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MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION)
AUROVILLE FOUNDATION, AUROVILLE-605101.

STANDING ORDER NO.1/2019 dated 4th June 2019
(Replacing the Standing Order No. 6/2011 dated 01-05-2011)

CONSTITUTION OF AUROVILLE TOWN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Whereas the Mother had envisaged Auroville as a universal township dedicated to human unity and international understanding and as further described by her in “*A Dream*” (1954), *the Auroville Charter* (1968), the message “*To be a True Aurovilian*” (1970) and the Mother’s numerous other messages and writings on Auroville.

Whereas Section 17 (e) read together with Section 11 (3) of the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988 empowers and mandates the Governing Board to prepare, in consultation with the Residents’ Assembly, the Master Plan for the international cultural township of Auroville (hereinafter referred to as “the Township”) and ensure its development so planned.

Whereas the Governing Board, in terms of Section 17(e), *ibid*, approved the Auroville Universal Township Master Plan (Perspective 2025), hereinafter referred to as “the Master Plan”, prepared by the Residents' Assembly of Auroville;

Whereas the Master Plan was approved by the Central Government, *vide* Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education) letter No.F.27-3/2000-UU dated 12 April 2001, and was notified by Auroville Foundation, with the approval of the Central Government, in the Gazette of India (Part III) on 16th August 2010; and

Whereas the Master Plan prescribes the “Town Development Council” as the body for implementing the Master Plan with an organisational structure as in Appendix V of the Master Plan;

Now, therefore, the Governing Board, in terms of the provisions of the Master Plan, constitutes the “Town Development Council” (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”) in consultation with the Residents’ Assembly through the Working Committee, for the purpose of implementation of the Master Plan which includes but is not limited to (1) planning, developing and building of the Township, (2) socio-economic planning and development; (3) implementing and monitoring of development plans; and (4) mobilizing resources and funding the planning and development of the Township, subject to the following provisions:

1. Council Membership :

The Council shall consist of a maximum of 15 members nominated by the Residents' Assembly through the Working Committee from amongst the Residents' of Auroville, whose names are entered in the Register of Residents' maintained in terms of Section 18(2) of the Auroville Foundation Act 1988 and approved and notified by the Governing Board and shall include members representing functional areas and nominated members as given below:

Functional Areas (13 members):

- Town Planning
- Urban Design
- Physical Infrastructure
- Social Infrastructure
- Economic Development
- Applied Research on Sustainable Development
- Resource Mobilisation
- Implementation and Monitoring
- Greenbelt, Green Zones and Parks
- Communication

Nominated Members (2 members):

- Nominee of the Governing Board
- Nominee of the Working Committee

2. Office Bearers :

The Council will have three office-bearers namely one Chairperson, one Member-Secretary and one Member in charge of Finance & Accounts. The Governing Board shall nominate their nominee in the Town Development Council. The Council shall elect these three office-bearers from amongst themselves and decide on the levels of delegated authority to these office bearers.

3. Term of Office:

- (a) The term of office of a member shall be 4 years from the date of notification by the Governing Board of his/her nomination by Working Committee;
- (b) Six months before the expiry of each 4 year term, the new members of the Council will be nominated and will commence an induction and transition process with the then existing Council members to ensure a smooth transition;
- (c) The Governing Board may, in consultation with the Working Committee, may re-appoint functional-area members to the new succeeding Council, so as to ensure continuity of work. The re-appointment of council members will be subject to the eligibility criterion as per clause 3 (d) below.
- (d) A member shall be eligible for re-nomination for a maximum of one term in succession and for subsequent nomination on the same terms after a lapse of 2 terms

from the last one; and for subsequent nomination on the same terms after a lapse of 2 terms from the last one.

4. Cessation of Membership:

A member shall cease to be on the Council: (1) if he/she is continuously absent from Council work or Auroville for more than six months; (2) if he/she resigns in writing and the resignation, recommended by the Council, is accepted by the Governing Board; (3) if the Governing Board, on the recommendation of the Council, for good and sufficient reasons to be recorded in writing, removes a member;

5. Nominations and Vacancies:

Members of the Council will be appointed by the Governing Board in consultation with the Residents Assembly through the Working Committee. If a casual vacancy is caused for any reason, the Governing Board, in consultation with the Working Committee, may appoint a member for the vacancy for the remaining period of the term. For the appointment of members of the Council, the Governing Board will issue suitable Office Orders from time to time. Such Office Orders will contain the names of the members, their term and the functional areas of responsibility.

6. Functions and Responsibilities:

The Governing Board herewith empowers the Council, being the Prescribed Authority as mentioned in the Master Plan, with the following functions and responsibilities:

- (a) Ensure that the Township is planned, developed and built generally according to the “Galaxy Concept” approved by the Mother and the Master Plan to manifest the Mother’s vision of Auroville within a time frame;
- (b) Prepare and approve Zonal Plans, Local Area Plans and 5 year Detailed Development Plans for building the Township in a time bound manner;
- (c) Review and update the Master Plan every 15 years with the first such review to take place in 2025;
- (d) Prepare and approve Development Plan Regulations (Building By-laws) as well as give Building Permissions and Completion Certificates;
- (e) Prepare and approve budgets, estimates, planning schedules, work plans and work completion schedules;
- (f) Assist in raising or raise funds for planning, developing and building the Township including the consolidation of land required for the purpose. The funds so raised shall be deposited in the Auroville Unity Fund and disbursed to the Council for the realisation of approved development plans;
- (g) Secure the services of town planners, urban designers, engineers, architects, contractors, surveyors, consultants, legal advisors, and such other experts and

professionals from within and outside Auroville as may be necessary from time to time and on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Council;

- (h) Prepare and implement communication and consultation processes that encourage an active, constructive and participatory involvement of Auroville residents in the implementation of the Master Plan;
- (i) Constitute functional teams, working groups, project teams and other resource groups as may be necessary from time to time on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Council;
- (j) Secure, where necessary, the required recognition or endorsement from the appropriate central, state, local or district government authorities for the implementation of the Master Plan in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary, Auroville Foundation;
- (k) Prepare rules and regulations for ensuring enforcement of the Master Plan with the approval of the Governing Board.

7. Advisory Committee:

The Governing Board will constitute the TDC Advisory Group (TAG) comprising up to 7 members including the Director, Town and Country Planning, Government of Tamil Nadu, to advise the Governing Board and the Council on matters relating to the Master Plan, including, but not limited to, the preparation of Detailed Development Plans and the monitoring and reviewing of planning and development progress.

8. Accountability and Reporting:

- (a) The Council shall be accountable to the Governing Board, through the Working Committee, and shall submit to it a faithful and true account of its activities, including income and expenditure as and when required by the Governing Board.
- (b) The Council shall also submit a faithful and true account of its activities to the Residents' Assembly, through the Working Committee, as decided from time to time.
- (c) The Council shall publish an annual report on the progress in implementing the Master Plan.

9. Internal Management:

The Council shall determine, with the approval of the Governing Board through the Working Committee, its internal working procedures in all respects not inconsistent with the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988, the Auroville Foundation Rules, 1997 and the provisions of this Notification. The Council shall provide a copy of its internal management and financial processes manual to the Working Committee and the Governing Board for information.

10. L'avenir d'Auroville

Since the name "L'avenir d'Auroville" was given by the Mother for the Township Planning, developing and building the organisation; the Council shall retain it and may use the expression "Auroville Town Development Council – *L'avenir d'Auroville*" in its internal communications.

From the date of constitution of the Council, the committee known by the name of "L'avenir d' Auroville" and constituted by the Governing Board by its Standing Order No. 1/2008 dated 11 March 2008, and the connected Office Orders, shall cease to exist and function, and its roles and responsibilities shall be taken over by the Council.

11. Amendments to the Notification

The Governing Board, in consultation with the Working Committee, may amend, from time to time, any or all of the provisions of this Standing Order..

12. This Standing Order is issued with the approval of Chairman, Auroville Foundation and shall come into force with immediate effect


(Mohan Verghese Chankath)

Secretary
Auroville Foundation

Copy communicated to:

1. Chairman, Auroville Foundation
2. All Members of the Governing Board, Auroville Foundation
3. The District Collector, Collectorate Dist. Villupuram, Tamil Nadu
4. Director, Town & Country Planning , Government of Tamil Nadu
5. Director (INC), Ministry of HRD. Government of India
6. Under Secretary, Auroville Foundation
7. The Town Development Council
8. The Working Committee of the Residents' Assembly
9. Auroville Unity Fund
10. Auroville Funds & Assets Management Committee
11. Guard File, Town Development Council
12. Guard File, Standing Orders