

## PART I

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 1 : Preamble

This Constitution is made pursuant to the Singapore Red Cross Society (Incorporation) Act, Chapter 304 for the organisation and administration of the Singapore Red Cross Society (hereinafter referred to as “the Society”).

The Society is a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and as such adheres to the Geneva Conventions (1949) and the Fundamental Principles as follows:-

**Humanity** – The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, co-operation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

**Impartiality** – It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

**Neutrality** – In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

**Independence** – The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their respective governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

**Voluntary Service** – It is a voluntary relief movement not promoted in any manner by desire for gain.

**Unity** – There can only be one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

**Universality** – The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.

## **Article 2: Name and Emblem**

The name of the Society is “Singapore Red Cross Society” and its headquarters shall be at 15 Penang Lane, Singapore or as otherwise determined by the Council.

The emblem of the Society shall be the heraldic sign of the Red Cross on a white background in accordance with the Geneva Conventions and national law for all the purposes foreseen by the International Conference of the Red Cross Movement.

**Article 3: Rights and Duties** - The Society has all the rights and obligations of a member of the International Federation as defined in the Constitution of the International Federation subject to the provisions of the Geneva Conventions and the Singapore Red Cross Society (Incorporation) Act.

## **Article 4: Objects and Purposes**

The primary objects of the Society are as set out in the paragraph 5 of the Singapore Red Cross Society (Incorporation) Act, Chapter 304.

In pursuing these objects the Society shall:-

- a. prevent and alleviate human suffering with complete impartiality, without any form of discrimination;
- b. act in case of armed conflict, and in peace prepare to act in all fields covered by the Geneva Conventions and on behalf of all war victims, both civilian and military;
- c. provide emergency relief in time of disaster for the alleviation of human suffering;
- d. contribute to the improvement of health, the prevention of disease and the mitigation of suffering;

- e. recruit, train and assign such personnel as are necessary for the discharge of its responsibilities;
- f. promote the participation of people of all ages in the work of the Movement;
- g. promote the Fundamental Principles of the Movement and those of International Humanitarian Law amongst the population;
- h. co-operate with the Government and other organisations to ensure respect for international humanitarian law and to protect the Red Cross and Red Crescent emblems.

#### **Article 5: Patron of the Society**

The President of the Republic of Singapore shall be the Patron of the Society.

#### **Article 6: Administration**

The affairs of the Society shall be administered by the Council who may from time to time delegate to:

- a. the Executive Committee matters pertaining to the general management of the Society and such other matters as it may deem fit.
  - b. the respective Vice-Chairmen specific responsibilities and duties.
  - c. the Finance Commission matters pertaining to the financial management of the Society and such other matters as it may deem fit.
  - d. the Medical Commission such matters pertaining to the relief of sickness, suffering or distress, and to improvement of health, as it may deem fit.
  - e. the Legal Commission such legal matters, local and international with which the Society may be involved, as it may deem fit.
1. The Council shall be authorised to make rules and create new organisational structures to facilitate the good governance and administration of the Society provided that such rules and structures are not contrary to this Constitution.

#### **Article 7: Common Seal**

1. The Society shall have a common seal and such seal may from time to time be broken, changed, altered and made anew, as the Society deems fit.
2. All deeds, documents and other instruments requiring the seal of the Society shall be sealed with the common seal of the Society. This shall be done by the authority

of the “Council” in the presence of the Chairman and some other person duly authorised by the Council to act on that behalf and shall be signed by the Chairman and by such duly authorised person. Such signing shall be sufficient evidence that the common seal of the Society has been duly and properly affixed and that the said seal is the lawful common seal of the Society.

#### **Article 8: Panel of Eminent Advisers**

1. The Chairman may on the advice of the Council appoint such persons who are eminent in public life and who have accepted the Principles of the Red Cross Movement to serve on the Panel of Eminent Advisers of the Society.
2. Such persons shall hold office for 2 years commencing from the date of their appointment or such period, not exceeding 2 years, as the Council may prescribe, whichever is lesser. They shall be eligible for re-appointment.
3. The Panel shall render advice to the Council and the Executive Committee on matters referred to them by the Council and the Executive Committee.

#### **Article 9: Distinguished Counsellors / Counsellors**

1. The Council may appoint as “Counsellors” or as “Distinguished Counsellors” persons of high rank and distinction who, in the opinion of the Council, are distinguished by their outstanding service and exemplary dedication to humanity, the Society or the International Red Cross Movement.
2. Such persons shall enjoy all rights and privileges of Subscribing Members.

## **PART II**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

**Article 10: Membership open to all** - Membership to the Society is open to any person who adhere to the principles of the Red Cross Movement and this Constitution.

#### **Article 11: Categories of Membership.**

Members of the Society shall comprise the following:-

- a. **Honorary Membership**
- b. **Subscribing Membership**
- c. **Active Membership**
- d. **Youth Auxiliary Membership**
- e. **Institutional Membership**

#### **Article 12: Honorary Member**

1. Honorary Members shall be persons elected as such by the Council for valuable services rendered to the Society in accordance with the Fundamental Principles.
2. They shall enjoy all rights and privileges of Subscribing Members.
3. The Council may, at the time of an Honorary Member's election to this class of members, designate that Honorary Member as a Counsellor or a Distinguished Counsellor.
4. Honorary Members may be elected for life or for such term as the Council may determine.

#### **Article 13: Subscribing Member**

1. Subscribing Members are persons who applied for and have been accepted by the Council as a Subscribing member and/or a Life Member on payment of an annual subscription or a one-off Life Member subscription (the quantum payable shall be decided by the Council). Subscribing Members shall include those who have been previously registered as such a member in the Register maintained by the Society, under the previous Constitution
2. The annual subscription shall be payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of each year.

3. Subscribing Members shall be eligible to attend General Meetings, speak, vote, nominate, second nominations and to hold elective office, provided they have attained their eighteenth birthday at the time of the General Meeting.

#### **Article 14: Active Member**

1. Active Members shall be any persons above sixteen years old and who have applied and been accepted and registered as such in Chapters established in accordance with Article 59 to Article 61 of this Constitution. They include those in the Red Cross Youth, Adult Volunteer Division, and institutions of higher learning e.g. the Universities, Polytechnics and Junior Colleges.
2. Subject to the respective by-laws of the Active Units, Active Members are not required to pay any subscription to the Society.
3. Active Members shall enjoy the same rights and privileges of Subscribing Members.

#### **Article 15: Youth Auxiliary Member**

1. Youth Auxiliary Members are school based uniformed members of Red Cross Units.
2. Youth Auxiliary Members do not pay subscription, do not have any voting rights at General Meetings, and are not eligible to hold office in the Council.

#### **Article 16: Institutional Member / Institutional Auxiliary Member**

1. Institutional Members are companies, statutory boards, societies, religious organisations and any other organisations that have a legal entity but shall not exclude any body recognised (whether incorporated or enacted) as a body of members or any groupings generally recognised, who have, with their consent, been designated as Institutional Members by the Council.
2. Institutional members shall subscribe to the principles of the Red Cross and undertake to support the activities of the Red Cross whether in Singapore or any country in the world.
3. Institutional Auxiliary Members are employees and /or members of an Institutional Member.
4. Institutional Members, including Institutional Auxiliary Members, have no voting rights at the AGM except for those that are co-opted into the Council.
5. Institutional Members and Institutional Auxiliary Members do not pay any subscriptions.

6. The Council may, at any time, revoke the designation of any entity as an Institutional Member or an Institutional Auxiliary Member.

#### **Article 17: Resignation and Expulsion**

1. Any member may give notice of resignation in writing at any time.
2. The Council may terminate the membership of a member who is liable for subscription and is in arrears for three months or more.
3. A member of the Society may be suspended, expelled or have his/its membership terminated by the Council.
4. Before taking any action under sub-Article (3) above, the Council shall give the member concerned a right to be heard.
5. Any member expelled or whose membership is terminated in accordance with Article 17 (2) and (3) shall forfeit all rights to or claims upon the Society but shall remain liable for any outstanding payment due at the date of expulsion or cessation of membership.

#### **Article 18: Privileges & Rules of Membership.**

1. Subscribing Members shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Society.
2. Members who are eligible to vote shall be entitled to only one vote, exercisable in person at any Meeting notwithstanding that that member may hold different classes of membership in the Society.

### **PART III**

#### **The COUNCIL**

##### **Article 19: Composition.**

The Council shall consist of not less than 27 members and not more than 33 members. It shall comprise the following:-

- a. The Chairman
- b. The Honorary Treasurer
- c. Ten persons determined from among Active Members in the manner provided in Article 20 of this Constitution.
- d. Five persons elected from among the Subscribing Members in the manner provided in Article 21 of this Constitution.
- e. Six persons to be appointed by the Council on account of their special knowledge and expertise upon the recommendation of the Chairman of the Council. Such appointed members shall hold office from the last meeting of the Council before the Annual General Meeting to the last meeting of the Council before the next Annual General Meeting, and shall be eligible for re-appointment.
- f. one representative from the following Ministries viz. Community Development and Sports, Defence, Education, Foreign Affairs, Health and Home Affairs, provided always that the Society may, during an Annual or a Special General Meeting, remove the representative of any of these Ministries from membership and appoint the representative of another Ministry not already a member of the Council to membership of the above Council.
- g. the Council may increase or decrease the representations of any of the above categories in accordance with the requirements of the Society.
- h. Any person co-opted / appointed to the Council who is not already a member shall be admitted to the register of members.

##### **Article 20: Representatives from Active Members**

1. Each category of Active Members shall appoint annually the following representatives to the Council:-
  - a. Red Cross Youth – four representatives.
  - b. Adult Volunteer Division – three representatives.
  - c. Chapters – three representatives.
2. Representatives appointed under the Article shall hold office immediately following the Annual General Meeting until the commencement of the next Annual General Meeting. They may be re-appointed.

#### **Article 21: Election of Subscribing members**

1. The Society shall, at an Annual General Meeting, elect not more than five members from among the Subscribing Members as members of the Council.
2. An elected member shall hold office for two years commencing on the date of his election.
3. Nominations of candidates for the election under this Article may be submitted by any Subscribing Member entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.

#### **Article 22: Resignation from the Council**

1. Any elected or appointed member may resign from Office.
2. The Council may appoint substitute members to fill any vacancy whether caused by resignation or otherwise. A member appointed under this Article must be from the same category of members as the member whose departure gave rise to the vacancy.
3. Any member appointed under this Article shall hold office for so long as the member in whose place he is appointed would have held office.

#### **Article 23: Appointment of Vice Chairman**

1. The Council shall elect three Vice-Chairmen from among the members of the Council.
2. The Chairman and the Council may assign specific duties to any one or all of the three Vice-Chairmen as they deem fit.

3. In the absence of the Chairman and unless otherwise directed by the Chairman, the duties of the Chairman shall be carried out by one of the Vice-Chairman who is the most senior in terms of years of membership in the Society.

#### **Article 24: Meetings**

1. The Council shall hold not less than three meetings in each year at such time and place as the Chairman may from time to time prescribe.
2. The Chairman or in his absence the Acting Chairman may summon a special meeting of the Council at any time, or if so requested in writing by not less than 1/3 of the Council.

**Article 25: Urgent Matters.** If the Chairman, any Vice Chairman or the Secretary General certifies that a resolution proposed to the Council is required on an urgent basis, no meeting of the Council need be convened but that resolution shall be reduced into writing and circulated to all members of the Council in counterparts and shall be passed if not less than half of the members of Council signify their agreement to that resolution.

#### **Article 26: Quorum and Voting**

1. One quarter of the members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.
2. Matters shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and voting.
3. Each member of the Council shall have only one vote. In the event of there being no majority, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

#### **Article 27: Duties and Power of the Council**

The Council shall be responsible for carrying out the objects of the Society as laid down in the Constitution and shall have power to:

- a. appoint committees, allocate duties to such committees and regulate the exercise of such duties.
- b. appoint such officers and servants as it thinks fit and regulate their conduct and discipline.
- c. establish, regulate, manage and re-structure any Active Units and / or any activity, programme or any other function which the Society is involved in;
- d. formulate policies and directions of the Society and for this purpose shall have the overriding authority over any or all committees established, whether by the Council or not.

- e. generally do all such other acts as may be necessary to achieve the objects of the Society.
  - f. consider and approve Awards, Honours and Badges to persons in recognition of their outstanding service and / or long service to the Society.
1. The Council shall be the only body of the Society with power to amend or alter this Constitution.
  2. The Council shall if it thinks necessary, formulate and issue by-laws, directives and / or instructions for the various committees of the Society, its executives and the Active Divisions and agencies of the Society.
  3. The Council shall cause a record to be kept of all properties of the Society.
  4. The Council shall cause a register to be kept of all members of the Society.
  5. The Council shall approve and present for adoption the Annual Report of the Society, the Audited Statement of Income and Expenditure, and the Audited Balance Sheet for the year to the Annual General Meeting.
  6. The Council shall nominate to the Annual General Meeting for its approval an auditor or auditors who must be registered as a Public Accountant or Accountants under the Accountants Act (Chapter 2A).

**Article 28: Chairman of Council.**

1. The Chairman of the Council shall be appointed for a term of three years by the President of Singapore. He shall be eligible for re-appointment.
2. The Chairman shall chair the Executive Committee, and shall be an ex-officio member of the Finance Commission, the Medical Commission and the Legal Commission.
3. The Chairman shall represent the Society in its dealings with the public authorities of Singapore, other members and agencies of the Red Cross Movement, and any third party.
4. The Chairman shall be responsible for the general supervision of the administration of the Society and of the implementation of decisions of the Council and the Executive Committee.
5. The Chairman shall be competent to take any urgent measure for the purposes of the Society which requires a decision of the Council or the Executive Committee to meet to decide on the issue PROVIDED it is impossible for either the Council or the Executive Committee to meet owing to exceptional circumstances. The Chairman shall report and account for such measures at the next meeting of the Council or the Executive Committee, whichever is appropriate.

6. The Chairman may in his discretion delegate any of his duties to the Vice-Chairman or any other member or members of the Council.

### **Article 29: The Secretary General / Deputy Secretary General**

1. The Secretary General shall be appointed by the Council. The Council may appoint deputies to the Secretary General as and when required.
2. The Secretary General is the Chief Executive Officer of the Society. The Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General shall be responsible for implementing the policies and directives laid down by the Council or the Executive Committee.
3. The Secretary General shall be the secretary of the Council, the Executive Committee, all Commissions and such other committees of the Society as the Executive Committee may direct.
4. The Secretary General shall not form part of the quorum of any such meeting and shall not have a right to vote.

## **PART IV**

### **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### **Article 30: Composition**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following persons:

- a. the Chairman of the Council who shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee;
- b. the Vice-Chairmen of Council,
- c. the Honorary Treasurer;
- d. three Council Members recommended by the Chairman and approved by the Council.
- e. the Director, Red Cross Youth or his representative
- f. the Director, Adult Volunteer Division or his representative
- g. the Director, Chapters, or his representative
- h. the Chairman of the respective Commission

- i. such persons as the Executive Committee may co-opt on account of their special knowledge or interest.

### **Article 31: Meetings**

1. The Executive Committee shall hold not less than four meetings a year at such time and at such place as may from time to time be fixed.
2. The Chairman of the Executive Committee may summon a special meeting at any time or if so requested in writing by not less than 1/3 members of the Committee.
3. At least seven days notice of any meeting shall be given specifying the nature of the business unless the Chairman certifies that the issue to be discussed is an issue of exceptional urgency, in which event a shorter period of notice as specified by the Chairman may be given.

### **Article 32: Urgent Matters.**

If the Chairman, any Vice Chairman or the Secretary General certifies that a resolution proposed to the Executive Committee is required on an urgent basis, no meeting of the Executive Committee need be convened but that resolution shall be reduced into writing and circulated to all members of the Executive Committee in counterparts and shall be passed if not less than half of the Executive Committee signify their agreement to that resolution.

### **Article 33: Quorum and Voting**

1. One half of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.
2. Each member shall have a single vote.
3. Matters shall be decided by a simple majority of those present and voting. In the event of there being no majority, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

### **Article 34: Functions of the Executive Committee**

1. The Executive Committee shall perform the following duties:
  - a. carry out the policies laid down by the Council and to be responsible to the Council for the management of the Society;
  - b. receive reports including reports from the Active Divisions and agencies of the Society, programmes of the Society, activities in various areas and the Secretariat.
  - c. report at every Ordinary Meeting of the Council all action taken since the previous meeting of the Council;

- d. supervise the Secretariat and staff;
- e. perform such other duties as may be delegated to it by the Council from time to time;
- f. present the Annual Report and Audited Balance Sheet and Audited Statement of Income and Expenditure to the Council;
- g. draw up an annual budget for the Society.

## PART V

### FINANCE COMMISSION

#### Article 35: Composition

1. There shall be a Finance Commission of not more than eight members.
2. The Finance Commission shall consist of the following persons:
  - a. the Honorary Treasurer who shall be Chairman of the Commission
  - b. the Chairman or Vice Chairmen of Council as an ex-officio member
  - c. two members of the Council to be approved by the Council and who shall hold office for a term of two years.
  - d. the remaining members shall be members of the Society nominated by the Chairman and approved by the Council as members of the Commission.
3. All members shall hold office for a term of two years and may be re-appointed.

#### Article 36: Meetings and Quorum

1. the Finance Commission shall meet as often as is necessary for the proper discharge of its functions.
2. Three members shall form a quorum.
3. Any resolution in writing signed by not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Finance Commission shall be as effective as if a meeting was held. Such resolution can be in one or more documents.

#### Article 37: Functions

1. The Finance Commission shall advise the Council on all financial matters as Council may request and, in particular, on the budgets, annual accounts and Treasurer's Report. These include:-
  - a. Management of the cash flow of the Society for the various projects undertaken by the Society.
  - b. Management of the financial status of various programmes by the operating divisions:
  - c. Investment of SRCS funds in accordance with the law.

## **PART VI**

### **FINANCE**

#### **Article 38: Honorary Treasurer**

1. The Honorary Treasurer shall be nominated by the Chairman and shall hold office for a period of two years. He may be re-appointed.
2. The Honorary Treasurer shall be a member of the Council, the Executive Committee and Chairman of the Finance Commission.
3. The Honorary Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the funds of the Society and is accountable to the Society.
4. The Honorary Treasurer shall present, on behalf of the Council, at the Annual General Meeting, the following:
  - a. the audited statement of Income and Expenditure and
  - b. the audited balance sheet.
5. The Honorary Treasurer may not be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

#### **Article 39: Cheques**

All cheques issued in the name of the Society shall unless altered or amended by the Council be signed by the Chairman or by a Vice-Chairman and the Honorary Treasurer or in his absence by any member/s of the Council or the Finance Commission previously designated by the Council save for certain Approved Designated Current Account(s).

#### **Article 40: Funds**

All funds and properties of the Society shall be subject to control of the Council.

#### **Article 41: Council to act on advice.**

1. The Council may not enter into any arrangement involving expenditure of money exceeding S\$100,000 in aggregate without first obtaining the advice of the Finance Commission.
2. The Secretariat shall not expend in one transaction an aggregate of S\$20,000 without the approval of the Finance Commission.

#### **Article 42: Financial Year**

The Financial Year shall coincide with the Calendar Year.

**Article 43: Annual Budget.**

1. The Executive Committee shall draw up the annual budget in consultation with the Treasurer.
2. The annual budget shall be submitted to Council for approval through the Finance Commission.

**Article 44: Audit** - The annual balance sheet and statement of income and expenditure shall be audited by an auditor or auditors who must be registered as Public Accountant or Accountants under the Accountants Act (Chapter 2A).

## **PART VII**

### **MEDICAL COMMISSION**

#### **Article 45: Composition**

There shall be a Medical Commission of not less than five members.

The Medical Commission shall consist of the following persons:

- a. A Chairman to be appointed by the Council from among its members and who shall hold office for a term of one year.
- b. The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Council.
- c. The Directors of the Adult Volunteer Division, Chapters and Red Cross Youth or their representatives.
- d. Two members to be appointed by the Council and who shall hold office for a term of one year.
- e. Such persons as may be co-opted by the Commission on account of their special knowledge.

#### **Article 46: Meeting and Quorums**

1. The Medical Commission shall meet as often as it is necessary for the proper discharge of its functions.
2. One half of the members shall form a quorum.

#### **Article 47: Functions.**

The Medical Commission shall advise the Council on matters pertaining to the relief of sickness, suffering or distress in times of peace or war, and on matters relating to the improvement of health and the prevention of disease.

## **PART VIII**

## **LEGAL COMMISSION**

### **Article 48: Composition**

There shall be a Legal Commission of not less than five members.

The Legal Commission shall consist of the following persons:

- a. A Chairman to be appointed by the Council from among its members and who shall hold office for a term of one year;
- b. the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen of Council;
- c. two members to be appointed by the Council and who shall hold office for a term of one year;
- d. such persons as may be co-opted by the Commission on account of their special knowledge.

### **Article 49: Meetings and Quorum**

1. The Legal Commission shall meet as often as is necessary for the proper discharge of its functions.
2. One half of the members shall form a quorum.

### **Article 50: Functions**

The Legal Commission shall advise the Council on such matters pertaining to legal issues involving the Society, as may be referred to it by the Council.

## **PART IX**

### **GENERAL MEETINGS**

#### **Article 51: Annual General Meeting**

There shall be an Annual General Meeting of Members of the Society every year to be held not later than six months from the end of the last Calendar Year.

#### **Article 52: Agenda**

The Agenda of the Annual General Meeting shall include the following:

- a. Chairman's Address;
- b. approval of the Annual Report;
- c. approval of the Audited Statement of Income and Expenditure and the Audited Balance Sheet;
- d. election of the office bearers as laid down in this Constitution.
- e. appointment of Honorary Auditor;
- f. any other business of which notice has been given at least ten days before the Meeting;
- g. approval of Awards of the Society if any.

#### **Article 53: Notice of Meeting**

1. Members entitled to attend any General Meeting shall be notified of the date of meeting and the provisional agenda not less than three weeks before the date of the meeting.
2. Any business for inclusion on the final agenda as "any other business" must be submitted to the Secretary General not less than ten days before the date of the meeting.

#### **Article 54: Attendance, Voting and Quorum**

The following categories of members may attend General Meetings:

- a. All Council Members;
- b. Honorary Members;

- c. Subscribing Members who have attained eighteen years of age.
  - d. Active Members who have attained eighteen years of age.
1. Not less than one fifth of the members entitled to attend General Meetings shall form a quorum.
  2. In the event of the required number not being present another meeting shall be called within half an hour when irrespective of the number of eligible members present, the business fixed for the previous meeting shall be considered.

**Article 55: Chairman of the General Meeting.**

The Chairman of the Council shall be Chairman of the General Meetings.

**Article 56: Voting**

1. Members shall vote in person and no voting by proxy shall be allowed.
2. Voting at all General Meetings shall be by a show of hands except for the election of the members for the Council, which shall be by ballot.
3. A member may request that voting be by ballot on any particular issue. Such request shall be acceded to if so agreed upon by the majority of those present.
4. Resolutions at General Meetings other than those required under this Constitution shall be decided by a simple majority vote.

**Article 57 : Extra-Ordinary General Meetings**

Extra-Ordinary General Meetings of the Society Meetings shall be convened by the Secretary General as follows:-

- a. on the instruction of the Council;
  - b. on the instruction of the Chairman of the Society;
  - c. on the written application to the Secretary General of at least fifty members of the Society together with a written statement of the object for which the meeting is declared.
1. The requirement of an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting shall be as those set out in Article 53 to Article 57 of this Constitution.
  2. Only the matter for which the Extraordinary General Meeting is called shall be on the Agenda.

## **PART X**

### **ACTIVE DIVISIONS**

#### **Article 58: Composition**

1. The Active Divisions shall comprise the Red Cross Youth, the Adult Volunteer Division and the Chapters.
2. The Council may increase, decrease or merge any of the Active Divisions, as it deems fit.

#### **Article 59: Red Cross Youth**

1. The Red Cross Youth shall be open to membership to all persons who have attained sixteen years of age and who belong to a Red Cross unit recognised by the Council. The Red Cross Youth includes the Youth Auxiliary Members.
2. Any member of the Red Cross Youth who attains the age of eighteen years shall have the rights and privileges set out in Article 18 of this Constitution.
3. The Red Cross Youth shall seek to promote and encourage the participation of children and young persons in the work of the Red Cross.
3. The management and the operations of the Red Cross Youth shall be set out in by-laws approved by the Council.

#### **Article 60: Adult Volunteer Division**

1. The Adult Volunteer Division shall be open to membership to all persons who have attained sixteen years of age and who have common interest in any one or more of the activities or projects initiated and undertaken by the Society.
2. Any member of the Adult Volunteer Division who attains the age of eighteen years shall have the rights and privileges set out in Article 18 of this Constitution.
3. The Adult Volunteer Division shall instruct its members in all matters relating to skills and learning required for the performance of such functions or activities of the interest groups initiated or undertaken by the Society.
4. The management and the operations of the Adult Volunteer Division shall be set out in by-laws approved by the Council.

### **Article 61: Chapters**

1. The Red Cross Chapters shall be open to all persons who have attained the age of sixteen years and may include students in the tertiary institutions.
2. Any member of the Red Cross Chapters who attains the age of eighteen years shall have the rights and privileges set out in Article 18 of this Constitution.
3. The Red Cross Chapters shall instruct its members in all matters relating to skills and learning required for the performance of such functions or activities of the interest groups initiated or undertaken by the Society for the Chapters
4. The management and the operations of the Red Cross Chapters shall be set out in by-laws approved by the Council.

### **Article 62: Representation on the Council.**

The Active Divisions shall be represented on the Council as set out in Article 19 and Article 20 of this Constitution.

## **PART XI**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

#### **Article 63: Amendments**

1. The Council may from time to time and as it thinks fit repeal or amend this Constitution by a majority of not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the numbers present and voting.
2. The Secretary General shall give notice of such proposed amendments to all members of Council at least twenty-one days before a meeting of Council.
3. The Council may, if it deems fit, convene an Extra-Ordinary General Meeting for consultation with the members on the proposed amendments.

#### **Article 64: Approval Required from the Director of Medical Services.**

An amendment to this Constitution shall not come into force unless approval is obtained from the Director of Medical Services and shall take effect from the date the Director of Medical Services signifies his approval, or from the date specified in the amending resolution, whichever is later.

**PART XII**  
**INTERPRETATION**

**Article 65: Interpretation of Constitution.**

This Constitution shall be read subject to the Singapore Red Cross Society Incorporation Act 1973 and the Singapore Red Cross Society Incorporation Amendment Act 1978. In the event of any inconsistency or ambiguity, the aforesaid Acts of Parliament shall prevail.

**Article 66: Controversies**

1. Any dispute over the interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution at a General Meeting shall be resolved by a poll of the members present and voting and the views of the majority shall prevail.
2. Any dispute over the interpretation of the provisions of the Constitution at a meeting of any of the Committees, Commissions, or sub-committees shall be determined by the Chairman.
3. Any member aggrieved at the Chairman's determined by, within a period of not less than seven days, can lodge an appeal to the Council. Upon notice by the Secretary General that an appeal has been lodged, no action shall be taken pursuant to the Chairman's determination. The Council shall consider and determine the appeal at its next meeting and the ruling of the Council shall be final.

## **PART XIII**

### **DISSOLUTION AND GENERAL**

#### **Article 67: Dissolution.**

The Singapore Red Cross Society may only be dissolved by law or by a decision of a general meeting with a quorum of four fifths of its members and by a majority of nine tenths of the members present and voting.

#### **Article 68: Surplus / Assets.**

In the event of the Society being dissolved the property of the Society shall, after all debts and liabilities of the Society have been paid, be donated to such other organisations having objects similar to those of the Society as the General Meeting shall by a majority decide.

#### **Article 69: Payment of Fines.**

The funds of the Society shall not be used to pay fines of members who have been convicted in court, except where such convictions are the result of actions done in performance of duties for the Society.

**PART XIV**  
**TRANSITION**

**Article 70: General.**

This Constitution shall take effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 2002.

**Article 71: Financial Year**

The new financial year will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2002 and the current financial year shall end on 31 December 2001. The Treasurer is authorised to make such adjustment as may be necessary to reflect the same.

**Article 72: Office Bearers**

All existing office bearers elected or appointed prior to this Constitution shall cease to hold office and new office bearers shall be elected for this Constitution.

**Article 73: Council to make rules during the transition.**

The new Council shall make rules or decide such actions as may be necessary to give effect to this Constitution.

*Adopted at the SRCS Annual General Meeting in December 2000  
Approved by Director, Medical Services vide MH 113 : 04/1 Vol 10 dated 30 August 2001*