

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I/we hereby apply for membership in the China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V. (CNBW) as

(Please mark with a cross) Annual membership fee		
0	Student, Trainee	EURO 100
0	Private Person	EURO 400
0	Non-profit organization, Start-up (company in the first 2 years from registration)	EURO 400
0	Municipality, university, college, other public institution Company up to EUR 2M turnover	EURO 700
0	Company up to EUR 50M turnover	EURO 1.500
0	Companies with turnover of more than EUR 50M	EURO 2.500

If joining within a fiscal year, the contribution is to be paid pro rata temporis according to the month of joining.

Company/organization or Name of individual (title, full name):				
Branch:	Website:			
Represented by (title, full name): Function:	O Ms. O Mr. O N/A			
Street, house number, postal code, City:				
Country:				
Telephone:	E-Mail:			

#### **Working Groups**

In Working Groups, current issues and topics are dealt with and discussed in depth. The aim is to create added value for implementation in practice.

I would like to join the following Working Group(s). (Please mark wih a cross if you are interested.)

0	WG1	German-Chinese cooperation
0	WG2	Artificial Intelligence (AI)
0	WG3	New Mobility and New Energy
0	WG4	Environment
0	WG5	Bio-medical / medical technology
0	WG6	Municipal cooperation between Baden-Württemberg and China
0	WG7	University cooperation between Baden-Württemberg und China

#### Pasing on contact details

CNBW may pass on my contact details: (Please tick)

- Only to members of the CNBW
- O To members and interested parties of the CNBW
- O CNBW may not pass on my contact details

#### Use of your logo

(Please tick)

O We agree to the use of our logo in CNBW publications (print and digital).

#### **CNBW-Newsletter**

(Please tick)

I consent to receive information from the CNBW about events and other activities and that my contact details are stored for this purpose. I can revoke my consent at any time by sending that request to news@china-bw.net.

#### **Privacy Policy**

I agree that China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V. as the responsible body, may process and use personal data collected in the membership application such as company name, surname, first name, address, telephone, mobile phone, fax, e-mail address, contribution group, Working Group participation, bank data and other voluntary information exclusively for the purpose of membership administration and the transmission of association information by the Association. These data transfers are necessary for the purpose of the organization. The transfer of data to third parties takes place only with the prior consent of the member separate from this policy. It can be revoked at any time with effect for the future. Upon termination of membership, the personal data will be deleted, unless they must be stored in accordance with legal requirements. Within the framework of the provisions of the Federal Data Protection Act / General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), every member has the right to information about the personal data stored about them by the responsible body. In addition, the member has a right to information correction in the event of incorrect data.

(Please tick)

O I agree.

#### Consent to the production and use of personal images and sound recordings

I agree to the production of images of my person (such as photographs, film and sound recordings) in connection with all activities of the Association by association members and third parties. Likewise, I agree that these recordings may be used by the responsible persons of the Association for purposes of the Association's work (event flyers, publications of the Association (e.g. website), forwarding to partner organizations, etc.). I am aware that this consent can be revoked at any time and without justification. The revocation can also be limited to individual parts of the consent. In case of revocation, the Association is obligated to remove and/or destroy the images of me.

(Please tick)

O l agree.

By signing I also confirm that I have taken note of the Articles of Association (below).

Place, date, signature of member / legal representative

#### Please sign and send the membership application to

China Network Baden-Württemberg e.V. Geschäftsstelle Baden Südring 3, D-77704 Oberkirch

or as a scan to: member@china-bw.net

In case of questions Telephone: (+49) 07802 70 73 07 58 E-mail: <u>member@china-bw.net</u>



#### **Bank Details**

Baden-Württembergische Bank Unselbstständige Anstalt der Landesbank Baden-Württemberg BIC: SOLADEST600, IBAN: DE07 6005 0101 0405 3891 20

#### Authorization for the collection of contributions by direct debit

I hereby revocably authorize the China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V. to collect my membership fee and other fees and contributions according to the contribution rules from the following account by direct debit when due:

**IBAN:** 

BIC:

Bank Institute:

Surname, first name and, if applicable, address of the account holder, if different from the above information:

If the account does not have sufficient funds, the bank is under no obligation to redeem them.

Place, date, signature of member / legal representative

Please send the signed authorization for the collection of contributions by direct debit together with the membership application to:

China Network Baden-Württemberg e.V. Geschäftsstelle Baden Südring 3, D-77704 Oberkirch

or as a scan to: member@china-bw.net



## ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION CHINA NETZWERK BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG E.V.

### This is a translation of the original German document and only serves as reference!

### **Gender Clause**

In these statutes, the masculine form of speech is used exclusively for all office holders and other acting persons. This is not intended to express any preference for the male or discrimination against the female. The chosen wording serves solely to improve the clarity of the text and thus to make its content easier to understand. The General Assembly adopting the Articles of Association expressly acknowledges that every office described below can also be filled by a woman.

### § 1 Name, Seat, Fiscal Year

- 1. The Association has the name "China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V.".
- 2 The Association has its location in Stuttgart.
- 3. The business year is the calendar year.
- 4. The Association is registered in the register of associations.
- 5. The language of the Association is German.

## § 2. Purpose and Aims of the Association

1. The purpose of the Association is to promote German-Chinese, in particular Baden-Württemberg-Chinese understanding, the improvement of mutual information and knowledge in the cultural, scientific and economic fields. For this purpose, the Association forms a network of companies, municipalities, institutions, universities, colleges, individuals and other organizations interested in its goals. In particular, it offers

- a. Information about the economic, scientific and cultural area
- b. Information events about the economic, scientific and cultural system
- c. Platforms for contacts, exchange of opinions and information
- d. Cooperation with other national and international organizations, with authorities and institutions that maintain and promote the scope of activities of the Association
- e. The promotion of education through training and further education measures and support of students
- f. Preparatory seminars for German or Chinese specialists and executives who want to go to China or Germany or become active there
- g. The promotion of understanding between the Chinese and German cultures and mutual tolerance



2. The Association is not a political association and will not engage in political activities. Political influence by members and external parties is not desired. The Association would like to be a base for an open bilateral or multilateral platform and invites interested parties with the same goals to participate.

3. The Association exclusively and directly pursues charitable purposes within the meaning of the section "tax-privileged purposes" of the tax code. The Association is selflessly active; it does not primarily pursue its own economic purposes.

4. Funds from contributions, levies, donations, grants and other contributions shall be used for the fulfillment of the statutory purposes. Surpluses and contributions shall be allocated to the purposes of the Association.

### § 3 Membership

1. The Association consists of

- Full Members,
- Extraordinary Members: Supporting Members and Honorary Members.

2. The Board decides on the admission of members on the basis of a written application. The rejection of an application does not require a statement of reasons to the rejected applicant. However, the General Assembly may demand transparency regarding the reasons for the rejection of membership applications.

3. Full Members of the Association can be all natural and legal domestic and foreign persons, who promote the purpose of the Association and support the goals of the Association.

4. Supporting Members are extraordinary members who are not actively involved within the Associati on, but who promote and support the Association's purpose and goals in a suitable manner.

5. Domestic and foreign natural persons who have rendered outstanding services to the Association or to the relations between the people of Baden-Württemberg and China may be appointed as Honorary Members. They are Extraordinary Members (but can also be full members) and are exempt from paying dues. Proposals for the nomination of Honorary Members can be made by the members as well as by the Board. The decision is made by the General Assembly in the absence of the proposed member(s) with a simple majority of votes.

6. Extraordinary Members are entitled to participate in the General Assembly, but are not entitled to vote. They cannot be elected to the Board.

### § 4 Termination of Membership

1. Membership expires by death of the natural person, dissolution of the legal entity, resignation or exclusion of the member.

2. The declaration of resignation must be made in writing and must be submitted to the Board with three months' notice to the end of the current calendar year.

3. Exclusion can take place, when a member does not pay the contribution within three months despite two written requests or if the membership of a person in the Association endangers the reputation or the purposes of the Association, as well as for other valid reasons.



4. The Board decides about the exclusion and the reasons. The member concerned shall be heard before the decision is taken, but may not be present at the vote. The exclusion requires a reason and is to be communicated to the member in writing. With the exclusion, all offices held by the member in the Association expire.

5. In the event of termination of membership, for whatever reason, all claims arising from the membership relationship shall lapse. A refund of contributions, donations or other support is generally excluded. The claim of the Association to outstanding contributions remains unaffected by this.

## § 5 Cooperation Partners

The Board of Directors may designate important partners of China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V., who are not members, as "Cooperation Partners of Chinaforum Baden-Württemberg e.V." within the meaning of these Articles of Association. Cooperation Partners are entitled to participate in member meetings, but are not subject to membership fees and are not entitled to vote. They also can not be elected to the Board.

### § 6 Finances

1. The Association is financed in particular by membership fees, contributions, donations, grants, other contributions and its own income. The Association's funds may only be used for purposes in accordance with the Articles of Association. Members shall not receive any benefits from the funds of the Association. No person may be favored by expenditures, which are foreign to the purpose of the Association or by disproportionately high remunerations.

2. The members of the Association have no claim and no right to the assets of the Association.

3. The General Assembly is informed by the Board about the financial situation of the Association. This shall be done in the form of an annual financial statement for the past fiscal year and a budget plan for the coming year.

## § 7 Contributions

1. Every Full and Extraordinary Member is obliged to pay membership fees according to the valid membership fee regulations. The annual membership fee is to be paid within two weeks after receipt of the annual invoice. In case of joining after the annual invoicing cycle, the membership fee is to be paid pro rata temporis (n-twelfths) depending on the month of joining within two weeks after receipt of the declaration of admission.

2. The amount of the membership fees shall be decided by the General Assembly through membership fee regulation.

3. The Board can defer membership fees and in justified cases reduce or waive them.

### § 8 Organs of the Association

Organs of the Association are

- 1. the General Assembly
- 2. the Board of Directors (or Board)
- 3. the Advisory Board



### § 9 The General Assembly

1. The highest organ of the Association is the General Assembly. It decides on fundamental and conceptual questions of the Association as well as on the principles of the Association's policy. Its tasks include in particular

- a. The acceptance of the annual report, the annual financial statement and the auditor's report
- b. The approval of the budget
- c. The election of the auditor
- d. The discharge of the Board of Directors
- e. The election of the Board of Directors (with the restrictions of §10)
- f. The adoption of the contribution regulations
- g. The appointment of Honorary Members
- h. Decisions on amendments to the statutes
- i. The dissolution of the Association

2. The ordinary General Assembly shall be convened by the Board of the Association as required, but at least once a year.

3. The invitation shall be made at least 14 days in advance in writing or by e-mail by the Board of Directors with notification of the provisionally set agenda to the member/e-mail address given in writing by the member of the Association as the last known address. Planned amendments to the Articles of Association shall be sent to the members with the invitation.

4. An extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at any time by resolution of the Board or at the request of at least 49% of the members, stating the reason(s). The agenda must be announced with the invitation.

5. Resolutions of the General Assembly shall require a simple majority of the members present and entitled to vote. For the admission of motions of urgency, motions of no confidence in the board, individual board members and the management, a three-quarters majority of the voting members present is required. In such cases, the General Assembly shall only have a quorum if at least 50 percent of all voting members are present. Only Full Members are entitled to vote. Members who abstain from voting are considered absent. In the event of a tie, the motion shall be deemed to be rejected.

6. Absent members can be represented. The representative must be in possession of a written power of attorney and must himself be a Full Member with voting rights. No representative is permitted to hold more than five votes. The circulation procedure is not permitted here.

7. The chairperson of the meeting determines the form of the vote, however, the vote must take place secretly on demand of the Board or one tenth of the present members.

8. The meeting of the members is not public. The Board may admit guests.

9. Minutes of the decisions of the General Assembly are to be signed by the respective chairperson of the meeting and then sent to each member.

10. The General Assembly appoints an auditor for a period of two years, who must not be a member of the Board. The auditor shall have the task of auditing the annual financial statements prepared by the Board of Directors and of ascertaining that the funds have been used in accordance with the Articles of



Association and tax regulations. A report is to be prepared on the audit, which is to be presented to the General Assembly by the Board or the auditor.

## § 10 The Board of Directors

1. The Board consists of at least three Full Members of the Association

- a. the Chairperson
- b. the First Deputy Chairperson
- c. the Second Deputy Chairperson

In addition, the Board has the option by way of co-optation to appoint the Managing Director to the Board as an additional board member for the duration of the joint term of office of the Board (or until a new Board member is elected). The appointment must be unanimous. If a new member of the Board is elected, a new resolution on co-optation is required. Upon termination of the appointment as Managing Director, the Managing Director's office on the Board shall automatically end.

2. The Board within the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code (BGB) shall consist of the Chairperson, the First Deputy Chairperson and the Second Deputy Chairperson.

3. Up to three further members of the Board may belong to the extended Board, who shall assume one or more areas of responsibility. If co-opted, the Managing Director appointed as a member of the Board shall also be a member of the extended Board.

4. The members of the Board shall serve in an honorary capacity.

5. The Board may receive remuneration for its activities on behalf of the Association; the amount of the remuneration shall be determined by the Board.

6. The members of the Board can work on the basis of an employment relationship. The General Assembly is responsible for the conclusion, amendments and termination of the contract. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, the General Assembly may authorize a member of the full Board to conclude the contract with the Board member concerned.

7. The composition of the Board shall be regulated separately in the rules of procedure.

8. Members of the Board must be members of China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V. or represent a member of China Netzwerk Baden-Württemberg e.V. at the same time. Prior to regular elections, nominations or applications must be submitted to the incumbent Board with meaningful documents in time so that they can be brought to the attention of the members together with the invitation and agenda of the General Assembly. The chairperson of the meeting is proposed by the Board and presented to the members at the beginning of the meeting. They are considered to be proposed if they are not rejected by the majority. An alternative chairperson of the meeting must be proposed.

9. The members of the Board are elected by the General Assembly for a period of 3 years. After expiration of the term, the Board Members remain in office until their successors take office. If a Board Member resigns before the end of his term, the Board is entitled to appoint a temporary Board Member. Board Members appointed in this way shall remain in office until the next General Assembly.

10. The Board is responsible for the work of the Association and is responsible for matters that are not assigned to the General Assembly. For the fulfillment of its tasks, the Board can and should make an

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internal division of departments. Details are laid down in the rules of procedure of the Association. The tasks of the Board include in particular:

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- a. The convening of the General Assembly
- b. The execution of the resolutions of the General Assembly
- c. The presentation of the budget and the annual accounts for each fiscal year
- d. The presentation of the annual report
- e. The conclusion and termination of service and employment contracts as well as other contracts necessary for the business of the Association (rental and lease contracts, leasing contracts, etc.)
- f. Adoption of resolutions on the admission and exclusion of members
- g. Establishment and termination of subdivisions of the Association and the appointment of their heads.

h. Appointment of expert spokespersons and ambassadors of the Association.
11. The Board may adopt rules of procedure and may distribute special tasks among its members or appoint Working Groups to deal with or prepare them. In its allocation of business, the Board shall nominate by name one member from among its members who shall be responsible for treasury management.

12. The Board may, after its election, delegate certain tasks to individual members of the Board and/or delegate them to the management of the Association in accordance with § 13. The latter applies in particular with regard to the management, the execution of current business as well as the implementation of individual projects. The Board can determine further details for itself and the management through business instruction.

13. The Board decides with simple majority of votes. The Board has a quorum if two of the three members are present, and if the Managing Director is a member of the Board, if three of the four members are present. In the event of a tie, the motion shall be deemed rejected. Resolutions of the Board may also be passed by written circulation and by e-mail or by telephone, videophone and videoconferencing.

14. The resolutions of the Board shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

15. The Board can found and supervise a support group of the Association. The group of supporters of the Association shall bring together persons and companies who are willing to support the purposes of the Association.

### § 11 The Advisory Board

1. The Association can establish an Advisory Board to advise and support it if necessary. Members of the Association and external experts can be appointed as members of the Advisory Board. The composition, tasks, mode of operation and term of office of the Advisory Board shall be laid down in rules of procedure.

2. The members of the Advisory Board are appointed by the Board of Directors.

### § 12 Working Groups

In addition to the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board, the substantive work of the Association may take place in Working Groups. The Board can bring topics to the Working Groups for processing. The Working Groups meet as needed and report to the Board and the General Assembly. Non-members of the Association can be invited for support. Each Working Group has a



responsible spokesperson. These are proposed by the Working Group and must be confirmed by the Board.

## § 13 Management

1. The Association maintains an office for the management of the current business, which can be occupied with a Managing Director and the necessary number of employees.

2. The Managing Director is in principle not a member of the Board and not an organ of the Association, but takes part in meetings of the Board. However, the Managing Director may be appointed by the Board, but is not entitled to vote on decisions concerning the person of the Managing Director.

3. The Managing Director shall be paid an appropriate remuneration. The duties shall be regulated in a separate contract. The Managing Director shall conduct the business in accordance with the guidelines and instructions of the Board and shall represent the association within the scope of the authorization granted to her in accordance with § 30 BGB (German Civil Code).

## § 14 Amendments to the Articles of Association

1. Amendments to the Articles of Association shall require a three-quarters majority of the voting members present; in such cases, the General Assembly shall only have a quorum if at least 50 percent of all voting members are present or represented. In the event of an inability to pass a resolution due to a lack of sufficient voting members present, a new General Assembly shall be convened within a period of 4 weeks. This meeting has a quorum regardless of the number of participating members with voting rights. This will be expressly pointed out in the invitation.

2. Should changes to the statutes be necessary due to objections from the registry court or the tax office, the Board is authorized to make the necessary changes to the statutes.

## § 15 Dissolution of the Association

1. The dissolution of the Association can only be decided by resolution in a General Assembly convened for this purpose with a majority of nine tenths of the votes cast. The General Assembly shall only have a quorum for the dissolution of the Association if at least three quarters of the voting members are present or represented. The circulation procedure is permitted. In the event of an inability to pass a resolution due to a lack of sufficient participating members with voting rights, a new General Assembly shall be convened within a period of 4 weeks. This meeting shall have a quorum irrespective of the number of participating members with voting rights. This shall be expressly pointed out in the invitation.

2. In the event of the dissolution of the Association or in the event of the discontinuation of taxprivileged purposes, the assets of the Association shall be transferred to a legal entity under public law or to another tax-privileged corporation for the purpose of supporting a project for the promotion of education - preferably in a partner province of Baden-Württemberg in China.

3. Decisions on the future use of the assets may only be carried out and executed after the express consent of the tax office.

4. The members of the Association have no claim and no right to the assets of the Association to be used according to the above provisions in case of dissolution of the Association.

5. The members of the Board who are in office and authorized to represent the Association shall be appointed as liquidators, unless the General Assembly decides otherwise.



#### § 16 Place of Jurisdiction

The place of performance and jurisdiction shall be the registered office of the Association.

#### § 17 Data Protection Regulations

1. The Association shall, with the consent of its members, store their personal data and information about personal circumstances, process this data electronically and use it to fulfill the tasks of the Association. This is done in compliance with and in accordance with the existing data protection regulations and principles and in order to fulfill its statutory purposes and the associated tasks. The following data will - exclusively - be stored, processed or transmitted for the fulfillment of the Association's purpose:

- Name of the company / organization
- Name, first name
- Address and communication data (telephone, fax, mobile phone connection, e-mail address) especially for active members and functionaries
- Function in the Association
- Date of entry into the Association

Further data will not be collected or only with the express, additional consent of the person concerned.

2. For the contribution system, the bank details of the person concerned (IBAN, BIC) will also be stored.

3. All personal and bank data will be protected by appropriate technical and organizational measures from knowledge and access by third parties.

4. The registration of members and personal data of the same may also be passed on by the association to the relevant credit institution in order to fulfill the purpose of the Association. The Association shall ensure that the data is used by the credit institution exclusively for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's tasks and that the data is deleted immediately after the purpose has been achieved, the member concerned has resigned or objections have been raised, and that the member concerned is informed of the deletion immediately upon request after the membership has ended. In addition, the data of retired/deceased members will be archived at the end of the membership and further protected against unauthorized use. As far as required by law, the data of members of the Association will be stored in a document-proof manner until the expiry of the retention periods required by tax law or accounting and will be destroyed after the expiry of the retention period.

5. The Association informs its members and the public regularly via its homepage about the data protection-related protection of the personal data of the Association and the compliance with the specified legal requirements in this regard.

6. Every member has the unrestricted right, which can be exercised at any time, to request information about the personal data stored about him/her and to request the authorization, deletion and blocking of individual personal data.

The statutes were unanimously adopted by all founding members at the founding meeting on July 24, 2020 and amended at the Board Meeting on October 12, 2020.

