



World Federation of Engineering Organizations Fédération Mondiale des Organisations d'Ingénieurs

CONSTITUTION

Approved by the General Assembly 23 November 2019
Effective January 1, 2020

Article 1 THE FEDERATION

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (the Federation) is an international, nongovernmental organization. Its duration is unlimited. The Office of the Federation and its Executive Director shall be at such a place as is recommended by the Executive Council and approved by the General Assembly.

Article 2 OBJECTIVES OF THE FEDERATION

The objectives of the Federation are to work with Members: to encourage the application of engineering and technological advancement to economic and social progress throughout the world; to advance engineering as an equal opportunity profession in the interest of all people; and to foster peace throughout the world.

Article 3 MEMBERSHIP OF THE FEDERATION

Section A

The Federation shall consist of: National and International Members and Affiliated voting Members; and Associates and Distinguished Fellows that are non-voting.

Section B

A National Member shall comprise the national professional engineering organization, or the union/association of organizations within a country, that is considered most representative of technically competent engineers according to the national standards within that country.

Section C

An International Member shall be a union/association of national professional engineering bodies organized on a multi-lateral basis, either according to a regional interest or other international basis and has proven itself capable of undertaking ongoing activities.

Section D

An Affiliated Member shall comprise the professional engineering organization or organizations existing in a specified geographical area, considered the most representative of technically competent engineers according to the standards of that special geographical area.

Section E

An Associate shall be an engineering organization, corporate body for profit or not for profit university, educational or research institution which registers as such for the purpose of supporting the Federation in its activities.

Section F

A Distinguished Fellow shall be an individual who has engineering qualifications and made an outstanding contribution to engineering.

Section G

Application to any category of membership shall be made to the Executive Director. The application shall be assessed by the Executive Board. Election shall be by vote of the Executive Council and effective upon receipt by the Executive Director of a full year subscription.

Article 4 ADMINISTRATION OF THE FEDERATION

The governing body of the Federation shall be the General Assembly. Between meetings of the General Assembly the affairs of the Federation shall be directed by the Executive Council. The business of the Federation shall be dealt with by the Executive Board, supported by the Executive Director. Except as provided otherwise in this Constitution: actions by the General Assembly, Executive Council, or Executive Board shall be by majority vote; voting may be in person during a regular or special meeting, or by electronic means with a thirty (30) day voting period; and the presence of one half of the voting Members shall constitute a quorum.

Article 5 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Section A

The General Assembly shall consist of the representatives of Members in good standing. Representatives of one-third of all voting Members shall constitute a quorum. Each voting Member in good standing shall have one vote. Voting at regular or special meetings may be by proxy assigned to a representative of a voting Member in good standing by letter delivered to the Executive Director prior to the beginning of the meeting. Members shall inform the Executive Director prior to meetings of their representative and any other members of its delegation.

Section B

A regular meeting of the General Assembly shall be held every two years, at a place and date determined by the General Assembly at the previous regular meeting, or failing that, by the Executive Council. The President shall call a special meeting of the General Assembly if requested to do so in writing by one-third of the voting Members, or the President may call a special meeting with the consent of the Executive Council.

Section C

The Executive Director shall communicate the place and date of each regular meeting of the General Assembly to all Members and to all Members of the Executive Council at least one year in advance, and the place and date of each special meeting at least three months in advance.

Section D

The agenda of a meeting of the General Assembly, prepared by the Executive Director with the approval of the President, including proposed items from Members, shall be communicated by the Executive Director to all Members at least three months before the beginning of the meeting.

Section E

The General Assembly shall determine the policy of the Federation; and, in addition to any other duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, have the following powers and obligations:

1. To elect the Officers and National Members of the Executive Council.
2. To approve the annual subscriptions to be paid by Members, upon recommendation of the Executive Council.
3. To establish a Standing Technical Committee (STC) and Policy Implementation Committees (PIC) based on a proposal by a National member (the host), elect the host, ratify the host's nominated Chair and cancel the STC or PIC, upon recommendation of the Executive Council.
4. To establish, set the terms of reference, and cancel, any Committee or Working Group upon recommendation of the Executive Council.
5. To review and ratify or amend the decisions of the Executive Council, the Executive Board, and the Executive Director made since the previous regular meeting of the General Assembly; and to review any activity of the Federation.

Article 6 THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section A

The Executive Council shall consist of the following voting Members:

1. The Officers: President, President-elect, Past President, two Executive Vice Presidents and Treasurer;
2. Representatives from eleven National Members;
3. All Chairs of STCs and PICs ;
4. Representatives from eight International Members comprising:
 - a. Representatives from four International Members that represent the major continents: Africa, Asia, Americas, Europe and will be the Continental representatives.
 - b. Representatives of a duly registered institution that represents the engineering institutions from the Commonwealth and from the Federation of Arab Engineers
 - c. Representatives from two additional representatives from the other international members that are not included in (a) or (b) will be the other international representatives
5. Non-voting Members are the Executive Director, and Chairs of other Committees and Working Groups.

Persons in each of these positions, with the exception of the Executive Director, may remain in their respective position as long as their sponsoring Member is in good standing.

Section B

The President-Elect shall be elected by the General Assembly at its regular meeting and take office at the end of that meeting. At the end of the following regular meeting of the General Assembly the President-Elect shall move to the office of President. In the event the President is unable to complete his/her term, the President-Elect shall also assume the duties of President for the remainder of that term

Section C

The President shall hold office to the end of the next regular meeting of the General Assembly and then become the Past President until the end of the next regular meeting of the General Assembly.

The President shall chair the meeting of the General Assembly, the Executive Council and the Executive Board, and may appoint a temporary chair.

Section D

The Executive Vice Presidents and National Members shall hold office until the end of the second regular meeting of the General Assembly following their election. Their elections should be arranged such that half of each category shall be in their first term while the remainder shall be in their second term. The Treasurer shall hold office until the end of the next regular meeting of the General Assembly.

Section E

The Executive Council shall meet at least once a year. The Executive Director shall communicate the place and date of each meeting of the Executive Council to all Council Members at least six months in advance. A special meeting shall be convened by the President upon written request from one-third of its Members or may be convened by the President with the approval of the Executive Board with one months' notice by electronic means. The agenda of a meeting of the Executive Council, prepared by the Executive Director with the approval of the Executive Board, shall be communicated by the Executive Director to all Council Members at least one month before the beginning of the meeting.

Section F

In addition to other duties stated in this Constitution, the Executive Council shall have the following powers and obligations:

1. To approve the biennial budget of the Federation, showing income and expenses, and report same to the General Assembly.
2. To submit to all Members, four months in advance of a regular meeting of the General Assembly, names of nominees submitted by voting Members in good standing for the offices of President-Elect, Executive Vice-President, and National Members of the Executive Council and the Executive Board's nominee for Treasurer.
3. To receive the reports of the Treasurer and the Audit and report same to the General Assembly.
4. Establish, set the terms of reference, and cancel, any Task Force or Working Group, upon recommendation of the Executive Board.
5. To review and ratify or amend the decisions of the Executive Board and the Executive Director since the previous regular meeting of the Executive Council.

Article 7 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section A

The Executive Board shall consist of the following voting members: President, President-elect, Past President, two Executive Vice Presidents and Treasurer; and non-voting member, the Executive Director.

Section B

The Executive Board shall appoint the Internal Auditor, and the Executive Director.

Section C

The Executive Director shall inform all Federation Members of the actions of the General Assembly, the Executive Council, and the Executive Board.

Article 8 FINANCE

Section A

The financial year shall be from 1 January to 31 December.

Section B

Each National, International, and Affiliated Member shall agree to pay an annual subscription as determined by the General Assembly. Subscriptions are due on 31 January of each year. For those Members meriting special consideration, an application may be made by 31 January to the Executive Director for approval by the Executive Board for delay to 31 July of that year.

Section C

In the event of resignation or termination of membership, the Member concerned shall be liable to pay its subscription for the current financial year, and shall have no claim on the funds of the Federation, or any part thereof.

Section D

Any Member of the Federation which by 31 December, or the date of a General Assembly that year, whichever date is earlier, has not fully paid its annual subscription, nor had special consideration by a decision of the Executive Board, shall be considered not in good standing and not be entitled to exercise or benefit from any right or privilege of membership, and its membership in the Federation may be terminated by vote of the Executive Council.

Section E

A Member in arrears for four consecutive years will automatically have its membership terminated, unless other action is taken by vote of the Executive Council.

Section F

A Member having had special consideration by the Executive Board may, on presenting a formal request signed by its President, be restored to full membership by paying in full any subscription due for the current financial year, but is not required to pay any subscription for any year that it was not required to pay under its special consideration status.

Section G

Special projects, so designated by the Executive Council, shall be financed wholly or in part by voluntary contributions.

Section H

The Federation shall have power to accept donations of funds from any source approved by the Executive Council.

Article 9 RESIGNATIONS AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.

Section A

A Member wishing to resign from the Federation shall give six months' notice in writing, addressed to the Executive Director.

Section B

The General Assembly may by a two-thirds vote terminate the membership of any Member which has failed to fulfill its obligations to the Federation, or maintains activities which are counter to the objectives of the Federation.

Article 10 SEPARABILITY

If any portion of this Constitution is found to be contrary to law by any judicial procedure in the Country of Registry, the remainder of this Constitution shall remain in force.

Article 11 INDEMNIFICATION

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Federation may indemnify and hold harmless any current or past officer, Executive Council member, or employee, by resolution of the Executive Council for acts, errors omissions arising within the scope of duties and responsibilities as an officer, Executive Council member, or employee of the Federation. The Federation shall not indemnify or hold harmless any current or past officer, Executive Council member, or employee for any criminal offense, or for liability to the Federation for damages arising out of negligence or misconduct in the performance of a duty to the Federation. The Federation may authorize the purchase of insurance on behalf of any officer, Executive Council member, or employee for acts, errors or omissions asserted against or incurred by him or her which arises out of his or her status as an officer, Executive Council member, or employee of the Federation.

Article 12 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds vote of the General Assembly based on specific text recommended by the Executive Council and submitted to all Members at least five months in advance of the beginning of a regular or special meeting of the General Assembly. This process may be initiated by one or more Members of the Federation in good standing through communication with the Executive Board.

Article 13 DISSOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION

The General Assembly, when convened for this specific purpose, may by two-thirds vote dissolve the Federation. In the event of the dissolution of the Federation for any reason, the General Assembly shall appoint a liquidator and shall determine his/her powers and if required her/his remuneration, and shall designate the recipient or recipients of the residue of the funds of the Federation.

Article 14 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

The President or chair of any Federation meeting may appoint one or more advisors on Parliamentary procedures, or rely on the provisions of Roberts Rules of Order to govern the transactions of business.