

# LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Adopted on 3 July 2002

## ON POLITICAL PARTIES

### CHAPTER 1

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

##### **Article 1. SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS LAW**

This law regulates the relations pertaining to the exercise of the right to associate in political parties, establishment of political parties, their legal status, operation, reorganisation and dissolution.

*(Article 1 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

##### **ARTICLE 2. RIGHT TO ASSOCIATE IN POLITICAL PARTIES**

The right to associate in political parties shall be exercised freely in conformity with convictions, by way of establishing political parties on voluntary basis, joining them on condition of accepting their programmes and statutes, participating in their activities in accordance with the programme objectives of political parties and as prescribed by the statute, as well as leaving the political party freely.

*(Article 2 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

##### **ARTICLE 3. CONCEPT OF POLITICAL PARTY**

1. Political party is a non-governmental association established based on individual membership, the activities of which are aimed at participating in the political life of society and the State.

2. The aims and objectives of a political party shall be reflected in its statute and programme which shall be published through mass media.

3. An association may not be recognised as a political party, if its statute:

(1) allows membership of foreign nationals, stateless persons, with the exception of cases provided for by this Law, as well as membership of foreign and international organisations thereto;

(2) provides for the membership of persons only on the basis of professional, national, racial, religious characteristics;

(3) provides for the membership of persons that may not be members of a political party under this Law.

*(Article 3 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 4. LEGISLATION ON POLITICAL PARTIES**

The procedure for the establishment, operation, reorganisation, dissolution, prohibition of the activities of political parties, as well as their legal status shall be as prescribed by the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia, this Law and other laws.

#### **ARTICLE 5. NUMBER OF MEMBERS, TERRITORIAL AND STRUCTURAL SUBDIVISIONS AND TERRITORY OF OPERATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. At the moment of state registration, the political party shall be obliged to have no less than 200 members. At the moment of state registration, the political party shall be obliged to have territorial subdivisions in at least one-third of the marzes [regions] of the Republic of Armenia, including in Yerevan. A political party shall have the right to form structural subdivisions as prescribed by this Law and its statute.

1<sup>1</sup>. Not later than six months upon the state registration, the political party must have not less than 2000 members, moreover, not less than 100 members in each marz of the Republic of Armenia, and territorial subdivisions in all marzes of the Republic of Armenia, including in the city of Yerevan, whereon it shall notify in writing the authorised state body.

2. Territorial and structural subdivisions of political parties shall be formed and their activities shall be organised solely on territorial basis. Establishment and activities of territorial and structural subdivisions of political parties in state and local self-government bodies, armed forces of the Republic of Armenia, law enforcement bodies, pre-school, school and other educational institutions, and organisations shall be prohibited.

3. Governing bodies and territorial and structural subdivisions of a political party may be located only in the territory of the Republic of Armenia. In other States a political party may have only a representation.

*(Title supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

*(Article 5 amended and edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002, amended and supplemented by HO-51-N of 8 December 2004)*

#### **ARTICLE 6. NAME OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. The name of a political party shall contain the word “party”.

2. The name of a political party and its abbreviation must differ from the names of already functioning parties and other non-governmental associations, as well as from names and abbreviations of names of parties prohibited — during the five years preceding the registration of the party concerned — as prescribed in Article 30 of this Law.

3. The full or the short name of a prominent person may be used in the name of a political party only in case of a written consent of such person, and in case such person is deceased – upon the written consent of

his or her heir. If the prominent person or, in case of his or her death, his or her heir finds that the activities of the political party besmirch the reputation of that person, he or she may file a claim with a court on depriving the political party of the right to use the name of the person in the name of the political party.

4. It shall not be allowed to use the names of state and local self-government bodies in the name of a political party.

*(Article 6 supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 7. EMBLEM AND OTHER SYMBOLS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. Political parties may have an emblem and other symbols the exact description of which must be provided in the statute of the political party. The emblem and other symbols of a political party may not coincide with the flag and the coat of arms of the Republic of Armenia. Other persons and organisations may not use the emblem and other symbols of a political party.

2. Emblems and other symbols of functioning political parties and other non-governmental associations, as well as of organisations or political parties prohibited in the territory of the Republic of Armenia, may not be used as the emblem and other symbols of a political party.

3. The emblem and other symbols of a political party shall not violate the intellectual property right of citizens and legal persons, including their right in respect of goods and designations of origin thereof. It shall be prohibited to use such an emblem and/or symbols which misrepresent the coats of arms of the Republic of Armenia and of other States, insult spiritual, racial, national feelings of people, violate generally acknowledged norms of morals.

#### **ARTICLE 8. PRINCIPLES OF ORGANISATION AND OPERATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Political parties shall be equal in rights, regardless of the ideology, objectives and aims reflected in their programme documents.

2. The operation of political parties shall be based on the principles of voluntary membership, self-governance, equal rights of members, legality and publicity. Political parties shall be free in determining their internal structure, objectives, as well as ways, methods, and forms of activities, with the exception of cases provided for by this Law.

3. Political parties shall be subject to state registration as provided for by this Law. Territorial and structural subdivisions of political parties shall not be subject to state registration.

4. Political parties shall function publicly; their founding and programme documents shall be published for general information.

5. The highest body of a political party shall be its meeting (meeting, conference, assembly, congress, etc.) which shall have the right to adopt a decision on the final solution of any matter related to the activities of the political party.

*(Article 8 supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

## **ARTICLE 9. RESTRICTIONS ON ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

Establishment and operation of political parties, the objectives or activities of which are aimed at violent change of the constitutional order of the Republic of Armenia and of territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia, formation of armed units, incitement to national, racial and religious hatred, propaganda of violence and war, shall be prohibited.

## **ARTICLE 10. THE STATE AND POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Members of political parties holding offices in state and local self-government bodies of the Republic of Armenia shall not have the right to use their service (official) position to the benefit of the political party's interests.

When performing their official duties, the mentioned persons shall not be bound by the decisions of the political party.

2. The following may not be members of a political party:

(1) judges;

(2) prosecutors;

(3) employees of national security, police and other law enforcement bodies of the Republic of Armenia;

(4) servicemen of the armed forces and other troops of the Republic of Armenia.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### ***ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES***

## **ARTICLE 11. FORMS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Political parties shall be established freely, upon the decision of their founding congress.

2. A political party shall be established at the founding congress, during which decisions on the establishment of the party, adoption of its programme, approval of the statute, formation of governing and supervisory bodies shall be adopted, as well as a head of the executive body (or an acting head of the executive body) shall be appointed (elected).

3. The legal capacity of a political party as a legal person shall arise from the moment of its state registration.

4. *(Part 4 repealed by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

*(Article 11 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002, supplemented by HO-169-N of 9 April 2007)*

## **ARTICLE 12. HOLDING OF THE FOUNDING CONGRESS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. The organisers of the founding congress shall, at least one month prior to the day of holding the founding congress, publish information through mass media on the place and time of holding the founding congress of the political party, as well as the main provisions of the draft statute and the draft programme of the political party.

2. The founding congress shall have quorum when attended by representatives from at least one third of the marzes of the Republic of Armenia.

3. Decisions on the establishment of the political party, approval of the statute, adoption of the programme, formation of governing and supervisory bodies shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the total number of congress delegates.

*(Article 12 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

## **ARTICLE 13. PROCEDURE FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. State registration of political parties shall be carried out by the authorised state body.

2. The document certifying the fact of state registration shall be the relevant record made in the state register of legal persons and the certificate of state registration attesting that record.

3. For the purpose of state registration of a political party, the following shall be submitted to the authorised body:

(1) an excerpt from the minutes of the founding congress, which must contain data on the establishment of the political party, territorial coverage, approval of its statute and adoption of programme documents, person(s) authorised for state registration purposes, as well as formation of governing and supervisory bodies;

*(2) (Point 2 repealed by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

(3) the bound and paginated statute and programme of the political party, signed by the authorised person(s);

(4) the application to the registering body signed by the members of the permanently functioning governing body of the political party, with an indication of the passport data and place of residence of each of them;

(5) the address of the registered office of the permanently functioning governing body of the political party;

(6) a copy of the periodical press where information on the place and time of holding the founding congress of the political party was published;

(7) the document attesting the payment of the registration fee.

4. Documents provided for in part 3 of this Article shall be submitted for the purpose of state registration not later than within three months following the day of holding the founding congress of the political party.

5. Upon submitting the documents provided for in part 3 of this Article, the authorised state body shall, within a one-month period, issue to the political party a state registration certificate where the date of making a record in the state unified register shall be specified as the date of registration of the political party, or shall reject state registration of the political party.

6. Registration of amendments and supplements made to the statute and/or programme of the political party shall not be considered as re-registration of the party and shall not be a ground for repealing the registration certificate of the party.

*(Article 13 amended and supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 14. GROUNDS FOR REJECTION OF STATE REGISTRATION OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. State registration of a political party may be rejected if the provisions of the statute or programme of the political party contradict the laws of the Republic of Armenia, or the requirements prescribed by this Law for state registration have not been met.

2. The decision of the registering body on rejection of state registration of a political party must be in writing and reasoned. The decision shall specify the provisions of laws of the Republic of Armenia that have been violated in the submitted documents.

3. Rejection of state registration of a political party may be appealed against through judicial procedure. Rejection of state registration shall not prevent re-submission of documents for registration, if the grounds for rejection have been eliminated. The registering body shall consider the repeated application and shall adopt a decision with regard thereto in the manner and within the time limit provided by this Law for the registration of political parties.

4. If the registering body neither registers nor rejects the registration of a political party within the prescribed time limit, the political party shall be deemed registered.

*(Article 14 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002, amended by HO-51-N of 8 December 2004)*

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### ***STRUCTURE OF A POLITICAL PARTY***

#### **ARTICLE 15. STATUTE OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. A political party, its territorial and structural subdivisions shall operate on the basis of, and in conformity with, the statute of the political party.

2. The statute of a political party shall define the following:

(1) the name, including the abbreviation of the name, as well as the description of the emblem and symbols (if any) of the political party;

(2) the aims and objectives of the political party;

(3) the rights and responsibilities of the members of the political party, conditions of, and procedure for, joining the political party and losing the membership;

(4) structure, the procedures for establishing and disbanding territorial and structural subdivisions of the political party;

(5) the procedures for establishing governing and supervisory bodies of territorial and structural subdivisions of the political party, their powers and the terms thereof;

(6) the procedure for formation and the powers of the permanently functioning governing body subordinate and accountable solely to the highest body of the political party;

(7) the procedure for making amendments and supplements to the statute of the political party;

(8) sources of acquisition of monetary funds and property of the political party, as well as the property management rights of territorial and structural subdivisions of the political party;

(9) the procedure for dissolution of the political party.

The statute of a political party may also contain other provisions concerning its operation.

3. State registration of amendments and supplements made to the statute of a political party shall be carried out by the procedure prescribed by this Law for state registration of political parties.

*(Article 15 amended and supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

## **ARTICLE 16. PROGRAMME OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. A political party must have a programme which shall specify the main principles of its operation, objectives, aims, as well as the manners of achieving such objectives, and ways and means of fulfilling the aims.

2. State registration of amendments and supplements made to the programme of a political party shall be carried out by the procedure established by this Law for state registration of political parties.

*(Article 16 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

## **ARTICLE 17. MEMBERS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. Membership to a political party shall be voluntary and individual.

2. Citizens of the Republic of Armenia having attained the age of eighteen shall be eligible for being members of a political party. Other persons vested with the right of suffrage in the Republic of Armenia may join a political party without the right of being elected to its governing and supervisory bodies.

3. Each person may simultaneously be a member of one political party only. Each member of a political party may be registered only in one subdivision of the political party.

4. Joining a political party shall be effected as provided for by this Law and the statute of the political party.

5. Members of a political party shall take part in its activities as prescribed by this Law and the statute of the party.

6. Members of a political party shall have the right to elect and be elected in permanently functioning governing and supervisory bodies of the political party concerned and of its territorial and structural subdivisions, to receive information on the activities of the political party and its governing bodies, to carry out supervision over their activities, as well as to appeal, as provided for by the statute, against decisions and actions of the mentioned bodies, with the exception of cases provided for by this Law.

7. Members of a political party shall, in conformity with the requirements of the statute, have rights and responsibilities. In case of non-performance of their statutory responsibilities, members of a political party may be subjected to disciplinary liability as provided for by the statute, right up to dismissal from the political party.

8. A question on affiliation to a political party may be included in official documents only in cases prescribed by law.

9. Membership or non-membership to a political party shall not be a ground for restricting the rights and freedoms of a person and/or granting him or her any privilege or advantage by the State.

*(Article 17 amended, supplemented and edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 18. GOVERNING BODIES OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. The highest governing body of a political party shall be the congress of the party, which shall be convened by the permanently functioning governing body of the political party at least once in two years. The congress of the political party shall elect the bodies stipulated by the statute of the party, which shall be accountable to the congress.

2. In accordance with the statute of a political party, the permanently functioning governing body of the political party shall, on behalf of the party, exercise its powers as a legal person.

*(Article 18 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 19. THE PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTING DECISIONS AT THE CONGRESS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. The congress of a political party shall have quorum if at least two thirds of the total number of congress delegates is present (registered).

2. Decisions on adopting the statute and the programme of a political party, making amendments and supplements thereto, reorganisation, dissolution of the party, as well as on nominating a candidate for the President of the Republic by the political party shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the total number of delegates to the congress of the political party.

3. Decisions of the congress of a political party, with the exception of cases provided for by this Law, shall be adopted by a majority of votes of the delegates present (registered) at the congress.

*4. (Part 4 repealed by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

*(Article 19 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*



**CHAPTER 4**  
***RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A POLITICAL PARTY***

**ARTICLE 20. RIGHTS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. A political party shall have the right, as prescribed by the legislation, to:

(1) establish, as well as disband, territorial and structural subdivisions, representations, in accordance with its statutory objectives and aims;

(2) organise and hold meetings, demonstrations, assemblies, rallies and other public and political events;

(3) freely disseminate information on its activities; advocate its objectives and aims;

(4) take part in the preparation and holding of elections to state and local self-government representative bodies as well as of referenda;

(5) put forward initiatives on various aspects of the life of society; submit recommendations to state and local self-government bodies on any matter with regard to the political, economic, social and cultural life of society;

(6) found mass media and publishing houses;

(7) establish alliances (associations) with other political parties, without forming a legal person;

(8) establish and maintain international links and contacts with foreign political parties and associations, join international unions and associations;

(9) carry out other activities compatible with its statute.

*(Article 20 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

**ARTICLE 21. EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

A political party is the only non-governmental association entitled to nominate candidates in elections of deputies to the National Assembly, President of the Republic, heads of local self-government bodies and council of elders.

Nomination — in elections to the National Assembly — of candidates for deputies of a political party shall be made by a decision adopted at the sitting of the permanently functioning governing body of the political party. Heads of territorial and structural subdivisions of the political party shall participate in that sitting as prescribed by the statute of the political party.

*(Article 21 supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

**ARTICLE 22. RESPONSIBILITIES OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

A political party shall be obliged to:

(1) abide by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Armenia, as well as its statute, programme and decisions;

(2) publish, each year, a statement on the use of property in the print press, specifying the sources of generation thereof.

### **ARTICLE 23. PROPERTY OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. Possessions of a political party shall generate from membership fees, donations, activities carried out in a prescribed manner and other sources not prohibited by law.

2. The owner of property received by a political party as well as created and/or acquired at the account of its own funds shall be the political party. A member of a political party shall have no right of ownership over the property, or a part thereof, belonging to the political party and shall bear no responsibility for the liabilities of the political party. A political party shall bear no responsibility for the liabilities of its members.

3. Territorial and structural subdivisions of a political party shall, within the scope and as provided for by the statute of the political party, possess and use the property allocated to them by the owner.

*(Article 23 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

### **ARTICLE 24. MONETARY FUNDS OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

Monetary funds of a political party shall generate from:

- (1) membership fees, if such are provided for by the statute of the political party;
- (2) donations;
- (3) budget financing as provided for by this Law;
- (4) civil-law transactions and other proceeds not prohibited by legislation.

### **ARTICLE 25. DONATIONS MADE TO POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Political parties shall have the right to receive donations — in the form of property and monetary funds — from natural persons, non-governmental associations and funds, as well as other legal persons.

2. Donations shall not be allowed from:

- (1) charitable and religious organisations, as well as organisations founded by them;
- (2) state and local self-government bodies, except for the financing provided by such bodies pursuant to Article 26 of this Law;
- (3) institutions and organisations of state and local self-government bodies, as well as organisations founded with the participation of state and local self-government bodies;
- (4) state administration institutions;
- (5) state non-commercial organisations;
- (6) legal persons registered up to six months prior to the date of making the donation;

(7) foreign States, foreign nationals and legal persons, as well as legal persons with foreign participation, if the shares, stocks, participatory interest of the foreign participant in the share (stock, participatory) capital of that legal person is more than 25 %;

(8) international organisations and international non-governmental movements;

(9) anonymous persons.

3. In case of receiving donations referred to in points 1-8 of part 2 of this Article, a political party shall be obliged to return them to the donor within two weeks from the date of receipt.

4. In case of receiving a donation referred to in point 9 of part 2 of this Article, a political party shall be obliged to transfer it to the State Budget within two weeks from the date of receiving the donation.

5. Natural persons making a donation shall be obliged to specify their name, surname, patronymic name, place of residence, and legal persons — all information (requisites) required by the rules of non-cash settlements between legal persons.

6. A citizen of the Republic of Armenia shall make monetary donations in a bank, in person, by presenting passport or another substituting document.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### ***STATE SUPPORT TO POLITICAL PARTIES***

#### **ARTICLE 26. FORMS OF STATE SUPPORT TO POLITICAL PARTIES**

State administration and local self-government bodies shall, as prescribed by law, provide the following support to political parties:

(1) shall ensure equal opportunity for political parties to use mass media established with their participation;

(2) shall, on equal conditions, provide to political parties premises, means of communication belonging to them, the priority right to use whereof shall belong to political parties that have participated in the allocation of seats envisaged for the proportional electoral system in the elections to the National Assembly;

(3) shall ensure equal opportunities for political parties and their territorial and structural subdivisions for conducting election campaigns;

(4) shall finance the activities of political parties as prescribed in Article 27 of this Law;

(5) shall ensure equal conditions for political parties for the purpose of holding events.

*(Article 26 supplemented by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

#### **ARTICLE 27. STATE FUNDING OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. State funding of political parties shall be made at the expense of the funds of the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia. Funds from the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia for funding of political parties shall be allocated under a separate budget item.

The total amount of funds provided for by the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia for funding of political parties may not be less than the product of 0,03-fold of the minimum salary prescribed by law and the total number of citizens included in the electoral lists at last elections to the National Assembly. .

2. Funds from the State Budget shall be allocated to such political party (alliance of parties) the electoral list whereof has, at the last elections to the National Assembly, received at least three per cent of the total sum of the total number of votes cast in favour of electoral lists of all parties that have participated in the voting and the number of inaccuracies.

3. Funds provided to political parties (alliances of parties) from the State Budget shall be allocated among the parties (alliances of parties) in proportion to the votes cast in favour of them under the proportional electoral system in the last elections to the National Assembly.

4. The mentioned funds shall be equally allocated among the political parties participating in the electoral alliance of parties, unless otherwise provided for by the decision of the electoral alliance of the parties.

5. Allocation of funds of the State Budget shall be ceased from the day of taking a decision on reorganisation, dissolution of the political party, of legally entering into force of a decision of the Constitutional Court on prohibition of the activities of the party, or from the day of its dissolution.

*(Article 27 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002)*

## **ARTICLE 28. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF POLITICAL PARTIES**

1. Political parties shall submit financial and accounting statements as and within the time limits prescribed by legislation for legal persons.

2. Every year, not later than 25 March of the year following the reporting year, political parties shall be obliged to submit to the authorised state body a financial statement on the funds received and spent by the party during the reporting year.

3. The statement on the funds received and spent by the political party during the reporting year must contain data on sources and amounts of funds deposited on the account of the party, spending of such funds, as well as the property in possession, with an indication of its value. The procedure for accounting and reporting (including forms of statement) shall be determined by the authorised state body. Accounting of expenses made by a political party for the preparation and conduct of election campaigns shall be maintained separately.

4. Not later than 25 March following the reporting year, a political party shall publish its financial statement in mass media.

5. Supervision over financial activities of political parties shall be exercised as prescribed by legislation.

6. The source of a donation — received by a political party — amounting more than one hundred-fold of the minimum salary prescribed by law shall be indicated in the financial statement of the party.

## **CHAPTER 6**

### ***REORGANISATION, DISSOLUTION AND PROHIBITION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF A POLITICAL PARTY***

#### **ARTICLE 29. REORGANISATION OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. A political party may, upon the decision of its highest body and as prescribed in Article 19(2) of this Law, be reorganised (merge, amalgamate, be divided, spin-off) into another party (parties) only.

2. In case of reorganisation of a political party, its rights and responsibilities shall, as prescribed by law, be transferred to the successor political party (parties).

#### **ARTICLE 30. PROHIBITION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. The activities of a political party may be prohibited upon a decision of the Constitutional Court.

2. The President of the Republic of Armenia shall, upon the grounds provided for in Article 9 of this Law, refer to the Constitutional Court on the issue of prohibition of the activities of political parties.

#### **ARTICLE 31. DISSOLUTION OF A POLITICAL PARTY**

1. A political party may cease its activities upon the decision of the congress of the party, as prescribed in Article 19(2) of this Law.

2. A political party shall be subject to dissolution, where:

(1) in any two successive elections to the National Assembly [it] has not participated in the elections under the proportional electoral system;

(2) in each of any two successive elections to the National Assembly [it] has received votes less than one per cent of the total sum of the total number of the votes cast in favour of electoral lists of all parties that have participated in the voting and the number of inaccuracies;

(3) it has not participated in one election to the National Assembly under the proportional electoral system, and, at the election preceding or following it, has received votes less than one per cent of the total sum of the total number of the votes cast in favour of electoral lists of all parties that have participated in the voting and the number of inaccuracies;

(4) where the authorised state body has not been notified on the compliance with the requirements of Article 5(1<sup>1</sup>) of this Law.

3. In case of prohibition of the activities of a political party upon a decision of the Constitutional Court, the party shall be subject to dissolution.

4. The property remaining after the dissolution of a political party in the case prescribed in part 1 of this Article, may, where provided for by the statute and upon the decision of the congress, be transferred to a non-governmental organisation or a fund registered in the Republic of Armenia, or to the Republic of Armenia.

The property remaining after the dissolution of a political party through judicial procedure, shall be transferred to the Republic of Armenia.

*(Article 31 edited by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002, supplemented and edited by HO-51-N of 8 December 2004)*

*(Provisions of Article 31(2)(2) and (3), the provision of Article 31(2)(1) pursuant to which “A political party shall be subject to dissolution, where in any two successive elections to the National Assembly [it] has not participated in the elections under the proportional electoral system[”] have been declared as contradicting the second part of Article 28 and Article 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia and invalid upon the Decision SDVo-669; the provision of Article 31(4) pursuant to which “The property remaining after the dissolution of a political party through judicial procedure, shall be transferred to the Republic of Armenia[”] has been declared as contradicting Article 31 of the Constitution of the Republic of Armenia and invalid upon the Decision SDVo-669)*

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **FINAL PROVISIONS**

#### **ARTICLE 32. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

The requirement of Article 31(2) of this Law shall extend to the results of elections to the National Assembly that have taken place after the entry into force of this Law.

#### **ARTICLE 33. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THIS LAW**

1. This Law shall enter into force three months following [its] official publication.

1<sup>1</sup>. Article 31(2)(4) of this Law shall extend to political parties — which have been registered prior to the entry into force of this Law — six months following the entry into force of this Law, in the course of which such political parties shall be obliged to bring their territorial coverage and the number of their members in line with the requirements of this Law, informing in writing the authorised state body thereon or on the absence of the need thereof.

2. Upon the entry into force of this Law, the Law of the Republic of Armenia “On non-governmental political organisations” of 26 February 1991 shall be repealed.

3. Political parties (non-governmental political organisations) established before the entry into force of this Law shall be obliged to, within one year from the date of entry into force of this Law, bring their programme, territorial coverage and statute in line with the requirements of this Law, informing in writing the authorised state body on doing so or on the absence of the need to do so. Political parties (non-governmental political organisations) having failed to notify the authorised state body within the mentioned time limit, shall be subject to dissolution.

Those political parties (non-governmental political organisations) which have notified the authorised body within the mentioned time limit, but the submitted amendments to the programme and the statute

have not been registered, shall have the right to bring the programme and the statute of the party (non-governmental political organisations) in line with the requirements of the law and to re-apply to the authorised state body by 15 February 2004. In case of failure to re-apply or in case of re-applying and being rejected, political parties (non-governmental political organisations) shall be subject to dissolution.

Political parties (non-governmental political organisations) subject to dissolution as prescribed in this Article shall be obliged to take a decision on dissolution by 15 April 2004 in the prescribed manner. In case of failure to take a decision on dissolution or to give a notice to the authorised state body within the prescribed time limit, the authorised state body shall, as prescribed by legislation, apply to court with a claim of dissolving the political party (non-governmental political organisation).

*(Article 33 amended by HO-475-N of 4 December 2002, edited by HO-30-N of 25 December 2003, supplemented by HO-51-N of 8 December 2004)*

**President  
of the Republic of Armenia**

**R. Kocharyan**

7 August 2002

Yerevan

HO-410-N