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In red print a few formal precisions in order to fulfill the requirements as a charity for scientific purposes (cf. p. 13)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF METEOROLOGY AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

IAMAS Statutes and Regulations

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF METEOROLOGY AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

STATUTES

I - Objectives of the Association

1. The objectives of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences are:

- 1.1. to promote the study of the science of the atmosphere;
- 1.2. to initiate, facilitate, and coordinate international cooperation.
- 1.3. to stimulate discussion, presentation and publication of scientific results.
- 1.4. to promote education and public awareness.

The association acts without seeking profits. All activities aim at furthering atmospheric sciences without the general interest of self-profitable purposes.

II - Membership of the Association

2. The International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (IAMAS) is one of the constituent Associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. All countries which adhere to the Union, including Associate Countries (Members), are Adhering (Member) Countries of the Association and are qualified to appoint delegates to the Association's General Assemblies.

2.1. Adhering Countries may participate in the Association through a number of mechanisms, e.g., directly through their National Committee for the Union, or they may appoint a National Correspondent for the Association or they may appoint a National Committee for the Association.

2.2. Associate Countries have restricted rights, which are defined in Article XI, paragraph 33 and Regulation I, paragraph 2.

III - Organs of the Association

3. The International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences comprises :

1. the Bureau
2. the Secretariat
3. the Executive Committee
4. the General Assembly of Delegates
5. the Special Scientific Commissions (hereafter referred to as Commissions)
6. the Joint Scientific Committees

3.1. The members of the Bureau and of the Executive Committee will be chosen, as far as possible, from those who are from Adhering Countries on the basis of competence, experience, and geographical coverage.

IV - Time Schedule of the Association

4. The Association will meet in Ordinary General Assembly at the time and place of the Ordinary General Assembly of the Union.

4.1. The Association arranges General Assemblies, composed of National Delegates of the Adhering Countries, to conduct the business of the Association. The Association also arranges Scientific Assemblies for the exchange of scientific information.

4.2. The Bureau will have the responsibility for deciding on the schedule of business during the General Assembly. In general, however, an opening Plenary Session should be scheduled during which the President may announce business matters, appoint appropriate committees to function during the General Assembly, and may call for such reports as may be appropriate at this first Plenary. A second Plenary should in general be arranged towards the close of the General Assembly, during which the financial reports will be made, reports of the Commissions heard, resolutions or recommendations adopted, nominations for Officers and members of the Executive Committee presented, elections held, and other appropriate business conducted.

4.3. Extraordinary and Scientific Assemblies may also be called, as outlined in appropriate Articles below.

4.4. For the purposes of discussions in these Statutes, a period is defined as the interval elapsing between the final Plenary Session of one Ordinary General Assembly and the termination of the final Association Plenary Session of the succeeding Ordinary General Assembly (i.e., generally four years).

V - The Bureau

5. The Bureau of the Association will direct and coordinate all scientific and related activities of the Association, and it will function on a continuing basis, as required, in the interval between Ordinary General Assemblies. It will consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary General (who is also the Treasurer), elected by the General Assembly.

6. The President will be elected at the final Plenary Session of the Ordinary General Assembly; his/her term of office will be for one period following his/her election, and he/she will not be eligible for immediate re-election.

7. The Vice-Presidents will be elected at the final Plenary Session of the Ordinary General Assembly. Their terms of office will be for one period. They will be eligible for immediate re-election but only for one additional period.

8. The Secretary General will be elected at the final Plenary Session of the Ordinary General Assembly. His/Her term of office will be for two periods. A retiring Secretary General will be eligible for immediate re-election, but only for one additional period.

9. If the office of the President becomes vacant between two Ordinary General Assemblies, the senior Vice-President will become President. In the event that the two Vice-Presidents are equal in seniority (i.e., each having been elected for the first time at the same General Assembly), the Executive Committee will decide which Vice-President will become President.

10. If the office of the Secretary General becomes vacant under the same circumstances, a Secretary General will be nominated by the President to occupy the office until the next Ordinary or Extra-ordinary General Assembly. In the event of election at an Extraordinary General Assembly, the initial term of the office will consequently be somewhat shorter than two full periods.

VI – Secretariat & Seat of the Association

11. The Secretary General will expedite the current business of the Association in agreement with the President. He/She will be responsible for:

1. the administrative and scientific correspondence;
2. the management of the resources at the disposal of the Association;
3. the preparation, printing, and distribution of the publications;
4. the arrangements for the Ordinary General Assemblies, Extraordinary General Assemblies, and Scientific Assemblies;
5. the execution of the decisions of the Association at General Assemblies.

The management of resources will be understood to include the right to open a banking account in the name of the Association, to authorize the borrowing or the purchase of moveable properties and to dispose of them, in whole or in part, to the benefit of the Association.

The legal seat of the association coincides with location and country where the Secretary General carries out his main professional duties (e.g. as university professor or staff scientist).

12. The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, appoint a Deputy Secretary General who will take over specific functions of the Secretariat and also share duties with the Secretary General. Normally he/she will be from an area of science complementary to that of the Secretary General.

13. The Executive Committee may, at its discretion, appoint an Assistant Secretary General, normally resident in the same general area as that of the Secretary General, who will:

1. become familiar with the routine operations of the Secretariat;
2. have signing authority (together with the President and Secretary General) for cheques on the Association bank account, to be used on instruction from the President or Secretary General;
3. assist the Secretary General as appropriate.

VII - Executive Committee

14. The Executive Committee will be composed, in addition to the members of the Bureau, of five elected members from five different countries. They will be elected at the final Plenary

Session of the Ordinary General Assembly, and their term of office will be for two periods. They will not be eligible for immediate re-election.

15. The Executive Committee will also include, ex-officio, the Presidents of the Commissions and the retiring President of the Association. The President of a Commission may delegate to the Vice President or the Secretary of that Commission the right to participate in a meeting of the Executive Committee if the President cannot do so.

16. If a vacancy occurs among the elected members of the Executive Committee, a replacement will be chosen by the General Assembly in the course of the next appropriate Plenary Session, for a period which will expire at the time when the member so replaced would have terminated his/her office.

17 The Executive Committee will appoint a Nominating Committee. The governing procedures for the Nominating Committee are presented in Regulation 1.

18. The Executive Committee will be consulted by the Bureau, by correspondence, on every new question of importance, administrative or scientific, which arises between two General Assemblies.

19. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be convened by the Bureau in the interval between two General Assemblies.

20. All decisions of the Executive Committee will be taken following a simple majority vote of those voting. If the votes are equally divided, that of the President will decide.

VIII - General Assemblies

21. The General Assembly of the Association will be composed of Delegates appointed by the National Committees of the Adhering Countries. These appointments will be brought to the notice of the Bureau officially before the opening of the first Plenary Session of the General Assembly. The National Committees will designate the Delegate who, in case of voting by countries, will hold the right to vote for his/her country.

22. As given in Article 4.1, the Association will meet in Ordinary General Assembly at the time of the Ordinary General Assembly of the Union.

23. If the need should arise, the Association may also meet in Extraordinary General Assembly during the interval between two Ordinary General Assemblies of the Union.

23.1. The President of the Association, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly of the Association, which will have the same powers and be subject to the same rules as the Ordinary General Assemblies.

23.2 An Extraordinary General Assembly must also be convened by the President upon the request of at least half of the Adhering Countries.

23.3 If the date and place of such an Extraordinary General Assembly have not been agreed upon during the preceding Extraordinary or Ordinary General Assembly, that will be determined by the Executive Committee of the Association and communicated to the Adhering Countries at least six months in advance. The date and time will likewise be communicated in good time to the Bureau of the Union and to those of the other Associations of the Union.

24. The Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies will be open to the public. All interested scientists may participate in the discussions, and may take the floor if recognized by the President or Presiding Officer, whether those scientists be formally accredited Delegates or not, or whether they are from Adhering Countries or not. However, voting will be conducted according to the procedures outlined in Article 24 below.

25. At the General Assemblies, the Delegates present will have individually the right to vote on questions of scientific interest.

25.1. In the elections mentioned in Articles 6, 7, 8 and 13, the vote will be by country and each country will have one vote.

25.2. On administrative matters, without financial implications, voting within the Association will be by country and each country will have one vote, always subject to the condition that the country will have paid its subscription up to the end of the year preceding the voting.

25.3. On financial questions, voting within the Association will likewise be by country, provided that the above-mentioned condition is satisfied. The number of votes assigned to each country will be one greater than the number of its category of membership in the Union.

25.4. In case of doubt as to which class a question belongs, and in all cases of equality of votes on a question, the decision will rest with the President or Presiding Officer.

25.5. In the event that a Chief Delegate from a country cannot be present for voting, he may designate in writing a Delegate from another country to cast the votes on behalf of the country of the aforementioned Chief Delegate.

25.6. No Delegate will represent more than two countries.

25.7. An Adhering Country not represented by a Delegate may forward by post its vote on any specific agenda question that has been distributed in advance. The postal ballot must be received by the Bureau in advance of the Plenary Session in which the voting takes place.

25.8. The decision on all voting matters will be by simple majority of those Delegates or those countries present, including postal ballots, counting for the purpose of determining a majority only those votes cast for or against a particular matter. In case of a tie vote, that of the President or Presiding Officer will decide.

26. The agenda of a Plenary Session of a General Assembly of the Association will be determined by the Bureau, which will have previously invited the National Committees of the Adhering Countries to submit proposals. This agenda will be agreed upon and communicated to the Committees at least four months before the opening of the General Assembly.

26.1. Questions not contained in the agenda may be considered during the sessions only with the previous agreement of at least half of the countries represented, or of the Delegates present at the General Assembly, accordingly, as the question is administrative (including financial) or scientific.

27. At Ordinary Sessions of the General Assembly the Secretary General will present a report comprising in particular:

1. a statement of receipts and expenditure of the Association for the period from 1st. January, prior to the preceding Ordinary General Assembly, to 31st. December, prior to the current General Assembly (the financial year being from 1st. January to 31st. December).
2. an approximate estimate of expenses for the financial years up to that of the next Ordinary General Assembly.

IX - Scientific Assemblies

28. The Association may, upon decision taken at an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly, conduct Scientific Assemblies at times other than the General Assemblies. These Scientific Assemblies may be arranged by the Association alone, or they may be held jointly with other Associations of the Union, or with other bodies of the International Council of Scientific Unions. Plans for such Scientific Assemblies will be communicated to the Bureau of the Union and to those of the other Associations in good time.

X - Financial Arrangements

29. A Finance Committee, nominated by the President and approved by the General Assembly at its first Plenary Session, will verify the accounts for the preceding years and examine the provisional estimates, both of which having been prepared by the Secretary General. The Committee will approve the financial statements which the Secretary General prepares prior to the submission of these reports, by the Secretary General, to the General Assembly at the Final Plenary Session. The Finance Committee can request that the accounts be audited by a qualified accountant.

30. The Association will draw its resources from that part of the subscriptions of the Adhering Countries which is allotted to it by the Union. To this main income may be added other receipts from the sale of publications, interest on bank accounts, contributions made by other interested organizations to support symposia or other meetings, registration fees at Assemblies, etc.

31. The income will be assigned in the first place for the payment of the expenses of the Secretariat, namely:

1. all costs of publications;
2. office equipment, expenses of correspondence, shipping;
3. if necessary, the rents of the Secretariat, costs of purchase and maintenance of equipment, and incidental expenses.

31.1 Traveling expenses may also be paid by the Secretary General, but only:

1. in connection with meetings on specific Association business, and
2. when those concerned represent the Association and not Adhering Countries or other organizations, and
3. in cases where those concerned cannot draw proper allocations from their own national sources.

Such payments may cover traveling costs and a reasonable contribution to other expenses while attending such meetings.

31.2 The balance of receipts will be devoted to grants for scientific activity, e.g., to Commissions and to Joint Committees (In this case subject to the provisions of Statute 44 for conduct of symposia or special scientific meetings, and to participants as far as possible, to Association General or Scientific Assemblies, who cannot obtain adequate travel allocations from other sources. In general, it will be expected that such participants will obtain partial support from the Association's funds, the balance coming from national or other sources.)

31.3 All members of the Bureau, the Executive Committee and the Commissions act on a voluntary basis without receiving financial contributions from the association.

31.4 Expenditures against the purpose of the association or unduely high payments are excluded.

XI - Commissions

32. Commissions for the study of particular questions may be constituted by the General Assembly.

32.1 The objectives of the Commissions will be reviewed every four years by the Executive Committee. This will make appropriate recommendations at a Plenary Session of each Ordinary General Assembly, which decides on the continuation of the research and works of the Commission or on its termination.

33. The members of these Commissions will be recognized and interested scientists.

33.1 The Commissions may elect new members by a simple majority vote of the members voting in the election. These members must be from Adhering Countries. Members may

also be appointed from non-Adhering Countries by the President of a Commission, after consultation with members of the Commission. Due regard should be paid to geographical representation in the composition of the Commissions. The terms of Commission members will normally be for two full periods. The results of membership elections and appointments will be reported to the General Assembly.

34. Each Commission will elect a President and a Secretary from among their membership; and a Vice President may also be elected if the Commission desires; their terms of office will normally be for one four year term. They will be eligible for re-election for one additional term. Officers will be from Adhering Countries, except Associate Countries.

35. When a new Commission is constituted, the first President will be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Commission President will invite appropriate scientists to be members. These appointments will be voted upon by the Commission at its first meeting.

36. The Commission should, in general, conduct their elections of officers and members at the times of the Ordinary General Assemblies of the Association. In this case these elections should be held prior to the final Plenary Session of the General Assembly so that the results, along with other business conducted by the Commissions, may be reported to the General Assembly. Alternatively, Commissions may decide to elect their officers at a Commission meeting/symposium that is independent of the Ordinary General Assembly, or by correspondence. The General Assembly will have the right to comment on the work of the Commission, which the Commissions may wish to consider at subsequent business sessions.

37. The Commissions may meet and have symposia when convened by their President outside the meetings of the General Assemblies. Such symposia may be arranged jointly between interested Commissions, or jointly with other appropriate bodies of the International Council of Scientific Unions, or with other relevant organizations (e.g., the World Meteorological Organization).

38. A Commission may, at the discretion of its President, appoint Sub-Commissions, Committees, or Working Groups, to undertake special studies or to devote specialist attention to a part of the general area of concern. The members of such sub-bodies need not be members of the Commission. They should be appointed by the President of the Commission, after due consultation with members of the Commission. Findings or recommendations of such sub-bodies must be approved by the parent Commission before promulgation.

39. All decisions of Commissions will be taken by a simple majority of votes of the members voting (individual votes). In case of equal votes for and against, that of the President will decide.

XII - Joint Committees

40. Joint Committees between the Association and other Associations on scientific questions of mutual interest may be constituted by the Associations concerned. In the case of IAMAS, formal approval will be given by a General Assembly, although approval in principle may be granted at an earlier date by the Executive Committee.

41. The members of the Joint Committee will be appropriate scientists nominated by the respective Associations, each of which will normally nominate the same number of members.

42. The Joint Committees may propose new members whose nomination must be ratified by the respective Association at the occasion of their General Assembly. The term of office of members will be for one period. They will be eligible for re-appointment.

43. Each Joint Committee will elect a President and Secretary who will not both have been appointed by the same Association, and whose term of office will be for one period. They will be eligible for re-election once.

44. The Joint Committees will formulate their program of work and will organize their meetings, insofar as possible, during the course of the sessions of the General Assembly of the Union. The proceedings of the Joint Committees will be appended to the minutes of the Associations concerned.

44.1. The Joint Committees may meet when convened by their President outside the meetings of the General Assemblies, on condition that the Bureaus of the respective Associations are advised beforehand. They may meet at the same time as related Commissions or Joint Committees constituted by other Associations of the Union or by other Unions, in order to study and resolve together problems which interest more than one Association of the Union or more than one Union.

45. Requests from a Joint Committee for subsidies must be presented and supported by the Associations concerned.

46. Every Joint Committee may refer in a consultative capacity to experts who are not members of the Joint Committee.

47. All decisions of Joint Committees will be taken by a simple majority of votes of the members present (individual votes). In case of equal votes for and against, that of the President will decide.

48. The IAMAS Executive Committee will review the continued participation of IAMAS in each Joint Committee every four years.

XIII - Dissolution of the Association

49. If the Association should be dissolved, its financial assets will strictly revert to a non-profit association for atmospheric sciences (e.g. the national meteorological society) or the appropriate national adhering body of the Union of the country where the current Secretary General resides. The receiving national association passes the financial assets on to the Union to be used exclusively for the continuation of scientific and educational activities, such as the organization of scientific meetings and symposia, the dissemination of scientific information, and the coordination of international research activities.

XIV - Changes in the Statutes of the Association

50. Only Adhering Countries or members of the Executive Committee may propose changes to any article in these Statutes and Regulations. These changes must reach the Secretary General at least six months before the announced date of the General Assembly at which it is to be considered. The Secretary General will notify all Adhering Countries and Executive Committee members of any proposed change at least four months before the General Assembly meeting.

51. The Statutes and Regulations can be modified by a simple majority vote of the Adhering Countries present at a General Assembly Plenary Session. Such changes will come into effect at the close of the General Assembly at which they are approved.

XV - Official Languages of the Association

52. The Association will observe the official languages recognized by the Union, namely French and English. Abstracts or reports may be submitted in either of these languages for publication.

53. For the interpretation of the Statutes, the English text and the French text will both be considered authoritative.

REGULATIONS

I - Governing Procedures of the Nominating Committee

1. The Executive Committee will appoint a Nominating Committee at the Scientific Assembly two years before a General Assembly. This committee will be responsible for nominating candidates for President, two Vice Presidents, elected members of the Executive Committee, and a Secretary General, when required. The Nominating Committee will consist of a chairperson and two other members plus the President as an ex-officio member.
2. The Nominating Committee will contact the Adhering Countries of the Association and the Executive Committee at least six months before the General Assembly and request nominations for the positions indicated above to reach them at least four months before the General Assembly. The Nominating Committee will consider nominees from Adhering Countries, from Commissions and from other sources; it may select a single slate of candidates. The nominees will be from Adhering Countries, except Associate Countries. This slate will be communicated to Adhering Countries and the Executive Committee at least two months before the General Assembly.
3. Any nominations for President or Secretary General should be accompanied by an indication of available resources for the operation of the respective offices.
4. At the first Plenary Session of the General Assembly the Nominating Committee will formally table its slate of candidates. Nominations from the floor for all positions except Secretary General can be made at that time. All nominations require the agreement of the individual to serve if elected. The election will take place during the final Plenary Session of the General Assembly.

Newly formatted 27 Nov. 2006
Roland List, IAMAS Sec.-Gen. (1995-2007)

Remark:

The precisions in red on pp. 2, 4, 9, and 11 were suggested by SG Hans Volkert in writing to the members of the IAMAS Executive Committee well before the regular meetings on 20 and 27 July 2009 in Montréal, Canada. At both occasions they were broadly discussed, brought into their final form and unanimously accepted on 27 July 2009.

Newly formatted on 8 September 2009
Hans Volkert, IAMAS Sec.-Gen. (2007-2015)