



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF AUTOMATIC CONTROL

IFAC

Constitution

and By-Laws

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AUTOMATIC CONTROL

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

adopted by the General Assembly in Budapest, Hungary, July 2, 1984

amended by the General Assembly in 1994

amended by the General Assembly in 2000

amended by the General Assembly in 2008

amended by the General Assembly in 2014

amended by the General Assembly in 2015

amended by the General Assembly in 2017

amended by the General Assembly in 2020

amended by the General Assembly in 2023

amended by the General Assembly in 2025

PREAMBLE

The *International Federation of Automatic Control*, founded in September 1957, is a multinational federation with the primary objective to serve all those concerned with the theory and application of automatic control and systems engineering. IFAC is committed to the highest principles of equality, diversity and inclusion without boundaries.

We have the Vision for IFAC to be the worldwide federation for promoting automatic control for the benefit of humankind and consequently we derivate the Mission for IFAC to promote the science and technology of automatic control through technical meetings, publications and other means consistent with the goals and values of IFAC.

Our **Goals** are:

- Organize and sponsor high-quality technical meetings that are relevant to the automatic control community
- Be a trusted source of publication material on automatic control renowned for its technical excellence
- Help create an environment within which the automatic control community can prosper
- Provide volunteers and staff with meaningful and rewarding opportunities for career-enhancing participation in the Federation
- Help promote the benefits of automatic control among the public at large.

Our **Values** are:

- Honesty and Integrity,
- Excellence and Relevance,
- Sustainability,
- Diversity and Inclusivity.

These values, the IFAC Vision and Mission, its goals, and a dispersion of power shall be manifested in the following Constitution.

CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

- (a) The organization is to be called 'International Federation of Automatic Control' - abbreviated IFAC.
- (b) The Federation, which does not engage in any activity with financial or political aims, adopts the legal form of an association in accordance with paragraph 60 and further of the Code Civil Suisse, as long as it is not contradictory to the present Constitution.
- (c) The seat of IFAC shall be determined by the General Assembly.

Article 2

- (a) The purpose of the Federation is to promote the Science and Technology of Control in the broadest sense in all systems whether, for example, engineering, physical, biological, social or economic, in both theory and application. IFAC is also concerned with the impact of control technology on society.
- (b) The primary object of the Federation is to serve all those concerned with the theory and application of automatic control and systems engineering, wherever situated. To further this aim, it maintains working relationships with other organizations, national or international, especially with other non-governmental professional federations.
- (c) IFAC is to provide a framework for collaboration between those working in automatic control and systems engineering, and to promote the free exchange of ideas and experts within its professional field. IFAC is committed to the highest principles of equality, diversity and inclusion without boundaries.
- (d) The Federation is not to become involved in any kind of political activity nor to take a stand on any such issue.
- (e) IFAC will not take part in any commercial activity with the explicit aim of acquiring financial gain.

Article 3

IFAC is to promote the science and technology of automatic control and systems engineering, in cooperation with national and other international organizations, by

- (1) Organizing and sponsoring technical meetings such as congresses, conferences, symposia and workshops.
- (2) Technical publications.
- (3) Any other means consistent with this Constitution.

Article 4

With the approval of the General Assembly, IFAC may join international organizations whose wider aims, or part of them, implicitly include those of IFAC.

SECTION 2 - MEMBERS

Article 5

(a) For each country, one scientific or professional engineering organization, having a strong interest in automatic control and a sound professional background, or one council formed by two or more such organizations, shall be eligible for membership of IFAC. Such organizations, after admission to IFAC, will be known as National Member Organizations (NMOs) and shall have a responsibility for furthering the aims and objectives of IFAC within their respective countries.

(b) Applications for membership of IFAC can be made in three categories:

- Ordinary membership category
- Reduced-fee membership category
- Introductory membership category

(c) The reduced-fee membership category applies only to NMOs from countries for which the gross domestic product and the gross domestic product per capita fall outside of the top fifty, where countries within the top fifty have the largest gross domestic product and/or gross domestic product per capita.

(d) The introductory membership category applies only to countries for which no NMO has been a member of IFAC for the last three years.

(e) NMOs in the reduced-fee and introductory membership categories have restricted rights as detailed in the IFAC By-laws.

Article 6

(a) Each application for membership of IFAC shall be addressed to the IFAC Secretary.

(b) The Council, having ascertained that the application corresponds to the requirements of Article 5, will submit the application for membership to the General Assembly which will authorize the admission on a simple majority of votes cast.

(c) Admission includes the obligation to recognize and adhere to this Constitution and By-Laws and to pay the appropriate dues as may from time to time be determined by the General Assembly.

Article 7

(a) The membership of an NMO may be terminated by a vote of the General Assembly with notice prior to July 1st in order to become effective at the end of the same calendar year.

(b) Membership may be terminated by a vote of the General Assembly

- if the activity of that NMO is consistently violating the letter or the spirit of the present constitution.
- if the activity, mission or vision of that NMO is found not to be aligned with the mission and vision of IFAC.
- if a member is two years in arrears in payment of its membership fee but such termination shall not relieve a member of the obligation to pay such membership fees which are in arrears.

(c) A National Member Organization not being in arrears in payment of its membership fee may terminate its membership by delivering a declaration to that effect to the President or to the IFAC Secretary prior to July 1st in order to become effective at the end of the current year.

SECTION 3 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 8

The General Assembly is the supreme body of the Federation and shall comprise delegations from all the National Member Organizations, excluding those in the introductory membership category who shall have observer status only.

Article 9

- (a) The General Assembly may be convened either as a regular or an extraordinary meeting.
- (b) A regular meeting of the General Assembly takes place at each Triennial Congress convened by IFAC.
- (c) An extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly may take place at any other time decided upon by the Council. The Council is furthermore obliged to convene such a meeting upon request of ten or more National Member Organizations.

Article 10

At a meeting of the General Assembly, delegations shall be present from at least half of the member organizations to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article 11

- (a) At a meeting of the General Assembly, each NMO in the ordinary and reduced fee membership categories will have one and only one vote. NMOs in the introductory membership category are not eligible to vote.
- (b) Each National Member Organization shall normally be represented at meetings of the General Assembly by its President who will cast the vote on the NMO's behalf. If the President is unable to attend, the NMO may be represented by a proxy whose name must be communicated by the NMO, in writing, to the IFAC Secretary prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.
- (c) Each NMO may authorize another National Member Organization to vote in its place at a meeting of the General Assembly, provided the IFAC Secretary has been notified by the authorizing NMO, in writing, prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.

Article 12

Except for amendments to the Constitution, any decision of the General Assembly will require the support of at least half of the votes cast. In the case of a tie, the Chair of the meeting will have a casting vote.

Article 13

The President of the Federation or, in his/her absence, the President-Elect or one of the Vice-Presidents or, if none of these be present, another member of the Council authorized by the President or failing him/her by the Council, shall preside at any meeting of the General Assembly.

Article 14

- (a) If any decision is required between meetings of the General Assembly, the Council may order a postal ballot.
- (b) A postal ballot will only be valid if at least half of the National Member Organizations have voted.

(c) Except for amendments to the Constitution, any decision reached by postal ballot will require at least half of the votes cast. In the case of a tie, the President of IFAC will have a casting vote.

(d) Such a decision will be considered as having been reached by the General Assembly.

SECTION 4 - LANGUAGES

Article 15

The working language of IFAC shall be English. This will be used for written reports and records as well as for verbal discussions at any meeting of the General Assembly and of all working bodies (Council, Boards, Committees) of the Federation. Any written document of IFAC shall be produced in English.

SECTION 5 – THE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Article 16

(a) The Executive Officers of IFAC shall be

- The President (who shall be the Chair of the Executive Officers)
- The President-Elect
- The Vice-President for Technical Activities
- The Vice-President for Conferences
- The Vice-President for Publications
- The Vice-President for Finances
- The Immediate Past President

For each triennium, Council can vote to add a Vice-President for Operations to the Executive Officers.

(b) The IFAC Secretary is a permanent nonvoting guest in all meetings of the Executive Officers.

Article 17

(a) With the exception of the Immediate Past-President, all the Executive Officers listed in Article 16(a) shall be elected by the General Assembly after nomination by the Council. Such elections will require at least half of the votes cast.

(b) Only those who have been elected or appointed for at least a total of two terms in one or several of the following offices

- Council member
- Technical, Conference or Publications Board member
- Technical Committee chair
- Executive Committee member (including chairs)

may be elected to the offices of President and President Elect. Normally the President Elect, after serving in this capacity for one term, will be elected to the office of President for the next term.

(c) The Executive Officers shall take office at the conclusion of the General Assembly at which they are elected or, if a postal ballot is held between sessions of the General Assembly, on the announcement of the result of that ballot by the IFAC Secretary, as the case may be. They remain in office until the conclusion of the next regular meeting of the General Assembly.

(d) The President and President-Elect shall not be eligible for re-election to the same office. Vice-Presidents will be eligible for re-election for a second term of office not necessarily immediately following their first term of office.

Article 18

(a) If the President resigns or cannot serve, the President-Elect or, failing him/her, one of the Vice-Presidents selected by the Council or, if none of these can serve, a member of the Council selected by the Council will temporarily serve in his/her place as Acting President for such period as may be decided by the Council.

(b) The person serving as Acting President is to have exactly the same rights, privileges, responsibilities, and disabilities as the President would have.

(c) Anyone so appointed shall not be barred under Article 17(d) from election as President-Elect or President at a later date.

Article 19

The President shall legally represent the Federation and take care of the external affairs of IFAC. The President has the authority in matters of general policy. The President shall also maintain working relationships with other international organizations, whether governmental or non-governmental, on behalf of the Federation and represent the Federation with these organizations.

Article 20

(a) The General Assembly shall appoint an IFAC Secretary after nomination by Council.

(b) The duties, responsibilities and privileges of the IFAC Secretary are defined in the By-Laws.

(c) Should the IFAC Secretary, due to resignation, death or other cause, be prevented from fulfilling his/her duties, the Council may appoint someone to serve in his/her place until the next election.

Article 21

(a) The Executive Officers shall coordinate and supervise the technical and executive activities of IFAC, in particular those activities in the competence of and carried on by the Technical Board, Conference Board, Publications Board and the Executive Committees.

(b) In addition, the Executive Officers will advise the Council on all matters especially with regard to long-term planning and development strategy of the Organization.

(c) The Executive Officers shall from time to time review all IFAC activities in light of the aims and objectives of IFAC and shall report to the Council each year.

(d) The Executive Officers shall be responsible for directing the work of the Secretariat and shall control the use of IFAC funds in accordance with the budgets approved annually by the Council. They shall report to the Council annually and shall submit for approval the balance sheet and account of income and expenditure prior to their consideration by the Council. They shall also submit to the Council annually a proposed budget for the ensuing financial year.

Article 22

(a) Upon retirement from his/her IFAC office or any time thereafter, any IFAC official may be appointed by the President as an Advisor of IFAC. Such an appointment may be for life.

(b) IFAC Advisors may be consulted by the active Executive Officers on any matter related to the Federation or given special assignments as the President deems appropriate.

SECTION 6 - THE COUNCIL

Article 23

- (a) The management of the Federation shall be vested in a Council.
- (b) The Council shall be responsible for the management of the Federation to the General Assembly from which it receives its mandate and to which it shall report on the state of the Federation, not less frequently than at each Triennial Congress.
- (c) Subject only to the directions of the General Assembly, the Council will formulate the policies of the Federation, in relation to the world community of control engineers, the National Member Organizations, intergovernmental and other non-governmental international professional organizations. It shall develop the long-term plans of the Federation for approval by the General Assembly and shall instruct the various boards and committees of IFAC accordingly.
- (d) The Council shall direct and supervise the functioning of the Federation, including both the technical and the executive activities. It will delegate particular functions to the appropriate boards and committees and will from time to time receive activity reports from those boards and committees.

Article 24

- (a) The Council shall consist of the Executive Officers of IFAC (Art. 16a), twelve elected Ordinary Members, and one or more ex officio, nonvoting members.
- (b) The Council shall be as widely representative as possible and in particular each Ordinary Member shall be from a different National Member Organization of IFAC. However, members of the Council shall serve in a personal capacity and not as representatives of their member organization.
- (c) Members of the Council shall serve voluntarily and be unpaid.
- (d) The IFAC Secretary shall attend the meetings of the Council and participate in its deliberations but has no right to vote.
- (e) The ex officio, nonvoting members of the Council shall include the Technical Board Vice-Chair for Industry Activities and the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and the Chair of the Education Activities Committee (who is also the Technical Board Vice-Chair for Education Activities).

Article 25

- (a) The members of the Council are elected by the General Assembly. Such an election shall require a simple majority of the votes cast.
- (b) A candidate for election to the Council may only be nominated with the approval of the member organization of his/her own country.

Article 26

- (a) Ordinary Members of the Council shall take office at the conclusion of the session of the General Assembly at which they are elected or, if a postal ballot be held between sessions of the General Assembly, on the announcement of the result of that ballot by the IFAC Secretary as the case may be.
- (b) At each triennial regular session of the General Assembly, all the Ordinary Members of the Council shall retire and not more than half of them shall be eligible for re-election as Ordinary Members to serve until the conclusion of the next regular session of the General Assembly.

(c) No Ordinary Member shall serve for more than two consecutive terms nor for more than three terms in all in that capacity.

Article 27

(a) Should any member of the Council other than the President or President-Elect, due to resignation, death or other cause, be prevented from fulfilling his/her duties, the Council may appoint someone to serve in his/her place until the next election.

(b) Such a period of office shall not be considered as a term in office from the point of view of subsequent elections, as described in Article 26.

Article 28

(a) The President of the Federation or, in his/her absence, the President-Elect or one of the Vice-Presidents or, if none of these be present, another member of the Council authorized by the President or failing him/her by the Council, shall preside at any meeting of the Council.

(b) A quorum for a meeting of the Council shall be not less than half of the members of the Council and must include not less than half of the Ordinary Members of the Council.

(c) All provisions concerning voting are set forth in the By-Laws.

SECTION 7 - BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Article 29

(a) The Council shall be assisted in its work by three Boards, namely the Technical Board, the Conference Board and the Publications Board, and a number of Committees to which it may delegate such powers as it may from time to time decide by resolutions of the Council passed by a simple majority.

(b) All members of Boards and Committees shall serve in a personal capacity and not as representatives of any NMO.

(c) All services to IFAC by the office bearers and members of Boards and Committees shall be voluntary and unpaid.

Article 30

(a) The Technical Board shall comprise a Chair who shall be the IFAC Vice-President for Technical Activities, a Vice-Chair for Industry Activities, a Vice-Chair for Education Activities, one or more other Vice-Chairs, and a number of Ordinary Members. The number of Ordinary Members is determined by the Council and shall not exceed one third of the number of Technical Committees.

(b) The Vice-Chairs and members of the Technical Board shall be appointed by the General Assembly after nomination by Council.

(c) The Chairs to the Technical Committees shall be appointed by the Technical Board after nomination by the Council. The Vice-Chairs to the Technical Committees shall be appointed by the Technical Board.

(d) Vice-Chairs and members of the Technical Board and Chairs of Technical Committees will normally be appointed to serve from the conclusion of one Triennial Congress to the conclusion of the next. Any of them may be reappointed to the same office for one additional term of office but not more. Should any of them be prevented from serving for any reason, a successor may at any time be appointed by the President (in the case of a Vice-Chair or member of the

Technical Board) or by the Chair of the Technical Board (in case of a Technical Committee Chair) to serve for the remainder of his/her term of office.

Article 31

- (a) The Technical Board will advise the Council on all technical matters and make such recommendations in relation to the development of the Technical Committees, Technical Committee activities, technical meetings, and the technical contents of the Triennial Congress.
- (b) It shall from time to time review the technical activities of IFAC in light of its aims and objectives and shall report to the Council each year.
- (c) All matters requiring a vote in meetings of the Technical Board shall be decided on a simple majority of the votes cast. The Chair will not vote except in the case of a tie when he/she will have a casting vote.

Article 32

- (a) The Conference Board shall comprise a Chair who shall be the IFAC Vice-President for Conferences, one or more other Vice-Chairs, one IPC Chair from each of the last and next two IFAC World Congresses, and a number of Ordinary Members. The number of Ordinary Members is determined by the Council and shall not exceed one third of the number of Technical Committees. The main organizer of each IFAC Symposium shall act as nonvoting ex-officio members from the approval of the Symposium until after the Symposium takes place.
- (b) The Vice-Chairs and members of the Conference Board shall be appointed by the General Assembly after nomination by Council.
- (c) Vice-Chairs and members of the Conference Board will normally be appointed to serve from the conclusion of one Triennial Congress to the conclusion of the next. Any of them may be reappointed to the same office for one additional term of office but not more. Should any of them be prevented from serving for any reason, a successor may at any time be appointed by the President.

Article 33

- (a) The main duty of the Conference Board will be to consider symposia, conferences, workshops and other technical meetings as may be recommended to it by the Technical Committees and if it sees fit, arrange for their regulation and organization. It shall monitor technical meetings and advise their organizers.
- (b) In addition, the Conference Board will advise the Council on all matters regarding technical meetings.
- (c) It shall from time to time review the technical meetings of IFAC in the light of its aims and objectives and shall report to the Council each year.
- (d) All matters requiring a vote in meetings of the Conference Board shall be decided on a simple majority of the votes cast. The Chair will not vote except in the case of a tie when he/she will have a casting vote.

Article 34

- (a) The Publications Board shall comprise a Chair who shall be one of the IFAC Vice-Presidents, one or more other Vice-Chairs, ex-officio members and up to four Ordinary Members. The ex-officio members are the Chair of the Publications Managing Board, the Editor-in-Chief of IFAC PapersOnLine, the Editors-in-Chief of the official IFAC Journals, the Editor of the Newsletter and the Electronic Media Editor(s).
- (b) The Vice-Chairs and Ordinary members of the Publications Board shall be appointed by the General Assembly after nomination by Council.

(c) Vice-Chairs and members of the Publications Board will normally be appointed to serve from the conclusion of one Triennial Congress to the conclusion of the next. Any of them may be reappointed to the same office for one additional term of office but not more. Should any of them be prevented from serving for any reason, a successor may at any time be appointed by the President.

Article 35

(a) The Publications Board shall regulate and control all IFAC publications in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Council and will authorize expenditure on publications within strict budgetary limits approved by the Council.

(b) In addition, the Publications Board will advise the Council on all matters regarding publications.

(c) It shall from time to time review all procedures with regard to IFAC publications in the light of the aims and objectives of IFAC and shall report to the Council each year.

(d) All matters requiring a vote in meetings of the Publications Board shall be decided on a simple majority of the votes cast. The Chair will not vote except in the case of a tie when he/she will have a casting vote.

Article 36

The Executive Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Officers after nomination by the Council, with the exception of all ex-officio members and any Council member selected by the Council to serve on such Committees. Their term of office is from the conclusion of one Triennial Congress to the conclusion of the next. All provisions concerning the Executive Committees are set forth in the By-Laws.

Article 37

(a) Technical Committees as are deemed necessary and desirable are formed by the Technical Board within guidelines set by the Council. The continuation and termination of the Technical Committees is also decided by the Technical Board.

(b) The Technical Board together with the Conference Board will establish Coordinating Committees, each of which will consist of one Technical Board member as Chair, one Conference Board member as Vice-Chair and two or more Technical Committee chairs. Each Coordinating Committee will provide oversight and coordination among its Technical Committees and will meet periodically, and report annually to the Technical Board.

(c) Subject to the general direction of the Technical Board and the Conference Board, the Technical Committees shall organize the technical activities of the Federation. They shall provide a framework for the cooperation of the workers on a worldwide basis in their particular field of automatic control.

(d) The Technical Committees shall take active steps to promote the participation of industry and commerce in the activities of the Federation and to foster collaboration between those working on theoretical aspects of control and those engaged in its application.

(e) The Technical Committees shall plan and supervise the conferences, symposia and workshops in the particular fields assigned to them by the Technical Board and shall be responsible for the technical content and level of such meetings.

(f) The Technical Board will establish the IFAC Industry Committee, to be chaired by the Technical Board Vice-Chair for Industry Activities. The objectives of the Industry Committee will include increasing industry participation in and impact from IFAC activities.

Article 38

(a) The members of each Technical Committee shall be selected by the Committee Chair with the concurrence of the Vice-Chairs. Each NMO may recommend members to each Technical Committee.

(b) Members of Technical Committees shall be appointed in the first instance to serve until the conclusion of the next Triennial Congress. Thereafter they may be reappointed by the respective Committee Chair, who shall also notify the concerned NMOs, to serve for another three year term each time. While there is no limitation as to the number of such terms, it is desirable to have some rotation in the membership of Technical Committees.

(c) The Chair of any Committee, with the concurrence of the Vice-Chairs may invite other experts to offer temporary, voluntary, unpaid services.

SECTION 8 - FINANCE**Article 39**

Membership fees, royalties and unconditional donations shall constitute the sources of revenue for IFAC.

Article 40

(a) Member organizations shall be required to pay an annual membership fee which will become due on January 2nd in each year. New member organizations joining IFAC after July 1st in any year shall be required to pay only half the annual fee for that year.

(b) The membership rates shall be as determined by the General Assembly.

Article 41

IFAC may collect royalties from the sales of its journals, of the publications arising from its congresses, conferences, symposia, and workshops and of other technical publications.

Article 42

The revenue of IFAC shall be used for administrative and other expenses as directed by the Council, which will be held responsible to the General Assembly for the use of such revenues.

Article 43

(a) An IFAC sponsored technical meeting will normally be held in a country which has a National Organization in membership of IFAC. The NMO of the host country will take financial and administrative responsibility for the organization and conduct of the meeting.

(b) Exceptionally the Council may approve the holding of an IFAC meeting in a country not in membership of IFAC provided that a national body in that country has undertaken to be responsible for its conduct both financially and administratively.

Article 44

IFAC shall not be held responsible for expenses incurred by representatives of member organizations or IFAC office-bearers in attending meetings.

SECTION 9 - FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 45

(a) A proposed amendment to the Constitution must have the support of at least one-third of the National Member Organizations of IFAC or of at least five elected members of the Council before it can be brought to a vote in the General Assembly.

(b) Adoption of an amendment to the Constitution shall require a two-thirds majority of the total membership of IFAC.

(c) Amendments to the Constitution may be voted on by means of a postal ballot.

Article 46

(a) The General Assembly may, subject to the general provisions of the present Constitution, adopt any By-Law that it deems necessary for achieving the aims of IFAC or for regulating the objects and activities of the various boards and committees.

(b) Such By-Laws shall be established or amended on a simple majority of votes cast by the General Assembly either by direct ballot or postal ballot, provided that at least half of the member organizations have voted. In the case of a tie, the President will have a casting vote.

Article 47

(a) The procedure for the dissolution of IFAC is the same as for amendments to the Constitution (Article 45).

(b) In the event of the dissolution of IFAC the Council shall determine the manner of disposal of the funds and properties for the benefit of one or more non-profitmaking organizations, the aims of which are as similar to the aims of IFAC as possible.

BY-LAWS

GENERAL PROVISIONS

No. 1

These By-Laws are drafted in accordance with Article 46 of the Constitution.

No. 2

The seat of IFAC is in Zurich, Switzerland.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

No. 3

(a) The date of a session of the General Assembly and the agenda therefore shall be fixed by the Council taking into account the suggestions of Member Organizations.

(b) Notice of a session of the General Assembly shall be sent to member organizations by the IFAC Secretary not less than six months prior to the date fixed, accompanied by a provisional agenda.

(c) Comments on the agenda shall be returned to the IFAC Secretary not less than four months before the date of the session.

(d) The final agenda shall be sent to Member Organizations not less than two months prior to the date of the session.

No. 4

Matters not appearing on the agenda of a session of the General Assembly will be considered only if prior approval is given by not less than half of the Member Organizations represented at the General Assembly.

No. 5

(a) All requests for calling an extraordinary session of the General Assembly by member organizations shall be sent to the IFAC Secretary accompanied by a statement of the matter or matters which they desire to be discussed in accordance with the provisions of Article 9(c) of the Constitution.

(b) The date of an extraordinary session of the General Assembly shall be fixed so that the session may take place within one year from receipt of the request by the IFAC Secretary.

COUNCIL

No. 6

(a) The Council shall reach decisions either at a meeting or by post.

(b) Whenever possible, the Council should reach its decision by consensus. If a vote is necessary, decision shall be made on the basis of a majority of the votes cast.

(c) For a meeting of the Council, a member may appoint as his/her proxy another member of the Council. Notice of his/her proxy shall be sent to the President or the IFAC Secretary prior to the meeting.

(d) Bearers of IFAC offices shall be entitled to attend as guests any meeting of the Council provided it is not convened as a closed meeting. Such guests shall normally not participate in the deliberations of the meeting unless invited to do so by the Chair of the meeting.

No. 7

The Council shall submit to the General Assembly

- 1) A slate of candidates for election to the Council for the ensuing 3 years, including both the Executive Officers and the Ordinary Members and prepared according to By-Law 8, as well as a slate of candidates for appointment by the General Assembly including the Vice-Chairs and Ordinary Members of the Technical, Conference and Publications Board.
- 2) The report of the Council for the preceding 3 years.
- 3) The report of the Vice-President for Finances and statement of accounts of IFAC.
- 4) Proposals for the admission of new National Member Organizations.
- 5) Proposed modifications to the Constitution or By-Laws of IFAC.
- 6) Proposed date and place of the next session of the General Assembly.

No. 8

In the case of elections to the Council carried out during a session of the General Assembly, in accordance with Article 25 of the Constitution, the procedure shall be as follows:

- 1) A preliminary list of candidates for election shall be prepared by an Election Committee consisting of three members from different countries appointed by the IFAC President, who also selects the Chair of the Election Committee.
- 2) This preliminary list of candidates, after approval by the Council, shall be sent by the IFAC Secretary to all Member Organizations at least four months before the date fixed for the elections, inviting them to make additional nominations within one month and seeking from relevant NMOs their agreement to the nomination of those people for whom their approval is required in accordance with Article 25 of the Constitution.
- 3) The final list of candidates, including the nominations from Member Organizations shall be sent to all Member Organizations at least two months before the date of elections.
- 4) The Election Committee shall supervise the operations of voting and count the ballots.
- 5) The Chair or a member of the Election Committee shall report the results of voting to the General Assembly.

No. 9

In the case of elections to the Council carried out by postal ballot in accordance with Articles 14 and 25 of the Constitution, the procedure shall be as follows:

- 1) The Council shall submit its nominations to the Member Organizations and shall invite further nominations not later than four months before the date fixed for the elections.
- 2) The final slate of candidates, including any nominations which may have been made by Member Organizations, shall be sent out to the NMOs not later than two months before the date of the elections.
- 3) Only ballot papers received by the day fixed for the elections will be valid.
- 4) The IFAC Secretary shall be responsible for the postal ballot and shall report the results thereof.

No. 10

(a) With the exception of the IFAC Secretary, the Election Committee will prepare the slate of candidates to those offices that are appointed by General Assembly after nomination by Council, according to Article 30(b), 32(b) and 34(b) of the Constitution. These are the Vice-Chairs of the Publications, Conference and Technical Board and their respective Ordinary Members.

(b) The Executive Officers will suggest a candidate for the office of the IFAC Secretary.

(c) Before preparing the slate of candidates, the Election Committee shall seek recommendations from the concerned Committee or Board, preferably with alternatives, for each of the offices listed under (a).

(d) A candidate to any of the offices listed under (a) and the IFAC Secretary may only be nominated with the consent of the Member Organization of his/her own country.

(e) The slate of candidates listed under (a) and the IFAC Secretary will be nominated by the outgoing Council before its retirement.

(f) Appointments will be made by the General Assembly.

No. 11

In accordance with Article 30(c) of the Constitution, the Chairs of the Technical Committees will be appointed by the incoming Technical Board after nomination by the outgoing Council. A slate of candidates to these offices shall be prepared by the Election Committee in consultation with the outgoing Technical Board.

No. 12

In accordance with Article 36 of the Constitution, the Executive Committees, with the exception of ex-officio members and any member of the Council selected to serve on such Committees, will be appointed by the incoming Executive Officers after nomination by the outgoing Council. A slate of candidates to these offices shall be prepared by the Election Committee in consultation with the Executive Officers.

No. 13

The Vice-President for Finances will manage the finances of the Federation as directed by the Executive Officers after approval by the Council. In particular, he/she will

- 1) collect membership fees and other revenues;
- 2) pay the expenses of the Federation;
- 3) manage IFAC funds;
- 4) prepare an annual financial report;
- 5) prepare an annual budget.

No. 14

In accordance with Article 20 of the Constitution, the IFAC Secretary

- 1) acts as Secretary of the General Assembly as well as of the Council;
- 2) is charged with the implementation of the resolutions approved by the General Assembly or the Council and will act on all matters in accord with these decisions; in cases where clarification is required, he/she shall obtain and follow the opinion of the President;
- 3) shall, taking into account the suggestions of the President and the other members of the Council, prepare the agenda of each meeting of the Council and post it at least two months before the date of the meeting;

- 4) conducts the current business of IFAC, runs the secretarial office, deals with correspondence and maintains the records of the Federation;
- 5) attends meetings of the Technical Board and, in accordance with its decisions, monitors all IFAC conferences, symposia and workshops and disseminates information on such meetings.

No. 15

All documents committing IFAC in any way must be signed by two members of the Council, one of whom should be the President and, if financial matters are involved, the other must be the Vice-President for Finances.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

No. 16

The Executive Committees of IFAC are:

- The Awards Committee
- The Membership Committee
- The Activity Fund Committee
- The Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee
- The Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- The Education Activities Committee

No. 17

(a) The Awards Committee shall comprise a Chair and the Chairs of the Selection and Search Committees of the various awards as members.

(b) The Membership Committee shall comprise a Chair, who shall be the Immediate Past President, a Vice-Chair, which shall be a Council Member, and a number of ordinary members. The number of ordinary members shall not exceed 1/10th of the number of National Member Organizations and not be less than two.

(c) The Activity Fund Committee shall comprise a Chair, the Vice-President for Technical Activities and three additional ordinary members.

(d) The Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee shall comprise a Chair, the Vice-President for Conferences and three additional ordinary members.

(e) The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall comprise a Chair, one member of the Executive Officers and at least three additional ordinary members.

(f) The Education Activities Committee shall comprise no more than seven members, including a Chair who is the TB Vice-Chair Education, one member of the Executive Officers, and members who are Chairs of Sub-Committees or Task Forces that report to the Education Activities Committee, and possible other members.

No. 18

(a) The Awards Committee shall regulate and control all award-related activities. It shall report to the IFAC President, who will present the Awards Committee's work to the Council each year.

(b) The Membership Committee shall normally take care of the relationship to NMOs and consider all applications for IFAC membership and make recommendations to the Council. It shall also advise the Executive Officers and Council on matters concerning IFAC affiliate members.

(c) The Activity Fund Committee shall normally take care of the IFAC Activity Fund, the call of proposals, their evaluation and selection. It shall report to the Executive Officers for final approval.

(d) The Distinguished Lecturer Program Committee shall normally take care of the Pawel J. Nowacki Distinguished Lecturer Program. Its tasks include the lecturer selection, the evaluation and the handling of the financial support of a lecture. It shall report to the Executive Officers.

(e) The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall raise awareness for diversity, it shall monitor different aspects of diversity within IFAC and consult the Executive Officers and Council on all matters related to Diversity and Inclusion.

(f) The Education Activities Committee shall facilitate educational and outreach activities at IFAC Conferences, across the IFAC Technical Committees, and other IFAC activities.

FINANCE

No. 19

The financial year shall be the calendar year.

No. 20

Donations, legacies and grants can be accepted by authority of the Council.

No. 21

(a) The ordinary membership category consists of five designated sub-categories, each Member Organization having a free choice of the subcategory in which it wishes to pay. Each Member Organization in the ordinary membership category shall communicate to the Vice-President for Finances by October 1st of each year if it wishes to change its sub-category of membership for the ensuing year.

(b) Eligibility for membership in the reduced-fee category will be determined using data provided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). If the country of the Member Organization in the reduced-fee membership category no longer satisfies the two criteria for this category according to Article 5 of the Constitution for two consecutive years (evaluated on June 1st of each year), the Member Organization must move to the ordinary membership category within a transitional period of less than 2 years. Member Organizations in the reduced-fee membership category are not eligible to bid for an IFAC World Congress or an IFAC Symposium.

(c) Member Organizations in the introductory category can only propose Technical Committee members, but cannot propose nominations for other IFAC positions. Furthermore, Member Organizations in the introductory category can attend the IFAC General Assembly as observers, but are not eligible to vote. After organizing an IFAC event, Member Organizations in the introductory category can remain within this category for one more year. Afterwards, it will have to move to the ordinary or to the reduced-fee membership category. Member Organizations in the introductory membership category are not eligible to bid for an IFAC World Congress or an IFAC Symposium. For countries that are represented by an NMO in the introductory membership category, IFAC can approve membership application requests for new NMOs from the same country. If a new NMO is approved for such a country, then the membership of the previous NMO in the introductory membership category is terminated.

(d) The rates for each category of membership shall be fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Council as may from time to time be necessary.

AFFILIATES

No. 22

IFAC establishes an Affiliates program. Any scientist, engineer or student interested in Automatic Control is welcome to become an IFAC Affiliate. Affiliation is free. People involved in the IFAC activities and structure are expected to register to the Affiliates program.

No. 23

Affiliates active in Technical Activities may become Technical Committee Members as defined in Article 38 of the IFAC Constitution.

No. 24

Technical Committee Members may be appointed as a Technical Committee Senior Member after nomination by the Technical Committee Chair and decision by the Coordinating Committee Chair. The maximum ratio of Senior Members among all Members can be determined by decision of the Council.

For copies of this brochure as well as for other information concerning IFAC, please refer to the IFAC Secretariat at: secretariat@ifac-control.org

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