Memorandum of Association (MOA)

Para 1
Name, registered office, duration, profile

1.1 The EVU is registered with the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Hilversum in the Netherlands and bears the name "European Vegetarian Union" (hereinafter "EVU").

1.2 The location of the EVU Secretariat can change according to the composition of the EVU Board.

1.3 The duration of the EVU is unlimited.

1.4 The EVU is a neutral, independent and autonomous organisation, which may also serve as regional body for the International Vegetarian Union.

Para 2
Role of the EVU

2.1 The principal aim of the EVU is the promotion of vegetarianism, and anything and everything that can, even remotely, be connected with vegetarianism in the broadest interpretation of the word.

2.2 Vegetarianism is to be understood in the context of abstention from all food products and consumer products deriving from the slaughter or abuse of animals.

2.3 Advocating for the rights of animals and taking a stand against animal cruelty.

Para 3
The Board of the EVU

3.1 The Board leads the EVU and is charged with the management and the daily functioning of EVU business.

3.2 The Board consists of:
President
Vice President
Secretary General
Vice Secretary General
Treasurer
Board members
Past President (After his or her resignation the immediate past President may remain a member of the Board in an advisory capacity and without voting right)
Honorary Board members (without voting right)
The minimum of elected Board members is 5, the maximum 11.

3.3 The EVU can only be legally represented by two or more Board members acting together.

3.4 A Board meeting has to be held once per year.

3.5 Internet meetings, discussions, exchanges and votings, which are summoned by the Board, are valid means for decisions.

3.6 The majority decision of all received votes by a given deadline is binding.

3.7 The Board is not authorised to make agreements when the EVU binds itself as a guarantor or co-debtor, and it is not authorized to act as an insurance for a third party or to act as a creditor on behalf of a third party.

3.8 The Board is obliged to keep the relative documentation for a period of ten years unencumbered of the Dutch statutes found in Article 24 - boek 2 - Burgerlijk Wetboek

Para 4
Finances

4.1 The EVU is a non-profit-making organisation.

4.2 The financial year of the EVU runs from January the first until the following thirty-first of December

4.3 The financial basis of the EVU is derived from:
- annual membership fees
- donations
- inheritances
- legacies
- subsidies or sponsorships from any source;
- any other source, as deemed appropriate by the Board.

4.4 Treasurer
4.4.1 The treasurer is responsible for the financial management of the EVU.

4.4.2 The treasurer must take proper account of the finances of the EVU so that, at all times, the rights and obligations of the EVU are visible.

4.5 Auditors

4.5.1 The auditors control the financial situation and certify the correctness of the financial situation of the EVU.

4.5.2 Each year the AGM elects an Auditors Committee consisting of two persons who are not Board members, along with one or two substitutes. The appointment auditors can be annulled at any time by the AGM or by electronic voting, as long as this is followed by new appointments approved by the Board.

Para 5
Members

5.1 Full member with voting right of the EVU can be:

5.1.1 Any European organisation working for a vegetarian lifestyle. Member organizations shall be autonomous and the EVU shall not participate in their internal affairs except by express invitation.

5.1.2 Any umbrella vegetarian organisation.

5.2 Member (without voting right) can be

5.2.1 Individuals/families

5.2.2 Associate members (institutions, companies, etc., non profit animal-protection and animal rights organisations, nutrition, science and health organisations, non-European vegetarian organisations).

5.2.3 Honorary members (this membership may be awarded to persons by the AGM in recognition of their services to the world vegetarian cause or their special contribution to furthering the goals of the EVU). These positions are non-executive and non-voting.
5.3. The EVU MOA and Bylaws are binding for all members.

Para 6
Annual General Meeting (AGM)

6.1 AGMs of the EVU are to be held at least once a year and may take place anywhere in Europe.

6.2 Admittance to AGMs is open to all members.

6.3 The AGMs are chaired by the President or someone appointed by him.

6.4 The EVU Board may arrange postal/electronic ballots for full members on any issues which could be determined by the AGM.

6.5 Extraordinary AGMs may be called whenever ten percent of full members with voting rights have given written notice to the Board by recorded delivery post, indicating both their desire to hold an extraordinary meeting and the topic(s) to be discussed. The Chairperson for the meeting is chosen ad hoc by the attendees with voting rights.

Para 7
Bylaws

7.1 The principles defined above shall be further defined by procedures set out in bylaws.

7.2 Bylaws for the orderly running of the EVU may be proposed at any time by the Board in writing to the AGM and must be approved by a majority vote. Once approved, regulations are binding.

7.3 Bylaws may be altered or declared invalid at any time by a majority vote.

7.4 Bylaws may not be contrary to anything contained in MOA of the EVU or to any European law or court decision or to any national law in any European nation in which a full member of the EVU is based

Para 8
Changing the MOA

8.1 Changes to the MOA may be proposed by the Board or by any full member.

8.2 A written draft has to be presented to full members at least four weeks prior to the AGM in which the proposed change(s) are to be decided.

8.3 The proposed changes must be approved by a two-thirds majority of recorded votes at the AGM in order for them to become effective.

8.4 Based on this decision, the new version of the MOA will have to be drawn up, registered, published as soon as possible and be made available to all members of the EVU.

Para 9
Dissolving the EVU

9.1 At least three months prior to the meeting, ten percent of full members must request the convening of an extraordinary AGM for this purpose, and the announcement of that meeting must include a detailed written plan for the disposition of all assets, liabilities and obligations of the EVU, financial or otherwise.

9.2 In order to dissolve the EVU, at least three-quarters of the full members present at the meeting must agree.

9.3 When both the proposal for dissolution and a plan therefore be approved, the EVU is to be considered dissolved at the end of the current business year of the EVU, and the Board is charged with implementing and carrying out the approved plan for the dissolution of the EVU by that date. The remaining funds are to be donated to a similar NGO.

Amsterdam,