



EMMAUS PRINCIPLES AND MEMBERSHIP CHARTER

*Text approved by the Emmaus International General Assembly September 1996,
English revision by the Emmaus International Administrative Committee, December 1998.*

THE EMMAUS MOVEMENT

1. The Emmaus Movement is made up of different groups and communities striving continuously towards common goals while:

- responding to differing local conditions whether social, economic, political, or cultural;
- paying due heed to the Movement's Universal Manifesto and its Statutes and always seeking practical implementation of the General Assembly's policy decisions.

2. Our Movement draws on its own strengths to create the resources necessary for both its own development and to inspire people to take up the challenge.

Emmaus is committed to the eradication of poverty and the attainment of dignity for all mankind.

3. The grass-roots groups are the decision-makers; thus the General Assembly decides what policies our Movement should follow at local, national, regional, and international level.

4. Emmaus is a non-violent Movement, which shuns violence and respects pluralism. It is free from any external authority.

THE EMMAUS PRINCIPLES

1. That men and women from all walks of life meet and learn about one another, through working together, sharing common goals, combating injustice and seeking to enable the poor to build their own future:

- by solidarity through a common outlook, life and work;
- by admitting and reaching out to any group or persons living a precarious or marginal existence, as well as those seeking a new way of life;
- by work that provides the resources to enable the group to live as well as to help others;
- by sharing all experience, resources and skills as well as the risks inherent in the fight for justice;
- by a social and political commitment based on actions and aimed at denouncing and working against any kinds of injustice or oppression, and fighting for a just and humane world.

RIGHTS & OBLIGATIONS OF THE GROUPS

RIGHTS

1. To use the Emmaus name.
2. To participate at all levels in the Emmaus Movement: to receive information, state views, launch projects, submit ideas, and take decisions.
3. To request support from the Movement (manpower, moral, material and financial).
4. To equal respect for different cultures and customs without distinction.

OBLIGATIONS

1. To follow the Manifesto and defend the Emmaus name.
2. To take part in the life of the Movement at national, regional, and international levels; to pay dues; to ensure transparency, especially financial, in line with standards defined by Emmaus International.
3. To give human, material and financial support, and to participate in common initiatives, according to ability at local, national, regional and international levels; and to develop social actions.
4. To implement the decisions of the General Assembly and Administrative Committee as endorsed by the Executive Committee; to respect decisions taken by other regions.
5. To allow each community member to receive information, state their views, launch projects, submit ideas and take decisions.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

1.
 - Adoption of the Universal Manifesto
 - Adoption of the Statutes of Emmaus International and of the region.
 - Implementation of General Assembly policy decisions (See Art. 6 of EI Statutes)
2. Due respect by the group of a participatory and communal way of life both within the group and at all levels of the Movement, by enabling individual members to relate to each other according to the principles of Emmaus.
3. The development by the group of activities aimed at providing support, both within and outside the group of a human, moral, material and financial nature.
4. Transparency of the group's affairs, especially financial; being active within and, if possible, outside the Movement.
5. The group shall live off its earnings, aiming at self-sufficiency and independence.

The group shall engage in an income generating activity, which emphasises personal dignity and skills as well as self-sufficiency.

Any help or donation shall be used only to develop the group or for its actions to help others.

Outside financing, whether from public or private sources, should be covered by a contract relating to specific activities.