

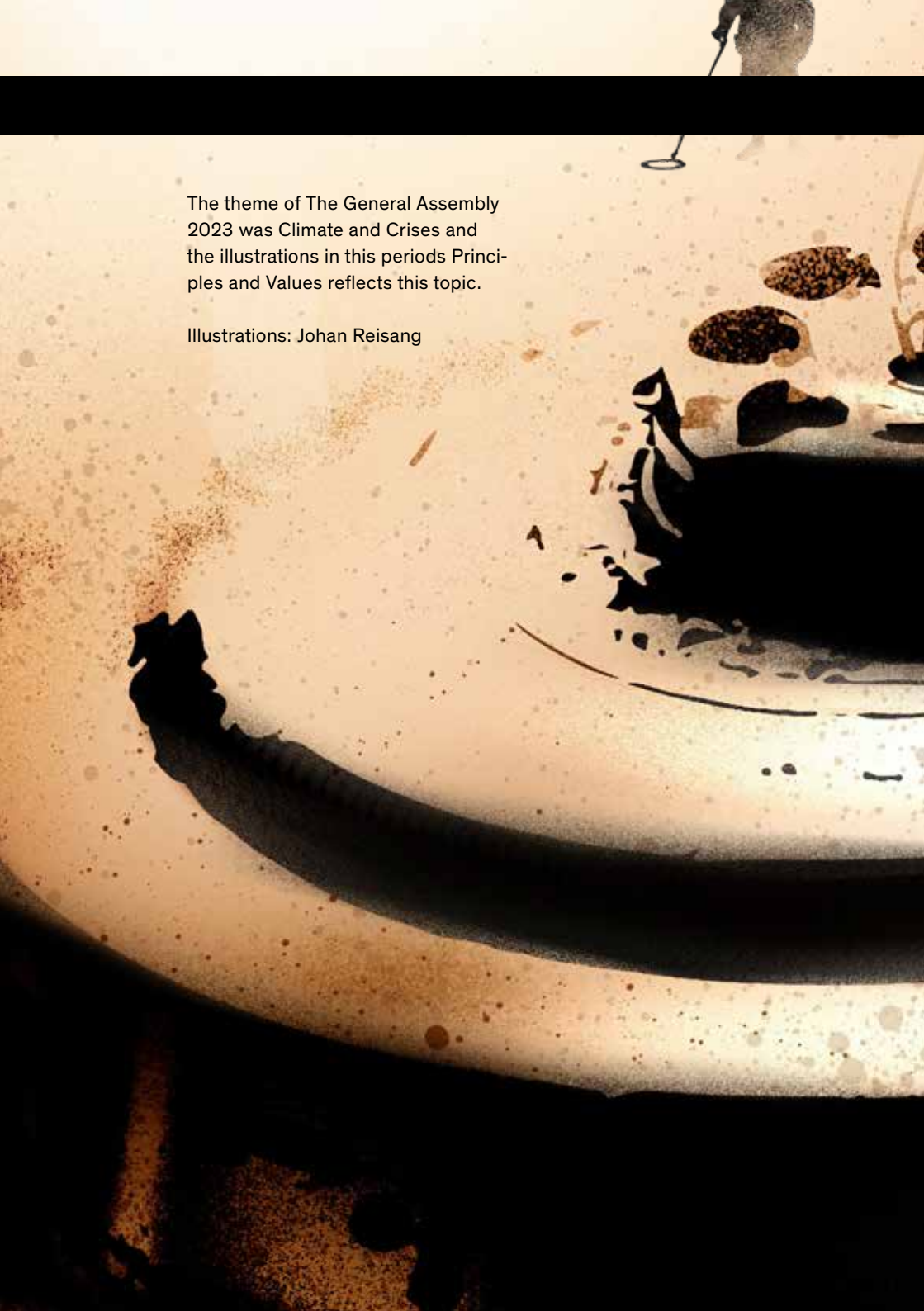


Norwegian People's Aid

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

2023–2027



The background of the page is a watercolor illustration. It features a light beige and cream-colored wash with scattered brown and black speckles. A prominent dark, almost black, curved shape, resembling a shadow or a jagged silhouette, arches across the lower half of the page. In the upper right quadrant, there are several dark, irregular shapes that look like splatters or small pools of ink. At the very top right, a small, dark silhouette of a person is visible, holding a long, thin pole or stick that extends downwards.

The theme of The General Assembly 2023 was Climate and Crises and the illustrations in this periods Principles and Values reflects this topic.

Illustrations: Johan Reisang



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NAME, PURPOSE, AND MEMBERSHIP



§ 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 Norwegian people's Aid (NPA) is the Norwegian trade union movement's organisation for humanitarian solidarity.
- 1.2 NPA is an independent organisation not affiliated with any political party. NPA takes an independent position on all issues, based on the organisation's policy platform and core values.

NPA's vision is "Solidarity in Action".

- 1.3 By means of advocacy and practical activities, NPA strives to improve peoples' living conditions and create a more just society. This applies both nationally and internationally.
- 1.4 NPA is a membership-based organisation.

§ 2. MEMBERSHIP

Anyone who supports NPA's purpose and articles of association may become a member. Members are bound by the organisation's articles and guidelines.

- 2.1 Personal membership links individuals to local chapters. Membership of the central organisation is only undertaken in exceptional circumstances.
- 2.2 Collective membership is linked to either a local chapter or the central organisation. Local organisations, institutions and other societies become collective members of their nearest local chapter.

Nationwide organisations, other societies, institutions and companies join NPA's central organisation.



§ 3. MEMBERSHIP FEES

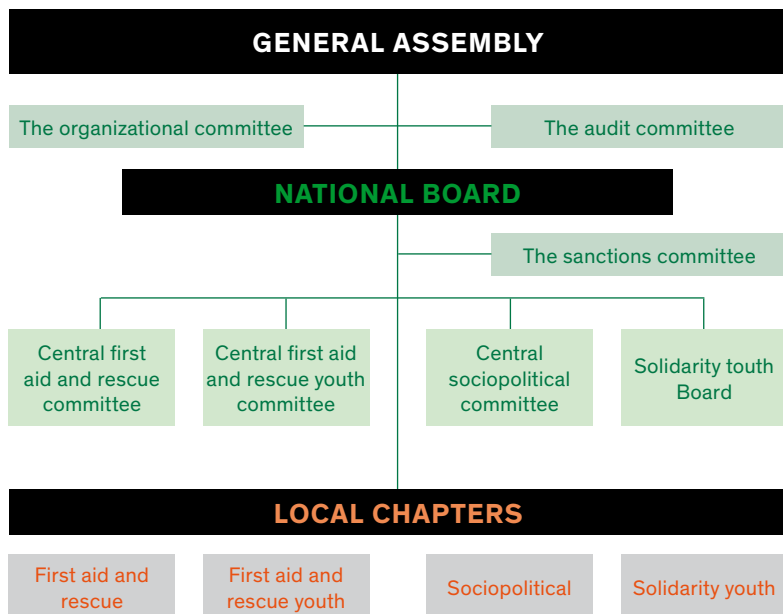
- 3.1 The General Assembly determines the allocation of personal membership fees applicable to the different organisational levels.
- 3.2 The National Board determines the membership fee by both personal and collective members. Everyone under the age of 30 is considered to be a “youth member”.
- 3.3 Membership fees from personal members are invoiced by the central administration. In order to be electable, members must pay their annual membership fee by 31st January. For new members, membership is valid upon payment of the membership fee. Membership fees paid by new members later than 1st October are valid for the following year.
- 3.4 Membership fees from collective members are invoiced and wholly retained by the part of the organisation to which the collective members belong.
- 3.5 Members who give notice of a change to a new local chapter during the year, transfer their membership rights to the new chapter.
- 3.6 Other issues relating to membership fees are dealt with in accordance with guidelines issued by the National Board.

STRUCTURE



§ 4. STRUCTURE AND FRAMEWORK CONDITIONS

4.1 Structure



4.2 The entire organisation is bound by agreements, guidelines and mandates entered into or adopted by the National Board.

The various areas of activity described in Sections 11 to 14 adopt their own guidelines for the organisation of their own field.

This does not apply, however, where it is required that the same guidelines are adopted by NPA Solidarity Youth and NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth with respect to the granting of financial support.



Efforts will be made to achieve balanced representation in terms of gender, age, location and cultural diversity in relation to all elected bodies.

- 4.3 Relevant organisational levels have a duty to obtain a limited police certificate of good conduct from members who perform or are going to perform tasks for the organisation that involve a position of trust or responsibility with respect to minors or vulnerable people. See the guide to obtaining and managing police certificates.
- 4.4 The National Board draws up guidelines for the compensation of elected officials' financial losses or expenses in connection with the performance of their duties, including that leaders of national committees and/or the chairman of the board can be bought out in whole or in part.
- 4.5 The establishment of commercial entities must be approved by a higher organisational level in order to properly safeguard its financial foundations, governance mechanisms and registration in the Norwegian Register of Business Enterprises.

§ 5. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 5.1 The General Assembly is NPA's highest governing body.
A General Assembly is ordinarily held every four years.
- 5.2 The General Assembly shall consider:
 - a. The agenda and proxy authorisations
 - b. The reports, financial statements and auditor's reports for the period since the last General Assembly; reports from the Audit Committee, NPA First Aid and Rescue Service, NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth, NPA Socio-political Committee, NPA Solidarity Youth and the Organisational Committee for the period
 - c. Submitted proposals



- d. The distribution of personal membership fees among the organisational levels
- e. Amendments to the Articles of Association
- f. The policy platform
- g. Overarching organisational priorities for the period until the next General Assembly
- h. Election of the National Board
- i. Election of the Audit Committee, comprising a chair, two members and two deputy members
- j. Election of the Organisational Committee, comprising a chair, deputy chair and three members

5.3 Preparations for the General Assembly:

- a. The National Board issues invitations to attend the General Assembly no later than six months in advance.
- b. The National Board appoints a Nomination Committee and General Assembly preparatory committees.
- c. The Nomination Committee comprises a chair and four members, plus three deputy members, who are appointed no later than one year prior to the General Assembly.
- d. Proposals for the General Assembly must be submitted to the National Board no later than three months before the General Assembly's scheduled start. An organisational level that submits a proposal must be able to present minutes documenting the resolution approving the proposal.
- e. The following are entitled to submit proposals to the General Assembly: local chapters, organisations affiliated collectively to the central organisation, the National Board, NPA First Aid and Rescue Service, NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth, NPA Socio-political Committee, NPA Solidarity Youth, the Organisational Committee and the Sanctions Committee.
- f. The National Board must send out the agenda, with supporting documents and the Nomination Committee's recommendations, to all delegates, organisational levels and organisations collectively



affiliated to the central organisation no later than four weeks prior to the General Assembly.

5.4 The General Assembly comprises:

- a. The National Board.
- b. Six delegates, plus six deputies in numbered order, from NPA First Aid and Rescue Service.
- c. Twelve delegates, plus 12 deputies in numbered order, from NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth
- d. Six delegates, plus six deputies in numbered order, from NPA Socio-political involvement
- e. Six delegates, plus six deputies in numbered order, from NPA Solidarity Youth
- f. Delegates from the local chapters, based on the number of paying members as of 31st December of the year prior to the year in which the General Assembly is held. The following allocations apply:
 - Up to 50 members: one delegate
 - 51–100 members: two delegates
 - 101–250 members: three delegates
 - 251–500 members: four delegates
 - More than 501 members: five delegates
 - Each chapter's representation must reflect its activities
 - Local chapters that are able to send only one delegate, may send an observer in addition. Observers are not entitled to address the conference, nor may they table proposals or vote
- g. Chapters with more than 2,500 collective members may send an additional delegate, provided that the delegate comes from the collective membership
- h. One delegate from each commenced 25,000 members from organisations collectively affiliated to the central organisation up to a maximum of five delegates from one single organisation
- i. Two representatives from the Organisational Committee and two representatives from the Sanctions Committee with the right to address the conference and table proposals



- 5.5 Named delegates and deputy delegates are elected in numbered order at the respective local chapters' AGM (Annual General Meeting) or Board of Representatives meeting.

Approved minutes of the AGM or Board of Representatives meeting and the delegate form must have been received by the National Board no later than least three months before the General Assembly starts. All elected delegates must have a proxy authorisation signed by two members of the board/ committee of the body they are representing.

- 5.6 The General Assembly elects the following representatives to the National Board:
- a. Chair and two vice-chairs
 - b. Five representatives from the membership organisation, each with two personal deputies in numbered order
 - c. Three representatives from the collectively affiliated membership, each with two personal deputies in numbered order
- 5.7 The National Board is not entitled to vote during the General Assembly's consideration of the periodic report and financial statements.
- 5.8 Delegates' travel expenses are reimbursed on the basis of a cost-sharing formula. Delegates' other expenses are borne by the collectively affiliated organisations and the local chapters themselves.
- 5.9 All expenses incurred by members of the National Board will be covered by NPA's central administration.
- 5.10 An Extraordinary General Assembly may be held when at least two-thirds of the National Board's members so decide or when requested by half of the local chapters.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may consider only those matters that are published in the invitation to attend.



§ 6. NATIONAL BOARD

- 6.1 The National Board is NPA's highest governing body in the interim between General Assemblies. The National Board comprises:
- a. A chair and two vice-chairs
 - b. Five representatives from the membership organisation
 - c. Three representatives from the collectively affiliated organisations
 - d. The chair of NPA First Aid and Rescue Service
 - e. A representative from NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth
 - f. The chair of NPA Socio-political Committee
 - g. The chair of NPA Solidarity Youth
 - h. Two representatives elected by and from among the employees

All National Board members (B to H) shall have two personal deputies in numbered order.

The National Board is quorate when at least half of its members are present. In the event of a tied vote, the proposal concerned is not carried.

- 6.2 Matters may be proposed by National Board members, central committees/ boards, collectively affiliated organisations, local chapters and the Secretary General.
- 6.3 The National Board is responsible for:
- a. Approving the organisation's overarching strategy documents.
 - b. Approving the organisation's budget and financial statements
 - c. Approving guidelines and mandates
 - d. Appointing representatives to boards, councils and committees
 - e. Dealing with NPA's overall contingency plans
 - f. Adjudicating appeals relating to matters dealt with by central committees
 - g. Making recommendations to and staging the General Assembly
 - h. Issuing invitations to and staging the Leadership Conference
 - i. Interpreting questions relating to the Articles of Association



- j. Employing the Secretary General, determining issues relating to the Secretary General's salary, dealing with altered working conditions and the termination of the Secretary General's employment relationship
 - k. Engaging NPA's external auditors
 - l. Staging supplementary elections
 - m. Facilitating the organisation's development and growth, and setting its direction
- 6.4 The National Board's chair and two vice-chairs together comprise the National Board's Working Committee.
- 6.5 The Leadership Conference is staged annually, with the exception of years in which the General Assembly is held.

Invitations to attend the Management Conference must be issued no later than three months in advance. The Management Conference comprises the National Board and the chair of each chapter or their designated deputy, as well as the NPA First Aid and Rescue Service Committee, the NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth Committee, the NPA Socio-political Committee, the Board of Solidarity Youth, the Organisational Committee, Audit Committee and Sanctions Committee.

The Management Conference discusses:

- a. Current status and challenges
- b. Plans and priorities
- c. Topical issues and focus areas



§ 7. LOCAL CHAPTERS

- 7.1 NPA's local chapters comprise:
- a. Personal members
 - b. Collectively affiliated organisations and local societies
- 7.2 The local chapters are independent financial and legal entities, with the obligations and responsibilities this entails. They are nevertheless subject to resolutions and guidelines adopted by the central organisation. The local chapters must have an administrative contact for follow-up and assistance.
- 7.3 The establishment of local chapters, their choice of names and changes in their geographic boundaries must be approved by the Organisational Committee.
- 7.4 The association's name should preferably be the name of its geographical location. The Organisational Committee issues organisational guidelines in cases where there are several local chapters within the same geographic area.

Annual General Meeting

- 7.5 The Annual General Meeting (AGM) must be held by the end of February each year. An invitation to attend the AGM must be issued no later than four weeks in advance. Matters to be considered at the AGM must be submitted to the association's board no later than two weeks before the AGM's scheduled date.

Case documents, submitted proposals and the Nomination Committee's recommendations must be made known to the members no later than one week before the AGM's scheduled date.



- 7.6 All personal members are entitled to attend the AGM. Collective members send one representative for every 50 members, up to a maximum of five representatives.

Members enjoy all rights and privileges provided that they have paid their membership fees by 31st January. For the AGM to be quorate, at least three members who are not board members must be present.

- 7.7 The auditor and, if required, the bookkeeper may attend the AGM, at which they are entitled to address the AGM and submit proposals relating to the financial statements.

- 7.8 The Annual General Meeting considers:

- a. The annual report
- b. The annual financial statements
- c. Submitted proposals
- d. Plans and budgets for a period of at least two years
- e. Election of:
 - the chapter's board and deputies
 - delegates and deputy delegates to NPA's General Assembly
 - the nomination committee, comprising at least three members and their deputies

Only those entitled to vote at the AGM are eligible

The chapter's board is not entitled to vote on matters relating to the annual report and financial statements.

- 7.9 To ensure continuity in the board's activities, board members should be elected for a term of two years, with half of the seats coming up for election at each AGM.
- 7.10 The financial statements must be audited before the AGM. Local chapters with gross revenues of up to and including NOK



500,000 may select two people with a knowledge of accounting to review the financial statements and submit a report to the AGM.

Such a review must be performed in accordance with a template adopted by the National Board. Local chapters with gross revenues in excess of NOK 500,000 must engage a registered auditor.

7.11 The annual report, financial statements and auditor's report must have been received by NPA's central administration by 15 March.

7.12 Audit Committee

Local chapters may elect an Audit Committee to act as an oversight body. In that case, the Audit Committee's mandate will be:

- a. to ensure that organisational, financial and political decisions comply with the organisation's policy platform, articles of association and the chapter's own decisions
- b. to perform a critical review of the chapter's decisions and financial figures and submit a written report to the AGM for each financial year.

Extraordinary general meeting

7.13 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) must be held at the request of at least two-thirds of the board's members or when a third of the members so demand.

7.14 An EGM must be called at no less than two weeks' notice, and may consider only those matters that are published in the invitation to attend.

Case documents are sent out to members at least one week before the EGM's scheduled date. The invitation to and the minutes of the EGM must be sent to NPA's central administration for their information.



Governing board

7.15 Local chapters are led by a governing board comprising at least three members, who shall perform the following functions:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Membership manager
- Chairs of local committees with personal deputies

Collective members may be elected to a local chapter's governing board.

The administrative contact tasked with following up with the local chapter is entitled to address board meetings and submit proposals for consideration thereby.

7.16 The board is quorate when at least half of its members are present at a board meeting. In the event of a tied vote, the proposal concerned is not carried.

7.17 The board may establish a working committee to lead the chapter's day-to-day activities between board meetings or as authorised by the board. The working committee's decisions must be submitted to the board for approval.

7.18 Procedures relating to signing, financial statements and auditing must comply with NPA's *Guidelines for Financial Management*.

The board's role and responsibilities

7.19 The board shall ensure:

- Operations in accordance with plans and budgets approved by the AGM
- Good contact with members and a good flow of information
- Regular activity



- Good cooperation with the local community and relevant partners
- Recruitment
- Proper operation of the chapter
- Necessary training and competence
- Engagement of an auditor, when required

7.20 The board has a duty to keep minutes of all decisions relating to financial matters. Any loans must be approved by an AGM or EGM.

Dissolution of local chapters

7.21 The dissolution of a local chapter must be approved by the Organisational Committee, after a resolution to do so has been passed by the chapter's AGM with a two-thirds majority.

7.22 The Organisational Committee shall, in conjunction with management, strive to reorganise local chapters in the municipality/community concerned.

If no activity has been reported by the association for the past two years, the Organisational Committee may call an AGM and, if relevant, resolve its dissolution.

7.23 Upon its dissolution, the association's assets shall be protected as well as possible. The funds must be utilised to reorganise local chapters or activities within the same geographic area. The funds shall be placed in a separate, interest-bearing account, such that the interest accruing may also be used for this purpose.

Tangible assets whose value will be impaired must be utilised or sold.

7.24 If no new association has been formed in the same area within a period of five years, the funds will be transferred to the central activity account managed by the Organisational Committee.



§ 8. ORGANISATIONAL COMMITTEE

- 8.1 The Organisational Committee's purpose is to ensure good organisational practice and organisational training within NPA.
- 8.2 The Organisational Committee is appointed by the National Meeting and comprises:
- Chair
 - Vice-chair
 - Three members
- 8.3 The Organisational Committee is responsible for:
- a. Facilitating organisational training and leadership development
 - b. Advising local chapters on organisational matters
 - c. Approving the establishment of new local chapters, the reestablishment of local chapters and their choice of name
 - d. Approving the dissolution of local chapters
 - e. Winding up local chapters
 - f. Allocating funds for activities upon application

The Organisational Committee may convene an EGM or meetings at lower organisational levels when there is good reason to do so. Where possible, this shall be undertaken in collaboration with the organisational level concerned.



§ 9. AUDIT COMMITTEE

- 9.1 The Audit Committee is accountable to the General Assembly and is entitled to address National Board meetings and the General Assembly.
- 9.2 The committee's mandate is to provide oversight of the National Board's work and decisions by:
 - a. Ensuring that organisational, financial and political decisions comply with laws and regulations, as well as the organisation's articles of association, guidelines and decisions
 - b. Summoning the appointed auditor, or any such individuals as the committee wishes, to its meetings
 - c. Commissioning the auditor to perform further investigations to meet the committee's need for information
 - d. Submitting a written report to the National Board after the close of each calendar year
 - e. Submitting a written report to NPA's General Assembly on its work and its findings during the period since the last General Assembly

§ 10. SECRETARY GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION

- 10.1 The Secretary General is employed on a fixed, six-year contract, with an option to extend for up to six years.
- 10.2 The Secretary General leads NPA's central administration and is accountable to the National Board.
- 10.3 The Secretary General attends and is entitled to address the General Assembly. The Secretary General is entitled to attend, address and submit proposals to meetings of the National Board.
- 10.4 The Secretary General is responsible for preparing matters to be put to the National Board and implementing its decisions.



Employees

- 10.5 Employees may not be elected by an AGM to a seat on the same board as has legal responsibility for them as their employer, or in which the employee concerned performs their day-to-day work. The employee concerned may join the association's governing board with the right to address and submit proposals thereto.
- 10.6 When an organisational level has more than 30 employees, a majority of the employees are entitled to demand that one board member and one deputy member be elected by and from among the employees. If the organisational level has fewer than 30 employees, an employee representative may be entitled to attend and address board meetings, when such meetings consider matters relating to the relationship between NPA as employer and the employees. The employees' representative is not entitled to participate in consideration of matters relating to the employer's preparations for negotiations with employees, labour disputes or litigation with employer's organisations.
- 10.7 Apart from those elected to the National Board, employees in the central administration cannot be elected as delegates to the General Assembly.



§ 11. NPA FIRST AID AND RESCUE SERVICE

11.1 Purpose

The purpose of NPA First Aid and Rescue Service is to create safe local communities by means of a stand-by rescue service, first-aid training and accident prevention.

11.2 Central First Aid and Rescue Committee

NPA First Aid and Rescue Service is led by the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee, comprising:

- Chair
- Two vice-chairs
- Two deputy members

The NPA First Aid and Rescue Committee is elected by the Board of Representatives for a term of two years, with the possibility of re-election. The Committee takes up its duties immediately. In General Assembly years, the departing chair continues as a member of the committee and the National Board, with full rights, until the General Assembly is concluded. All elections should strive to achieve a diverse committee membership, with the emphasis on necessary experience and competence.

The Chair of NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth joins the committee with all rights and privileges, with the first and second vice-chairs acting as first and second deputies respectively. Appointed specialist functions also join the committee with the right to address the committee and put forward proposals thereto.

The chair of the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee joins the National Board as a permanent member, with all rights and privileges, with the first and second vice-chairs acting as first and second deputy, respectively. On relevant matters, NPA First Aid and Rescue Service advises the National Board. The Central First Aid and Rescue Committee issues directives to NPA First Aid and Rescue Service with



respect to first aid and the voluntary rescue service. The committee's mandate is described in detail in Mandate and Guidelines for NPA First Aid and Rescue Service.

11.3 Coordinating level

At the coordinating level, the service is organised such that it has one national emergency coordinator and one emergency coordinator per police district. The holders of these functions are appointed by the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee. First Aid and rescue groups within a police district, or in collaboration with nearby police districts, can choose to organise themselves into a partnership for training purposes and to meet shared challenges.

Emergency coordinator per police district and second-in-command.

The emergency coordinator per police district is appointed by the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee in collaboration with the local first aid and rescue groups within the police district. The emergency coordinator within a police district may enter into agreements with partners on behalf of the local chapters as and when appropriate. Written consent must be obtained from the person/persons with right of signature for the local chapter prior to entering any such agreement. In the event of renegotiation, renewed consent must be given. Good communication must be facilitated in this process.

11.4 Locally

At the operative level, the service is organised into first aid and rescue groups operating under the direction of NPA First Aid and Rescue Service. Locally, “cub” groups of children aged 10–13 may be established as a separate activity. Their primary activities will be first-aid, outdoor life and rescue services.

11.5 Meetings of the Board of Representatives

A meeting of the Board of Representatives shall be held every second



year. The Board of Representatives comprises the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee and up to two delegates from each local chapter engaged in first aid and rescue activities.

Invitations to attend the Board of Representatives meeting must be issued no later than two months in advance. Proposals for matters to be considered must be received by the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee no later than four weeks before the meeting's scheduled date. Final case documents must be sent to delegates no later than two weeks before the meeting's scheduled date.

The Board of Representatives' meeting shall consider:

- a. The agenda and proxy authorisations
- b. Guidelines for NPA First Aid and Rescue Service
- c. Submitted proposals
- d. Election of the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee
- e. Election of the Nomination Committee
- f. The report on activities since the last General Assembly,
in years when there is a General Assembly
- g. Matters to be discussed at the General Assembly,
in years when there is a General Assembly
- h. Election of six delegates, plus six deputy delegates
in numbered order, in years when there is a General Assembly

The National Board may attend as observers, address and submit proposals to the Board of Representatives meeting

11.6 First Aid and Rescue and First Aid and Rescue Youth Conference

The purpose of the First Aid and Rescue and First Aid and Rescue Youth Conference is to help boost activity and specialist expertise within the field of first aid and rescue. The timing and content of the conference will be determined by the Central First Aid and Rescue Committee in consultation with the Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee.



§ 12. NPA FIRST AID AND RESCUE YOUTH

12.1 Purpose

The purpose of NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth is to offer a safe and meaningful leisure activity to young people aged between 13 and 20. It is permissible for representatives elected to central functions to be up to 26 years of age. First-aid and rescue services must form the core of the organisation's activities.

Where First Aid and Rescue Youth groups exist, training must be facilitated such that First Aid and Rescue Youth members can participate in first aid services and become approved rescue service crew members in accordance with the applicable requirements in Directives for NPA First Aid and Rescue Service and NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth.

12.2 Organisation

NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth is led by the Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee, comprising:

- Chair
- Two vice-chairs
- One member
- National Board representative
- Two deputy members

The Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee is elected for a term of two years, with the possibility of re-election. The committee takes up its duties immediately. In General Assembly years, the departing chair continues as a member of the committee, with full rights, until the General Assembly is concluded. The departing National Board representative similarly maintains their role until the General Assembly is concluded.



The Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee shall ensure that the core youth activities for NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth are conducted. On relevant matters, NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth advises the National Board and NPA First Aid and Rescue Service. The Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee issues directives to NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth with guidelines for activities. The committee's mandate is described in detail in Directives for First Aid and Rescue Youth. The Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee is subject to NPA First Aid and Rescue Service in matters relating to first aid and rescue issues.

- 12.3 The Board of Representatives meets every second year. The Board of Representatives' meeting shall consider:
- a. The agenda and proxy authorisations
 - b. The report on activities since the last General Assembly,
in years when there is a General Assembly
 - c. Submitted proposals
 - d. Guidelines for NPA Youth First Aid and Rescue
 - e. Matters to be discussed at the General Assembly,
in years when there is a General Assembly
 - f. Election of the Central Youth First Aid and Rescue Committee
 - g. Election of a representative to the National Board,
plus two deputy representatives in numbered order
 - h. Election of 12 delegates, plus 12 deputy delegates in
numbered order, in years when there is a General Assembly
 - i). Election of a Nomination Committee

The Board of Representatives comprises up to three representatives from each local youth first aid and rescue group and the Central Youth First aid and Rescue Committee.

Both the National Board and NPA First aid and Rescue Service may attend as observers, address and submit proposals to the Board of Representatives' meeting.



- 12.4 NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth is organised into local groups. The AGM elects a local youth leader. The youth leader must be nominated to the AGM by the young members themselves, if the local chapter has active youth members. The adult leader is appointed by the local chapter board. Input from the youth members people should be emphasized when choosing an adult leader. Local youth committees can be set up at will. The youth leader must be represented with full rights on the local chapter board with the adult leader as deputy member. If there are no young people in this position, the adult leader will represent first aid and rescue youth members with full rights in the local chapter board. Local first aid and rescue youth groups shall be named NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth plus the name of the local chapter, for example, NPA First Aid and Rescue Youth Jæren.

§ 13. NPA SOCIO-POLITICAL INVOLVEMENT

13.1 Purpose

The purpose of NPA Socio-political involvement is to contribute to a fair distribution of power and resources, international solidarity, an inclusive society and involvement with the local community. The committee is intended to act as a link between NPA's local socio-political local chapters and contribute to the creation of arenas for the sharing of experiences and joint activities.

13.2 Organisation

NPA's socio-political activities are led by the NPA Socio-political committee, comprising:

- Chair
- Four members, two of whom are elected as first and second deputy to the National Board
- Two deputy members
- A representative from the board of NPA Solidarity Youth may attend committee meetings



The NPA Socio-political Committee is elected by the Board of Representatives for a term of two years, with the possibility of re-election. The Committee takes up its duties immediately. In General Assembly years, the departing chair continues as a member of the committee and the National Board, with full rights, until the General Assembly is concluded. All elections should strive to achieve a diverse committee membership, with the emphasis on necessary experience and competence.

- 13.3 On relevant matters, the central Socio-political Committee advises the National Board.
- 13.4 The chair of the NPA Socio-political Committee joins the National Board as a permanent member, with two committee members acting as their first and second deputy.
- 13.5 Board of Representatives' meeting
The Board of Representatives shall meet at least every second year.

The Board of Representatives shall meet at least every second year. The Board of Representatives' meeting comprises the NPA Socio-political Committee and up to two delegates from each local chapter actively engaged in socio-political issues. Invitations to attend the Board of Representatives meeting must be issued no later than two months in advance. Proposals for matters to be considered must be received by the NPA Socio-political Committee no later than four weeks before the meeting's scheduled date. Final case documents must be sent to delegates no later than two weeks before the meeting's scheduled date.

The Board of Representatives' meeting shall consider:

- a. The agenda and proxy authorisations
- b. The report for the General Assembly period, in years when there is a General Assembly



- c. Guidelines for the NPA Socio-political Committee
- d. Submitted proposals
- e. Matters for the General Assembly, in years when there is a General Assembly
- f. Election of the NPA Socio-political Committee at the recommendation of the Nomination Committee
- g. Election of six delegates, plus six deputy delegates in numbered order, to attend the General Assembly, in years when there is a General Assembly
- h. Election of a Nomination Committee

The National Board may attend as observers, address and submit proposals to the Board of Representatives' meeting.

13.6 Socio-political Conference

Shall contribute to increased activity and knowledge concerning Socio-political issues. The timing and content of the Socio-political Conference are determined by the NPA Socio-political Committee.

§ 14. NPA SOLIDARITY YOUTH

14.1 Purpose

The purpose of NPA Solidarity Youth is to achieve a fairer distribution of power and resources through active lobbying and information activities with respect to international solidarity, humanitarian disarmament, antiracism and asylum and refugee policies. NPA Solidarity Youth is subject to NPA's principles and articles of association, but is free to adopt its own points of view and priorities.

Members of NPA Solidarity Youth are those aged between 13 and 30 who are associated with a solidarity youth chapter or solidarity youth group engaged in socio-political issues. A member is eligible for election to office until the end of the year in which they turn 30. Members aged over 30 are nevertheless eligible for election to the



local and central nomination committee in Solidarity Youth.

14.2 Organisation

NPA Solidarity Youth is organised such that it has its own national AGM, solidarity youth board and solidarity youth local chapters and groups.

14.3 National AGM

The National AGM is a body with the authority to pass resolutions on behalf of NPA Solidarity Youth. Invitations to attend the AGM must be issued no later than two months in advance of the scheduled meeting.

The AGM shall consider:

- a. The annual report from the solidarity youth board
- b. Guidelines for NPA Solidarity Youth
- c. The political platform
- d. NPA Solidarity Youth's action plan
- e. Election of the solidarity youth board, comprising a chair and two vice-chairs, and at least two board members and two deputy members. The chair and the first and second vice-chairs act respectively as the representative and first and second deputy representatives to NPA's National Board.
- f. Election of six delegates, plus six deputy delegates in numbered order, to the General Assembly, in years when there is a General Assembly.
- g. Election of a Nomination Committee, comprising a chair, three members and one deputy member
- h. Other priorities

All local chapters and youth groups which define themselves as Solidarity Youth are entitled to send three delegates to NPA Solidarity Youth's AGM. Delegates to the national AGM must be democratically elected by youth members of the chapter/group. In addition, solidarity



youth local chapters with more than 50 members may send a further delegate. The youth local chapters may send up to four delegates.

The National Board may attend as observers, address and submit proposals to the national AGM of NPA Solidarity Youth.

14.4 Solidarity Youth Board

The Solidarity Youth Board is the highest decision-making body in the interim between the national AGMs. On an independent basis, the Solidarity Youth Board may issue statements on behalf of NPA Solidarity Youth in line with the adopted political platform. The chair of the Solidarity Youth Board joins the National Board with all rights and privileges. In relevant matters, Solidarity Youth advises the National Board.

14.5 Local Solidarity Youth chapters and groups

NPA Solidarity Youth may establish its own solidarity youth chapters, organised as local chapters in Norwegian People's Aid.

The Solidarity Youth local chapters are run in accordance with the articles of association and guidelines adopted by the NPA Solidarity Youth AGM.

When local solidarity youth chapters are established, they should preferably be named thus: NPA Solidarity Youth + name of locality.

When solidarity youth groups are established within a local chapter, they should be named thus: Solidarity Youth Group in "local chapter's name".



SANCTIONS, AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION AND DISSOLUTION OF NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID

§ 15. SANCTIONS

- 15.1 The imposition of sanctions pursuant to this article may be considered with respect to members who act in contravention of NPA's objects, articles of association and guidelines, or who misuse the organisation's name. Members and organisational levels may notify the Sanctions Committee about matters they believe should be dealt with pursuant to this article.

The member concerned is entitled to be heard before the proposed sanction is considered. In cases that are not reported to the police, the local chapter has the duty to hold a conflict-resolution meeting before sanctions are imposed. The parties involved must attend such a meeting. Minutes of the meeting shall be taken and must be signed by all parties. The minutes must express the views of both parties..

Conflict-resolution meetings shall not be held in cases relating to inappropriate behaviour. Where a conflict-resolution meeting is conducted with a youth member under the age of 18, there must be an adult support person present who is chosen by the youth and who is not involved in the case.

- 15.2 The National Board adopts a Guide to Sanction Cases, which provides guidelines for the way sanction cases should be dealt with.
- 15.3 The following sanctions may be imposed:
- Suspension up to three months – responsibility: local chapter
 - Exclusion for up to one year – responsibility: local chapter
 - Exclusion up to five years – responsibility: Sanctions Committee
 - Permanent exclusion – responsibility: Sanctions Committee



All resolutions relating to sanctions must be documented and reported to the central administration, which will archive the case in accordance with the applicable routines.

A local chapter's board may suspend a member for up to three months and temporarily exclude a member from NPA for up to one year. The board may also recommend to the Sanctions Committee that a member be excluded permanently or for a period of up to five years. Resolutions to exclude someone for up to one year, recommendations to exclude someone permanently or for up to five years must be passed by at least a two-thirds majority of the chapter's board.

Resolutions to exclude someone permanently or for a period of up to five years are passed by the Sanctions Committee. Resolutions to exclude must be passed by at least a two-thirds majority of the Sanction Committee's members.

Members excluded from the organisation will be deregistered, and must re-register after the end of the sanction if they wish to re-join.

- 15.4 A local resolution to exclude for up to one year may be appealed to NPA's Sanctions Committee. Resolutions to exclude passed by the Sanctions Committee may be appealed to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals committee comprises the organisation's working committee plus the chair of the Central First Aid and rescue Committee and the chair of the Central Socio-political Committee. The mandate of the Appeals Committee is passed by the National Board.
- The deadline for appeals is 30 days from the date on which the resolution was made known, and the appeal must be heard within a period of two – 2 – months.



- 15.5 The Sanctions Committee is appointed by the National Board. The committee has five members, who are elected on the basis of their personal qualities, competence and experience.
- 15.6 The National Board may take the initiative to impose sanctions on all organisational levels and boards.

§ 16. AMENDMENTS TO THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

- 16.1 Amendments or additions to NPA's Articles of Association are adopted by an Ordinary General Assembly with at least a two-thirds majority. Proposals must be submitted no later than three months before the General Assembly's scheduled start.

§ 17. DISSOLUTION OF NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID

- 17.1 Dissolution of Norwegian People's Aid requires at least a two-thirds majority at two successive Ordinary General Assemblies.
- 17.2 In connection with the dissolution of Norwegian People's Aid, the dissolving meeting decides how existing funds shall be used. This resolution must be passed by at least a two-thirds majority.





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