

the
INTERACADEMY PANEL
on international issues ■
iap

a g l o b a l n e t w o r k o f s c i e n c e a c a d e m i e s

STATUTES

Article 1: Establishment

The InterAcademy Panel on International Issues, hereinafter referred to as IAP, is an association created by the world's academies of sciences for the purpose of working together through bilateral, regional, and world-wide collaboration to achieve the objectives specified below.

Article 2: Objectives

- 2.1 The IAP shall act as an independent international forum that brings together the academies of sciences of all nations to: (a) stimulate collaboration between academies of sciences; (b) discuss the scientific aspects of issues of global concern; (c) prepare and disseminate common statements on such issues; and (d) provide mutual support to academies of sciences.
- 2.2 In pursuing these objectives the IAP shall collaborate with academies of engineering, technology, medicine, agriculture, social sciences, humanities or other disciplines, as well as with international bodies like the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Council for Science (ICSU), the InterAcademy Council (IAC) and the InterAcademy Medical Panel (IAMP).

Article 3: Activities

In pursuing its objectives the IAP may, *inter alia*, undertake the following activities:

- 3.1 Exchange information among academies of sciences on programmes and experiences and develop common visions and positions;
- 3.2 Facilitate, directly or through the IAC and other organizations, the provision of expert advice to governments and international organizations;
- 3.3 Assist in strengthening the capacities of academies of sciences, particularly young and small academies, and especially those in developing countries;
- 3.4 Assist science communities, particularly in developing countries, to set up national or regional academies of sciences if no such body exists;
- 3.5 Organize conferences, workshops and symposia on themes and topics that fall within its objectives; and
- 3.6 Undertake such projects and actions as it deems appropriate for achieving its objectives.

Article 4: Membership

- 4.1 Eligible for membership of the IAP are national, regional or global academies of sciences that elect their members essentially on the basis of scientific merit and that do not deny membership on ideological, ethnical, religious or gender-related grounds. For national academies there will in principle be one member academy per country.
 - 4.1.1 If a country or region does not have an academy of sciences that is a member of IAP, an equivalent merit-based organization may be admitted to membership.
 - 4.1.2 If a country or region has multiple academies of sciences, those academies may be represented by one of them or by another single representative as agreed by them.
- 4.2 Associations of national or regional academies of sciences may be admitted to the IAP as observers without the right to vote.
- 4.3 Academies that are not or not yet a member of the IAP may participate in IAP programmes and activities if invited to do so by the Executive Committee.

- 4.4 If a member academy has not participated in IAP or its programmes and activities for more than five consecutive years, the IAP Co-Chairs shall consult with that academy and, if the situation of non-activity persists for one additional year, they may propose to the Executive Committee that membership be suspended pending a decision of the General Assembly on the termination of membership.
- 4.5 In case of controversy about membership, particularly in relation to the criteria for membership as provided for in article 4.1, the IAP Co-Chairs shall make a final decision, taking account of the advice of the IAP Executive Committee.

Article 5: General Assembly

- 5.1 As the highest decision-making body of the IAP, the IAP General Assembly shall be empowered, subject to the provisions of these Statutes, to make decisions on all matters affecting the IAP.
- 5.2 The General Assembly shall, in particular, make the following decisions:
- a. Approve general IAP strategies and policies;
 - b. Elect new member academies; the IAP Co-Chairs; the IAP Executive Committee; and the academy hosting the IAP Secretariat; and
 - c. Direct the Executive Committee to carry out any tasks deemed necessary for achieving the objectives of the IAP.
 - d. Amend these Statutes and adopt rules of procedure governing its own work and that of the other organs of the IAP.
- 5.3 The General Assembly shall adopt and may amend these Statutes with a two-thirds majority vote, abstentions not considered a vote.
- 5.4 The General Assembly may delegate specific tasks or responsibilities to the IAP Executive Committee.
- 5.5 The General Assembly shall consist of the Presidents of all academies of sciences that are members of the IAP. The President of an academy of sciences may designate a representative from among the leadership of the academy.
- 5.6 The General Assembly may only take formal decisions if at least one-third of all IAP member academies are represented at a meeting. Unless explicitly provided otherwise in these Statutes or in rules of procedure, the General Assembly shall decide by a majority vote, abstentions not considered a vote. A vote shall be taken by hand raising unless at least five members request a secret ballot. Decisions relating to a specific person or persons shall always be taken by a secret ballot.
- 5.7 Representatives from ICSU and IAC may participate in the meetings of the General Assembly as observers without vote.
- 5.8 The IAP Co-Chairs may invite other organizations to participate as observers without the right to vote in a meeting of the General Assembly if that organization contributes, or may contribute, to IAP programmes and activities.
- 5.9 The General Assembly shall meet in a regular meeting every three years, that meeting to coincide normally with a general conference of the IAP. The IAP Co-Chairs shall convene an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly if at least ten IAP member academies request them to do so.

Article 6: Co-Chairs

- 6.1 The General Assembly shall elect two Co-Chairs, one from a developing country and one from an industrialized country. If a Co-Chair is member of an academy that is a member of the Executive Committee, that academy shall resign from the Executive Committee.

- 6.2 Co-Chairs are elected for a term of office that expires at the end of the first regular meeting of the General Assembly after the meeting in which they were elected. They may be re-elected for no more than one successive term. Preferably, at each election the General Assembly re-elects one Co-Chair for a second term and elects the other Co-Chair for a first term.
- 6.3 The Co-Chairs shall preside over the meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Committee with a division of tasks to be agreed by them.
- 6.4 If a Co-Chair resigns before the end of his term or is otherwise unable to continue as Co-Chair, the Executive Committee shall appoint one of its members as acting Co-Chair for the remainder of the term of the original Co-Chair.

Article 7: Executive Committee

- 7.1 Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and the decisions of the General Assembly, the IAP Executive Committee shall take such initiatives and actions as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the IAP.
- 7.2 The Executive Committee shall, in particular, be responsible for:
- a. Setting the time and venue for the meetings of the General Assembly;
 - b. Preparing the agenda of the meetings of the General Assembly;
 - c. Implementing the decisions taken by the General Assembly;
 - d. Securing funding for programmes and activities;
 - e. Approve programmes and activities, as well as their budgets;
 - f. Establishing the budgets of programmes and activities; and
 - g. Ensuring that actual spending is in accordance with these budgets.
- 7.3 The Executive Committee may set up such standing or *ad hoc* committees as it deems necessary for the discharge of its tasks and responsibilities.
- 7.4 The Executive Committee may poll member academies on a specific issue with a view to preparing an IAP statement on that issue. Such statements may be made public in accordance with special Rules of Procedure to be adopted by the General Assembly.
- 7.5 The Executive Committee may only take formal decisions if at least seven members are represented at a meeting. The Executive Committee shall decide by a majority vote, abstentions not considered a vote. In case of a tie, the vote of the Co-Chair with the longest term in office shall decide. During meetings a vote shall be taken by hand raising unless at least two members request a secret ballot. At meetings a decision relating to a specific person or persons shall always be taken by a secret ballot. In the interval between meetings a vote may be taken by email. In a vote by email a non-reply shall be considered an abstention. If a vote by email relates to a specific person or person, the individual votes of members shall be kept confidential.
- 7.6 The Executive Committee shall consist of the IAP Co-Chairs as members *qualitate qua* and of the Presidents, or their designated representative, of eleven member academies elected by the General Assembly.
- 7.6.1 Of these eleven elected members, six shall be from a developing country and five from an industrialized country.
 - 7.6.2 Member academies shall be elected for a term that expires at the end of the first regular meeting of the General Assembly after the meeting in which they were elected.
 - 7.6.3 Member academies may be re-elected to the Executive Committee for no more than one successive term.
 - 7.6.4 If a member academy resigns from the Executive Committee before the end of its term, the Executive Committee may fill the vacancy by appointing an

- IAP member academy in that vacancy until the expiration of the term of the original member.
- 7.7 Membership of the Executive Committee ends automatically if: (i) a member does not participate in two consecutive regular meetings of the Committee; or (ii) a member has not responded to any formal communication of the IAP Co-Chairs for more than a year. Any vacancy that so arises may be filled by the Executive Committee by appointing an IAP member academy in that vacancy until the expiration of the term of the original member.
- 7.8 Representatives from ICSU and IAC may participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee as observers without vote. If the academy hosting the IAP Secretariat is not represented on the Executive Committee, it may participate in the meetings of the Executive Committee as an observer without a vote.
- 7.9 The IAP Co-Chairs may invite other IAP member academies to the meetings of the Executive Committee. The IAP Co-Chairs may also invite other organizations to a meeting of the Executive Committee if that organization contributes, or may contribute, to IAP programmes and activities.
- 7.10 The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year.

Article 8: Secretariat

- 8.1 Under the guidance of the IAP Co-Chairs the IAP Secretariat shall support the General Assembly and the Executive Committee in the discharge of their respective tasks and responsibilities.
- 8.2 The Secretariat shall, in particular, be responsible for:
- a. Preparing and organizing all official IAP meetings;
 - b. Disseminating relevant materials to member academies;
 - c. Preparing an Annual Report on IAP programmes and activities;
 - d. Maintaining working relations with relevant other organizations;
 - e. Receiving and disbursing the funds of the IAP; and
 - f. Preparing reports and audits on the finances of the IAP.
- 8.3 The IAP Secretariat shall be hosted by an IAP member academy elected by the General Assembly for a term of six years.
- 8.3.1 The term of a host academy shall be renewed automatically unless at least one year before the end of a term the Executive Committee decides to propose to the General Assembly to elect another host academy.
- 8.3.2 If the host academy wishes to terminate its role as host academy, it shall notify the Executive Committee of that intention at least one year before the date of actually ending its role as host academy.
- 8.4 The staff of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the host academy. The Executive Committee may adopt rules and regulations governing the tasks and responsibilities of the Secretariat.

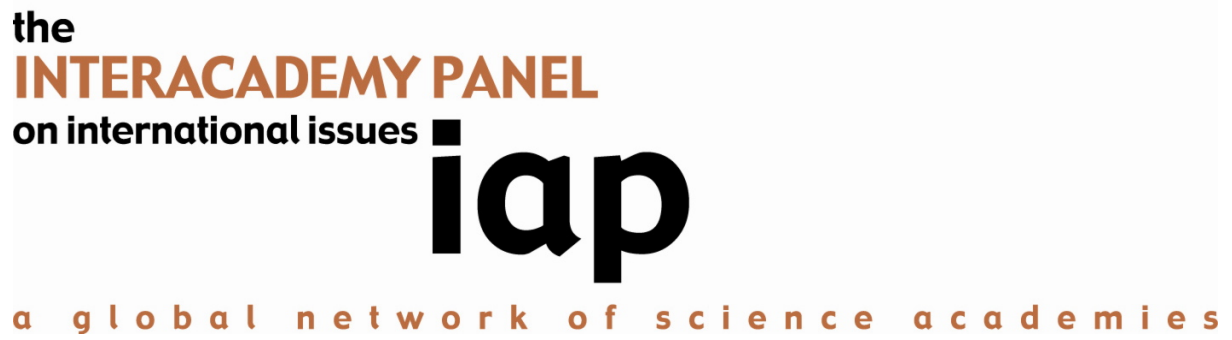
Article 9: External relations

- 9.1 The IAP shall collaborate closely with all related organizations, ICSU, IAC and IAMP in particular.
- 9.2 The IAP shall develop cooperative relations with non-member academies or federations of academies for the purpose of having access in its programmes and activities to a full range of expertise.
- 9.3 As the IAC emanates from the IAP, the IAP shall support the work of the IAC by transmitting to the IAC a list of nominees proposed by IAP member academies for IAC study panels and by assisting in developing a recommendation for the periodic

renewal of the IAC Board. The IAP Executive Committee and the IAC Board may adopt joint rules and regulations for these and other cooperative tasks and responsibilities.

Article 10: Funding

- 10.1 Unless explicitly arranged otherwise, member academies shall bear their own costs of participating in the meetings of the General Assembly or the Executive Committee.
- 10.2 The host academy shall bear all costs of the Secretariat, including salaries, office space, travel and communication.
- 10.3 The Executive Committee shall seek funding from governments, international organizations and other sources to meet operational costs, as well as the costs of programmes and activities.
- 10.4 The Executive Committee may also request member academies to make voluntary contributions to the IAP as such or to any of its programmes and activities.



RULES OF PROCEDURE

SECTION I: ELECTIONS

Article 1: Membership

- 1.1 Application for membership may be made at all times. It shall be in writing and provide information on objectives, members and organizational structure of the academy seeking membership. Each academy seeking membership shall explicitly endorse the IAP Statutes and Rules of Procedure.
- 1.2 Membership applications shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee or by a subgroup from the Executive Committee.
- 1.3 If eligible, the Executive Committee shall grant an academy seeking membership the status of provisional member. Academies with provisional membership may participate fully in all IAP programmes and activities.
- 1.4 At its next regular meeting the General Assembly shall vote on new applications for membership and grant provisional members the status of full membership unless there are compelling reasons not to do so.

Article 2: Co-Chairs

- 2.1 At least six months before the end of term of office of one or both Co-Chairs, a subgroup from the Executive Committee, shall ascertain whether one of the Co-Chairs is available for a second term in office, if allowed by the Statutes.
- 2.2 The Executive Committee shall request all IAP member academies to nominate candidates for any vacancy, indicating whether the new Co-Chair shall come from the group of developing countries or from the group of industrialized countries.
- 2.3 From the nominations so received the Executive Committee shall draw up a short list of no more than four candidates per vacancy and present the list to the General Assembly.
- 2.4 The General Assembly shall vote first on the election of a Co-Chair seeking a renewal of term. In electing a Co-Chair for a first term, the first candidate to receive a majority of votes, abstentions not considered a vote, shall be elected Co-Chair. If no candidate receives a majority of votes, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be taken off the slate of candidates and a new vote shall take place. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority of votes.

Article 3: Executive Committee

- 3.1 At least six months before the next regular meeting of the General Assembly the Co-Chairs shall request all IAP member academies to indicate whether they seek membership of the Executive Committee.
- 3.2 The Co-Chairs shall communicate the candidatures so received to all IAP member academies with a request to indicate an order of preference, both for the candidates from the group of developing countries and for the candidates from the group of industrialized countries.
- 3.3 The Co-Chairs shall submit to the General Assembly a proposal consisting of two separate lists: one for the candidates from the group of developing countries and the other for the candidates from the group of industrialized countries. On each list candidates shall be placed in the order of preference indicated by the polling of IAP member academies.
- 3.4 The vote of the General Assembly on the proposal of the Co-Chairs shall be organized as follows.
 - 3.4.1 The General Assembly shall vote separately on the list with candidates from the group of developing countries and on the list with candidates from the group of industrialized countries.
 - 3.4.2 For each list the General Assembly shall vote on the candidates in the order

in which they appear on the list. An academy shall be elected to the Executive Committee if its candidacy receives a majority of votes, abstentions not considered a vote.

- 3.4.3 Voting shall be continued until for each group all vacancies have been filled. If after a first round of voting not all vacancies have been filled, one half of the remaining candidates with the least number of votes shall be taken off the list and a new round of voting shall take place for the other half of candidates. If necessary this procedure shall be repeated until all vacancies are filled.

Article 4: Host Academy

- 4.1 After having decided to propose to the General Assembly to elect another host academy, the Executive Committee shall request, without delay, IAP member academies to indicate whether they seek election as host academy.
- 4.2 If the host academy has notified the Executive Committee that it wishes to terminate its role as host academy, the Executive Committee shall request, without delay, IAP member academies to indicate whether they seek election as host academy.
- 4.3 On the basis of the candidatures so received the Executive Committee shall develop a proposal for a new host academy and place that proposal before the next regular meeting of the General Assembly.
- 4.4 If it is not possible to postpone the decision until a regular meeting of the General Assembly, the decision may be made by a vote by email.

SECTION II: STATEMENTS

Article 1: Issues of Global Concern

- 1.1. If the Executive Committee determines that the IAP shall issue a Statement in which it takes a public position on a scientific or societal problem of a global nature, the Executive Committee shall appoint an Editorial Board to prepare a draft text.
- 1.2. Such a draft text shall be circulated to the member academies at least six months before the General Assembly meeting at which the text is to be adopted as a Statement. Member academies shall be requested to comment on the draft text and the Editorial Board shall consider all comments so received.
- 1.3. The Executive Committee shall place the final draft before the General Assembly for decision. If the draft receives the support of a majority of all IAP member academies, it shall be made public as an IAP Statement. Any such Statement shall explicitly indicate the IAP member academies that support it.
- 1.4. If it is not possible to submit a final draft to a meeting of the General Assembly, the draft may be submitted by email to IAP member academies for a decision by a vote by email. In that case there shall also be a period of six months between the communication of the draft to IAP member academies and the decision on whether or not to make it public as an IAP statement.

Article 2: Urgent Issues

- 2.1. If the Co-Chairs determine that the IAP shall issue a Statement on a scientific or societal problem that requires a rapid reaction, they shall submit a draft text to the Executive Committee.
- 2.2. Within two weeks after receiving the draft text the members of the Executive Committee shall send in comments, both on the text as such and on the desirability of issuing a Statement.

- 2.3. Within a week of receiving the above comments the Co-Chairs shall decide whether to proceed with the Statement and, if so, produce a final draft, taking account of the comments received.
- 2.4. The Co-Chairs shall submit the final draft of the Statement to all IAP member academies for approval, indicating the deadline for sending in approvals or disapprovals.
- 2.5. If, at the passing of the deadline, a majority of all IAP member academies has approved the draft, that draft shall be made public as an IAP Statement. Any such Statement shall explicitly indicate the IAP member academies that support it.

Article 3: Exceptionally Urgent Issues

- 3.1. If the Co-Chairs determine that an exceptional event of the greatest urgency requires immediate action, they shall contact the members of the Executive Committee outlining the Statement they wish to make public.
- 3.2. If there is not within 48 hours after the initial message of the Co-Chairs, a negative response of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee, the Co-Chairs shall publicly issue a Statement on their own behalf.

Article 4: IAP Publications

- 4.1 The Executive Committee shall appoint from among its members an IAP Publication Committee and charge it with approving, or disapproving, draft publications emanating from an IAP programme or activity to be issued as an IAP publication.
- 4.2 The approval, or disapproval, of a draft publication shall be based on the merits of its data, analysis and conclusions and shall not imply that the IAP or its member academies approve the content of the publication. If necessary, the Publication Committee may decide to subject a draft publication to an independent review process.
