

**From:** Ron Gomes Casseres ron.gomescasseres@gmail.com    
**Subject:** Proposed changes of DCNA articles for final voting in October Board Meeting  
**Date:** August 15, 2015 at 10:23 AM

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Dear Colleagues and Friends of the DCNA Board,

Our October DCNA Board Meeting is more than two months away, but it is time to start doing some homework on a subject that will come up in that Board Meeting and that is far less interesting and less fun than our Save our Sharks-initiative. That is the final step in the formal approval of the revised articles of incorporation of our DCNA.

Those of you who were present at Board meetings in 2013 and 2014 will recall several Board meetings in which this subject was discussed, ending with the meeting in Statia in March of 2014 during which the attached version of the new articles were unanimously approved. You will recall that we mentioned that there is a statutory stipulation in the current articles which requires that there are no vacancies in the Board of DCNA when changes in the articles are effected, and at that time there were two such vacancies. The first of these is that the Board then did not have a (voting) member of the “legally designated non-governmental protected area management organization of Aruba” (referred to below as ‘Arikok’) nor did the Board have any members that represent international organizations which provide significant financial and/or technical support to DCNA. Filling these two vacancies existing in March of 2014 was essential to complying with the stipulation that the DCNA Board consists of “at least twelve” members. For those of you who would like to see the details of the stipulations referred to, refer to article 6-1, 6-2, and 6-3 and 11-1 in the attached Articles of Incorporation.FINAL.ver2008-2.

We are all very pleased that in the meantime Arikok has rejoined our Board in the person of Greg Peterson who showed already in the meetings in Saba to be a valuable and constructive contributor to DCNA.

It is a bit more complex to comply also with the stipulation of “at least twelve members”; even with Arikok the Board will consist only of eleven members. To reach the minimum of twelve members required for the notary to execute the decree for the change of the articles, a proposal will be made in the upcoming DCNA Board meeting to appoint mr. Ron van der Veer as the member to represent international organizations which provide significant financial and/or technical support to DCNA.

Ron was formerly a member of the DCNA Board and kindly – temporarily and voluntarily - stepped out in 2014 in order to permit the appointment of dr. Glenn Thodé, our current president, as member of the Board. A gentleman’s agreement was made by the Board with Ron at that time that he would again become a member of the Board as soon as the change of articles made this possible. You have all met Ron at our meetings and will agree that he has continued even ex-officio to serve as a very valuable contributor and legal and governance advisor to the Board. In addition to his contributions to DCNA, Ron serves a.o. as a member of the Board of Stichting Comité Koninkrijksrelaties, which is presided by mr. Pieter van Vollenhoven, member of the Dutch Royal Family. This Comité has in the past financially supported DCNA’s activities with donations and currently, through Ron, continues to provide support in legal and governance areas. For all these reasons Ron van der Veer is a worthy representative of organizations which provide significant financial and/or technical support to DCNA. Please note that

organizations which provide significant financial and/or technical support to DCNA. Please note that after the subject change of articles is effected, this category of Board membership will be fully eliminated but the category now described under article 6-3c will be expanded from three to five members; Ron will then be proposed for this category of membership to which he clearly qualifies and as was previously agreed to by the above-mentioned gentlemen's agreement.

After this long introduction, the 'homework-request' is rather simple. Attached to this mail are (a) the current articles of incorporation of DCNA and (b) the proposed articles (*attached Articles of Incorporation. ver2008.RGC.March 2014.rev7*) which were discussed in various DCNA Board meetings and which were *unanimously approved in Statia*. These already approved articles will be tabled in our meeting in Curaçao in October for a formal and unanimous approval by the Board of DCNA; at that time the Board will consist of the minimum required twelve members, and should enable the notary to execute the statutory amendments notarially.

I realize fully that for some of you this material and such legal texts may be new and/or complex. If you have any questions or suggestions, I suggest that you mail them directly to me ([ron.gomescasseres@gmail.com](mailto:ron.gomescasseres@gmail.com) and the earlier the better) and that we avoid a confusion of multiple mails being sent by a Reply All-action simultaneously to all addressees. In response, I will then be in direct contact with you, by mail, phone (+599-9-510-4370) or Skype, and will include any unresolved issues or any formal proposals you may have in a listing thereof to be presented to the full Board in October for further deliberation.

Thank you for reading this extensive and somewhat complex mail, and looking forward to hearing from you if you have any questions or suggestions – and to finally executing this important and necessary change in the articles of our Foundation. And, of course, I look very much forward to seeing you in Curaçao in October!

Saludos,  
Ron Gomes Casseres



Articles of Incorporation  
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