

English translation (NB: only the Meowese language version is valid under Meowese law)

## **Preliminary Constitution of the Republic of Meow**

### **Preamble to include:**

- A. Introduction to the Republic of Meow;
- B. Recognition of the rights and obligations of animals and the natural ecosystem;
- C. Commitment to diversity and inclusion;
- D. Establishment of justice mechanisms.

*In pursuing harmony, order, and prosperity for all felines and reverence for all living beings, the cats of Meow unite under this Constitution. Recognising our place in the tapestry of life, we pledge to uphold the principles of diversity, inclusion, and respect for all creatures and the ecosystems we share.*

### **Article I – The Territory and Sovereignty of Meow**

- The territory of Meow shall consist of all regions in Pedras d’el Rei historically inhabited and governed by cats.
- The sovereign nation-state of Meow is independent and free from any external authority.

### **Article II – Official Language**

- The official language of Meow is Meowese.
- All governmental communications, laws, and decrees shall be in Meowese, but provisions may be made for translations to communicate with other species.

### **Article III – Rights of Animals and the Ecosystem**

- Every creature within the borders of Meow shall have the right to live with dignity and without undue harm.
- Meow recognises the rights of ecosystems and will strive to protect habitats, rivers, forests, and other natural features from degradation.
- Hunting shall only be permissible for sustenance and not sport.

### **Article IV – Principles of Diversity and Inclusion**

- Every cat, regardless of fur colour, size, age, or breed, shall be treated with equal respect and dignity.
- Discrimination based on fur pattern, whisker length, or any other physical or social trait is strictly prohibited.
- Cats shall strive to understand, respect, and learn from other species with whom they share their land.

## **Article V – Governance and Representation**

- The supreme governing body shall be the Feline Council, consisting of representatives elected by cats from various territories.
- Elections shall occur every three years, with each territory sending two representatives.
- Decisions of the Feline Council shall be taken on a majority basis, but a two-thirds majority is required for amendments to the Constitution.

## **Article VI – Methods of Justice**

- Cats behaving contrary to the principles of this Constitution shall be subject to the Mews Court's jurisdiction.
- The Mews Court shall comprise seven senior cats known for their wisdom and fairness.
- Justice shall focus on rehabilitation and understanding rather than punishment. Exile or isolation may only be used in extreme cases.

## **Article VII – Relations with Other Nations**

- Meow shall maintain peaceful relations with all nations and seek to be a beacon of harmony in the world.
- Meow seeks a seat in global forums, including the UN General Assembly, representing feline and animal interests.

## **Article VIII – Amendments**

- Proposals to amend the Constitution must be presented to the Feline Council and require a two-thirds majority to pass.
- Citizens may petition for amendments with the backing of at least one-fifth of the adult feline population.

## **Article IX – Ratification**

- This Constitution shall come into effect upon approval by a two-thirds majority in a nationwide referendum.
- In witness whereof, the representatives of the various territories of Meow, on this day, unite under these principles and pledge to uphold them for the greater good of all.

**Important Note:** *This outline provides the foundational structure for the Constitution of the Republic of Meow, blending elements of traditional human legal principles with innovative concepts related to animal rights, diversity, and inclusion. The details of each article need to be developed further to create a comprehensive and unique constitution for the nation-state of cats.*