

## **Statute of Fuglaverndarfélag Íslands**

### **Article 1:**

The organization is called FUGLAVERNDARFÉLAG ÍSLANDS in Icelandic, also known as Fuglavernd. The English name of the organization is BirdLife Iceland. Its address and venue are in Reykjavík, Iceland.

### **Article 2:**

The objective of the organization is the protection of birds and their habitats, with a focus on those species placed in risk categories on Icelandic and international watch lists, in addition to species which are considered responsibility species or key species. The organization is non-profit.

### **Article 3:**

The organization will achieve its objective by doing the following:

1. By fostering an interest among the people of Iceland in the nation's birds through educational activities.
2. By cooperating with domestic and international bird and nature conservation organizations and institutes which share similar objectives with BirdLife Iceland.
3. By promoting, assisting with and organizing research into birds and their habitats.
4. By advocating issues related to the company's goals in dialogue with the country's government and other parties.
5. By looking after areas for which the organization is responsible, either through partnership agreements or ownership.

**Article 4:** Membership is open to anybody irrespective of where they live in Iceland or abroad.

**Article 5:** The company's committee shall comprise seven members and shall decide on all matters between annual general meetings. Each committee shall be elected for a term of two years at a time. A chairperson is elected separately and the committee delegates tasks among its members: vice chairperson, treasurer and four committee members. Every second year the chairperson and three other committee members leave the committee and the following year the other three committee members leave the committee and so on. Committee meetings are lawful if attended by four committee members, provided that all committee members have been invited to attend. At lawful committee meetings, decisions are taken by majority vote. If voting is even, the chairperson's vote counts double. The committee formulates the organization's strategy, monitors its activities and supports it as far as possible. The committee hires a managing director who implements the committee's strategy. The committee adopts the organization's rules of procedure in consultation with the managing director, which should be reviewed at least every four years. No salaried employee of the organization may also serve on its committee. Candidacies for election to the committee should be submitted to the organization's committee by 15 February of the year in which an election to the committee takes place.

**Article 6:** Separate chapters of the organization may be established in consultation with the organization's committee. The annual membership fee shall be the same as for BirdLife Iceland and shall go into the organization's funds. Members of the chapter enjoy the same rights as other members. If the chapter is dissolved, the assets of the chapter shall be passed on to BirdLife Iceland.

The chairpersons of chapters have the freedom to speak and submit proposals at committee meetings and shall be invited to attend such meetings in the same way as committee members.

**Article 7:** The annual general meeting holds the supreme authority in the organization's affairs. The annual general meeting shall be held before the first day of summer [first Thursday after 18 April] every year and its agenda shall be as follows:

1. The report of the committee on the organization's activities for the past year.
2. Presenting the organization's audited annual financial statement.
3. Amendments to the organization's by-laws pursuant to Article 8.
4. Election of a committee pursuant to Article 5 of the organization's by-laws.
5. Election of an auditor of the organization's accounts and a deputy.
6. Deciding the annual membership fee.
7. Other business.

**Article 8:** Any proposal to amend the organization's by-laws should have been received by the committee by 15 February each year at the latest and should be presented in the summons to the meeting.

**Article 9:** The committee calls the annual general meeting, and it should be advertised at least 10 days in advance. Decisions are made by simple majority at the meetings, with the exception of amendments of the organization's by-laws which require at least 2/3 majority of votes cast. The right to vote and eligibility at an annual general meeting are only granted to persons who have paid their annual subscription fee for the previous year and have become members of the organization before the beginning of the year of the annual general meeting.

**Article 10:** The committee can call a meeting of the organization if it considers there to be reason to do so. A meeting of the organization shall also be held if at least 25 members so request in writing. The agenda of the meeting should be stated in the invitation to the meeting in the same way as if it were an annual general meeting.

**Article 11:** The organization may not be dissolved unless this is agreed at two lawful meetings of the organization with 2/3 of cast votes, held at least one month apart. If the organization is dissolved its assets shall be passed on to non-governmental organizations involved in nature conservation in Iceland as decided by the meeting of the organization.

**Adopted at the annual general meeting on 4 April 2024**

## **Code of ethics**

- BirdLife Iceland recognizes the right of everybody involved in the organization not to be subjected to any harm, abuse, unfair treatment and harassment and it will do its utmost to prevent this from happening.
- BirdLife Iceland ensures the safety of its employees and volunteers by having professional working practices, good facilities and proper equipment.
- BirdLife Iceland is guided by professionalism, respect, integrity and fairness in all its communications and business dealings.
- BirdLife Iceland endeavours to respond to all queries, complaints and requests professionally and efficiently.
- BirdLife Iceland complies with all laws and regulations applicable to the business.
- BirdLife Iceland ensures that all bookkeeping and accounting is done professionally.
- BirdLife Iceland fulfils all obligations to its employees by complying with the law and applicable collective wage agreements.
- BirdLife Iceland ensures that its employees receive the appropriate training and education and that working conditions are suitable.
- BirdLife Iceland acts responsibly towards the environment, nature and society.