that the three member organisations each have a representative occupying one of the posts. The offices rotate as decided by the member organisations and with regard to continuity.

The remaining nine board members comprise four nominated by LO, three by TCO and two by Saco.

The member organisations each nominate an auditor. The authorised auditor is proposed by the board.

The Nominations Committee comprises one member from each group and shall strive for an equal gender distribution in its proposals for the various offices.

The mandate period for all offices is one year.

§ 6 Extraordinary General Meetings

Some matters might need to be decided by an extraordinary general meeting to be convened

by the board. The extraordinary general meeting deals only with the particular matter(s) that occasioned its convening.

§ 7 The board

The board governs the activities of *Union to Union*.

The board shall promote and develop the activities of *Union to Union* and its ability to perform them.

The board operates in accordance with an annually established programme that it itself decides upon.

Additional tasks of the board are to establish the plan and budget for the forthcoming financial year, to decide on general policies and strategies and to employ the Secretary General. The board meets at least four times a year and is quorate when at least six of the elected members are present, including at least one from each of the member organisations.

Minutes are kept of the board meetings and issued to the member organisations.

If a board member resigns during a mandate period, the board reserves the right to announce a mid-term election at the proposal of the member organisation that nominated the person in question, with the new mandate lasting until the next general meeting.

The staff branches announce the name of the representative they have appointed to the board ahead of the financial year. The representative has the right of comment and proposal.

In the event of dispute between the members on a matter of decision-making, the matter is returned for further consideration.

§ 8 Presiding committee

The Presiding Committee comprises the chairperson and the two deputy chairpersons of the *Union to Union* board. The Secretary General participates in the Presiding Committee meetings.

It is the responsibility of the Presiding Committee to prepare important matters for consideration. The Presiding Committee advises the Secretary General on questions of employment and any other issues she/he deems fit for review.

The Presiding Committee leads the meetings of the Union Council and performs tasks as directed by the board.

§ 9 Union Council

The Union Council is the body through which the organisations influence the activities of *Union to Union* and is led by the Presiding Committee. The Union Council is to advise the board on:

- matters pertaining to *Union to Union's* policies, strategies and development,

- *Union to Union's* plan of operations,
- method and capacity development, evaluations and experience sharing,
- other matters deemed to be of importance to development issues.

The Union Council invites LO's, TCO's and Saco's member organisations to its meetings, along with *Union to Union* members, the Presiding Committee and Secretary General. Its discussions and conclusions are reported back to the board.

The Union Council decides itself on the forms of work most relevant to its own activities.

§ 10 Secretary General

The Secretary General is appointed by the board and leads the *Union to Union* secretariat and staff. The Secretary General has power of decision over the association's day-to-day activities and over recruitment, after consultation with the Presiding Committee. The administrative Secretary General represents *Union to Union* externally and protects the association's interests.

The Secretary General participates in the meetings of the board in the capacity of convenor and secretary.

The procedural rules for the Secretary General are established by the board. All other rules of procedure are established by the Secretary General.

Union to Union's official signatory/ies are appointed by the board.

§ 11 Audits

The board's administration and the association's accounts are subject to annual audit by the auditors appointed by the general meeting. The auditors are to recommend or oppose the discharge from liability of the board.

§ 12 Amendments to the statutes

Amendments to these statutes require the unanimous decision of the general meeting.

§ 13 Resignation

An organisation wishing to resign from *Union to Union* must submit its request in writing to the board. The departing organisation's membership then expires at the end of the calendar year in which the request was made.

§ 14 Dissolution

A decision to dissolve *Union to Union* requires unanimity amongst all members of the general meeting. Information regarding the matter is to have been distributed to all member organisations at least six months before any decision may be taken by the general meeting.

Any remaining assets once all financial commitments have been honoured are distributed to the member organisations in proportion to their respective share of the membership fee revenue.