

1 CONFERENCE OF SOLIDARITY SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS
2 (CSSO)
3 LETTER OF AGREEMENT (as amended on May 24, 1986)
4
5 ARTICLE I – DEFINITIONS
6
7 1. For purposes of this document the word
8 ORGANIZATION refers to an organization or a chapter of
9 an organization.
10 2. Organizations which ratify this agreement in full and are
11 accepted to membership in the CSSO (in accordance with
12 Article V paragraph 1 of this document) shall be hereinafter
13 referred to in this document as PARTICIPATING
14 ORGANIZATIONS.
15
16 ARTICLE II – PURPOSES
17
18 The Participating Organizations recognize their common purpose
19 of furthering the cause of Independent Self-Governing Trade Union
20 “Solidarnosc” (ISTU SOLIDARITY) and human rights in Poland,
21 and their common objectives:
22
23 1. to promote contacts and cooperation among individuals and
24 groups that support ISTU Solidarity and its ideals.
25 2. to provide assistance to the ISTU Solidarity.
26 3. to provide assistance to the ISTU Solidarity activists and to
27 their families in Poland and abroad.
28 4. to increase public awareness of the origins, history and
29 ongoing activities of ISTU Solidarity and the ideals
30 expressed in the Program of its first National Congress held
31 in Gdansk, September-October, 1981.
32 5. to do research, evaluate and disseminate information about
33 the impact of international policies, influences or
34 interferences on socio-economic processes and human
35 rights issues in Poland.
36
37 ARTICLE III – AGREEMENT
38
39 The Participating Organizations agree:
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41 1. To recognize and support the continuing existence of ISTU
42 Solidarity (NSZZ Solidarnosc) as constituted on November
43 10, 1980 and as developed in its first National Congress in
44 September-October 1981 in Gdansk.
45
46 2. To recognize that the Coordinating Office Abroad of NSZZ
47 Solidarnosc (based in Brussels, Belgium) serves as the
48 international department and representation outside Poland
49 of the leadership of ISTU Solidarity. And that this
50 recognition does not proscribe any other links or channels
51 with Solidarity.
52
53 3. To participate in the CSSO process defined as follows:
54 a. attendance at CSSO meetings, or submission by mail of
55 opinions and positions to the CSSO meetings, and
56 b. consideration of CSSO resolutions for adoption as the
57 Participating Organizations' own positions.

58
59 4. To maintain regular liaison and to coordinate their activities
60 by:
61 a. budgeting funds for liaison activity,
62 b. maintaining contacts and consultations with the other
63 CSSO organizations,
64 c. appointing delegates to serve as the Participating
65 Organizations' representatives to the CSSO.
66 Organizations with 15 or more members in good
67 standing shall appoint 2 delegates (or one delegate
68 with 2 votes); organizations with fewer members shall
69 appoint one delegate. Split votes are permissible.
70 These individuals so delegated will comprise the
71 COORDINATING COMMITTEE of the CSSO.
72
73 5. To promote harmonious development of CSSO
74 Participating Organizations by consulting with other CSSO
75 Participating Organizations serving the same or overlapping
76 geographical areas on matters concerning recruitment and
77 membership activities.
78
79 ARTICLE IV – AMENDMENTS
80
81 Any amendment to this agreement shall be submitted in writing to
82 each CSSO Participating Organization for ratification. If each
83 such organization shall ratify or shall fail to notify one of the
84 CSSO administrators within 30 days of submission, it shall
85 be adopted. If any organization shall so notify one of the CSSO
86 administrators that it has voted not to ratify this amendment, it
87 shall be discussed at the next Coordinating Committee meeting.
88 The Coordinating Committee after such discussion may resubmit
89 the proposed amendment to the Participating Organizations for
90 ratification. Any such amendment resubmitted to the
91 Participating Organizations for ratification shall be adopted by a
92 ¾ majority vote of the Participating Organizations.
93
94 ARTICLE V – STRUCTURE (METHODS OF OPERATION)
95
96 1. Membership requirements:
97 a. The Coordinating Committee shall keep copies of the
98 charters and by-laws of all the Participating
99 Organizations.
100 b. Organizations which ratify this agreement will have
101 their membership in the CSSO ratified by a vote of ¾
102 of the Participating Organizations upon the
103 recommendation of the Coordinating Committee or three
104 of the CSSO administrators, or as provided for in
105 Article VI below.
106 c. A Participating Organization will remain in good
107 standing provided that its program does not conflict
108 with the CSSO Letter of Agreement. Determination of
109 lack of good standing of a Participating Organization
110 may be made by a vote of ¾ of the Participating
111 Organizations.
112 d. Only membership organizations which ratify this
113 agreement may be considered as candidates for
114 membership in the CSSO.
115

116 2. Activities of Participating Organizations:
 117 CSSO does not limit or restrict the programs of
 118 the Participating Organizations, but these programs must
 119 not conflict with the CSSO Letter of Agreement.
 120

121 3. Coordinating Committee:
 122 a. Programs are formulated by the Coordinating
 123 Committee and then recommended to the Participating
 124 Organizations. Participation is voluntary.
 125 b. The Coordinating Committee may not issue policy
 126 statements. It may only recommend them to the
 127 Participating Organizations.
 128 c. The Participating Organizations may make proposals
 129 to the Coordinating Committee.
 130

131 4. CSSO Administrators:
 132 The Coordinating Committee shall elect a Secretary, a
 133 Moderator, an Asian Coordinator, a European Coordinator,
 134 a Latin American Coordinator, a North American
 135 Coordinator, and a North American Secretary. The
 136 Coordinating Committee may also accept the elected
 137 officers of a Regional Association as CSSO Administrators.
 138

139 5. Meetings:
 140 a. Coordinating Committee shall meet at least once a
 141 year.
 142 b. Agenda proposals shall be submitted to the CSSO
 143 Moderator by the Participating Organizations one
 144 month before regular meetings. (The time restriction
 145 does not apply to emergency meetings.)
 146 c. The Agenda will be organized and referred to the
 147 Participating Organizations by the CSSO Moderator.
 148

149 6. Elections:
 150 a. Elections shall be held at the first regular meeting of
 151 the calendar year (except as provided in sub-section
 152 (b) below) or as vacancies occur during any regular
 153 meeting.
 154 b. Whenever possible, elections of the Asian Coordinator
 155 should be conducted at a meeting held in Asia, election
 156 of the European Coordinator should be conducted at a
 157 meeting held in Europe, election of the Latin
 158 American Coordinator should be conducted at a meeting
 159 held in Latin America, and elections of the North
 160 American Coordinator and the North American
 161 Secretary should be conducted at a meeting held in
 162 North America.
 163

164 7. Voting:
 165 Voting by Participating Organizations referred to above
 166 shall be conducted in following manner:
 167 a. Each organization shall have the same number of
 168 votes as its allotted number of delegates to the
 169 Coordinating Committee as provided for in Article III,
 170 Paragraph 4, Section 3.
 171 b. Voting by mail is permitted except that in cases of
 172 determination of lack of good standing of a
 173 Participating Organization (referred to in Article V) a
 174 Coordinating Committee vote at a meeting is also
 175 required.

176 Voting by mail may be conducted by any of the CSSO
 177 administrators.
 178 c. All votes by mail shall be verified by the Coordinating
 179 Committee at its next meeting.
 180

ARTICLE VI – REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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 183 1. Participating Organizations may form regional associations;
 184 and such associations may apply for CSSO REGIONAL
 185 ASSOCIATION status provided that:
 186 a. The CSSO Letter of Agreement, in whole, is part of
 187 any charter adopted by such a regional association.
 188 b. A copy of such charter is submitted to the CSSO
 189 Coordinating Committee.
 190 c. A definition of the geographical region to be served by
 191 the Regional Association is also provided to the
 192 Coordinating Committee.
 193

194 2. CSSO Regional Association status shall be granted by a
 195 vote of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Participating Organizations upon the
 196 recommendation of the Coordinating Committee or three of
 197 the CSSO Administrators. Such status may be withdrawn
 198 by the procedure as applies to the determination of lack of
 199 good standing of a Participating Organization.
 200

201 3. The Regional Association may adopt commitments and
 202 structures in addition to those provided for in the CSSO
 203 Letter of Agreement if such additional articles do not conflict
 204 with the CSSO Letter of Agreement.
 205

206 4. The Regional Association may elect its own officers and
 207 shall present their names and addresses to the CSSO
 208 Secretary.
 209

210 5. Upon the granting of CSSO Regional Association status:
 211 a. The Regional Association should use the CSSO name
 212 prefixed by a term descriptive of the geographical
 213 region represented.
 214 b. The CSSO Coordinating Committee may accept the
 215 officers of the Regional Association as CSSO
 216 Administrators.
 217 c. The Regional Association shall be granted authority to
 218 approve organizations for CSSO participating
 219 Organization status within its geographical region.
 220 However, before any organization may be accepted,
 221 its candidacy must be communicated to all
 222 Participating Organizations including those outside the
 223 region, and any objections raised must be considered
 224 by the Regional Association.
 225

226 6. The Regional Association shall send notice of its meetings
 227 and all such meetings will be open to all CSSO participating
 228 Organizations including those in other geographical
 229 regions. The Regional Association will also send copies of
 230 all its joint documents to all CSSO Participating
 231 Organizations and inform them of joint actions and positions
 232 taken on issues. All CSSO Participating Organizations will
 233 also be free to join any joint actions sponsored by the
 234 Regional Association.