

## TITLE I - THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS GOALS

### Article 1 - Name, Seat, Duration

By the articles 36 et seq. of the civic code, a cultural Association is established under the name of “Federazione Italiana Medicine Integrate” (Italian Federation of Integrated Medicines), aka F.I.M.I.; its legislative seat (Head Office) is in Milan, Via Bronzino n. 9.

The Association’s life shall be of unlimited duration.

The Association shall be free to join Bodies devoted to social promotion and sport promotion, following the deliberation of the Board of Directors; by so doing the association shall commit to respect the relevant regulations, including Statutes and Rules.

### Article 2 - Aims

F.I.M.I. shall promote, at the national and the international level, the knowledge, teaching, practice, research and study of Qigong, an ancient Chinese discipline cultivating medical, movement and psycho-physic physics practices, as well as of the traditional Chinese medicine as per the teachings of Professor Li Xiao Ming and Professor Thomas Wu Tao Ling.

The Association is a non profit organisation and shall cooperate with other national and international organisations and institutions to pursue its aims.

### Article 3 - Activities

The Association shall pursue the following activities:

- a) promotion of the practice of the discipline of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong;
- b) diffusion of the teaching methodologies of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong, and in particular of Professor Li Xiao Ming’s methodologies;
- c) organisation of events concerning the practice of Qigong;
- d) management of sport venues;
- e) scientific research on the integration of Western and Chinese medicine and, wherein, specific investigation of the use of the practice of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong;
- f) organisation of conferences and seminars on themes of interest for the Association;
- g) publication of editorial materials on themes of interest for the Association;
- h) organisation, for its members, of guided tours and trips devoted to the promotion of institutional activities, in compliance with the current rules on tourism;
- i) promotion of the activities of the affiliated associations;
- j) involvement, wherein the territorial planning, of the social and sanitary politics with special regards to those concerning health problems and movement.

### Article 4 - Brand and Name

The Brand and name of “Federazione Italiana Medicine Integrate” (Italian Federation of Integrated Medicines) are an exclusive property of F.I.M.I.; they can be used only by affiliated associations that have been authorised, as per the specific Rules regulating the concession and the revocation of the brand.

## TITLE II - MEMBERSHIP

### Article 5 - Admission of New Members

Those who accept the aims of the Association and share the principles and goals stated in this statute can become members of the Association.

### Article 6 - Membership

Members are classified as follows:

- 1) Collective members: associations, bodies, non profit organisations pursuing aims in compliance with those of F.I.M.I.;
- 2) Adhering collective members: associations, bodies, non profit organisations having activities in compliance with those pursued by F.I.M.I.;
- 3) Practising members: physical people who are members of the associations affiliated to F.I.M.I.

All membership applications submitted by associations, institutions, bodies and organizations must include the associative statute and the deliberation to join F.I.M.I.; the documents shall be issued by their competent board and subscribed by their legal representative. Said organisations bind to promote the aims as per the article 2 here above, within specific projects of collaboration jointly established with F.I.M.I. and preserving their independence.

The protection, safeguard and valorisation of the Association assets and patrimony will be founding elements of F.I.M.I.. For this reason, the Association is bound to assure the broader diffusion of the associative values, as well as to protect the affiliated associations on the whole territory. Therefore, F.I.M.I. shall acknowledge the regularly established at a regional and local level, as per a true federal spirit; it is also bound to support the events promoted by the associations, alone or in group, such as the designing of courses, seminars, conferences, etc.

The adhering collective members give membership only to their own members, physical people who practice the discipline of Qigong.

The collective members and the adhering collective members which acquire the qualification of “School of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong” are bound to promote the teaching, the practice, the study, the research and the diffusion of Qigong and Chinese Traditional Medicine within a common Program; such a common Program shall define the teaching programme of the school, in compliance with shared Regulations defining the requisites and functioning of the School.

The practising members become F.I.M.I. members by becoming members of “collective members” affiliated to F.I.M.I., or by becoming members of “adhering collective members” affiliated to F.I.M.I. if practicing the discipline of Qigong.

There is no temporary membership. The member’s fee is non-transferable.

### Article 7 - Treatment of Sensible Data

All sensible data acquired through F.I.M.I. membership will be used only to establish and manage the associative bond; they will not be otherwise communicated or passed to others without the explicit consent of the members, with the exception of law accomplishments and the stipulation of insurance policies.

### **Article 8 - Members' Rights and Duties**

The collective members shall participate to the assemblies through their legal representatives and the delegates elected to the extend of 1 delegate for fifteen members.

The adhering collective members shall participate to the assemblies through their legal representatives and the delegates elected to the extend of 1 delegate for fifteen FIMI members.

All members of age in the assembly are entitled to active and passive electorate.

All members will have the right of information and control established by law and by this Statute; in particular, all members will have the right to access documents, deliberations, budgets, reports and registers of the Association. The members act voluntarily and can only be compensated for the effective expenses occurred in the pursuit of activities. The association relies mostly on the voluntary action of its members.

Under specific circumstances, the association shall hire labours or consultants also among its members. All members behaviour within and outside the association relies upon the spirit of solidarity and must be guided by fairness, good faith, honesty, moral rectitude in the full respect of this Statute and Rules. The collective members and the adhering collective members which qualify also as "schools" are bound to send an annual report on their activities to the Board of Directors by July 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **Article 9 - Revocation of the Status of member**

Collective members and adhering collective members can resign as members by written resignation notified to the President of the Association. Said members lose their status as member when one of the following conditions occurs:

- a) Non payment of dues for more than six-month;
- b) Serious reasons which have caused either moral or material damages to the Association;
- c) Violation of the Rules regulating the requirements and modes of operation of the Association defined as "School of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong". In this case, the Board of Directors shall deliberate on the following sanctions: either admonition, or expulsion, depending on the gravity of the act, be it commissive and/or omissive of the Association.
- d) Violation of the Rules regulating the brand concession;
- e) Illegal use of the certificates obtained from and through the Association, in the pursuit of the abusive practice of medical and therapeutic treatments as per the Italian laws;
- f) Illegal use of the name Li Xiao Ming;
- g) Dissolution of the association, body or organization.

Membership for practicing member shall terminate when one of the following conditions occurs: resignation or revocation of the collective body (collective members and adhering collective members) affiliated to the Association, subject to the right to appeal to the Board of Trustees in case of exclusion.

The exclusion of members is deliberated by the Board of Directors; the deliberation and its motivations (with the exception of case a here above) will be notified to the addressee by written letter.

Excluded members can appeal by 30 days to the Board of Trustees. The Board will deliberate within 30 days from the appeal: during this period the member will be considered as suspended.

Excluded and resigned members have neither right to refunding, nor rights on the association assets and patrimony.

## **TITLE III - THE ORGANIZATION**

### **Chapter I - Organisation**

#### **Article 10 - The Levels of the Association**

F.I.M.I. organises its activities on the following levels:

- 1) National
- 2) Territorial

#### **Article 11 - The Territorial Activity**

Upon F.I.M.I. approval, the associations affiliated to F.I.M.I. can deliberate to become territorial offices of F.I.M.I. (regional, provincial or city offices).

When several affiliated associations operate in the same city, they can establish a Committee to coordinate and organise the F.I.M.I. activities.

#### **Article 12 - Association's Organs**

The Association's Organs are:

1. The General Assembly
2. The Board of Directors
3. The Audit Committee (if nominated)
4. The Board of Trustees (if nominated)

All posts are non profit; the terms of office shall be two years.

#### **Article 13 - The General Assembly**

The General Assembly of the members shall be the body of the Association for passing resolutions. it is formed by: the legal representatives of the collective members and of the adhering collective members; the delegates elected by the collective members to the extent of 1 delegate for fifteen members; the delegates elected by the adhering collective members to the extent of 1 delegate for fifteen FIMI members.

The terms of office will be two years.

If one or more delegates cannot attend, a substitute delegate shall attend. In turn, delegates can be represented by other delegates. Each delegate can represent up to three other delegates.

The Assembly is called by the President, or his/her representative, by:

1. notification sent by letter/fax/e-mail/telegram to the delegates at least 20 days prior the date of the meeting;
2. notice posted on the Association website at least 20 days prior the date of the meeting;

3. notice posted at the Association Head Office at least 20 days prior the date of the meeting and stating the meeting agenda and place.

The Board of Directors shall call the General Assembly at least once each year, and upon necessity; the General Assembly shall be called following the request of at least one-tenth of the assembly.

The General Assembly of the members shall be the body of the Association for passing resolutions. It can be called an ordinary and an extraordinary assembly. The extraordinary assembly shall deliberate on: changes of the Statute; transfer of the legal seat; dissolution of the association. The ordinary assembly will deliberate on all other cases.

For the first call, the ordinary assembly shall be quorated only if the majority of members entitled to vote are present; in the case of a second call (to be called at a different date), the ordinary assembly is quorate regardless of the number of members present.

The General Assembly shall:

- elect the Board of Directors and nominate the President, the Associate-President, the Secretary and the Treasurer;
- nominate the members of the Board of Auditors;
- if established, nominate the Board of Trustees;
- ratify the Regulations, including the Regulations concerning the Trainer's training;
- propose initiatives, state their modes and organisational supports;
- ratify the annual provisional and the final budget prepared by the Board of Directors;
- establish the amount of the annual membership fees;
- deliberate on the appeals averse to the Board of Trustees, as final instance of endo-associative justice;
- ratify the Association's annual program

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present and/or representing delegates who cannot attend. Votes are open. If requested by the Assembly, they can take place by secret ballot. Each participant cannot represent more than three absent delegates.

The secretary of the Association, or a member of the Assembly specifically nominated, shall keep record of the meeting and deliberations of the Assembly. The minute will be signed by the President and by the compiler; it will be preserved in the minute-book by the Secretary in the Association Head Office.

All members have the right to access the minutes of the general assemblies and obtain a copy upon request.

Decisions concerning the amendment of the Statutes and the dissolution of the Association must be approved by a two-third majority of the members present.

The Extraordinary Assembly:

1. shall ratify the amendments of the Statute with the approval of two-third of the members and by a majority vote of the members present;
2. shall ratify the dissolution of the Association and the devolution of the remaining patrimony and assets with the approval of three-quarter of the members of the general Assembly having the right to vote.

All members of the Assembly have the right to vote. All members have the right to passive electorate.

#### **Article 14 - The Board of Directors**

The Association is administrated by a Board of Directors elected by the General Assembly and composed by 5 to 15 members. The Board of Directors shall be called by the President or upon request of at least one-third of the members of the Board of Directors.

Decisions shall be taken by the absolute majority of the members present.

The Board of Directors:

1. shall take all measures (ordinary and extraordinary) to attain the goals of the Association in the full respect of the general assembly's decisions;
2. draws up and presents to the General Assembly the annual report on activities;
3. draws up and presents to the General Assembly the final and the estimated budget;
4. decides on the admission of collective members and adhering collective members;
5. decides on the resignations of members and their possible exclusion;
6. decides on the suspension of the use of the brand and name "Federazione Italiana Medicine Integrate - Scuola di Qigong Terapeutico-salutistico" (Italiana Federation of Integrated Medicines - School of Therapeutic-Healing Qigong);
7. keeps the Register of the Qigong "Instructors" and "Trainers".

The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be quorate when the majority of its members are present.

#### **Article 15 - The Steering Committee**

The Board of Directors has the faculty to elect a Steering Committee among its members. The Steering Committee shall act on the behalf of the Board of Directors with the exception of decisions concerning the approval of the final and the estimated budget.

#### **Article 16 - The President**

The President is the legal representative of the Association. He/She shall convene and chair the General Assembly and the Board of Directors; he/she shall present the annual program of the Association.

#### **Article 17 - The Secretary**

The Secretary shall coordinate the activity of the Association. He/She shall offer organisational support to assure ongoing activities. Every six-month, the Secretary shall send a written report on the activities to the Board of Directors.

#### **Article 18 - The Treasurer**

The Treasurer oversees the funds and resources of the Association in compliance with the rules of good management, accountancy and parsimony. Every three months, the treasurer shall send a written report to the Board of Directors. The office of Treasurer can be cumulated with that of Associated President or Secretary.

#### **Article 19 - Audit Committee**

If established, the Audit Committee, will be formed by three effective members and two suppletive members; they shall elect a president. If one of the effective members is either absent or cannot act, he/she will be replaced by the eldest among the suppletive members. The Board of Directors shall nominate a new effective member when there are no more suppletive members available.

The Audit Committee shall:

1. monitor the Association accounts;
2. check the correct keeping of account and the compliance of the book of accounts with the F.I.M.I.'s records;
3. submit to the Board of Directors an annual report together with the final budget.

Members of the Audit Committee are invited to the meetings of the Board of Directors; however, they shall not have the right to vote.

### **Article 20 - Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is composed of minimum three effective members and seven maximum, plus three suppletive members. They shall be elected among those members who have either acquired a clear and specific expertise in the associative field, or have a specific legal expertise, and who are not components of other executive organs. They shall elect a President.

In case of resignation or impediment, the eldest member shall succeed.

The Audit Committee is a monitoring body having arbitral, advisory, and interpretative functions on the Association statutes and regulations.

The Audit Committee shall deliberate on disputes among members, calling the parts and completing the investigation; the decision shall be notified within sixty days.

The National Board of Trustees shall be addressed following one of the part's request or appeal, or upon decision of the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall notify all involved parts within 15 days and, in any case, when the preliminary investigation starts. All decision are immediately effective, unless an appeal is submitted to the General Assembly.

### **Article 21 - The Honorary President**

The Board of Directors can nominate an Honorary President of the Association. He/She shall be chosen among high profile people having strong professional qualifications in the medical field and humanity. The Honorary President collaborates to the scientific elaboration of the Association and shall represent the Association in accordance with the President, the latter remains the only legal representative of the Association.

## **Chapter II - Organisation**

### **Article 22 - Financial Resources**

The Association's financial resources enabling its functioning and activities shall derive from:

- a) membership fees and contributions, as per the Board of Directors' deliberations ratified by the General Assembly;
- b) inheritances, donations and legacies;
- c) contributions from the State, the regions, local agencies, public bodies and institutions, also when addressed to support specific and documented programs planned in compliance with the associative aims;

- d) contributions from the European Union and international agencies;
- e) revenues from services given on the panel;
- f) incomes derived from the transfer of goods and services to members of third parties, also in reason of economical activities (in the fields of commerce, handicraft, agriculture) carried out in an auxiliary and supplementary mode always in the pursuit of the institutional mandate;
- g) liberal allocations of the members or of third parties;
- h) revenues from promotional activities aiming to support the Association, such as gala-parties, subscriptions (also with prizes);
- i) other revenues in line with the social goals of the Associations pursuing social promotion.

The book of accounts, as well as supporting documents, must be kept for a minimum of three years. What follows must be also included: names of donors for donations and legacies; contributions from the State, regions, local agencies or public bodies and institutions, also when addressed to support specific and documented programs planned in compliance with the associative aims; contributions from the European Union and international agencies; revenues from services given on the panel, and, in the case of incomes derived from liberal allocations of the members or of third parties, of the documentation concerning the liberal allocations if these are given in forces of tax and revenues deductions.

#### **Article 23 - Financial and Economic Report**

The financial year shall begin on 1<sup>st</sup> of September and end on 31<sup>st</sup> of August of each year.

The Financial and Economic Report shall be prepared by the Board of Directors; it shall be made available for consultation to all members at least 30 days prior to the General Assembly at the Association Head Office. The General Assembly to ratify the Financial and Economic Report must be called within four months from the end of the financial year, with the exception of special cases allowing to deliberate within and not later than six months.

The cash in hand shall be used to support all institutional activities as per the Statute of the Association.

### **TITLE IV - Final Disposition**

#### **Article 24 - Dissolution**

Decision on the dissolution of the Association shall require an Extraordinary Assembly; decision shall be valid only if approved by at least three-quarters of the members entitled to vote.

In the case of the association being dissolved, all outstanding matters settled, the assets of the association shall be given to other Associations pursuing similar goals and, in any case, they shall be used to pursue goals of public utility, following the competent body as per the article 3, paragraph 190, Law 23/12/1996, no. 662.