

# **The Rise Global Charter**

The scope of The Rise Charter is to state the purpose of the organization, core values guiding it, provide a framework of By-laws and best practices to build it as a resilient enterprise, statement of long term vision and procedures of conflict resolution. This Charter will be adopted globally by all The Rise initiators, Chapters, Franchise owners and any entity or individuals who volunteer to associate themselves with The Rise. Only by accepting and signing this Charter one becomes a Member or Affiliate or Associate of The Rise.

## **1. Name, Legal ownership, Office, Logo, History.**

1.1. The Charter shall be known as “The Rise Global Charter”.

1.2. The Rise Global Charter is legally owned by ‘Tamil Rise Mutual Benefit Trust’, registered in India.

1.3. The Headquarters of Tamil Rise Mutual Benefit Trust is located at No. 68, Luz Church Road, Mylapore, Chennai- 600004, Tamil Nadu, India.

1.4. All Chapters, individual members, Associate organs and enterprises have to adopt the logo identity as given in Annexure 1 of this Charter. The logo identity was created in 2018 and it shall be the exclusive property of The Rise Trust. No one is authorized to use it or adapt it without prior permission.

1.5. Brief History: In order to facilitate, support and enable Tamils to succeed individually and collectively through widespread entrepreneurship, institution building and collaborations and emerge as a globally respected people Rev. Fr. Jegath Gaspar Raj along with Advocate Kanimozhi Mathi, Mr. Nallasivam, Mr. Tharai Thirugnanam and some others founded Confederation of Tamil Agriculture Commerce Industries and Services- CTACIS in the year 2014. “The Rise” was envisioned and initiated by Rev. Fr. Jegath Gaspar Raj as a global expansion of the CTACIS movement in the year 2018. The turning point was the first Global Summit of Tamil Entrepreneurs and professionals held at the Pillar Center, Madurai in December 2018 in which delegates from 18 countries participated. The spirited participation and contribution of Mr. Saravanan Sinapan and Team Malaysia deserve special mention. Several eminent and remarkable individuals have contributed since then to shape its vision, purpose and growth. The names of those individuals are recorded for history in Annexure-2, along with a record of milestone events since June 2018.

## **2. Declaration of Universal Legal Compliances.**

The Rise commits that all its members, entities and functions shall absolutely comply with the existing laws of the land. If any member individually or as Chapter or as national entities violate the laws of the land they will have to take legal responsibility for those violations, and the central organization the founder, Global Secretariat and its functionaries stand indemnified against violations of individual members or Chapters.

### **3. The Rise Preamble.**

We The Rise members, having realized our civilization antiquity and greatness, resolve to empower Tamil people with prosperity, knowledge and Aram based values through a culture of collective envisioning, spirited collaborations, widespread and resources based entrepreneurship, public institutions and an unwavering commitment to common good, equity and harmony, in the process emerging as a respectable people in the global arena, contributing and influencing the direction and destiny of all the Tamils, and meaningfully participate in guiding the future of humanity.

### **4. ARAM as the Corner stone of The Rise.**

ARAM is a Tamil linguistic word which expresses a way of life that is built on high ethics, nobility, empathy and idealism. The Rise derives its paradigms and perspectives from ARAM (virtue) expressed through intentions, actions and outcomes.

### **5. The Rise Purpose.**

ARAM based social, economic, cultural transformation for the well being of every being.

The approach is essentially tri-dimensional: Personal growth and well being of every member; every member caring for the growth and well-being of fellow members; all members passionately participating and contributing to the total transformation of Tamils as a society globally; all members as The Rise organization contributing to the welfare of wider humanity.

### **6. The Rise Vision, Mission, Beliefs and Values.**

**Vision:** That everyone on earth shall have life, a life in all its fullness.

**Mission:** To enable a platform for global entrepreneurs and professionals to collaborate, cooperate, co-create and co-exist for effectively contributing to the above vision, goal and purpose. The immediate focus shall be:

1. To co-create capital, aggregate knowledge, competencies and experience to support enterprises, innovations and transformation.
2. To enable, support and scale businesses, innovations, co-working spaces, co-operative Social enterprises, futuristic education and skilling, resources based distributed development, and a culture of coexistence and peace.
3. To facilitate entrepreneurs, innovators, investors, professionals and others to find each other, collaborate and co-create sustainable ventures at varying scale.

## **Beliefs and Values**

**Beliefs:** The Rise exists, operates and rests on the bedrock of its belief in Tamils continuity as a civilization and practicing ARAM based values.

**Values:** Every The Rise member is called upon to internalize these ARAM based values and exult in their inherent majesty.

1. That all women and men are equal, so are every being on earth.
2. That every place on earth is like my village, every person a friend and every being has an existential purpose.
3. That nothing is equal to the transformative power of hard work and perseverance.
4. That “Trust” shall be of paramount importance to engage with each other.
5. That every The Rise member will be humble, generous and dignified in success.
6. That it is in giving, we actually receive.
7. That love, kindness and empathy are the best ornaments, and hatred is cancer of the soul.

## **7. The Rise Membership**

The Rise organization is primarily focused on people who belong to Tamil language and culture. But anyone who believes in Tamil civilization values (Aram) is welcome to join The Rise. Together we work for the betterment of entire humanity, a better world.

## **8. Purpose of The Rise Membership**

The Rise membership rests on four pillars: 1. Opportunity to grow as a person, grow in one's business and profession. 2. Commitment to ensure growth and development of fellow members. 3. Responsibility to care for the wider Tamil society and participate in its transformation as a globally respectable people in the 21st century. 4. Joyful participation and contribution to the welfare of wider humanity.

## **9. Membership Categories**

The Rise Mutual Benefit Trust is a tax paying Trust registered in India. Global membership shall be integrated through this Trust. Hence there will be a tax implication above the stipulated membership fee(s).

### **9.1. Tamil Goodwill Assembly**

Those who join under this category have no business or professional expectations. They join to support the Tamil cause, social, cultural, environmental outreach, and The Rise ideals. In ways possible they will support fellow Tamils to grow and succeed. There is no fixed registration fee for this membership. Individuals are free to contribute whatever they can and wish. They can be part of this Global Tamil Goodwill Assembly even without paying anything.

## **9.2. The Rise Global Membership**

This is the standard membership valid globally.

### **Annual Fee:**

9.2.1: For members of Tamil Women International, GenNext members below the age of 25, Students and Farmers: Rs.1000/-

9.2.2: For All others: Rs.4000/-

### **Benefits:**

9.2.3: Access to network with all The Rise members of the world.

9.2.4: Access to all information and communications of The Rise.

9.2.5: 20% discount on all the Rise paid programs.

9.2.6: 20% discount on use of all The Rise platforms like Digital Trade Fair, App & Portal advertisements.

9.2.7: Membership card along with a personal ID No.

9.2.8: Opportunity to invest in The Rise Business initiatives.

9.2.9: Opportunity to rightfully avail the services of T-One Global Services Pvt Ltd to globally commercialize your products and services.

9.2.10: The Rise Privilege Card that will get you discounts globally from hundreds of business entities- hotels, restaurants, textiles, IT services etc owned by The Rise members and others. (This privilege card will be activated only by July 2024).

## **9.3. The Rise Premium Global Membership.**

Premium members get more opportunities and privileges within the organization.

### **Fee:**

9.3.1: For members of Tamil Women International: Rs.5000/-

9.3.2: For members of GenNext below the age of 25, Farmers and differently abled entrepreneurs & professionals: Rs.3000/-

9.3.3: For All Others: Rs.10,000/-

### **Benefits:**

9.3.4: Access to network with all The Rise members of the world.

9.3.5: Access to all information and communications of The Rise.

9.3.6: 25% discount on all the Rise paid programs.

9.3.7: 30% discounts on use of all The Rise platforms like Digital Trade Fair, App & Portal advertisements.

9.3.8: Membership card along with a personal ID No.

9.3.9: Priority opportunity to invest in The Rise Business initiatives.

9.3.10: Opportunity to rightfully avail the services of T.One Global Services Pvt Ltd to globally commercialize your products and services.

9.3.11: The Rise Privilege Card that will get you discounts globally from hundreds of business entities-hotels, restaurants, textiles, IT services etc owned by The Rise members and others. (This privilege card will be activated only by July 2024).

9.3.12: Priority positioning in the RBL - Rise Business League.

9.3.13: Free Participation in RBL.

9.3.14: Access to the Rise Global strategic database to promote business, subject to legal limitations.

9.3.15: Special Leadership training programs, and training sessions on raising funds, keeping to compliances, branding, marketing and sales.

9.3.16: Sharing of strategic business and market information.

#### **9.4. The Rise Global Premium Corporate | Institutional | Organizational Membership.**

Under this a Corporate or Institution or Organization can register up to 10 members by paying Rs.100,000/- and avail benefits accorded to Global Premium Members.

#### **9.5. The Rise Elite Circle**

**Membership** – The Elite Circle members would enjoy pre-eminent place in The Rise organization.

**Annual Fee:** Rs.100,000/-

##### **Benefits:**

9.5.1: Elite circle card with Special T-shirt and the Rise merchandise.

9.5.2: Brand positioning in The Rise App.

9.5.3: Brand positioning in The Rise Portal.

9.5.4: 365 days digital stall in the Rise online Trade Fair platform.

9.5.5: Strategic promotion of your business by T-one Global Services. A highly skilled and experienced team will be recruited and commissioned to promote the business of Elite Circle members.

9.5.6: 500 minutes of Brand promotion in more than ten YouTube channels owned by Homeland Media.

9.5.7: Free entry to all the global summits, seminars, strategic consultations.

9.5.8: First preference to invest in The Rise Business initiatives.

9.5.9: VIP seating in all The Rise events, seminars, conferences.

9.5.10: Access to network with all The Rise members of the world.

9.5.11: Access to all information and communications of The Rise.

9.5.12: Elegant membership card.

9.5.13: The Rise Global Privilege card that will get you discounts globally from hundreds of business entities-hotels, restaurants, textiles, IT services etc. (This privilege card will be activated only by July 2024).

9.5.14: Access to The Rise strategic database subject to legal limitations.

9.5.15: Business networking with top-notch entrepreneurs.

## **9.6. The Rise Super Circle Life Membership**

Super Circle Membership ensures the most eminent and elevated stature within The Rise organization.

**Fee:** One time fee of Rs.5 lac.

If a member continues uninterruptedly as Elite Member for seven years that member shall automatically become eligible to be a Super Circle Member.

**Duration:** 20 years.

### **Benefits:**

9.6.1: All the benefits accorded to The Rise Elite Circle Membership.

9.6.2: Permanent membership in The Rise Global Leadership Assembly.

9.6.3: Access to future The Rise Guest parlours and rooms which will be created under Rise Assets projects.

9.6.4: Special profile record in The Rise App and Portal.

9.6.5: Special global get together once in three years.

## **9.7. Family Membership**

**Annual Fee:** Rs.25,000/-

Family membership is defined under the Global Premium Membership in terms of benefits. Joint beneficiaries are an individual, his or her spouse, and their children of 21 years or less. Extended or close family members living under the same roof such as parents, in laws cannot be considered under the family membership.

## **9.8. Honorary Membership and Members of Eminence**

The Rise may invite or accept individuals considering their public, entrepreneurial, academic, intellectual eminence and accord them special membership status. Depending on their stature the Board of Trustees shall classify them under two distinctive categories: Members of The Rise Tamil Council of Eminence, and The Rise Honorary Members: They shall not pay any mandatory membership contribution. However they can make voluntary donations if they choose to.

## **10. Distribution of Membership Fee:**

10.1: Membership fee that comes for standalone membership i.e. those who do not want to be part of, or cannot be part of a chapter, the The Rise Global Secretariat keeps 30% for Administrative Expenses, invests 50% in The Rise enterprise and entrepreneurial initiatives as well as for fulfilling the commitments to the members as stated in the Charter; and 20% to The Rise charity and humanitarian fund.

10.2: Membership that comes through Chapters/ Franchisee arrangement:

### **a. The Rise Global Membership**

40% - Local chapter

10% - Regional office

30% - Global Secretariat

20% - The Rise Foundation

### **b. The Rise Premium Global Membership**

30% - Local chapter

10% - Regional office

20% - Global Secretariat

30% - Towards fulfilment of the benefits commitment to members.

10% - The Rise Foundation

### **c. Corporate/ Institutional/ Organisational membership**

This category is directly managed by The Rise Global Secretariat.

### **d. The Rise Elite Circle Membership**

10% - Local chapter

10% - Global Secretariat

70% - Towards fulfilment of the benefits commitment

10% - The Rise Foundation

### **e. The Rise Super Circle Life Membership**

This category is directly managed by The Rise Global Secretariat.

## **11. Formation of The Rise Chapters**

11.1: The Rise Charter Chapters shall be established in every country, district, city, town, village where Tamils live.

11.2: To be recognized as a The Rise Charter Chapter it should have a minimum of 20 core members.

11.3: To be a member in the Chapter the member has to pay the fixed annual fee.

11.4: The Rise Charter Chapters should meet regularly twice in a month. Such meetings will be uniformly guided by the procedures laid down separately by the Governing Council.

11.5: Submission of profile, digital photo file along with membership fee is a must to be accepted as a member. The fee has to be towards Tamil Rise Mutual Benefit Trust.

11.6: Every Chapter should have the following office bearers:

### **President**

Vice President – Membership expansion

Vice President – Members Business Growth

Vice President – International Relations and Charity fund rising

Vice President – Training, Cultural affairs & Community Services

General Secretary

Joint Secretary

Treasurer

Asst. Treasurer

Director: Funding, Loans, Taxes, Compliances

Director: Business Intelligence

Director: Public Relations

Director: Internal Goodwill and Friendship

All the above together form the Executive Committee- EC.

11.7: Multiple Chapters can be established in a city or district or town. The already existing Chapter EC-s in such locations will be consulted. But the power to establish a Chapter would rest with The Rise Global Secretariat.

11.8: The President of a Chapter shall have the tenure privilege of two years. As a general standard after the first formative two years a member can be elected to the post of president only for two times. With regard to other EC members of the first team their tenure will be two years, after which they can be re-elected once in two years.



11.9: Only a member in Good standing can be elected to become part of the EC. A member in Good standing is one who pays annual fee on time and with minimum attendance of 50% in regular meetings.

11.10: Where in a district/ city/ town there are more than one Chapter, all the Chapter EC members together shall elect a District EC- in the same order as Chapter EC. Their tenure shall be one year. After the first five years the election of District EC will take place during the District Convention.

11.11: The Chapter President/ District President are free to appoint additional EC members depending on specific needs and tasks.

11.12: The procedure of election shall be communicated by the Global Secretariat, and it shall be uniform to all Chapters.

## **12. How to Establish a Chapter**

Any one member or group of members interested shall write to the Global Secretariat expressing interest. The Director General of the Secretariat in writing will authorize the beginning of process of establishing the Chapter. Only after submission of names along with membership fees the Global Governing Council will approve the Chapter. Every Chapter has to give to itself a nice Thamizh name along with the city/ town/ village name.

## **13. Legal Status in Host Countries**

The Rise Global Governing Council will allow national organisations to be registered to coordinate various Chapters and activities depending on the legal eco systems of the countries. The three standard models acceptable now are:

1. Setting up a not for profit organisation.
2. Setting up a for profit tax payable entity.
3. Franchise model.

Whatever the model be, all Chapters/ Groups/ Franchises have to adopt the Global Charter and abide by the terms and conditions. If some exceptions are required only the Global Governing Council has the powers to allow such exceptions.

## **14. Virtual Chapters**

Based on the Covid-19 experience and reflections as well as considering the rapid digital transformations taking place, individual or group of members are allowed to float cross country/ cross continental Virtual Chapters involving friends, alumni affinities etc. Such Chapters will exist virtually though they can also have annual or periodical offline meetings. All rules applicable to others shall apply to them as well.

## **15. Website, Portal, Social Media**

A Master Website will be built as a portal for The Rise. Every Chapter will enter through this Master Portal. Individual Chapters are not allowed to build separate website using the name The Rise or Rise. Similarly there will only be one App for The Rise. Social media pages and groups can be created, but that has to be informed to the Global Secretariat and one person nominated by the Global Secretariat will be included in the social media page/ group with admin access.

## **16. ORGANIZATION - BYLAWS**

1. Legal Form : Tamil Rise Mutual Benefit Trust (Tamil Rise MBT).

2. Components of Tamil Rise MBT.

2.1 : Board of Trustees.

2.2 : Global Advisory Board.

2.3 : Global Governing Board.

2.4 : General Body of Members.

2.5 : Companies and Enterprises.

2.6 : Task oriented and Special Interest Groups.

2.7 : Global Secretariat.

2.8 : The Rise Trust.

3. Board of Trustees (BOT)

3.1 : The Board of Trustees (BOT) will legally represent and be accountable to the organization.

3.2 : The First BOT will be nominated by the Founder.

3.3 : Except the Founder tenure of other trustees will be five years. But they can be re – nominated.

3.4 : BOT is the custodian of all The Rise Assets, properties, investments and accounts.

3.5 : BOT is the custodian of the founding vision, mission and values of The Rise.

3.6 : Maximum number of Trustees is capped at 20.

4. Who can be selected as a Trustee.

4.1 : Absolute and uncompromising loyalty to Tamil, Tamils and humanity. Non Tamils are not eligible to be made as Trustees.

4.2 : The person should be an adult under law.

4.3 : Except the founding time Trustees others should have rendered minimum ten years of outstanding service to The Rise organization.

4.4 : The person if he/she has enrolled more than 1000 members to The Rise organization.

4.5 : The person should not have any criminal records, particularly crimes against children and women. However this clause does not apply to those who got convicted defending good causes like human rights, environment, civil, constitutional and political rights.

4.6 : Persons associated to organizations with extreme and exclusivist ideologies that militate against Tamil ARAM values shall not be considered.

4.7 : Persons holding publicly elected political office shall not be considered for being a Trustee.

4.8 : Persons who have prior record of bankruptcy, financial fraud and cheating shall not be considered to be a Trustee.

4.9 : The person should have invested substantially in The Rise ventures and enterprises.

4.10 : The person should have zero history of trouble making and petty quarrelling within the organization.

## 5. Limitations on the Founder and BOT.

5.1 : The Founder shall not alienate any property/ asset of the organization without the approval of the BOT.

5.2 : The Founder shall not bring in any of his blood relatives to BOT during his lifetime.

5.3 : Any alienation of assets / properties should have approval of two third members of the BOT. In case of a tie the founder will have the authority for decisive swing.

5.4 : Investments in any new ventures, acquiring of properties, assets shall be done with simple majority decision of the BOT.

5.5 : Any Trustee causing disrepute to The Rise or acting against the interests of The Rise, particularly causing internal division within The Rise shall be summarily removed by the Founder during his life time, any by simple majority of the BOT after that.

## 6. Global Advisory Board.

A Global Advisory Board will be set up by the BOT consisting of women and men of high standing, professional excellence, sterling human qualities and wisdom- to provide strategic vision to the organization. They will function without voting rights.

## 7. Global Governing Council

7.1 : Global Governing Council (GGC) is the global face of The Rise.

7.2 : The tenure of a GGC is one year. A person can be re- elected to GGC office five times.

7.3 : First two GGC will be directly appointed by the Founder. After the annuation of 24 months a new GGC will be formed through a process of election. From then on election process will take over the annual GGC formation task.

7.4: The GGC will have the following office bearers and members:

President

First Vice President

Ten more Vice Presidents for varied Tasks.

General Secretary

Joint Secretary

Treasurer

Director - Charity Fund Raising.

Director - PR & Public Communications.

Director - Global Institutional/ Governmental Relations.

Director - Global Marketing & Sales Support Group.

7.5 : New members can be added depending on various needs of the organization.

7.6 : The Rise Trust can also set up / establish Boards, Directorates, Companies, Co- operatives, Special offices for focused groups or specific purpose.

## 8. Powers, Duties, Responsibilities of the Global Governing Council.

8.1 : GGC is the global face of The Rise organization.

8.2 : GGC designs the Annual Budget.

8.3 : GGC plans the Annual Calendar of activities and plan of action.

8.4 : GGC approves entry of new members, and also decides removal of members.

8.5 : GGC plans development programs both for leaders and members.

8.6 : Duties of the Global Governing Council.

- All board members shall share in providing leadership of The Rise through key portfolios, e.g. Campaigns, Organizational Development, Fundraising, etc.
- The President shall represent and supervise The Rise, be in overall charge of The Rise and shall preside over the general body meetings and other meetings of The Rise.
- The First Vice- President shall assist the President. In cases where the President is unable to perform his or her duties because of illness or any other reason, or upon the request of the Chair and in other situations where necessary, the First Vice- President shall perform the duties of the President.
- The Secretary shall be responsible for fulfilling all statutory obligations of The Rise with the assistance of the The Rise Office. This includes responsibility for

the keeping of records of meetings; and maintaining lists of members and groups/networks. He/she shall be responsible for preparing the Annual Report and submitting it to the BOT & AGM.

- The Treasurer shall be responsible for fulfilling all statutory financial obligations of The Rise with the assistance of the The Rise Office. This includes receiving and disbursing of monies and to incur expenditure as per budget estimates approved by the general body and maintain regular accounts, prepare and submit quarterly and annual statements of accounts of The Rise to the GGC and to submit an annual audited statement of accounts to the membership during AGM.

#### 9. Meeting of Global Governing Council.

9.1 : All GGC members shall attend all meetings.

9.2 : The GGC shall meet at least four times in a year at an interval of three (3) months.

9.3 : One half of the members of the GGC shall form the quorum at GGC Meetings. In the event there is a lack of quorum, the meeting may be reconvened another day with a clear 24 hours notice and shall be deemed to be in order.

9.4 : The meetings shall be presided over by the Chair or in his/her absence the First Vice-Chair. If both the Chair and First Vice-Chair are absent then the GGC shall elect a Chair for that meeting.

9.5 : The GGC shall take decisions by majority vote of the members present and voting at the meeting.

9.6 : Every member of the GGC shall be entitled to receive at least seven (7) days notice of any meeting except for the meeting held immediately after the Annual General Meeting.

9.7 : The Secretary shall convene the meetings of the GGC in consultation with the Chair or in his/her absence the First Vice-Chair. In the absence of the Secretary or failure of the Secretary to convene the meeting, the Chair or in absence the First Vice-Chair may convene the meeting.

9.8 : The newly elected GGC shall convene its first Board Meeting within fourteen (14) days of the Annual General Meeting.

#### 10. Resignation from the Global Governing Council.

Members may resign from the GGC via written notice to the Board, and the said resignation is to take effect sixty (60) days from the date of notice.

#### 11. Suspension/Termination from the Global Governing Council.

A member of the GGC may be suspended or terminated in cases of gross misconduct and/or conflict of interest.

#### 12. Filling of vacancies in Global Governing Council.

The GGC shall appoint/co-opt a member of The Rise Leadership Assembly to replace any vacancies on the Board for its remaining term of office.

### 13. Committees.

The GGC shall appoint committees for the administration of The Rise as and when needed. Such committees include, but are not limited to, the following:

#### 13.1 : Appeals Committee

- In the event of an appeal from members relating to membership, local groups and networks, the GGC shall convene an Appeals Committee.
- The Appeals Committee shall comprise of three (3) members, of whom one (1) representative is appointed by the GGC, one (1) representative is selected by the aggrieved party and one (1) representative is mutually agreed by the parties.. These representatives must be fully paid-up members of The Rise.
- The Appeals Committee shall report its recommendations /findings to the GGC. If the recommendations/findings are not agreeable to either the aggrieved party and/or the GGC, the matter shall be referred to the BOT for a final decision.

### 14. Networks

14.1 : A Network is either a singularly focused group based on profession or interest like Medical practitioners, Civil Engineers, Lawyers, IT professionals etc.

OR

A referral business based group where in only one person from a specific trade / profession / entrepreneurship is admitted.

14.2 : The GGC when satisfied that a network meets the criteria laid out in the Terms of Reference for Networks may grant them recognition as Networks.

14.3 : A registered Network shall have its own rules of conduct, elect its own officers and maintain its own accounts, consistent with The Rise Vision and Mission and Values.

14.4 : The Rise shall not be held accountable for any debts and liabilities of any of The Rise Network.

14.5 : The GGC may de-recognize any The Rise Network if:

- a) it fails to be active for a period of one year;
- b) it does not submit network reports and accounts every six (6) months;
- c) it violates any of the rules and regulations of The Rise or Terms of Reference for Networks.

### 15. Termination of Membership

The GGC may by a two-third majority of members present and voting give a warning, or temporarily suspend or after giving due notice of 14 days and hearing, permanently exclude a member if it is of the opinion that the member has connection with or membership of any organization, which would jeopardize RISE Global's image of impartiality or does not act within the spirit of the vision, mission,

core values and methods of RISE Global or violates any of the provisions of the RISE Global, and constitutes an immediate threat to the reputation, integrity or operation of The RISE International.

#### 15.1 : Membership Appeals

A person/chapter/network whose membership application is rejected or has been suspended or terminated by the Board of Governance may appeal to the Appeals Committee within 60 days of the communication of such decision.

### 16. Annual General Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of The Rise shall be held every year within five (5) months from the close of the financial year. The business to be transacted at the general body meeting shall be as follows:

- to approve the Annual Report of activities of The Rise;
- to consider the annual financial statements;
- to consider the operational priorities and budget of the organization for the year;
- to elect the GGC members each year.
- to consider resolutions proposed by members and/or the GGC;
- to consider and decide on any other matters, that it considers necessary in the interests of the organization.

#### 16.1 : Notice of general body meetings.

- Every member who has paid up her/his membership dues and whose name is on the GGC membership list is entitled to receive at least thirty (30) days notice of any general body meeting of The Rise.
- Notice of general body meetings shall be sent to all The Rise members via any of the following methods, namely post, email or fax.
- The Notice of General Meeting shall include an invitation to members to submit resolutions for consideration to the general body.

#### 16.2 : Agenda.

The agenda of the AGM shall be sent to the member at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

#### 16.3 : Minutes.

Minutes of the previous AGM shall be sent to the member at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

#### 16.4 : Voting.

Individual members are entitled to vote and elect members of the GGC so long as they have paid all membership and any outstanding dues to The Rise by the deadline set by the Election Committee.

#### 16.5 : Elections.

Elections to the GGC shall be held in accordance with the Election Guidelines (See Appendix 'C').

#### 16.6 : Notice of Members' Resolution(s).

- The Notice of General Meeting shall include an invitation to members to submit resolutions for consideration to the general body.
- Members wanting to submit resolution(s) for consideration by the general body shall submit the said resolution(s) to the Board of Governance at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting. The resolution(s) shall include the name of both proposer and seconder who must be The Rise members in good standing.
- The GGC can also raise resolutions for consideration by the general body.
- All resolutions shall be disseminated to the membership at least seven (7) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- Notwithstanding the above-mentioned provisions, the General Meeting may, by a simple majority, accept for consideration, any resolution that has not been disseminated to the membership earlier, if there are compelling reasons to do so.
- Such resolution(s) shall be placed before and debated at the Annual General Meeting prior to a vote being taken. Decision shall be by simple majority of the members present and voting at the general meeting.

#### 16.7 : Quorum.

At least one-half of the total paid-up membership of The Rise or the paid-up members present representing twice the number of GGC members, whichever is the lesser, must be present at the general meeting for its proceedings to be valid and to constitute a quorum.

#### 17. Extraordinary General Meetings.

The Secretary in consultation with the Chair may summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of the membership in pursuance of a decision of the GGC or on receipt of requests for such meeting from one-tenth of the members with a notice of at least twenty-one (21) days. In such a meeting only the specific issue/issues for which the extraordinary general meeting has been called can be considered.

#### 18. Accounts and Audit.

18.1 : BOT shall maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare an annual statement of accounts in such form as may be prescribed by the BOT and various statutes.

18.2 : The accounts of The Rise shall be audited annually by a Licensed Accountant to be appointed by the BOT.

18.3 : Any expenditure incurred in connection with the audit of accounts of The Rise shall be payable by The Rise.

18.4 : The audited statement of accounts together with the auditor's report shall be placed before



the joint session of BOT & GGC for consideration and approval.

#### 19. Bank Accounts.

The account(s) of The Rise shall be opened in any bank in their respective country and the BOT shall determine its mode of operation.

18.1 : Chapters may open Bank Accounts only with the approval of BOT.

18.2 : The details of the Bank, Account have to be reported to the Secretariat.

18.3 : The Account has to be operated jointly by two among the three office bearers.

18.4 : The Accounts have to be audited by “Internal Audit Committee” every six months and report sent to the Global Secretariat.

18.5 : Global Secretariat has powers to investigate discrepancies and take remedial measures.

#### 20. Financial Year.

The financial year of The Rise shall be from 1st April to 31st March.

#### 21. Amendments to the The Rise Constitution.

The Constitution may be amended by any The Rise General Body Meeting provided the amendments are not in conflict with the core values, vision, mission, methods, policies of The Rise Charter.

Proposed amendments to the Constitution, other than those moved by the GGC, shall be supported by at least 10 individual, fully-paid up members.

The Constitution, which includes all Appendices, may be amended at any General Body Meeting by a two-third vote of the paid-up members present and voting at such a meeting, provided that the proposed amendment(s) forms part of the agenda and is circulated amongst members at least seven (7) days before the meeting at which such amendments are considered.

#### 22. Director General.

22.1 : Director General, appointed by the BOT, shall head the Secretariat of The Rise.

22.2 : The Director General is accountable to the BOT through GGC.

22.3 : The Director General shall be responsible for planning and execution of The Rise programmes in line with the direction taken by the members at the Annual General Meeting and/or as directed by the GGC.

22.4 : The Director General shall hire, manage and account for all paid staff working for The Rise office.

22.5 : The Director General is an ex-officio member of the GGC with no voting rights.

22.6 : The Director General will attend the GGC meeting as and when requested by the GGC members to give any updates and to present any reports as per the direction of the GGC from time to time.

22.7 : The Director General in consultation with the GGC and The Founder shall appoint any number of Directors or General Managers for specific tasks.

### 23. The Rise Trust.

A separate Rise Trust has been established as a Non- Profit organization to perform the humanitarian and developmental agenda and activities of The Rise MBT. Founder Trustee will be the life time Trustee. It will be governed by a Board of 7 Trustees including the Founder Trustee decided by the BOT of The Rise MBT. Other Trustees will serve for a period of five years as new Trustees get inducted on a rotational basis. The Rise MBT will set apart 7% of its gross incomes for humanitarian and developmental activities under The Rise Non Profit Trust.

### 24. Dissolution of The Rise.

The Rise can be dissolved by any one of the following:

- (a) The BOT of The Rise- MBT has the final powers to dissolve The Rise- MBT.
- (b) Upon a resolution proposed by the BOT and passed by at least two-thirds of the members of The Rise MBT, and accepted by the GGC of The Rise- MBT.

On dissolution of The Rise, any property remaining after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be disposed off as directed by the Board of Trustees.

### 25. The Rise Mutual Benefit Trust-

Office Address:  
The Rise Mutual Benefit Trust,  
No. 68, Luz Church Road, Mylapore, Chennai- 600004.

#### 25.1: Bank Account.

Account Name: The Rise Mutual Benefit Trust  
A/C Number: 921020009514586  
CIF ID: 904993538  
IFSC CODE: UTIB0001915  
Bank Name: Axis Bank Ltd  
Branch : Gopalapuram.

#### 25.2: Auditors.

Auditor for The Rise MBT will be appointed / approved during Annual General Body meeting.

### 26. Arbitration.

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in connection with The Rise Charter and organization have to be settled within and by the Arbitration Committee determined and set up by the Rise Global Governing Council.