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# **Document History**

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# Members list

Name	Role	Reason
Jagadeesh Haridas		Reviewer
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Reviewer: These people will review the document to ensure it is accurate and complete. Information: These people are provided with the document for information only to keep them aware of the details.

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#### **Article I: Preliminary**

#### Section 1: Name of the Organization

The name of this organization shall be "MEWA [MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION]"

#### Section 2: Purpose

The purpose of MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION:

To facilitate networking and connections among open and like-minded individuals with similar personal.

To act as a bridge between Melonba homeowners and the Blacktown council to represent common issues

To create a space for sharing information, resources, and expertise professional contacts on building issues

To connect homeowners of Melonba for local discussions, events, recommendations, and community initiatives.

To create a sense of belonging and community among diverse individuals who share common values, experiences, or goals.

To facilitate collaboration and partnership opportunities among members for initiatives, and events.

#### **Section 3: Mission and Values**

### MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION:

"Our mission is to cultivate a vibrant and inclusive community where members (homeowners) can connect, support each other, and collaborate towards shared goals. Through meaningful conversations, mutual respect, and active participation, we aim to foster a supportive environment where everyone feels valued and empowered to contribute. Our group serves as a platform for sharing knowledge, exchanging ideas, and building meaningful relationships. Together, we strive to inspire positivity, creativity, and personal growth while embracing diversity and celebrating our collective achievements. By upholding our values of respect, integrity, and empathy, we aspire to create a welcoming space where every member can thrive and make a positive impact on the lives of others."

# Article II: Membership

### Section 1: Eligibility

Membership in MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION Australia is open to all homeowners in Melonba, NSW- 2765 who support the goals and principles of MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, open, likeminded, irrespective of nationality, residency status, or any other discriminatory criteria. We believe in inclusivity and diversity, and we welcome all homeowners who share our commitment for the community. Membership is not contingent on ethnicity, race, gender, religion, or any other personal characteristics. It is open to homeowner residing in Melonba and who resonates with our mission and values.

New members in Australia can join MEWA WhatsApp group by:

✓ Accepting the group link and admin of that group will approve their request.

# Section 2: Rights and Responsibilities

- 2.1 Participation in Organization Meetings: Members have the right to participate in organization general meetings. MEWA encourages active involvement in discussions, decision-making, and the formulation of organizational strategies. Your voice matters, and we value your input.
- 2.2 Voting in Internal Elections: Members are entitled to exercise their voting rights in internal elections when called for any elective body elections. Your vote is a fundamental aspect of our democratic process, and it shapes the direction of MEWA.
- 2.3 Proposing Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws: As a member, you have the right to propose amendments to this constitution and the organization's bylaws. This reflects our commitment to transparency and responsiveness to the evolving needs of our community. Your ideas and suggestions can contribute to the growth and improvement of MEWA.
- 2.4 Upholding Principles: Members are responsible for upholding the principles and values of MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, both within the organization and in their public interactions. Integrity, honesty, and a commitment to our shared mission are essential in maintaining the trust and credibility of MEWA.
- 2.5 Ethical Standards: MEWA expects members to adhere to high ethical standards in all their interactions, whether within the organization, in the public sphere, or on social media platforms. Respect for diversity, civility, and tolerance is central to our ethos.
- 2.6 Active Contribution: MEWA encourages members to actively contribute to the organization's activities and initiatives. Whether through volunteer efforts, participating in community events, or sharing their expertise, members play a pivotal role in advancing our goals.
- 2.7 Support for MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION in Australia: While MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION Australia is a Not-for-profit organization, encourage members to support MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION's efforts in both Australia. This may include actively participating in the events like Sporting, cultural, fundraising, and spreading awareness about MELONBA WELFARE

#### ASSOCIATION's work.

# Section 3: Adding new members in MEWA WhatsApp group.

Admins of MEWA WhatsApp group check the validity of member is a Melonba homeowner residing in Melonba and if valid, admits the member to join the group, if the validation is not satisfactory will reject the request.

#### **Section 4: Termination**

4.1 Termination Process: Membership may be terminated for valid reasons, such as a breach of organization principles, disruptive behavior, or failure to comply with membership obligations. The termination process will be initiated by the Committee, who will consider the circumstances and adhere to the procedures outlined in the organization's bylaws.

## Section 5: Exit Membership

A member of the Organization who doesn't accept or follow organization's bylaws may exit unconditionally.

## **Article III: Meetings**

Here are some general considerations for MEWA to hold general meetings and the use of technology for meetings.

# **Section 1: Conducting General Meetings**

- ✓ Notice: Ensure that proper notice is given for general meetings. The notice period and the method of giving notice may be specified in our organization's bylaws/constitution or relevant legislation.
- ✓ Agenda: Prepare and distribute an agenda for the meeting. The agenda should cover items to be discussed and any resolutions to be voted on.

### Section 2: Use of Technology

- ✓ Virtual Meetings: MEWA constitution allows for virtual or remote attendance at meetings with reasonable notice through WhatsApp group.
- ✓ Video Conferencing: In virtual meetings consider using video conferencing platforms to facilitate participation such as Zoom or Teams. Ensure that members are informed about the technology to be used and have access to it.
- ✓ Voting Procedures: Clearly outline procedures for electronic voting if applicable. This may include proxy voting or electronic voting during virtual meetings.

### Section 3: Record- Keeping

- ✓ Minutes: Keep accurate minutes of the general meetings, whether held in person or virtually. Minutes should document decisions, resolutions, and any voting outcomes.
- ✓ Attendance Records: Maintain record of attendance for both in-person and virtual meetings.

## Section 4: Legal Compliance

✓ Compliance with Legislation: Be aware of and comply with relevant state or territory legislation governing non-profit associations. Each jurisdiction may have its own set of rules and requirements.

### Section 5: Amending the Constitution

✓ Constitutional Changes: If changes to the constitution are required to facilitate virtual meetings or other procedural matters, follow the procedures outlined in the constitution and relevant legislation for making amendments.

#### **Article IV: Social Media Platform**

The rules and guidelines of each social media platform below should always be adhered. Platforms like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp have specific terms of service that users, including non-profits, are expected to follow and same shall apply to our MEWA social media platforms.

#### Section 1: Facebook Rules

- ✓ Community Standards: Facebook has Community Standards that outline what is and isn't allowed on the platform. These standards cover a wide range of topics, including hate speech, disrespectfulness, violence and graphic content, nudity, bullying, and harassment. Violating these standards can result in content removal, account suspension, or even permanent account deletion.
- ✓ Authenticity: Facebook requires users to provide accurate information about themselves. Creating fake accounts, impersonating others, or using false information can lead to account suspension.
- ✓ Privacy Settings: Users can control the visibility of their posts and personal information through privacy settings. It's important for users to understand and configure their privacy settings according to their preferences.
- ✓ Advertising Policies: If MEWA is running ads on Facebook, there are specific guidelines and policies MEWA must adhere to. This includes rules about the content of ads, targeting practices, and prohibited products or services.
- ✓ Intellectual Property: Facebook has rules regarding the use of intellectual property. Users are generally not allowed to post content that infringes on the rights of others, including copyrights, trademarks, and patents.
- ✓ Data Use Policy: Facebook's Data Use Policy outlines how the platform collects, uses, and shares user data. It's important for users to be aware of how their information is being handled.
- ✓ Age Restrictions: Users must be at least 13 years old to create a Facebook account. For some regions, the minimum age requirement may be higher.

### Section 2: Twitter Rules

- ✓ Twitter Rules: Twitter has a set of rules that outline the acceptable use of the platform. These rules cover various topics, including abusive behaviour, hate speech, harassment, violence, and manipulation. Violating these rules can result in content removal, account suspension, or permanent account suspension.
- ✓ Spam and Automation: Twitter prohibits the use of spammy behaviour and automation tools that artificially amplify content or engage with users in a way that violates their policies. This includes the use of bots to automate actions on the platform.
- ✓ Impersonation: Users are not allowed to impersonate others in a manner that is intended to deceive or mislead. This includes creating accounts that mimic the profile of a real person or organization.
- Graphic Content: Twitter has guidelines on the use of graphic and violent content. Users are typically required to mark sensitive media, and certain types of violent or adult content may be subject to removal.

- ✓ Copyright and Intellectual Property: Twitter has rules regarding the use of copyrighted material. Users are generally not allowed to post content that infringes on the rights of others, including copyrights and trademarks.
- ✓ Hateful Conduct: Twitter prohibits the promotion of violence or threats against individuals or groups based on characteristics such as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or sexual orientation.
- ✓ Terrorism and Violent Extremism: Twitter has strict policies against the promotion of terrorism and violent extremism. This includes the prohibition of accounts that engage in or support such activities.
- ✓ Privacy: Users are expected to respect the privacy of others on Twitter. This includes not sharing private information without consent.

# Section 3: WhatsApp Rules

- ✓ Terms of Service: Users are required to comply with WhatsApp's Terms of Service. This document outlines the terms and conditions for using the platform, including user responsibilities and the company's rights.
- ✓ Privacy Policy: WhatsApp has a Privacy Policy that explains how the platform collects, uses, and shares user data. It's essential for users to be aware of their privacy settings and understand how their information is handled.
- ✓ Prohibited Content: WhatsApp prohibits the sharing of certain types of content, including illegal or harmful content, spam, false information, and content that violates the rights of others, such as intellectual property rights.
- ✓ Unauthorized Use: Users are not allowed to use WhatsApp in a way that violates the law or infringes on the rights of others. This includes activities such as unauthorized access to accounts, distribution of malware, or any other form of abuse.
- ✓ Age Requirement: Users must be at least 16 years old to use WhatsApp in most regions, but the age requirement may vary depending on local regulations.
- ✓ Security: Users are encouraged to use strong and secure passwords and to enable additional security features such as two-step verification to protect their accounts.
- ✓ Business Policies: If individuals or businesses use WhatsApp for business purposes, they are expected to comply with WhatsApp's Business Terms of Service and Business Policies.
- ✓ Communication Rules: WhatsApp may have rules about the content of messages and communication on the platform. Users are generally expected to engage in respectful and lawful communication.

### **Article V: Finance**

## Section 1: Finance management (Bank account, access powers, Auditing etc.)

We propose to have a full access to a MEWA Bank account i.e., Treasurer and 2 others (President/Secretary) to have a read access for transparency. (If there's a limit on Bank account holders, rest of the nominated members will use same login credentials)

### **Section 2: Donations**

Members Donation:

Establish guidelines for member donations that adhere to Australian political funding laws.

**Public Donation:** 

Set out procedures for public donations, ensuring transparency and adherence to NPO fundraising guidelines.

https://www.nfplaw.org.au/free-resources/fundraising-and-holding-events/fundraising#

# Section 3: Financial Probity

Need to ensure that the organization's assets are protected, that its liabilities can be met. We must have provisions in our rules to cover any potential and actual conflicts of interest.

## **Article VI: Dispute Resolution**

#### Section 1: Introduction and Purpose

Begin by introducing the dispute resolution constitution, articulating its purpose in fostering a cohesive and respectful Organization environment. Emphasize the commitment to resolving conflicts through peaceful means.

#### Example:

The MEWA Dispute Resolution Constitution serves as a guiding framework to address conflicts within our organization peacefully. Its purpose is to promote open communication, understanding, and collaboration among members, contributing to the overall well-being of our organization.

## Section 2: Scope and Applicability

Clearly define the scope of the constitution, specifying the types of disputes and conflicts it covers. Outline the situations where the dispute resolution process is applicable.

#### Example:

This constitution applies to disputes arising from interpersonal conflicts, organization activities, or any matter impacting the peaceful coexistence of organization members. It is not intended to address legal matters or criminal activities.

## Section 3: Voluntary Participation

We should Stress that participation in the dispute resolution process is voluntary but strongly encouraged. Highlight the benefits of resolving conflicts within the organization framework.

## Example:

While participation in the dispute resolution process is voluntary, all organization members are encouraged to engage in good faith efforts to resolve conflicts within the organization before seeking external remedies. This voluntary approach reflects our commitment to fostering a cooperative and understanding organization.

### Section 4: Confidentiality

Emphasize the importance of confidentiality to create a safe space for open communication during dispute resolution. Clarify the limits and exceptions to confidentiality.

#### Example:

Confidentiality is a cornerstone of our dispute resolution process. All discussions, documents, and resolutions emerging from the process are to be treated with utmost confidentiality. Exceptions may include situations where there is a risk of harm or legal obligations necessitate disclosure.

# Section 5: Impartiality

Establish a commitment to impartiality in the dispute resolution process, ensuring fair treatment for

all parties involved. Define how mediators will be selected to uphold this principle.

#### Example:

Our dispute resolution process is built on the foundation of impartiality. Mediators shall be selected based on their neutrality and ability to facilitate fair discussions. Organization members involved in disputes have the right to object to a mediator if they perceive a conflict of interest.

### Section 6: Mediation as First Step

Clearly state that mediation is the primary method of dispute resolution, encouraging open dialogue and mutual understanding. Highlight its benefits in fostering resolution.

#### Example:

Mediation is the preferred method for resolving disputes within our organization. It provides a structured and facilitated environment for organization members to express their concerns, listen to each other, and collaboratively seek resolutions. This approach aligns with our commitment to maintaining a harmonious organization.

### **Section 7: Appointment of Mediators**

Define the process for selecting and appointing qualified mediators from within the organization. Specify any training or certification requirements to ensure competency.

#### Example:

Mediators will be selected from a pool of organization members who have undergone specific training in mediation techniques. The selection process will be transparent, and individuals interested in becoming mediators must meet predetermined criteria, including completing a recognized mediation training program.

# **Section 8: Training Requirements**

Elaborate on the training or certification requirements for individuals serving as mediators. This ensures that those facilitating the dispute resolution process are adequately equipped for the task.

# Example:

Mediators must complete a comprehensive training program recognized by the MEWA before being eligible to serve in this role. The training covers communication skills, conflict resolution strategies, and an understanding of our organization's values and dynamics.

#### Section 9: Timeframe for Resolution

Set reasonable timeframes for initiating and concluding the dispute resolution process to ensure timely resolutions. Specify the steps involved and the expected duration for each.

#### Example:

Timeliness is critical in resolving disputes. Upon initiation of the dispute resolution process, a mediator will be assigned within [X] days. The entire resolution process, from the first meeting to the final agreement, is expected to be completed within [Y] days, unless an extension is mutually agreed upon by the parties involved.

#### **Section 10: Communication Channels**

MEWA should use easy communication channels which are easily accessible to all members for initiating and conducting dispute resolution, such as written requests, meetings, or online platforms.

#### Example:

Requests for dispute resolution can be submitted in writing to the [Dispute Resolution Officer] or through an online platform designated for this purpose. All communication related to the dispute resolution process will be conducted through agreed-upon channels to maintain transparency and organization.

#### Section 11: Documentation

Specify the documentation process for recording agreements and outcomes reached during the resolution process. This helps maintain a record of resolutions and promotes accountability.

#### Example:

A comprehensive record of all agreements, decisions, and outcomes reached during the dispute resolution process will be maintained. This documentation will be securely stored and accessible only to the involved parties and authorized personnel, ensuring transparency while respecting confidentiality.

#### Section 12: Appeals Process

We should define a clear and fair process for handling appeals in case any party is dissatisfied with the resolution. Specify the grounds for appeal and the steps involved.

#### Example:

While we aim for resolutions that are satisfactory to all parties, an appeals process is available for cases where a party believes there was a procedural error or new information has emerged. Appeals must be submitted in writing within [X] days of the initial resolution, and an independent appeals panel will be convened to review the case.

#### Section 13: Sanctions for Non-compliance

Potential consequences for organization members are to be outlined, who fail to participate in the dispute resolution process in good faith. This may include sanctions or restrictions on certain Organization privileges.

## Example:

Organization members are expected to engage in the dispute resolution process in good faith. Failure to participate without valid reasons may result in temporary restrictions on certain organization privileges, with repeated non-compliance leading to more severe sanctions as determined by the Organization leadership.

# Section 14: Legal Boundaries

Acknowledge the limits of the dispute resolution process, making it clear that legal matters may need to be addressed through appropriate legal channels. Provide guidance on when external intervention may be necessary.

# Example:

The dispute resolution process outlined in this constitution is not intended to address legal matters. In cases involving illegal activities or where legal intervention is required, Organization members are encouraged to seek assistance from law enforcement or legal professionals. This constitution is not a substitute for the legal system but aims to address conflicts of a non-legal nature within our organization.

# Section 15: Record Keeping

Establish a system for keeping records of all disputes for the future faster references for speedy resolution on the similar instances.

# Article VII: By-Laws

### Section 1: Operational Framework

The By-Laws of MEWA serve as the operational framework that guides the day-to-day activities and governance of our organization. These bylaws provide a detailed set of rules and procedures, ensuring that our operations are conducted in an organized, transparent, and accountable manner.

#### Section 2: Membership

Membership is effective from the date of joining MEWA WhatsApp group For more detailed instructions go through Membership section.

A member can cease his membership at any time unconditionally by exiting MEWA WhatsApp group or cancelling membership from MEWA website.

#### Section 3: Dispute Resolution

Disputes, though uncommon, may arise in any organization. To address such situations, go through steps given in the Dispute Resolution section. This section provides a structured and fair process for addressing conflicts, disagreements, or concerns within the organization.

### Section 4: Group Responsibilities

The overall role of the MEWA is to manage the organization in accordance with the objectives of the as stated in this constitution.

In undertaking a role, must fulfil number of legal responsibilities as:

- ✓ MEWA complies with its obligations under the Act. MEWA complies with its rules and any funding agreements or other contracts.
- ✓ Treat all members with kindness and respect. Avoid offensive language, personal attacks, or any form of discrimination based on race, gender, religion, nationality, etc.
- ✓ Refrain from posting irrelevant or repetitive messages, advertisements, or promotions without prior permission from the admins.
- ✓ Posts beneficial to the community will be allowed always.
- ✓ Keep discussions relevant to the purpose of the group. Always maintain political neutral. Off-topic conversations can be disruptive and may be removed at the discretion of the admins.
- ✓ Verify information before sharing. Spread only reliable and accurate news and avoid spreading rumors or unverified information.
- ✓ Avoid using profanity, offensive language, or engaging in heated arguments. Keep conversations civil and suitable for all members, including minors.
- ✓ Do not share personal information of any member without their consent. Respect the privacy of others and refrain from sharing sensitive or confidential information.
- ✓ Any form of hate speech, harassment, bullying, or intimidation will not be tolerated. Be considerate of others' feelings and opinions.
- ✓ Do not share copyrighted material, explicit content, or any media that violates WhatsApp's terms of service. Always obtain permission before sharing media that belongs to others.
- ✓ Business Posts timings: Friday and Saturday between 10am to 9pm.Please limit one post per day.

- ✓ Create a platform for families to showcase their talent.
- ✓ Avoid sending messages late at night or early in the morning unless it's urgent or relevant to the group's purpose.
- ✓ Adhere to any additional rules or guidelines set by the group admins. Admins reserve the right to remove members who repeatedly violate the rules.
- ✓ If you encounter any issues or violations of the rules, report them to the admins privately instead of engaging in public arguments.
- ✓ By focusing on events that promote physical activity, heath, education and promote positive behavior.
- ✓ Enjoy your time in the group, participate in discussions, and contribute positively to the community.
- ✓ MEWA can pay all its event expenses from the income collected in the form of donations from members or sponsors.
- ✓ MEWA Committee should meet virtually or in person periodically to discuss and plan any activities they are planning to do, without any consultation or approval, no activities should be carried out.
- ✓ MEWA should take sufficient public liability insurance cover
- ✓ MEWA should follow the terms and conditions described under the Finance section.
- ✓ MEWA should follow proper accounting procedure with all the income and expenditure.
- ✓ MEWA should have proper audit controls in place.
- ✓ For any events conducted by MEWA, proper income and expenses should be generated with receipts, and this must be displayed to Committee and members.
- ✓ All members in MEWA should act in good faith and in the best interests of the organization, do not make improper use of information or their position for personal growth or business interests, avoid any conflicts of interest.
- ✓ Committee should exercise powers in accordance with the rules of the MEWA.
- ✓ The committee may make, amend or repeal by-laws, not inconsistent with these rules, for the internal management of the organization.

#### Section 5: Decision Making

Any major decision or resolution is to be passed by Committee of MEWA by three- fourth majority. It is mandatory to document such resolutions in the minutes/decisions and recommended to be distributed to the general members by WhatsApp message or emails.

### Section 6: Outgoing Committee

- ✓ Outgoing committee is responsible for proper hand-over of the MEWA affairs including any legal documents, financials, membership details, access to website and other electronic mediums, assets, equipment, documentation supporting any major decisions made during their term.
- ✓ Outgoing committee to attend a minimum of 2 meetings with the new committee, to help smoother transition.

#### Section 7: Incoming Committee

- ✓ Incoming committee is responsible for representing Organization on all accounts from the date of hand-over or as agreed between the parties.
- ✓ Incoming committee is expected to honor any decisions signed-off by previous committee. In case of a need to review previous decisions, the new committee is to engage the affected parties before amending or cancelling the promise made to the organization.

#### Section 8: Filling vacancies

In case of a vacancy arising out of resignation of a member and MEWA Committee has the right to chose to fill the vacancy to fill that position.

#### Section 9: Discipline

- ✓ It is required that the Committee, and members uphold the respect of this entity as it represents MEWA, by behaving professionally and unbiasedly.
- ✓ MEWA Committee will not be responsible for any comments/remarks made by any member
  of the MEWA.
- ✓ MEWA will not encourage any personal abuse by members in the MEWA, Committee will decide to remove member from that forum/event. For more information see Dispute Resolution section.
- ✓ No name and shame are encouraged in any social media platforms, this is strictly not acceptable.

#### Section 10: Ground rules

- ✓ Members should always respect other Members' aspirations and goals. Members are expected to be open-minded during Group meetings and should listen to each other and respect each other's opinions.
- ✓ Members should treat other Members with kindness and humility.
- ✓ Members should not judge other Members based on their background or previous successes or failures.
- ✓ Members are expected to commit to attending Group meetings. It is for their benefit and the benefit of other Members in MEWA Group. It is expected that Members should make all reasonable endeavors to attend each Group session.

- ✓ Members should adhere to the provisions relating to confidentiality.
- ✓ Members should try to play an active role in Groups and are expected to contribute.
- ✓ Members should not be afraid to offer opinions or ask questions.
- ✓ Members should respect other group members at their Group meetings and should always comply with any request from the Group members.

### √ "Tackle problems, not people"

"Tackle problems, not people" helps to avoid attacking people personally, this will avoid discussion becoming toxic and conflicts.

### √ "Agree to disagree"

"Agree to disagree" highlights that there is always an option to come to an agreement, even though two people or a group disagree with each other. How? Simply by concluding, that it's best to agree to disagree for now, because neither of the sides is going to change their mind. After this agreement, the group can stop arguing and move on.

## ✓ A & A Rule

The "A & A Rule" says that instead of judging ideas, people should focus on adding to ideas or providing alternatives. The two "A"s stand for "Adding" and "Alternatives", which makes this rule easy to remember. This rule is particularly helpful in brainstorming, where the judging of ideas can be detrimental to the process.

# ✓ "Explore interests, not positions"!

It's often difficult to reach an agreement in a meeting because some people are often dogmatic about their position. But if participants mutually explore the interest behind the positions, it becomes much easier to find a common ground.

## √ "Tolerate and teach, don't shame and blame".

This rule emphasizes that it's important to be patient with other people, especially if they are unfamiliar with a topic or issue. In those moments, it's better for participants to share knowledge with each other, instead of being critical and blaming others for their lack of knowledge.

### ✓ <u>"Be the crew, not the passenger."</u>

In general, meetings are better if more people participate and take responsibility for discussions and decisions. "Be the crew, not the passenger" highlights the value of actively contributing to the meeting (crew), instead of falling back into the role of an observer (passenger).

# ✓ <u>Treat members, co-convenors, and convenors equally</u>

This ground rule asks everyone in the organization to treat equally irrespective of their position.

### ✓ Address conflict as soon as possible

Conflict resolution committee should intervene if the conflict is not resolved within group members. This will resolve conflicts and help members to be inclusive and foster growth to an organization and encourage to work together in harmony instead of silos.

# **Article VIII: Changes in the Constitution**

The members of the Committee of MEWA group shall have an absolute veto power over any proposed changes to this constitution.

Any proposals to change Articles/Sections of this constitution must be approved by most members of the Committee. Sections of this constitution to be repealed, added, or amended may only be approved by:

- ✓ a vote at a committee meeting by a seventy-five percent in favor vote of current Members in attendance at the meeting.
- ✓ The new Constitution will come into effect immediately upon a majority vote by Committee members at the meeting.

#### **Article IX: Dissolution**

#### Section 1: Dissolution Procedure

- 1.1 Dissolution Process: While MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Melonba is committed to long-term impact and sustainability, we acknowledge the need for a clear dissolution procedure if the organization is no longer viable or aligned with its mission. In the unfortunate event of dissolution, the process shall be carried out as follows:
- 1.2 Asset Disposition: Upon dissolution the assets and resources of MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Melonba shall be disbursed in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. The organization shall ensure that this process is executed in a transparent, lawful, and responsible manner, in line with the principles and values that have guided our work.
- 1.3 Charitable Organizations Alignment: The Committee members, as the highest governing body of the organization, shall be responsible for determining the charitable organizations to which the assets shall be disbursed. These charitable organizations must align with MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION's principles, mission, and values. The aim is to ensure that our assets are used to further causes and initiatives that reflect our commitment to social justice, democracy, and civic engagement.
- 1.4 Legal Compliance: The dissolution and asset disposition process shall adhere to all relevant legal requirements, including any reporting or documentation obligations. MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Melonba takes pride in its commitment to legal and ethical conduct, even in the challenging circumstance of dissolution.

# Section 2: Asset Disposition Reporting

- 2.1 Financial Audit: In preparation for dissolution, a final financial audit shall be conducted. This audit serves to provide a comprehensive and transparent overview of the organization's financial status at the time of dissolution. The audit will be carried out by independent auditors to ensure impartiality and accuracy.
- 2.2 Communication to Membership: Prior to finalizing the dissolution, a summary of the asset disposition plan and the results of the financial audit shall be communicated to the membership. Transparency remains paramount, and we seek to ensure that our members are informed about the process and its outcomes.
- 2.3 Member Input: While the final decision rests with the Committee members, encourage members to provide input and feedback during the asset disposition process. Members' perspectives and insights are valuable and aim to consider them in making responsible decisions.
- 2.4 Legacy of Impact: MELONBA WELFARE ASSOCIATION, Melonba's dissolution marks the end of one chapter, but it does not diminish the impact and contributions made by the organization. The legacy of our work and the values we have upheld shall continue through the causes and organizations that benefit from our assets.