

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **Article 1 Objective**

The DBCQ has the objective to provide a platform where its members can network with other council members, share information and facilitate and promote the interest of its member stakeholders:

- Dutch professionals in Qatar (working for Dutch Corporates and Qatari Companies)
- Qatari nationals with general or business interests in the Netherlands
- Dutch companies in Qatar
- New Dutch entrepreneurs in Qatar

For the purpose of achieving its objective, the DBCQ will organize approximately 10 networking events per annum, whether it be monthly informal gatherings ("Borrels"), sessions with guests, luncheons with invited speakers and/or guests, company visits or semi-social events.

A prerequisite of the events is that it gives the members an opportunity to network.

### **Article 2 Financial resources**

The financial resources of the DBCQ shall consist of membership fees, sponsorship grants and other income related to its activities. All revenues shall be used to fund the activities and events which the DBCQ will organize.

A financial overview is to be presented at the year's end and is available to its members upon request.

### **Article 3 Council terms**

The DBCQ has been established for an unlimited period. Every 12-month period shall be called a Council year covering a full calendar year starting from March, 1st to February 28 (29 in a leap year), of the next year.

### **Article 4 Memberships**

#### a) Corporate Members

Corporate members are Dutch companies established in Qatar or companies representing Dutch business interests in Qatar and keen to promote the interest of the Dutch business community in Qatar. The corporate membership entitles the company to have 3 individuals of its company attend the DBCQ events.

#### b) Individual Members

1. Individual members are Dutch individuals representing Dutch or non-Dutch companies established in Qatar and keen to promote the interest of the Dutch business community in Qatar.

Individual Members are entitled to attend the DBCQ events.

2. Any person of Qatari or other nationality holding a senior appointment who lives in the State of Qatar and works for a Dutch company or any Qatar registered company or business which represents Dutch goods and/or services.

c) Honorary Members.

Honorary members are selected by the Executive Committee of the DBCQ for their contribution to the DBCQ.

d) Other- Members.

- Non-Dutch individuals representing companies with a keen interest to forge business relations with Dutch companies.
- Dutch individuals no longer attached to a company but keen to promote the interest of the Dutch business community in Qatar.
- Non-Dutch individuals with previous ties to the Netherlands and keen to promote the interest of the Dutch Business community in Qatar
- Non-resident Dutch companies or individuals with demonstrated business interests in Qatar.

Any member must be approved by the Executive Committee.

Any member can propose the admission of a new member.

Only Corporate and Individual members hold voting rights.

The published membership list includes a name, company and e-mail address of members. A photo is only included where those members have given permission to the DBCQ.

**Article 5 Membership fees**

The membership fee for the corporate members is fixed at QR 2,500 per calendar or Council year per company.

The annual membership fee for individual members and other-members is fixed at QR 900 per calendar or Council year per person.

New members joining during the Council year will pay a pro-rata membership fee upon joining.

Alternatively, prospective members can pay an entrance fee for up to three events, which monies can be deducted as advance payment from the membership fee upon approval of the Executive Committee.

**Article 6 Resignation and Exclusion**

Members can resign from their membership by sending an email with receipt acknowledgement to the Chairman of the Executive Committee. Their resignation takes effect at the end of the current Membership or Council year.

The Executive Committee has the power to exclude a Member three months after having failed to pay his/her dues or immediately for reasons of grave concern. The Executive Committee shall be required to request an explanation from the Member in question prior to taking the decision to exclude the Member.

**Article 7 Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of a minimum of 4 members. It will meet at least 6 times per year or as many times as deemed necessary. It will elect from amongst its members a Chairman, a Treasurer, a Marketing and Communications Officer, and an Event Officer. The Executive Committee shall review annually the

composition of its members and new members shall be elected to the committee from the members of the DBCQ and replace any resigning member. Members of the Executive Committee shall serve for a one calendar or Council year. Sitting members of the Executive Committee are eligible for re-election. For continuity of the Committee, when possible, at least 2 members of the previous Executive Committee are to continue for a further year.

#### **Article 8 Meetings, Agenda and Decisions**

The Executive Committee can meet on the initiative of its Chairman or, in his absence, its Vice-Chairman or if three or more members so desire. The notice to the meeting can be issued by any Executive Committee member. The agenda shall be proposed by the party at whose initiative the meeting is being held and will be fixed at the start of the meeting.

The Executive Committee members cannot vote by proxy.

The presence of at least half of the Executive Committee Members is necessary for valid decisions.

Decisions are taken by the simple majority of the Executive Committee members present, where each Executive Committee member has one vote. In case of a deadlock, the Chairman has a decisive vote.

The decisions of the Executive Committee are recorded in writing and signed by the Chairman. After the meeting they are distributed to the Executive Committee members.

#### **Article 9 General Assembly**

Members of all the categories constitute the General Assembly. The General Assembly approves the annual report of the Executive Committee on the administration of the preceding year, approves the financial accounts of the preceding year and votes the budget for the coming year.

One General Assembly shall be called for every Council year and it shall meet not later than three months after the end of the Council year. An Extraordinary General Assembly can be called by the Executive Committee or at the request of at least a quarter of the members. A General Assembly meeting can be organized in conjunction with one of the regular networking events.

Resolutions are adopted by the consenting vote of the simple majority of the members present.

Members can not vote by proxy. The resolutions of the General Assembly are recorded in writing and signed by the Chairman and distributed to the Executive Committee members.

A Corporate member of the DBCQ shall have one vote and shall be entitled to nominate one representative to attend and vote at such meeting. Each Individual member shall be entitled to attend and vote at such a meeting.

#### **Article 10 Notice and Agenda of the General Assembly.**

Notices shall be sent out at least two weeks in advance e-mail indicating the agenda, the time and the venue of the meeting.

The Agenda shall be proposed by the Executive Committee. Items for inclusion in the agenda may be proposed to the Executive Committee in writing signed by at

least three members. At the start of a General Assembly an attendance register shall be signed by each member present.

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Lennart Bottenberg, DBCQ Chairman