# CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABUCKTHORN ASSOCIATION

#### **Chapter I. General Provisions**

**Article 1** The name of the Association is "International Seabuckthorn Association", and its English abbreviation is ISA.

**Article 2** The Association is an academic and industry-based international non-governmental and non-profit organization that is voluntarily formed by enterprises, institutions, individuals and other organizations which are active in the research and development of seabuckthorn around the world.

**Article 3** The purpose of the Association is to give full play to the role of seabuckthorn in facilitating environmental protection, economic development and human health, promote exchanges and global cooperation in seabuckthorn cultivation, scientific research, production, economy and trade, personnel, information, etc., and provide international communication service of seabuckthorn to the Association's members and all sectors of the society.

**Article 4** The Association subject to the operational guidance and supervision of its competent authority of the Ministry of Water Resources of the People's Republic of China (MWR) and its registration and administration authority of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

The Association abides by the Constitution, laws, regulations and policies of the state, and complies with the ethical trends of the society.

Article 5 The address of the Association is 1, Fuxing Road, Haidian District, Beijing.

### **Chapter II. Scope of Association Affairs**

**Article 6** Under the principles of mutual respect, equality, mutual benefit and common development, the Association carries out the following activities:

- (1) Give play to the self-discipline role of the seabuckthorn industry, formulate industry regulations, standardize industry behaviors, and promote the development of the industry;
- (2) Investigate and research the developmental dynamics and trends of seabuckthorn at home and abroad, and provide consulting services for the construction and development of seabuckthorn;
- (3) Undertake international exchange and cooperation projects entrusted or funded by government agencies and other organizations;
- (4) Build international seabuckthorn information network and database, and promote international exchanges and cooperation of seabuckthorn;
- (5) In accordance with relevant provisions, edit and publish professional publications, and expand the popularity and publicity of seabuckthorn knowledge;
- (6) Organize and host exchange activities such as seabuckthorn academic seminars at home and abroad;
- (7) Carry out personnel training and exchange visits in the field of seabuckthorn.

### **Chapter III. Membership**

Article 7 ISA members are divided into unit members and individual members.

Article 8 To apply to join the Association, you must comply with the following conditions:

- (1) Support the Constitution of the Association;
- (2) Have the willingness to join the Association;
- (3) Enterprises, institutions, individuals and other organizations have the willingness to actively carry out international exchanges and cooperation of seabuckthorn;
- (4) Have a major impact in the field of seabuckthorn business.

Article 9 The procedures for members to join the Association are:

- (1) Submit an application for membership;
- (2) Approved by the ISA Board through discussion;
- (3) Pay dues according to the standards of membership dues;
- (4) Membership card is issued by the ISA Board or an authorized body of the Board.

Article 10 Members have the following rights:

- (1) The Association's right to vote, right to stand in election and voting right;
- (2) Participate in activities of the Association;
- (3) Have priority in obtaining services of the Association;
- (4) The rights to criticize and supervise the work of the Association;
- (5) Join the Association voluntarily and withdraw freely.

#### Article 11 Members shall perform the following duties:

- (1) Execute resolutions of the Association;
- (2) Maintain the legitimate rights and interests of the Association;
- (3) Accomplish the work assigned by the Association;
- (4) Pay the membership dues as required;
- (5) Reflect situations and provide relevant information to the Association.

**Article 12** The member who would like to withdraw shall notify the Association in writing and return the membership card. If a member does not pay membership dues or does not participate in activities of the Association for one year, it is regarded as withdrawing voluntarily.

**Article 13** If a member seriously violates the Constitution of the Association, it shall be adopted to remove by vote of the ISA Board.

### Chapter IV. Generation and Removal of Organizations and Principal Heads of Offices

Article 14 The highest authority of the Association is the Representative Assembly.

**Article 15** The functions and powers of the Representative Assembly are:

- (1) Formulate and revise the Constitution;
- (2) Elect and dismiss members of the ISA Board;
- (3) Formulate and revise the standard of membership fees;
- (4) Review the work report and financial report of the ISA Board;
- (5) Make decisions on termination matters;
- (6) Make decisions on other major matters.

**Article 16** The Representative Assembly must be attended by more than two-thirds of the member representatives. The resolutions must be adopted by vote of more than half of the attended member representatives.

**Article 17** A term of the Representative Assembly is five years. Under special circumstances that a term needs to be ended in advance or postponed, it shall be adopted by vote of the ISA Board, and submitted to the competent authority for review and the registration and administration authority for approval. However, the maximum extension of a term shall not exceed one year.

**Article 18** The ISA Board is the executive body of the Representative Assembly. The Board leads the Association to carry out the daily work during intervals between meetings and is responsible to the Representative Assembly.

Article 19 The functions and powers of the ISA Board are:

- (1) Execute resolutions of the Representative Assembly;
- (2) Elect and dismiss the chairman, vice chairman and secretary general;
- (3) Prepare and host the Representative Assembly;
- (4) Report work and financial status to the Representative Assembly;
- (5) Make decisions on the absorption or removal of members;
- (6) Decide to establish administrative offices, branches, representative offices and entities;
- (7) Make decisions on the employment of the Deputy secretary general and principal heads of offices;
- (8) Lead organs of the Association to conduct work;
- (9) Develop the internal management system;
- (10) Make decisions on other major matters authorized by the Representative Assembly.

**Article 20** the meeting of the ISA Board must be attended by more than two-thirds of the Board members. The resolutions must be adopted by vote of more than half of the attended members.

**Article 21** the meeting of the ISA Board must be held at least once a year. In special circumstances, it may be held in the form of communication.

**Article 22** The chairman, vice chairman and secretary general of the Association must meet the following conditions:

- (1) Have a major impact in the operational area of the Association;
- (2) The chairman, vice chairman and secretary general shall not be more than 70 years of age, and the secretary general shall be full-time;
- (3) Shall be healthy and able to work properly;
- (4) Not subject to criminal punishment such as deprivation of political rights;
- (5) Have full capacity for civil conduct.

**Article 23** If the chairman, vice chairman or secretary general of the Association exceeds the maximum age restriction of appointment, the post shall be held after being adopted by vote of the ISA Board, and submitted to the competent authority for review and the registration and administration authority for approval.

Article 24 A term of the chairman, vice chairman or secretary general of the Association is five years, and shall not exceed two terms at maximum. Under special circumstances that a term needs to be ended in advance or postponed, the post shall be held after being adopted by vote of more than two-thirds of the member representatives of the Representative Assembly, and submitted to the competent authority for review and the registration and administration authority for approval.

**Article 25** The secretary general is the legal representative of the Association. The legal representative of the Association shall not serve as legal representative of other groups.

Article 26 The chairman of the Association exercises the following functions and

- (1) Convene and preside over the ISA Board;
- (2) Check the implementation of resolutions of the Representative Assembly and the ISA Board;
- (3) Preside over and study major matters of the Association;
- (4) May nominate the list of candidates for vice chairman and secretary general, but the appointment is decided by the ISA Board.
- (5) May delegate vice chairman or secretary general to exercise functions and powers of the chairman;

Article 27 The secretary general of the Association exercises the following functions and powers:

- (1) Sign relevant important documents on behalf of the Association;
- (2) Presided over administrative offices to carry out the daily work, and organize the implementation of annual work plan;
- (3) Coordinate the work of branches, representative offices and entities;
- (4) Nominate deputy secretary general and principal heads of administrative offices, branches, representative offices and entities, and submit to the ISA Board for decision;
- (5) Make decisions on the employment of full-time staff for administrative offices, representative offices and entities;
- (6) Deal with other daily affairs.

### Chapter V. Principles of Asset Management and Use

Article 28 Financial sources of the Association:

- (1) Membership fees;
- (2) Donations;
- (3) Government grants;
- (4) Income from activities or services within the verified operational scope of the Association;
- (5)Interest;
- (6) Other legal income.

Article 29 The Association collects membership dues in accordance with relevant state regulations.

**Article 30** The funds of the Association must be used in the operational scope and career development in accordance with the Constitution of the Association, and shall not be distributed among the members.

**Article 31** The Association shall establish a strict financial management system to ensure that accounting materials are legal, real, accurate and complete.

**Article 32** The Association shall be staffed with accounting personnel with professional qualifications. The accountant shall not serve as cashier. Accounting personnel must conduct accounting and implement accounting supervision. When transferring or leaving the post, accounting personnel must accomplish handover procedures with take-over personnel.

**Article 33** The asset management of the Association must implement the financial management system as stipulated by the state and accept the supervision of the Representative Assembly and the financial authority. When assets source from state grants, social donations or social funding, it must be supervised by the audit institution, and the relevant information shall be disclosed to the public in appropriate manners.

**Article 34** Before the change of a term or replacing the legal representative, the Association must accept financial audit organized by the registration and administration authority and the competent authority.

**Article 35** No unit or individual shall invade and occupy, privately divide or misappropriate assets of the Association.

**Article 36** The salaries, insurance and welfare benefits for the full-time staff of the Association shall be implemented in accordance with relevant state provisions on public institutions.

### Chapter VI. Procedures for Revisions of the Constitution

**Article 37** The revisions to the Constitution of the Association shall be submitted to the Representative Assembly for discussion after being adopted by vote of the ISA Board.

**Article 38** Before it comes into force, the revised Constitution of the Association shall be reviewed and approved by the competent authority and verified by the registration and administration authority within 15 days after being passed by the Representative Assembly.

## Chapter VII. Termination Procedures and Assets Treatment after Termination

**Article 39** If the Association completes its purpose, dismisses voluntarily or needs to apply for the cancellation due to reasons such as separation or merger, the ISA Board shall propose a termination motion.

**Article 40** The termination motion shall be adopted by vote of the Representative Assembly and submitted to the competent authority for review and approval.

**Article 41** Before the termination, the Association shall establish a liquidation organization under the guidance of the competent authority and relevant authorities to settle claims and debts and deal with the aftermath. During the liquidation, activities other than liquidation shall not be carried out.

**Article 42** After the registration and administration authority finishes procedures for the cancellation of registration, the Association shall be terminated.

**Article 43** After the termination of the Association, the remaining assets shall be used for the development of undertakings related to the purpose of the Association in accordance with relevant state provisions under the supervision of the registration and administration authority and the competent authority.

### **Chapter VIII. Supplementary Provisions**

**Article 44** The Constitution of the Association was adopted by vote of the first session of the first Representative Assembly on September 11, 2011.

Article 45 The ISA Board reserves the right of interpretation of the Constitution.

**Article 46** The Constitution shall come into force on the date of verification by the registration and administration authority.