

## ORGANIC REGULATION OF THE URBAN RESIDENTS' COMMITTEES

(Adopted by the Fourth Conference of the National People's Congress Standard Committee on 12/31/1954)

### Article 1

To enhance the organization and operation of the urban sub-district residents, a residents' committee can be established according to residents' regions under the direction of the people's committee or its administrative agencies of a municipal district or a city not divided into districts.

A residents' committee is an autonomous mass organization of the residents.

### Article 2

The tasks of a residents' committee include:

- 1) Handling the residents' public welfare matters;
- 2) Reporting the residents' opinions and requests to the local people's council or its administrative agencies;
- 3) Mobilizing the residents to respond to the government's call and obey the law;
- 4) Leading the mass security defense; and
- 5) Mediating the disputes among the residents.

### Article 3

The organization of the residents' committees:

- 1) The residents' committees should be established under the residents' living conditions and the jurisdiction of household register (*hujū*). [A region of] one hundred to six hundred households is common and proper [to establish one residents' committee].  
A residents' committee shall establish less than 18 subordinate residents' teams. A residents' team is commonly composed of 15 to 40 residents.
- 2) A residents' committee shall have seven to seventeen commissioners. Each committee team should elect one commissioner. The commissioners should elect one director and one to three associate directors. One of the director and associate directors should handle work concerning women.  
A residents' team shall have one team leader which should be held by the residents' committee commissioner in general. One to two associate team leaders can be elected if necessary. When the commissioner is elected as the director or associate director, the residents' team elects the commissioner can elect another team leader.
- 3) A residents' committee with few residents usually does not have to establish a work

committee. The commissioners shall take care of different divisions. If necessary, a residents' committee with more residents can establish permanent or temporary work committees to work under the guidance of the residents' committee upon the approval of the municipal people's council. Less than 6 work committees can be established for public welfare (including veteran benefit and placement), security defense, education, public health, mediation, and women affairs. Temporary work committees should be cancelled when the work ends.

The work committees should absorb the resident activities. However, one person should be assigned for one responsibility to avoid excessive work burden.

- 4) The residents who are under public surveillance or have been deprived of political rights should be incorporated into a residents' team. But they should not hold a position of residents' committee commissioner, team leader, or work council commissioner. If necessary, the team leader of the residents' team can prohibit them from attending some residents' meetings.

#### Article 4

The residents' committee's term is one year.

When a commissioner cannot hold his office, an election or by-election can be held.

#### Article 5

Public organs, schools, and great enterprises do not need to participate in a residents' committee, but their agents should attend the committee's meetings. They should follow the decisions and agreements concerning the residents' common interests made by the residents' committee.

Residential areas and large dormitories inhabited by enterprises' employees should establish their residents' committees under the unified guidance of the municipal people's council or its administrative agencies. The council of the employees' family organized by the union can take the residents' committee's responsibilities concurrently.

#### Article 6

The city's minority-populated areas can establish residents' committees separately. The areas with few residents can set up individual residents' teams.

#### Article 7

The tasks assigned to the residents' committees and their work committees by the cities or municipal districts' people's committees and other agencies should be approved and planned by the city or municipal districts' people's committees. The work departments of the cities or municipal districts can supervise the operation of the work committees related to the residents' committees.

#### Article 8

The residents should comply with the resolutions and conventions concerning public interests made by the residents' committee. Democracy should be fully advocated under the principle of democratic centralism and mass voluntariness during a residents' committee's operation. No mandatory order is allowed.

#### Article 9

The public incidental expenses and stipends for the commissioners' living expenses should be allocated by the provincial or municipal people's committees. The standard should be provided by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

#### Article 10

Under the principle of voluntariness, a residents' committee can solicit donations for expenses of the residents' public welfare matters upon the agreement of the residents and the approval of the people's committee of the municipal district or the city not divided into districts. No other donation may be solicited.

The accounting of the relevant funds and expenses should be disclosed to the residents.