

World Lebanese Cultural Union



Basic Constitutional Law

Chapter 1- The Name and Seat:

Article 1: Name of the Union: World Lebanese Cultural Union.

World Lebanese Cultural Union is a civil institution, independent and non governmental, non political, non ethnical or racial, non religious, non profit making. It is recognized as the sole representative of the Lebanese Diaspora in the World. It is of unlimited duration and is subject to its basic constitutional law and to its internal regulations. Each of its organizations, wherever it may be, is entitled to carry the name of the host country in addition to its own name.

Article 2: - Its Seat: Beirut - (in the building of the ministry of Foreign Affairs)

The Seat may be temporarily transferred to any country by decision of the presiding council, provided the subject is submitted to the World Council for discussion in the first session to be held by it in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. The decision of the World Council will be final.

Chapter 2: - Objectives and Measures:

Article 3 Its Purpose: a - To enhance and promote the spirit of loyalty and nationalism among the members of the Union and their host countries; to have factual interest in the well-being of these countries from the educational, civic, social and moral points of view. It is an educational, benevolent and non-profit-making institution. .

b- To strengthen the ties of friendship and intimacy among its members , thus resulting in the promotion of mutual friendship and understanding between the host countries of the members of the Union. .

c- establishing , promoting, and enhancing a relationship of mutual friendship and understanding between these countries and Lebanon ; encouraging and exchanging educational, social, tourist, and economical activities to the mutual benefit of Lebanon and the host countries on one side and the Lebanese nationals and descendants of Lebanese origin on the other side.

d- To spread the Lebanese legacy in the host countries of the members of WLCU, to spread the legacies of these countries in one another and in Lebanon..

e- To introduce cultural Lebanon and the role it played, free of purpose, in the service of humanity all along its history; to preserve the existence and nature of Lebanon so that it may persevere in participating in the world peace and the understanding between nations.

f- To enhance confidence, peace and understanding among human beings by encouraging the members of WLCU to serve their communities irrespective of personal or financial gain, and to endeavor to raise the moral levels in the fields of trade, public works, and personal life.

Article 4 - WLCU will also endeavor to accomplish its objectives which aim at:

a- To back the existence, sovereignty, and independence of Lebanon as a final homeland to all Lebanese nationals; to manifest the distinguished identity of the Lebanese Diaspora.: and to organize such Diaspora and make it more effective.

b- To provide all available facilities and services to the Lebanese emigrants and their descendants.

Chapter 3 - Membership and affiliation

Article 5 - WLCU is composed of those branches, clubs, societies, confederations, institutions and unions that comprise Lebanese nationals and descendants of Lebanese origin who believe in Lebanon as a final homeland to all its people, and who are not members of establishments that have contradicting objectives to the existence of Lebanon.



Article 6 - WLCU comprises the named members spread in the following geographical regions:

- Brazil
- Spanish America and the Caribbean
- Europe
- Australia
- USA and Canada.
- Africa

Article 7 - a - Representatives of each geographical region share in the election of their organizations in the region to which they belong. Each representative will have a number of votes equivalent to the number of members of the represented branch, or club, or society, or confederation, or institution, or union, provided it is licensed in accordance with the rules and provisions of the internal regulations.

b- The Central secretary General or his delegate will supervise the election of the representatives of the geographical region in the presidential council. This rule will not apply to regions with one union, e.g. Brazil.

Article 8 - Members of WLCU, in the said regions, will comply with the objectives of WLCU. The basic constitutional law and internal regulations of WLCU become applicable to the members through their mere affiliation to it. The conditions and terms for the affiliation of branches, clubs, societies, confederations, institutions and unions to WLCU are defined in the internal regulations.

Chapter 4 - Organizations of WLCU:

Article 9 - 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



Article 10 - The internal regulations defines the conditions and procedures of work within each organization, and within what belongs to it or is derived from it.

Article 11 - a - The Presidential Council consists of six members, of which each one represents one of the geographical regions enumerated in article 6 above e.

b- A draw will be held, for once, to determine the sequence of the rotational chairmanship of the Presidency Council. The term of chairmanship will be for one year in the sequence determined by the draw. The first session will be chaired by Brazil..

c- The Presidency Council will be chaired by each of its members on a rotational basis and for a term of one year to each in accordance with the previous article.

d- The Presidency Council includes the Secretary General of the World Committee for Youth descendants of Lebanese origin. He fills the position of vice chairman and is entitled to share in the discussions and voting.

e - The Presidency Council includes also the Central Secretary General who is entitled to share in the discussions without having the right to vote.

Article 12 - The Chairman of WLCU, in his capacity as chairman of the Presidency Council, represents WLCU officially in Lebanon, in the host countries of the Lebanese Diaspora, and at international official and private organizations. He is represented in each geographical region by the member of the Presidential council elected by that region.

Chapter 5 - Resources of WLCU:

Article 13 - The financial resources of WLCU comprise the following:

- subscription fees paid by subscribed members.
- Aid contributions made by international organizations.
- Aid contributions made by Lebanese societies and clubs in the host countries of the Lebanese Diaspora.
- gift offers and contributions.

Article 14 - Upon dissolution and liquidation of WLCU, its funds will become property of the Lebanese Red Cross Society.

Chapter 6 - Amendment of the basic constitutional law:

Article 15 - The World Conference is the only organization entitled to amend this basic constitutional law, provided the amendment is made in a general meeting, ordinary or exceptional, and approved by two thirds of the attending members:

- a - The Presidency Council will propose the amendment by a majority of two thirds of its members.
- b - The Central Secretariat General will propose the amendment in consultation with the Advisory Council.
- c - The World Conference will propose the amendment by absolute majority of the attending members during a normal or exceptional meeting with legal quorum.
- e - All members of the electing organizations in the World conference are entitled to submit their proposals for any amendment to the Central secretariat General. Such proposals should reach the Central Secretariat General at least one month before the conclusion of the conference.

Article 16 - The internal regulations of WLCU will be attached to this basic constitutional law . They are considered a complementary part of it.

Article 17 - The official languages of WLCU are: the Arabic, the Spanish, The English, the Portuguese, and the French languages. Use of the Lebanese spoken language is permitted in discussions, conferences, meetings and lectures.

Article 18 - The original text of the basic constitutional law was written in Arabic. It is the applicable text in case of conflict regarding the explanation or application of the translated texts.

Article 19 - The current basic constitutional law approved for WLCU in 1993 is hereby annulled with all its provisions and rules, articles, and sentences. The law, which was approved by the exceptional world conference held at San Paulo, Brazil on 16 Sept. 1994, will be applied. The special condition regarding the election of the Presidential Council will be complied with in the World Conference no. 10 that will be held within six months in principle.

Stamp and Signature

The Secretary General
Eng. Joseph Younis.

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Translated by B.C. Council of WLCU

