

**STATUTE
OF THE
JAPAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION**

(as of May, 1997)

Chapter I

General Provisions

Article 1

This UNION shall be called the Japan Civil Liberties Union.

Article 2

This UNION shall have its principal office in Minato-ku, Tokyo and branches in other places.

Article 3

This UNION shall have special committees when it is deemed necessary.

Chapter II

Objectives and Activities

Article 4

It shall be the objective of this UNION to protect fundamental human rights.

Article 5

In order to accomplish the objectives stated in the preceding Article, this UNION shall be engaged in the following activities:

- (1) Various activities concerning the protection of human rights addressed to the Diet, the government, courts, public prosecutors' offices, police and other agencies, various corporations and individuals;
- (2) Research and study required for accomplishment of the objectives of this UNION;
- (3) Carrying out of lectures and seminars and publishing of written materials for dissemination of ideas on civil liberties;
- (4) Coalition with domestic and foreign organizations sharing the same objectives;
- (5) Other necessary matters.

Article 6

This UNION may establish a ~~Research~~ Office of Human Rights Problems ~~for~~ conducting research and study of human rights problems and publishing written materials.

Article 7

The activities of this UNION shall not be partisan.

Chapter III

Members

Article 8

The members of this UNION shall be comprised of persons satisfying the requirements listed below:

- (1) Support for the objectives of this UNION;
- (2) Payment of membership dues prescribed for;
- (3) Filing the required application form;
- (4) Approval by the Board of Directors.

Article 9

The members shall pay membership dues.

The amount of the membership dues and methods of payment shall be determined during the General Meeting.

This UNION may relieve those members, who have been members for more than twenty years and attain the age of seventy, of their duty to pay the membership dues stipulated in the first paragraph above.

Article 10

This UNION may expel, by a resolution of the Board of Directors, those members who have behaved in a manner unbecoming of this UNION.

Article 11

A member of this UNION shall lose his/her status by reason of death, secession or expulsion.

This UNION may deem, by a resolution of the Board of Directors, that those who default in payment of membership dues secede from this UNION.

Article 12

Members are entitled to receive publications including periodicals and other matters stipulated by this Statute or the Board of Directors.

Chapter IV

Officers

Article 13

This UNION shall have the following officers:

Directors—Not more than forty-five

Auditors—Not more than three

However, one Director stipulated in Article 30 shall not be counted toward the above fixed number.

Article 14

Directors and Auditors shall be elected from among the members at a General Meeting. The terms of Directors and Auditors shall be two years.

Article 15

When a vacancy occurs in respect of Directors or Auditors, the Board of Directors may appoint a Director or an Auditor as the occasion demands.

The term of the Director appointed in accordance with the preceding paragraph is the same term as his/her predecessor.

Article 16

This UNION shall have not more than ten Representative Directors, who shall be elected from among the Directors.

Article 17

The Representative Directors shall represent this UNION.

Article 18

The Directors shall dispose of the daily affairs of this UNION.

Article 19

The Auditors shall audit the assets and the handling of the affairs of this UNION and may, when the need arises, request the convening of the General Meeting.

Article 20

The responsibilities of Directors and Auditors not stipulated in this Statute shall be governed by the provisions of laws and ordinances.

Chapter V

Meetings

Article 21

The Ordinary General Meeting shall be held once a year in May.

Article 22

The Extraordinary General Meeting shall be convened when it is deemed necessary by the Board of Directors or at the request of not less than ten Councillors or one-tenth of all the members specifying the proposed agenda.

Article 23

The General Meeting shall be called by the Representative Directors in accordance with the resolution of the Board of Directors, provided however, that the General Meeting is to be called by the Auditors in accordance with Article 19.

Article 23-2

The General Meeting shall deliberate on the following activities:

- (1) Matters relating to decisions on the budget and the settlement of accounts,
- (2) Matters relating to the amendment of the Statute,
- (3) Matters that are required to be submitted to the General Meeting as required by this Statute,
- (4) Matters recognized as suitable by the Board of Directors to be submitted to the General Meeting.

Article 24

Every member of this UNION shall have one vote.

Every member shall be entitled to vote by proxy.

Article 24-2

The resolutions of the General Meeting shall be passed by a majority of the members present, except as otherwise stated in the Statute. The chair shall cast the deciding vote in the case of a split vote.

Article 25

A notice to call a General Meeting shall be served with an agenda at least ten days prior to the date of the Meeting. In case of emergency, however, the requirement under this Article may be dispensed with.

Article 26

The Board Meeting shall consist of Directors.

The Board Meeting shall be called by the Representative Directors.

The notice to call the Board Meeting shall be served at least five days prior to the meeting. However, in case of emergency, the requirement under this paragraph may be dispensed with.

The Board of Directors shall deliberate on the following matters besides those stipulated in the Statute:

- (1) Matters relating to planning activities and enforcing policy;
- (2) Matters relating to the establishment of branches and special committees;
- (3) Matters relating to important personnel administrations within the secretariat;
- (4) Matters relating to the convocation of a General Meeting;
- (5) Budgets and approval of accounts;
- (6) Matters relating to administration of assets;
- (7) Other important affairs of this UNION.

Article 26-2

The resolutions of the Board Meeting shall be passed by a majority of the members present. The Representative Director in his/her role of chair of the Board Meeting shall cast the deciding vote in the event of a split vote.

Article 28

This UNION shall have a few Councillors at the request of the Board of Directors. Each branch of this UNION may recommend two or more Councillors.

Article 29

The Board of Directors may consult with the Honorary President, Advisors, Consultants and Councillors in respect to important affairs of this UNION. The terms of Consultants and Councillors shall be two years.

Chapter VII

Secretariat

Article 30

This UNION shall have a secretariat, which consists of one Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General and a few secretariat members.

Appointment and dismissal of the Secretary General and Deputy Secretary Generals shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

The Secretary General shall be the ex officio Director.

The Secretary General shall dispose of the affairs of this UNION in accordance with the resolutions of the Board of Directors.

The detailed rules concerning the secretariat shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Chapter VII

Assets and Accounting

Article 31

The assets of this UNION shall consist of the following:

- (1) Membership dues;
- (2) Contributed money and goods;
- (3) Other income.

The expenses of this UNION shall be paid from the assets.

Article 32

The assets of this UNION shall be managed by the Representative Directors, and the manner thereof shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Article 33

The fiscal year of this UNION shall commence on April 1 of each year and end on March 31 of the next year.

Article 34

The budget, approval of accounts and the list of assets as of the end of the fiscal year shall be audited by the Auditors, and approved by the Board of Directors. They, together with the activity report and the report concerning change of members, shall be approved by the General Meeting and submitted to the competent authorities.

Chapter IX

Additional Rules

Article 35

The amendment of this Statute or dissolution of this UNION shall be approved at a General Meeting by more than two-thirds of the members present. However, the membership dues stipulated in Article 9 may be changed by a resolution of the Board of Directors. In this case, said change shall be approved at the next General Meeting.

Article 36

The members of the Japan Civil Liberties Union prior to the establishment of this UNION shall be deemed to be the members of this UNION after the establishment of this UNION.