



Constitution

**One World One Health
Bangladesh Initiative**

(Memorandum of Association)

2009

Preamble:

The world has been traversing through a time of quick natural, physical, economic and societal changes bringing different nations, society, professions, cultures in a network making them interdependent and easily influenced by each other. Health system is influenced by this evolving situation and loosely linked disciplines are inadequate to confront the future challenges arising of the changing global scenario of climate change, rapid urbanization, industrialization, natural degradation, etc. Recent studies show that more than 75% of the infectious diseases have originated from animals corroborating the necessity for close collaboration between animal and human health disciplines. Human, animal, plant and soil health are interactive and interdependent. Coordination and partnership are essential among individuals and organizations engaged in the well being of the said components of environment.

The importance of health has been fully conceived by the society from the outset of human civilization. The dimension of health and approaches of health problem mitigation has been changing continuously. Trend of compartmentalization and specialization was nurtured during the last century to acquire high level of knowledge and competence in specific area. The approach lead to have a deep insight and personal skill but a broader and comprehensive vision is needed where knowledge and expertise could be brought together to meet the challenges of intricate health problems. This needs a caring outlook toward soil, plant and animals and broader vision to mitigate social imbalances that aggravate the health problems. Health should be the central part of development approach and good human health; animal health and plant health could only be achieved through a broader vision of one world one health. The idea has been getting momentum in different part of the world and we want to be an active partner of such noble initiatives. Efforts have been taken to generate a movement for one health and one world and civil society has shown tremendous interest in building the movement. Considering the urgency of developing a movement for one health and one world the constitution is framed for the ease of operation of the movement.

1.0 Name:

The name of the organization will be One World One Health: Bangladesh Initiative. Herein after, the organization will be referred as OWOH: BI in the document.

2.0 Objective:

- a) Promote the idea of ‘one health one world’ in the society including policy makers, academician, professionals, civil society, media etc.
- b) Establish a multidisciplinary collaborative approach for confronting health problems.
- c) Link specialist of different group to harness better coordination and interaction to achieve better health for human, plant, animal and soil.
- d) Prioritize action and research agenda for immediate, midterm and long-term action

3.0 Strategy:

- a) Liaison with the government and other organization to reflect the idea of one world one health
- b) Inform people about the importance of emerging and reemerging infectious diseases and other pertinent health issues.
- c) Inform people about options for health issue mitigation at personal, community and society level
- d) Promote people awareness for conservation of nature and animal welfare to protect health
- e) Advise government and other agencies to overcome health related challenges

4.0 Membership:

Any individual or organization endorsing the objectives of the organization mentioned in Article-2.0 will be eligible for the membership of the organization for any of category deem suitable for the individual or organization.

5.0 Category of Membership:

- a) General Member: Individuals eligible for membership of OWOH:BI paying subscription for a period of time will constitute the category for General Member.
- b) Life member: Individuals eligible for membership of OWOH:BI paying subscription for life member will constitute the category of Life Member.
- c) Organization Member: Organizations eligible for the membership of OWOH: BI paying subscription for a period of time will constitute the category of organization member.
- d) Permanent Organization Member: Organizations eligible for the membership of OWOH: BI paying subscription for permanent organization membership will constitute the category of permanent organization member.
- e) Support group: Any organization supporting the aims and objective of OWOH:BI can act as support group of OWOH:BI.
- f) Honorary Member: OWOH:BI may offer honorary membership to the individuals and members for outstanding contribution in the field of human, animal, plant and soil health.

6.0 Membership Procedure:

Any individual eligible for membership of the organization can apply for general member / life member/ Associate membership in a prescribed form duly approved by the National Committee paying the subscription determined time to time by the national committee. National Committee will retain the power of approval and rejection on case to case basis.

In case of declining any application for membership in any category, the National Committee will inform the applicant in writings the reason for not approving the applications and will maintain the record. Any non-government organization or civil society organization can declare them as a support group and no approval is needed for such declaration. But a notification to National Committee is advisable to maintain a database of the support group for the ease of delivery of the actions of the OWOH: BI.

7.0 Cancellation of membership:

The national committee may cancel the membership of any organization of any category if the person or organization is involved in any activities contrary to the fundamental spirit of the OWOH. In case of cancellation of membership, the incumbent should be served with a show cause notice clearly indicating the reason for serving the notice and the highest actions that might be taken actions the person or organization for involving in activities.

8.0 Subscription:

- a. The National Committee of OWOH:BI shall determine the rate of subscription for General Member, Life Member and Associate members. The AGM shall approve the decision.
- b. Annual rate of subscription for Organization-Membership and one time rate of subscription for Permanent Organization-Membership shall be fixed by the National Committee. Annual General Meeting shall finally approve the decision.
- c. An Organization-Member is equivalent to how many general members shall be determined on the basis of the amount of subscription paid by the Organization-Member over the Individual-Member. The National Committee shall take decision and Annual General Meeting shall accord approval on it.

9.0 Annual General Meeting:

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be the highest decision-making body of OWOH: BI. The AGM shall sit once in a year.

- b. The AGM of OWOH shall be consisting of all Individual-Members, Life-Members and Organization-Members. Associate Members of OWOH:BI will have the right to join the AGM meeting as observers without voting right.
- c. National Committee will submit annual report of its tenure in the AGM. The AGM will review the report and shall retain the right to instruct addition, subtraction, correction or approve the report as such.
- d. The National Committee shall submit a separate financial report in the AGM duly audited by a 3 members committee nominated by the National Committee. AGM shall retain the right to instruct addition, subtraction, correction or approve the report as such.
- e. The AGM will nominate a subject committee to propose the National Committee described in article 11. National Committee will be elected by the AGM for 2 years by the AGM when the term of the previous National Committee is over.

10.0 Extra ordinary General Meeting:

- a. In case of emergency, Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) could be convened by the National Committee in addition to AGM. The Coordinator will issue the notice for EGM.

11.0 The National Committee:

- a. The National Committee as constituted by the AGM shall resolve and approve the decisions of OWOH: BI during its tenure. The National Committee shall be accountable to the AGM. This Committee will execute in line with the outlines given by the AGM. But in case of emergency, the national committee will retain the right to undertake any programme which is not conflicting with the spirit of the organization.
- b. The National committee shall consist of one National coordinator and three co-coordinators and 17 members.

12.0 Management and Procedure of the meeting:

- a. The National Coordinator of National Committee shall chair the meetings of National Committee, Annual General Meeting and Extra Ordinary General Meeting. In absence of the National Coordinator, the Co-coordinator, in order of number will chair the meeting. In absence of National Coordinator and Co-coordinators, a member nominated by the majority of the members will chair the meeting.
- b. **Quorum:** Presence of one third of the members will be required to conduct a meeting of the National Committee. However, attendance of one fifth of total enrolled member will be considered enough to conduct EGM and AGM.

13.0 Co-option:

The national committee shall have the right to co-opt members from the members of any category except associate members if it deems necessary. But under any circumstances, the total number of co-opted members should not be more than one fifth of the member nominated by the national committee. In case of vacancy due to resignation or for any other reason, the national committee will retain the right to replace the vacant position from the members of any category except associate members.

14.0 Amendment of the constitution:

Any amendment proposal should be placed before the AGM through National Committee. Amendment shall be approved if two third members present in AGM consent to the amendment.