

**ASSOCIATION OF PENSIONERS
TELEMALTA / MALTACOM / GO
STATUTE**



Telemalta Corporation.....24 June 1975
Maltacom p.l.c.....2 January 1998
Go p.l.c.....16 November 2007

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1 NAME

- 1.1 The Association shall be called The Association of Pensioners Telemalta/Maltacom/GO and in this Statute shall be called The Association.

2 OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The Association is a philanthropic and apolitical organisation.

- 2.2 The objectives of The Association are to:

- (i) organise social, cultural and educational activities for its members;
- (ii) keep contact with GO with the objective that its members may, take also part in social, cultural and educational activities organised by GO, make use of benefits given by GO in the interest of members;
- (iii) create and cherish solidarity between members of the Association and between these members and GO employees.

3 MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Membership is open to all those that have resigned from the Company or have a National Insurance, and/or a Treasury pension, on condition that s/he has served for a minimum of ten (10) years with one of the Companies forming the Association before resigning. Spouses/Legitimate Partners of members become automatically members.

- 3.2 No member may be held responsible for any debt incurred by the Association if the expense had been previously authorised.

- 3.3 Any Association work shall be offered and performed on a voluntary basis and no one may be remunerated for work performed, but may ask for and be refunded out of pocket expenses in the performance of duties approved and assigned

by the Council for the advancement of the Association's objectives.

4 GENERAL CONFERENCE

- 4.1 The General Conference is the highest authority of the Association.
- 4.2 The Annual General Conference shall be held between April and June and shall be conducted according to the agenda approved by the Council.
- 4.3 The agenda shall include these subjects:
- Address by the President.
 - Reading and approval of the Minutes of the previous Conference.
 - Report on activities of the previous calendar year.
 - Financial Report.
 - Motions.
- 4.4 When required, the agenda shall also include:
- Appointment of three (3) tellers to oversee the election.
 - Election of the Council members.
 - Appointment of Auditors.
 - Amendments of the Statute.
- 4.5 The Council is obliged to hold an Extraordinary General Conference whenever,
- (i) not less than twenty (20) members ask for such a Conference for reason/s of which they are to submit details, in writing, in their request to the Council;
 - (ii) not less than fifty (50) members request the Council, in writing, the removal of an official or one of its members;
 - (iii) the Council feels the need to discuss some item/s of importance or/and of interest for the Association;

(iv) a motion for the dissolution of the Association is made, as per Art 10.

- 4.6 The agenda of every General Conference, both Annual and Extraordinary shall be distributed to members by not later than three (3) weeks prior to the date of the General Conference.
- 4.7 The Council has the right to move any motion that it deems to be special and of an urgent nature before the end of the Conference, without any previous notice.
- 4.8 Whenever a call for a General Conference includes in its agenda motions, amendments to the Statute and nominations for the election of Council members, these should reach the Secretary of the Association by not later than one (1) week before the date of the General Conference.
- 4.9 The quorum for the General Conference shall be not less than fifty (50) members, including the members and officials of the Council. If a quorum is not reached after fifteen (15) minutes from the announced time, the meeting shall commence with the members present. In the case of amendments to the Statute the quorum shall be as per Art. 4.10.
- 4.10 In the case of amendments to the Statute the number of members present, at all times that these amendments are being proposed and votes taken, shall be not less than sixty (60), including the members and the officials of the Council present but if the required number is not reached then the quorum shall be that as per para. 4.9
- 4.11 Amendments to the Statute shall not be approved unless there is a majority of more than two thirds in favour.

5 ELECTIONS

- 5.1 Members of the Association who serve on other Committees or Councils of other Pensioners' Associations, may only be elected to serve on the Association's Council with the approval of the General Conference when they are nominated as candidates for the Council.

For this reason these member nominees so indicated have to declare in writing their appointment on the other Pensioners' Committees or Councils. This declaration must be presented with their nomination to the Council.

- 5.2 Those members who accept to serve on the Council as officials or members, have to be nominated in writing by one member and seconded by another member of the Association and the said nomination has to reach the Secretary of the Association by not later than a week prior to the date of the General Conference as per Art 4.8.

A candidate so nominated has to declare on the same nomination that s/he accepts to serve on the Council if elected, as well as the declaration requested by Art 5.1, if required.

- 5.3 Before every election three (3) members shall be nominated and approved with the consent of a simple majority to act as tellers and conduct the elections. None of the existing Council members or officials or those nominated as candidates may be nominated as tellers.
- 5.4 In the case that in an election a number of candidates with the least votes obtain the same number of votes and they would exceed the required members on the Council, then another election will be held among them only. The result will establish the preference of which candidate/s should sit on the Council.
- 5.5 If there are other candidates, not elected, who obtain the same number of votes, then another election between them will be held, so that in the case of a vacancy on the Council this would be filled in the order of the final vote.

6 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL OFFICIALS

- 6.1 In the first meeting of the Council, that should be held not later than the first week of the month following the elections, the Council shall appoint the officials by consent. In the case of disagreement, nominations shall be made and a secret vote taken. The officials of the Council shall be as follows:

- 6.1.1 **President:** Presides over all meetings of the Council and every General Conference.
- 6.1.2 **Vice President:** Assists the President and substitutes him in his absence and on the Activities Committee
- 6.1.3 **Secretary:** Keeps the Minutes of the Council meetings and of the General Conference.
Manages correspondence.
Compiles an Annual Report on the activities of the Association and presents it at the Annual General Conference.
Manages Public Relations.
- 6.1.4 **Assistant Secretary:** Assists the Secretary and substitutes him in his absence.
- 6.1.5 **Treasurer:** Administers the Council Finances as directed by the Council and takes care of members' contributions, deposits and withdrawals of cash from the bank.
Manages payment of bills.
Keeps debit and credit ledgers of finances.
Keeps a record of all members as well as of those who attend the Association's activities.
Keeps an inventory of the Association's property, and/or any items given on loan to the Association.
Submits to the Council the balance sheet, verified by the Auditors, that shows the factual financial position as on the 31 December of each year.
Presents a Financial Report at the Annual General Conference.

Ensures that every document that pertains to debit or credit or any Association property, has his signature.

6.1.6 **Assistant**

Treasurer: Assists the Treasurer and substitutes him in his absence.

6.2 The officials and members of the Council shall serve for two (2) years unless a motion is not proposed at a General Council to remove a member or official and such motion is approved at the meeting.

6.3 Every official and member of the Council must abide by the directives of the Council according to the Association's objectives.

6.4 In the case of a vacancy of one or more of the Council's main officials, such vacancy shall be filled by their Assistant or Vice until the following election.

Vacancies that create a lack of the prescribed number of members on the Council shall be filled from the candidates who were not elected in the previous election, in the order of votes obtained. In the absence of such candidates the Council may co-opt Association members to sit on the Council until the next election and such members shall have the right to vote.

7 THE COUNCIL

7.1 The general administration and the execution of the Association's objectives are the responsibility of the Council. The quorum for the Council shall be five (5). In the lack of a quorum a meeting shall be cancelled.

7.2 The Council shall be composed of the officials mentioned in Art 6 and three (3) other members.

7.3 The Council has the right to appoint Legal Council, a Spiritual Director and Honorary Presidents. It may also, when the need arises, nominate a committee formed of members of the Council and members of the Association to organise particular

activities for all the members or other activities approved by the Council.

- 7.4 As far as possible, the Council shall meet once a month or more frequently, when the need arises, by the decision of the President and/or of the Secretary, or at the request of not less than five (5) members/officials of the Council.
- 7.5 An official or a member of the Council who fails to attend three (3) consecutive meeting without a valid reason shall be removed from his/her appointment by written notice.
- 7.6 The administration of the funds falls under the jurisdiction of the Council. The funds shall be used solely to organise the aims of the Association as explained in this Statute.
- 7.7 No failure or defect in the qualification, in an election or choice of each member of the Council shall be construed to invalidate an action or decision of the Council. Also a vacant post on the Council shall not give rise to discuss an action or decision taken under such circumstances.
- 7.8 The interpretation of the Statute shall be only that given by the Council.
- 7.9 All points raised during Council meetings where no consensus is reached shall be decided by simple majority of the vote of members present. Should any member ask for a secret vote, this has to be effected. In the case of an equal number of votes the President is obliged to give the casting vote in addition to his original vote.

8 FINANCES

- 8.1 The Bank account/s shall be under the Association's name and the Bankers shall be those approved by the Council from time to time.
- 8.2 The Association accounts shall be verified by two (2) auditors, members of the Association but not Council members, appointed every two (2) years at the Annual General Conference when the elections are held. The Auditors have the

right and duty to make every investigation with anyone as required, to submit a full report to the Council. For this reason the Auditors must have full and free access to any ledgers and any other document that may involve the cash or the property of the Association.

9 DISCIPLINE

- 9.1 The regulations of the Association, as set out in this Statute, shall apply equally to all members and officials of the Association. In this regard the Council has the right to suspend or remove from membership or appointment any member or official whose actions are deemed by the Council to be against the wellbeing or the interests and/or are against the objectives of the Association. This shall be put in action after the Council has given full opportunity to the particular member to explain his actions. Members so suspended or removed by a decision of the Council have the right to appeal to the Annual General Conference, or a Special Conference purposely convened, against the decision of the Council for a final decision that is voted upon and is binding on both parties according to the majority of votes obtained.

10 DISSOLUTION

- 10.1 In the case that a seconded motion or resolution, as required, is moved for the dissolution of the Association, the Council has to follow the dispositions of Art 4.5 (iv) and call a Special General Conference with this subject on the agenda and shall give notice by a circular sent to all members by not later than two (2) weeks prior to the date of the Conference.
- 10.2 For this Conference the quorum and voting shall be the same as when amendments to the Statute are proposed in a General Conference as per Art 4.10 and 4.11, but if, for this Conference, the quorum is not reached then the quorum shall be as per Art 4.9 and the resolution is approved by a simple majority of votes.

10.3 If the resolution for the dissolution is approved then the cash and properties of the Association shall be donated to a Charitable Institution in true need of help.

11 LANGUAGE

11.1 The Maltese text is the one binding at law

Approved today at the General Council held on the 17th May 2018

This Statute entered into force on the 10th December 1996 as approved at the Extraordinary General Council held at the Catholic Institute, Floriana

It was revised on the:

22nd April 1999,

3rd April 2001,

19th May 2009

14th May 2015

17th May 2018

The Association is affiliated with the National Council for the Elderly