



[Extract from WHA by-laws]

## ARTICLE III: Membership

### 3. Members' benefits

#### ▪ **Profile:**

WHA is in *Official Relations* with WHO (more on this in the influence benefit section) and has *Special Consultative Status* with the Economic and Social Council. Consequently, being a member will increase your organisation's credibility, particularly with governments and the international community at large.

Furthermore, as a member of WHA you will benefit from our media reach. WHA utilises every opportunity to promote its members' activities, projects and work through its media channels (i.e. website, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, WHD Summary Report, e-magazine etc.), thus giving international visibility to your work. As a member of WHA you will benefit from your own dedicated page on WHA's website. WHA also strives to profile members as much as possible in its own activities, such as featuring member case studies in webinars and international media releases.

#### ▪ **Influence:**

As full member of WHA you may nominate a candidate for the role of President and may nominate and elect the Regional Board Member for your region. Board Members, once elected, represent the views of members in their region at board level. Your views and experiences will help shape the strategic direction of WHA and how it influences the global health agenda. Voting members may also vote at the WHA's Annual General Meetings.

WHA *Official Relations* status with WHO means that our members are, by definition, in official relations with their respective WHO Country Office. As such, members may develop and implement a programme of collaboration with WHO at a national and even regional level to ensure implementation of hepatitis strategies.

Together with WHO, WHA holds the World Hepatitis Summit (WHS) every two years in collaboration with a different government each time in order to further the hepatitis agenda. WHA therefore sits on both WHS organising and programme committees and holds broad consultations with its members to ensure they have the opportunity to input in the development of the programme.

#### ▪ **Networking opportunities & participation:**

As a member of WHA, you will become part of a global network of patients' organisations. You will have the opportunity to apply for a fully funded place to participate in the World Hepatitis Summit as well as in our Pre-Summit Members' Conference. In addition to being forums for capacity building, information and exchange of good practices, these events offer excellent opportunities to network and therefore allow you to make useful connections as you move your work forward.

## ▪ **Capacity building**

### - **Information and Resources:**

All members receive a WHA Member logo to use on their website. The resource section of our website offers a wide range of materials which is regularly developed and updated and includes factsheets, reports, infographics, toolkits, template letters and much more. While our resources cover a wide range of topics and regions, they are developed based on the specific needs of our members. We also strive to disseminate information about global debates concerning viral hepatitis and current treatment news in the latest news section of our website.

All WHA members receive an exclusive pre-launch preview of the World Hepatitis Day (WHD) campaign. WHA provides members with campaign materials to support their WHD activities, including posters, infographics, logos, banners and more. A customisable poster tool allows members to tailor the global campaign to suit their local priorities and toolkits are available to assist in campaign planning, organising events and approaching media. Members are able to promote their activities through the WHD website via pages such as an events map, campaign supporters' page and photo gallery.

### - **Educational webinars:**

WHA creates and hosts various webinars aimed at educating and upskilling members in key areas to effectively lobby for change. Topics covered so far include policy, advocacy, awareness raising and access to diagnostics and medicines. Members are able to participate live and get to ask questions to a panellist of experts. Recordings and slide decks are subsequently made available on our website.

### - **Workshops and educational events:**

The Pre-Summit Member Conference programme is developed exclusively for the benefit of members and focuses on key areas of interest identified through needs assessments. In addition to this, members of WHA may gain access to regional educational events organised by partners and other key stakeholders.

### - **Policy:**

WHA offers support and advice to members with their policy work, helping them ensure that their country has an effective strategy in place to eliminate viral hepatitis and, if necessary, can help members get access to their governments. For example, ahead of the 69<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly and the adoption of the elimination strategy for viral hepatitis, WHA provided members with a template letter to ministers and supported members with their outreach. To further support members' lobbying, WHA also provided a template press release, template social media posts and tips and video content. Our members also get first hand opportunity to get involved in bigger projects such as Global Policy reports, Civil Society reports and other global surveys results, which offer resourceful advocacy tools.

### - **Fundraising:**

Toolkits specifically dedicated to fundraising are developed and updated and it is also an area addressed in our capacity building activities. Our members may also benefit from our experience, research, network and partnerships with the corporate world. We are also in constant contact with our own sponsors to encourage the support of their affiliates in countries where we have members.