

World Lebanese Cultural Union

Internal Regulations



Chapter 1 - Membership and affiliation:

First - Affiliation of Individuals:

Article 1 - Every Lebanese National or descendant of Lebanese origin, whatever citizenship he/she may hold, who complies with article (3) para (f) and article (5) of the basic constitutional law and dwells in any of the geographical regions enumerated in the basic constitutional law, is entitled to affiliate to WLCU.

Article 2 An application for membership in any immigration country will be submitted to the concerned branch in accordance with the membership conditions set there in.

Article 3 The branch shall issue to each of its members a membership card signed by the Central Secretary General of WLCU and by the officer in charge of the branch. This card is renewable yearly.

Article 4 Upon a special request made by a member, WLCU shall issue to him an honorary membership cards signed by the president of WLCU and its Central Secretary General.

Article 5 Each member holding a duly renewed membership card shall be entitled to benefit of the advantages, facilities and discounts provided by WLCU.

Second- Membership of branches, clubs, societies, confederations, institutions and unions

Article 6 Membership qualification of WLCU is confined to the current branches and to those that shall be established in the future. Clubs, societies, confederations, institutions and unions shall be considered branches whenever they subscribe to WLCU and are duly accepted.

Article 7 A branch shall consist of a minimum of thirty members properly qualified for membership and holding duly renewed membership cards. Each such member is entitled to one vote in the election of the branch board. No one is entitled to membership in more than one branch.

Article 8 - A - An application for establishing a branch shall be submitted to the Secretariat General after endorsement by the National or State council, if available in the concerned country.

B- The National or State Council shall forward the application to the Secretariat General within a maximum period of two months from the date of its submission, otherwise it may be submitted direct to the Secretariat General.

C- The branch is considered duly established once the Secretariat General is satisfied of its compliance with the regular set conditions. The Central Secretary General shall then take the decision for establishing the branch and advise the National or State Council accordingly after registering such decision in the register of the Secretariat General.

Article 9 Such a branch is considered a legal person and enjoys administration and financial independence. It shall write down its own regulations provided that such regulations do not contradict the basic constitutional law, the internal regulations of WLCU, and the local current laws and regulations.

Article 10 The members of a branch shall elect from within their ranks the president and board of the branch. The elected president shall be legally considered a member of the National or State Council in the hosting country. The president of the branch shall advise the Secretariat General, through the National or State Council, of the internal regulations of the branch as well as of its address and the names and addresses of its members with samples of their signatures and the signatures of the responsible officials. The president shall also submit to the Central Secretariat General and to the National or State Council to which his branch belongs, a yearly report on the activities of his branch.



Chapter Two - General Organizations:

Article 11 - WLCU comprises nine organizations, viz.:

- 1 - The World Conference
- 2 - The World Council
- 3 - The Presidential Council
- 4 - The Central Secretariat General.
- 5 - The Advisory Council
- 6 - The council of Secretaries
- 7 - The Arbitration Council
- 8 - The World Committee for Youth Descendants of Lebanese Origin
- 9 - The World Committee for Women Descendants of Lebanese origin

First - The World Conference:

Article 12 - A- The world conference consists of the presidents of branches, clubs, societies, confederations, institutions and unions ; of the presidents of national and state councils ; of the chairmen of national committees for youth descendants of Lebanese origin and of committees for Geographical regions; of the members of the presidential council and of the central secretary general.

B- Each head of organization is entitled to be represented in any session of the conference by a delegate whom he selects from the members of the organization which he presides. He shall provide such delegate with a written power of attorney for an assigned session. The power of attorney shall bear the stamp of the organization and the signature of the president of the organization.

Article 13 The World Conference is the highest authority of WLCU. It lays down and amends its regulations and controls all its organizations in view of meeting its objectives.

Article 14 A- The World Conference shall, virtually, convene in an ordinary general assembly meeting once every two years, whether in Lebanon or outside it. This meeting shall be called for by the president of the presidential council through the Central Secretariat General.

B- The secretary general shall call for the meeting and send the agenda of work to each organization by registered mail or by any known means of serving, within a minimum period of three months before the date of the meeting of the conference.

C - During the session of its ordinary meeting, the conference shall be chaired by the rotational president of WLCU. He shall be assisted by the secretary general and six auditors, one from each geographical region. The auditors shall register the names of the attending members and verify the legality and outstanding of each of them. They shall verify the forum and the number of votes.

D - The central secretary general shall write the minutes of the meeting and sign them together with the members of the presidential council..

E - A forum is attained in the first ordinary session of WLCU by the attendance of absolute majority of the invited members; otherwise by whoever attends in the second session which shall be held, virtually, within two hours of the prescribed time of the first meeting.

F- The general ordinary meeting of WLCU takes its decisions by proportional majority of the attending members.

G- The session shall be opened by stating that forum has been attained and by reading the agenda of work which comprises:

- 1- The report of the presidential council and its approval.
- 2- The administrative and financial reports of central secretariat general and their approval.
- 3- Taking a decision on a plan of work of WLCU during the coming two years.





- Article 15- 1** - A non ordinary (exceptional) meeting of the world conference shall be held whenever necessary:
- a- Upon a request of the majority of the attending members of an ordinary or exceptional meeting of the world conference.
 - b- Upon the request of two thirds of the members of the presidential council.
- 2- The same procedures applied for calling an ordinary general assembly of WLCU shall be followed. Meetings of non ordinary (exceptional) sessions shall be chaired by the rotational president of the presidential council.
- 3- A forum is attained in the first non ordinary session of the world conference by the attendance of two thirds of the invited members; otherwise by whoever attends the second session which will be held, virtually, within two hours of the prescribed time for the first meeting.
- 4- Decisions of WLCU general non ordinary meetings shall be taken by a two thirds majority of the attending members.

Article 16 - In world conference meetings, ordinary and exceptional, voting on decisions shall be made by hand raising. In such world conference meetings each member shall have one vote provided that Brazil is credited with one third of the votes and the other two thirds are credited to the remaining geographical regions combined together.

Second- The World Council:

Article 17- The world council consists of:

- Chairmen of the committees of geographical regions.
- Presidents of National and State councils
- Members of the presidential council
- The central secretary general
- The secretary general of the World Committee for Youth Descendants of Lebanese Origin



Authorities of the World Council:

Article 18 - A- The World Council shall have the power to:

- 1- Supervise the execution of the decisions of the world conference by executive organizations of WLCU.
- 2- Study and discuss and approve the yearly budget of WLCU.
- 3- Take the necessary recommendations and decisions to be applied by the executive organizations of WLCU.
- 4- Call for the World Conference meetings in ordinary and exceptional sessions. (Article 15- Para 1-a)

B- The World Conference will , virtually, meet once per year whether in Lebanon or outside it as specified in the addressed call. The president of the Presidential council will call for the meeting through the central secretariat general.

An exceptional assembly of the World Conference will be held upon a request from the presidential council, or upon a recommendation made to the council by the secretariat general or by any of the committees of the geographical regions.

The presidential council will take its decision regarding the recommendation within one month from the date receiving it. Within one month from its acceptance, when accepted, the president of the presidential council shall, then, address a call for the meeting of the world conference .

C- The rotational president of the presidential council shall chair the meeting and shall be assisted by the central secretary general and by six auditors appointed by the president , each auditor representing one geographical region.

D- A forum is attained in the first session by the attendance of half of the invited members plus one; otherwise by whoever attends the second session which shall be held, virtually, within two hours of the prescribed time of the first meeting.



E - Decisions shall be taken by absolute majority and voting will be made by hand raising , consideration being taken of article 16.

F- Each member of the world conference may delegate a selected member of the organization which he presides, to represent him in a specified session, provide he gives that delegate a written power of attorney bearing the stamp of the organization and the signature of the presidency of the organization.

Third - Committees of the Geographical Regions:

Article 19 - Each of the committees of the geographical regions consists of the presidents of National and State councils in that geographical region of the Diaspora countries as defined in the law.

Article 20 Committees of the geographical regions are empowered to execute the decisions of the world conference, and to coordinate the work and decisions of the national and state councils in each geographical region for ensuring cooperation and integration between them.

Article 21- A - Committees of geographical regions shall write down their own internal regulations taking into consideration the objectives of WLCU and abiding by the constitutional basic law and internal regulations of WLCU and local laws of the countries of the Diaspora. A copy of such regulations shall be served to the central secretariat general.

-B - Committees of geographical regions shall meet once every two years in a date other than the dates of the world conference meetings.

-C- Each committee shall elect its president and administrative board in the same way applied for electing the member of the presidential council in that geographical region. The term of such president and board shall be for two years non renewable and non extendible.

Fourth- The National Councils:

Article 22 The National or State Council shall consist, at least, of the presidents of three branches, clubs, societies, confederations, or unions affiliated to WLCU in the Lebanese Diaspora countries.

Article 23 - The national or state council is empowered to execute the decisions of the world conference and those of the world council and to coordinate between the branches, , clubs, societies, confederations, and unions of the hosting country to ensure cooperation and interaction between them.

Article 24 - The national or state council shall hold its annual meeting in a date other than the date of meeting of the world council and of the continental conference. It shall elect, from the ranks of its members, for a term of two years, an administrative board which comprises a president, a vice president, a treasurer and counselors. The president is not to be re-elected before the expiry of two years after his previous term.

Minutes of the election session together with a list of the elected members of the board , their full addresses and samples of their signatures shall be served to the central secretariat general.

The national or state council shall write down its own internal regulations taking into consideration the objectives of WLCU and abiding by the constitutional basic law and internal regulations of WLCU and local laws of the countries of the Diaspora. A copy of such regulations shall be served to the central secretariat general

In countries or states where incorporation with another state is not feasible, a single branch may form a national or state council after obtaining the approval of the central secretariat general for considerate excuses.

Article 25 Where necessary for reasons of internal organization in some geographical regions, national councils may be replaced by Provincial councils that comprise the organizations affiliated to WLCU. Such provincial councils may form, jointly, a council of geographical region when a justified approval is given by the central secretariat general and endorsed by the presidential council.

The Presidential Council:

Article 26 - The presidential council consists of six members representing the six geographical regions defined in the basic constitutional law.

