2. The membership (who can be a member)

Background

“…the admission of new members must be decided by the general assembly. For practical reasons, the board of directors may decide, but the general assembly will keep, if it wishes, a right of confirmation or veto, to be exercised during the first general assembly following the decision taken by the board.

Applications for membership must be dated and confirmed upon receipt. A refusal must be justified in writing and the applicant must be notified immediately. The applicant must have the right to appeal to a court of law (to be defined). If the cooperative or the court of law has not met the time limit set by the law for the decision, membership is presumed”. (ADD quote)

Fairtrade Standard: It needs to be clear who is a member of your organisation. Therefore, you must have written rules to determine who can become a member and you must keep a record of your members.

Activity description

The aim of this activity is to encourage analysis of the basic parameters needed to define an organisation’s membership.

The trainer will distribute to each newly formed group (i) a list of producer names, with information relevant to the organisation, and (ii) a members rights and responsibilities form that should be used as guidance for the next step of this exercise.

The trainer will ask the group to determine the reasons why each producer in the list is eligible or ineligible to become a member of the organisation. The decision must be made by following the member rights and responsibilities form.

The trainer will ask participants to share with the wider group their decisions and the reasoning behind them, and then proceed to close the exercise, highlighting the main points of the presentations and connecting them to the relevant Fairtrade Standard.

## Membership in Kia Ora Cooperative

1. Requirements for membership
   1. Membership shall be open to farmers who meet the following qualifications:
      1. The member is between the age of 18 and 50
      2. The member owns between 2 and 4 hectares of land
      3. The member has short hair
      4. The member has finished primary school
      5. The member likes to drink coffee
      6. The member lives in the Poponua Village
   2. Application for membership

The General Assembly shall decide on all applications subject to the Clause 1.1.

1. Rights and Responsibilities of members
   1. Membership Fees
      1. Every member shall pay a membership fee of 524 dollars upon admission to the organisation
      2. All fees and fines paid by members shall be used for wages for the organisation’s management team
   2. Responsibilities of the member
      1. The member is committed to growing coffee to sell to the organisation
      2. The member participates in elections and decision-making processes
      3. The member provides the necessary capital to the organisation when needed
      4. The member, as part of the General Assembly, understands and adopts the constitution
      5. The member listens to the annual reports during the Annual General Meeting
      6. The member participates in decisions on dissolution or merging of the organisation
   3. Rights of the member
      1. The member has the right to attend and participate in the Annual General Meeting
      2. The member has the right to have free coffee at every Annual General Meeting
      3. The member has the right to be informed of the organisation’s process and accounts
   4. Termination of membership

Any membership may be suspended or terminated on the following grounds:

* + - * Loss of the right of use of the land
      * Upon the death or incapacitation (physical or mental) of the member
      * Upon expulsion by the General Assembly due to bad behaviour such as growing long hair, not paying membership fees, or disrupting the running of the organisation.

## Membership in We Love Cocoa Cooperative

1. Requirements for membership
   1. Membership shall be open to farmers who meet the following qualifications:
      1. The member is between the age of 20 and 45
      2. The member has access to a cocoa farm
      3. The member weighs over 60 kilograms
      4. The member has a sound knowledge of cocoa growing
      5. The member is good at cooking
      6. The member lives in the Chika-chiko region
   2. Application for membership

The Management Team shall decide on all applications subject to the Clause 1.1.

1. Rights and Responsibilities of members
   1. Membership Fees
      1. Every member shall pay an annual membership fee of 50 Dollars upon admission to the organisation.
      2. All fees and fines paid by members shall be part of the general fund of the organisation.
   2. Responsibilities of the member
      1. The member is committed to supporting and participating in the organisation’s activities
      2. The member attends the organisation’s meetings as required
      3. The member pays any fees or fines required by the organisation
      4. The member, as part of the General Assembly, adopts and understands the constitution
      5. The member understands the annual reports
      6. The member participates in decisions on dissolution or merging of the organisation
   3. Rights of the member
      1. The member has the right to attend and participate in the Annual General Meeting
      2. The member has the right to sell cocoa to the organisation
      3. The member has the right to receive a yearly birthday bonus from the organisation
   4. Termination of membership

Any membership may be suspended or terminated on the following grounds:

* + - * Upon the 46th birthday of the member
      * Upon expulsion by the General Assembly due to bad behaviour such as bad cooking, poor cocoa bean quality management or not attending meetings of the General Assembly
      * The member moves from residing in the Chika-chiko region

## Membership in Lily Coffee Cooperative

1. Requirements for membership
   1. Membership shall be open to farmers who meet the following qualifications:
      1. The member is of good physical health
      2. The member owns less than 5 hectares of land
      3. The member works hard
      4. The member has completed university
      5. The member enjoys singing
      6. The member is a citizen of Lappyville
   2. Application for membership

The Board of Directors shall decide on all applications subject to the Clause 1.1.

1. Rights and Responsibilities of members
   1. Membership Fees
      1. Every member shall pay annual membership fee of 100 dollars upon admission to the organisation
      2. All fees and fines paid by members shall be part of the general fund of the organisation
   2. Responsibilities of the member
      1. The member is committed to supporting, participating in and improving the organisation
      2. The member has a responsibility to be a part of elections and decision-making processes
      3. The member provides the necessary capital through membership fees and other activities
      4. The member, as part of the General Assembly, agrees to the constitution
      5. The member reads and provides feedback on the annual reports
      6. The member participates in decisions on dissolution or merging of the organisation
   3. Rights of the member
      1. The member has the right to receive a copy of the annual report and accounts
      2. The member has the right to be invited to and participate in the Annual General Meeting
      3. The member has the right to sing songs at the Annual General Meeting
   4. Termination of membership

Any membership may be suspended or terminated on the following grounds:

* + - * Loss of the right of use of the land
      * Upon the death or incapacitation (physical or mental)
      * Upon expulsion by the General Assembly due to bad behaviour such as not paying membership fees, bad singing, or not attending and participating in the General Assembly

## Membership in Brom Brom Cooperative

1. Requirements for membership
   1. Membership shall be open to farmers who meet the following qualifications:
      1. The member is over 18 years old
      2. The member can acquire coffee bean to sell
      3. The member has a Brom Brom Cooperative tattoo
      4. The member verbally agrees to the constitution
      5. The member likes playing games
      6. The member belongs to the Ripiato Clan
   2. Application for membership

The Chief of Ripiato Clan shall decide on all applications subject to the Clause 1.1.

1. Rights and Responsibilities of members
   1. Membership Fees
      1. Every member shall pay a membership fee of 90 dollars upon admission to the organisation
      2. All fees and fines paid by members shall be part of the general fund of the organisation
   2. Responsibilities of the member
      1. The member is committed to supporting the Ripiato Clan
      2. The member participates in elections and decision-making processes
      3. The member provides the necessary capital through membership fees and other activities
      4. The member, as part of the General Assembly, agrees to the constitution
      5. The member listens to the annual reports
      6. The member is not responsible for decisions on dissolution or merging of the organisation
   3. Rights of the member
      1. The member has the right to attend and participate in the Annual General Meeting
      2. The member has the right to sit at the big table at Ripiato Clan parties
      3. The member has the right to sell 50% of its coffee to the organisation
   4. Termination of membership

Any membership may be suspended or terminated on the following grounds:

* + - * The member does not sell any coffee to the organisation for one full year
      * Upon the death or incapacitation (physical or mental)
      * Upon expulsion from the Ripiato Clan