

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION
OF
INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY ALLIANCE

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Article 1 Name

1. International Disability Alliance (the "Association") is a non-profit association governed by the present articles of association and, secondarily, by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss civil Code ("CC").
2. The Association is a network of organizations of persons with disabilities and works on issues which are common to all its member organizations and with full respect for the distinct and relevant role of each of its member organizations.
3. The Association is neutral politically, and non-denominational.

Article 2 Seat and duration

1. The Association's seat is located in the Canton of Geneva.
2. The Association shall be of unlimited duration.

II. PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

Article 3 Purpose and principles

1. The purpose of the Association shall be the advancing of the human rights of persons with disabilities as a united voice of organizations of persons with disabilities. The Association shall in particular focus its advocacy on the utilisation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ("CRPD") and ensure that the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations, and other human rights and development instruments are in line with the CRPD.
2. The Association, with its unique composition as a network of the foremost international and regional organizations of persons with disabilities, is the most authoritative representation of persons with disabilities at global level.
3. The Association aims to represent the whole global disability movement by encouraging organizations of persons with disabilities at national level to become members of the Associations' full global and regional members and by inviting national representative umbrella organizations of persons with disabilities who share the purposes and principles of the Association to become national associate members of the Association.
4. The vision of the Association is to achieve a society which values diversity, respects equality and realises the full potential of persons with disabilities in order to build a better world for all.

5. The Association is based on the following principles:

- a) to acknowledge, recognize and use the expertise of its Member organizations on issues affecting their own constituency;
- b) to promote the capacity of its member organizations in the interest of their disability constituencies and in the interest of the entire disability rights movement;
- c) to follow democratic governance ensuring transparency, accountability and full consultation with its member organizations;
- d) to promote solidarity among and equal treatment of all disability constituencies in all regions of the world;
- e) to fully respect in all of its work non-discrimination on any grounds including disability, race, gender, religion, age, language, ethnic origin, and sexual orientation; and,
- f) to ensure the leadership of persons with disabilities or in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities the leadership of persons with intellectual disabilities and their family members through their representative organizations in all decisions affecting their lives.

III. RESOURCES

Article 4 Resources

The Association's resources come from:

- a) donations;
- b) legacies;
- c) private and public subsidies;
- d) membership fees; and
- e) any other resources authorized by the law.

Article 5 Use of funds

1. The funds shall be used in conformity with the Association's purpose.
2. The liability of the Association is limited to the assets of the Association. Any personal liability of the member organizations for the liabilities of the Association is excluded. For the individuals acting for the Association, Art. 55 para. 3 CC applies in case of wrongful behaviour.
3. Any claim of a member organization to the assets of the Association is excluded.

IV. MEMBERSHIP

Article 6 Membership

1. Founding members are the member organizations that established the Association (the "Founding Members"). The Founding Members will be duly registered as such and their contribution to the establishment of the Association will be acknowledged in the different Association documents.
2. Member organizations across all types of membership shall be organizations of persons with disabilities and, in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities, organizations as defined under

Article 6.3.1.b whose mission and objectives are in line with the mission and principles of the Association.

3. The Association comprises the following types of membership: (I) Full Members with voting rights and (II) Observer Members; (III) Associate Members and (IV) Emeritus Members without voting rights as described below.

- I. **"Full Members"** are global or regional organizations. Their representatives in the Association's Board have the right and responsibility to vote and to be elected by Board members to serve as Executive Committee Members, or to become members on other Committees.

Global organization:

- a. Global organization shall be a legally established organization that has a global mandate and comprises member organizations from at least forty (40) individual countries, with members in at least three (3) continents or from at least thirty (30) individual countries with members in five (5) continents. A legally established organization with a global mandate might be accepted by unanimous decision of the existing members of the Board as a Full Member of the Association even if it has member organizations in less than forty (40) individual countries, but in more than twenty-five (25) individual countries, in three (3) continents, if it can prove that it is the only existing global organization representing a particular group of persons with disabilities. Founding Members that do not meet these requirements are exempted from the aforementioned criteria but will endeavour to meet such requirements.
- b. The majority of its member organizations shall be organizations composed and governed by persons with disabilities or, in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities, composed and governed by persons with intellectual disabilities and family members.
- c. It shall have a majority of persons with disabilities in the governing bodies of the organization, or in the case of persons with an intellectual disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities and family members are in the majority of the governing bodies of the organization.
- d. Its leadership shall be elected democratically by its members.

Regional organization:

- a. Regional organization shall be a legally established regional organization with national members in at least half of the countries of the region and open to the membership of all constituencies of persons with disabilities.
- b. It is left to the discretion of the Board to define and recommend a region to the General Assembly. If not otherwise decided by the General Assembly, the regions are defined as follows :
 - Africa
 - Asia
 - The Arab countries
 - Europe
 - North America
 - Latin America and Caribbean

- Pacific.
- c. The Board may recommend to the General Assembly a change in the number of regions or in the geographical boundaries of the region. The General Assembly may approve or reject such recommendation by simple majority vote. If the recommendation is accepted the recommended change shall take effect at the end of the General Assembly. In the event of a recommendation made to the General Assembly it shall be accompanied, if appropriate, by a recommendation for a change of name, which recommendation shall be dealt with by the General Assembly. The number and the composition of the regions shall be kept constantly under review by the Board.
- d. Regional organizations serve as bridges between their members and the Association and promote the work of the Association at regional level. Regional members shall have constitutions consistent with the Association's articles of association and with the policies adopted under them. They shall have autonomy at regional level and on regional issues.
- e. The majority of its member organizations shall be organizations composed and governed by persons with disabilities or, in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities, composed and governed by persons with intellectual disabilities and family members.
- f. It shall have a majority of persons with disabilities in the governing bodies of the organization, or in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities, persons with intellectual disabilities and family members are in the majority of the governing bodies of the organization.
- g. Its leadership shall be elected democratically by members.
- h. A regional organization that is member of a global organization which is admitted as Full Member of the Association cannot become itself a Full Member of the Association.
- II. **"Observer Members"** are global or regional organizations without voting rights and without the right and responsibility that its representatives in the Association's Board serve in any committee of the Association.
 - a. A global or regional organization applying for full membership in the Association who meets some, but not all of the membership criteria mentioned under Article 6.3.I, may be admitted as Observer Member upon unanimous approval by Board members present with the condition that the new organization works towards meeting the Association's articles of association and internal rules in a specified and agreed period of time by the Board.
 - b. An Observer Member may be invited, through a decision by simple majority of the Board members present, to attend the General Assembly at its own costs. Unless otherwise decided by the Board with simple majority of the Board Members present, an Observer Member can take part in the Board meetings, but at its own costs.
 - c. The Board will constantly examine whether the Observer Member is on its way to meet the requirements of membership in accordance with Article 6. It is left to the discretion of the Board to terminate or to prolong by unanimous decision of the present Board members the observer status after the period of time agreed with the Observer Member has come to an end.

- III. **"Associate Members"** are national umbrella organisations of persons with disabilities representing the diversity of constituencies of persons with disabilities. They are coalitions of representative organisations of persons with disabilities at national level whose mission and objectives are in line with the purposes and principles of the Association.
- a. They can apply for membership in the Association as an Associate Member without voting rights and their representatives in the Associations' Board do not have the right nor the responsibility to serve in any committee of the Association. They may be admitted as an Associate Member upon approval by simple majority of the Board Members present.
 - b. The umbrella organizations shall only include organizations which are composed and governed by persons with disabilities or, in the case of persons with intellectual disabilities, composed and governed by persons with intellectual disabilities and their family members.
 - c. Associate Members will actively contribute to fulfil the purposes and principles of the Association. They will be connected to the communication channels of the Association and they will be invited to attend events of the Association upon decisions of the Board.
 - d. National umbrella organizations wanting to become Associate Members need the approval of the regional member of the Association from the region of the world in which the national organization is applying for Associate membership. In the event that the Association does not have a regional member which covers the national organization applying for Associate membership, this provision does not apply, and it is left to the recommendation of the Membership Committee, and to the decision of the Board by simple majority of Board members present to accept the national organization as an Associate Member.
 - e. National members of global organizations which are Full Members or Observer Members of the Association cannot be admitted as national Associate Members of the Association.
- IV. **"Emeritus Members"** are individuals that receive this membership type in recognition of their role and performances described below under Article 6.3.IV.a that they have played in the development of the Association and who have contributed significantly to the disability rights movement. They are members without voting rights and without the right and responsibility to be elected to serve on the Executive Committee or other Committees of the Association.
- a. Emeritus Members are individuals who have significantly contributed to the Association, such as former Presidents of the Association, key Board or staff members, and other external individuals that have made a mark to the Association or to the disability rights movement.
 - b. Emeritus Members become members by being invited by the President of the Association, on recommendation by the Membership Committee and by simple majority decision of the Board members present.
4. Requests to become a global or regional member with voting rights must be addressed to the Board. The Board admits new member organizations as Full Members of the Association, after receiving a recommendation from the Membership Committee, by unanimous decision of the Board members present, and informs the General Assembly accordingly.

Article 7 Exclusion and resignation

1. Membership of global and regional organizations ceases for any of the following circumstances:
 - a) by written resignation notified to the Board at least six (6) months before the end of the financial year of the Association.
 - b) by exclusion decided unanimously by the members of the Board present, when a member organization has undertaken unlawful or illegal actions that are likely to threaten or compromise the name, reputation or assets of the Association and following an investigation undertaken by the Membership Committee of the Association, which should present an unanimously agreed proposal to the Board. The member organization will have the right to appeal to the General Assembly. Appeals must be lodged within 30 days from the mailing of notification of the Board's decision to the relevant member organization. If the appeal is lodged, the exclusion will be suspended until the General Assembly takes a final decision.
 - c) for non-payment of dues for more than three years, unless the non-payment is adequately justified.
 - d) By exclusion decided unanimously by the members of the Board present if a member organization does not meet anymore the criteria to be a Full Member as spelled out in Article 6.3.I.
 - e) Board members which represent Member organizations which are subject to the review of the Board for exclusion cannot take part in the concerned Board's decision.
2. In all cases the membership fee for the current year remains due. Organizations whose membership has terminated for any of the above reasons have no rights to any part of the Association's assets, and all membership rights terminate with the membership.

V. ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Article 8 Bodies

The Association's bodies are:

- a) the General Assembly
- b) the Board
- c) the Executive Committee
- d) the Membership Committee
- e) the Scrutiny Committee
- f) the Auditor

A. General Assembly

Article 9 Non-transferable rights

1. The General Assembly is the Association's supreme authority. It is composed of all the Full Member organizations.
2. The General Assembly has the following non-transferable rights:

- a) to acknowledge the contents of the Association's reports and financial statements for the preceding year and to vote on their adoption;
- b) to ratify the Association's annual budget;
- c) to determine the annual membership fees;
- d) to decide on the discharge of the members of the Board;
- e) to supervise the activity of the Association's other bodies, which it may dismiss, stating the grounds therefore;
- f) to approve or reject a recommendation of the Board to change the number of regions or the geographical boundaries of a region;
- g) to deal with appeals related to the exclusion of member organizations or non-admission of new member organizations decided by the Board;
- h) to appoint an Auditor who shall be in charge of the audit of the Association's accounts;
- i) to decide on any modification of the Association's articles of association; and
- j) to approve the dissolution of the Association.

Article 10 Ordinary and extraordinary meetings

1. The General Assembly shall hold an ordinary meeting once a year. It may also meet in extraordinary meeting whenever necessary, by unanimous decision of the existing members of the Board or at the request of half of the Full Member organizations. Both ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly are held as in – person meetings. In exceptional cases as described in detail under Article 12 para. 2, 5 and 7 of these Articles of Association ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the General Assembly can be held electronically or in a hybrid format.
2. The General Assembly is presided over by the President of the Association. In the absence of the President, the General Assembly will be presided by the First Vice-president.

Article 11 Call and notice of the meetings

1. The Board shall send notice of the meeting to the member organizations at least six weeks in advance. The proposed agenda, shall be sent to each Full Member organization at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.
2. The agenda of the ordinary annual meeting of the General Assembly must include:
 - a) approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly;
 - b) annual report on activities of the Association;
 - c) report of the Treasurer and of the Auditor;
 - d) determining membership fees;
 - e) ratification of the budget;
 - f) approval of reports and accounts, and discharge to the members of the Board;
 - g) election of the Auditor;
 - h) other business.

Article 12 Representation and voting rights at meetings

1. Member organizations might send more than one representative to the annual meeting of the General Assembly. However, only one representative will have its costs and expenses reimbursed by the Association. Each member organization will have one vote only. Member organizations can entrust a proxy vote with another member organization. Member organizations can only be entrusted with two proxy votes.
2. The General Assembly is held as an in – person meeting. In exceptional cases, such as a general emergency which prevents some representatives of IDA’s Full Members from travelling, the General Assembly can be held electronically or in a hybrid format, provided that no Full Member organization objects to it prior to any vote, in which case a new meeting must be called in accordance with Article 11 of these Articles of Association. If they take part in a General Assembly held electronically or in a hybrid format, IDA’s Full Member organizations cannot entrust a proxy vote to another IDA Full Member organization as well.
3. Emeritus Members can be invited to the General Assembly meetings.
4. The General Assembly shall be considered valid if three quarters of all the Full Member organizations are present.
5. Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by two-thirds of the Full Member organizations present. In case of deadlock, the President shall have the casting vote. If the General Assembly is held electronically or in a hybrid format, it must be guaranteed that all persons representing IDA’s Full Members can take part in the General Assembly with equal rights and opportunities based on the same reasonable accommodation rules which apply in IDA’s face to face meetings and which are described in detail in IDA’s Internal Rules.
6. Decisions concerning the amendment of the articles of association shall be taken by three-quarters of all member organizations present. Decisions concerning the appeals related to the exclusion of a member organization or non-admission of new member organizations and the dissolution of the Association must be approved by unanimity of all Full Member organizations present.
7. Votes are public. If requested by at least half plus one of the Full Member organizations present, they take place by secret ballot. If the General Assembly is held electronically or in a hybrid format an online system must be installed with options for public and secret ballot voting available.

B. Board

Article 13 Tasks

1. The Board is competent for any acts and decisions that do not fall in the competence of another body of the Association.
2. More particularly, the tasks of the Board are, without limitation:
 - a) to take all measures to reach the purpose of the Association;
 - b) to manage the Association and to administer the assets of the Association;
 - c) to elect the members of the Executive Committee;
 - d) to adopt relevant internal rules, regulations and instructions for a proper operation of the Association;

- e) to convene the meetings of the General Assembly;
- f) to take decisions with regard to the admission of new member organizations, to the resignations of member organizations, and to their possible exclusion; and
- g) to ensure the application of the articles of association, the internal rules and regulations.

Article 14 Board members

1. Each member organization will be represented on the Board by the member organization's president/chair or such president's/chair's nominee.
2. Each Board member shall notify the Board if he/she does not act anymore as president/chair or the president's/chair's nominee of the member organisation he/she represents. In such a case, the Board may decide by simple majority vote of its present members to ask the member organisation whether the mandate of the concerned Board member should be withdrawn. If the member organisation decides that its representative should not hold anymore the position of Board member, the Board is entitled to withdraw by simple majority decision of its present members the mandate of the concerned Board member and to ask the new president / chair or the new president's / chair's nominee of the member organisation to fill the position.
3. Each member organization may appoint deputies to their representative on the Board. Deputies can take part in the Board meetings of the Association as observers at the costs of their membership organization.

Article 15 Meetings

1. The Board meets as often as required. Board meetings can be held either face to face, electronically or in a hybrid format, but at least one annual Board meeting should be held as an in – person meeting unless exceptional circumstances such as a general emergency prevent Board members from travelling. If Board meetings are held electronically or in a hybrid format it must be guaranteed that all Board members can take part with equal rights and opportunities based on the same reasonable accommodation rules which apply in IDA's face to face meetings and which are described in detail in IDA's Internal Rules.
2. A meeting of the Board can be convened by the President upon request of a Board member.
3. Votes at Board meetings can be validly taken if three quarters of its members are present or represented.
4. Board members can entrust a proxy vote only with another individual from the same member organization. In such case, the Board member shall notify to the Board the identity of the proxy prior to the holding of the Board meeting.

Article 16 Decision making

1. The following rules apply to decision making:
 - a) Decisions on strategies and policy matters, including those in relation with the CRPD, the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations and other human rights instruments, shall be made by unanimity of all members of the Board present.
 - b) Decisions on membership applications for Full and Observer Members shall be made by unanimity of all Board members present, and by simple majority for Associate and Emeritus Members, unless the Board has to deal with the exclusion of a member organization pursuant to Article 7.1.b) (exclusion for unlawful or illegal actions) or

pursuant to Article 7.1.c) (exclusion for non-payment). In such a case the member of the Board of the member organization in question cannot take part in this decision.

- c) Decisions on procedural and other issues shall be made by consensus as far as possible by all Board members present and any disagreements, as assessed by the President, shall be resolved by a vote requiring a three quarters majority of the members of the Board present.
2. Elections of IDA's Executive Committee as mentioned and described in Article 13 para. 2 c), Articles 19 – 21, 25 of these Articles of Association should be held by the Board in an in-person Board meeting. In exceptional cases such as a general emergency which prevents Board members from travelling the election of IDA's Executive Committee can be held electronically or in a hybrid format, provided that no IDA Board member objects to hold such electronic or hybrid elections prior to any election having taken place, in which case a new Board meeting must be convened. The procedure to nominate candidates for IDA's Executive Committee and to execute the elections is prepared and managed by IDA's Scrutiny Committee as described in Article 27 based on Internal Rules which ensure that all IDA Board members can take part both in face to face, electronic or hybrid elections with all reasonable accommodations required to vote with equal rights and guarantees.
3. The Executive Director and the Resident Manager have a consultative voice at the Board meetings, but no vote in the Board.

Article 17 Representation

The Association may be validly represented toward third parties:

- a) by the President, the Treasurer or the Executive Director, as defined in the mandates of the President, the Treasurer and the Executive Director;
- b) within the strict framework of daily management in the ordinary course of business, in relation to the tasks described in Article 23 the Association shall be validly represented toward third parties by the Resident Manager.

Article 18 Compensation

The Board members act voluntarily and can be compensated for their travel and subsistence costs and be provided with the reasonable accommodation required to perform their tasks and duties in accordance with Swiss law.

Article 19 President

1. The Board shall elect by simple majority vote of all Board members present a person to act as the President of the Association who does not represent any specific member organization.
2. The President will have the responsibility of :
 - a) leading the Association in developing the political roles and positions of the Association;
 - b) leading the external representation of the Association, in consultation with the Board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director;
 - c) acting as the spokesperson of the Association;
 - d) chairing the Board and General meetings and organizing and chairing the Executive Committee meetings;

- e) overseeing, on behalf of the Executive Committee and the Board, the activities of the Secretariat, and any other mandate given to individuals or groups of individuals on behalf of the Association.
- 3. The President is an ex officio member of all Committees.
- 4. The Vice-Presidents shall perform the duties of the President if the President is absent or unable to act. The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President in the performance of his or her duties.

Article 20 Treasurer

- 1. The Board shall elect by simple majority vote of all Board members present a person to act as the Treasurer of the Association.
- 2. The Treasurer is responsible for overseeing all financial matters and introducing financing matters to the General Assembly, the Board and the Executive Committee.
- 3. The Treasurer shall have the following tasks and powers:
 - a) to supervise the work of the Secretariat regarding financial matters;
 - b) to review the annual budget before it is presented to the Executive Committee, the Board and finally to the General Assembly for approval respectively ratification;
 - c) to present the financial interim reports to the Executive Committee and to the Board;
 - d) to present the final account for adoption to the Executive Committee, the Board and approval to the General Assembly.

Article 21 Secretary-General

- 1. The Board shall elect by a simple majority vote of all Board members present a person to act as the Secretary-General of the Association.
- 2. The Secretary-General is responsible for monitoring that the bodies of the Association act in compliance with the articles of association and the internal rules.
- 3. The tasks and powers of the Secretary-General are, as mandated by the Executive Committee, and include:
 - a) ensuring that the Association's articles of association and internal rules are compliant with Swiss law;
 - b) ensuring that the articles of association and internal rules are followed by the bodies of the Association and updated if needed;
 - c) ensuring that the minutes of General Assembly, Board and Executive Committee meetings are kept;
 - d) chairing the Membership Committee.

Article 22 Executive Director

- 1. The Board may appoint a qualified professional to the function of Executive Director to whom the daily management of the Association and administration of its assets is delegated. The Executive Director is seconded by a Secretariat.
- 2. The Board delegates to the Executive Director in particular the following tasks:
 - a) the management, development and supervision of the day-to-day activities of the Association, including the management of the staff;

- b) the supervision of the Resident Manager and the Secretariat.
 - c) organizing, under the guidance of the President, the meetings of the Executive Committee, the Board and the General Assembly.
3. The Executive Director and the Secretariat staff should be recruited in accordance with equal opportunity procedures.

Article 23 Resident Manager

1. The Board may appoint a qualified professional to the function of Resident Manager to whom the daily management of the Association and the administration of its assets is delegated under the supervision of the Executive Director. The Board delegates to the Resident Manager in particular the following tasks:
 - a) the day-to-day relationships with the commercial partners (such as banks, suppliers and lessors) and the donors of the Association;
 - b) ensuring the compliance with all applicable laws and regulations;
 - c) supervision of financial, budget, accounting and tax matters;
 - d) supervision of human resources matters;
 - e) supervision of administrative matters (including insurance and lease matters); and
 - f) supervision of IT related matters.
2. The Resident Manager shall inform and report to the Executive Director periodically (at least quarterly) and/or as often as necessary in writing (or in such other form as may be agreed by the Resident Manager and the Executive Director) about the activities development, the financial situation of the Association and any other relevant matters.

C. Executive Committee

Article 24 Tasks

1. The tasks of the Executive Committee are, as mandated by the Board, include :
 - a) providing strategic guidance to the Executive Director and the Secretariat, in between the Board meetings;
 - b) making any ad-hoc decisions required to advance the work of the Association;
 - c) defining recommendations for approval by the Board of the Association;
 - d) preparing the meetings of the Board;
 - e) ensuring the implementation of the Board's decisions between Board meetings;
 - f) deciding on the reimbursement of accommodation costs related to the activities of each Board member, in line with the Association's policy;
 - g) deciding on the provision of reasonable accommodation for Board members, in line with the Association's policy;
 - h) advising and providing recommendations to the Treasurer throughout the budgeting cycle of the Association;

- i) reviewing the annual and bi-annual financial statements, the audit reports and the management letters submitted by the Treasurer;
 - j) providing recommendations on budget proposals submitted to the donors of the Association;
 - k) providing oversight for human resource development, together with the Executive Director.
 - l) reviewing and providing recommendations on the administrative guidelines of the Secretariat;
 - m) reviewing and providing recommendations on Board members allowances, travel policies and other related policies.
2. The Executive Committee is accountable to the Board of the Association.
 3. The Executive Committee shall make every effort to decide by consensus. Should this not be possible, the Executive Committee shall decide by simple majority of its present members, not counting abstentions. In the event of equal voting, the President shall exercise a casting vote.
 4. The Executive Committee may organize face to face meetings or discuss and take decisions electronically or in a hybrid format. If meetings of the Executive Committee are held electronically or in a hybrid format it must be guaranteed that all members of the Executive Committee can take part with equal rights and opportunities based on the same reasonable accommodation rules which apply in IDA's face to face meetings and which are described in detail in IDAs Internal Rules.
 5. The internal rules of the Association may provide for additional rules applicable to the organization and meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article 25 Members

1. The Executive Committee is composed of seven (7) members, as follows:
 - a) the President;
 - b) two Vice-presidents;
 - c) the Treasurer;
 - d) the Secretary-General;
 - e) two Executive Committee members.
2. The President, the two Vice-presidents, the Secretary-General, the Treasurer and the two Executive Committee members are elected by simple majority by the Board among its present members for a term of three (3) years which is renewable.
3. The Board decides by unanimous decision of its members present on the mandate of the Executive Committee.
4. Each Executive Committee member shall notify the Board if he/she does not act anymore as president/chair or the president's/chair's nominee of the member organisation he/she represents. In such a case, the Board may decide by simple majority vote to ask the member organisation whether the mandate of the concerned Executive Committee member should be withdrawn. If the member organisation decides that its representative should not hold anymore the position of Executive Committee member, the Board is entitled to withdraw by simple

majority decision of its present members the mandate of the concerned Executive Committee member. A new election shall be held afterwards within the Board to fill the position.

5. To ensure regional and gender balance, the Executive Committee shall be composed with the following quota:
 - a) if the President comes from a regional organization, the first Vice-president should come from a global organization, and the second Vice-president should come from a regional organization.
 - b) if the President comes from a global organization, the first Vice-president should come from regional organization, and the second Vice-president should come from a global organization.
 - c) Each gender should be represented by at least three members of the Executive Committee.
 - d) Four (4) Executive Committee members should come from global organizations and three (3) should come from regional organizations.

D. Membership Committee

Article 26 Tasks and members

1. The tasks of the Membership Committee are the following:
 - a) reviewing all applications for all types of membership to the Association;
 - b) preparing and delivering recommendations on the membership applications to the Board;
 - c) deliberating and considering recommendations to the Board to invite Emeritus Members to the membership of the Association.
2. The Membership Committee is composed as follows, as elected and appointed by the Board:
 - a) the Secretary-General;
 - b) two members shall represent global organizations and Full Members;
 - c) two members shall represent regional organizations and Full Members;
 - d) both genders shall be represented.
3. The election of the members of the Membership Committee will be held at the same date when the IDA Executive Committee is elected by IDA's Board. The election of the Membership Committee will take place in the same way as the election of IDA's Executive Committee is held, i.e. usually in an in - person Board meeting or in exceptional cases electronically or in a hybrid format as described in detail under Article 16 para. 2 of these Articles of Association.
4. The Membership Committee meets as often as required. It may organize face to face meetings or discuss and take decisions electronically or in a hybrid format. If meetings of the Membership Committee are held electronically or in a hybrid format, the same reasonable accommodation rules which apply in IDA's face to face meetings and which are described in detail in IDA's Internal Rules shall be applied.
5. The Secretary-General holds the Chair of the Membership Committee.

E. Scrutiny Committee

Article 27 Tasks and members

1. The task of the Scrutiny Committee is to oversee and manage the election processes regarding the different bodies of the Association. The Scrutiny Committee might request the support from the Secretariat.
2. The Scrutiny Committee shall be appointed by the Board and be composed of two Board members not running for any of the positions at the time of the elections. In case there are more than two candidates for the Scrutiny Committee, an election will need to be organised electronically or in a hybrid format.
3. One of the two members on the Scrutiny Committee will chair the election process of the bodies of the Association. The two members of the Scrutiny Committee will decide among them who will act as Chair.

F. Auditor

Article 28 Appointment and tasks

1. The Association has an Auditor who is appointed by the General Assembly for two years. The Auditor may be re-elected.
2. The Auditor proceeds to the audit of the accounts of the Association and submits a yearly report to the General Assembly.

Article 29 Financial year

The financial year shall begin on 1st of January and end on 31st of December of each year.

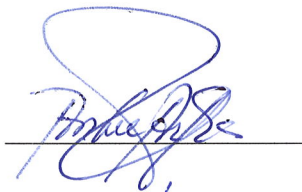
Article 30 Dissolution

In the case of the Association being dissolved, the assets shall be allotted to a non-profit organization pursuing goals of public interest similar to those of the Association and which benefits itself from tax exemption. The assets cannot be returned to the founders or member organizations, nor be used to their own profit.

The present statutes have been approved by the General Assembly of the Association at the meeting held on the 21st of October 2021.

International Disability Alliance :

President of the General Assembly:



Secretary-General of the General Assembly:

