

Statutes and By-Laws

changes proposed relative to current statutes and by-laws

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Statutes*

* Adopted by the General Assembly of the Association, Grenoble, 1975, and amended by the General Assembly, London, Canada, 1981, [and the General Assembly, Melbourne, 2011](#).

Objects of the Association

1. The purpose of the International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior is:
 - a. To promote the study of problems relating to earthquakes, to the propagation of seismic waves, and to the internal structure, properties and processes of the Earth;
 - b. To initiate and co-ordinate the conduct [and communication](#) of researches-

which depends on co-operation between different countries, ~~and to provide for their scientific discussion;~~

- c. To facilitate particular researches on ~~scientific~~ theoretical, observational and applied seismology, such as the comparison of instruments used in different countries, the adoption of standards for observatory practice and data storage, ~~researches on blasting~~ and generally all matters related to ~~which~~ seismology is related.

Members of the Association

Each country having adhered to the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) ~~Union is a member of and has the right to send representatives to the Association. The word "country" has the same sense as in the statutes of the Union.~~

National Committees

Each National Committee for the IUGG (or national organisation adhering to IUGG) should include a section, or sub-committee, ~~offor~~ for Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior. The functions of this ~~section or sub-c~~ Committee and of its section or sub-committee are to facilitate and co-ordinate in their respective countries the study and practice of ~~the different questions relating to~~ Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior, in accordance with the objects of the Association. ~~The~~ Each National Committee and the Section or Sub-Committee shall be empowered to ~~propose~~ refer to the Association matters for discussion ~~questions~~ falling within the competence of the Association.

The National Committee (or adhering organization) names in each country a correspondent, whose duty is to provide liaison between the IASPEI executive and the Section in each country.

The National Committee on the recommendation of the Section or Sub-Committee nominates the delegate or the delegates who shall represent it at the General Meeting of the Association. One of these delegates shall be designated as the principal delegate of the country and shall cast the vote of that country ~~in all questions except the purely scientific ones (see article 18).~~ whenever a "national vote" is required (refer section VIII.2).

Official communications sent by the International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior to an adhering country shall be addressed to the ~~Seismological Section~~ IASPEI National Correspondent or, in default, to the National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics.

Administration of the Association

4. The work of the Association shall be directed by the General Association Plenary Meeting of the delegates of the Member countries of ~~the Association~~ IUGG.
5. The General Plenary Meeting of the Association shall elect the following: a President, a First and Second Vice-President, a Secretary General, a Treasurer and four additional persons. ~~It is desirable that each of these four be Chairman of a Commission.~~ These, plus the immediate past President shall constitute the voting members of the Executive Committee of the Association.

A single person may, with the approval of the Executive Committee, be elected

both Secretary General and Treasurer.

The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary General and the Treasurer shall constitute the Bureau of the Association.

6. Elections shall be held at ~~each Ordinary General~~ an Association Plenary Meeting held in conjunction with a General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. The President may not be re-elected to the same office, and no person may hold any one office for more than twelve consecutive years.

The elections of the Bureau and of the Executive Committee are to be decided on the basis of one vote per country represented at the Association Plenary Meeting.

Should a vacancy occur among the elected offices, the Bureau shall fill the position provisionally by nomination, and an election shall be held for this office at the next Assembly of the Association.

7. The transfer of duties takes place at the close of the General Association Plenary Meeting at which the election occurs. The interval between successive elections (normally 4 years) is called a period.
8. ~~The National Committee, or in default the adhering organization, names in each country a correspondent, whose duty is to provide liaison between the Association and the Section in each country.~~
9. The President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, may appoint member individuals to such committees ~~and working groups~~ as may be needed and may approve their terms of reference of such committees.

Urgent matters arising in the interval between General Association Assemblies shall be referred by the Bureau to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may appoint an Associate Secretary who will be an ex-officio ~~a~~ member of the Executive Committee, but without vote.

The Executive Committee may appoint an Association Webmaster who will be responsible for maintaining the website of the Association.

~~Should a vacancy occur among the elected officerships, the Bureau shall fill the position provisionally and an election shall be held for this office at the next General Meeting of the Association.~~

Secretariat

A Secretariat placed under the direction of the Secretary General shall conduct the correspondence, preserve the administrative archives, arrange the General Scientific Assemblies and other meetings, ~~and prepare and distribute the Comptes Rendus of the Assemblies, and ensure the records of the Assemblies and Commission reports are preserved in an accessible web location.~~

Budget and Finance

The financial resources of the Association are derived from:
The allocation by the Union;
The sales of publications, subscriptions, advertisements, etc.;

Grants.

The Treasurer shall administer and disburse these resources under the direction of the Executive Committee. The administration of resources shall include the permanent delegation of authority to manage any bank accounts ~~which have been opened or investments held~~ in the name of the Association ~~in different countries~~.

~~The Treasurer shall alone retain responsibility toward the Association for all banking operations.~~ As a precaution, the right to sign as an authorized agent for any account opened in the name of the Association, shall be extended to at least one other Member of the Bureau ~~of the Association~~.

~~But the Treasurer shall alone retain responsibility toward the Association for all banking operations.~~

~~The Treasurer shall provide annual financial reports as required by IUGG~~

~~The Treasurer shall arrange for independent external audit of, and prepare and submit to the Association Plenary, the Accounts of Receipts and Expenditures for the preceding period, together with an estimated budget for the following financial year.~~

~~An audit committee, authorised by the Plenary Meeting shall examine the accounts prepared by the Treasurer and submitted to the Plenary Meeting for the preceding period, and give discharge to the Treasurer for those accounts.~~

General Meetings of the Association

~~Ordinary General Meetings~~ Scientific Assemblies of the Association shall be held in conjunction with General Assemblies of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and normally at least once between ~~each such meeting successive IUGG meetings.~~ At least one Plenary Meeting of the Association ~~Business-sessions shall be held at all each Scientific Assembly. General Meetings, but elections shall normally be held only at General Meetings held in conjunction with General Assemblies of the Union.~~

~~In the intervals between the Scientific Assemblies the Association may, either separately or jointly with other Associations, hold or sponsor additional scientific meetings.~~

~~The Bureau of the Association, on the request of the majority of the members of the Executive Committee may conduct an extraordinary meeting of the National delegates using e-mail or web-based tools, in order to resolve an urgent question. National delegates shall have at least one week notice of any resolution that requires a national vote. may, with the approval of the Executive Committee, summon an extraordinary General Meeting. It must do so at the request of one-third of the votes of the members of the Executive Committee.~~

~~Members of a National Committee who are not delegates may attend the meetings of the Association and take part in the discussion, but shall have no power of voting.~~

~~The Bureau of the Association may invite representatives of scientific organizations and also scientists not officially delegated by the National Committees of their respective countries, but only after having obtained the approval of these Committees. Such invited guests may take part in the discussion, but shall have no power of voting.~~

~~The agenda of business to be transacted at a meeting are prepared by the Bureau and sent to the adhering organizations together with the notices of the meeting.~~

The agenda to be transacted at an Association Plenary Meeting held in conjunction with a Scientific Assembly is to be prepared by the Bureau and posted at least two working days before the Plenary Meeting.

~~No question which has not been placed on the agenda shall be discussed without the consent of at least one-half of the votes of the countries represented at the General Meeting. The agenda may only be modified with the consent of the majority of the votes of the countries represented at the Plenary Meeting.~~

The Executive Committee is responsible for appointing a Local Organising Committee for the Scientific Assemblies conducted between General Assemblies of IUGG.

The Scientific Programme for a Scientific Assembly is the responsibility of the Secretary General, who will approve symposia and appoint convenors, in consultation with the Executive and the Commission chairs.

Registration and abstract submission to the Scientific Assembly are open to all members of the international scientific community.

~~In the intervals between the General Meetings and by agreement with the Bureau of the Union, the Association may, either separately or jointly with other Associations, hold additional meetings. But in any case the Association shall hold a General Meeting at the same time as the Union itself.~~

Budget [this section combined in above Budget and Finance section]

~~The Executive Committee shall prepare for each period and submit to the General Meeting an estimate of the budget relative to the expenses of the Secretariat.~~

~~A committee, nominated by the General Assembly shall examine the accounts for the preceding years and the estimate for the next period. It shall give discharge to the Treasurer for the accounts prepared by the Treasurer for the preceding period and submitted to the General Meeting.~~

Voting Power

~~In a General Meeting, resolutions concerning purely scientific questions shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast by all the delegates present. In a Plenary Meeting of the Association, two types of resolution may be put to the meeting: A. Procedural, and B. Scientific~~

Elections to office and Procedural resolutions shall be decided on the basis of one vote per country present at the Association Plenary. That vote is to be exercised by the principal delegate of each country (refer paragraph III.2) and is referred to here as a "national vote". In any vote a delegate may represent only one country.

~~In all other questions which appear on the agenda, the voting shall be by Member countries, each member country having one vote; Aa country that is not represented at the Association Plenary Meeting may appoint a proxy, or forward its vote to by notifying the Secretary General in writing before the election. Such votes shall be counted only if received before the result of the ballot is ascertained.~~

Scientific resolutions shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast by all registered scientists present at the Association Plenary.

~~In case of doubt as to the category to which a question belongs, the President shall decide. The Resolutions Committee will decide which category any specific resolution falls into, before it is presented to the Association Plenary. If any national delegate objects to that classification, the delegate may request that a national vote be used to decide which category a specific resolution falls into, before the resolution is voted on.~~

When there is an equal division of votes, the President shall have a deciding vote.

~~The election of the Bureau and of the Executive Committee is counted as an administrative question.~~

Validity of Statutes

These statutes may be revised by ~~any of the following means:-~~

~~At any business meeting, by the approval of a two-thirds majority vote of the member countries represented at an Association Plenary Meeting.~~

- ~~a. By the approval of a majority of the member countries using a mail ballot authorized by the Executive Committee, provided that the revision is favoured by two-thirds of those countries which vote.~~
- ~~b. By a two-thirds majority vote of the member countries represented in person at a business meeting of an ordinary General Meeting, plus those who have forwarded their vote to the Secretary General in writing, provided that the proposed modification was read at a plenary session of the preceding General Meeting or was included in the agenda mailed in advance to all member countries.~~
- ~~c. In voting on revisions of the statutes, a delegate may represent only one country.~~

~~The proposed revision must be posted at least one month in advance of the vote.~~

The English text shall be used exclusively in interpreting these statutes.

Commissions and Working Groups

~~Establishment of Commissions-~~

The Association, on the recommendation of the Executive, may establish commissions to study scientific topics and to stimulate and coordinate research on thesespecific topics or research related to a specific region.:-

The Association may also establish Joint eCommissions or Working Groups with other organizations.

Commission chairs (or co-chairs) will be nominated by the President.

Working Groups may be established or disbanded by the Commission chair, who will appoint the chair of the Working Group.

Commission and Working Group members will be invited to participate by the respective chair.

~~Officers of eCommissions or Working Group chairs shall not hold the same office~~

for more than two periods.

Commission chairs will provide annual reports to the Secretary General (including reports on their Working Groups) prior to the Annual Bureau Meeting.

A Commission may be disbanded by decision of the Executive Committee if in the view of that Committee the Commission is no longer needed.

By-Laws*

* Adopted by the General Assembly of the Association, Grenoble, 1975 and amended by the General Assembly, London, Canada, 1981, and by the General Assembly, Melbourne, 2011.

The following by-laws are established in order to provide for continuing guidance in conducting the affairs of the Association. ~~Their revision comes under the purview of Article 19 of the Statutes. The by-laws may be amended by majority decision of the Executive Committee.~~

XI. Definitions

In the context of the Statutes and By-laws, the term "posted" will be taken to indicate an e-mail sent to a prepared list of the Association National Correspondents. The term "mail" will be taken to include e-mail. The term "period" indicates the period between elections of the Association Officers, normally four years.

1. Resolutions ~~Committee.~~

~~At least one year before the General Assembly. At the first business meeting,~~ the President shall appoint a Resolutions Committee consisting of one officer of the Association and two other persons.

All resolutions to be presented at the ~~last general business~~ Plenary Meeting of the Association must be transmitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee at least ~~four~~ two days before the said meeting. It is the responsibility of the Resolutions Committee to word the resolutions consistently with the terminology of the Association and of the Union.

The Committee shall post all Resolutions, and its recommendations on each of them at least one day before the ~~final business~~ Association Plenary Meeting.

2 Nominations ~~ng~~ Committee

~~At least two years before an election. Not later than the opening day of each ordinary General Meeting of the Association at which an election is to be held,~~ the President of the Association, ~~with the approval of the Executive Committee, should~~ shall appoint a Nominating Committee whose charge is to bring before the Plenary Meeting of the Association at the quadrennial General Assembly Business Meeting of the Association a slate of candidates for election to the Association Offices and the Executive Committee. The candidates for election shall be announced at least 4 days in advance of the Plenary

~~Meeting officers for the ensuing four years including the four elected members of the Executive Committee besides the officers. The names of this Committee should be announced at the first *Business Session of the Association*.~~

~~This Committee should be charged with finding the persons best able and willing to direct the work of the Association, keeping The Nominating Committee should keep in mind the need for persons of executive ability, comprehensive scientific interests, and broad national representation. The Nominating Committee and should consult, where possible, with all former Presidents of the Association present at the meeting.~~

At the business Plenary M meeting, additional nominations for each office may be made from the floor.

~~Where there is only one nominee for an office, if no-one objects, the election may be conducted by acclamation. If there are additional nominations, otherwise, the elections should be by written ballot, one ballot passed out to the delegate of each member country or to an official alternate proxy.~~

3 Meetings of the Bureau and of the Executive Committee

The Bureau of the Association should meet at least every year. The Executive Committee should meet as often as necessary and at least once every Ordinary General during each Association Assembly. If necessary and practicable, such meetings may be held using web-based communications, recognising that face-to-face meetings are preferable for most purposes.

~~Payment of the travel expenses of members to these meetings is a high-priority Association expense. The Association will normally cover Bureau travel expenses incurred for such meetings.~~

4 Conduct of Meetings

Except if otherwise provided in the Statutes and By-laws, ~~business~~ meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order. ~~A copy thereof shall be provided to each officer of the Association.~~

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