

# SINGAPORE DENTAL ASSOCIATION

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I

#### **NAME AND EMBLEM OF THE ASSOCIATION**

1. The name of the Association shall be the "SINGAPORE DENTAL ASSOCIATION", hereinafter referred to as "the Association".
2. The emblem of the Association shall be as follows:-



### ARTICLE II

#### **PLACE OF BUSINESS**

The place of business shall be at "Alumni Medical Centre, 2 College Road, Singapore 169850" or such other address as may subsequently be decided upon by the Committee and approved by the Registrar of Societies. The Association shall carry out its activities only in places and premises which have the prior written approval from the relevant authorities, where necessary.

### ARTICLE III

#### **OBJECTS**

The Association's objects shall be as follows:-

- (a) To promote the science and art of dentistry.
- (b) To maintain the honour and promote the interests of the dental profession.
- (c) To foster and preserve the unity and aim of purpose of the dental profession as a whole.
- (d) To hold periodic meetings of the Members for the discussion of scientific subjects, professional matters and social purposes.
- (e) To encourage the study and research in the field of dental science and related subjects.
- (f) To support a high standard of ethics and professional conduct.
- (g) To enlighten and direct public opinion on problems of dental health.

- (h) To publish papers, journals and other materials in furtherance of the above objects, with prior approval obtained from the relevant authorities.
- (i) To promote the welfare of its Members and set up such funds as are required for any of the objects of the Association.

## **POWERS**

The Association's powers shall be as follows:-

- (a) To borrow and raise money and to invest any monies of the Association not immediately required for any of its objects in such manner as the Association may from time to time determine.
- (b) To acquire by purchase, lease, or otherwise, land, buildings, tenements or hereditaments and any movable or immovable properties for any of the objects of the Association.
- (c) To construct, maintain and alter any houses, buildings or works for the objects of the Association.
- (d) To sell, manage, lease, mortgage, dispose of or otherwise deal with all or any part of the property of the Association.
- (e) To collect or otherwise acquire, and hold, sums of money for charitable purposes.
- (f) To incorporate limited companies to carry out commercial activities in furtherance of the above objects.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **General & Saving Provisions**

1. The Association shall consist of Ordinary, Associate, Overseas, Life and Honorary Members. The term "Member" shall hereinafter refer to any Member of the Association, whether Ordinary, Associate, Overseas, Life or Honorary, unless the context otherwise requires.
2. Upon this Constitution coming into force:-
  - (a) all existing Ordinary, Associate, Life and Honorary Members of the Association shall continue as such notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the provisions set forth below;
  - (b) all existing Corresponding Members of the Association shall become Overseas Members; and
  - (c) Corresponding Membership shall be abolished.

### **Ordinary Membership**

3. Ordinary Membership shall be open to all persons who are registered or are entitled to be registered in Division One of the Register of the Singapore Dental Council, provided that such persons shall also reside in Singapore on the date of their election.

### **Associate Membership**

4. Associate Membership shall be open to the following persons:-
  - (a) members of the Malaysian Dental Association;
  - (b) all persons who are registered or are entitled to be registered in Division Two of the Register of the Singapore Dental Council, provided that such persons reside in Singapore on the date of their election;
  - (c) members of the allied professions who are interested in the advancement of dentistry;
  - (d) accredited members of any foreign national dental association that extends reciprocal membership to Members without the need for any application process; and
  - (e) dental students who are accredited by the Faculty of Dentistry, National University of Singapore.

### **Overseas Membership**

5. Overseas Membership shall be opened to the following persons:-
  - (a) an Ordinary Member who takes up permanent residence outside Singapore; and
  - (b) persons residing outside Singapore who registered or entitled to be registered in Division One of the Register of the Singapore Dental Council.
6. The Overseas Membership of any person shall automatically cease upon such person living in Singapore for a continuous period of 6 months and in such event, the person shall continue as an Ordinary Member upon the expiry of the 6 months in question.

### **Life Membership**

7. Life Membership shall be automatically conferred to any Ordinary Member who has:-
  - (a) remained an Ordinary Member for a continuous period of 20 years; and
  - (b) attained the age of 55 years, if such Ordinary Member was an Ordinary Member continuously prior to 1st January 2011; in all other cases, upon attaining the age of 62.

### **Honorary Membership**

8. Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Council on any non-Member of the Association who:-
  - (a) has distinguished himself in public life;

- (b) who has rendered meritorious service to the dental profession in Singapore or elsewhere; and/or
- (c) who has rendered distinguished service to the Association.

### **Election / Appointment of Members**

9. All persons applying for Ordinary, Associate or Overseas Membership shall complete and sign such application form as the Council may from time to time determine.
10. Election of Ordinary, Associate and Overseas Members shall be made by the Council upon consideration of applications submitted to the Association for such membership.
11. Upon the election of an Ordinary or Associate Member, the General Secretary shall:-
  - (a) give him notice in writing thereof;
  - (b) furnish him with a copy of this Constitution; and
  - (c) request that he remit the amount of his first subscription to the Association; andupon payment of his first subscription, but not before, he shall become an Ordinary or Associate Member of the Association (as the case may be) and be bound by this Constitution, and be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership.
12. Upon the election of an Overseas Member, the General Secretary shall:-
  - (a) if he was an Ordinary Member immediately prior to his election, give him notice in writing of his Overseas Membership, whereupon he shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of Overseas Membership from the date of the notice; and
  - (b) if he was not a Member of the Association at the time of his election:
    - (i) furnish him with a copy of this Constitution; and
    - (ii) request that he remit the amount of his first subscription to the Association; andupon payment of his first subscription, but not before, he shall become an Overseas Member of the Association and be bound by this Constitution, and be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership.
13. The Council will confer Life Membership on any Ordinary Member who satisfies the criteria set forth in paragraph 7 above.
14. An Ordinary Member upon whom Life Membership is conferred shall become a Life Member upon the General Secretary giving him written notice thereof. He shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of Life Membership from the date of the notice.
15. There shall be no applications for Honorary Membership. The Council may in its discretion confer Honorary Membership on any person who satisfies the criteria set forth in paragraph 8 above.
16. A person upon whom Honorary Membership is conferred shall become an Honorary Member upon the General Secretary giving him written notice thereof, together with a

copy of this Constitution. He shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of Honorary Membership from the date of the notice.

### **Privileges of Membership**

17. Honorary and Associate Members shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of Ordinary Members, except that they shall not be eligible to stand for election as a member of the Council.
18. Life Members shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of Ordinary Members, including the right to stand for election as a member of the Council, and to vote.
19. Overseas Members shall be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of Ordinary Members except that they shall not be eligible to stand for election as a member of the Council.
20. Any or all of the benefits and privileges enjoyed by an Ordinary, Overseas or Associate Member may, by not less than one month's prior written notice from the General Secretary, be suspended by the Council on the grounds that the Member's subscription is in arrears for more than six months.

### **Obligations of Membership**

21. All Members shall abide by the Constitution and shall not act in any way inconsistent with its objects.
22. All Members shall abide, and be bound by, the decisions of the Council insofar as those decisions are made in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and are not in any way inconsistent with the objects of the Association.

### **Cessation of Membership**

23. Any Member of the Association may resign by giving to the General Secretary notice in writing to that effect, providing that any Member giving such notice shall be liable to pay his subscription up to and including the current year in which such notice was given.
24. The Council shall have power to terminate the membership of any Ordinary and Life if he has not paid his subscriptions and/or any levies imposed by the Council for more than two years, provided that the Council may at any time in their discretion, restore him to membership upon payment of all areas of subscriptions, levies, and/or monies then due to the Association.
25. The Council shall have the power to terminate the membership of any Associate or Overseas Member at any time, for any reason whatsoever.
26. The Council shall have power to expel from membership of the Association any Ordinary or Life Member:
  - (a) who has been convicted in a court of law and sentenced to imprisonment for a period of over one year without the option of a fine, or
  - (b) whose name has been removed from the register of dentists pursuant to section 44 (ii) of the Dentists Act (Cap. 76, 2000 Rev. Ed.) or such equivalent legislation for the time being in force;

- (c) whose conduct is, in the opinion of the Council, detrimental to the honour, integrity and/or interests of the dental profession or of the Association or is calculated to bring the dental profession into disrepute, or
- (d) who has wilfully and persistently refused to comply with the Constitution, the decisions of the Council and/or resolutions passed by the general body,

by sending that Member written notice of such expulsion.

27. Any Ordinary or Life Member aggrieved by a decision of the Council to expel an Ordinary or Life Member (including but not limited to himself) shall have the right to request that the Council call a Special General Meeting to reconsider the decision of the Council, provided that :-

- (a) the request must be in writing; and
- (b) the request must be lodged with the General Secretary not later than one month after the date on which the aggrieved Member received the written notice set forth in the preceding paragraph.

The Council shall hold a Special General Meeting within twenty-one (21) days of receiving such request for the specific purpose of ratifying or nullifying the decision of the Council to expel the Member concerned.

28. Any Member who has passed away shall immediately cease to be a Member and be freed from any encumbrances of membership from the date of his demise.

### **Subscriptions**

29. All Ordinary, Associate and Overseas Members shall pay such annual subscriptions in amount that the Council may from time to time determine and notify to all Members, in writing.

30. The Council shall give not less than three (3) months' prior notice to all Members of any increase in annual subscriptions.

31. Honorary and Life Members need not pay any subscription, annual or otherwise.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **THE COUNCIL**

#### **Composition of the Council**

1. The Association shall be managed by a council consisting of the following members:-

- (a) the President;
- (b) the Vice-President;
- (c) the General Secretary;
- (d) the Assistant General Secretary;
- (e) the Treasurer;

- (f) four Ordinary Council Members; and
  - (g) the Immediate Past President.
2. Wherever the term “the Council” is used in this Constitution, it refers to the council established under this Article.

### **Election / Appointment of members of the Council**

3. The President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary and Treasurer (hereinafter, the “Office Bearers”) must be elected by the Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting. The term of office of the Office Bearers is two years.
4. An election of Office Bearers shall take place at each alternate Annual General Meeting of the Association in accordance with the following procedure:-
- (a) The General Secretary shall call for nominations of candidates for membership in the Council by issuing nomination papers to all Ordinary and Life Members not later than one (1) month before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
  - (b) All such nominations must be:-
    - (1) signed by two Members holding Ordinary or Life Membership;
    - (2) accompanied by a written consent to act if elected, signed by the person nominated;
    - (3) left with or forwarded by post to the General Secretary so as to reach him no less than one (1) week prior to the stated time of commencement of the Annual General Meeting.
  - (c) Nominations shall be closed no less than one (1) week prior to the stated time of commencement of the Annual General Meeting.
  - (d) If only one Member is nominated for a particular office in the Council, that Member shall be duly elected to that office at the Annual General Meeting.
  - (e) If more than one Member is nominated for a particular office in the Council, voting shall be carried out by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting. The Member who receives the most votes in the ballot shall be declared elected. In the case of two or more Members receiving an equal number of votes, another vote by secret ballot shall be carried out in relation to them only, and such ballot shall be repeated until one Member receives more votes than the others.
5. The Ordinary Council Members shall hold office in accordance with the provisions set out below.
- (a) The Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting at which there is an election of Office Bearers shall, in addition to electing the Office Bearers, elect up to four Ordinary Council Members who shall hold office for a term of two years thereafter.

- (b) In the event that the total number of Ordinary Council Members elected at an Annual General Meeting is less than four, the Office Bearers shall by a simple majority appoint one or more Members as Ordinary Council Members (hereinafter, the "Appointed Ordinary Council Members") so as to bring the total number of Ordinary Council Members to four, provided that:-
    - (1) no Office Bearer shall concurrently be an Appointed Ordinary Council Member;
    - (2) no elected Ordinary Council Member shall concurrently be an Appointed Ordinary Council Member; and
    - (3) the Member to be appointed shall give his express consent to the appointment.
  - (c) The Appointed Ordinary Council Members shall hold office for such period as the Office Bearers may by a simple majority determine. They shall cease to hold office upon written notice from all Office Bearers to that effect, or upon an Annual General Meeting to elect new Office Bearers, whichever is first.
  - (d) The Appointed Ordinary Council Members may be appointed at an Annual General Meeting or during a meeting of the Council. Their appointment shall be notified to all Members in writing, as soon as practicable thereafter.
6. The Immediate Past President shall hold office in accordance with the provisions set out below:-
- (a) The Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting at which there is an election of Office Bearers shall be asked to consider electing the last outgoing President or last outgoing acting President (as the case may be) as the Immediate Past President.
  - (b) The Immediate Past President must be elected by a majority of the Members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting. The term of office of the Immediate Past President is two years.
  - (c) The Member to be elected Immediate Past President may refuse to stand for election, in which event the post of Immediate Past President shall remain vacant until the next election of Office Bearers.
  - (d) In the event that an Immediate Past President is not elected at an Annual General Meeting at which there is an election of Office Bearers, the post of Immediate Past President shall remain vacant until the next election of Office Bearers.
7. Save as follows, all members of the Council shall be eligible for re-election or re-appointment (as the case may be) at the conclusion of their term:-
- (a) The Treasurer shall not be re-elected to the same office for a second consecutive term.
  - (b) The President shall not be re-elected to the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

### **Duties and Powers**

8. The duties and powers of the Council shall be as follows:
- (a) To act in accordance with this Constitution.
  - (b) To determine and execute the policies of the Association.
  - (c) To elect Members of the Association in accordance with Article IV.
  - (d) To form such committees as may be necessary to assist Council in the management of important affairs.
  - (e) To manage the financial affairs of the Association.
  - (f) To accept resignations of Members in accordance with Article IV.
  - (g) To expel Members in accordance with Article IV.
  - (h) To recommend amendments to the Constitution in accordance with Article VIII.
  - (i) To appoint annually external qualified auditors who shall audit all accounts of the Association and sign the Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts which shall later be circulated with the Annual Report.
  - (j) To publish an Annual Report which shall, together with the audited Statement of Accounts, be sent to every Member at least fourteen (14) days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting; provided that publication may be done on any suitable media or transmitted electronically.
  - (k) To appoint professional advisors to assist and advise the Council and/or the Association in matters of finance, law, technology or other matters where specialized knowledge is required by and/or would be beneficial to, the Council.
  - (l) To appoint, remunerate and dismiss permanent or part-time staff concerned with the day-to-day operations and administration of the Association.
  - (m) To act generally on behalf of the Association in all matters wherein this Constitution does not expressly or otherwise provide and shall always remain subordinate to the General Meetings.
  - (n) To give a decision upon any matter not expressly provided for in this Constitution and shall always remain subordinate to the General Meetings.

### **Vacancies**

9. Should the office of President fall vacant for any reason, the Vice-President shall immediately assume the office of President and relinquish the office of Vice-President.
10. Should the office of Vice-President, General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary or Treasurer fall vacant for any reason, the remaining members of the Council shall by a simple majority either :-
- (a) appoint one of their number to hold the office thereby vacated until the next election of Office Bearers; or

- (b) appoint a Member, not being a member of the Council, to hold the office thereby vacated until the next election of Office Bearers.
11. In the event that the number of Ordinary Council Members falls below four for any reason, the provisions set out in 5 (b), (c) and (d) above shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. Any changes in the Council shall be notified to the Registrar of Societies within two (2) weeks of the change.

### **Meetings**

12. The Council shall have no less than three ordinary meetings per year.
13. Special meetings of the Council may be held from time to time as circumstances require.
14. The quorum for all Council meetings shall be any five members of the Council.
15. Unless the Council unanimously agrees otherwise, notice of ordinary meetings of the Council together with Minutes of the last meeting, the Agenda, and other relevant documents shall be circulated to all members of the Council at least one (1) week before the date fixed for the meeting.
16. Any member of the Council absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without satisfactory reason shall cease to be a member of the Council.
17. Unless otherwise set forth in this Constitution, any motion tabled at meeting of the Council shall be declared carried if it is supported by simple majority of the members of the Council present and voting. In the event of a tie, the Chairman of the meeting of the Council shall have the casting vote.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE OFFICE BEARERS**

#### **The President**

1. The President shall carry out such duties as are assigned to him by the Council and this Constitution.
2. The President shall take the Chair at all General Meetings of the Association and at all meetings of the Council.
3. The President shall have the right to call Special General Meetings and meetings of the Council.

#### **The Vice-President**

4. The Vice-President shall assist the President in carrying out such duties as are assigned to the President by the Council and this Constitution.
5. All duties, powers and responsibilities of the President shall, in his absence or temporary incapacity, devolve upon the Vice-President.

#### **The General Secretary**

6. The General Secretary shall be responsible for summoning all General Meetings of the Association, and all meetings of the Council.

7. The General Secretary shall keep minutes of all General Meetings of the Association and of all meetings of the Council.
8. The General Secretary shall keep all Members informed of all important activities of the Association and all important decisions of the Council.
9. The General Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Association under the direction of the President and Council and shall keep a register of all Members.
10. Not less than one (1) calendar month before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the General Secretary shall:-
  - (a) notify all Members in writing of the date fixed for such Annual General Meeting
  - (b) draw the Members' attention to the provision of Article VII, paragraph 3 of this Constitution; and
  - (c) issue all Members with nomination papers in accordance with Article V, paragraph 4 of this Constitution.
11. Not less than two weeks before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the General Secretary shall send to all Members :-
  - (a) the Agenda for the General Meeting;
  - (b) the Annual Report of the Council on the activities of the Association during the year preceding;  
and
  - (c) the audited Statement of Accounts for the year preceding;

#### **The Assistant General Secretary**

12. The Assistant General Secretary shall assist the General Secretary in carrying out such duties as are assigned to the General Secretary by the Council and this Constitution.
13. All duties, powers and responsibilities of the General Secretary shall, in his absence or temporary incapacity, devolve upon the Assistant General Secretary.

#### **The Treasurer**

14. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection and the accounting of all funds of the Association, and shall issue receipts for all payments made to the Association.
15. The Treasurer shall open such banking account or accounts as the Council may direct, and shall deposit therein all monies received by him on behalf of the Association.
16. All cheques issued by the Association shall be signed by the Honorary Treasurer and by the President or the Vice President.
17. The Treasurer shall give written notice at least once every three months to all Members whose subscriptions are in arrears.

18. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the preparation of the Association's audited Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

#### **The Annual General Meeting**

1. The supreme authority of the Association is vested in a General Meeting of the members.
2. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held during the first four (4) months of each year for the following purposes:
  - (a) To receive from the Council, and to adopt, a report of the activities of the Association during the year preceding.
  - (b) To receive from the Council, and to adopt, an audited Statement of Accounts for the year preceding.
  - (c) To elect the Office Bearers, Ordinary Council Members and Immediate Past President once every two years.
  - (d) To elect Trustees as and when necessary.
  - (e) To decide on any resolution which may be duly submitted to the meeting as provided for in paragraph 3, below.
3. At least forty (40) days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the General Secretary shall inform all Members in writing of the date, the time, and the place fixed for the General Meeting, and he shall draw their attention to the provisions of the next paragraph.
4. Any Member desirous of moving any resolution at the Annual General Meeting shall give notice in writing thereof to the General Secretary not less than thirty (30) days before the date of such Meeting.
5. At least fourteen (14) days before the Annual General Meeting of the Association, the General Secretary shall notify all Members of the agenda to be transacted at the General Meeting and this shall include any resolutions which Members have indicated their intention of proposing under the previous paragraph.

#### **Special General Meetings**

6. A Special General Meeting of the Association shall be convened by the Council at any time for considering an amendment to this Constitution and/or for any other special reason.
7. Without limiting the foregoing, upon receipt of a requisition in writing from fifty (50) Ordinary or Life Members of the Association stating the purpose for which they require a Special General Meeting to be convened, the Council shall convene a Special General Meeting within thirty (30) days thereafter.

8. At least fourteen (14) days before the date fixed for the Special General Meeting, the General Secretary shall inform all Members in writing of the date, the time, and the place fixed for the General Meeting, and he shall draw their attention to the specific business of the General Meeting.
9. No business shall be dealt with at a Special General Meeting other than the specific business for which it was specifically convened.

#### **Quorum**

10. The quorum at all General Meetings of the Association, be they Annual or Special, shall be fifty (50) Members holding Ordinary and/or Life Membership.
11. In the event of there being no quorum at the commencement of a General Meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned for half an hour and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum, those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to amend any part of the existing Constitution.
12. In the event of there being no quorum at the commencement of a Special General Meeting, the meeting shall be adjourned for half an hour and should the number then present be insufficient to form a quorum, those present shall be considered a quorum, but they shall have no power to amend any part of the existing Constitution.
13. In the event of a lack of quorum at a Special General Meeting *summoned at the request in writing by fifty (50) Ordinary and/or Life Members*, the President shall declare the meeting dissolved, and no further Special General Meeting shall be convened for the same purpose for a period of six months thereafter.

#### **Voting**

14. Voting at all General Meetings shall be conducted through a show of hands unless a secret ballot is required by ten (10) or more Members present and entitled to vote.
15. Unless otherwise set forth in this Constitution, any motion tabled at a General Meeting of the Association shall be declared carried if it is supported by a simple majority of the Members present and voting.
16. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.
17. All resolutions passed at a General Meeting shall be binding on all Members, whether present and voting at the General Meeting or not.

#### **Minutes**

18. Draft minutes of all General Meetings shall be circulated to all Members within one (1) month of the conclusion of the General Meeting and shall be taken as read and adopted if the Council receives no objections or proposed amendments from Members who were present at the General Meeting within two (2) months after the date of the General Meeting. Any such objections or proposed amendments to the draft minutes shall be tabled and considered at the next Annual General Meeting.

### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

1. Amendments to this Constitution shall only be made at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting of the Association.
2. Any proposed amendments to this Constitution shall be made in writing to the General Secretary not less than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting or the Special General Meeting, as the case may be.
3. The proposed amendments shall be circulated to all Members not less than fourteen (14) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting or the Special General Meeting, as the case may be.
4. The Association shall not amend its Constitution without the prior approval in writing of the Registrar of Societies. No alteration or addition/deletion to this Constitution shall be passed except at a general meeting and with the consent of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting Members present at the General Meeting.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **PROPERTY AND TRUSTEES**

1. All property and all income of the Association however derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set forth in Article III.
2. All immovable property acquired by the Association shall be held by vested in a minimum of two and a maximum of four trustees (hereinafter, the "Trustees"), who shall be recommended by the Council for appointment by the General Meeting of the Association. Their appointment shall be approved at the next General Meeting of the Association.
3. The Trustees so appointed shall deal with the said property in the manner and under the direction of the Council, and shall serve for a period of five years.
4. The Trustees shall not effect any sale, transfer or mortgage of any immovable property of the Association without the approval of the majority of Members present and voting at a General Meeting.
5. Notice of any proposal to remove a trustee from his trusteeship or to appoint a new trustee to fill a vacancy must be given by posting it on the notice board in the Association's premises at least two (2) weeks before the General Meeting at which the proposal is to be discussed. The result of such General Meeting shall then be notified to the Registrar of Societies.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **PROHIBITIONS**

1. The funds of the Association shall not be used to pay the fines of Members who have been convicted in court of law.
2. The Association shall not engage in any trade union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.

3. The Association shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its Members or not, in the name of the Association or its office-bearers, Council or Members unless with prior approval of the relevant authorities.
4. The Association shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **GENERAL**

#### **Statements to the Press or Public Bodies**

1. No press release and no communication to any public body, Government or otherwise, may be made in the name of the Association except by the President or the General Secretary with the approval of the Council, or by a Member expressly authorized to do so by the Council.

#### **Access To Information**

2. Any Ordinary Member may apply, in writing, to the Council to inspect any of the Association's records or documents save for minutes of meetings of the Council. Any Member applying for inspection shall:-
  - (a) specify the specific records, documents or class of documents (indicating a range of dates wherever possible);
  - (b) state the express reasons why he requires inspection of the records, documents or class of documents in question;
  - (c) undertake not to use or disclose any information contained in the said records, documents and/or class of documents for any purpose other than that stated by him in his application; and
  - (d) if required by the Council, execute a Statutory Declaration setting forth the Member's specific reasons for inspecting the records, documents and/or class of documents in question as well as his undertaking set forth in (c) above.
3. No application for inspection of any records, documents or class of documents of the Association shall be considered by Council unless it complies fully with the requirements set forth in (a) to (d) above.
4. If the Council, after considering the Member's reasons for seeking inspection of the records, documents or class of documents in question, considers that the said reasons do not warrant the Member's inspection of the same, it may deny the Member such inspection by notice to the Member in writing.

#### **Interpretation of this Constitution**

5. This Constitution shall be governed by, and interpreted in accordance with, the laws of the Republic of Singapore.
6. Where any dispute arises out of the interpretation of this Constitution, the Council may rule on the proper interpretation of this Constitution after obtaining legal advice thereon in writing. The Council shall publish its interpretation to the Members in writing so soon as may be practicable thereafter, enclosing the written legal advice rendered to the Council.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **DISSOLUTION**

1. The Association shall not be dissolved, except with the consent of not less than three quarters of the Ordinary Members of the Association expressed, either in person or by proxy at a General Meeting convened for the purpose or by postal vote.
2. In the event of the Association being dissolved as provided above, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the Association shall be fully discharged and the remaining funds will be either divided equally amongst the Ordinary and Life Members or transferred to a professional body or charitable organisation in Singapore as decided by the majority of Members present and voting at a General Meeting convened for the purpose of dissolving the Association or decided by a postal vote of all the Members.
3. Notice of dissolution will be given within 7 days of the dissolution to the Registrar of Societies.

Singapore Dental Association  
Alumni Medical Centre  
2 College Road  
Singapore 169850  
Tel: 6220-2588  
Fax: 6224-7967