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THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

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THE WORLD INSTITUTE FOR
DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS RESEARCH (WIDER)

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STATUTE



STATUTE

Preamble

THE COUNCIL,

REAFFIRMING in the terms of its Charter that the United Nations University shall be an international community of scholars, engaged in research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

REAFFIRMING that the University shall devote its work to research into the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare;

CONSIDERING that the University shall function through a central programming and co-ordinating body and a network of research and post-graduate training centres and programmes located in the developed and developing countries;

CONSIDERING that the research programmes of the institutions of the University shall include, among other subjects, economic and social change and development; *Fundação Cuidar o Futuro*

CONSIDERING that the University shall include a certain number of research and training centres to be established or incorporated in various countries by decision of the Council;

HEREBY decides to establish the World Institute for Development Economics Research as a research and training centre of the University, which shall carry out its work as stipulated hereunder:

Article I

LEGAL STATUS, STRUCTURE AND LOCATION

1. The World Institute for Development Economics Research (also to be known as WIDER and hereinafter referred to as "the Institute") shall be an integral part of the United Nations University. The Institute shall have the legal status necessary for the realization of its purposes and activities; it shall, in particular, have the capacity to enter into agreements, contracts or arrangements, acquire and dispose of immovable and movable property, and institute legal proceedings.

2. The Institute, its personnel, fellows and trainees, as well as persons attending the Institute on official business, shall be granted in the territory of the host country the privileges, immunities and facilities which may be required for the proper exercise of the functions conferred on them by this Statute, or by virtue of decisions taken thereunder by the appropriate organs of the Institute. The scope of such privileges, immunities and facilities shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of the Host Country Agreement concluded between the University and the Government of Finland.

3. The Institute shall consist of:

- a) a Board;
- b) a Director;
- c) personnel, fellows and trainees.

4. The Institute shall be located at Helsinki.

Article II

PURPOSES AND ACTIVITIES

1. The purposes of the Institute shall be:

a) to help identify and meet the need for policy-oriented socio-economic research on pressing global and development problems, common domestic problems and their inter-relationships;

b) to analyse the problems of the world economy, including structural issues and assist in producing new responses to existing and future problems;

c) to encourage research, advanced training and the dissemination of knowledge and help promote the search for new modes of international economic co-operation and management.

2. Pursuant to the foregoing, the Institute shall:

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a) conduct research and studies;

b) undertake training of young scholars with a multidisciplinary approach in order to strengthen academic and scientific communities everywhere, particularly in the developing countries;

c) contribute to the ongoing overall research and training activities of the University;

d) develop a network by co-ordinating its activities with those of relevant research and training institutions in different parts of the world, particularly in the developing countries;

e) contribute to the formulation of policy, planning and decision-making concerning the future of the international economic system;

- f) help in efforts to mobilize a global constituency that transcends existing national boundaries or sectional inter-governmental interests;
- g) organize conferences, seminars, workshops and panels;
- h) publish and disseminate research results in order to increase the dynamic interaction in the world-wide community of learning and research;
- i) award fellowships;
- j) do and perform all other acts that may be considered necessary, suitable and proper for the attainment of any or all of its purposes.

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Article III

ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND AUTONOMY

The Institute shall enjoy autonomy within the framework of the University. It shall also enjoy the academic freedom required for the achievement of its objectives, with particular reference to the choice of subjects and methods of research and training, the selection of persons and institutions to share in its tasks, and freedom of expression. The Institute shall decide freely on the use of the financial resources allocated for the execution of its functions in accordance with Article VII.

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Article IV

BOARD

1. The Board shall be entrusted by the Council with the authority and responsibility needed for the governance of the Institute in accordance with the general principles, policies and criteria formulated by the Council to govern the activities of the University.
2. The Board shall consist of:
 - a) up to nine members, appointed by the Rector in consultation with the Chairman of the Council of the University and with such other members of the Council as the Chairman may designate for this purpose, who shall serve in their individual capacity;
 - b) one member appointed by the host government who shall serve in his individual capacity;
 - c) The Rector of the University and the Director of the Institute who shall be ex-officio members of the Board.
3. The Board shall be established on a broad geographical basis with due regard to major academic, scientific, economic, social and cultural trends in the world.
4. The Board shall reflect the Institute's multidisciplinary character and shall include persons who have experience, qualifications and recognized competence in the disciplines related to the purposes of the Institute, and promising young scholars.
5. All Board members other than the ex officio members shall be appointed for four-year terms, with the exception of the members of the first Board, one-third of whom shall be appointed for two-year, one-third for three-year and one-third for four-year terms respectively.

6. When the office of a Board member becomes vacant during the term of the member appointed thereto because of retirement, death, incapacity or any other cause, or when the term expires, the party (host government or the Rector) that originally appointed the member to that office may appoint a person for the remainder of the term or for a further term.

7. Any subsequent Board member appointed by the Rector shall be appointed by him after consultation with the Board.

8. In exercising the authority entrusted to it by the Council, the Board shall:

a) formulate the principles and policies which shall govern the activities and operations of the Institute; in furtherance of this, it should seek to ensure the attainment of the highest levels of intellectual and scientific excellence;

b) consider and adopt the work programme and budget of the Institute on the basis of proposals submitted to it by the Director for incorporation in the programme and budget of the University;

c) consider reports of the Director on the activities of the Institute and on the execution of its plans of work;

d) issue directives and take measures within the framework of the present Statute;

e) make such recommendations to the Council as it may deem necessary or desirable for the effective functioning of the Institute;

f) submit to the Council, through the Rector, an annual report on the work of the Institute;

g) establish such subsidiary bodies as it deems necessary.

9. The Board shall meet in regular session at least once a year and shall be convened by the Director. It shall elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman and shall adopt rules of procedure, including procedures for convening special sessions as necessary.

10. The Board shall consider the methods of financing the Institute with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of its operations, their continuity and the Institute's autonomous character within the framework of the University.

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Article V

DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE

1. The Director of the Institute shall be appointed by the Rector after consultation with the Board and the Chairman of the Council.
2. The Director shall normally serve for four years and shall be eligible for reappointment for one more term of four years. Conditions of the service of the Director shall be determined by the Rector in accordance with University practices.
3. The Director shall be the chief academic and administrative officer of the Institute and shall have overall responsibility for the direction, organization, administration and programmes of the Institute, in accordance with the general policies and criteria formulated by the Board. The Director shall, inter alia:
 - a) submit the plan of work and the budget estimates of the Institute to the Board for its consideration and adoption;
 - b) direct the activities connected with the execution of the research and training programmes and authorize the expenditures provided in the budget adopted by the Board;
 - c) appoint the personnel, fellows and trainees of the Institute on behalf of the Rector in accordance with Article VI, paragraph 4 so as to ensure the highest intellectual and moral quality of that personnel;
 - d) direct the personnel of the Institute;
 - e) set up such advisory bodies as may be necessary in connection with the activities of the Institute;
 - f) make arrangements with relevant national, regional and international institutions and organizations with a view to offering and receiving services related to the activities of the Institute;

g) co-ordinate the research and training programmes of the Institute with the activities of the University and with research and training institutions in different parts of the world, particularly in developing countries;

h) collaborate with the Rector, in particular in order to ensure the co-ordination of programmes of research and training;

i) participate in the Conference of Directors of Research and Training Centres and Programmes called periodically by the Rector to review and evaluate programmes of research being undertaken;

j) report to the Board in accordance with the rules of procedure on the activities of the Institute and the execution of its plans of work;

k) provide the necessary services to the Board.

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Article VII

FINANCE AND BUDGET

1. The University may accept voluntary contributions and gifts from governments, international and national institutions and organizations, foundations and other non-governmental sources for all purposes related to the activities of the Institute. The Institute may also accept such voluntary contributions and gifts with the approval of the Rector in accordance with the provisions of the University Charter.
2. The income derived from investment of the moneys referred to in paragraph 1 shall be available for financing the activities of the Institute.
3. Apart from the arrangements provided for under paragraphs 1 and 2 and from any contributions that may be received by appropriation from the regular budget of the University, contributions and gifts to be used directly for current activities of the Institute may be accepted.
4. Funds received for the Institute shall be kept in a special account to be established for this purpose in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations as applied by the University.
5. The funds of the Institute shall be held and administered solely for the purposes of the Institute.
6. The financial operations of the Institute shall be regulated by directives issued by the Board and approved by the Council.

7. The Director shall prepare the budget estimates of the Institute in accordance with the directives issued under paragraph 6.

8. Funds administered by and for the Institute shall be subject to audit by the United Nations Board of Auditors.

9. The general administrative, personnel and financial services of the University may be utilized by the Institute on conditions determined by the Rector.

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Article VIII

PUBLICATIONS

1. The Institute may freely publish any results of its research activities in the fulfilment of its purposes.
2. The Institute shall use any financial or other benefits obtained from its publications in the furtherance of the purposes for which it was established.

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Article IX

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The Institute shall seek to establish co-operative relationships for the realization of its purposes and activities:

- a) with the relevant national organizations and institutions in the host country;
- b) with other relevant national, regional and international organizations and institutions.

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Article X

REVIEW

A periodic review and evaluation of the work of the Institute shall be undertaken by the Rector in consultation with the Board. The results of such review and evaluation shall be submitted by the Rector to the Council for consideration and appropriate action.

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AMENDMENTS

1. Amendments to this Statute may be made by the Council.
2. The Rector, at the request of the Board or after consultation with it, may propose amendments.

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Article XII

DISSOLUTION

1. The Institute may be dissolved by a decision of the Council if it is determined that the purposes and activities of the Institute have been satisfactorily accomplished or that the Institute will no longer be able to function effectively.

2. In the event of such dissolution, the funds and assets remaining to its accounts shall be used as the Council shall direct except as may otherwise be provided in the terms of any contributions accepted in furtherance of the activities of the Institute.

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Article XIII

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Financial and other actions to initiate the operations of the Institute may be taken by the Rector under the authority of the Council.

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