

Appendix B

WORLD PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION (WPA) STATUTES

*Reviewed and approved by the WPA Extraordinary General Assembly in Buenos Aires,
Argentina, on 21 September, 2011.*

Section I - Definition of the Association and of its Members

Item 1 – Definition

The World Psychiatric Association is an international association, originally consisting of WPA Member Societies of the previous International Organization of World Psychiatric Congresses. The WPA consists of all psychiatric Societies that have been admitted pursuant to the WPA requirements of Item 8.

Item 2 – Legal status

The WPA was established in 1950 as a non-profit organization and functions in compliance with the Swiss Civil Law and its registered office is in Geneva, Switzerland.

Item 3 –

The English text of these WPA Statutes will be definitive.

Item 4 –

The application of the present WPA Statutes will be determined by the WPA By-laws.

Item 5 – Purposes:

The purposes of the WPA are to:

- (i) Increase knowledge and skills necessary for work in the field of mental health and in the care for the mentally ill;
- (ii) Improve the access to and the quality of the care of the mentally ill;
- (iii) Prevent mental disorders;
- (iv) Promote mental health;
- (v) Preserve the rights of the mentally ill;
- (vi) Promote the development and observance of the highest ethical standards in the care, teaching and research within the psychiatric and mental health fields;
- (vii) Promote the development of the highest quality standards in psychiatric care, teaching and research, as well as the observance of such standards;

Appendix B

(viii) Promote non-discrimination (parity) in the provision of care of the mentally ill;

(ix) Protect the rights of psychiatrists.

The WPA will achieve these purposes by:

A. Advancing cooperation among its WPA Member Societies and WPA Scientific Sections;

B. Facilitating international exchanges of information within the psychiatric and mental health fields;

C. Cooperating with national and international, governmental and non-governmental organizations active in fields relevant to WPA purposes;

D. Organizing WPA World Congresses of Psychiatry and other WPA Scientific Meetings on matters relevant to WPA purposes;

E. Developing and disseminating psychiatry/mental health publications;

F. Developing, implementing and evaluating educational programs and materials within the fields of psychiatry and mental health;

G. Developing a continuing medical education accreditation system in collaboration with WPA Member Societies and other pertinent institutions;

H. Promoting and conducting collaborative research related to mental health and mental illnesses;

I. Developing consensus statements on issues of relevance to the WPA;

J. Establishing task forces to deal with specific psychiatric and mental health issues;

K. Raising funds and accepting donations;

L. Organizing educational activities for physicians, mental health professionals and the public at large.

M. Any other means harmonious with achieving the purposes of the WPA.

Item 6 – Languages:

English will be the primary language of the WPA. Other languages (including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish) may be used in official matters depending on specific needs and circumstances.

Item 7 – WPA Logo:

Appendix B

The logo of the WPA consists of a representation of the Greek letter *psi in red* and the earth globe. The logo may be supplemented by the name of the Association in English or any other of the languages specified in item 6 and by the website address of the Association.

Item 8 – WPA Member Societies:

Psychiatric Societies whose goals and ethical standards are consonant with those of the WPA are eligible for full membership in the WPA if they submit an official application in accordance with the WPA By-laws.

A Psychiatric Society is a medical society concerned with the prevention and treatment of mental disorders and with the promotion of mental health.

To be considered for admission as a WPA Member Society, a psychiatric society must be national in scope and deal with the whole field of psychiatry and mental health.

Regional associations with a majority of members residing in countries that do not have a psychiatric society are eligible for admission in the WPA.

International Federations of societies are not eligible for admission in the WPA as Member Societies but may be admitted as WPA Affiliated Associations.

The decision to admit a Psychiatric Society in the WPA is made by the WPA General Assembly by a simple majority of votes of those present and voting on the recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee.

Termination of membership in the WPA can be effected by resignation or by decision of the WPA WPA General Assembly, with a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

The WPA Executive Committee may suspend a WPA Member Society in accordance with the provisions of the WPA By-laws.

Item 9 – WPA Affiliated Associations:

Associations with goals that are consonant with those of the WPA and that are not eligible as WPA Member Societies may be accepted as WPA Affiliated Associations by the WPA WPA General Assembly and in accordance with the By-laws. Decisions about the cessation of their status as WPA Affiliated Association can be made by the WPA WPA General Assembly with a simple majority of those present and voting. The WPA Executive Committee may suspend the **WPA** affiliated membership of an Association if it considers that its continuing membership could impede the achievement of WPA's purposes.

Item 10 – WPA Regular and Special Individual Members, WPA Fellows and WPA Affiliated Individual Members:

- A. WPA Regular Individual Members: Every psychiatrist who is a regular and enlisted member of any WPA Member Society is *de facto* a regular individual member of the WPA.

Appendix B

- B. **WPA Special Individual Members:** A qualified psychiatrist may apply for Special Individual Membership of the WPA if he/she resides in a country without a WPA Member Society. This provision shall not affect the status of already admitted WPA Special Individual Members.
- C. **WPA Affiliated Individual Members:** Other health professionals and scientists may apply to become WPA Affiliated Individual Members.
- D. **WPA Fellows:** Special Individual Members in good standing for five years who have made important contributions to the goals of the WPA can apply to become Fellows of the WPA.

WPA Regular, WPA Special and WPA Affiliated Individual Members as well as WPA Fellows are expected to participate in the activities and scientific meetings of the WPA, to share the goals of the WPA and to adhere to WPA ethical standards (i.e., the Madrid Declaration and other WPA ethical policies).

WPA Special and WPA Affiliated Individual Members and Fellows of the WPA are entitled to receive information directly related on the activities of the WPA, and will receive other services in accordance to the By-laws, and to the decisions of the WPA Executive Committee.

WPA Regular, WPA Special and WPA Affiliated Individual Members as well as WPA Fellows have no voting rights.

Termination of WPA Special and WPA Affiliated Membership or WPA Fellowship can be effected by resignation or decision of the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 11 – WPA Honorary Members, **WPA** Honorary Fellows and WPA Presidential Commendations:

WPA Honorary Membership may be conferred upon individuals who have excelled in their service to the World Psychiatric Association.

WPA Honorary Fellowship can be conferred upon individuals who have made a very important contribution to the achievements of the WPA goals.

Termination of WPA Honorary Membership or Honorary Fellowship can be effected by resignation or by decision of the WPA WPA General Assembly.

The WPA President can, after consultation with the WPA Executive Committee, confer a WPA presidential commendation to individuals who contributed in a significant manner in the work of the WPA.

Section II - The WPA General Assembly

Item 12 – Definition and Composition:

The WPA General Assembly is the governing body of the WPA.

The WPA General Assembly is composed of the delegates of the WPA Member Societies.

Appendix B

The WPA President chairs the WPA General Assembly. In his or her absence it will be chaired by the WPA PresidentElect and in the absence of both, by a member of the WPA Executive Committee. The members of the WPA Executive Committee and WPA Zone Representatives shall attend the WPA Assembly on an ex-officio basis, without the right to vote.

Members of the WPA Council, WPA Honorary Members, WPA Honorary Fellows, WPA Section Chairpersons or their representatives, members of the WPA Standing and WPA Operational Committees, representatives of full and ad-hoc WPA Affiliated Associations and ad-hoc WPA Member Societies, may attend the WPA WPA General Assembly as observers.

Item 13 – Meetings of the WPA General Assembly:

The WPA General Assembly meets every third year. A WPA Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened at any time by the WPA Executive Committee or at the request of one fifth of the WPA Member Societies.

Item 14 – WPA Accreditation Committee:

The WPA Accreditation Committee validates the delegates of the WPA Member Societies and other participants in the Assembly and recommends to the General Assemblies the voting strength allocated to them, in accordance with the Statutes and By-laws.

The WPA Accreditation Committee consists of four members, including the WPA Secretary General who will chair it, the WPA Secretary for Finances and two more members appointed by the WPA President in consultation with the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 15 – Agenda:

The WPA Executive Committee draws the agenda to be placed before the WPA General Assembly.

Item 16 – Voting process:

Unless stated differently, all decisions of the WPA General Assembly will be made by a simple majority vote of the WPA Member Societies present and with voting rights. There will be no voting by proxy.

The WPA General Assembly following the recommendations of the Accreditation Committee will confirm the number of votes granted to each Member Society.

Item 17 – Functions of the WPA General Assembly:

The WPA General Assembly:

A. Determines the policies of the WPA.

B. Decides on the admission of WPA Member Societies and WPA Affiliated Associations and on the termination of their membership or affiliation.

Appendix B

C. Sets the membership dues and approves the accounts of the Association closed at the 31st of December of the previous year, upon recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee.

D. Receives the reports of the WPA Executive Committee concerning the work of the WPA.

E. Elects on the occasion of each WPA Ordinary General Assembly half of the Secretaries of the WPA Executive Committee for a term of office of six years, and the WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident), who will serve the second three years of his or her term as President.

F. Elects on the occasion of each WPA Ordinary General Assembly Zone Representatives in accordance with item 22 so that their continuity and change are guaranteed.

G. Confers WPA Honorary Memberships and WPA Honorary Fellowships, upon recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee.

H. Decides on the creation or dissolution of WPA Scientific Sections.

I. Decides on changes of WPA Statutes and WPA By-laws.

J. Decides on the dissolution of the WPA as an Association.

Section III - WPA Board and WPA Zone Representatives

Item 18 – The WPA Board:

The WPA Board comprises the WPA Zone Representatives. The members of the WPA Executive Committee will be invited to attend the meetings of the Board.

The Board considers and advises the WPA Executive Committee and the WPA Assembly on the work of the WPA, including in particular, (1) its efforts to strengthen collaboration among WPA Member Societies in the WPA zones; (2) the admission or suspension of WPA Member Societies; (3) the creation of WPA Scientific Sections; (4) the Plan of Action of the WPA Executive Committee, including its financial aspects; (5) the WPA budget and accounts; (6) the agenda of the WPA General Assemblies; and (7) the report of the WPA Nomination Committee concerning candidates for elective posts and recommendations concerning the voting procedures.

Item 19 – WPA Board meetings:

The WPA Board will meet at least on the occasion of World Congresses of Psychiatry. WPA Board meetings or teleconferences may be held between World Congresses of Psychiatry.

The WPA Zone Representatives will appoint among themselves the chairperson of each meeting of the WPA Board. A WPA Zone Representative cannot chair two consecutive meetings of the Board.

The WPA Secretary General will draw the agenda of the WPA Board meetings in consultation with its members and the WPA Executive Committee.

Appendix B

The quorum for the WPA Board meetings will be half plus one of its members.

Item 20 – The WPA Zone Representatives:

The WPA has 18 Zone Representatives who represent the 18 zones of the four WPA Regions. The WPA General Assembly in accordance with the By-laws elects them.

To facilitate their work, they will be kept informed about any official contacts between the WPA Executive Committee and the WPA Member Societies in their WPA Zone. They will in turn keep the WPA Executive Committee informed about their collaboration with WPA Member Societies, their needs, functioning and achievements.

Item 21 – The role of Zone Representatives:

The WPA Zone Representatives should play a key coordinating role within their Zone, they shall encourage collaboration among WPA Member Societies in their zone and stimulate their participation in all WPA activities. They shall disseminate WPA related information and WPA educational materials within their zones. They shall support collaboration with WPA Member Societies in other zones and assist the WPA Executive Committee in ascertaining the needs of WPA Member Societies and the ways in which these needs can be met.

WPA Zonal Representatives of the same Region are encouraged to work together and explore collaborations that are institutionally functional.

WPA Zone Representatives should report and advise the WPA Executive Committee on policies and activities in their WPA Zones.

Item 22 – Election of the Zone Representatives:

WPA Zone Representatives are elected for an initial period of three years and they can stand competitively for reelection for a second period of three years. The term of office of the newly elected WPA Zone Representatives begins at the end of the WPA General Assembly that elected them, and finishes at the end of the subsequent WPA General Assembly.

Section IV - WPA Executive Committee

Item 23 – WPA Executive Committee:

The decision making power of the WPA between General Assemblies are vested in the WPA Executive Committee. The WPA Executive Committee implements the decisions of the WPA General Assembly, administrates the WPA resources, ensures that WPA statutory functions are carried out by all officers and staff, produces, updates and supervises the application of the WPA Manual of Procedures, and prepares the materials for the WPA General Assemblies.

Appendix B

The WPA Executive Committee shall have eight members, including the WPA President, the WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident), the WPA Secretary General and five secretaries with defined functions (Finances, Scientific Sections, Scientific Meetings, Scientific Publications, and Education). The members of the WPA Executive Committee are elected for a period of six years (in a staggered manner).

The quorum for the meetings of the WPA Executive Committee is five members, including the WPA President and/or the WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident). The decisions of the WPA Executive Committee are based on a simple majority vote.

In case of parity of votes, the WPA President or in case of his or her absence, the WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) has the casting vote.

Item 24 – The WPA President:

The WPA President chairs all meetings of the WPA General Assembly and the WPA Executive Committee, and is responsible for the implementation of the decisions of these bodies.

The WPA President will promote the activities of the different components of the WPA and their mutual collaboration to achieve the goals of the WPA.

The WPA President will seek funds to support the work of the WPA and can authorize others to do the same.

The President convenes the WPA Executive Committee and decides its agenda in consultation the WPA Executive Committee Members. The WPA President nominates the chairpersons and the members of the WPA Standing and Operational Committees, when not otherwise specified in the WPA Statutes or the WPA By-laws, as well as WPA Special Advisors to the WPA President, in consultation with the WPA Executive Committee.

The WPA President chairs the WPA Nomination Committee and appoints its members, in consultation with the Executive Committee.

The President presides over the WPA World Congress of Psychiatry.

The WPA President represents the WPA in all official matters.

The WPA President reports to the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 25 – The WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident):

The WPA General Assembly elects the PresidentElect (VicePresident) for a period of six years, of which he or she serves as WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) for three years and as WPA President for three years.

The WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) shall chair the WPA Standing Committee on Planning.

In the absence of the WPA President, or if the WPA President is unable to carry out his or her functions, the WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) shall preside over the meetings of the WPA Executive Committee, the

Appendix B

WPA Nomination Committee, and the WPA General Assembly. The WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) will represent the WPA President in his or her absence or upon his or her request in all official functions.

The WPA PresidentElect (VicePresident) reports to the Executive Committee.

Item 26 – The WPA Secretary General:

The WPA Secretary General is elected by the WPA General Assembly for a term of six years.

The WPA Secretary General is in charge of the WPA Secretariat and is responsible for the administrative tasks of the WPA.

The WPA Secretary General, in close collaboration with WPA Zone Representatives, ensures that the members of the WPA are kept well informed of the discussions and decisions of the WPA Executive Committee, and of other WPA Committees and of the WPA General Assembly, and also relates all concerns and opinions of the WPA members to these bodies. The WPA Secretary General coordinates the work of the WPA Zone Representatives and serves as liaison between them and the WPA governing bodies.

The WPA Secretary General is responsible for the minutes of the meetings of the WPA Executive Committee, the WPA Board, the WPA Council and the WPA General Assemblies.

The WPA Secretary General chairs the WPA Accreditation Committee.

The WPA Secretary General reports to the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 27 – The WPA Secretary for Finances:

The WPA General Assembly elects the WPA Secretary for Finances for a term of six years. The WPA Secretary for Finances is responsible for the implementation of policies concerning finances, investments, fund raising, auditing of the accounts as well as for the prudent expenditure of the WPA funds. The WPA Secretary for Finances presents, after consultation with WPA Zone Representatives, the WPA yearly budget to the Executive Committee for approval and supervises its management. In case of discrepancies between WPA Zone Representatives and the WPA Executive Committee, a meeting of the WPA Board will take place if requested by at least one third of the WPA Zone Representatives, in order to reconsider the WPA budget.

The WPA Secretary for Finances will chair the WPA Operational Committee on Finances and will be a member of any WPA Finance Committee appointed by the President.

The WPA Secretary for Finances presents a report to each meeting of the Executive Committee and the WPA General Assembly.

Item 28 – The WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings:

The WPA General Assembly elects the WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings for a term of six years. The WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings oversees the coordination of all official scientific meetings of the WPA. The

Appendix B

WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings is responsible for the development of proposals to host of WPA World Congresses of Psychiatry and helps in all aspects of the organization of other WPA scientific meetings.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings will chair the WPA Operational Committee on Scientific Meetings.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Meetings reports to the Executive Committee.

Item 29 – The WPA Secretary for Education:

The WPA General Assembly elects the WPA Secretary for Education for a term of six years. The WPA Secretary for Education coordinates the educational activities of the Association and ensures the distribution of educational programs of the WPA in cooperation with the WPA Zone Representatives, and as necessary with the WPA Secretaries for Scientific Sections and for Scientific Meetings, the WPA Executive Committee and WPA Member Societies.

The WPA Secretary for Education will chair the WPA Operational Committee on Education.

The WPA Secretary for Education reports to the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 30 – The WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications:

The WPA General Assembly elects the WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications for a term of six years. The WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications is responsible for implementing the editorial policies of the WPA and maintains oversight of its publications. The WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications will be a member of any publication committee appointed by the WPA Executive Committee.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Publications will chair the WPA Operational Committee on Publications.

The WPA Secretary for Publications reports to the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 31 – The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections:

The WPA General Assembly elects the WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections for a term of six years. The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections is responsible for the implementation of WPA policies concerning the work of the WPA Scientific Sections, and for the coordination of their work.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections serves as adviser to the WPA Scientific Sections in the planning of Section Symposia or other activities.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections coordinates and facilitates WPA inter-sectional collaboration and also the collaboration of the WPA Scientific Sections with the WPA Member Societies.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections will chair the WPA Operational Committee on Scientific Sections.

The WPA Secretary for Scientific Sections reports to the WPA Executive Committee.

Appendix B

Item 32 – Election of members of the WPA Executive Committee:

The members of the Executive Committee are elected by the WPA General Assembly, in accordance with the Bylaws. No elected member of the WPA Executive Committee may serve for more than one 6-year term of office, either consecutive or non-consecutive, with the exception that any member, or former member, of the WPA Executive Committee may be elected to the position of WPA President Elect (Vice President). In no case may the immediate successor to the same position be elected from the same country.

Item 33 – Meetings of the WPA Executive Committee:

The meetings of the WPA Executive Committee will be held at least three times a year. The costs for the WPA Executive Committee meetings, including travel expenses, accommodation, per diem and meeting facilities will be covered by WPA central funds when not covered by other funding sources.

Item 34 – WPA Institutional Programmes

WPA Institutional Programmes aim at achieving broad WPA purposes as stated in the WPA Statutes. Approval of the establishment or continuation of an Institutional Programme is granted by the WPA Executive Committee, and ratified by the WPA General Assembly. Proposals for the establishment of a WPA Institutional Programme should include a description of the rationale, the objectives, the steps of the implementation and the expected outcome of the programme, as well as the budget and the origin of sources of financial support. After a WPA Institutional Programme is established, an annual report on its progress should be submitted to the WPA Executive Committee for information, assessment and approval.

Section V - The WPA Standing Committees, WPA Operational Committees, WPA Task Forces and WPA Presidential Advisors

Item 35 – The WPA Standing Committees:

A. The WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review:

The WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review shall have the responsibility to identify and explore areas of ethical concern to psychiatry and to produce recommendations, and to draft consensus statements on ethical issues. The WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review shall review individual complaints and other related issues and initiate investigations about violations of the ethical guidelines for the practice of psychiatry as stated in the WPA Declaration of Madrid, including its additional guidelines, in order to make recommendations to the WPA Executive Committee as to any possible action.

WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review is instituted by the WPA President, in consultation with the WPA Executive Committee. This Committee will be composed of a Chair, a Co-chair and additionally, three other members. The Co-chair, who will be, in addition to being a member of this Committee, Chair of the WPA Task Forces appointed to conduct reviews of abuses of the profession when appropriate complaints are raised

Appendix B

with the WPA. When a WPA Task Force is appointed for “review” purposes, no more than 4 members will be appointed by the WPA President in consultation with the WPA Executive Committee for this purpose.

The members of the WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review shall be appointed by the WPA President upon the recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee for an initial period of three years. Then, at the completion of this initial period, as a general guideline, not more than three and not less than two of the members of this WPA Committee may be reappointed by the President upon the recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee for a second term of three years.

WPA Member Societies are obliged to cooperate with the Ethics and Review Committee in the investigation of cases.

The Chairperson of the WPA Standing Committee on Ethics and Review shall report to the Executive Committee.

B. The WPA Standing Committee on Planning:

The WPA Standing Committee on Planning shall have the responsibility of reviewing the WPA Statutes and By-laws, of preparing triennial WPA Action Plans (including their financial aspects) to be presented, through the WPA Executive Committee, to the WPA General Assembly, and of planning for WPA's long-term development, its programs and resource utilization.

The WPA Standing Committee on Planning shall consist of five members, including the immediate past WPA President and the WPA President Elect (Vice president), who shall chair the Committee.

The WPA President, on recommendation of the WPA Executive Committee, shall appoint the members of the WPA Standing Committee on Planning for a period of three years. They will include two new members of the WPA Executive Committee at the beginning of their term and one member of the WPA Executive Committee whose term will end at the next WPA General Assembly.

The Chairperson of the WPA Standing Committee on Planning shall report to the WPA Executive Committee.

C. The WPA Nomination Committee:

The WPA Nomination Committee makes proposals concerning elections for all elective posts of the WPA, in accordance with the WPA By-laws.

The WPA Nomination Committee consists of four members and the WPA President who will Chair it. The members will be appointed for three years by the WPA President after consultation with the WPA Executive Committee. This WPA Committee will include one member of the WPA Executive Committee whose term will continue after the next WPA General Assembly, and three additional members. Every effort will be made to achieve geographical balance.

The Chairperson of the WPA Nomination Committee shall report to the WPA Executive Committee.

Appendix B

Item 36 – WPA Operational Committees:

WPA Operational Committees are established to enhance organizational capacity in the various areas of work of the WPA Executive Committee. The terms of reference and composition of the WPA Operational Committees are described in the By-laws.

Item 37 – Appointments of WPA Standing and WPA Operational Committees Members:

The WPA President seeks suggestions for the above WPA Committees from WPA Member Societies, the WPA Council, the WPA Executive Committee and the WPA Board. The WPA Committees listed in Item 34 under A through D above can, upon the approval of the WPA Executive Committee, invite other experts to help them in particular tasks.

Item 38 – WPA Task Forces and WPA Special Advisors to the WPA President:

The WPA President may appoint WPA Task Forces and WPA Special Advisors to the WPA President after consultation with the WPA Executive Committee for specified tasks for a specified period of time.

Section VI - The WPA Council

Item 39 – Composition and tasks of the WPA Council:

The WPA Council is composed of the previous WPA Presidents for a period of 15 years. After 15 years of membership they are called Emeritus Council members. The members of the Council will appoint among themselves a Chairperson for each meeting of the WPA Council. A member of the WPA Council cannot chair two consecutive meetings of the WPA Council. The WPA Council offers recommendations and advice to the WPA Executive Committee about any matters affecting the mission and strategy of WPA, and may propose items for the agenda of the WPA General Assembly. The WPA President will draw the agenda of the meetings of the WPA Council after consultation with its members and the WPA Executive Committee.

Item 40 – Meetings of the WPA Council:

The WPA Council shall meet with the WPA Executive Committee at the WPA World Congresses of Psychiatry prior to the meeting of the WPA General Assembly, and, will meet once a year with the WPA Executive Committee at the time of WPA International Congresses.

Section VII – Finances

Item 41 – Financial management:

The assets of the WPA will be utilized solely to meet its financial liabilities. The WPA Executive Committee will be responsible for the financial management of the WPA, and in accordance with the WPA plans and budget.

Appendix B

Item 42 – Income and Expenditures:

The income of WPA includes membership fees, donations and overhead charged on specific projects that WPA components are carrying out, technical support and service fees during WPA congresses, WPA scientific meetings, and royalties and revenues from WPA publications.

Expenditures include support for the establishment and functioning of a WPA Secretariat, for meetings of the WPA Executive Committee and other WPA committees, for the work of WPA Zone Representatives, for basic informational services for the WPA and for special projects carried out by various WPA components, when not covered by other sources.

Item 43 – Corporate Supporters:

Corporate Supporters are private or public institutions or individuals that help the WPA to achieve its goals providing financial and other support and are informed, as appropriate, of its activities.

Item 44 –

Members of the WPA Executive Committee, the WPA Council, the WPA Board, and the WPA Standing and WPA Operational Committees and other WPA Officers will not be paid any salary or fee for their services to the WPA, nor will they be personally liable for debts incurred by the WPA.

Section VIII - Statutes, By-laws and Manual of Procedures

Item 45 – Definitions of WPA Statutes, WPA By-Laws and WPA Manual of Procedures

The WPA Statutes is the highest normative instrument of WPA. It conceptually defines the nature, goals, organic and functional structures, and the basic functional areas of WPA.

The WPA By-Laws further describe, in some detail, the content of the further Statutes in order to establish major functional plans and activities for the WPA. The further Manual of Procedures contains specific operational guidelines aimed at promoting effectiveness and transparency in the works of WPA, fully respecting the provisions of the WPA Statutes and WPA By-laws.

Item 46 – Amendments of the WPA Statutes, WPA By-laws and WPA Manual of Procedures:

Recommendations for the change of the WPA Statutes and WPA By-laws can be made by the WPA Executive Committee, the WPA Board, the WPA Council and by WPA Member Societies. Any recommendations for changes in the WPA Statutes and WPA By-laws must be submitted to the WPA Executive Committee at least six months before the meeting of the WPA General Assembly and will be circulated to all WPA Member Societies at least three months before the WPA General Assembly. The Statutes of the WPA may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote taken in the WPA General Assembly, and the WPA By-laws by a simple majority of those present and voting.

Appendix B

Revisions of the WPA Manual of Procedures are prepared and approved by the WPA Executive Committee and ratified by the WPA Board.

Section IX - Dissolution of the WPA as an Association

Item 47 –

The dissolution of the WPA will be decided by the WPA General Assembly at the request of the WPA Executive Committee, or at the request of more than one half of the WPA Member Societies. The WPA General Assembly will, with a two-thirds majority, act on the the dissolution of the WPA as an Association.

All sums remaining within the central funds of the WPA after liquidation will be distributed in accordance with the decisions of the WPA General Assembly and the aims of the WPA, or will be handed over to an organization operating on similar principles. On no condition, however, will these funds be distributed among the members of the WPA or utilized on their behalf.

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