#### STATUTE OF THE

# INTERNATIONAL DZOGCHEN COMMUNITY (COMUNITA' DZOGCHEN INTERNAZIONALE)

#### Art. 1

An international non-profit association named International Dzogchen Community is hereby formed, hereinafter referred to as "International Dzogchen Community" or "Association".

#### Art. 2

The Association is headquartered in Merigar, Arcidosso, (GR), Italy. The International Board of Directors of the Association, hereinafter referred to as the "International Gakyil" can move the headquarters within the municipality of Arcidosso by simple deliberation. The Association can establish seats in Italy and abroad.. The Association has an unlimited duration.

#### Art 3

#### DEFINITION AND MISSION

The International Dzogchen Community is an international non-for profit organization that brings together people who are committed to study and practice the Dzogchen Ati Teaching under the guidance of a master possessing authentic knowledge of the state of Dzogchen. It supports the evolution of individuals and promote social aims.

It is non-political and non-sectarian. It is founded on the principles of the Dzogchen teaching as it has been transmitted by Prahevajra and by the uninterrupted lineage of the Masters within the Buddhist and Bon traditions down to Chögyal Namkhai Norbu, founder and spiritual master of the International Dzogchen Community.

The Association recognizes the Four Noble Truths, taught by the Buddha Gautama Siddhartha Shakyamuni (5th century B.C.), in his sermon at Sarnath, as an integral part of the basic principles of Dzogchen teaching. The Association promotes respect for the world's cultural and spiritual diversity through exchange and comparison without any prejudice.

The mission of the Association is to support the transmission of the Dzogchen Teaching, as transmitted within Chögyal Namkhai Norbu's lineage and to safeguard its authenticity. The basic purpose of the Association is to support the evolution of individuals through respect of everyone's dignity and individual dimension refraining at the same time from any proselytism and sectarianism.

The International Dzogchen Community intends to:

- a) support the transmission and the continuation of the three series of Dzogchen Semde, Longde and Mangagde teachings under the guidance of the Spiritual Master and founder of the Community by organizing workshops, seminars, conferences, and retreats;
- b)support the transmission of the Longsal Cycle, the collection of Chogyal Namkhai Norbu's rediscovered teachings;
- c) support the development and continuation of the Santi Maha Sangha Training that embraces nine levels of study and practice of the three series of Dzogchen Semde, Longde and Mangagde;

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- d)support and facilitate the teaching activity of the Spiritual Master of the Dzogchen Community and of the instructors by him designated to explain specific methods or aspects of the teachings;
- e) support the transmission and improve public knowledge of Yantra Yoga, with the aim of increasing awareness of the interdependence between body, speech and mind;
- f) support the transmission of the Vajra Dance and other dances related to the Dzogchen teachings;
- g)retrieve and document the traditional knowledge relevant to the Dzogchen and Buddhist teachings;
- h)promote initiatives aimed to support and to spread the knowledge of Tibetan culture;
- i) set up libraries and documentation centres;
- j) support and promote the translation and publication of the original literature on the Dzogchen and Buddhist teachings and on the Tibetan culture in general;
- k) promote conferences, seminars and courses;
- l) give scholarships and grants to individuals, associations and institutions who are contributing to the furthering of the Dzogchen Community's aims;
- m) contribute to the development of the Association's international network;
- n)develop a network of relationships, activities and initiatives at a local and international level with and amongst communities, formed of all the people and entities interested in the development of spiritual knowledge;
- o)promote, organize, manage and participate in educational activities, including within schools and universities, through research projects, coordination, training and refresher courses, aimed at a comprehensive application of human evolution, at the understanding of the individual nature;
- p)realize, directly or through other organizations founded for this specific purpose, projects of international cooperation aimed at the protection of traditional knowledge and the support of local communities, particularly in the areas inhabited by the Tibetan ethnic groups and in general in the developing countries;
- q)encourage public dialogue on themes such as the preservation of traditional knowledge and medical traditions;
- r) promote the work of people inside or outside of the Association who have contributed to the furthering of these aims, by awarding prizes, supplying grants, disseminating and publicizing their achievements and other appropriate means;
- s) support and promote publishing initiatives relevant to the mission of the Association;
- t) publish bulletins, reviews, informative material, periodicals on the activities of the Dzogchen Community;
- divulge, through the activity of qualified physicians, application of the techniques of oriental medicine, Tibetan in particular, and to arrange for the packaging of necessary medicines, in conformity with regulations currently in force;
- v) promote the commercial, artisanal and working activities of members of the Association;
- w) manage the proprietorship and the usage of the trade marks, logos and brands belonging to the International Dzogchen Community and of other trade marks, logos and brands, if any;
- x) manage the ownership of all the web domains relevant to the mission and activities of the Association.

The Association's aims are pursued through the commitment of its members to study and apply the knowledge contained in the Tantras, the Lungs and the Upadeshas of Dzogchen. The members of the Dzogchen Community, recognize themselves as Vajra Brothers and Sisters, and harmoniously collaborate with each other, in the spirit of Dzogchen teachings and on a voluntary basis.

The Association may collaborate with other entities for the development of initiatives compatible with its own institutional ends. It shall, however, remain completely independent of government bodies, public and private enterprises and every other body.

Its organizational structure, its activities, the cooperation amongst its members are all inspired and guided by the understanding of the principles of the Dzogchen Teaching.

The relations amongst its members and the relations of the Association with other individual and institutions are ruled by the understanding of the principle of the specific commitments called *samaya* as they are explained in the framework of the Vajrayana Buddhism and Dzogchen teachings.

To achieve its primary objectives, the Association, besides the specific activities listed above, may undertake any activity, including commercial, providing it is related and/or accessory to those listed above, and perform all acts and conclude any transaction whatsoever concerning personal or real estate and financing that may be necessary or useful for the achievement of the aims of the association and with reference to the purpose of the association.

To achieve the aims it has set, the International Dzogchen Community may participate at an international or national level in public or private organizations, promote groups and meetings, affiliate itself with institutions and organizations, including business ventures, which it feels useful for the attainment of its social objectives. It may promote and/or support foundations, study centers and publishing and promotional initiatives, and in general undertake any activity that does not conflict with the nature of the Association.

To this end the International Dzogchen Community undertakes to support the raising of the financial resources to ensure the successful implementation of the activities of the NGO ASIA and the International Shang Shung Institute.

The International Dzogchen Community, through the International Gakyil, undertakes to ensure the coordination of such entities among themselves and to support and facilitate their communication with every other entity anywhere in the world that has equivalent and shared aims.

Thus it resolves to create a network of Associations formed by groups of individuals who share its principles and its mission and who plan to cultivate common cultural and spiritual interests. The main seats of the Association in a specific geographical area are called Gar. The basic seats of the Association are called Ling.

#### Art. 4

## Membership

The International Dzogchen Community members are the people interested in learning and practicing the Dzogchen Teaching who apply for a membership card and whose membership is accepted through a deliberation of the International Gakyil. They also must abide by the rules of this Statute and all subsidiary documents available at the Association's Headquarters and, where there is any Dzogchen Community Association legally established, its regulating statute. The process for requesting a membership card and payment of the membership fee, any variations in

the membership fee, information on which of the Association's bodies are concerned with the acceptance or refusal of an application and the means of that refusal, as well as every other condition relative to membership, are specified in the International Dzogchen Community Membership Regulations..

The founding members, ordinary members and honorary members are part of the association.

Founding members are those members who founded the Association.

Ordinary members are the persons committed to pay the annual fee established by the International Gakyil, for the entire term of their bond with the Association. An interested person may become member when, having accepted the Association's Statute, Bylaws and Membership Regulations has participated to the Association's activities and followed the Dzogchen Teaching from the Spiritual Master of the Community for the three years preceding his/her application to become member.

Honorary members are the persons, entities and institutions who have made a decisive contribution, either through their work to the significant development of the Association or the Association's institutional activities. Honorary members hold permanent office and are exonerated from paying annual fees.

In general, membership of the Association for natural persons is subject to subscribing to a declaration certifying:

- The member's full personal data;
- Acceptance of the Statute and Association Regulations;
- The sharing of the aims proposed by the Association and the commitment to observe its Statute and Regulations.
- Acceptance of the agreement concerning the method of treatment of personal data;
- Consent to the treatment of his/her own personal data for institutional and administrative ends:
- The member's agreement to pay the annual fee;

The accepted member is entered in the Register of Members, kept in the Association's headquarters.

The International Gakyil may, at its own discretion, revoke any new member within the six months following his/her first registration in the Register of Members, even without giving reason for said revocation.

Membership of the Association confers the right for members of legal age to vote at the Sangha Assembly to approve or amend the Statute and Regulations, as well as nominate the Association's bodies.

Every member of the Association is required to pay a fee, the amount of which is fixed by the International Gakyil; the International Gakyil determines annually the amount of the fee for each single category of members, also taking into account the possibility of reduced fees for those members having special characteristics, as for example, pensioners, students or the unemployed.

The membership fee is non transferable and non refundable.

Under the terms of the present Statute, the International Dzogchen Community members have the right:

a) to vote for or to be elected to any of the institutional structures of the Association according to the principle of a single vote;

- b) to approve the Balance Sheet; and
- c) to participate in the Association assemblies and all its activities, as defined herein.

Other associations or entities who share the same aims of those of the Association can join the Association as affiliates, by the means established in the International Dzogchen Community Membership Regulations. In this case, affiliation is subordinated to resolution of the International Gakyil, in conformity with the procedure set forth in the Membership Regulations.

They will have the right to participate in the activities of the Association, expressly excluding the right to vote.

#### Art 5

Members cease to be members of the association by withdrawal, expulsion or death.

Membership and affiliate status is lost by:

- a) non-payment of the annual membership fee;
- b) non-renewal of the payment of the affiliation fee or by express notice on behalf of the affiliate;
- c) expulsion on serious grounds, for example behavior or activities in clear conflict with the principles or the aims of the Association, to be decided by the International Gakyil or the Gar's Gakyil, where existing. An appeal against such an exclusion may be lodged with the College of Guarantors hereinafter referred to as the "College of Gekös" (art.39 of this Statute).

The verification of the payment of the membership or affiliation fees must be in accordance with what is stated in the Membership Regulations. Members of a Ling or a Gar that is suspended or dissolved do not lose their International Dzogchen Community membership status.

A member may also be expelled by resolution of the International Gakyil; grounds for expulsion include failure to pay the membership fee, breach of the obligations deriving from this Statute and the Regulations and the onset of serious reasons that make continuation of association membership incompatible.

Expulsion has immediate effect from the date of notification of the expulsion order, which should contain the reasons why the expulsion has been resolved. In the event that the expelled member fails to agree with the reasons giving rise to the resolution for expulsion, he/she may apply within 30 days from the notification to the College of Gekös (College of Guarantors) who will make their decision known within 60 days of submission of the request.

A member may withdraw at any time by notifying in writing the International Gakyil of his/her desire to withdraw from the group of members and to have his/her name taken off the Register of Members; withdrawal will be effective from the beginning of the month following that in which the International Gakyil receives notification of the intention to withdraw.

# Art. 6

# **Organizational Structure**

The International Dzogchen Community is composed as follow:

- 1. a) The International Dzogchen Community Association;
- 2. b) The main seats of the International Dzogchen Community in a specific Geographical area hereinafter referred to as "Gar";

- 3. c) The local seats/centers within a single country herein after referred to as "Ling";
- 4. d) The associations, foundations, study centers, universities, cooperatives, companies and/or any other institution founded, cofounded, promoted by and/or affiliated with the International Dzogchen Community.

The deliberating, governing, administrative, coordinating and management bodies of the International Dzogchen Community are the following:

- a) The Spiritual Master of the Dzogchen Community hereinafter referred to as the "President"
- b) The "International Sangha Assembly" hereinafter referred as the "Assembly";
- c) The International Board of Directors herein after referred to as "International Gakyil" (composed of a minimum of 3 members and a maximum of 9 proposed by the President and ratified by the International Sangha Assembly) that nominates amongst its members a Vice-President who assumes the legal representation of the Association;
- d) The International Executive Director (where nominated);
- e) The Gar's Board of Directors hereinafter referred to as "Gar's Gakyil", to be founded wherever a Gar (or similar non-profit structure) has been established, and necessarily regulated by the relative Statute in compliance with this one; the Gar's Gakyil nominates amongst its members a Vice- President who assumes the legal representation of the Association;
- f) The Gar Executive Director (where nominated);
- g) The Local Gakyil responsible for the management of a Ling that nominates amongst its members a Vice-President who assumes the legal representation of the Association.;
- h) The Ling Director (where nominated).
- i) The International Coordination Committee.

#### Art. 7

## THE INTERNATIONAL SANGHA ASSEMBLY

The International Sangha Assembly is the highest deliberating body of the International Dzogchen Community. It decides on the policies of the Organization and approves the Organization's program of work and the budget. It also elects the President and votes on other important matters.

All members of the International Dzogchen Community have the right to participate in the International Assembly. Participation in the Assembly can be in person or by proxy. Every member is authorized to represent a maximum of nine other members.

The International Sangha Assembly is held al least every year according to the procedures established by the International Gakyil through specific agenda prepared for every individual Assembly, with the aim of the full implementation of the Assembly's institutional tasks as listed below.

The International Sangha Assembly is convened by the International Gakyil on its own initiative or on the request from at least one-third of the members who make such request to the International Gakyil or to the President.

The assembly shall be convened either by direct written notice to each member, to be forwarded by letter, fax or e-mail, or by posting the notice, at least 60 days prior to the date fixed for the meeting, at the Association head-quarters, or by publication in the Association's newsletters forwarded periodically to members and/or on the Association's website.

The written notice should indicate the date, place and time of the meeting, as well as business to be discussed and, also, the date, place and time in second call, expressly permitted and envisaged, which should be fixed at least twenty-four hours after the first call.

Ordinary and extraordinary assemblies pass resolutions in first call with the majorities provided by law and in second call with the majority vote of those present;

The Assembly is chaired by the President of the Association who is also the Chair of the International Gakyil, or in his absence, by the Vice Chair of the International Gakyil, and in his absence by the senior member in office of the International Gakyil.

In cases of change of location of the International Association's headquarters, of the dissolution of the Association and the liquidation of the assets of the Association, a consensus of 75% of those who have the right to vote is required.

In case of any modification to this Statute, notwithstanding art.21 of the Italian Civil Code, the Sangha Assembly, ordinary and extraordinary, is regularly constituted in first call when the number of those present is more than half of the number of members with right of vote and validly deliberates on all topics in agenda with the absolute majority of the votes of those present with right of vote.

The Sangha Assembly, ordinary and extraordinary, is regularly constituted in second call whatever the number of present members with right of vote and validly deliberates on all topics in agenda with the absolute majority of the votes of those present with right of vote.

The resolutions regarding modifications of the statute must be deliberated with the majorities stated for the extraordinary assembly notwithstanding the Art. 21, Subsection2 of the Italian Civil Code. The name of the Association, the mission in Art. 3 and the destination of the assets in case of dissolution of the Association can not be modified

The resolutions regarding the dissolution of the Association must be approved with a majority of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> (three quarters) of the members with right of vote.

The Assembly nominates a secretary, either from amongst members or non-members, and, if necessary, two scrutinisers from among the members.

The resolutions passed by the Assembly shall appear in a written minute signed by the President of the Assembly, the secretary and, where applicable, by the scrutinisers.

When required by law, or the President of the Assembly deems it opportune, the minutes shall be drawn up by a Notary Public nominated by the President.

The International Sangha Assembly is responsible for:

- a) approving the Association's policies and program of activities;
- b) sharing the social information;
- c) approving the nomination of the members of the International Gakyil proposed by the President as stated in this Statute;
- d) approving the nomination of the members of the Board of Auditors proposed by the President;
- e) approving the nomination of the members of the College of Gekös proposed by the President;
- f) approving a direction from the International Gakyil and/or the International President for any changes to the Statute, including the change of location of the International Association's headquarters and the dissolution or liquidation of the Association itself.
- g) Approving the budget and the final balance for the fiscal year, and passing resolution on the internal allocation of profits or surplus income, howsoever denominated, as well as funds, reserves or capital during the life of the association, if permitted by law or by this Statute.

#### **PRESIDENT**

The President is the spiritual master of the International Dzogchen Community and the lineage-holder of the Ozogchen teachings as specified in Art.1 of this Statute. The incumbent President of the International Dzogchen Community is Chögyal Namkhai Norbu.

The President has the responsibility of the transmission of the Dzogchen teaching and of the general governance of the Association. It is also the President's responsibility to ensure that the Association complies with the mission enounced in the present Statute. The President is appointed by the International Sangha Assembly and remains in office for life. The President has the following functions:

- a) Acquires and protects the Association's assets.
- b) Makes certain the association is working to fulfill its mission
- c) Proposes to the International Sangha Assembly the candidates to be elected for the International Gakyil.
- d) Proposes to the International Sangha Assembly the candidates to be elected for the Board of Auditors;
- e) Proposes to the International Sangha Assembly the candidates to be elected for the College of Gekös (College of Guarantors);
- f) Proposes to the Gar Sangha Assemblies the candidates to be elected for the Gar's Gakyils;
- g) Ratify the appointment of the International Executive Director and the appointment of the Gar Executive Directors;
- h) Nominates a Deputy who will automatically assume the President's powers in the case of sudden and serious impairment;
- i) Indicates to the General Sangha Assembly the name of his spiritual successor(s);
- j) Approves the strategic plan;
- k) Approves the work plans of the International Association and of the Gars and relevant budgets;
- 1) Approves the policies for the Association;
- m) Monitor and evaluates the Association's activities;
- n) Speaks on behalf of the Association to the public and media;
- o) Chairs the International Gakyil and the Gar's Gakyils;
- p)Ratify the appointment of the replacements for members of the International Gakyil who for whatever reason have ceased to carry out their functions;
- q)Monitors the normal functioning of the International Gakyil;
- r) Exercises the task of delegation and external relations pertaining to the President's functions:
- s) Participates, with voting rights, in the meetings of every Gar/Ling's Gakyil, in person or via a representative; and
- t) Participates by right in all the Gar/Ling Sangha Assemblies, in person or via a representative.

#### Art.9

# **VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Vice-President has the legal representation of the Association before third parties and in the court for any deliberation on ordinary and extraordinary administration resolved by the International Gakyil and has all relevant powers of signature. The Vice-president coordinates the

work of the International Gakyil.

In the case of urgent necessity the Vice-President can exercise the powers of the International Gakyil, upon ratification at the first meeting. The Vice-President's powers and limits of action, in particular with regard to extraordinary administration are established by the International Gakyil by means of a Regulation.

The Vice-President is nominated by the International Gakyil amongst its members. The demotion of the Vice-President can be decided at any time by the International President and/or requested through a motion, voted by the majority of the International Gakyil members that should be ratified by the International President.

# Art. 10

#### INTERNATIONAL GAKYIL

The International Gakyil is the highest governing body of the International Association. It has the responsibility to support the President in ensuring that the work and the organizational system of the Dzogchen Community are efficiently implemented in accordance with the understanding of the Dzogchen Teaching. The Gakyil takes its name from a traditional Tibetan symbol: a circle with three crescents of different colors (yellow, red and blue) respectively in correspondence of the body, the voice/energy and the mind of the individuals.

It is composed by at least three members.

In observance of the collegiate nature of the International Gakyil's functions, the Gakyil is divided into three areas of competence; each area is represented by a colour and should have at least one member;

- a. Yellow: deals with the administration of the Association's assets and represents the Community's economic and administrative activities.
- b. Red: oversees the development and management of the physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the implementation of the Association's operations. Oversees the smooth functioning of the Association's operations and consistent services delivery. Oversees the logistical services and the implementation of internal management and administrative systems and procedures. Oversees the recruitment and management of human resources.
- c. Blue: deals with cultural and educational activities. Oversees all activities and initiatives aimed to support the transmission of the Dzogchen Teaching and related knowledge. Promotes relevant specific activities of the Association and oversees the Association's publication and communication activities.

Meetings of the Gakyil are deemed validly established when all areas are represented.

The members of the Gakyil are elected by the International Sangha Assembly. The members of the Association who wish to be elected should submit a letter of intents together with their CV to the Gakyil in charge at least five months before the date of the General International Sangha Assembly. The candidates to be presented for election to the General International Sangha Assembly are selected by the President and the Gakyil in charge on the base of their CV and

relevant letter of intent.

The members of the International gakyil remain in charge for the three years.

A member of the International Gakyil may be elected two times consecutively; after his/her second term of office he/she may not be re-elected for a period of six years.

If a member decides to resign, he/she shall advise the Gakyil of the decision in writing. His/her resignation shall have immediate effect if the majority of the members of the International Gakyil remain in office, failing this, from the time the majority is reconstituted.

The President is the Chair of the International Gakyil. The members of the International Gakyil are elected by the International Sangha Assembly, on the recommendation of the President. If for any reason one or more of the elected members of the International Gakyil cease to perform their function, the International President will propose to the International Gakyil the nomination of their replacement. These new members will remain in office until the next Assembly. For the purposes of re-election, partial duration of the office will be counted as a full year, if it exceeds six months.

If the majority of the Gakyil members are unable to participate, the members remaining in office shall call a meeting of the Assembly to replace them.

The International Gakyil elects a Vice Chair from amongst its members. The International Gakyil is convened by the Vice Chair of the International Gakyil in writing (including electronic mail), with at least seven days notice and containing an outline of the meeting's agenda. If there are urgent reasons, one day's notice can be sufficient. The International Gakyil resolves on the basis of the majority of those present, in the case of a tie, the vote of the Chair prevails and in his absence the vote of the Vice Chair prevails.

The presence of the majority of its members holding office is required for resolutions of the Gakyil to be considered valid.

Whenever necessary, the International Gakyil can meet and deliberate via video or telephone conference or via electronic mail, as long as all the members have the possibility of intervening in the discussions and decision-making process and they sign the minutes of the meeting or they send written confirmation of their approval of the minutes of the meeting.

The International Gakyil may temporarily delegate all or some of its powers, to Ad Hoc Committees, to the International executive Director and/or to other individuals determining, also temporally, their limits.

Members of the Gakyil are not entitled to any retribution, other than reimbursement of documented expenses frugally sustained in the course of their duties.

The International Executive Director is appointed by the International Gakyil and may be invited to participate to the International Gakyil meetings with no right of vote.

#### Art. 11

In addition to the tasks previously mentioned in this Statute, the International Gakyil is also responsible for:

- a) overseeing the ordinary and extraordinary administration of the International Association;
- b) reviewing and approving the balances and the social information as to Art.44 of this Statute to be submitted for final approval to the International Sangha Assembly;
- c) deciding the annual and three-year action plans and estimated budgets;

- d) establishing procedures for membership or affiliation which take into account specific socioeconomic or linguistic situations;
- e) reviewing the activities and decisions taken by the various Gar's Gakyil to ensure compliance with the Association's policies, with all the authority assigned by this Statute;
- f) proposing to the President the establishment of new Lings and Gars;
- g) proposing to the President the dissolution of Gar's Gakyil if their existence is no longer justified by their activities and the Association's development;
- h) authorizing, in the countries where there is no existing Gar's Gakyil, the implementation of forms of organization between Lings which render their Association activities more efficient;
- i) keeping the Lings of those countries without a Gar's Gakyil informed of the Association's strategic aims, main initiatives and national campaigns; this tasks may be delegated to the nearest Gar's Gakyil.
- j) setting up international and national *ad hoc* committees and advisory committees, made up of experts whose duty will be to propose policies, programs and initiatives functional to the aims of the International Association.
- k) appointing the members of the International Coordination Committee (art. 13 of this Statute);
- 1) convening the meeting of the International Coordination Committee;
- m) convening the International Sangha Assembly and preparing the acts to be submitted to the Assembly;
- n) proposing the appointment of representatives of the Association to public and private bodies and institutions of which the Association is part of or to which it has the right to do so;
- o) deciding on the removal from office of any Ling, Gar and International Gakyil member, in the event that he or she is not performing his/her duties or is organizing and/or running activities considered by the International Gakyil to be damaging, incompatible or in opposition to the International Dzogchen Community;
- p) deciding on the closure of inactive Lings, or the dissolution of Lings with just cause, where it is not the responsibility of the relevant Gar's Gakyil;
- q) inviting representatives from the Association to discuss issues of their specific interest and competence: these invited representatives may express non-binding opinions;
- r) approving regulations containing the principles and means of administrative management and the Association's book-keeping, as well as the drawing up, announcing and approval of the Association's budgets and balances;
- s) approving regulations and protocols for the running of the Association's local, and international bodies and activities;
- t) defining, establishing and managing the implementation of the International Dzogchen Community's branding;
- u) verifying the observance of the Statute and regulations and promoting their reform, if and when considered necessary, to the President and to the general Sangha Assembly;
- v) establishing by means of a Regulation the Executive Director's powers and limits of action, in particular with regard to extraordinary administration.
- w) taking part in the Assemblies of the Gar Associations, when deemed necessary and/or on the recommendation of the International President.
- x) ensuring that all the Gars and the Lings of the International Dzogchen Community serve the mission and purposes of the International Dzogchen Community in accordance with the Principle of the Dzogchen Teaching.
- y) nominating amongst its members the Vice-President who has the legal representation of the Association.

# **International Executive Director**

If needed, the International Gakyil may decide to entrust the management of the day to day operations of the Association to an Executive Director. The nomination of the International Executive Director is proposed by the International Gakyil and it is ratified by the International President.

He/she reports to the International Gakyil, directs all day-to-day operations of the Association, including: supervising staff, monitoring programs and finances, providing ongoing direction, advising and reporting to the International Gakyil on the Association's operations.

The International Executive Director can be assigned the authority to represent the International Association in relation to specific subjects by the President or by the International Gakyil.

The International Executive Director has the following tasks:

- a) managing the implementation of the International Gakyils resolutions and undertaking the day to day operational management of the international Association in conformity with those resolutions.
- b) ensuring the coordination of the International Dzogchen Community through a close interaction with all the bodies of the Association at international and local level;
- c) ensuring that the financial and economic statements, budgets, balance sheets and relevant work-plans are appropriately and timely drawn up.
- d) recording the minutes of the International Gakyil.
- e) managing contractual obligations with credit institution on behalf of the International Association.
- f) managing the human resources of the Association.

The Director's powers and limits of action are established by the International Gakyil by means of a Regulation.

# Art. 13

#### THE INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

The International Coordination Committee is the assembly, which represents the main forum for coordination and dialog between associations, cooperatives, institutions and groups belonging to, or associated with the International Dzogchen Community.

The role of the International Coordination Committee is to facilitate the international coordination and enhance synergies between the above mentioned entities. It acts as an advisory board on issues pertaining the Association and its activities.

It is composed of members by right, and members appointed by the President and by the International Gakyil. Members of the International Gakyil are by right members of the International Coordination Committee. Every Gar's Gakyil has the right to at least two representatives in the International Coordination Committee. The President of the Board of Auditors, the President of the College of Guarantors and the International Executive Director are invited by right to meetings of the International Coordination Committee. The members of the International advisory bodies as to Art.36 of this Statute are also invited to meetings of the International Coordination Committee. A representative of ASIA and one of the International Shang Shung Institute are also members of the International Coordination Committee. Where there is no Gar's Gakyil in a specific country, it falls to the International Gakyil to determine the means and the terms for guaranteeing their representation in the International Coordination Committee, taking into account the strategic and development needs of the Association.

#### Art. 14

The International Coordination Committee is convened by the International Gakyil at least once every three years. It must be convened by providing notice in writing (including electronically) at least 30 days prior to the meeting, containing information on the date, place and agenda. The International Coordination Committee must also be convened whenever it is deemed necessary or when at least a tenth of the members of the international Association make a reasonable request.

#### Art. 15

In addition to those previously mentioned, the tasks of the International Coordination Committee include:

- a) discussing the major issues facing the International Dzogchen Comunity with the aim to better support the teaching activities of its Spiritual Master and to enhance the coordination of the activities of the Association
- b) proposing to the International Gakyil means aimed to improve the coordination between groups and organizations in the different countries.
- c) supporting the International Gakyil in developing communication and fund raising strategies
- d) supporting the coordination and development of initiatives, projects and activities promoted by ASIA, by the International Shang Shung institute and/or any other organization founded and/or related to the International Dzogchen Community.
- e) supporting the communication between members of the Association in the different countries also with the aim to optimize and facilitate the use of resources.

The meeting resolves on the basis of a simple majority of those present, provided that at least half of the Members are present. When necessary, the International Coordination Committee can meet and deliberate via video or telephone conference or via electronic mail, as long as all the members have the possibility of participating in the discussions and decision making process. Every individual International Coordination Committee member represents within the International Coordination Committee the situation of the Association relative to their own country, geographic area, organization, group etc., proposes to the International Coordination Committee the projects and initiatives of their own area and reports back to their area/group on the decisions and planning policies proposed by the International Coordination Committee to the International Gakyil.

# Art. 16

The International Gakyil shall replace a member of the International Coordination Committee if the requisites which permitted his or her appointment cease to exist or for other reasons, provided that these are grounded.

# Art. 17 GAR'S HONORARY PRESIDENT

The Gar's Honorary President is the Spiritual Teacher of the International Dzogchen Community and President of the International Association.

# Art.18

## **GAR'S VICE-PRESIDENT**

The Gar's Vice-President has the legal representation of the Association before third parties and in the court for any deliberation on ordinary and extraordinary administration resolved by the Gar's Gakyil and has all relevant powers of signature.

In the case of urgent necessity the Vice-President can exercise the powers of the Gar's Gakyil, upon ratification at the first meeting. The Vice-President's powers and limits of action, in particular with regard to extraordinary administration are established by the Gar's Gakyil by means of a Regulation.

The Vice-President is nominated by the Gar's Gakyil amongst its members. The demotion of the Vice-President can be decided at any time by the International President and/or requested through a motion, voted by the majority of the Gar's Gakyil members that should be ratified by the International President.

# Art. 19

# **GAR'S GAKYIL**

The Gar's Gakyil is the representative and coordinating body for all the members and all the organizational structures of the International Association present in a specific geographical area defined by the International Gakyil. It is established when, following the request of the President, a Gar, the main seat of the Association in a specific geographic area, is founded by the members of the International Dzogchen Community . The Gar's Gakyil is made up of at least three members of the International Dzogchen Community as established in the relevant Statute. The establishment of new Gar's Gakyil, based on the request of active members is proposed by the President of the International Dzogchen Community who has the right to suspend or dissolve existing Gar's Gakyil within the terms of the present Statute.

Members of the Gar's Gakyil are not entitled to any retribution, other than reimbursement of documented expenses frugally sustained in the course of their duties.

#### Art. 20

The relationships between every Gar's Gakyil and the International Gakyil and the International President are regulated by the present Statute, by the Gar Statute and by the relevant protocol signed by both the bodies. The protocol authorizes a Gar's Gakyil to use the International Dzogchen Community trademarks, logos and brands according to the terms defined by the Code of Use for the International Dzogchen Community Trademarks, Logos and Brands. Each Gar has the right to a part of the membership fee to finance its activities, to be defined by the International Gakyil in consultation with the Gar's Gakyil, and based on the Membership Regulations.

#### Art. 21

The tasks of the Gar's Gakyil are:

- a) to oversee the implementation of the resolutions of the International Sangha Assembly and the decisions of International Gakyil in order to ensure the harmonious development of the Association in the represented geographical area;
- b) to coordinate and organize local and cross-national activities in agreement with individual

local Statutes, and to define the membership procedure in agreement with the International Gakyil and in accordance with the International Dzogchen Community Membership Regulations;

- c) to support the development of the International Association through its own financial resources;
- d) to establish relationships and collaborations with public bodies, associations, non-governmental organizations, and communication media that are functional to the aims of the Association;
- e) to keep its affiliated Lings informed of the Association's strategic goals, main initiatives and Gar's campaigns;
- f) to authorize the institution of new Lings and determine the closure of inactive Lings or the dissolution of Lings with just cause:
- g) to modify the regulations of the Gar Statute which govern the functioning and administration of the Association in accordance with the international Statute;
- h) to prepare and submit annual work-plans and relevant budgets to the International Gakyil.
- (Final balances of the financial year and budget of the one following are to be submitted at least one month before the date scheduled for the General Sangha Assembly of the Gar);
- i) to send at least quarterly to the International Gakyil the membership data for all new members and data on each new Ling;
- j) to monitor the use of the International Dzogchen Community trademarks, logos and brands in the represented area and to promptly inform the International Gakyil of any case of incorrect use; k) to nominate amongst its members the Gar's Vice-President who has the legal representation of

#### Art. 22

# THE GAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

If needed, the Gar Gakyil may decide to entrust the management of the day to day operations of the Association to an Executive Director. The nomination of the Gar Executive Director is proposed by the Gar's Gakyil and it is ratified by the International President and/or by the International Gakyil. He/she reports to the Gar's Gakyil, directs all day-to-day operations of the Association, including: supervising staff, monitoring programs and finances, providing ongoing direction, advising and reporting to the Gar's Gakyil on the Association's operations.

The Gar Executive Director can be assigned the authority to represent the Association in relation to specific subjects by the International President or at the request of the International and Gar's Gakyil.

## Art. 23

#### THE GAR STATUTE

The Statute of the Gar, must expressly provide for:

the Association.

- a) the exact nature of the Association (or analogous established structure) as the local organized structure of the International Dzogchen Community, so that belonging to the local Dzogchen Community Association based in a specific Gar on the part of an individual member presupposes membership in the International Association;
- b) conformity of the Statute with the international Statute and all its subsidiary documents available at the Association Headquarters (Code of Use of the International Dzogchen

Community Trademarks, Logos and Brands, Membership Regulations etc.)

- c) the definition of the relationships between the Gar and the Lings;
- d) a Gar Sangha Assembly to be held every year for the approval of the balance sheet and budget and, when needed, the election of the executive bodies;
- e) the means of identifying candidates to represent the Gar in the international executive bodies;
- f) the presence of the International President as Honorary President of the Gar;
- g) the determination of one or more administrative bodies and the representative powers of the bodies themselves.
- h) the non-transferability onto the International Association of any obligation assumed by the Gar's Gakyil, with the exception only of specific and documented exceptions originating from the International Gakyil.
- i) the presentation of annual audited financial accounts to the International Gakyil and a budget.

### Art. 24

# THE LING, THE LING GAKYIL, THE LING'S VICE-PRESIDENT

The Ling is the Association's basic organizational structure within which members carry out the Association activities at the local level. The establishment of a new Ling is approved by the International Gakyil and confirmed by the President who is conferring the name to the Ling. A percentage of the annual membership fee paid by its members will be due to each Ling, for every kind of membership and in every country in which the International Dzogchen Community Association is active, under the terms and conditions stated in the International Dzogchen Community Membership Regulations. If a Ling wants to close or becomes inactive, or for other duly justifiable reasons, it will be the task of the International Gakyil or the relevant Gar's Gakyil, where existing, to decide on an alternative destination for the aforementioned percentage of the membership fee and to reassign the members of the Ling to another Ling or directly to a Gar.

## Art. 25

To establish a Ling, the founding committee must make a formal request to the International Gakyil. If the International Gakyil in consultation with the President approve the request, it may ascribe the new Ling to the network of Lings related to a specific Gar; it may also allow the Ling to use the International Dzogchen Community trademarks, logos and brands, in accordance with the relevant means of use contained in the present Statute and the attached Code of Use of Trademarks, Logos and Brands of the International Dzogchen Community. The International Gakyil may, with just cause, dissolve a Ling, with a consequent immediate cessation of the use of the International Dzogchen Community trademarks, logos and brands and the possibility of using the Association's tools of identification.

To make formal request for the establishment of a Ling there should be at least 9 registered and paying members of the International Dzogchen Community who have an official seat where to hold the Ling meetings.

#### Art. 26

A Ling can be considered active when its statute, preventively approved by the International Gakyil, including the address of the Ling's seat, has been legally registered, and its copy has been received by the International Gakyil. and by the relevant Gar Gakyil, where existing. In the absence of these conditions a Ling will still be considered active in certain circumstances if it is

recognized as such by the International Gakyil or the International President.

## Art. 27

The Ling's tasks are:

- a) to promote the mission of the International Dzogchen Community Association;
- b) to support and facilitate the teaching, the study and the practice of the Dzogchen Teaching and related disciplines;
- c) to support and facilitate the work of the Spiritual Teacher of the Dzogchen Community and of other Dzogchen Community instructors in the local area where the Ling is established;
- d) to develop around itself a local network of individuals who share the principles of the International Dzogchen Community and collaborate together to support the Dzogchen Teaching; this network is the local community of the International Dzogchen Community;
- e) to find appropriate places where the Association activities can be implemented;
- f) to organize events, courses and seminars relevant to the mission of the Association;
- g) to establish relationships and collaborations with public bodies, private associations, and communication media, in order to contribute to the mission of the International Dzogchen Community;
- h) to collaborate with other associations or entities in initiatives aimed to support Tibetan culture;
- i) to establish and maintain collaborative relationships with other Lings;
- j) to implement activities of promotion and support for the Association's international and local projects and programs.

#### Art. 28

The general meeting of members of each Ling is made up of all those registered in the Ling who have paid the membership fee. The Sangha assembly meeting of the Ling is convened at least once a year for the approval of the Ling's balance sheet, financial report and program of activities. Each member must receive written notice containing the meeting's agenda at least seven days prior to the meeting. Electronic mail can be used. The Ling Sangha Assembly is convened by the Ling Gakyil on its own initiative or on the request from at least one-third of the members who make such request to the Ling Gakyil or President.

Ordinary and extraordinary assemblies pass resolutions in first call with the majorities provided by law and in second call with the majority vote of those presents

#### Art. 29

A Ling Gakyil, composed by at least three members, manages the Ling. The Ling Gakyil represents the Ling and it is responsible for the activities it carries out and for any kind of obligation towards third parties outside the Association. The Ling Gakyil represents the Association in the Ling's area and is responsible, in addition to what has been stated above, for the use of the Association trademarks, logos and branding according to the principles and means established in the present Statute and the Code of Use of the International Dzogchen Community Trademarks, Logos and Branding. The tasks of the Lings and the Ling Gakyils will be further specified by their specific Statutes,.

Art 30

The Ling Gakyil additionally is responsible for:

- a) organizing the Association's local activities and Association membership
- b) representing the Association in its relationships with public entities, institutions, and communication media within the area where the Ling is located;
- c) convening the Ling Sangha Assembly;
- d) preparing the annual report to be presented to the Ling Sangha Assembly and providing for the keeping of the Ling's account and statutory books as well as the list of members;
- e) promoting and implementing all the initiatives that are adopted by the International and relevant Gar's Gakyil and which may, in some cases, be binding and compulsory;
- f) controlling the use of the International Dzogchen Community trademarks, logos and branding in the Ling's area and promptly notifying the International Gakyil, or the relevant Gar's Gakyil where existing, in the case of use deemed to be incorrect.
- g) submitting regularly work-plans, reports, budgets and balance sheets to the International Gakyil and to the relevant Gar Gakyil if any.

# Art. 31

The Ling Gakyil is elected by the Ling Sangha Assembly, who will also determine its size. It holds office for two years. The Ling Gakyil members of a new Ling are nominated by the founding committee and later confirmed or replaced by other members proposed by the Sangha Assembly of the Ling. Within one month of being nominated the members of the Ling Gakyil must sign a document which, in accordance with this Statute, regulates the details of the relationship of the Ling to the International Gakyil and Gar's Gakyil, where existing. The agreement is drawn up by the International Gakyil and takes into account the specific rules and regulations of any Gar Statute, where applicable, and the Ling's geographic location. The Ling Gakyil meetings are convened by the Ling Gakyil Vice-President by a written or verbal communication, normally at least three days prior to the day planned for the meeting. For resolutions to be valid there must be a majority of Gakyil members present. Resolutions are passed by a vote in favor from the majority of those present at the meeting. The Ling Gakyil members 'mandate lasts for two consecutive years.. The Ling Gakyil members can remain in office for up to two successive mandates, after which they can not be reelected for

#### Art. 32

The Ling Gakyil is coordinated by the Ling Vice-President, appointed by the Gakyil that selects him/her amongst its members. He/she is entrusted with legal representation of the Ling. The Ling Vice-President is chairing the Ling Gakyil and has the task to coordinate the work of the Ling Gakyil in regards to:

a) planning of the Ling's activities;

at least four years.

- b) preparation of the annual report;
- c) convening the general Assembly of the members when needed:
- d) preparation of the internal rules and regulations that best serve the running and administration of the Ling;
- e) coordination of administrative activities with directives and regulations set down by the International Gakyil and the relevant Gar's Gakyil, where existing;
- f) evaluation of the correctness of the use of the International Dzogchen Community logo in the Ling's area.

# Art.33

#### THE LING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

If needed, the Ling Gakyil may decide to entrust the management of the day to day operations of the Association to an Executive Director. The nomination of the Ling Executive Director is proposed by the Ling's Gakyil and it is ratified by the International President and/or by the International Gakyil. He/she reports to the Ling's Gakyil, directs all day-to-day operations of the Association, including: supervising staff, monitoring programs and finances, providing ongoing direction, advising and reporting to the Ling's Gakyil on the Association's operations.

The Ling Executive Director can be assigned the authority to represent the Association in relation to specific subjects by the President or at the request of the International and Ling's Gakyil.

### Art. 34

# THE LING STATUTE

The Ling Statute must expressly provide for:

- a) the exact nature of the Local Association (or analogous established structure) as the local organized structure of the International Dzogchen Community, so that belonging to the Local Association on the part of an individual member implies membership in the International Association;
- b) conformity of the Ling Statute with the International Statute and its subsidiary documents available at the Association's Headquarters (Code of Use of the International Dzogchen Community Logos and Regulations, Membership Regulations etc.) and with the relevant Gar Statute if any;
- c) the definition of the relationships between the Local Association and the International Association and the relevant Gar if any;
- d) a Local Sangha Assembly to be held at least every year for budget and balance approval and every two years for the election of the executive bodies;
- e) the means of identifying candidates to represent the Local Association in the international executive bodies:
- f) the determination of one or more administrative bodies and the representative powers of the bodies themselves;
- g) the non-transferability onto the International Association, and onto the Gar if any, of any obligation assumed by the Ling Gakyil, with the exception only of specific and documented exceptions originating from the International Gakyil.

#### Art. 35

The relevant Gar's Gakyil, may propose to the International Gakyil specific exceptions to the regulations and the attributions indicated in this present section.

#### Art. 36

# INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BODIES

International advisory bodies are created by decision of the International Gakyil. They have the task of in-depth study, development and proposition of policies and strategies involving specific issues of interest to the Association, in such a way as to ensure they are managed in full conformity with the circumstances of each country. Their composition, operating procedures and tasks are defined by the International President together with the International Gakyil.

## Art. 37

# THE BOARD OF AUDITORS AND THE COLLEGE OF GEKÖS (COLLEGE OF GUARANTORS)

The bodies of guarantee and control of the International Association are: the Board of Auditors and the College of Gekös (College of Guarantors). The members of both bodies are elected by the International Sangha Assembly, membership lasts for three years and they can be reelected. Both bodies of guarantee and control resolve on a simple majority, if necessary via mail, electronic mail, teleconferences etc.

#### Art 38

The Board of Auditors is nominated by the International Sangha Assembly. It is made up of maximum of three permanent members and two substitutes who may be non-members of the Association, who do not sit on the International and Gars' Gakyils and who are not a spouse, relative or in-law of members of the International and Gar's Gakyils and/or President within the fourth degree, preferably nominated from amongst the subjects indicated in paragraph 2 or art. 2397 of the Italian Civil Code and, however, from amongst persons arguably appropriate for the office.

Members of the Board remain in office until approval of the balance sheet for the third year following their nomination and may be re-elected. The Board may be revoked solely for just cause.

The Auditors may take part in meetings of the International Gakyil and Assemblies of Members but have no voting rights; they are required to take part at the meeting of the International Gakyil which draws up and endorses the budget and Financial Statement and at the Assembly for their approval.

The Auditors ensure that the accounting books are regularly kept, ascertaining financial solidity; they may at any time, including individually, undertake acts and inspections for the purposes of control; they preside over the Association's administration and examine and approve, by subscribing, the annual financial statement and the statement of assets and liabilities to submit to the Assembly of Members.

A President who is permanently invited to meetings of the International Coordination Committee is elected from among its members.

The Board has the tasks of verifying that:

a) the law, the Statute and the principles of correct administration are being observed;

- b) the accounts are being kept correctly and tax obligations are met;
- c) the Financial Statement, the Balance Sheet and the written accounts correspond to the facts of management.

The Board of Auditors presents a written report of the Association's Balance Sheet and ensures that an annual audit is implemented.

#### Art. 39

The College of Gekös (College of Guarantors) is the body of statutory guarantee and internal jurisdiction and its functions cover the entire international field. It is made up of a maximum of five members. A President who is permanently invited to meetings of the International Coordination Committee is elected from among its members.

Its members are proposed by the President and are nominated by the International Sangha Assembly.

It examines any disciplinary matters referred by the International and Gars' Gakyils, whether by groups and single members, following due investigation makes a decision and within 60 days issues a written ruling containing reasons for the decision.

Any social dispute arising between members and the Association or its bodies will be deferred to the competence of the College of Guarantors.

The College of Guarantors will judge ex bono et aequo with no procedural formalities and their decision will be final and binding.

#### Art. 40

The members of the governing and administrative bodies of the International Dzogchen Community at different levels must adapt their behavior and their initiatives, within the ambit of the Association, in order to guarantee that their own interests are not privileged in connection with economic and professional activities, and that they do not obtain personal benefits from them. The International Gakyil has the task of monitoring and verifying any eventual inappropriateness and taking any resulting decisions, following consultation with the College of Guarantors.

#### Art. 41

## TOOLS OF COMMUNICATION

The International Gakyil supervises the publication of any other form of media communication for the International Dzogchen Community members. It also supervises the publication in paper or electronic form of communication materials published by the national Associations in order to ensure that they comply with the mission, principles and branding of the International Dzogchen Community.

The official website for the whole International Dzogchen Community is defined by International Gakyil .

Art. 42

#### ASSETS AND RESOURCES

The assets of the International Dzogchen Community are made up of:

- a) Chattels and real estate acquired and/or devolved to the Association by whatever right by natural persons, public and private entities.
- b) Donations and legacies;
- c) Income arising from the previous items, which are regarded as designated to increase the assets:
- d) Sums deriving from un-used revenues which the International Gakyil decides to designate to increase the assets.

All of the income which is available to the Association for the carrying out of its purposes comes from:

- a) Contributions and reimbursements;
- b) Membership fees;
- c) Revenue or profit from the assets or economic activities and commercial activities related to the institutional activity;
- d) The proceeds of public collection of funds;
- e) Any other kind of revenue;
- f) Donations or contributions from public and private parties that are not expressly designated to increase the assets.
- g) Payments made by founders and all those who participate in the Association;
- h) Other contributions, of whatever nature, paid by members, natural persons, public and private entities, for the development of activities having social aims, exercised in compliance with institutional objectives
- i) Any extraordinary contribution established by the Assembly, which fixes the amount.

Payments may be for any amount, with the exception of a minimum payment, fixed annually by the International Gakyil, and are, however, considered grants; in no case, including in the case of wind-up of the association, death, extinction, withdrawal or exclusion of a member from the association, will the amount paid to the association, for any reason whatsoever, be reimbursed.

Payment of the fee or membership contribution may not be revalued, does not give rise to rights of participation in the association's assets and surplus income; more specifically, does not create undivided shares transferable to third parties by way of inheritance or by legacy.

The assets, contributions and donations from public and private parties have the aim of guaranteeing the functioning of the Association, the realization of its aims and the coverage of any deficits in running costs. Any surplus in the running costs must be entirely allocated to the furthering of the Association's institutional aims. The distribution, whether direct or indirect, of the surpluses of management, funds, reserves of running surpluses or capital during the life of the Association is forbidden, unless in cases where allocation or distribution is required by law.

Art. 43

TRADE MARKS, LOGOS AND BRANDS

The name, trademarks, logos and brands of the Association and other related trademarks, logos and brands together with relevant web domains may be used exclusively according to the procedures laid down in the present Statute and in the Code of Use for the International Dzogchen Community Trademarks, Logos and Brands. The International Dzogchen Community members, Lings, and Gar's Gakyils must observe the Code of Use for the International Dzogchen Community Trademarks, Logos and Brands in full. Eventual modifications to the Code of Use for the International Dzogchen Community Trademarks, Logos and Brands must be decided upon by the International Gakyil, and should be ratified by the International President.

#### Art. 44

# ACCOUNTING PERIOD, ACCOUNTING, THE BUDGET AND THE SOCIAL INFORMATION

The accounting period lasts from January 1 until December 31.

The International Gakyil is responsible for setting up an accounting system which intends to represent completely and analytically the operations carried out in each financial period by the International Dzogchen Community Association.

A yearly final balance sheet must be prepared for each accounting period. It must include a financial statement, supplementary notes and a report on the management of the Association, representing appropriately the situation of the Association in terms of assets, economics and finances. The yearly budget, consistent with the Association's yearly work-plan, has to be approved by the International Sangha Assembly within December 31st of the previous year. The final balance has to be approved by the International Sangha Assembly within four months from the ending of the financial year. If there are legitimate reasons, the date of approval of the final balance may be postponed up to a maximum of six months after the ending of the financial year.

A comprehensive narrative report on the activities carried out in each financial period by the International Dzogchen Community Association must be submitted together with the final balance.

#### ART. 45

## MEMBERS'SERVICES

The members will be able to offer their services within the Association, in accordance with the provisions of current legislation of labor and social security. It is up to the Board of Directors to define any remuneration for the services rendered in implementing specific tasks relevant to the institutional goals of the Association.

#### Article 46

#### PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA

The Association grants all members the protection of personal data, including sensitive data, it has in its possession, taking care of ensuring all the security measures provided for by Legislative Decree no. 196/2003 and deemed necessary for the protection of the privacy of its members.

#### Art. 47

# DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION

Except for legal reasons, the dissolution of the Association is decided by an Extraordinary International Sangha Assembly, convened by the means established in the present Statute, to verify the conditions for the dissolution. It will nominate one or more liquidators and will define the procedure for the devolution of any assets to entities which pursue aims similar to those of the Association.

#### Art. 48

# FINAL RULES

The international governing, administrative and executive bodies of the Association are not responsible for liabilities incurred by the Gars and Lings, which are solely answerable for their own funds and for their own governing, administrative and executive bodies. Minutes duly signed by the elected President and Secretary must be written up for every meeting of the governing, administrative and executive bodies.

#### Art. 49

For any dispute related to this Statute the place of jurisdiction is that of Grosseto, Italy. Anything not envisaged by the articles of this statute shall be regulated by existing Italian law and the norms thereof relative to the matters in hand.

The Statute of the Association has been emended according to D.M. 200/2012

## Art. 50

The reference languages for this Statute are Italian and English.