



INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF NORTHERN REGIONS THE NORTHERN FORUM

NORTHERN FORUM SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION

REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. The Northern Forum Schools Association an interregional association of secondary general education organizations of the Northern Forum member regions, as well as the regions interested in cooperation with the northern and Arctic regions, and is a structural subdivision of the International Organization of Northern Regions "The Northern Forum".

1.2. The mission of the Northern Forum Schools Association is to create conditions for cultural and educational exchange between schools in different countries, implement educational programs, supplementary education programs, share best practices in teaching, develop students' creative potential, communicate, implement pedagogical initiatives, and organize international events.

1.3. The abbreviated name of the Association is the Northern Forum Schools Association.

1.4. The name of the Association in English language – The Northern Forum Schools Association.

1.5. In its activities, the Northern Forum Schools Association is guided by the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the Northern Forum, the Declaration of the Rights of the Child (1959), the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children (1990), the legislation of the countries and regions whose educational institutions engage in the activities of the Association, the charters of educational organizations, these Regulations, and other regulatory legal acts.

1.6. The Northern Forum Schools Association does not have legal authority. The parties do not legally ringfence the property used in the network's activities.

2. GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

2.1. Main objectives:

- creating conditions for disseminating information about the natural and cultural environment of the northern territories, and uniting efforts to preserve the Arctic and the adjacent areas for the future generations in the interests of sustainable development;
- creating additional opportunities for the development of international cooperation between schools: organizing trips for children and teachers, cultural exchange between schools, participation in the Association's events;
- creating conditions for the development of students' creative potential, communication, and social skills, enhancing teachers' professional competencies, and promoting and supporting educational projects and programs in the Association's schools.

2.2. Tasks:

- to promote experience exchange and improve the level of competence of teaching staff in the field of international relations, teaching and education methods;
- to create conditions for promoting Russian language and the languages of the peoples living in the Northern Forum member regions;
- to create stable connections between the members of the Association in remote and in-person formats;
- to engage the members of the Association in the events of various levels (conferences, summer schools, workshops, roundtables, seminars, presentations, etc.);
- to organize a system of the NF partners' consulting support for the Northern Forum Schools Association;
- to create an e-library of successful educational practices, teaching and methodological manuals, and international projects on the Northern Forum website to assist the schools and other interested parties;
- to improve regulatory framework in the field of international cooperation between schools based on the accumulated practical experience;
- to develop children's communicative skills for implementing international projects and improving proficiency in foreign languages;
- to study, implement and disseminate positive experience in the education and upbringing system among the member organizations.

2.3. The main areas of activity of the Northern Forum Schools Association are:

- Ecology. Aspects of economic management in the northern territories.

- Climate change and adaptation.
- Ethnocultural education.
- Accessible environment (education of children with disabilities).
- Study of the economy and characteristics of entrepreneurial activity in the conditions of the North.
- Cultural heritage, tourism and territorial promotion.
- Volunteering, internship and exchange programs.
- Education. Partnership and support for educational initiatives between the schools of the Association.
- Young talents of the North and the Arctic.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1. Schools in the regions with harsh climates, distinct seasonal patterns, and stable indigenous populations, as well as the schools interested in pro-active participation in international cooperation in the Arctic and the North, can become members of the Northern Forum Schools Association.

3.2. Educational organizations that attended the founding meeting of the Association automatically become members of the Association.

3.3. Educational organizations wishing to become members of the Association shall submit an application and an annual work plan in one or several areas to the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Association no later than September 1 of the current year.

3.4. Educational organizations wishing to become members of the Association shall submit an application to the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Association, where they shall indicate:

- Experience in international cooperation of the educational organization;
- List of existing agreements and contracts with international partners;
- Proposals on the educational organization's participation in the Northern Forum projects and events:
- Events for schoolchildren in foreign languages (indicate the foreign language);
- Exchange of teaching experiences in teaching foreign languages;
- Promotion of the Russian language abroad;
- Exchange programs for children and teachers;
- Environmental projects;
- Cultural projects;
- Study of the Arctic and the North development problems by schoolchildren.

- 3.5. New members are admitted at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors, which may be organized in person or in absentia.
- 3.6. All members of the Association are awarded a membership certificate of a standard form signed by the Chair of the Board of Directors of the Association.
- 3.7. An educational organization-member of the Association uses the status of the "School of the International Organization of Northern Regions "Northern Forum" (Northern Forum School) and has the right to put this status on the educational institution's letterhead and use it in the school's design, using the logos of the Association and the Northern Forum.
- 3.8. The Board of Directors adopts a work plan for the academic year, taking into account the proposals from the Association members. It is recommended that the proposals be accompanied by the events' regulations or brief descriptions. Within a week of the plan's adoption, each Association member submits information about the events they plan to participate in to the Chair of the Association's Board of Directors. After the event, the responsible organizer, the Association member, submits a report to the Chair of the Association's Board of Directors.
- 3.9. The Northern Forum supports the expansion of international activities by the educational organizations. Any member of the Northern Forum Schools Association is free to pursue activities in the areas of international cooperation beyond the Association's plan and to submit information to the Board of Directors.
- 3.10. Each educational organization-member of the Northern Forum Schools Association submits an annual report on its activities no later than August 30 of the current year.
- 3.11. The members of the Schools Association submit information on their international cooperation activities to be posted on the Northern Forum's information resources and included the final report of the Association.
- 3.12. Educational institutions-members of the Association that fail to submit a report, have effectively suspended their activities in the Northern Forum Schools Association, or have expressed a desire to withdraw from the Association, are expelled from the Association by the decision of the Board of Directors. An educational institution that has ceased membership in the Association is not included in the list of the Association's member schools and is not entitled to use the status of the "Northern Forum School" or put this status on its letterhead.

- 3.13. Educational organizations that fail to fulfill the obligations of the Northern Forum Schools Association may be expelled from the Association by the decision of the Board of Directors.

4. COORDINATION OF THE ASSOCIATION'S WORK

- 4.1. The Principals of the founding educational institutions become the members of the Association's Board of Directors and elect the Chair and Deputy Chair(s) of the Board for the next academic (calendar) year. The Chair and Deputy Chair(s) rotate annually.
- 4.2. A representative of the Northern Forum Secretariat with an advisory vote is also a member of the Association's Board of Directors.
- 4.3. Functional responsibilities of the Board of Directors:
 - overall management of the Association's activities;
 - develop the Association's concept and strategy;
 - review and approve the work plans, analyze the Association's activities;
 - represent the Association in the Russian Federation and abroad;
 - consider the schools' proposals for educational events;
 - review schools' membership applications;
 - organize interaction and cooperation;
 - assist in holding and attending the conferences, exhibitions, camps, festivals and exchanges;
 - provide methodological support to schools participating in the network;
- 4.4. Functional responsibilities of the Chair of the Board of Directors:
 - prepare and hold the meetings of the Board of Directors;
 - elaborate a work plan and monitor its implementation;
 - elaborate the Association's progress report;
 - represent the Association at the meetings of the Northern Forum Board of Governors and Regional Coordinators Committee;
 - prepare cooperation agreements and documents for getting a certificate of membership in the Association.
- 4.5. To ensure effective and efficient interaction, the Board of Directors may establish a Coordination Board. Each member of the Board of Directors appoints a representative to the Coordination Board. A representative of the Chair of the Board of Directors becomes the Chair of the Coordination Board. The primary function of the Coordination Board is to maintain active communication, collect and coordinate proposals for the work plan, and prepare joint events and materials for the meetings of the Board of Directors.

- 4.6. The Northern Forum Schools Association carries out its activities in coordination with the Northern Forum Secretariat.
- 4.7. Meetings of the Board of Directors are held at least three times a year.

5. FINANCING OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 5.1. Each educational organization that has become a member of the Association bears its own expenses arising from the implementation of events, except when the Board of Directors of the Association in agreement with the Northern Forum Secretariat decide otherwise.
- 5.2. Provided there are sufficient funds in the budget, the Northern Forum Executive Director may include an expenditure item for supporting projects and/or events of the Association in the budget for the next financial year, which comes into effect after the budget is approved by the Regional Coordinators Committee of the Northern Forum.

6. FINAL PROVISIONS

- 6.1. All amendments to this Regulations shall be made by the decision of the Association's Board of Directors.