

Approved by the constituent assembly
on 20.09.2009

**THE CHARTER OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION “PAN-ARMENIAN CONFERENCE OF
LAWYERS”**

Yerevan-2009

1. General provisions

- 1.1 The non-governmental organization “Pan Armenian conference of lawyers” (hereinafter “Organization”), is a kind of non-profit organization-non-governmental association, which doesn’t pursue an object of getting a profit and doesn’t distribute the received profit between the participants(non-commercial organization), associates physical persons with legal profession-citizens of the Republic of Armenia, foreign citizens and stateless persons, in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law, on the basis of the community of their interests, in order to satisfy their non-religious spiritual or other non-material needs and implement other generally useful activities.
- 1.2 The Organization acts on the basis of the RA Constitution, laws, other normative legal acts, international treaties of the RA and this Charter.
- 1.3 The activities of the Organization are based upon the principals of legitimacy, voluntariness of membership, equality of rights of the members, self-governance, collegial leadership and publicity.
- 1.4 The Organization operates on the whole territory of the Republic of Armenia and in foreign countries in accordance with the legislation of those countries.
- 1.5 The official language of the Organization is Armenian, and the working languages are also English, French and Russian. In case of any incompatibility derived from interpretation of the texts written in various languages Armenian text is considered to be the definitive one.
- 1.6 The full name of the Organization in Armenian is «Իրավաբանների համահայկական խորհրդաժողով» հասարակական կազմակերպություն
The short name of the Organization in Armenian is «ԻՆԽ» ՆԿ
The full name of the Organization in Russian is "Всеармянская конференция юристов" общественная организация
The short name of the Organization in Russian is “БКЮ” ОО
The full name of the Organization in English is” “Pan-Armenian Conference of Lawyers” non-governmental organization
The short name of the Organization in English is “PACL” NGO
The address of the Organization is; Yerevan, Republic of Armenia, V. Sargsyan 26/1, 0010, tel. (010)58-81-27.

2. THE SUBJECT, OBJECTIVE AND GOALS OF THE ORGANIZATION

2.1. The subject and objectives of the activity of the Organization are, in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the legislation of the RA:

- a. promotion to the implementation of governmental and national programmes in different spheres of jurisprudence between the RA, Artsakh and the Diaspora, activation of the cooperation between the specialists,
- b. consolidation of Pan-Armenian legal potential and contribution to the development of Armenian jurisprudence through international cooperation.

2.2 the goals of the Organization are:

- a. consolidation of scientific and creative legal thought of the RA, Artsakh and the Diaspora,
- b. exchange of national and international experience in the sphere of jurisprudence, organization and accomplishment of joint scientific, research and drafting activities of pan-Armenian significance,
- c. presentation of the RA and the Diaspora honoured scientists', specialists', national figures' activities in the Diaspora, Artsakh and the RA, organization or participation in programmes dedicated to them,
- d. promotion to the planning of the development strategy of the RA legal system,
- e. promotion to the problems of preservation and legal protection of armenian historical-cultural values and cultural heritage which are in Armenia and other countries,
- f. supporting the planning and realization of certain jurisprudential and legal projects of pan-Armenian significance,
- g. stimulation of educational and professional activities, increase of qualifications and promotion to the acquirement of professional skills of young specialists and students,
- h. organization of jurisprudential competitions, theoretical and practical workshops, and forums of pan-Armenian importance,
- i. creation of national informational network of the sphere of jurisprudence,
- j. contribution to the training of experts on international law, particularly lawyers specialized in Genocide issue,
- k. implementation of other activities not prohibited by law.

2.3 In order to realize its objectives and goals the Organization cooperates with the RA state governing and local self-governing bodies, Armenian Holy Apostolic Church and other religious organizations acting in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law, The RA Chamber of Advocates, The Bar Association of the RA, the RA Centre of Constitutional Law, the RA Judges' Union, Armenian Association of international law, also with other social, particularly professional organizations and individuals operating in Armenia, Artsakh and the Diaspora, as well as with analogous international and foreign organizations.

3. PROCEDURE OF MEMBERSHIP TO THE ORGANIZATION AND WITHDRAWAL FROM MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Any Armenian, who is the RA or foreign citizen, as well as a stateless person, has a specialization in a sphere coherent with jurisprudence, wishes to take part in the activities of the Organization and abides by this Charter, can become a member of the Organization. The foreigners of other nationality can also become members of the Organization if they are recommended by at least two members of the Organization.

3.2 The person wishing to become a member of the Organization shall submit a written application to the PACL Board(hereinafter "Board") or to the administration of the separated subdivision.

3.3 The issue of the admittance to membership is resolved by the Board or the administration of the separated subdivision in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the charter of the separated subdivision approved by the Board. At the end of each month the head of the separated subdivision informs the Board about the structure and the number of members, if they have been changed.

3.4 Any member of the Organization is free to withdraw from the organization. The disfranchisement is carried out upon the decision of the Board.

3.5 An honorary member of the Organization can be elected from those RA or foreign citizens, who will make a special contribution to the consolidation of Pan-Armenian legal potential and the development of armenian jurisprudence.

4. The rights and duties of the members of the Organization

4.1. The member of the Organization shall have the right to:

- a. elect and be elected to the superior and other bodies of the Organization,
- b. submit applications, suggestions and complaints to the governing bodies of the Organization for the purpose of improvement of the work of the Organization,
- c. receive complete information about the activities of the Organization,
- d. withdraw from the Organization freely,
- e. obtain assistance from the Organization towards the protection of his lawfull rights,
- f. participate in the events organized by the Organization,
- g. complain to the Assembly against the non charter activities of the Board and the president coordinating the work of the Board of the Organization, and appeal to the court in case of not making a fair solution by the latter in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation,
- h. participate in works of the Organization by means of videoconferencing.

4.2 The member of the Organization shall:

- a. protect the reputation of the Organization,
- b. fulfil the requirements of the Charter and the decisions of the governing bodies of the Organization,
- c. pay entrance and membership fees, the amount and the order of making payment of which are determined by the Board,
- d. exercise his/her duties in bona fide.

4.3 Disciplinary measures, i.e. reprimand, severe reprimand, disfranchisement, can be applied against the member breaching the Charter of the Organization or not executing his/her duties by the Assembly or the Board of the Organization.

5. Rights of the Organization

5.1 The Organization is considered to be a legal entity from the moment of its state registration.

5.2 The organization has separate property, separate balance, a seal with its name in Armenian, Russian and English on it, a stamp, settlement bank account in Armenian dram and foreign currency. The organization can obtain real and nonreal rights and bear duties in its name, be a plaintiff or a defendant in the court.

5.3 The Organization decides its organizational structure, goals, objectives and the forms of its activities independently.

5.4 In order to implement the objectives and goals prescribed by its Charter the Organization has the right, in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law, to:

- a. spread information about its activities,
- b. establish mass media in accordance with the defined procedure,
- c. organize peaceful, unarmed meetings, demonstrations, processions and marches,
- d. represent and protect rights and legal interests of its members in other organizations, courts, other state governing and local self-governing bodies,
- e. fulfil commercial activities through commercial companies established by it, establish foundations, separated subdivisions, i.e. branches and representative offices,
- f. obtain, rent and use real estate, means of transportation and other estate not prohibited by law in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the legislation,
- g. alienate or lease or let out for the fair use any immovable and movable property belonging to the Organization,
- h. sign agreements and other transactions not prohibited by legislation,
- i. compose and dispose of its financial resources independently, including by obtaining borrowed funds, receive loans, grants both in armenian dram and in foreign currency, in the RA and other countries,

j. carry out international activities, including, organization of sendings on business trips, invite foreign country citizens, establish separated subdivisions in foreign countries in accordance with their legislation.

6. Duties of the Organization

6.1 The Organization is obliged to:

- a. give an opportunity to any physical person to get acquainted with the Charter of the Organization within seven days on his/her request,
- b. conduct the office work and the accountancy in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law,
- c. submit the reports on its activities and the use of its estate to the Assembly of the Organization for its approval at least once every two years providing the publicity of the reports,
- d. provide the state governing authorized bodies with the copies of the decisions of its superior or other bodies and other documentation on its activities and let the representatives of the mentioned bodies be present at the Assembly of the Organization,
- e. submit information and reports to state bodies in cases and in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law,
- f. apply to the state registration body for registration and striking off the registration of a separated subdivision or an institution within a month after making decisions on their establishment and disbandment in conformity with the prescribed procedure,
- g. keep record of its members,
- h. in case of changes in the address of the Organization and the official entitled to represent the Organization without a warrant send this person's published data and(or) the data on the address of the Organization to the state registration body within 14 calendar days,
- i. give the members of the Organization exhaustive information on the activity of the Organization.

7. Procedure of the management of the Organization

7.1. The superior body of the Organization-the Assembly, is entitled to give a final solution to any issue concerning the activities and the management of the Organization.

7.2. The Assembly is held once every two years. The Board convenes the Assembly, determines the terms and the procedure of its holding. If the number of the members is more than 100, representative delegates chosen by the members may participate in the Assembly in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the Board.

7.3 An extraordinary assembly of the Organization is held by the Board on the motivated request of at least 1/3 of the members or the oversight body of the Organization no later than in the course of 14 calendar days with the agenda confirmed by the requesting party.

7.4. The issues within especial competence of the Assembly of the Organization are:

- a. adoption and amendment of the Charter of the Organization,
- b. election, change, calling back the governing and supervisory bodies of the Organization,
- c. adoption of the decisions on disbandment and reorganization of the Organization,
- d. approval of the reports on the activities and the use of the estate of the Organization.

7.5. The Assembly can hold discussions and make decisions if more than half of all the members of the Organization or of all the chosen delegates participate in it. During the discussion of the issues the decisions are made by the simple majority of votes of all the members or all the chosen delegates of the Organization. Amendments and additions to the Charter are made by the qualitative majority of votes of all the members of the Organization or of all the chosen delegates(2/3).

7.6. The Board of the Organization is elected by the Assembly for two years.

Lawyers representing each country propose members of the Board themselves.

Up to 15 members may be elected from Armenia, up to 7 members from the USA, up to 7 members from the Russian Federation, up to 6 members from France, up to 5 members from Iran, up to 3 members

from Nagorno-Karabakh, up to 2 members from Canada, up to 2 members from Argentina, up to 2 members from Georgia and one member from any other country.

7.7. The Board conducts its work through sessions, which are held by the President coordinating the work of the Board not later than once every six months. The session of the Board can also be held on the request of 20 percent of the Organization members or by the demand of 5 members of the Board. The sessions of the Board may also be held through electronic communication.

7.8 The Organization has committees, the lines of activities and the structures of which are chosen by the Board.

7.9. The Board:

- a. elects the president coordinating the work of the Board, except the first president coordinating the work of the Board, who is elected by the constituent assembly,
- b. approves the reports of the coordinating president, including the report submitted to the Assembly,
- c. submits suggestions to the Assembly concerning the issues within its especial competence,
- d. grants membership of the Organization and dismisses or disfranchises the members,
- e. applies means of encouragement and penalty against the members of the Organization,
- f. encourages those people from the RA and foreigners who are specially notable for the support to the Organization activity,
- g. manages the activity of the Organization in the course of the term between the assemblies,
- h. defines the order, amount and forms of making the payment of entrance and membership fees by the members of the Organization,
- i. establishes and disbands the institutions of the Organization, structural and separated subdivisions (branches, representative offices), commercial companies, as well as approves their charters,
- j. has the right to discuss and solve any issue concerning the activity and the management of the Organization, except the issues within especial competence of the Assembly, including the issue on the membership of

the Organization in unions of non-commercial legal entities and international organizations,

k. defines regulations of awards (medal, letter of commendation, letter of appreciation) and other forms of encouragement,

l. approves the reports of the accountancy of the Organization on the basis of the resolution of the oversight body.

7.10. The Board can hold discussions and make decisions if more than half of its members participate in it. The decisions are made by the simple majority of votes of the present members. In case of equality of votes the coordinating president has the deciding vote.

7.11 The coordinating president is elected by the Board by the simple majority of votes of the Board members for two years.

7.12 The coordinating president coordinates the work of the Board:

- represents the organization without a warrant,
- makes decisions, gives warrants,
- obtains, possesses, uses, disposes of, alienates and draws out the Organization estate of any type and value,
- confirms the staff list of the Organization, wage rates and the procedure of remuneration of labour,
- can appoint an executive director with whom the president makes a labour contract and accredits him with authorities additional to the ones prescribed by the Charter, if it is necessary on the assumption of the extent of the work and his/her load.

7.13 The oversight prescribed by law over the Organization activities realized by the oversight body, which is one representative nominated from the members of the organization of each country which have three and more representatives in the Board. The oversight body is formed for two years and submits the results of the research done in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law every year to the Board and once every two years to the Assembly of the Organization in the form of a report.

7.14 The executive director of the Organization is appointed for two years.

7.15 The executive director of the Organization:

- organizes and realizes the Organization's activity in the frames of the authorities given to him/her by this Charter or the labour contract,
- conducts transactions, signs agreements, financial documents, opens bank accounts in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law,
- submits the staff list of the Organization, wage rates and the procedure of remuneration of labour to the coordinating president for approval,
- makes decisions, gives orders to staff members and contract workers,
- submits an annual report on its activity to the Board, participates in Board sessions with an advisory vote.

7.16 In case of absence of the executive director's staff or till the appointment of the director or after his/her dismissal or in case of his/her long absence all the authorities given to him/her by this Charter are realized by the coordinating president or the person temporarily elected by him/her on a contractual basis.

8. The property of the Organization, the sources of its formation and the way of use

8.1 The Organization owns its property.

8.2 The Organization can own immovable and movable property-buildings, constructions, means of transportation, equipments, monetary funds, stocks and other property not prohibited by law. The member of the Organization doesn't have a shared right on the Organization's property.

8.3 The sources of formation of the Organization's property can be:

- the entrance and membership fees of the members of the Organization,
- money and material investments,
- loans gotten from bank institutions,
- grants,
- charity contributions, donations made by physical persons and organizations,

- the funds transferred by commercial organizations established by the Organization,
- other inflow of funds not prohibited by the RA legislation.

8.4 The property of the Organization can be confiscated only by court in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law.

8.5 The funds of the Organization can be used only for organizational expenses and for realization of the objectives and goals of the Organization prescribed by the Charter.

9. Reorganization, disbandment of the Organization and use of the property in case of disbandment

9.1 The Organization can be disbanded only by a decision of the Assembly or court.

9.2 The Assembly forms a disbanding committee and defines the procedure and terms of disbandment. At the end of the disbandment of the Organization the disbanding committee uses the property left after making the compulsory payments for realization of charter objectives and goals of the Organization in conformity with the procedure prescribed by the Assembly, and if it is impossible transfer it to the state budget.

9.3 The Organization can be reorganized by the decision of the Assembly or in the cases prescribed by law by court decision in conformity with the procedure prescribed by law.