COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Memorandum of Association of

Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund Limited

1. The company’s name is Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund Limited (and in this document it is called the “Charity”).

2. The Charity’s registered office is to be situated in England.

3.1 The Charity’s objects (the “Objects”) are to promote the conservation of the physical, natural and social environment and to advance education and science in particular (but without limitation) through:

(a) conserving the natural environment and biodiversity of the cross-border forestry site known as the Sangha Tri-National (hereinafter referred to as “TNS”), which includes the following parks:

- Lobeke National Park, in Cameroon,
- Dzangha-Ndoki National Park, in the Central African Republic, and
- Nouabale-Ndoki National Park, in the Republic of Congo

as well as the peripheral zone surrounding each of these parks, which in the case of the Central African Republic also includes the Dzanga Sangha Dense Forest Special Reserve (the “peripheral zones”, within the framework of the policies and strategies defined by the management structures of the TNS; and

(b) promoting the environmentally sustainable management of natural resources and eco-development in the TNS and the peripheral zones whereas “environmentally sustainable” means management and development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

3.2 In addition, to any other powers it may have, the Charity has the following powers in order to further the Objects (but not for any other purpose):

(a) to engage in any and all acts and activities that may be necessary, useful or appropriate for the furtherance or accomplishment of the above Objects, including to solicit, raise and invest funds from public and private sources wherever located;

(b) to raise funds. In doing so, the Charity must not undertake any substantial permanent trading activity and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations;

(c) to buy, take or lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and to maintain and equip it for use;
(d) to sell, lease or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the property belonging to the Charity. In exercising this power, the Charity must comply as appropriate with sections 36 and 37 of the Charities Act 1993;

(e) to borrow money and to charge the whole or any part of the property belonging to the Charity as security for repayment of the money borrowed. The Charity must comply as appropriate with sections 38 and 39 of the Charities Act 1993 if it wishes to mortgage land;

(f) to cooperate with other charities, voluntary bodies and statutory authorities and to exchange information and advice with them;

(g) to establish or support any charitable trusts, associations or institutions formed for any of the charitable purposes included in the Objects;

(h) to acquire, merge with or to enter into any partnership or joint venture arrangement with any other charity formed for any of the Objects;

(i) to set aside income as a reserve against future expenditure but only in accordance with a written policy about reserves;

(j) to employ and remunerate such staff as are necessary for carrying out the work of the Charity. The Charity may employ or remunerate a Director only to the extent it is permitted to do so by clause 4 and provided it complies with the conditions in that clause;

(k) to

(i) deposit or invest funds;

(ii) employ a professional fund manager; and

(iii) arrange for the investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a nominee,

in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as the trustees of a trust are permitted to do by the Trustee Act 2000;

(l) to provide indemnity insurance for the Directors or any other officer of the Charity in relation to any such liability as is mentioned in sub-clause 3.3 of this clause, but subject to the restrictions specified in sub-clause 3.4 of the clause;

(m) to pay out of the funds of the Charity the costs of forming and registering the Charity both as a company and as a charity;

(n) to do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the achievement of the Objects; and
to engage exclusively in such charitable activities as to enable it to qualify for exemption from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (hereinafter referred to as the “US Code”).

3.3 The liabilities referred to in sub-clause 3.2(k) are:

(a) any liability that by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to a director of a company in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust of which he or she may be guilty in relation to the Charity;

(b) the liability to make a contribution to the Charity’s assets as specified in section 214 of the Insolvency Act 1986 (wrongful trading).

3.4 (a) The following liabilities are excluded from sub-clause 3.3(a):

(i) fines;

(ii) costs of unsuccessfully defending criminal prosecutions for offences arising out of the fraud, dishonesty or wilful or reckless misconduct of the Director or other officer;

(iii) liabilities to the Charity that result from conduct that the Director or other officer knew or must be assumed to have known was not in the best interests of the Charity or about which the person concerned did not care whether it was in the best interests of the Charity or not.

(b) There is excluded from sub-clause 3.3(b) any liability to make such a contribution where the basis of the Director’s liability is his or her knowledge prior to the insolvent liquidation of the Charity (or reckless failure to acquire that knowledge) that there was no reasonable prospect that the Charity would avoid going into insolvent liquidation.

4.1 The income and property of the Charity shall be applied solely toward the promotion of the Objects.

4.2 (a) A Director is entitled to be reimbursed from the property of the Charity or may pay out of such property reasonable expenses properly incurred by him or her when acting on behalf of the Charity.

(b) Subject to the restrictions in sub-clauses 3.3 and 3.4, a Director may benefit from trustee indemnity insurance cover purchased at the Charity’s expense.

4.3 None of the income or property of the Charity may be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend bonus or otherwise by way of profit to any member of the Charity. This does not prevent a member who is not also a Director receiving:

(a) a benefit from the Charity in the capacity of a beneficiary of the Charity;

(b) reasonable and proper remuneration for any goods or service supplied to the Charity.
4.4 No Director may:

(a) buy goods or services from the Charity;
(b) sell goods, services, or any interest in land to the Charity;
(c) be employed by, or receive any remuneration from the Charity;
(d) receive any other financial benefit from the Charity,

unless the payment or transaction is previously and expressly authorised in writing by the Charity Commission.

4.5 A Director may receive a benefit from the Charity in the capacity of a beneficiary of the Charity.

(a) A Director may receive interest on money lent to the Charity at a reasonable and proper rate not exceeding 2% per annum below the base rate of a clearing bank to be selected by the Directors.

(b) A company of which a Director is a member may receive fees remuneration or other benefit in money or money’s worth provided that the shares of the company are listed on a recognised stock exchange and the Director holds no more than 1% of the issued share capital of that company.

(c) A Director may receive rent for premises let by the Director to the Charity if the amount of the rent and the other terms of the lease are reasonable and proper.

4.6 The Charity and its Directors may only rely upon the authority provided by sub-clause 4.5 if each of the following conditions is satisfied:

(a) The remuneration or other sums paid to the Director do not exceed an amount that is reasonable in all the circumstances.

(b) The Director is absent from the part of any meeting at which there is discussion of:

(i) any proposal to enter into any other contract or arrangement with him or her or to confer any benefit upon him or her that would be permitted under sub-clause 4.5; or
(ii) any other matter relating to a payment or the conferring of any benefit permitted by sub-clause 4.5.

(c) The Director does not vote on any such matter and is not to be counted when calculating whether a quorum of Directors is present at the meeting.

(d) The other Directors are satisfied that it is in the interest of the Charity to contract with that Director rather than with someone who is not a Director. In reaching that decision the Directors must balance the advantage of contracting with a Director against that disadvantage of doing so.
The reason for their decision is recorded by the Directors in the minute book.

A majority of the Directors then in office have received no such payments.

4.7 In sub-clauses 4.2 to 4.6 of this clause 4:

(a) “Charity” shall include any company in which the Charity:

• holds more than 50% of the shares; or

• controls more than 50% of the voting rights attached to the shares; or

• has the right to appoint one or more directors to the Board of the company.

(b) “Director” shall include any child, parent, grandchild, grandparent, brother, sister or spouse of the Director or any person living with the Director as his or her partner.

5. The liability of the members is limited.

6. Every member promises, if the Charity is dissolved while he or she is a member or within twelve months after he or she ceases to be a member, to contribute such sum (not exceeding £10) as may be demanded of him or her towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Charity incurred before he or she ceases to be a member, and of the costs charges and expenses of winding up and the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

7.1 The members of the Charity may at any time before, and in expectation of, its dissolution, resolve to:

(a) pay or make provision for the payment of all of the Charity’s liabilities;

(b) return, transfer, or convey (or make provision therefore) all assets held by the Charity upon condition requiring such return, transfer, or conveyance in the event of dissolution of the Charity; and

(c) dispose of the Charity’s remaining assets exclusively for the Objects or distribute assets to such organisation or organisations organised and operated exclusive for charitable, education, or scientific purposes shall, at the time, qualify for exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the US Code, as the members shall determine.

7.2 Subject to any such resolution of the members of the Charity, the Directors of the Charity may at any time before, and in expectation of, its dissolution resolve to:

(a) pay or make provision for the payment of all the Charity’s liabilities;

(b) return, transfer, or convey (or make provision therefore) all assets held by the Charity upon condition requiring such return, transfer, or conveyance in the event of dissolution of the Charity; and
(c) dispose of the Charity’s remaining assets exclusively for the Objects or distribute assets to such organisation or organisations organised and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes as shall, at the time, qualify for exemption under Code Section 501(c)(3), as the members shall determine.

7.3 In no circumstances shall the net assets of the charity be paid to or distributed among the members of the Charity (except to a member that is itself a charity) and if no such resolution is passed by the members or the Directors the net assets of the Charity shall be applied for charitable purposes as directed by the court or the Commission.