

Appendix A to
GA(75)1

CONSTITUTION OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF
ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS

Status

Article 1

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (hereinafter called the "Federation") is an international non-governmental organization. Its duration is unlimited. Its Secretariat-General is in London and this location may be changed at any time.

Objects of the Federation

Article 2

The objects for which the Federation is hereby constituted are to advance engineering as a profession in the interest of all people; to foster peace throughout the world; to encourage the application of technical progress to economic and social advancement throughout the world; and for these purposes:

- (a) to foster engineering education and training;
- (b) to encourage the exchange of engineering information;
- (c) to foster co-operation between engineering organizations one with another and between engineering and other organizations;
- (d) to encourage the freedom of movement of engineers between different countries;
- (e) to sponsor scientific and engineering meetings, symposia, congresses and the like;
- (f) to encourage the formation and to foster the activities of national and international associations of engineers;

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- (g) to undertake special projects relating to the professional interests of members of the Federation;
- (h) to co-operate with governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- (i) to do all other things incidental and conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Federation.

Membership of the Federation

Article 3

The Federation shall consist of National Members and International Members.

Article 4

A National Member shall comprise the national professional engineering organization or organizations within one state representing engineers engaged on a high level of technical competence according to that state's national standards.

Article 5

An International Member shall be a group of national professional engineering bodies organized on a regional or other international basis. An International Member shall not normally be considered qualified for admission to the Federation unless it can fulfil the obligations imposed by its membership thereof and has been in existence for five years and has sponsored two international conferences.

Admission to the Federation

Article 6

The Executive Committee shall examine each application for membership of the Federation and shall inform all National Members of its receipt and shall communicate their recommendation in respect thereof to all Members not less than three months before the next meeting of the General Assembly, which may accept the application by a two-thirds majority of all National Members.

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Resignation and Expulsion of Members

Article 7

A Member wishing to resign from the Federation shall give six months' notice of resignation in writing, addressed to the Secretary-General.

Article 8

The General Assembly may, by a two-thirds majority of such National Members as, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy, terminate the membership of any Member which has failed to fulfil its obligations to the Federation or the activities of which run counter to the objects of the Federation.

Administration of the Federation

Article 9

- (a) The supreme governing body of the Federation shall be the General Assembly and
- (b) The affairs of the Federation shall be directed between meetings of the General Assembly by the Executive Committee.

Article 10

The composition and functions of the General Assembly and Executive Committee shall be governed by this Constitution and by the Rules of Procedure annexed hereto.

Article 11

Excepting as provided otherwise in this Constitution and Rules of Procedure, decisions at meetings of the General Assembly and Executive Committee shall be by a majority of the votes cast by representatives of the Members present who are entitled to vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.

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General Assembly

Article 12

The General Assembly shall consist of the representatives of such National Members as shall be in good standing pursuant to Article 39 hereof, the representatives of the International Members, the President, the Vice-Presidents, and the Secretary-General.

Representatives of one-third of all National Members shall constitute a quorum.

Article 13

At meetings of the General Assembly:

- (a) each National Member shall have one vote subject to the provisions of Article 39 of this Constitution.
- (b) an International Member shall have no vote.

The vote of each National Member shall be cast by a representative present at the meeting who is a member of the delegation of the National Member or, where voting by proxy is permitted by the Constitution and Rules of Procedure, by a person present so authorised by the National Member by a letter delivered to the Secretary-General prior to the meeting of the General Assembly at which the vote is to be cast.

Article 14

An ordinary meeting of the General Assembly shall be held normally every two years, at a place and date determined by the General Assembly at the previous ordinary meeting, or failing that, by the Executive Committee.

Article 15

The President shall summon an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly if requested to do so in writing by one third ~~meeting~~ of the National Members of the Federation. He may,

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in addition, summon such a meeting with the consent of the Executive Committee.

Article 16

The Secretary-General shall communicate the place and date of each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly to all Members of the Federation and to all members of the Executive Committee at least one year in advance, and the place and date of each extraordinary meeting at least three months in advance.

Article 17

Items proposed for inclusion in the agenda and applications for admission to the Federation shall be received by the Secretary-General at least four months before the date fixed for an ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

Article 18

The agenda of the General Assembly and the relevant supporting papers shall be approved by the Executive Committee and shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to all Members of the Federation and to all members of the Executive Committee at least three months before the first day of the meeting. Only items that have been placed on the agenda shall be discussed, unless a proposal to the contrary effect is approved by the General Assembly by a two-thirds majority of the National Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present.

Article 19

Each Member may be represented at meetings of the General Assembly by a delegation composed in such manner as the Member shall decide.

Article 20

Members shall inform the Secretary-General, in writing, of the names of their respective representatives, before the commencement of any meeting of the Federation which they will attend.

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Article 21

The General Assembly shall determine the general policy of the Federation; and, without prejudice to the generality of its responsibilities, it shall have, in particular the following powers and obligations:

- (a) to review the administration of the Federation by the Executive Committee since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly;
- (b) to appoint any Committee or Committees it may deem necessary for the conduct and administration of the work of the Federation;
- (c) to review the work carried out by any Committee or Committees of the Federation since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly;
- (d) on the proposal of the Executive Committee, to examine each application for membership of the Federation, and to accept or reject it in accordance with Article 6 hereof;
- (e) to terminate, if it so decides in accordance with Article 8 hereof, the membership of any Member of the Federation which has failed to fulfil its obligations to the Federation or the activities of which run counter to the objects of the Federation;
- (f) on the proposal of the Executive Committee, to examine and approve the Federation's accounts for the period since the previous ordinary meeting of the General Assembly and to discharge the Executive Committee of liability;

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- (g) to approve a biennial budget and to indemnify the Secretary-General against all costs, charges, damages and expenses which he shall sustain by reason of his acting in good faith in the execution of his duties carried out on behalf of the Federation;
- (h) on the proposal of the Executive Committee, to decide in accordance with Article 36 hereof the annual dues to be paid by Members of the Federation;
- (i) to elect the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary-General;
- (j) to elect the International Members to be represented on the Executive Committee in accordance with Article 22(c) hereof;
- (k) to elect the members of the Executive Committee representative of the National Members in accordance with Article 26 hereof;
- (l) at the request of the Executive Committee to examine amendments to the Rules of Procedure and to adopt those which it approves.

The Executive Committee

Article 22

The Executive Committee, which shall be responsible to the General Assembly, shall consist of:

- (a) the President, one or more Vice-Presidents, and the Secretary-General, who shall be the Officers of the Federation;

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- (b) eight representatives of the National Members;
- (c) one representative of each of the following Founder International Members:

The Pan-American Union of Engineers' Associations
(UPADI);

The Commonwealth Engineering Conference
(CEC);

The European Federation of National Associations of Engineers
(FEANI);

and one representative of each of such other International Member or Members as the General Assembly shall decide.

Provided that any of the representatives of National and International Members may, if the General Assembly so decides, serve also as a Vice-President or Vice-Presidents of the Federation.

Two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Article 23

At meetings of the Executive Committee each member of the Committee shall have one vote, and if there be an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

Article 24

The President of the Federation shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall appoint its Vice-Chairman from among the Vice-Presidents of the Federation.

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Article 25

The International Members designated in accordance with Article 22(c) hereof shall themselves nominate their respective representatives on the Executive Committee.

Article 26

The General Assembly shall elect the representatives of the National Members on the Executive Committee.

Article 27

The representatives of the National Members on the Executive Committee, who shall be elected in their personal capacities, shall hold office until the end of the second ordinary meeting of the General Assembly following their election. Elections should, if possible, be so arranged that, after each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, the membership of the Executive Committee shall be such that half the representatives of National Members shall be in their first term while the remainder are in their second term.

Article 28

The Executive Committee shall direct the affairs of the Federation between meetings of the General Assembly. It shall meet at least once a year, and may be further convened by a decision of the President in case of particular urgency.

Article 29

The Executive Committee shall prepare an estimate of the income and expenditure of the Federation for consideration by the General Assembly.

Article 30

The Executive Committee shall submit to all Members, four months in advance of an ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, names proposed for the offices of President and Vice-President, Secretary-General and Members of the Executive Committee.

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The Officers

Article 31

The President and Vice-President or Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the General Assembly, and shall hold their respective offices until the end of the next following ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

Article 32

The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the General Assembly on a proposal by the Executive Committee and shall hold this office for such time as the Executive Committee shall determine.

Article 33

Responsibility for transacting urgent business of the Federation shall be vested in the Officers. All decisions of the Officers shall be submitted for approval to the Executive Committee at its next meeting or by correspondence.

Decisions of the Executive Committee

Article 34

The Secretary-General shall keep Members informed of the important proposals, decisions and actions of the Executive Committee, and of any action taken by the Officers as a matter of urgency.

Article 35

A record of the proceedings of the Executive Committee, including an audited statement of accounts, shall be communicated to each Member of the Federation at least three months before the first day of each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

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Finance

Article 36

Each National Member shall agree to pay annual dues determined by its accepting a number of shares, or a symbolic share, of the Federation expenses. The value of each share shall be determined by the General Assembly, having regard to the total net expenditure which it approves for each financial year and the total number of shares accepted by the National Members. The value of a symbolic share shall be \$(US)100 or the value of one share, whichever is the less. The financial year shall be from 1st January in each year to 31st December next following.

Article 37

The payment of shares of expenses due from National Members for any financial year shall be made not later than 30th June in that year.

Article 38

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

Article 39

Any Member of the Federation which has not paid its annual dues by the end of the financial year shall not be entitled to exercise or benefit from any right or privilege of membership until the sum due has been paid, and its membership of the Federation may be terminated by a decision of the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of all National Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy.

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Article 40

Special projects, so designated by the Executive Committee, shall be financed wholly or in part by voluntary contributions from any Members, societies or other agencies.

Article 41

The Federation shall have power to accept donations to its funds from any source or sources which the Executive Committee approve.

Coming into Force, and Alteration of the Constitution

Article 42

- (a) Upon its approval by the General Assembly, this Constitution shall succeed that provisionally in force from the inception of the Federation at its Constitutive Assembly on 4th March, 1968.
- (b) No change shall be made in this Constitution except by the General Assembly with the approval of a majority of two-thirds of all National Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy.

Dissolution of the Federation

Article 43

The General Assembly if convened for the purpose may dissolve the Federation by a vote pursuant to Article 42, paragraph (b). In the event of the dissolution of the Federation for any reason the General Assembly shall appoint a liquidator and shall determine his powers and if required, his remuneration, and shall designate the recipient or recipients of the residue of the moneys of the Federation.