

**Bylaws of Roots of Peace**  
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

**I. Name**

The Name of this corporation is Roots of Peace.

**II. Principal Office**

The principal office for the transaction of the activities and affairs of this corporation is located at 1299 Fourth Street, Suite 200, San Rafael, in Marin County, California. The board of directors may change the location of the principal office. Any such change of location must be noted by the secretary on these bylaws opposite this Section; alternatively, this Section may be amended to state the new location.

The board may at any time establish branch or subordinate offices at any place or places where this corporation is qualified to conduct its activities.

**III. Purposes**

This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code section 501 (c) (3) or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law. Despite any other provision in these articles, the corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that do not further the purposes of this corporation, and the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by (a) a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code section 501 (c) (3) or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law, or (b) a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Internal Revenue Code section 170 (c) (2) or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law.

In the context of these general purposes, the corporation, among other things, shall engage in activities and projects aimed at eradicating landmine, returning demined land to agricultural use, restoring the land's economic viability, strengthening community values and supporting the employment of landmine victims in the cycle of planning, cultivating, and harvesting. A primary focus shall be to increase and enhance the public's understanding and awareness of the dangers posed by landmine in the world.

**IV. Construction and Definitions**

Unless the context requires otherwise, the general provisions, rules of construction, and definitions in the California Nonprofit Corporation Law shall govern the construction of these bylaws. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, the masculine gender includes the singular, and the term "person" includes both a legal entity and a natural person.

**V. Dedication of Assets**

This corporation's assets are irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes. No part of the net earnings, properties, or assets of the corporation, on dissolution or otherwise, shall

inure to the benefit of any private person or individual, or to any director or officer of the corporation. On liquidation or dissolution, all properties and assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of the corporation shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or corporation that is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes and that has established its exempt status under Internal Revenue Code section 501 (c) (3)

## **VI. No Voting Members**

This corporation shall have no voting members within the meaning of the Nonprofit Corporation Law. The corporation's board of directors may, in its discretion, admit individuals to one or more classes of non-voting members; the class or classes shall have such rights and obligations as the board finds appropriate.

## **VII. Board of Directors**

### **1. General Powers**

Subject to the provisions and limitations of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law and any other applicable laws, and subject to any limitations of the articles of incorporation or bylaws, the corporation's activities and affairs shall be managed, and all corporate powers shall be exercised, by or under the direction of the board.

### **2. Specific Powers**

Without prejudice to the general powers set forth in Section VII.1 of these bylaws, but subject to the same limitations, the board shall have the power to:

a. Appoint and remove, at the pleasure of the board, all corporate officers, agents, and employees; prescribe powers and duties for them as are consistent with the law, the articles of incorporation, and these bylaws; fix their compensation; and require from them security for faithful service.

b. Change the principal office or the principal business office in California from one location to another; cause the corporation to be qualified to conduct its activities in any other state, territory, dependency, or country; conduct its activities in or outside California; and designate a place in or outside California for holding any meeting of the corporation.

c. Borrow money and incur indebtedness on the corporation's behalf and cause to be executed and delivered for the corporation's purposes, in the corporate name, promissory notes, bonds, debentures, deeds of trust, mortgages, pledges, hypothecations, and other evidences of debt and securities.

d. Adopt and use a corporate seal; prescribe the forms of membership certificates; and alter the forms of the seal and certificates

### **3. Number and Qualifications**

The board of directors shall consist of at least 3 but no more than 15 directors unless changed by amendment to these bylaws. The exact number of directors shall be fixed, within those limits, by a resolution adopted by the board of directors. The directors shall be over the age of 21, and able and willing to promote the corporation's purposes.

#### **4. Restrictions on Interested Persons**

No more than 49 percent of the persons serving on the board may be "interested persons." An interested person is (a) any person compensated by the corporation for services rendered to it within the previous 12 months, whether as a full-time or part-time employee, independent contractor, or otherwise, excluding any reasonable compensation paid to a director as director; and (b) any brother, sister, ancestor, descendant, spouse, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, or father-in-law of such person. However, any violation of this paragraph shall not affect the validity or enforceability of transactions entered into by the corporation

#### **5. Nomination by Committee**

The chairman of the board or, if none, the president shall appoint a committee to nominate qualified candidates for election to the board at least 30 days before the date of any election of directors. The nominating committee shall make its report at least 10 days before the date of the election, or at such other time as the board may set, and the secretary shall forward to each member, with the notice of meeting required by these bylaws, a list of all candidates nominated by committee.

#### **6. Vacancy on Board of Directors**

a. Events causing vacancies. A vacancy or vacancies on the board of directors shall occur in the event of (a) the death or resignation of any director; (b) the declaration by resolution of the board of a vacancy in the office of a director who has been convicted of a felony, declared of unsound mind by a court order, or found by final order or judgment of any court to have breached a duty under California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law, Chapter 2, Article 3; or (c) the increase of the authorized number of directors.

b. Resignation of directors. Except as provided below, any director may resign by giving written notice to the chairman of the board, if any, or to the president or the secretary of the board. The resignation shall be effective when the notice is given unless it specifies a later time for the resignation to become effective. If a director's resignation is effective at a later time, the board may elect a successor to take office as of the date when the resignation becomes effective.

c. Filing vacancies. Vacancies on the board may be filled by approval of the board or, if the number of directors then in office is less than a quorum, by (1) the unanimous written consent of the directors then in office, (2) the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then in office at a meeting held according to notice or waivers of notice complying with Corporations Code section 5211, or (3) a sole remaining director.

d. No vacancy on reduction of number of directors. Any reduction of the authorized number of directors shall not result in any director's being removed before his or her term of office expires.

## **7. Meetings of Board of Directors**

a. Place. Meetings of the board shall be held at any place within or outside California that has been designated by resolution of the board or in the notice of the meeting or, if not so designated, at the principal office of the corporation.

b. Meetings by telephone, etc. Any board meeting may be held by conference telephone, video screen communication, or other communications equipment. Participation in a meeting under this Section shall constitute presence in person at the meeting if all of the following apply:

(i) Each member participating in the meeting can communicate concurrently with all other members.

(ii) Each member is provided the means of participating in all matters before the board, including the capacity to propose, or to interpose an objection to, a specific action to be taken by the corporation.

(iii) The board has adopted and implemented a means of verifying both of the following:

(1) A person communicating by telephone, video screen, or other communications equipment is a director entitled to participate in the board meeting.

(2) All statements, questions, actions, or votes were made by that director and not by another person not permitted to participate as a director.

c. Annual and other meetings. The board shall hold an annual general meeting for purposes of organization, election of officers and transaction of other business. The time of the annual meeting shall be established by the board. Thereafter notice of this meeting is not required.

Other general meetings of the board may be held without notice at such time and place as the board may fix from time to time.

d. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the board for any purpose may be called at any time by the chairman of the board, if any, the president or any vice president, the secretary of any two directors.

Notice of the time and place of special meetings shall be given to each director by (a) personal delivery of written notice; (b) first-class mail, postage prepaid; (c) telephone, including a voice messaging system or other system or technology designed to record and communicate messages, either directly to the director or to a person at the director's office who would reasonably be expected to communicate that notice promptly to the

director; (d) telegram; (e) facsimile; (f) electronic mail; or (g) other electronic means. All such notices shall be given or sent to the director's address or telephone number as shown on the corporation's records.

Notices sent by first-class mail shall be deposited in the United States mails at least four days before the time set for the meeting. Notices given by personal delivery, telephone, electronic mail, or telegraph shall be delivered, telephoned, sent or given to the telegraph company, respectively, at least 48 hours before the time set for the meeting.

The notice shall state the time of the meeting and the place, if the place is other than the corporation's principal office. The notice need not specify the purpose of the meeting.

e. Quorum A majority of the number of directors then in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business except adjournment. Every action taken or decision made by a majority of the directors present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present shall be an act of the board, subject to the more stringent provisions of the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law, including, without limitation, those provisions relating to (a) approval of contracts or transactions in which a director has a direct or indirect material financial interest, (b) approval of certain transactions between corporations having common directorships, (c) creation of and appointment to committees of the board, and (d) indemnification of directors. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business, despite the withdrawal of some directors, if any action taken or decision made is approved by at least majority of the required quorum for that meeting.

f. Waiver of notice. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any director who, either before or after the meeting, signs a waiver of notice, a written consent to the holding of the meeting, or an approval of the minutes of the meeting. The waiver of notice or consent need not specify the purpose of the meeting. All such waivers, consents, and approvals shall be filed with the corporate records or made part of the minutes of the meetings. Notice of a meeting need not be given to any director who attends the meeting and who, before or at the beginning of the meeting, does not protest the lack of notice to him or her.

g. Adjournment. A majority of the directors present whether or not a quorum is present, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place.

h. Notice of adjourned meeting. Notice of the time and place of holding an adjourned meeting need not be given unless the original meeting is adjourned for more than 24 hours. If the original meeting is adjourned for more than 24 hours, notice of any adjournment to another time and place shall be given, before the time of the adjourned meeting, to the directors who were not present at the time of the adjournment.

## **8. Action Without Meeting**

Any action that the board is required or permitted to take may be taken without a meeting if all board members consent in writing to the action; provided, however, that the consent

of any director who has a material financial interest in a transaction to which the corporation is a party and who is an “interested director” as defined in Corporations Code section 5233 shall not be required for approval of that transaction. Such action by written consent shall have the same force and effect as any other validly approved action of the board. All such consents shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the board.

## **9. Compensation and Reimbursement**

Directors and members of committees of the board may receive such compensation, if any, for their services as directors or officers, and such reimbursement of expenses, as the board may establish by resolution to be just and reasonable as to the corporation at the time that the resolution is adopted.

## **10. Committees of Board of Directors**

a. Creation and powers. The board, by resolution adopted by a majority of the directors then in office, may create one or more committees, each consisting of two or more directors and no one who is not a director, to serve at the pleasure of the board. Appointments to committees of the board shall be by majority vote of the directors then in office/authorized number of directors. The board may appoint one or more directors as alternate members of any such committee, who may replace any absent member at any meeting. Any such committee shall have all the authority of the board, to the extent provided in the board resolution, except that no committee may:

- (i) Fill vacancies on the board or any committee of the board;
- (ii) Fix compensation of the directors for serving on the board or on any committee;
- (iii) Amend or repeal bylaws or adopt new bylaws;
- (iv) Amend or repeal any resolution of the board that by its express terms is not so amendable or repealable;
- (v) Create any other committees of the board or appoint the members of committees of the board;
- (vi) Expend corporate funds to support a nominee for director if more people have been nominated for director than can be elected; or
- (vii) Approve any contract or transaction to which the corporation is a party and in which one or more of its directors has a material financial interest, except as special approval is provided for in Corporations Code section 5233 (d) (3).

b. Meetings and action. Meetings and actions of committees of the board shall be governed by, held, and taken under the provisions of these bylaws concerning meetings and other board actions, except that the time for general meeting of such committees and

the calling of special meetings of such committees may be set either by board resolution or, if none, by resolution of the committee. Minutes of each meeting shall be kept and shall be filed with the corporate records. The board may adopt rules for the governance of any committee as long as the rules are consistent with these bylaws. If the board has not adopted rules, the committee may do so.

## **VIII. Officers**

### **1. Offices**

The officers of this corporation shall be a president, a secretary, and a chief financial officer. The corporation, at the board's discretion, may also have a chairman of the board, one or more vice presidents, one or more assistant secretaries, one or more assistant treasurers, and such other officers as may be appointed under section VIII.1 of these bylaws.

### **2. Duplication of Office Holders**

Any number of offices may be held by the same person, except that neither the secretary nor the chief financial officer may serve concurrently as either the president or the chairman of the board.

### **3. Election**

The officers of this corporation shall be chosen annually by the board and shall serve at the pleasure of the board, subject to the rights of any officer under any employment contract.

### **4. Other Officers**

The board may appoint and authorize the chairman of the board, the president, or another officer to appoint any other officer that the corporation may require. Each appointed officer shall have the title and authority, hold office for the period, and perform the duties specified in the bylaws or established by the board.

### **5. Removal**

Without prejudice to the rights of any officer under an employment contract, the board may remove any officer with or without cause. An officer who was not chosen by the board may be removed by any other officer on whom the board confers the power of removal

### **6. Resignation**

Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the board. The resignation shall take effect on the date the notice is received or at any later time specified in the notice, the resignation need not be accepted to be effective. Any resignation shall be without prejudice to any rights of the corporation under any contract to which the officer is a party

### **7. Vacancies**

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or any other cause shall be filled in the manner prescribed in these bylaws for normal appointments to that office provided, however, that vacancies need not be filled on an annual basis

### **8. Chairman of the Board**

If a chairman of the board of directors is elected, he or she shall preside at board meetings and shall exercise and perform such other power and duties as the board may assign from time to time. If there is no president, the chairman of the board shall also be the chief executive officer and shall have the power and duties of the president of the corporation set forth in these bylaws.

### **9. President**

Subject to such supervisory power as the board may give to the chairman of the board, if any, an subject to the control of the board, the president shall be the general manager of the corporation and shall supervise, direct, and control the corporation's activities, affairs, and office. The president shall preside at all members' meetings and, in the absence of the chairman of the board, or if none, at all board meetings. The president shall have such other power and duties as the board or the bylaws may require.

### **10. Vice Presidents**

If the president is absent or disabled, the vice presidents, if any, in order of their rank as fixed by the board, or, if not ranked, a vice president designated by the board, shall perform all duties of the president. When so acting, a vice president shall have all powers of and be subject to all restrictions on the president. The vice presidents shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as the board or the bylaws may require.

### **11. Secretary**

The secretary shall keep or cause to be kept, at the corporation's principal office or such other place the board may direct, a book of minutes of all meetings, proceedings, and actions of the board of committees of the board, and of members' meetings. The minutes of meetings shall include the time and place that the meeting was held; whether the meeting was annual, general, or special and, if special, how authorized; the notice given; the names of persons present at board and committee meetings; and the number of members present or represented at members' meetings.

The secretary shall keep or cause to be kept, at the principal California office, a copy of the article of incorporation and bylaws, as amended to date.

The secretary shall keep or cause to be kept, at the corporation's principal office or at a place determined by resolution of the board, a record of the corporation's members, showing each member's name, address, and class of membership.

The secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of members, of the board, and of committees of the board that these bylaws require to be given. The



secretary shall keep the corporate seal, if any, in safe custody and shall have such other power and perform such other duties as the board or the bylaws may require.

## **12. Chief Financial Officer**

The chief financial officer shall keep and maintain, or cause to be kept and maintained, adequate and correct books and accounts of the corporation's properties and transactions. The chief financial officer shall send or cause to be given to the directors such financial statements and reports as are required to be given by law, by these bylaws, or by the board. The books of account shall be open to inspection by any director at all reasonable times.

The chief financial officer shall (i) deposit, or cause to be deposited, all money and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the corporation with such depositories as the board may designate; (ii) disburse the corporation's funds as the board may order; (iii) render to the president, chairman of the board, if any, and the board, when requested, an account of all transactions as chief financial officer and of the financial condition of the corporation; and (iv) have such other powers and perform such other duties as the board or the bylaws may require.

If required by the board, the chief financial officer shall give the corporation a bond in the amount and with the surety or sureties specified by the board for faithful performance of the duties of the office and for restoration to the corporation of all of its books, papers, vouchers, money, and other property of every kind in the possession or under the control of the chief financial officer on his or her death, resignation, retirement, or removal from office.

## **IX. Contracts with Directors and Officers**

No director of this corporation nor any other corporation, firm, association, or other entity in which one or more of this corporation's directors are directors or have a material financial interest, shall be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract or transaction, unless (a) the material facts regarding that director's financial interest in such contract or transaction or regarding such common directorship, officership, or financial interest are fully disclosed in good faith and noted in the minutes, or are known to all members of the board prior to the board's consideration of such contract or transaction; (b) such contract or transaction is authorized in good faith by a majority of the board by a vote sufficient for that purpose without counting the votes of the interested directors; (c) before authorizing or approving the transaction, the board considers and in good faith decides after reasonable investigation that the corporation could not obtain a more advantageous arrangement with reasonable effort under the circumstances; and (d) the corporation for its own benefit enters into the transaction, which is fair and reasonable to the corporation at the time the transaction is entered into.

This section does not apply to a transaction that is part of an educational or charitable program of this corporation if it (a) is approved or authorized by the corporation in good faith and without unjustified favoritism and (b) results in a benefit to one or more

directors or the families because they are in the class of persons intended to be benefited by the educational or charitable program of this corporation

#### **X. Loans to Directors and Officers**

This corporation shall not lend any money or property to or guarantee the obligation of any director or officer without the approval of the California Attorney General; provided, however, that the corporation may advance money to a director or officer of the corporation for expenses reasonably anticipated to be incurred in the performance of his or her duties. If that director or officer would be entitled to reimbursement for such expenses by the corporation.

#### **XI. Indemnification**

To the fullest extent permitted by law, this corporation shall indemnify its directors, officers, employees, and other persons described in Corporations Code section 5238 (a), including persons formerly occupying any such positions, against all expenses, judgments, fines, settlements, and other amounts actually and reasonable incurred by them in connection with any “proceeding,” as that term is used in that section, and including an action by or in the right of the corporation, by reason of the fact that the person is or was a person described in that section. “Expenses,” as used in this bylaw, shall have the same meaning as in that section of the Corporations Code.

On written request to the board by any person seeking indemnification under Corporations Code section 5238 (b) or section 5238 (c), the board shall promptly decide under Corporations Code section 5238 (e) whether the applicable standard of conduct set forth in Corporations Code section 5238 (b) or section 5238 (c) has been met and, if so, the board shall authorize indemnification.

To the fullest extent permitted by law and except as otherwise determined by the board in a specific instance, expenses incurred by a person seeking indemnification under this Section of these bylaws in defending any proceeding covered by those Sections shall be advanced by the corporation before final disposition of the proceeding, on receipt by the corporation of an undertaking by or on behalf of that person that the advance will be repaid unless it is ultimately found that the person is entitled to be indemnified by the corporation for those expenses.

#### **XII. Insurance**

This corporation shall have the right to purchase and maintain insurance to the full extent permitted by law on behalf of its officers, directors, employees, and other agents, to cover any liability asserted against or incurred by any officer, director, employee, or agent in such capacity or arising from the officer’s, director’s, employee’s, or agent’s status as such.

#### **XIII. Corporate Records**

##### **1. Maintenance of records**

This corporation shall keep:

(a) Adequate and correct books and records of account; and

(b) Written minutes of the proceedings of its board, and committees of the board

## **2. Directors' right to inspect**

Every director shall have the absolute right at any reasonable time to inspect the corporation's books, records, documents of every kind, physical properties, and the records of each subsidiary. The inspection may be made in person or by the director's agent or attorney. The right of inspection includes the right to copy and make extracts of documents.

## **3. Annual report**

The board shall cause an annual report to be sent to the directors within 120 days after the end of the corporation's fiscal year. That report shall contain the following information, in appropriate detail:

(a) The assets and liabilities, including the trust funds, of the corporation as of the end of the fiscal year;

(b) The principal changes in assets and liabilities, including trust funds;

(c) The corporation's revenue or receipts, both unrestricted and restricted to particular purposes;

(d) The corporation's expenses or disbursements for both general and restricted purposes; and

(e) An independent accountants' report or, if none, the certificate of an authorized officer of the corporation that such statements were prepared without audit from the corporation's books and records.

This requirement of an annual report shall not apply if the corporation receives less than \$25,000 in gross receipts during the fiscal year, provided, however, that the information specified above for inclusion in an annual report must be furnished annually to all directors and to any member who requests it in writing.

## **4. Annual statement of transactions**

As part of the annual report to all directors or as a separate document if no annual report is issued, the corporation shall, within 120 days after the end of the corporation's fiscal year, annually prepare and furnish to each director a statement of any transaction or indemnification of the following kind:

(a) Any transaction (i) in which the corporation, or its parent or subsidiary, was a party, (ii) in which an "interested person" had a direct or indirect material financial

interest, and (iii) which involved more than \$50,000. For this purpose, an “interested person” is either:

(1) Any director or officer of the corporation, its parent, or subsidiary (but mere common directorship shall not be considered such an interest); or

(2) Any holder of more than 10 percent of the voting power of the corporation, its parent, or its subsidiary. The statement shall include a brief description of the transaction, the names of interested persons involved, their relationship to the corporation, the nature of their interest in the transaction and, if practicable, the amount of that interest, provided that if the transaction was with a partnership in which the interested person is a partner, only the interest of the partnership need be stated.