



## **Preamble**

The International Society for Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHAD) is a learned Society that aims to develop, encourage and support research into the early origins of health and disease. In doing so the Society's aims include the co-ordination of a research strategy in different countries, to foster regular meetings and, especially, to promote the interchange of ideas, staff and expertise between laboratories and research groups across the world. In this regard, the Society encourages and supports the formation of Associated Groups, where individuals that share a language, a geographical region, or a coordinated strategic mission, can come together and form either CHAPTERS or AFFILIATE groups (see below). These groups are highly regarded by the Society, as they foster research interests in DOHaD internationally, support Society membership, and promote international research collegiality. The International Society will support its Associated Groups to the best of its ability and resources, wherever it is necessary and appropriate.

## **Why should your group become associated with the International DOHaD Society?**

### **BENEFITS**

#### **1. International recognition.**

The International Society for Developmental Origins of Health and Disease (DOHAD) is an international learned society that is recognized for its promotion of research in the early origins of health and disease and its promotion of the need for a healthy start to life. The Society is composed of world leaders in the field of developmental programming science including clinicians, specialists in public health, and basic scientists. Groups associated with the International Society will share in this international recognition. These associated groups will be listed on the Society Website, and will be acknowledged in the Journal of the Developmental Origins of Health and Disease.

#### **2. Influence.**

Each associated group will have seat on Council and thus will have influence over Council decisions.

#### **3. Congress Participation.**

Each World Congress will include a meeting of associated groups, and include an agenda discussion of *Associated Group Matters* at the Annual General Meeting. At the World Congress each associated group may have free booth space (floor footprint) to advertise their group and increase their membership. Also at the World Congress, one scientific oral presentation may be devoted to the best paper from each Associated Group Meeting in the past year or the best submitted abstract from each of the associated groups.

#### **4. Political Influence.**

The Society plays a large role in political lobbying and the exchange of knowledge between policymakers, scientists and the wider public. DOHaD associated groups



will enjoy the benefit of unified political lobbying, where the Society can/will facilitate and support these groups' political or fundraising activities.

**5. Branding.**

Each associated group may use of the Society logo and name in advertising events and meetings.

**6. Meetings**

Each associated group may receive assistance/guidance for organization of local meetings from the Society as well as free listing of meetings on the Society website and Journal.



## **How to become an International DOHaD Society-associated group**

All groups wishing to be associated officially with the International DOHaD Society must complete an application template (see below).

The aims of any associated group must coincide closely with the International DOHaD Society. The International Society however recognizes that each group will have its own specific aims that target their own region or membership.

Each group must be made up of some form of executive committee and must outline the overarching aims of the proposed group in terms of research, teaching and communication. Governance will be through the local group and will not be managed by the International Society.

Groups may choose **one of two possible DOHaD Society associations** based on their needs and the financial management of their membership subscriptions:

### **a. DOHaD Society CHAPTERS**

DOHaD Society CHAPTERS agree to maintain at least 60% of their membership as International Society members. DOHaD Society CHAPTERS have a “top down” approach in subscription management where the International DOHaD Society central administration will manage all subscription finances on behalf of the CHAPTER. Upon Council approval of a CHAPTER application, this Chapter will appear on the International Society website as an option for members to join. New members subscribing to the International Society may then choose to become a member of this new CHAPTER. Half of the subscription fees collected from members that choose to align with a specific CHAPTER will channel back to that CHAPTER once per year. Financial agreements will be formalized in the application approval process with the DOHaD Central administration. DOHaD Society CHAPTER members will benefit from the full range of benefits available to other DOHaD Society members, including Journal subscription, newsletters and preferential registration rates for World Congresses.

### **b. DOHaD Society REGIONAL AFFILIATES**

DOHaD Society AFFILIATE groups have a “bottom up” approach in subscription fee management where the AFFILIATE executive will manage all subscription finances. Upon Council approval of an AFFILIATE application, all AFFILIATE members will automatically become International Society members. The AFFILIATE Society will manage all subscription finances and will pay the International Society a minimum of £10 per member and £2 per student member once per financial year. DOHaD Society AFFILIATE members will benefit from the full range of benefits available to other DOHaD Society members, including Journal subscription, newsletters and preferential registration rates for World Congresses.



## **CONDITIONS OF ASSOCIATION**

### **Article 1 Membership**

**Section 1.** Groups wishing to become a DOHaD Society-associated group must complete an application to be vetted by the International DOHaD Society Council.

**Section 2.** Once an application is approved by COUNCIL the group will be notified and recognized on the International Society website as either a CHAPTER or an AFFILIATE.

**Section 3.** All Council approved DOHaD Society-associated groups are entitled to use the International Society's logo on their website and printed material.

**Section 4.** DOHaD CHAPTERS are required to maintain a minimum of 60% of their members as members of the International Society.

**Section 5.** All members of a DOHaD AFFILIATE group are automatically awarded membership to the International Society

**Section 6.** Each CHAPTER/AFFILIATE shall submit a quarterly report to the International Society regarding group activities and finances; these would be expected to be general reports and not formal financial statements. In this report it is expected that the secretary of a DOHaD AFFILIATE group will communicate to the International Society Secretary any additions/changes to membership so that International Society membership lists can be maintained.

### **Article 2: Governance**

**Section 1.** Each CHAPTER/AFFILIATE shall be governed by its own bylaws and Constitution, but the bylaws and Constitution of the CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE should not be in conflict with those of the International Society.

**Section 2.** Each CHAPTER/AFFILIATE shall elect its own officers. The International Society Secretary should be made aware of any selections for office and changes in office.

**Section 3.** Once a CHAPTER/AFFILIATE group reaches a minimum of 40 members, this CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE will be granted one seat on the International Society Council, typically comprised of a member of the CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE's own office.

**Section 4.** Each CHAPTER/AFFILIATE shall prepare an annual report for the International Society so as to maintain communication between associated groups and the International Society.

### **Article 3. Finances**

**Section 1.** DOHaD CHAPTERS shall receive 50% of the annual International Society dues of their members on an annual basis.

**Section 2.** All DOHaD AFFILIATE groups shall pay the International Society £10 for every AFFILIATE full member and £2 for each student member on an annual basis as determined by an agreement made after Council approval of AFFILIATE group.

**Section 2.** DOHaD CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE groups may assess additional dues and raise or collect funds to be expended for local purposes in harmony with the provisions of the International Society and will have the entire management and control of said funds.



**Section 3.** DOHaD CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE groups may receive donations or bequests made to said groups and may expend or invest the same in the interest of said group at the discretion of its governing body. However groups should not engage in activities that will actively compete with the political or financial interests of the International Society.

**Article 4. Obligations and Responsibilities**

**Section 1.** Each DOHaD CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE group must declare the objectives of the International Society, or an equivalent form of words, on the group’s website.

**Section 2.** There must be no conflicts between the DOHaD CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE and the Society regarding commercial sponsorship.

**Section 3.** Each DOHaD CHAPTER/ AFFILIATE group must actively engage in activities to ensure that local members are aware of the objectives of the International Society and uphold them.

**Article 5. Review of Conditions of Association**

**Section 1.** In accordance with the World Congress Biannual cycle, the International Society shall review the conditions of association with each CHAPTER/AFFILIATE group on a biannual basis and may modify the conditions to better serve both the Associated Group and the International Society. This review will be done in consultation with the Associated Group and serves only to improve the relationship. This may include a re-badging of the Associate Group (ie CHAPTER to AFFILIATE, or AFFILIATE to CHAPTER). Additionally, the Society and the Associate will also consider financial or other factors that may preclude continuing an Associate relationship with the International Society.



## APPLICATION FOR ASSOCIATION

**DESIGNATION: please choose one of the following associations:**

- DOHaD Society CHAPTER**
- DOHaD Society AFFILIATE**

### **1. Aims and Objectives:**

The aims of the associated group must coincide closely with the International DOHaD Society. The Society expects these aims to be region/group specific. The aims should correspond to what the specific needs are for your group members.

Please explain here the overarching aims of the proposed association in terms of research, teaching and communication. Please explain how knowledge translation will occur and how clinical and basic scientists may interact within your group. How will your group promote and teach the International Society's objectives and translate these concepts within group membership.

### **2. Governance:**

Please explain here how the group will be managed, the composition of the officials, founding members, etc. This list may include:

*President*

*Vice President*

*Treasurer*

*Secretary*

*Advisory members*

### **3. Membership and ongoing relationship with the International DOHaD SOCIETY:**

Please provide a list of your group members that are International DOHaD Society members. Please provide a description of how you will engage your group members and also how you will maintain links with the International DOHaD Society. For DOHaD CHAPTER applications – how you will ensure that 60% of your membership remain International DOHaD Society members.