

STATUTES

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BIOMETEOROLOGY

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STATUTES

Adopted 29 August, 1956. Amended 27 September 1957; 10 September 1960; 7 September 1963; 6 September 1969; 12 November 1973; 1 January 1983; 1 April 1996; 4 April 2003; 29 August 2014.

ARTICLE I: Name and Office

Section 1: The name of the Society is “International Society of Biometeorology.” It was founded on 1 January 1956.

Section 2: The central office of the Society will be located at the permanent residence of the Secretary of the Society.

ARTICLE II: Purpose

Section 1: The purpose of the Society is to provide one international organization for the promotion of interdisciplinary collaboration of scientists concerned with the direct or indirect interaction between the atmosphere and all living organisms, and the development of the field of meteorology in relation to humans, other animals, and plants.

Section 2: The Society shall endeavor to achieve this purpose by:

- (a) Organizing international symposia and congresses in the field of biometeorology;
- (b) Facilitating the interchange of biometeorological information;
- (c) Supporting the International Journal of Biometeorology;
- (d) Promoting commissions and study groups in the various fields of biometeorology;
- (e) Obtaining funds to assist research in biometeorology;
- (f) Fostering the development of national and local groups of biometeorology and related sciences and their international cooperation;
- (g) Assisting in selecting and granting awards for outstanding work in the field of biometeorology.
- (h) Providing support for members to attend relevant scientific meetings which will benefit the goals and objectives of the Society.

Section 3: Non-Profit Clause. The assets and income of the Society shall be applied solely in furtherance of its above-mentioned objectives (Section 2) and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Society except as bona fide compensation for services rendered, expenses incurred on behalf of the Society, or as approved travel and conference grants.

Section 4: Dissolution Clause. In the event of the Society being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organization of similar purpose which is not carried on for profit or gain of its individual members.

ARTICLE III: Membership

Section 1: Membership in the Society shall be open to persons in the following classifications with respective qualifications, namely:

- (a) *Regular Membership:* An individual shall be admitted to regular membership upon meeting all of the following conditions:
 - 1. Signing a declaration to uphold the scientific stature of the Society as indicated in its definition of the subjects;
 - 2. Satisfying the Membership Committee that he/she subscribes to the sciences of biometeorology;
 - 3. Payment of the dues for the current year.

- (b) *Retired Membership:* An individual shall be admitted to retired membership upon meeting all of the following conditions:
 - 1. Signing a declaration to uphold the scientific stature of the Society as indicated in its definition of the subjects;
 - 2. Satisfying the Membership Committee that he/she subscribes to the sciences of biometeorology;
 - 3. Payment of the retired member dues for the current year.

- (c) *Low and Middle Income (formerly known as Soft Currency and Less Developed) Country Membership:* An individual shall be admitted to low and middle income country membership upon meeting all of the following conditions:
 - 1. Signing a declaration to uphold the scientific stature of the Society as indicated in its definition of the subjects;
 - 2. Satisfying the Membership Committee that he/she subscribes to the sciences of biometeorology;

3. Satisfying the Membership Committee that he/she resides in a low and middle income country as defined by the World Bank;
 4. Payment of the low and middle income country member dues for the current year.
- (d) *Affiliate Membership:* An organization or society shall be admitted to affiliate membership upon meeting all of the following conditions:
1. Signing of a declaration by a responsible officer of the organization or society that it will uphold the scientific stature of the Society as indicated in the Society's definition of the subjects;
 2. Satisfying the Membership Committee that it (the organization or society) subscribes to the sciences of biometeorology;
 3. Payment of the affiliate member dues for the current year.
- (e) *Student Membership:* An individual shall be admitted to associate membership upon meeting all of the following conditions:
1. Signing a declaration to uphold the scientific stature of the Society as indicated in its definition of the subjects;
 2. Satisfying the Membership Committee that he/she is engaged in full-time studies leading to a degree in a field directly related to biometeorology;
 3. Payment of the student member's dues for the current year.
- (f) *Honorary Membership:* An individual shall be admitted to honorary membership in the Society upon the satisfaction of all the following conditions:
1. Satisfaction of the Membership Committee that he/she has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of biometeorology;
 2. Approval by the President of the Society;
 3. Approval by the Society as prescribed in Article IX, Section 3, exception (b).
- (g) *Life Membership:* An individual may pay the equivalent of 15 years dues into an endowment in order to gain regular membership for life.

Retired, low and middle income country, and student members may elect to pay reduced dues and receive only the Biometeorology Bulletin.

Section 2: Only regular, retired, low and middle income country, life (paying full dues for that category) and honorary members in “good standing” shall be entitled to hold office on the Executive Board.

Section 3: Member in “good standing” shall mean member who has duly paid his/her dues in full and who has never done any harm to the scientific standing of the Society.

Section 4: A member may have his/her membership withdrawn for activities contrary to the best interests of the Society if (i) at least five members submit a request in writing to the Executive Board, and (ii) two-thirds of the members of the Executive Board approve of the request, and (iii) the proposal is supported by the Society as prescribed in Article IX, Section 3, exception (c). Notice of such withdrawal will be circulated to members.

ARTICLE IV: Dues

Section 1: Dues for the different classes shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Executive Board and approved by the Society as prescribed by Article X.

Section 2: The fiscal period of the Society shall be the calendar year commencing January 1st and ending December 31st.

Section 3: Dues shall be due and payable on the first of the month of January in each year and shall be paid to an account of the Society in a country determined by the Treasurer. In the event of non-payment of dues on or before the last day of April, the delinquent member shall be deemed not in good standing and shall not be entitled to vote, either in person or by proxy or by letter ballot or by electronic means, in matters pertaining to the affairs of the Society. In the event that dues in full are not paid by the last day of the fiscal year of the Society, then upon due notice having been given by prepaid mail to his/her last known address, the delinquent member shall be struck off the rolls of the Society forthwith. Application for reinstatement to membership together with payment in full of all unpaid dues may be accepted if received within eleven months following the date the member is struck off the rolls; otherwise formal re-application will be necessary, together with payment of all unpaid dues accumulated prior to being struck off the rolls.

Section 4: Any member may withdraw from the Society by delivering to the Secretary of the Society a written resignation one month before the last day of the fiscal year but without any refund of dues.

ARTICLE V: Executive Board

Section 1: The Executive Board shall consist of nine to twelve elected individuals being the President, the President Elect, the Secretary, the Treasurer, two Vice-Presidents, and three to six Councilors (with no more than one Councilor from each of the following regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Oceania, and Northern America)*, plus the Immediate Past President and the Editor-in-Chief. * As defined by the United Nations Statistics Division's "Composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings" (<http://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/methods/m49/m49regin.htm>) at the close of nominations for each forthcoming Executive Board election.

Section 2: Nominations for the Executive Board can be made by (a) The Standing Committee on Nominations, or (b) any ten Members of good standing. All nominations are to be submitted to the Secretary General a calendar year ahead of the Congress, including agreement of acceptance of nomination and a brief curriculum vitae of the candidate. The list of candidates and the curricula will be submitted to the Society for election in accordance with the provisions of Article IX. Persons elected shall hold office for three years and be eligible for re-election.

Section 3: The Executive Board is empowered to carry out the executive tasks of the Society and shall represent the Society in all legal and scientific matters; it shall have power to authorize expenditures on behalf of the Society.

Section 4: The Secretary shall operate and maintain the Secretariat, and carry out all correspondence as required by the Executive Board, including that necessary for the fulfillment of responsibilities by the Standing Committees. He/she shall preserve a record of all transactions in the Executive Board and of all correspondence and documents pertaining to the Society. He/she shall also have custody of the archives of the Society. He/she shall receive and be accountable for funds of the Society necessary to operate the Secretariat and to provide the editorial and publication services required by the Society.

Section 5: The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and securities of the Society and shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Society and shall deposit all moneys and other valuable effects in the name to the credit of the Society and in such depositories as may be designated by the members of the Executive Board.

He/she shall disburse the funds of the Society as may be ordered by the Board taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to other members of the Board at meetings of the Board, or whenever they may require it, an account of all his/her transactions as Treasurer and of the financial position of the Society. The Board is to give authorization for any financial risk.

Section 6: The Secretary is permitted to engage, after approval by other members of the Executive Board, an Executive Assistant Secretary or other administrative assistance required for the efficient operation of the Secretariat.

Section 7: Temporary vacancies in the Executive Board may be filled by persons selected by the remaining members of the Board. Permanent vacancies shall be filled by the Society as prescribed by Article IX.

Section 8: The President is responsible for the general achievement of the general aims of the Society, and for the implementation of the policies determined at the Congress Meeting of the Society and at Executive Board Meetings in accordance with Statutes Article II.

Section 9: The President in consultation with the Executive Board formally appoints ISB Representatives to special agencies of the United Nations, other relevant International Council for Science (ICSU) organizations, and national biometeorological societies.

ISB Representatives will be ISB Members in good standing, and become directly responsible to the President. All ISB representatives are expected to be proactive in their liaisonary capacities, and report annually to the Executive.

Section 10: The position of the Editor-in-Chief is filled for an indeterminate period by executive decision.

Section 11: Decisions within the Executive Board Meetings and by the Executive Board will be made by democratic voting procedures. Executives may request closed voting.

ARTICLE VI: Commissions, Study Groups and Special Interests

Section 1: Commissions and Study Groups may be established on the initiative of the Executive Board to work on important specified scientific and technical problems. Members will work by correspondence between Regular Meetings of the Society, meet in discussion at Regular Meetings and furnish a report to the Executive Board at those meetings.

Section 2: Commissions and Study Groups may be established by the Executive Board to serve special interests of members of the Society in response to a request by five or more members in good standing.

Section 3: A Commission or Study Group may be disbanded at the discretion of the Executive Board when the need ceases to exist.

Section 4: Chairpersons of the Commissions and Study Groups initiated by the Executive Board shall be appointed by the Executive Board and hold office for the duration of the Board.

Section 5: A Commission or Study Group serving special interests of any group of members shall retain its official status in the Society for a three-year term renewable at the conclusion of the regular business meeting of the Society with the filing of a record of its officers and participants with the Secretary of the Society.

ARTICLE VII: Committees

Section 1: There shall be the following Standing Committees: Membership, Commissions and Study Groups, Conferences, Nomination, Elections, Finance, and Publications, and such others as may be found necessary by the Executive Board.

Section 2: The Chairs and co-Chairs of the Standing Committees will be as follows:

Membership:	Treasurer, President Elect
Commissions and Study Groups:	1 st Vice-President, Councilor
Conferences:	Pres. Elect, 1 st Vice-President
Nomination:	Past President, Member at large
Election:	Past Pres., Secretary General
Finance:	Treasurer, President Elect
Publication:	2 nd Vice-Pres., Editor-in-Chief

Each Chairperson will submit nominations for the membership of his/her Standing Committee to the President for approval by the Executive Board within six months of the Congress. The President is *ex officio* member of all Standing Committees.

Section 3: The Chairperson of each Standing Committee will report on the activities and accomplishments of his/her committee at each Regular Meeting of the Society or whenever the Executive Board may so require. Such reports will be circulated to members of the Society.

Section 4: The duties of the Standing Committees shall be as follows:

Membership: examine applications for conformity with Article III, and actively foster increases in applications.

Commissions and Study Groups: maintain liaison with Commission and Study Group Chairpersons, and actively foster group sessions at the Congress in accordance with Article VI.

Conferences: plan and promote conferences and workshops, and assist local organizers in mounting of the General Congress according to Article VIII.

Nomination: search for persons amongst members qualified to fulfill the offices of the Society, submit to the Board names of at least two candidates for each position together with their *curriculum vitae* at least one year ahead of the Congress according to Article IX.

Elections: conduct elections according to Article IX.

Finance: collect dues according to Article IV, and ensure that adequate funding is available for envisaged ISB activities as determined by annual budgets prepared by Treasurer in response to the Board's instructions.

Publication: foster research and publish The International Journal of Biometeorology, Biometeorology Bulletin and other materials as determined by the Board, in accordance with Article II.

ARTICLE VIII: Meetings

Section 1: Meetings of the Society shall be held at times and places as determined by the Executive Board.

Section 2: There shall be a general Congress at least once every three years. Signed proposals and invitations for future congresses are to be submitted to the Board at least three months prior to a Congress.

Section 3: At each Congress there shall be a Regular Meeting with business session at which the President shall preside. The Agenda of the Regular Meeting shall be prepared by the Executive Board and circulated to the members of the Society at least one month prior to the date of the Congress. All substantive matters for the Agenda must be submitted in writing to the Executive at least three months prior to the date of the Congress.

Section 4: Members present at a Regular Meeting may decide on matters touching that meeting, but resolutions concerning the affairs of the Society generally shall not be binding until submitted to the members for vote in accordance with Article IX.

Section 5: A Special General Meeting of the Society may be proposed on the initiative of the Executive Board, or on written request by fifteen members. The proposal will be submitted to vote by the members in accordance with Article IX and action taken accordingly. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary elsewhere in these Statutes, the Special General Meeting shall have such powers as are prescribed in the proposal.

Section 6: At the discretion of the Executive Board or on motion approved by a majority of regular members in good standing and present, any regular or special business meeting of the Society may be closed to all but members in good standing.

Section 7: The Special Agencies of the United Nations whose interests and objectives overlap the purposes and aims of this Society, shall be invited to send observers to the Regular Meetings of the Society.

Section 8: In each inter-Congress year, the President will report on ISB activities and promote discussion of ISB problems at Executive Board Meetings by electronic conference methods and/or by circulars to the Executive Board.

Section 9: The minutes of each Executive Board Meeting will be published in the Biometeorology Bulletin and on the ISB electronic bulletin board within two months of each Meeting.

ARTICLE IX: Voting

Section 1: In all Society matters only regular, retired, low and middle income country, student, life (paying full dues for that category) and honorary members in good standing shall each have the right to exercise one vote.

Section 2: Voting by the Society shall be conducted by web ballot, with sufficient time allowed for reply. The deadline for receipt of votes shall be clearly indicated when the election is announced.

Section 3: Voting by the Society or any of its constituent Boards, Committees or Councils shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes received except: (a) for amendment of Statutes; (b) election to Honorary Membership; (c) suspension of membership, or (d) any matter declared by the Executive Board to be of sufficient importance, when two-third majority of the votes received will be required.

ARTICLE X: By-Laws

Section 1: The Executive Board shall establish such by-laws, not in conflict with the Statutes, as may be necessary and proper for the government of the Society and may amend them from time to time as therein provided.

ARTICLE XI: Affiliation

Section 1: To foster the development of biometeorology as described in Article II (f), national or local groups may petition the Society for affiliation.

Section 2: Affiliation shall entitle the group to indicate such in its official documents, but shall not entitle it to a vote or special representation in the affairs of the Society.

Section 3: A majority of the officers of the group should be members in good standing of the Society.

Section 4: The petition should be accompanied by a copy of the constitution or statutes of the group, and indicate the desired designation as “national society” or “local society”.

Section 5: The petition will be granted if: (a) approved by the Executive Board, and (b) subsequently by the Society in accordance with Article IX.

Section 6: The Society may seek affiliation with international organizations if this is in the interest of the purpose of the Society as stated in Article II, Section 1.

ARTICLE XII: Amendments

Section 1: These Statutes may be amended by a vote of not less than two-thirds of the members in good standing voting. The Secretary shall email a copy of the amendment proposed by the Executive Board to each member entitled to vote, at least three months before the time set by the Board for the voting to close.