

Constitution of the Fellowship of Alliance Chinese Churches in Europe and Surroundings

Article 1—Name and Identity

- 1.1 The Fellowship of Alliance Chinese Churches in Europe and Surroundings (abbreviated FACCES) is a charitable organization to be participated voluntarily by Chinese Alliance churches in all Europe and surrounding areas.
- 1.2 Relationship with National C&MA organizations: The FACCES is an organization established for cooperation, not administration. All member churches shall continue to report to their respective national C&MA organizations. The FACCES shall maintain a close relationship with the national organizations.
- 1.3 Relationship with Chinese Alliance World Fellowship (CAWF): The FACCES shall maintain an associated status and a close relationship with the CAWF of the C&MA.

Article 2—Mission and Objectives

- 2.1 The FACCES is organized for the cooperation by member churches by providing the following: (a) assistance to member churches as they encounter difficulties, and (b) formation of a partnership among member churches through mutual sharing, and (c) assistance to member churches to become a healthy church.
 - 2.1.1 Partnership through Mutual Sharing—Objectives:
 - To partner in organizing training/workshops and to share experience of success and failure about new initiatives
 - To explore and plan together in church planting and missionary work
 - To design innovative solutions to problems encountered by ministry workers and church leaders
 - To attract independent churches to join the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA)

Article 3—Organization

- 3.1 Member Churches: While all Chinese Alliance churches in Europe and the surrounding areas are invited to join the FACCES, participation as member churches is entirely voluntary.

- 3.2 The FACCES shall be administered by a Council which is consisted of representatives sent from all member churches.
- 3.3 When the Council is not in session, the operation of the FACCES shall be administered by an Executive Committee.
- 3.4 An Executive Secretary shall coordinate the administration of the FACCES.
- 3.5 Affiliated Churches: Non-Alliance Chinese churches can participate in the FACCES as affiliated churches.

Article 4—Council

- 4.1 Functions
 - 4.1.1 Determine the general direction and policies of the FACCES and provide administrative guidance.
 - 4.1.2 Appoint and terminate members of the Executive Committee and the Executive Secretary.
 - 4.1.3 Approve the budget and operational plan.
- 4.2 Appointment: Each member church has one (1) seat and one (1) vote in the Council. All members shall be formally nominated by the Church Board of individual member churches and appointed by the Council. A Chairperson shall be elected by the Council to call and preside Council meetings.
- 4.3 Term of Office: Every Council member shall be appointed for four (4) years. The term can be renewed with a new formal nomination by member churches.
- 4.4 Meetings
 - 4.4.1 The Council shall meet at least once every two (2) years. Agenda of the Biennial Meeting shall include the appointment of Council members, Executive Committee members, and the Executive Secretary, adoption of the budget, and a review of past performance.
 - 4.4.2 Agenda of meetings shall be distributed to all Council members seven (7) days before the meeting. This constraint can be waived only with unanimous consent of all Council members. An unscheduled meeting shall be convened when called by 25% of the Council members in writing.
 - 4.4.3 Quorum for any meeting shall be 60% of the Council members.

- 4.4.4 All resolutions shall be passed by a vote of not less than 60% of the total number of attending Council members.
- 4.4.5 The minutes of all Council meetings shall be distributed to all Council members.
- 4.4.6 Representatives appointed by affiliated churches may participate in Council meetings as observers but have no vote.

Article 5—Executive Committee

- 5.1 Election: The Executive Committee shall be elected and appointed by the Council during its Annual Meeting.
- 5.2 Composition: Members of the Executive Committee shall be selected from the Council members. The Committee shall have at least five (5) members. A Chairperson shall be elected to call and preside Committee meetings.
- 5.3 Term of Office: Every committee member shall be appointed for two (2) years. Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee for the balance of the term. A Committee member shall not hold office for more than five (5) consecutive terms or ten (10) years.
- 5.4 Meetings
 - 5.4.1 The Committee shall meet at least once every year. Agenda of meetings shall be distributed to all Committee members seven (7) days before the meeting. This constraint can be waived only with unanimous consent of all Committee members. An unscheduled meeting shall be convened when called by 50% of the Committee members in writing.
 - 5.4.2 Quorum for any meeting shall be 75% of the Committee members.
 - 5.4.3 All resolutions shall be passed by a vote of not less than 60% of the total number of Committee members.
 - 5.4.4 The minutes of all Committee meetings shall be distributed to all Council members.

Article 6—Executive Secretary

- 6.1 Functions

- 6.1.1 As the chief operating officer of the FACCES, the Executive Secretary is an officio member of the Council and the Executive Committee. He shall attend all meetings and serve as the recorder of the minutes. However, the Executive Secretary shall not carry any vote.
- 6.1.2 Manage the general operation of the FACCES, keeping all official documents of the FACCES, execute and transact business under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- 6.1.3 Periodically update the Council on the operation of the FACCES.
- 6.1.4 Represent the FACCES to local churches and the general public.
- 6.2 Appointment: A Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Council.
- 6.3 Term of Office: A Executive Secretary shall be appointed to a term of two (2) years. The term can be extended without limit.

Article 7—Financial Matters

- 7.1 Fiscal year of the FACCES shall end on 31 December.
- 7.2 All non-budget expenses €500 or less are to be approved by the Executive Committee. All non-budget expenses exceeding€500 are to be approved by the Council.
- 7.3 All payments shall be approved jointly by the Executive Secretary and a Council member designated by the Council.

Article 8—Miscellaneous Matters

- 8.1 Dissolution: In the event of the dissolution of the FACCES, all the remaining assets shall be donated in whole to one or more charitable Christian organizations in Europe and the surrounding areas, selected by the Council.

Article 9—Amendment of Constitution

- 9.1 Proposal to amend the Constitution shall be submitted in writing and delivered to the Council fourteen (14) days prior to a Council meeting.
- 9.2 Any amendment shall be made only with the approval of 75% of the total number of attending Council members after thorough discussion.