*International Social Tourism Organisation - ISTO*
**Alliance on Training and Research in Social and Fair Tourism**
*(Hereinafter called the Alliance)*

*Regulatory Framework*

Preamble

Considering the wish of the ISTO to make the scientific committee more dynamic;

Considering the needs in the field of training and research on social and fair tourism on an international level;

Considering the conference held at the Université Libre de Bruxelles in April 2009;

Considering the academic workshop at the European Forum of Social Tourism which took place at Malaga on the 15th of October 2009;

<u>An Alliance for training and research in the field of social and fair tourism has been established within the ISTO.</u>

The Alliance wishes to embody the results of the continued collaboration favouring innovative research, the creation of new networks, and the training and mutual learning in the field of social and fair tourism.

The creation of the Alliance is based on two basic principles:

- The recognition that research and training in social and fair tourism benefit greatly from partnerships. Therefore, projects that involve more than an academic establishment or an institute of higher education as well as one or more members of the ISTO (actor of social tourism, regional authorities, etc.) will be stimulated;

- The recognition in this context that the actors of social and fair tourism in the field are also creators of knowledge, as are researchers or university professors.

Article 1

The Alliance for training and research in the field of social and fair tourism is established within the ISTO. This Alliance constitutes a collaboration platform for its member organizations, primarily universities and institutes for higher education, in order to create the following on an international scale:

- research conducted in partnerships;
- professional and scientific publications;
- research and training conferences;
- courses in distance education.

## Article 2

The institutional members of the alliance are all members of the ISTO. On the other hand, it is possible to make use of resources outside of the ISTO for certain projects in an ad hoc manner. University professors or researchers can become members of the Alliance but only on an individual basis without their respective organisation being a member of ISTO. They have to pay a yearly membership fee fixed by the ISTO Executive Committee.

## Article 3

Under the general authority of the executive board of the ISTO, the Alliance can make decisions and take action autonomously in its field of activity, to the extent that these fall under the concerns and demands of the ISTO and its members in the field of training and research.

## Article 4

Just as any other member organization a university or institute for higher education remains free to get involved or not in any specific project supported or proposed by the Alliance. The professors or researchers of an institute or another organisation, who get involved in a training or research project, can do this either in their personal capacity, as a delegate of their institute or organization, or on behalf of the Alliance and the ISTO.

## Article 5

An annual meeting of the members of the Alliance will be composed of the delegates of the universities and institutes for higher education and other member organizations of the ISTO who are interested in the research and training topics and who have requested in writing to take part.

## Article 6

The annual meeting of the members of the Alliance will take place at the General Meeting of the members of the ISTO and at any other moment chosen by the coordinating committee of the Alliance. The meetings can take a virtual form, making use of the required electronic means.

## Article 7

A committee of the Alliance, composed of a maximum of seven people, will coordinate the activities. An election will take place at a regular meeting of the members of the Alliance. The committee is composed of representatives of organisations who are both members of the Alliance and of ISTO, except for one representative representing the individual members. A person chosen from within the coordinating committee will act as the primary coordinator.

## Article 8

The ISTO will provide, within the limits of its means, resources and priorities, the basic services of its Administration to support the coordination of the Alliance. The ISTO will offer a separate space to the activities of the Alliance on its website and its magazine *Le tourisme social dans le monde* (*Social Tourism International*).

## Article 9

It is the task of the partner institutes and organizations to find the required financing for the projects, but the synergy between the partners may be supported by funds from a foundation, the European Community, or from any other public or private organization on the basis of a research or training programme on an international level proposed by the Alliance. The financing obtained for the Alliance in general is managed by the ISTO.

## Article 10

The salaries of the researchers or professors of an institute or an organization working on a training or research project of the Alliance, fall under a specific agreement to this end, which specifies the responsibilities of the stakeholders.

## Article 11

Research conducted by an institute and its professors, or by another member organization and its researchers in the framework of the Alliance is not confidential, except for justified exceptions. It can be diffused among the members of the ISTO and through the communication mediums of the ISTO.

## Article 12

The professors and researchers hold the intellectual property rights to their work.

*Final Version*