



CITY HINDUS NETWORK

CONSTITUTION

Updated and adopted by the Executive Committee on 14 November 2010 ("**Effective Date**")

RECITALS

- (A) Whereas the Association was formed and launched at the first event in 2006 ("Launch Date");
- (B) Whereas since the Launch Date, the Association has been run by an Executive Committee that comprises individuals that were selected by the Founder and/or Chairperson and the names of the current Executive Committee are set out in Schedule 1;
- (C) Whereas the Association has been successful in its activities between the Launch Date and the Effective Date, and

now, therefore, the Executive Committee agree to effect and administer the Association in accordance with this constitution as follows:

1. **Interpretation**

1.1 In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Advisory Committee" means a committee of senior professionals appointed by the Executive Committee that may be consulted by the Executive Committee on an adhoc basis for advice and any information or contacts that are required from such senior professionals;

"Association" means the City Hindus Network;

"Chairperson" means the individual, currently Pratik Dattani, that will chair meetings of the Executive Committee as set out in Schedule 1 to this Constitution and is, along with only the Treasurer, authorised to open, maintain and authorise transactions for the bank account of the Association;

"Executive Committee" means the current Executive Committee of the Association set out in Schedule 1 of this Constitution (as amended from time to time);

"Founder" means Dhruv Patel;

"Greater London Area" means the City of London including middle and inner Temple and the 32 London Boroughs;

“Hindu” means a person that follows Sanātana Dharma culture and heritage, explores and seeks an understanding of Vedic philosophy. This includes, but is not limited to for these purposes, persons that follow the Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist religions;

“Member” means a member of the Association, as registered:

- (A) through the Website;
- (B) at an event that is held by the Association; or
- (C) by an Officer who has been provided with the personal details of the person wishing to become a member of the Association,

and “Membership” means all the Members taken as a whole who have consented to having their details held by the Association for the purposes of receiving information about the Association’s events;

“Mission” has the meaning ascribed to it in Article 4.1;

“Objects” means the objects of the Association as set out in Article 4.2;

“Officer” means an officer of the Executive Committee, appointed pursuant to Article 6;

“Treasurer” means the individual, currently Aekta Mahajan, that will chair meetings of the Executive Committee as set out in Schedule 1 to this Constitution, in the absence of, or upon request of, the Chairperson and is, along with only the Chairperson, authorised to open, maintain and authorise transactions for the bank account of the Association; and

“Website” means www.cityhindusnetwork.org.uk.

- 1.2 Headings are used in this Constitution for convenience only and shall not affect its construction or interpretation.
- 1.3 In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise admits, reference to the singular includes references to the plural and vice versa and reference to the masculine includes reference to the feminine and the neuter.

2. **The Name**

The Association’s name is the City Hindus Network.

3. **Adoption of the Constitution**

- 3.1 The Association will be administered in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and any rules, regulations and directions of the Executive Committee which shall be deemed incorporated into and form part of, this Constitution.
- 3.2 In the event that the Constitution is silent on any aspect of the administration of the Association, the Association shall be administered pursuant to rules, regulations and directions of the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 In the event that Executive Committee requires advice with respect to the administration of the Association, the Executive Committee may consult with the Advisory Committee.

4. **Mission and Objects**

4.1 The Association's mission is to promote and engage in non-profit making networking, educational and charitable activities amongst Hindu professionals (the "Mission").

4.2 The Association's objects for which it is created shall be as follows (the "Objects"):

- (A) to represent the common socio-economic and political interests of Hindu professionals living or working in the Greater London Area to governmental bodies, non-governmental organisations, trade associations, charities and any other unincorporated or incorporated bodies as the Executive Committee may deem fit;
- (B) to include and promote the principles of Hindu philosophy and culture in all of its activities;
- (C) to provide a platform for Members to share experiences and knowledge;
- (D) to promote the development of personal relationships in order to facilitate contacts and business amongst Members;
- (E) to establish a mentoring scheme to provide Members with access to senior Hindu professionals to assist with their professional development;
- (F) to provide a platform for, and organise such events that promote, a volunteering scheme to provide Members with access to volunteering and charitable opportunities;
- (G) to organise meetings, congresses, symposiums, conferences and any such other events to achieve the Association's Mission and Objects;
- (H) to collaborate with all such other bodies or persons, whether legal or natural, that share a similar Mission to the Association and that will assist the Association with its Objects;
- (I) to seek and obtain sponsorship for the attainment of these Objects from legal and natural persons and unincorporated bodies;
- (J) not to attempt to restrict or in any manner interfere with any lawful activity undertaken by any Member or limit the independent decision making of that Member;
- (K) to carry on any other activity and do anything of any nature which in the opinion of the Association is or may be capable of being conveniently carried on or done in connection with the above, or likely directly or indirectly to advance the interests of the Association or of its Members; and
- (L) to do all such lawful things which may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Mission and the foregoing Objects as determined by the Executive Committee.

4.3 The Objects are summarised on the Website as the following "CHN principles":

- (A) Philosophy: Be apolitical and promote the principles of the Sanatan Dharma philosophy and culture

- (B) Networking: Promote the development of personal relationships and professional growth amongst members
- (C) Education: Establish education events and a mentoring scheme to provide members with access to senior Hindu professionals
- (D) Sewa: Provide and promote volunteering and charitable opportunities
- (E) Solidarity: Promote solidarity amongst Hindus, and promote mutual learning with other beliefs
- (F) Representation: Represent the socio-economic and political interests of Hindu professionals to governmental and other bodies

5. **Membership**

- 5.1 Membership is open to individuals (whether Hindu or otherwise) that request to become a Member and as are approved by the Executive Committee in its sole discretion.
- 5.2 The Executive Committee may refuse an application for Membership if, acting reasonably and properly, it considers the refusal of such application for Membership to be in the best interests of the Association.
- 5.3 The Executive Committee may consider any representations the applicant may make about the decision and, in its absolute discretion, may consult with the Advisory Committee on the merits of the application. The Executive Committee's decision following any such representations and consultation with the Advisory Committee must be notified to the applicant and the decision shall be final.
- 5.4 Membership shall be terminated if:
 - (A) the Member dies;
 - (B) the Member notifies the Association that he no longer wishes to be a Member; or
 - (C) the Executive Committee, acting reasonably and properly, consider it to be in the best interests of the Association for a Member's Membership to be terminated.

6. **Officers and the Executive Committee**

6.1 **Formation and Appointment**

- (A) The Association will be managed by who shall collectively be known as the "Executive Committee" and it shall be comprised of a minimum of two (2) Officers, including the Chairperson.
- (B) Subject to paragraph (C) below, the Chairperson shall, have the right to appoint such other persons to become Officers as it deems fit.
- (C) No person may be appointed as an Officer of the Executive Committee unless he has first become a Member of the Association.

6.2 **Tenure and Termination of Office**

- (A) The maximum term of tenure for the Chairperson and Treasurer once appointed shall be five ("5") years. The maximum term of tenure for all other Officers once

appointed shall be five (“5”) years. In the event that an Officer who does not hold the position of Chairperson or Treasurer serves a 5-year term, and then takes the position of Chairperson or Treasurer, that Officer may serve the full additional 5 years.

- (B) An Officer may be removed from the Executive Committee (a “Removed Officer”) if he is requested to step down following a request in writing presented at a physical meeting of the Executive Committee signed by all of the other Officers and for this purpose the request may be signed in any number of counterparts (a “Resignation Request”).
- (C) The Executive Committee may consider any representations Members may make about removing an Officer from the Executive Committee (a “Removal Request”) and, in its absolute discretion, may consult with the Advisory Committee on the merits of the Removal Request. The Executive Committee’s decision following any such representations and consultation with the Advisory Committee must be, by the Chairperson, or in the Chairperson’s absence the Treasurer, notified to the Officer against whom the Removal Request has been made and the Member(s) who made the Removal Request and following which, the decision to pursue or retract the Removal Request shall be final.
- (D) The Executive Committee may consider any representations a Removed Officer may make about the Resignation Request and, in its absolute discretion, may consult with the Advisory Committee on the merits of the Resignation Request. The Executive Committee’s decision following any such representations and consultation with the Advisory Committee must be notified to the Removed Officer and following which, the decision to pursue or retract the Resignation Request shall be final.
- (E) Officers may, at any time, resign from their position upon written notice to the Chairperson and the Executive Committee.

6.3 **Proceedings of the Executive Committee**

- (A) Officers may meet for the business of the Association, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they see fit.
- (B) Questions arising at any meetings shall be determined by a majority of votes, provided that, in each case, the Executive Committee shall endeavour to reach a consensus on the questions so arising. The Chairperson shall have the deciding vote in the event of a tie.
- (C) An Officer may at any time call a meeting of the Executive Committee. Notice of such meeting will be given by electronic communication to all Officers.
- (D) The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be two (2) Officers, including at least one of the Chairperson and Treasurer. The Chairperson shall chair each meeting, or nominate another Officer to do so if this is not practicable.
- (E) A meeting of the Executive Committee at which the removal of an Officer arises shall require the Officer the subject of the resolution to be included in the quorum for such meeting.
- (F) In the event that the Chairperson is unable to attend a meeting of the Executive Committee, he may appoint any such other Officer as he deems fit to chair the meeting.

- (G) An Officer shall be treated as present in person at a meeting of the Executive Committee notwithstanding that he is not physically present at the place where the meeting is held if he is in communication with the meeting by conference telephone or other communication equipment permitting each person physically present at or so in communication with the meeting to hear and be heard by each other such person. Such an Officer shall be counted in the quorum of the meeting and shall be entitled to vote thereat.

6.4 **Powers of the Executive Committee**

- (A) The Executive Committee will be possessed of powers necessary for the proper functioning and operation of the Association, including but not limited to the power to:
 - (1) make all necessary rules and regulations to govern the Association's operations and Membership;
 - (2) appoint the members of the Advisory Committee taking into account the relevant professional, ethical and cultural attributes of the person to be appointed and the requirements of the Association at that time;
 - (3) establish and appoint all such operational sub-committees as it deems necessary;
 - (4) enter into all such agreements, contracts and transactions necessary to establish and maintain the operations of the Association; and
 - (5) delegate, in whole or in part, any of its powers to any such Officer as it deems fit.
- (B) An Officer of the Executive Committee shall, in attending events on behalf of the Association, act as an agent of the Association and shall conduct himself appropriately, taking into account the mission and objects of the Association.
- (C) Officers shall, at all times, keep the Executive Committee updated on developments relating to any meetings, projects or events which they attend and/or for which they are responsible, either by email as soon as reasonably practicable or by way of update at the next available meeting of the Executive Committee.

7. **Advisory Committee**

- 7.1 The Executive Committee shall, at its own discretion, appoint such persons as it deems fit to the Advisory Committee, taking into account the mission and objects of the Association.
- 7.2 The Advisory Committee shall have no rights or powers in relation to the administration and organisation of the Association, and shall only be called upon by the Executive Committee to act in an advisory capacity as and when required to do so by the Executive Committee.
- 7.3 For the avoidance of doubt, a member of the Advisory Committee shall not be entitled to represent and shall not represent the Association and its views, beliefs and objectives without the prior agreement of the Executive Committee.

8. **No Liability**

The Executive Committee and Advisory Committee shall be appointed to work in the best interests of the Association. Neither the Executive Committee, nor the Advisory

Committee shall be in away liable to any Member for any act or omission of the Association.

SCHEDULE 1: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Executive Committee

The Association's Executive Committee from the Effective Date shall be comprised of:

- (A) Pratik Dattani (Chairperson);
- (B) Dipen Jobanputra;
- (C) Aekta Mahajan (Treasurer);
- (D) Shayon Maitra;
- (E) Nikhil Mankad;
- (F) Sunil Mistry; and
- (G) Amar Purohit.

Signed by:



Aekta Mahajan



Pratik Dattani