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C H A R T E R

of the All-Russian Public Organisation of Disabled
People All Russia Association of the Blind of the
Order of the Red Banner of Labour

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Section I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. General Information about the All Russia Association of the Blind

The All-Russian Public Organisation of Disabled People All Russia Association of the Blind of the Order of the Red Banner of Labour (hereinafter referred to as the All Russia Association of the Blind) is a Russian public association based on voluntary membership of the citizens of the Russian Federation being visually impaired people, their legal representatives and other citizens that actively participate in the life of the organisation, established for the protection of rights and interests of visually impaired people, their social assistance, rehabilitation, habilitation, social integration and provision of equal opportunities with other people.

Full name of the organisation: The All-Russian Public Organisation of Disabled People All Russia Association of the Blind of the Order of the Red Banner of Labour.

Abbreviated name of the organisation: VOS.

The All Russia Association of the Blind acts on the whole territory of the Russian Federation in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, the Federal Law as of 12/01/1996 No. 7-Φ3 "On Non-Profit Organisations", Federal Law as of 19/05/1995 No. 82-Φ3 "On Public Associations", Federal Law as of 24/11/1995 No. 181-Φ3 "On Social Protection of the Disabled People in the Russian Federation", other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation and the provisions of this Charter.

As of the moment of its state registration as a legal entity, the All Russia Association of the Blind has its independent assets and shall be liable under its obligations therewith, can acquire and exercise property and personal non-property rights on its behalf, bear liability, act as a complainant or a defendant in the courts of general jurisdiction, commercial and arbitration courts.

As of the moment of its state registration, the All Russia Association of the Blind obtains the rights and obligations of a legal entity. The All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to open current, currency and other types of bank accounts in the Russian Federation and abroad under the established procedure.

The All Russia Association of the Blind has an independent balance sheet, a round seal with its full name in Russian language, stamps and letterheads with its name.

The All Russia Association of the Blind establishes its own public rewards, titles of honour, honourable distinctions, commendations for the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the legal entities that actively participate in the life of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The All Russia Association of the Blind shall not be liable under the obligations of its members. The members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall not be liable under the obligations of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The All Russia Association of the Blind shall not be liable under the obligations of the government and governmental bodies, nor shall the government and the governmental bodies be liable under the obligations of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The All Russia Association of the Blind shall be liable under its obligations with such of its assets that can be seized in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation. The regional departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be liable under their obligations with the assets that are owned by them.

The requirements of this Charter and the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be binding for all members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind, organisations and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The institutional administrative body of the All Russia Association of the Blind is located in the city of Moscow, the Russian Federation.

Article 2. Symbols of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The All Russia Association of the Blind has its symbols (anthem, flag, emblem) as required by the current legislation.

The text of the anthem of the All Russia Association of the Blind is enclosed in the Appendix No. 1 hereto.

The flag of the All Russia Association of the Blind constitutes a rectangular cloth of three horizontal stripes: the higher one is yellow (pantone 355 (C-94%, M-0%, Y-100%, K-0%)) 1/6, the middle one is white (white 100 2/3), and the lower one is green (pantone 109 (C-0%, M-10%, Y-100%, K-0%)) 1/6. The emblem of the All Russia Association of the Blind is located in the centre of the flag on the white stripe. The ratio between the width and the length of the flag is 2:3 (Appendix No. 2).

The emblem of the All Russia Association of the Blind is an official symbol of said organisation and consists of three parts, which are overlaid.

In front of the emblem, there is an inscription: **ВСЕРОССИЙСКОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО СЛЕПЫХ** (ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND) (italicised) written with black large capital letters (black 100%), divided into three lines, one word in each. The inscription is located in the lower right corner of the symbol and occupies 1/3 of the emblem. In the centre of the emblem there is an image of a contour of a human eye with a pupil. The contour of the human eye and pupil looks like an ellipse with arrow-headed right and left edges, inside which there is a circle symbolising a human pupil. The circle is located in the centre of the ellipse and is slightly shifted toward its upper part, where the contours of the figures merge. This symbol has a bold green contour (pantone 355 (C-94%, M-0%, Y-100%, K-0%)) and occupies 1/3 of the drawing. The lower right corner of the image (1/4 of the eye image) is covered by the overlaid inscription "Всероссийское общество слепых" (All Russia

Association of the Blind) (black 100%). On the background of the eye in the image there is a yellow (pantone 109 (C-0%, M-10%, Y-100%, K-0%)) drawing of the Sun in the form of a circle, half-rising behind the image of the eye contour, radiating sixteen rays of the same color, which occupies 1/5 of the whole image in the upper left corner of the emblem (Appendix No. 3).

The All Russia Association of the Blind has the exclusive right to use its name and symbols in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

The regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind are entitled to use the name and the symbols for statutory purposes, except for cession of the right to use them to third parties.

Article 3. Principles of the All Russia Association of the Blind

Activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind are based on the following principles:

3.1. Humanism and mercy, respect of personal dignity and opinion of each member of the All Russia Association of the Blind, non-discrimination of the disabled on the basis of age, gender, ethnicity, religion, political views and disability.

3.2. Voluntary participation, equality of rights, self-administration, legitimacy and publicity, appointment by election of all administrative and lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, collectivity in their work, regular reporting before the superior administrative bodies and members of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Necessity to implement the decisions of superior administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind within their competence and observation of the provisions of this Charter and the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

3.3. Freedom to establish its internal structure, goals, forms and methods of its activities.

3.4. Independence of functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind in their activities in accordance with the provisions of this Charter and the regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

3.5. Community of interest of members of the All Russia Association of the Blind and their personal contribution to the activities aimed at implementation of the goals and objectives provided for by this Charter.

Section II. SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

Article 4. Scope of Activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The scope of activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the social relations occurring in connection with the implementation by the citizens of the Russian Federation being visually impaired people of their rights to association for protection of their interests and legal rights regarding rehabilitation, habilitation, employment,

organisation and holding of social, cultural, health, fitness and other events aimed at the provision of equal opportunities with other citizens of the Russian Federation.

Article 5. Goals of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The main goals of the All Russia Association of the Blind are as follows:

5.1. Consolidation of visually impaired people for the comprehensive consideration and solution of the matters regarding their rights and legal interests, holding the events aimed at rehabilitation, habilitation and social integration of visually impaired people into the contemporary society.

5.2. Promotion of implementation of the legal rights and freedoms of visually impaired people guaranteed by the Constitution of the Russian Federation, federal laws, regulatory legal instruments and the international law standards.

5.3. Participation in solving the matters considered by the governmental authorities regarding the rights and interests of visually impaired people.

5.4. Assistance to visually impaired people, including participation in the implementation of public powers in the field of medical, occupational and social rehabilitation, habilitation and integration of visually impaired people, their employment and occupation, education, culture and sports.

5.5. Cooperation with the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the legislative (representative) public authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation for participation in law-making, improvement of regulatory legal instruments concerning the rights and legal interests of visually impaired people and their public associations.

Article 6. Objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind

For the achievement of the above aims, the All Russia Association of the Blind shall solve the following tasks:

6.1. Identify visually impaired people and integrate them as members of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Engage sighted people in the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the implementation of the main statutory objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

6.2. Participate in events aimed at social protection and integration of visually impaired people into the society. Assist to the governmental authorities of the Russian Federation and constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local government authorities in the creation of the required conditions for visually impaired people for the implementation of their civil, social and economic rights and opportunities.

6.3. Participate in forming an accessible living environment and providing unhindered access of visually impaired people to information, objects of social, cultural, transport and engineering infrastructure, availability of public and municipal services.

6.4. Participate in the development and implementation of projects of legislative and other regulatory legal instruments regarding the problems of disabled people,

rehabilitation, abilitation and social support of the disabled in cooperation with the federal governmental authorities, governmental authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local government authorities.

6.5. Assist in the implementation of the electoral rights and rights to participate in referendums of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

6.6. Cooperate with the federal institutions for medical and social expertise, assist in medical, occupational and social rehabilitation and habilitation of visually impaired people, assist in the development and implementation of individual programmes for rehabilitation and habilitation of disabled people.

6.7. Cooperate with organisations in the healthcare system and other institutions in relation to the matters of improvement of the medical aid to visually impaired people and perform works on prophylaxis of blindness, preservation of the residual vision, as well as sense of touch, hearing and health of visually impaired people.

6.8. Perform publishing, advertising and other information activities in the Russian Federation and abroad.

6.9. Assist in the employment and occupation of visually impaired people at the open labour market in cooperation with the employment service authorities. Create workspaces and arrange employment of visually impaired people in business entities, organisations and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind, assist in their individual labour activities.

6.10. Assist in the occupational training and advanced training of members of the All Russia Association of the Blind being visually impaired people employed at functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind, organisations and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

6.11. Assist visually impaired people in teaching them reading and writing using the Braille alphabet, usage of computers and contemporary information and digital technologies.

6.12. Cooperate with educational institutions teaching visually impaired people, including blind and partially sighted children.

6.13. Organise work with the families with visually impaired people, the youth and veterans of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

6.14. Participate in the creation of child and youth associations, assist families with visually impaired children or parents, assist in family rehabilitation, habilitation and social integration for the purpose of assistance in rehabilitation, habilitation and career counselling.

6.15. Participate in the development, creation and adjustment of technical means for rehabilitation, special aids, goods, services and software designed to expand the scope of opportunities of visually impaired people and assist in their social integration.

6.16. Organise and hold events aimed at creating the conditions for personal development and meeting non-material demands of visually impaired people, assist in their moral and aesthetic education.

6.17. Perform rehabilitation and habilitation of visually impaired people, hold social, cultural, health, fitness and sport events, develop social tourism in cooperation with the governmental authorities of the Russian Federation, governmental authorities of constituent entities of the Russian Federation, and local government authorities.

6.18. Organise and perform business and other profit-making activities, the results whereof are aimed at the achievement of the goals and implementation of the objectives provided for by this Charter.

6.19. Assist in the organisation and performance of scientific research in the problems of visually impaired people.

6.20. Cooperate and interact with other public associations of the Russian Federation, foreign institutions, the united World and European Blind Union, other international institutions of disabled people for the purpose of sharing experience, organising and holding events aimed at protection of the rights and legal interests of disabled people, their social support and solving the problems of associations for the disabled. Support charity and volunteer activities.

6.21. Assist in the availability of social services for visually impaired people via the established institutions.

6.22. Assist in legal education of visually impaired people and provide counselling services to them if required.

Section III. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

Article 7. Rights of the All Russia Association of the Blind

For the implementation of the statutory goals and objectives, the All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to:

7.1. Make the information about the All Russia Association of the Blind publicly available, promote its activities and the achievements of visually impaired people.

7.2. Participate in the development of solutions of the federal and regional governmental authorities of the Russian Federation and local government authorities regarding the matters concerning the interests of visually impaired people, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

7.3. Advance initiatives and make proposals to the governmental authorities and local government authorities regarding various matters concerning the life and activities of visually impaired people.

7.4. Participate in election campaigns and referendums in accordance with the federal laws and the laws of constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

7.5. Represent and protect its rights and the legal interests of visually impaired people and other members of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the governmental authorities of the Russian Federation, constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local government authorities, judicial authorities and other institutions.

7.6. Establish various institutions (funds, unions, associations, etc.) independently and jointly with other non-profit institutions, enter other public associations and non-profit institutions and interact with the existing ones.

7.7. Establish mass media, engage in publishing activities, and develop electronic communication media.

7.8. Organise the work to attract budgetary funds and voluntary donations.

7.9. Receive financial and other support provided for the solution of problems of visually impaired people, including organisation, preparation and holding of events aimed at implementation of the goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, including support from the federal budget in the form of government grants and from non-budgetary sources.

7.10. Enter international public associations, acquire rights and fulfil obligations corresponding to the status of said international public associations.

7.11. Support direct international contacts and relations, conclude agreements with foreign non-profit nongovernmental associations, various funds and other institutions.

7.12. Establish its own institutions, departments or branches and representative bodies in foreign countries on the basis of the generally recognised international law principles and standards, international agreements of the Russian Federation and the legislation of these countries.

7.13. Research goods, works and services designated for social, medical and occupational rehabilitation and habilitation of visually impaired people and issue conclusions of their suitability together with specialists of medical, training, cultural and educational, scientific and research institutions and representatives of social protection authorities.

7.14. Engage in business and other profit-making activities for the fulfilment of the statutory objectives insofar as it is required for the achievement of the goals of the All Russia Association of the Blind, corresponding with the established goals, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

7.15. Establish specialised functional educational institutions for carrying out educational activities, as well as other business entities and commercial institutions, in accordance with the civil legislation.

7.16. Fully implement other rights provided for by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Article 8. Obligations of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The All Russia Association of the Blind is obliged to:

8.1. Observe the legislation of the Russian Federation, the generally recognised international law principles and standards concerning the field of activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, as well as the standards and provisions provided for by this Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

8.2. Perform accounting and statistics reporting pursuant to the procedure established by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

8.3. Publish a report on the use of its assets on the annual basis and make it publicly accessible.

8.4. Inform the authority that has made a decision on state registration of the All Russia Association of the Blind of the continuation of its activities with specification of the actual location of the institutional administrative body of the All Russia Association of the Blind, its name and the data of the managers of the All Russia Association of the Blind included in the Unified State Register of Legal Entities, on the annual basis.

8.5. Grant access to representatives of the public association state registration authority to events held by the public association.

8.6. Assist representatives of the public association state registration authority in becoming acquainted with the activities of the public association in connection with the achievement of the statutory goals and observation of the legislation of the Russian Federation.

8.7. Inform the federal state registration authority of the volume of funds and other assets received from foreign sources, of the purposes for which these funds are spent, and of the purposes of use of other assets, as well as their actual expenditure and use, under the form and within the terms established by the authorised federal executive authority.

8.8. Submit the corresponding documents of the superior bodies and officials of the All Russia Association of the Blind, as well as the annual and quarterly reports on its activities in the volume in which they are provided to the tax authorities, at the request of the authority that has made a decision on state registration of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

8.9. Fulfil other obligations in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation, the international law standards and the provisions of this Charter.

Section IV. STRUCTURE OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

Article 9. General Provisions on the Structure of the All Russia Association of the Blind

9.1. In the territorial scope of activities, the All Russia Association of the Blind is an All-Russian public organisation acting on the whole territory of the Russian Federation.

9.2. The organisational structure of the All Russia Association of the Blind is based on the territorial principle. The structure of the All Russia Association of the Blind consists of regional and local departments (organisations) carrying out their activities in more than half of all constituent entities of the Russian Federation in accordance with the goals and objectives established by the provisions of this Charter.

9.3. Regional and local departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind are established, reorganised and wound up on the basis of decisions of conferences, general meetings, under the written consent of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, containing the information on the decision made, the recommendations on forming an organising committee with the powers to prepare the required documents and perform state registration.

Establishment of a new functional unit of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be initiated by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, regional departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and from visually impaired individuals by means of application to the Central Board.

9.4. Regional and local departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind are entitled to independently make decisions on their reorganisation and winding up.

9.5. Regional and local departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall act on the basis of this Charter.

9.6. In their activities, the regional and local departments (organisations) shall observe the effective legislation of the Russian Federation, the provisions of this Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, implement the decrees of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the orders and decrees of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind ratified within their competence, and fulfil the obligations established by the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Article 10. Regional Departments (Organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind

10.1. Regional Department (Organisation) (hereinafter referred to as Regional Department) is a functional unit of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which implements the goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind provided for by this Charter on the territory of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

10.2. Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be registered under the procedure established by the law and shall carry out their activities within one constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

10.3. Regional Departments have the following structure of administrative bodies:

conference of the Regional Department, board of the Regional Department, chairman of the Regional Department. The functions of control in a Regional Department shall be carried out by the Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department.

10.4. For the performance of the statutory activities, temporary or permanent committees, commissions, working groups and other bodies acting on the basis of the provisions approved by the board of the Regional Department can be established within the Regional Department.

10.5. The Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall coordinate the activities of the local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind established within the corresponding constituent entity of the Russian Federation, in accordance with the territorial principle.

10.6. Conference of a Regional Department (Organisation)

10.6.1. The superior administrative body of a Regional Department is the Conference of the Regional Department.

10.6.2. The Conference of a Regional Department shall be convened by the board of the Regional Department as required, but at least once every five years.

10.6.3. The Conference of a Regional Department can be convened under the decision of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the board of the Regional Department, or under the written request of more than half of the members of the Regional Department.

10.6.4. Decision on convocation of the Conference of the Regional Department shall be made not later than two months prior to the date of the Conference of the Regional Department. The decision on convocation of the Conference of the Regional Department shall include the date and place of the conference and the representation quota. The project of the agenda for the Conference of the Regional Department shall be declared not later than one month prior to the date of the Conference of the Regional Department.

10.6.5. The Conference of the Regional Department is duly constituted if more than half of the delegates elected from local departments (organisations) are registered and participate in its work.

10.6.6. The procedure and the representation quota at the Conference of the Regional Department shall be determined by the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the written recommendations of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The delegates of the Conference of the Regional Department are elected by general

meetings (conferences) of local departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind. In addition to the approved representation quota, the current chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the chairman of the Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department shall be the delegates of the conference in accordance with their positions.

10.6.7. An extraordinary conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be convened under the decision of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or under the written request of more than half of the members of the corresponding Regional Department. An extraordinary conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is duly constituted if more than half of the elected delegates participate in its work.

10.6.8. Any decision of the conference of the Regional Department that contravenes the effective legislation, this Charter or the decisions of the superior bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind, can be cancelled by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.6.9. The conference of the Regional Department is entitled to consider any matters regarding the activities of the Regional Department.

10.6.10. The exclusive competence of the Conference of the Regional Department includes the following:

- 1) hearing of the reports of the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, assessing their work;
- 2) determination of the priorities in the activities of the Regional Department, the principles of forming and use of its assets;
- 3) determination of the procedure for the admission of members of the Regional Department and termination of membership;
- 4) making decisions on establishment of the Regional Department, its reorganisation and liquidation, appointment of the winding up committee (winding up agent) and approval of the winding up balance sheet under the written consent of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 5) election and early termination of the powers of the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 6) election and early termination of the powers of members of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 7) election and early termination of the powers of the chairman and members of the Board of the Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The Conference of the Regional Department is also entitled to consider the matter of election of the delegates for the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind from the delegates at the conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The decisions of the Conference of the Regional Department are deemed accepted, if a quorum is present, if the majority of the elected delegates participating in the work of the conference of the Regional Department have voted for them, with the exception of the decisions on the matters constituting the exclusive competence of the Conference of the Regional Department, provided for by the p. 10.6.10 of this Charter. The form and procedure of voting shall be determined by the conference of the Regional Department.

The decisions of the Conference of the Regional Department constituting its exclusive competence, provided for by p. 10.6.10 of this Charter, are deemed accepted if at least 2/3 of the elected delegates participating in the work of the Conference of the Regional Department have voted for them, if a quorum is present.

The decisions of the Conference of the Regional Department can be made without a meeting by absentee voting (by polling). The decision on holding an absentee vote can be made by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Board of the Regional Department. The procedure for holding an absentee vote and executing the relevant documents shall be determined by the provisions of the effective legislation and the regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.6.11. The meetings of the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be held remotely via electronic or other technical means, in case any methods for accurate identification of the person participating in the meeting, its participation in discussion under the agenda and in voting are used.

10.6.12. The decisions of the Conference of a Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be made without a meeting (by absentee voting) by means of sending, inter alia via electronic or other technical means, the documents containing the information on the vote by not less than fifty per cent of the total number of delegates of the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Herewith, the decision shall be deemed accepted if the majority of the delegates that have sent these documents have voted for it. The decisions constituting the exclusive competence of the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be made in the form of absentee voting.

It is also possible to combine voting at a meeting with absentee voting.

Should there be several questions on the agenda of the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, a separate decision shall be made under each of them.

Holding of the meeting of the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the results of the voting at the meeting, as well as the results of the absentee voting, shall be confirmed by the minutes. The minutes shall be executed in writing, inter alia by means of electronic or other technical means, and shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting and the secretary of the meeting if a meeting was held, or by the persons who have calculated the votes or recorded the results of such calculation if the decision was made through absentee voting.

10.7. Board of a Regional Department

10.7.1 The institutional collegial administrative body of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, reporting to the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, is the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which governs the activities of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind within the period between the Conferences of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. A chairman of the meeting shall be elected from the Board of the Regional Department for holding the meetings of the Board of the Regional Department.

10.7.2. The Board of the Regional Department shall be elected by the Conference of the Regional Department for the term of five years.

The members of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind who have been prematurely elected at the extraordinary Conference of the Regional Department shall be elected for the term of effect of the powers of the current Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.7.3. The meetings of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be held as required, but at least once every two months. An extraordinary meeting of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be convened at the instance of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department, or at the request of more than half of the members of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.7.4. For preparation of the solutions regarding different aspects of activity of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, voluntary councils and commissions are created, which carry out their activities on the basis of the Provision on Councils and Commissions of the Regional Department.

10.7.5. The competence of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind includes the following:

1) participation in the development and implementation of legislative and other regulatory instruments of constituent entities of the Russian Federation affecting the interests of visually impaired people and organisations of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

2) regular notification of the members of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind of the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Regional Department, and the use of its assets;

3) review of the budget of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, preparation of the report on its implementation;

4) consideration of the matter of the procedure and the volume of funding of local departments (organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

5) adoption of decrees, approval of provisions, instructions and other local regulatory instruments of the Regional Department within its powers;

6) organisation of work of Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind regarding the implementation of the objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the constituent entity of the Russian Federation in accordance with this Charter, the Provision on the Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

7) election of the deputy chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind as advised by the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) interaction with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind regarding the matter of establishment and winding up of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

9) suspension of powers of members of the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind until the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and making decisions in the following cases:

- failure to observe this Charter or the solutions of the superior administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind by its member;

- actions discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind or inflicting material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind;

10) consideration of the status of rehabilitation and habilitation work, the matters of employment of visually impaired people, their occupation, social and cultural work, health and fitness activities and sports, work with the deaf-blind and other aspects of activity of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the corresponding constituent entity of the Russian Federation and determination of the measures for their improvement;

11) consideration of the state of affairs in the local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Determination of the measures for improvement of their work;

12) application before the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind on national award recommendation of members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, assignment of honorary titles of the Russian Federation to the members and rewarding with the marks of distinction of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

13) application before the governmental authorities of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation and local government authorities in relation to rewarding of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind with regional and municipal rewards;

14) application before the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind on rewarding of the individuals and legal entites not being members of the All Russia Association of the Blind that assist in the implementation of the objectives of

the All Russia Association of the Blind with rewards of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

15) approval of provisions on councils and the commissions established under the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, approval of their composition as advised by the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Consideration of reports on the activities of councils and commissions;

16) approval of the annual reports and accounting statements of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

17) control over the sole executive body of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

18) approval of an audit company or an individual auditor for the Regional Department.

10.7.6. The meeting of the Board of the Regional Department is duly constituted for more than half of the elected members of the Regional Department participate in its work.

10.7.7. The decisions of the Board of the Regional Department are deemed accepted if the majority of the members of the Board of the Regional Department from the elected members of the Board of the Regional Department present at the meeting vote for them, if a quorum is present. The decisions of the Board of the Regional Department shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting.

10.8. Chairman of a Regional Department

10.8.1. The Chairman of a Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the sole executive body of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which provides observation of the legislation of the Russian Federation, this Charter, the Provisions of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, ensures fulfilment of the decrees of the Congresses of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Conferences of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.8.2. The Chairman of a Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is elected from the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind by the Conference of the Regional Department for the term of five years.

10.8.3. The Chairman of a Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind:

1) constitutes a person acting on behalf of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind without a power of attorney and represents the interests of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the constituent entity of the Russian Federation;

2) organises the work on the performance of the statutory activities of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind aimed at improvement of social protection of visually impaired people and provision of their equal opportunities;

3) makes proposals to the conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity and the candidate members of the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

4) proposes the candidates for the election of the deputy chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind to the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

5) makes proposals to the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity and the candidate members of councils and commissions established under the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) proposes the candidates for the election of the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind to the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Makes proposals to the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to suspension of powers of the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. In case of suspension of powers of the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, appoints one of the members of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind to act on its behalf until the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department;

7) opens current accounts and other accounts, issues powers of attorney within its powers;

8) interacts with the duly authorised representative (coordinator) of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the federal district of the Russian Federation regarding the matters of organisation and holding of events aimed at the implementation of the goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the constituent entity of the Russian Federation;

9) forms the executive office of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind under the contractual basis, in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation for the period of its powers within the limits of the budget of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

10) issues orders and decrees, gives instructions in relation to the matters, included in its competence;

11) represents the interests of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind with the governmental, public, international and other institutions and individuals;

12) ensures compliance of the activities of the Regional Department with the requirements of this Charter and the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.8.4. The powers of the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be terminated in case of expiry of the term of its powers, its expulsion from the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, voluntary resignation due to viable reasons, and the corresponding decision being made by the extraordinary conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the premature expiration of the powers of the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the cases when its decisions and activities are wrongful and contravene the statutory goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, severely violate the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, discredit the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind or inflict substantial material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.8.5. For the election of the new chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall convene an extraordinary conference pursuant to the procedure and within the terms determined by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, in accordance with the instruction on holding the election of the institutional administrative, sole executive and lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission is the lay auditors authority of the Regional Department.

10.9.1. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission executes control in the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind over the observation of the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, fulfilment of the decisions of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, financial and business activities of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.2. Comprehensive and local inspections of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be performed as required, but at least once a year in accordance with the scheduled plan agreed upon with the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.3. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be elected by the Conference of the Regional Department for the term of five years. The number of members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be determined by the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind who have been prematurely elected at the extraordinary Conference of the Regional Department shall be elected for the term of effect of the

powers of the current Board of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The powers of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be preserved until the election of the new members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission by the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.4. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission is accountable to the Conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.5. In its activities, the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be governed by the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the provisions on lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.6. Persons acting as sole executive and institutional collegial administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units, as well as regular members of the executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, cannot be members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission.

10.9.7. In case of violation by a member of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission of the effective legislation, the provisions of this Charter, its non-fulfilment of the decisions of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, connected with non-fulfilment of the entrusted

powers provided for by the provision on lay auditors authorities, performance of actions discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind or any other actions tarnishing the reputation and the authority of the All Russia Association of the Blind and inflicting material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind, the powers of the member of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be suspended in accordance with the decision of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission until the conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is convened and makes a decision on this matter.

10.9.8. Management over the activities of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall be carried out by its chairman elected by the Conference of the Regional Department for the term of five years.

10.9.9. The chairman of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission:

- 1) manages over the activities of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission;
- 2) approves the plan of lay auditing measures taken by the Regional Lay Auditors Commission;
- 3) signs the decisions and other documents of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission;
- 4) represents the Regional Lay Auditors Commission in all bodies and functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

10.9.10. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission is duly constituted if more than half of its members are present at the meeting. The decisions are made by open voting by a majority vote of the members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission present at the meeting, if a quorum is present.

10.9.11. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission is entitled to make decisions with the claim to convene the conference of the Regional Department.

10.9.12. When exercising their powers, members of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission are entitled to obtain any information and explanations from the Chairman of the Regional Department and the Board of the Regional Department, the members of the Board and the employees of the Executive Office of the Regional Department in relation to the matters connected with the financial and business activities of the Regional Department.

10.9.13. For the qualified assistance in the inspection, the Regional Lay Auditors Commission shall involve the required specialists.

10.9.14. Audit of the financial and business activities of the Regional Department shall be held as required, but at least once a year.

10.9.15. The Regional Lay Auditors Commission is accountable for its activities to the conference of the Regional Department.

10.9.16. The powers of a member of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission can be prematurely terminated in the following cases:

- 1) termination of membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 2) voluntary resignation;
- 3) a decision made by the conference of the Regional Department on premature termination of the powers of the member of the Regional Lay Auditors Commission, in the event that this member's activities are found to contravene the effective legislation, this Charter, violate the requirements of the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and inflict damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.
- 4) withdrawal from the activities of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 5) death or impossibility to fulfil its duties.

Article 11. Local Departments (Organisations) of the All Russia Association of the Blind

11.1. Local Department (Organisation) (hereinafter referred to as Local Department) is a functional unit of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which carries out its activities on the basis of this Charter and the Provision on the Local Department, is territorially subordinated to the corresponding Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and implements the goals and objectives provided for by this Charter on the territory of the corresponding municipal unit.

11.2. Only one Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be established within one municipal unit with local government authorities, provided that not less than 15 members of the All Russia Association of the Blind are present.

11.3. Local Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind are unincorporated, with the exception of local departments that carry out their activities on the territory of cities with federal status.

11.4. The decision on establishment of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the form of a legal entity in the cities with federal status shall be made by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.5. The structure of the administrative bodies of the Local Department consists of the following: the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department, the Bureau of the Local Department, and the Chairman of the Local Department.

11.6. The superior administrative body of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind with 100 members or less is the General Meeting. In Local Departments with over 100 members, the superior administrative body is the Conference.

11.7. The general meeting (conference) of the Local Department

11.7.1. The superior administrative body of a Local Department is the General Meeting of Members (Conference) of the Local Department (referred to as the General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department).

11.7.2. The General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department shall be convened by the Bureau of the Local Department as required, but at least than once every two months.

11.7.3. To consider urgent matters, the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department may be convened at the instance of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind as agreed upon with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or at the written request of more than half of the members of the Local Department.

11.7.4. The decision on convocation of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department shall be made not later than a month prior to the date of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department. The decision on convocation of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department shall include the date and place of the conference and the representation quota. The project of the agenda for the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department shall be declared not later than 15 days prior to the meeting.

11.7.5. The general meeting of the Local Department is duly constituted if more than half of the members of the Local Department participate in it. The conference of the Local Department is deemed duly constituted if more than half of the elected delegates participate in the meeting.

The decisions of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department are made by the majority vote of the members (delegates), if a quorum is present. The decisions of the meeting (conference) of the Local Department constituting its exclusive competence, provided for by p. 11.7.10 hereof, are deemed accepted if not less than 2/3 of the members (delegates) present at the meeting have voted for them, if a quorum is present. The form and procedure of voting shall be determined by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department.

11.7.6. The procedure and the representation quota at the Conference of the Local Department shall be determined by the Bureau of the Local Department in accordance with the written recommendations of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind. In addition to the approved representation quota, the current chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the chairman of the Lay Auditors Commission of the Local Department shall be the delegates of the conference in accordance with their positions.

11.7.7. An extraordinary meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be convened at the instance of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind as agreed upon with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or at the request of more than half of the members of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. An extraordinary meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is duly constituted in case more than half of the elected delegates participate in said meeting.

11.7.8. The decisions of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department that contravene the effective legislation, the provisions of this Charter or the decisions of the superior bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be cancelled by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.7.9. The general meeting (conference) of a Local Department is entitled to consider any matters regarding the activities of the Local Department.

11.7.10. The exclusive competence of the conference of the General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department includes the following:

- 1) hearing of the reports of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the lay auditors commission, assessment of their work;
- 2) determination of the priorities in the activities of the Local Department, the principles of forming and use of its assets;
- 3) determination of the procedure for the admission of members of the Local Department and termination of membership;
- 4) making decisions on reorganisation and winding up of the Local Department as agreed upon with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 5) approval of an audit company or an individual auditor for the Local Department;

6) election and early termination of the powers of the Chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

7) election and early termination of the powers of members of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) election and early termination of the powers of the Chairman and the members of the Lay Auditors Commission of the Local Department.

The general meeting (conference) of the Local Department is also authorised to consider the matter of election of the delegates for the conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.7.11. The decisions of the meeting (conference) of the Local Department on the matters constituting its exclusive competence, provided for by p. 11.7.10 hereof, are deemed accepted if not less than 2/3 of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind (elected delegates) participating in the work of the General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department have voted for them, if a quorum is present.

11.7.12. Decisions of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be made without a meeting by absentee voting (by polling). The decision on holding an absentee vote can be made by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Board of the Regional Department and the Bureau of the Local Department. The procedure for holding an absentee vote and executing the relevant documents shall be determined by the provision on absentee voting approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.7.13. The meetings of the General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department can be held remotely via electronic or other technical means, in case any methods for accurate identification of the person participating in the meeting, its participation in discussion under the agenda and in voting are used.

The decisions of the Meeting (Conference) of a Local Department can be made without a meeting (by absentee voting) by means of sending, inter alia via electronic or other technical means, the documents containing the information on the vote by not less than fifty per cent of the total number of members (delegates) of the General Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department. Herewith, the decision shall be deemed accepted if the majority of the delegates that have sent these documents have voted for it. The decisions constituting exclusive competence of the Conference of the General Meeting (Conference) of a Local Department cannot be made in the form of absentee voting.

It is also possible to combine voting at a meeting with absentee voting.

Should there be several questions on the agenda of the General Meeting of the Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department, a separate decision shall be made under each of them.

Holding of the Meeting (Conference) of the Local Department and the results of the voting at the meeting, as well as the results of the absentee voting, shall be confirmed by the minutes. The minutes shall be executed in writing, inter alia by means of electronic or other technical means, and shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting and the secretary of the meeting if a meeting was held, or by the persons

who have calculated the votes or recorded the results of such calculation if the decision was made through absentee voting.

11.8. The Bureau of the Local Department

11.8.1. The institutional administrative body of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, elected by the general meetings (conferences) of the Local Department for the term of five years. For holding the meetings of the Bureau of the Local Department, the chairman of the meeting is elected from the members of the Bureau of the Local Department.

11.8.2. The Bureau of the Local Department shall organise the work of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and ensure implementation of the goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, provided for by this Charter, the decrees of the superior bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the general meetings (conferences) of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the period between general meetings.

The members of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind elected prematurely at the extraordinary general meeting (conference) are elected for the term of effect of the powers of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The meeting of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be convened as required, but at least once every two months.

11.8.3. The competence of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind includes the following:

1) participation in the development and implementation of legislative and other regulatory instruments of the municipal unit of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation that affect the interests of visually impaired people and organisations of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

2) regular notification of the members of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind of the activities of the Department and use of its assets;

3) agreement upon the matters regarding the procedure and volume of funding of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind with the board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

4) adoption of decrees, approval of provisions, instructions and other local regulatory instruments of the Regional Department within its powers;

5) organisation of work of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind regarding the implementation of the objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the territory of the municipal unit of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation in accordance with this Charter, the Provision on the Local

Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) election of the deputy chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind as advised by the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

7) agreement upon the matter of reorganisation and winding up of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind with making a further decision by the general meeting (conference) with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) suspension of powers of members of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and making decisions in the following cases:

- failure to observe this Charter or the solutions of the superior administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind by the member of the Bureau of the Local Department;

- the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind performing actions violating the effective legislation, discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind or other actions tarnishing the reputation of the All Russia Association of the Blind and inflicting material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind;

9) consideration of the status of rehabilitation and habilitation work, the matters of employment of visually impaired people, their occupation, social and cultural work, health and fitness activities and sports, work with the deaf-blind, and other aspects of activity of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and determination of the measures for their improvement;

10) application before the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind on national award recommendation of members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, assignment of honorary titles of the Russian Federation to the members and rewarding with the marks of distinction of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

11) application before the governmental authorities of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation and local government authorities in relation to rewarding of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind with regional and municipal rewards;

12) application before the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind via the board of the Regional Department on rewarding of other individuals and legal entites, not being members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, who assist in the implementation of the objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, with rewards of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

13) approval of the provisions on councils and commissions established under the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, approval of their composition as advised by the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Consideration of reports on the activities of councils and commissions;

14) control over the sole executive body of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.8.4. The meeting of the Bureau of the Local Department is duly constituted if more than half of the elected members of the Bureau of the Local Department participate in its work.

11.8.5. The decisions of the Bureau of the Local Department are deemed accepted in case the majority of the members of the Bureau of the Local Department present at the meeting have voted for them, if a quorum is present. The decisions of the Bureau shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

11.9. Chairman of a Local Department

11.9.1. The Chairman of a Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the sole executive body of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which provides observation of the legislation of the Russian Federation, this Charter, the Provisions of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, ensures fulfilment of the decrees of the Congresses of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.9.2. The Chairman of the Local Department is elected from the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department for the term of five years.

11.9.3. The Chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind:

1) represents the interests of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the municipal unit and acts on the basis of the power of attorney issued by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

2) organises the work on the performance of the statutory activities of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind aimed at improvement of social protection of visually impaired people and provision of their equal opportunities;

3) makes proposals to the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity and the candidate members of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

4) proposes the candidates for the election of the deputy chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind to the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

5) makes proposals to the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity and the candidate members of the

councils and commissions established under the board of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) issues powers of attorney within its powers, provided that the Local Department acts as a legal entity;

7) issues orders and decrees, provided that the Local Department acts as a legal entity;

8) gives instructions in relation to the matters under its competence;

9) interacts with the governmental, public and other institutions and individuals;

10) ensures compliance of the activities of the Local Department with the requirements of this Charter and the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.9.4. The powers of the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be terminated in case of expiry of the term of its powers, its expulsion from the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, voluntary resignation in connection with viable reasons, and making the corresponding decision by the extraordinary general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the premature expiration of the powers of the chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the event when its decisions and activities are wrongful and contravene the effective legislation, the statutory goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, discredit the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind or inflict unsubstantiated material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Local Department thereof.

11.9.5. For the election of the new chairman of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall convene an extraordinary general meeting (conference) pursuant to the procedure and within the terms determined by the Board of the Regional Department, in accordance with the instruction on holding the election of the institutional administrative, sole executive and lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is the Lay Auditors Authority of the Local Department.

11.10.1. The Local Lay Auditors Commission executes control in the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind over observation of the requirements of the effective legislation, the provisions of the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, fulfilment of the decisions of the institutional collegial and sole executive bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, financial and business activities of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10.2. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is elected by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The

number of members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission is determined by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department for the term of five years.

The members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind elected prematurely at the extraordinary general meeting (conference) are elected for the term of effect of the powers of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10.3. Inspections of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be performed as required, but at least once a year in accordance with the scheduled plan agreed upon with the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Unscheduled inspections in the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be held at the request of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Board of the Regional Department.

11.10.4. The powers of the Local Lay Auditors Commission shall be preserved until the election of the new members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10.5. In case of failure to observe the provisions of this Charter, the decisions of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, failure to implement the entrusted powers in accordance with the provision on lay auditors authorities, performance of actions violating the effective legislation, discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind, or other actions tarnishing the reputation and the authority of the All Russia Association of the Blind or inflicting material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind by a member of the Local Lay Auditors Commission, the powers of the member of the Local Lay Auditors Commission shall be suspended until the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind is convened and makes the corresponding decision.

11.10.6. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is accountable to the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10.7. In its activities, the Local Lay Auditors Commission shall be governed by the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Provision on Lay Auditors Commissions of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

11.10.8. Persons acting as sole executive and institutional collegial administrative bodies of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission.

11.11.1. Management over the activities of the Local Lay Auditors Commission shall be carried out by its chairman elected by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department for the term of five years.

11.11.2. The Chairman of the Local Lay Auditors Commission:

- 1) governs the activities of the Local Lay Auditors Commission;
- 2) approves the plan of lay auditing measures taken by the Local Lay Auditors Commission;
- 3) signs the decisions and other documents of the Local Lay Auditors Commission.

11.11.3. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is duly constituted if more than half of its members are present at the meeting. The decisions are made by open voting by a majority vote of the members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission present at the meeting, if a quorum is present.

11.11.4. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is entitled to make a decision on convocation of a general meeting (conference) of the Local Department.

11.11.5. When exercising their powers, members of the Local Lay Auditors Commission are entitled to obtain any information, including the information connected with the financial and business activities of the Local Department.

11.11.6. The Local Lay Auditors Commission can involve specialised experts, if required.

11.11.7. The Local Lay Auditors Commission is accountable for its activities to the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department.

11.11.8. The powers of a member of the Local Lay Auditors Commission can be prematurely terminated in the following cases:

- 1) termination of membership in the organisation;
- 2) voluntary resignation;
- 3) a decision made by the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department on premature termination of the powers of the member of the Local Lay Auditors Commission in the event that this member's activities are found to contravene the effective legislation, this Charter, violate the requirements of the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and inflict damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 4) withdrawal from the activities of the organisation;
- 5) death or impossibility to fulfil its duties.

Section V. EXECUTIVE BODIES OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND AND OTHER GOVERNING OFFICIALS

Article 12. Executive bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind include:

- Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Article 13. Officials include:

- Vice presidents;
- Chief of the executive office.

Article 14. Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind

14.1. The superior administrative body of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind is convened by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind once every five years. The term of holding and the project of the agenda for the congress shall be declared not later than two months prior to its date.

The procedure and the representation quota at the Congress are determined by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The delegates of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be elected on the territorial basis from members registered with regional departments by the conferences of the Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

14.2. In addition to the approved representation quota, the current President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the Regional Department shall be the delegates of the congress in accordance with their positions.

14.3. The elected delegates engaged in the work of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall have the voting right therein. Herewith, one delegate has one vote.

14.4. The meeting of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be opened by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, then the Congress shall be maintained by the chairman elected at the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

14.5. The Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind is deemed duly constituted if more than half of the elected delegates participate in said congress.

14.6. No transfer of powers of elected delegates to other persons is allowed. No transfer of the voting right of a delegate of the congress to another person, including another delegate of the congress, is allowed.

14.7. The form of voting (open, ballot) shall be determined by the delegates at the congress.

14.8. An extraordinary congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be convened at the instance of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind or at the request of more than half of the members of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The decision on the convocation of an extraordinary congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be made not later than two months prior to its date. The Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind is deemed duly constituted if more

than half of the delegates elected for the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind participate in its work.

14.9. The Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to solve any matters connected with the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The decisions of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind are filed in the form of decrees and signed by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

14.10. The chairman at the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be elected from the delegates of the congress. The minutes of the meeting shall be maintained by the secretary elected at the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The minutes of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be signed by the chairman and the secretary of the congress.

14.11. The exclusive competence of the Congress includes the following:

1) approval of the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind and making amendments and updates thereto;

2) determination of the priorities in the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the principles of forming and use of its assets;

3) hearing and approval of the reports of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Lay Auditors Commission and assessment of their work;

4) determination of the procedure for the admission of members of the All Russia Association of the Blind and termination of membership;

5) making decisions on the amount and the procedure for payment of the membership fee by members of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) making decisions on reorganisation and winding up of the All Russia Association of the Blind, appointment of the winding up committee (winding up agent) and approval of the interim winding up balance sheet;

7) election and premature termination of the powers of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) determination of the number of members, election and premature termination of the powers of the members of the institutional administrative body of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which is the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

9) determination of the number of members, election and premature termination of the powers of the members of the central lay auditors authority of the All Russia Association of the Blind, i.e. the Central Lay Auditors Commission;

10) election of the chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

11) approval of the Regulations of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Provisions on Lay Auditors Commissions of the All Russia Association of the Blind, making amendments and updates thereto.

14.12. The decisions of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind are deemed accepted if the majority of the members elected under the established procedure and participating in the work of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind have voted for them, if a quorum is present.

The decisions of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the matters constituting its exclusive competence, provided for by the p. 14.11 of this Charter, are deemed accepted if at least 2/3 of the elected delegates participating in the work of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind have voted for them, if a quorum is present.

14.13. Absentee voting

Decisions of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be made without a meeting by absentee voting (by polling). The decision on holding an absentee vote can be made by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The procedure for holding an absentee vote and executing the relevant documents shall be determined by the effective legislation and the regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

14.14. The meetings of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be held remotely via electronic or other technical means, in case the methods for accurate identification of the person participating in the meeting, its participation in discussion under the agenda and in voting are used.

The decision of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be made without a meeting (by absentee voting) by means of sending, inter alia via electronic or other technical means, the documents containing the information on the vote by not less than fifty per cent of the total number of delegates of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Herewith, the decision shall be deemed accepted if the majority of the delegates that have sent these documents have voted for it. The decision constituting the exclusive competence of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be made in the form of absentee voting.

It is also possible to combine voting at a meeting with absentee voting.

Should there be several questions on the agenda of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, a separate decision shall be made under each of them.

Holding of the meeting of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the results of the voting at the meeting, as well as the results of the absentee voting, shall be confirmed by the minutes. The minutes shall be executed in writing, inter alia by means of electronic or other technical means, and shall be signed by the chairman of the meeting and the secretary of the meeting if a meeting was held, or by the persons who have calculated the votes or recorded the results of such calculation if the decision was made through absentee voting.

Article 15. Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind

15.1. Within the period between the Congresses, management over the All Russia Association of the Blind is carried out by the institutional collegial administrative body, i.e. the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind (hereinafter referred to as the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind), elected by the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the term of five years and accountable to the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The members of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind elected prematurely at the extraordinary congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be elected for the term of effect of the powers of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind ensures implementation of the decisions of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, implementing the rights and fulfilling the obligations on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind being a legal entity in accordance with the effective legislation and the competence provided for by this Charter.

The meetings of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be held as required, but at least once every two months. The chairman is elected at the meetings.

Within the period between the meetings of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the executive function is carried out by the President and the vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind within their competence.

The extraordinary meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be held at the instance of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the chairman of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, at the request of more than half of the members of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or at the request of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The meeting of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind is duly constituted if more than half of the members of the Central Board have participated in its work.

The decisions of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind are deemed accepted in case the majority of the members of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind present at the meeting have voted for them, if a quorum is present.

The decisions (decrees) of the Central Board shall be signed by the Chairman of the meeting of the Central Board.

The decisions of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be made by absentee voting, except for the matters provided for by sp. 3, 10, 21 of p. 15.2.

The decisions of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be executed in the form of decrees of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The decrees of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind are binding for the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other officials of the All Russia Association of the Blind, all functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind and members of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind establishes voluntary councils and commissions under the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the development of decisions regarding various activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

15.2. Competence of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind includes the following:

1) approval of provisions, instructions and other local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

2) holding of events aimed at the implementation of the objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, as determined by this Charter;

3) electing vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind as advised by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

4) approval of the plans of social and economic development of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the procedure therefor;

5) determination of the conditions, procedure and volume of funding provided to the Regional Departments, Local Departments and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) participation in the development and implementation of the legislation of the Russian Federation, decrees and orders of the Government of the Russian Federation that affect the interests of the disabled;

7) implementation of the decrees of the congresses of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Consideration of the state of affairs in regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, determination of the measures for improvement of their work. Management over the activities of Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) making decisions on suspension of the powers of the chairman of the Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind until the extraordinary or regular electoral conference of the Regional Department;

9) consideration of the status of rehabilitation and habilitation work, the matters of reasonable employment of visually impaired people, social and cultural work, health and fitness activities and sports, and other activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind and determination of measures for their improvement;

10) consideration and approval of the annual reports and the accounting (financial) statements of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

11) approval of the provisions on honorary titles and rewards of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Making decisions on rewarding members of the All Russia Association of the Blind and other persons assisting in the achievement of the objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

12) approval of programmes on capital construction, reconstruction, repair of the buildings and structures of the All Russia Association of the Blind, control over the performance of these works;

13) performance of works on the improvement of the organisational structure and the management over the All Russia Association of the Blind;

14) approval of provisions on councils and commissions established by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, approval of their composition as advised by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

15) regularly notifying the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind of the activities of the organisation. Approval of the mass media of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Approval of the chief editors and the members of the editorial board as advised by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

16) agreement upon the decisions of the boards of the Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the establishment and winding up of the Local Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind by issuing the corresponding decree;

17) suspension of powers of the members of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind until the regular or an extraordinary congress and making the decision regarding this matter in the following cases:

- severe violation of the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the decision of the congress or the decree of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind by the member of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

- the above persons performing actions discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind or other actions inflicting material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The powers of the member of the Central Boards of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be suspended for more than six months;

18) making decisions on the establishment, reorganisation and winding up of business institutions and other profit-making organisations founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind, on the participation of the All Russia Association of the Blind in other legal entities and on the creation of branches and opening of representative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

19) making decisions on appointment of an audit and approval of an individual auditor;

20) performing the functions of the superior administrative body of the business entities founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind;

21) making decisions on the establishment, withdrawal from the group of founders, reorganisation and winding up of institutions founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind, determination of the procedure for management over them in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

22) making decisions on winding up or reorganisation of functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation;

23) control over the sole executive body of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

15.3. The Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall solve the following matters while implementing its powers of the superior administrative body of business entities:

1) determination of the main activities of business entities, as well as making decisions on participation in associations and other unions of profit-making organisations;

2) approval of the charters of business entities;

3) making decisions on making amendments to the Charter of the business entity and on changing the amount of the authorised capital;

4) making decisions on the appointment of chief executive officers of business entities and premature termination of their powers;

5) approval of the supervisory board members of business entities;

6) making decisions on the use of the net profit of the business entity, establishment of the lease payments for use of the assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the amount of fees paid for maintenance of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

7) approval (acceptance) of documents governing the internal activities of the business entity (internal documents of the business entity);

8) making decisions on appointment of audit, approval of an individual auditor and determination of the amount designated for the payment for its services;

9) making decisions on reorganisation or winding up of the business entity;

10) making a decision on agreement upon the performance of a major transaction by the business entity;

11) making decisions in relation to the business entity in accordance with the results of the analysis of statistical information, the indices and terms for the provision whereof are established by the official forms of statistical reporting of the Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat) and the time sheet of the reporting forms of the All Russia Association of the Blind, as well as other required information;

12) making decisions on the establishment, reorganisation, winding up and termination of activities of branches and representative bodies of the business entity;

13) making decisions on the amount and the procedure for payment of fees by business entities.

Article 16. President of the All Russia Association of the Blind

16.1. The President of the All Russia Association of the Blind is the sole executive body of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

16.2. The President of the All Russia Association of the Blind is elected by the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the term of five years and shall be accountable to the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

16.3. The President of the All Russia Association of the Blind:

1) makes proposals to the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity and the candidate members of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

2) performs the executive function and the operational management of the All Russia Association of the Blind between the meetings of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

3) acts on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind in all governmental bodies of the Russian Federation, constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local government authorities and other institutions without a power of attorney when solving matters regarding the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, protection of rights and interests of visually impaired people;

4) proposes the candidates from the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind for their election as vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

5) executes employment agreements with vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

6) proposes the candidates for the election of the chief of the Executive Office for management over the All Russia Association of the Blind to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

7) introduces a candidate for the election as the chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind at the conference of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

8) makes proposals to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind in relation to the quantity of members and the candidates to the councils and commissions established under the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

9) convenes meetings of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

10) manages over the financial and economic activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

11) opens current accounts and other accounts in banks and other credit institutions, issues powers of attorney. Signs agreements and banking documents with the primary signature authority;

12) recruits and appoints the personnel of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

13) allocates the assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the decision of the Central Board;

14) executes and terminates employment agreements with representatives of Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind elected at the conferences of the Regional Departments, carrying out the duties of the Chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Makes proposals to the

Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind on suspension of the powers of the Chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind. In the event of suspension of

powers of the Chairman of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, appoints one of the members of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind to act on its behalf with the primary signature authority until the electoral conference;

15) appoints its authorised representatives (coordinators) from the chairmen of the Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind established at territories of the federal districts, as well as general directors of business entities, for the organisation of interaction with the executive offices (structures) of duly authorised representatives of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind in these federal districts of the Russian Federation;

16) perform the executive functions in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

17) establishes the executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, formed on the basis of employment, for the performance of activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the effective legislation, solution of property, production and daily matters of the financial and business activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

18) enters into an employment agreement with the chief of the executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

19) approves the structure and the number of staff of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, determines the conditions of labour compensation for the employees of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, employment and dismissal of the employees of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, executes employment agreements with the employees of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

20) issues orders and decrees regarding the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, gives instructions within its powers regarding the matters in the competence of functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

21) proposes the chief editors of the mass media of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the personnel of their editorial boards for approval to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

22) manages the foreign economic activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

23) supports and develops cultural, humanitarian, sport and other relations with the international and foreign national associations of the blind, as well as other organisations dealing with the problems of visually impaired people, on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

24) grants the primary signature authority of financial documents to the vice president acting on the basis of employment agreement, which is established by its order;

25) executes employment agreements with the general directors of the business entities founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind.

16.4. Whenever the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind is absent, its duties are performed by one of the Vice Presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind, in accordance with the order (decree) of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

16.5. The powers of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be terminated in case of expiry of the term of its powers, its voluntary resignation due to viable reasons, and the corresponding decision being made by the extraordinary congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the premature expiration of the powers of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the cases when its activities and the decisions made thereby are wrongful and contravene the statutory goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind, discredit the All Russia Association of the Blind, or inflict unsubstantiated material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind.

16.6. For the election of the new president of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall convene an extraordinary congress pursuant to the procedure and within the terms determined by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, in accordance with the instruction on holding the election of the institutional managing, sole executive and lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Article 17. Executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind

17.1. Executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind (hereinafter referred to as Executive Office) is an administrative and regulatory body of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind incorporated in accordance with the decree of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind to support the activities of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and monitors the implementation of decisions of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The Executive Office shall carry out its activities in accordance with the effective legislation of the Russian Federation on the basis of the provisions of this Charter and the provision on the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The President of the All Russia Association of the Blind governs the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The structure, number of employees in the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its cost sheet shall be determined and approved by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The provision on the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind containing the goals and the full list of the objectives of functional units of the

Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be approved by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

17.2. The Chief of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be appointed under the order of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the term of effect of the President's powers.

The Chief of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind:

- carries out general management over the activities of the functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- distributes the obligations among the functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and coordinates their activities as instructed by the president of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- interacts with the chairmen of the Regional and Local Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the authorised representatives of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind in federal districts, as instructed by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- submits projects of the provisions on functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the provisions on regional and local departments, on the supervisory board of business entities, on the duly authorised representative of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind in a federal district of the Russian Federation, the provisions on awards in the All Russia Association of the Blind, the provisions on asset management, as well as others, for the approval of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- introduces candidates for their appointment as chiefs of functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and for their resignation to the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- submits projects of orders on the rewarding of employees of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and disciplinary actions against them to the President of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Article 18. Vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind

18.1. For assisting in implementation of the powers of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, development of the decisions of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind regarding the corresponding matters and control over fulfilment of the decrees of the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall elect vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind from its members for the term of effect of the powers of the Central Board, as advised by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

18.2. The vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind implementing their powers on the basis of the employment agreement, as well as the voluntary vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind, shall be governed in their activities by the effective legislation, the provisions of this Charter and the Provision on Vice Presidents approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind and containing the full list of their powers.

18.3. Vice presidents are accountable to the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, they shall act on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the basis of the power of attorney issued by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, be responsible for the assigned activities and fulfil individual instructions of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

18.4. The vice presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind carry out their duties on the basis of an employment agreement for the period of absence of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and shall perform operational management and executive functions with the right to sign documents, including the primary signature authority of financial documents in accordance with the order of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

18.5. Within their powers, the Vice Presidents:

- coordinate the work of functional units of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- organise the work of the board of directors and the supervisory councils of the business entities of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- perform control and coordination of work of the prevention and treatment facilities;
- perform control and coordination of work of the mass media founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- perform control and coordination of work of cultural and sport, educational, scientific and research institutions founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- arrange interaction of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind with the corresponding committees, commissions, parties, groups of the chambers of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation regarding agreement upon the legislation, and the promotion of participation of the All Russia Association of the Blind in joint working groups;

- organise work of outcomes commissions of the supervised business entities and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- perform organisation and control over events aimed at preservation and due operation of the asset complex of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- consider and solve other matters aimed at protection of the rights and legal interests of visually impaired people as agreed upon with the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

18.6. The powers of the vice president can be prematurely terminated by the decision of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the following cases:

- termination of membership in the organisation;
- failure to observe the provisions of this Charter;

- non-fulfilment of the decisions of the Congress, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the orders and decrees of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- performance of actions tarnishing the reputation of the All Russia Association of the Blind and (or) contravening the goals and objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- under the substantiated decision of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- performance of actions that have inflicted material damage to the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- in other cases provided for by the Provision on the Vice Presidents of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Should the vice president make a decision on premature termination of its powers on the basis of an application, its powers shall be terminated as of the date of such a decision. A separate decision of the Central Board regarding this matter is not required.

Article 19. Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind

19.1. The Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind (hereinafter referred to as the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind) is the central body of the All Russia Association of the Blind, which performs control over the observation of the effective legislation, the provisions of this Charter, the decisions of the congress and local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind by sole executive and institutional administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units, as well as over the financial and business activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units.

19.2. The members and the chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be elected by the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind for the term of five years by the qualified majority of 2/3 votes of the delegates registered and participating in the meeting of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, if a quorum is present. The powers of the Central Lay Auditors Commission shall be preserved until the election of the new members of the Central Lay Auditors Commission by the Congress of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The members of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind elected prematurely at the extraordinary congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be elected for the term of effect of the powers of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.3. The Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind carries out its activities on the basis of this Charter and the provisions on Lay Auditors Commissions approved by the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.4. The Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind is accountable to the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.5. The Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind cooperates with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.6. The decisions of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, approved within its competence, shall be binding for all functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind and their lay auditors authorities.

19.7. The number and composition of the deputy chairmen of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be determined at the meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, introduced by the Chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Deputy chairmen of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall act within their competence and be responsible for the activities assigned to them by the Chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.8. Management over the activities of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be carried out by the Chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind or, in case of its absence, by one of the deputy chairmen of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, at its written instruction.

19.9. The meetings of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be held as required, but at least once a year. The meetings of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be convened by the Chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind or, in case of its absence, by one of the deputy chairmen of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, at its written instruction.

An extraordinary meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be convened by the chairman of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind at the written request of the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.10. The meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind is deemed duly constituted in case more than half of the members of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind participates in its work. The decisions of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind are approved by open voting by the majority vote of members present at the meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind, if a quorum is present.

The decisions of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be filed in the form of minutes, which shall be signed by

the Chairman and the Secretary of the meeting of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.11. The members of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind are entitled to be present at the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the meeting of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the meetings of the administrative and supervisory bodies of functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

19.12. Persons acting as sole executive and institutional administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units being members of the executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind and functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be chairmen and members of the Central Lay Auditors Commission.

19.13. The Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind:

- 1) acts and makes decisions on its behalf and within its competence;
- 2) performs long-term planning of the activities of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 3) approves the Regulations of the Central Lay Auditors Commission of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 4) performs comprehensive inspections of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind at least once per calendar year;
- 5) if required, can perform inspections of the regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with the scheduled plan.

In other cases, inspections in the regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be carried out at the request of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

- 6) performs annual audits of the financial and business activities of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- 7) is entitled to involve independent experts (auditors);
- 8) coordinates the activities of regional and local lay auditors commissions;
- 9) is entitled, if severe violations are found in the activities of regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind by comprehensive inspections, to make proposals to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind regarding the following:

- suspension of powers of the Chairman of the Regional Department, the members of the institutional administrative bodies of the corresponding regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- bringing to responsibility the chiefs of regional and local departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind pursuant to the procedure established by the legislation of the Russian Federation and the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

**Section VI. MEMBERSHIP IN THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF
THE BLIND. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND**

Article 20.

20.1. Citizens of the Russian Federation who have reached the age of 18 years old, being visually impaired people, their legal representatives (parents, adoptive parents, guards or trustees), as well as other citizens of the Russian Federation who endorse the goals and objectives of the organisation and recognise the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, can become members of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The number of visually impaired people and their legal representatives among the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be not less than 80 per cent. Membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind is voluntary and individual. Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall have the rights and bear the liabilities in accordance with this Charter and other regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be alienated. Implementation of the rights of the member of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be ceded to another person.

The amount and the procedure for payment of the admission fee and membership fee by the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the accounting procedure shall be determined by the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot have shares in the assets belonging to the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Accounting of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be performed by the Central Board on the basis of this Charter and the Provision on membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Centralised accounting of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be carried out by the functional unit thereof as instructed by the President of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Regional accounting of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be performed by an authorised officer of the Executive Office of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the basis of the Unified Register of Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

A member of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be registered only with one local department of the All Russia Association of the Blind at the place of its permanent or predominant residence.

In case of change of the place of its permanent or predominant residence, a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is obliged to deregister at the local or regional department of the All Russia Association of the Blind where it has been registered and register with the corresponding department of the All Russia Association

of the Blind at the new place of permanent or predominant residence. The procedure and the terms of deregistration and registration at the new place of permanent or predominant residence shall be governed by the Provision on Membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind.

20.2. Entering into the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Admission of the citizens of the Russian Federation to the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind is performed by the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, by the board of the Regional Department on the basis of a written application of the person that enters into the Association submitted to the Local or Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind accordingly at the place of its permanent or predominant residence. The decision on the admission of a new member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is made based on the results of the prior interview of the person that enters into the Association.

The decision on the admission of a new member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is made by open voting by the majority vote of the members of the Board of the Regional Department or the Bureau of the Local Department.

The person is admitted as a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind as of the date of consideration of their application by the Bureau of the Local Department and the Board of the Regional Department and of the corresponding decision by this body.

The application of the person entering into the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be considered by the corresponding body of the All Russia Association of the Blind not later than two months upon the date of submission of the application.

Should the above application not have been considered within the established terms, the citizen is entitled to claim for its admission to the All Russia Association of the Blind to the superior body of the All Russia Association of the Blind. This application shall be considered by the corresponding body of the All Russia Association of the Blind within one month.

Execution of the documents on admission and registration of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be performed in accordance with the provision on membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

20.3. Termination of membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind.

A member of the All Russia Association of the Blind can voluntarily withdraw from the All Russia Association of the Blind. Termination of membership is performed on the basis of the personal written application of the citizen that has decided to withdraw from the All Russia Association of the Blind submitted to the Local Department of the place of permanent or predominant residence of the member of the All Russia Association of the Blind. Membership in the All Russia Association of the

Blind is deemed terminated as of the date of registration of the written application with the corresponding Local Department.

A member of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be expelled from the All Russia Association of the Blind by decision of the Bureau of the Local Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind or the Board of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the following cases:

Severe violation of the Charter of the All Russia Association of the Blind, the decisions of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units made in connection with it, performance of actions discrediting the All Russia Association of the Blind or creating negative staff morale within the organisation, distribution of misleading information on the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, its elective bodies and officials, actions disgracing their honour and tarnishing their reputation, failure to pay a membership fee without a viable reason for two years.

The decision of the Local Department on the expulsion from the All Russia Association of the Blind must be approved by the Board of the Regional Department. Should the decision on the expulsion from the All Russia Association of the Blind be made by the Board of the Regional Department, the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall not be required to approve this decision.

A citizen is entitled to appeal against a decision on its expulsion from the All Russia Association of the Blind within two months thereupon with the superior bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind up until the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind. The application on filing an appeal against the decision on the expulsion from the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be considered by the corresponding bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind within the term not exceeding two months as of the day of its receipt.

The citizen that has been expelled from the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind cannot be re-admitted into the All Russia Association of the Blind for three years upon the moment of the decision on its expulsion.

Termination of membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind begins as of the date of occurrence of the corresponding legal fact: the death of the citizen being a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind, loss of the nationality of the Russian Federation by the member of the All Russia Association of the Blind, recognition of the member of the All Russia Association of the Blind as legally incapacitated by the court.

Termination of membership of A citizen of the Russian Federation in the All Russia Association of the Blind shall lead to the termination of its powers as a member of the electoral bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units.

A member of the electoral central bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the governing bodies of the functional units, whose powers have been

suspended, is not entitled to participate in voting on decisions by the corresponding body or exercise other powers in accordance with this Charter.

Termination of membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind begins as of the date of the decision on the expulsion of the member from the All Russia Association of the Blind by the authorised body or, in the cases that may require approval of this decision, as of the date of such approval. The decision on the expulsion of a member from the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be provided to the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind in order to make the corresponding entry to the Unified Register of Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

20.4. Membership card

Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind are granted a standard membership card.

The details, the procedure for manufacture, issue, storage, use and replacement of the membership card are determined by the corresponding provision approved by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Article 21. Rights of a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind

21.1. The member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to:

- participate in discussion and solution of all matters regarding the activities of the organisation pursuant to the procedure established by this Charter and the local regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- elect and be elected to electoral administrative and lay auditors authorities of the All Russia Association of the Blind and supervise over the activities of the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind in accordance with its charter and the procedure established by this Charter and the regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind.
- apply with questions, proposals and applications to any bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units, including the matters regarding improvement of work of the organisation;
- participate in events held by the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units;
- send written proposals to the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind relating to improvement of the legislation of the Russian Federation concerning the matters of rights and legal interests of disabled people and their associations;
- get advice, legal and other assistance, be assisted by the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units in protection of its legal rights and interests;
- as instructed by the administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind, act on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind on the basis of the power of attorney;

- appeal against the decisions of the administrative bodies and officials of the All Russia Association of the Blind concerning its rights and obligations with the superior body of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- receive support and protection of its rights and legal interests regarding the matters included in the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- on the basis of an application of the All Russia Association of the Blind to the President of the Russian Federation, the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind that have merits to the All Russia Association of the Blind can be put in for state rewards and assignment of titles of honour;
- implement other rights provided for by the legislation of the Russian Federation and this Charter.

21.2. In the event of violation of the rights provided by p. 21.1 hereof, the member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to apply with the corresponding applicaiton.

21.3. For the purpose of obtaining information and becoming familiar with the documents regarding the work of the All Russia Association of the Blind (functional units therof), administrative and supervisory bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind (functional units therof), a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind) is entitled to apply to the corresponding Executive office of the All Russia Association of the Blind (functional units therof). This application shall be considered within 30 working days pursuant to the procedure provided for by the Provision on applications from citizens.

Article 22. Obligations of a member of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The member of the All Russia Association of the Blind is obliged to:

- fulfil the requirements of this Charter;
- be registered with one of the local organisations at the place of registration, permanent or predominant residence, and participate in its work;
- pay the admission and membership fees under the established procedure;
- respect the rights and legal interests of the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- fulfil the decisions of the central administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the administrative bodies of functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- provide the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units with the accurate information required for its registration with the All Russia Association of the Blind;
- Support the authority and unity of the All Russia Association of the Blind, avoid performing actions known to be aimed at infliction of harm to the interests of the All Russia Association of the Blind or create a threat of infliction of a harm, distributing misleading information tarnishing the honour, dignity and reputation of the All Russia Association of the Blind, its administrative bodies, members and officials;
- participate in preparation and holding of congresses of the All Russia Association of the Blind, conferences of regional departments and general meetings

(conferences) of local departments, as well as in other events held by the All Russia Association of the Blind;

- perform independent monitoring of the information on the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, its administrative bodies, regional and local departments;

- avoid disclosing information on the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind; regularly participate in events held by the All Russia Association of the Blind, including reporting and election events;

- fulfil other obligations provided for by the legislation of the Russian Federation and this Charter.

Simultaneously with the loss of the membership in the All Russia Association of the Blind, the member loses the powers to implement the functions of a sole executive body and/or a member of an institutional administrative or a supervisory body of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Individual and legal entities that actively participate in the life of the organisation can be rewarded by the All Russia Association of the Blind under the decisions of the Congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, they can be assigned honorary titles of the All Russia Association of the Blind and be granted other kinds of reward and honorary distinctions.

For violation of the effective legislation, repeated severe violation of the provisions of this Charter and the regulatory instruments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and actions that have inflicted harm to the authority of the All Russia Association of the Blind or material damage thereto, members that have been previously rewarded with any awards of the All Russia Association of the Blind under the decision of the corresponding administrative bodies of the All Russia Association of the Blind, may be deprived of such awards and titles of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Section VII. ASSETS OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND. SOURCES OF FORMATION OF ASSETS AND MANAGEMENT OVER ASSETS

Article 23. Property of the All Russia Association of the Blind

23.1. The owner of the assets is the All Russia Association of the Blind. The rights of the owner of the assets on behalf of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be implemented by the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

23.2. The All Russia Association of the Blind owns the following:

land plots, buildings, houses, structures, accomodation, transport, equipment, stock, property for cultural, educational

and fitness purposes, funds, shares, other securities, shares of the All Russia Association of the Blind in the authorised capital of the previously and newly established business entities founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind; shares (equities) of authorised (joint) capital (unit investment fund) of other commercial institutions, contributed or acquired by the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall also include the property transferred for operational control of the Regional Department of the All Russia Association of the Blind, fitness and sanatorium, rehabilitation, cultural and educational, information, scientific, training and other institutions; publishing and printing asset complexes; exclusive and intellectual property rights to creative content and means of identification of goods, works and services, registered in the name of the All Russia Association of the Blind; trade names, complex intellectual property items, information and integrated solutions, etc., as well as other property required for the material support of the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind can also include the property transferred by the members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, other citizens and legal entities for the purpose of implementation of the statutory objectives of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The All Russia Association of the Blind can acquire other assets for the purpose of employment of visually impaired people and profit-making for the implementation of the statutory objectives.

The support of the functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be funded from the budget of the All Russia Association of the Blind and at the account of funds gained from programmes, profit-making activities, sponsorship and charity support. The assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be protected by law.

Article 24. Sources of formation of assets

The assets and funds of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be formed from the following sources:

admission fees and membership fees; voluntary monetary and other contributions; income from business activities of legal entities founded by the All Russia Association of the Blind; from budgets at any level and from auctions and other events held in accordance with this Charter; income from business activities; civil transactions, including sale and leasing of the assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind; profit from sale of goods, works and services; dividends (income, interest) received under shares, bonds, other securities and deposits; income received from the assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind, foreign economic activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind, volunteer labour and other lawful income.

The All Russia Association of the Blind can receive the funds and other assets from the institutions and the citizens of the Russian Federation or from foreign countries under the procedure established by the law.

No income received by the All Russia Association of the Blind from business or another profit-making activities can be redistributed among the members of the organisation, said income shall be used only for the statutory objectives.

The All Russia Association of the Blind is entitled to use fixed and circulating assets as a statutory contribution when establishing and reorganising business and other entities.

Article 25. Management over assets

25.1. Members of the All Russia Association of the Blind, institutions established by the All Russia Association of the Blind, and employees of the business entities and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall not have a right of ownership of the share of assets belonging to the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The assets shall be transferred for operational control of the Regional Departments and Local Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind, as well as institutions thereof. As for the business entities, it can be leased thereto or used as a statutory contribution or a contribution to the assets of the business entity.

25.2. The funds of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be kept in banks in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

25.3. The President of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Chairmen of Regional and Local Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind being legal entities shall have the respective right to sign all monetary documents (receipts, bank orders, contracts, deeds, agreements, etc.) within their competence.

25.4. Regional Departments of the All Russia Association of the Blind and institutions of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be funded from the budget of the All Russia Association of the Blind and at the account of funds gained from programmes for the social protection of disabled people, profit-making activities, sponsorship and charity support and other sources lawful in the Russian Federation. The financial support of the activities of Local Departments shall be carried out from the budget of Regional Departments.

Section VIII. AMENDMENTS AND UPDATES TO THE CHARTER OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

Article 26. Procedure for making amendments and updates

The decisions on making amendments and updates to this Charter shall be made in case of change in the structure of the All Russia Association of the Blind, ratification of new regulatory enactments of the Russian Federation influencing the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the interests of disabled people and their public associations, and in other cases required for the activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

Any amendments and updates hereto shall be made in accordance with the decisions of the superior administrative body of the All Russia Association of the Blind, i.e. the Congress, and shall be adopted by the qualified majority (2/3) of votes of the duly elected delegates participating in the Congress.

Amendments and updates to this Charter are subject to state registration pursuant to the same procedure and within the same terms as the state registration of the All Russia Association of the Blind, and shall come into effect as of the moment of state registration thereof.

Section IX. REORGANISATION AND WINDING UP OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND AND FUNCTIONAL UNITS OF THE ALL RUSSIA ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND

Article 27. Reorganisation

Reorganisation of the All Russia Association of the Blind and its functional units can be performed in the form of a merger, acquisition, separation, spin-off or reorganisation.

The decision on reorganisation of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be made by the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind if at least 2/3 of the delegates have voted for this decision, if a quorum is present.

The assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be transferred to the newly established legal entities pursuant to the procedure provided for by the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Regional and local departments (organisations) being legal entities are not entitled to independently make decisions on their reorganisation.

A regional department can be reorganised either under the decision of the Congress or under the decision of the Central Board in the event that the Central Board made the decision on the establishment of the Regional Department of the organisation.

In other cases, the decision on reorganisation of the Regional Department shall be made by a conference of the Regional Department under the written consent of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

A local Department can be reorganised in accordance under the decision of the conference (general meeting) of the Local Department under the written consent of the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The decision on reorganisation of regional and local departments shall be deemed accepted if at least 2/3 of the delegates have voted for this decision, if a quorum is present.

Article 28. Winding up

The activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be terminated in the event of its winding up as decided by the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind if at least 2/3 of the delegates have voted for this decision, if a quorum is present.

Simultaneously with the decision on winding up of the All Russia Association of the Blind, a winding up committee shall be established and the operating procedure thereof shall be defined. As of the moment of appointment of the winding up committee, the powers of management over the affairs of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be transferred thereto.

The assets and funds of the All Russia Association of the Blind as it is being winded up under the decision of the congress shall be used in favour of the All Russia Association of the Blind upon satisfaction of the creditors' claims.

Regional and local departments (organisations) are not entitled to independently make decisions on their winding-up (termination of activity).

A Regional Department can be winded up (its activity can be terminated) under the decision of the conference of the Regional Department, agreed upon in writing with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or under the decision of the court in the cases established by the law, as well as in the event of winding up of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The agreed decision of the conference of the Regional Department on winding up of the Regional Department shall be accepted in case not less than 2/3 of the delegates have voted for this decision, if a quorum is present.

The Local Department (organisation) acting as a legal entity can be winded up by the decision of the conference (general meeting) of the Local Department, agreed upon in writing with the Central Board of the All Russia Association of the Blind or under the decision of the court in the cases, established by the law, and also in the event of winding-up of the All Russia Association of the Blind.

The agreed decision of the general meeting (conference) of the Local Department on winding up of the Local Department shall be accepted in case not less than 2/3 of the delegates have voted for this decision, if a quorum is present.

The activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind can be terminated under the decision of the court as per the legislation of the Russian Federation.

Article 29. Termination of activities of the All Russia Association of the Blind and functional units of the All Russia Association of the Blind

The information and documents required for the state registration of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the Regional Department in connection with their winding up shall be provided to the authority that has made the decision on state registration of the All Russia Association of the Blind and the corresponding Regional Department at their establishment. For the termination of activity of unincorporated Local Departments, this procedure **is not required**.

In case of winding up of the All Russia Association of the Blind, its documents shall be transferred for state storage to the archive, and the assets remaining after the winding up of the public association, upon satisfaction of the creditors' claims, shall be used for the purposes provided for by this Charter.

The decision on transfer (or further use) of the assets of the All Russia Association of the Blind shall be made by the congress of the All Russia Association of the Blind, or under the decision of the winding up committee in the event of winding up of the All Russia Association of the Blind under the decision of a court.

Text of the anthem of the All Russia Association of the Blind

We are faithful to our beloved Motherland!
We are strong in our friendship and unity!
We were made hard by our fate,
We are united with our determination!
There are no easy ways in life for us,
But we always aim for the top!
The All Russia Association of the Blind
Is forever our love and pride!

CHORUS:

We live as one family
To be bold and never surrender,
To see the whole world with our hearts
And touch the starts with our hands!
We live as one family
To be bold and never surrender,
To see the whole world with our hearts
And touch the starts with our hands!

We put our hands together and go
To workshops, gyms and to the stage
And carefully lead our talented successors
To the new victories with us.
We hold our banner high,
And our hearts are filled with excitement!
We build our happiness by our own labour,
And we are ready for new achievements!

CHORUS:

We live as one family
To be bold and never surrender,
To see the whole world with our hearts
And touch the starts with our hands!
We live as one family
To be bold and never give up,
So that our shining dream
Leads us on our way!

Image of the flag of the All Russia Association of the Blind



Image of the emblem of the All Russia Association of the Blind

