



**WORLD FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS**  
**FÉDÉRATION MONDIALE DES ORGANISATIONS D'INGÉNIEURS**

**CONSTITUTION**  
**November 2009**

Article 1.

The World Federation of Engineering Organisations (hereafter called the "Federation") is an international non-governmental organisation. Its duration is unlimited.

Its Secretariat shall be at such places as is recommended by the Executive Council and decided by the General Assembly.

**OBJECTS OF THE FEDERATION.**

Article 2 A

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

- (a) to foster co-operation between engineering organisations one with another, and between engineering and other organisations ;
- (b) to foster engineering education and training;
- (c) to improve the image of the engineering profession and motivate students to become engineers
- (d) to encourage the exchange of engineering information;
- (e) to encourage the formation and to foster the activities of national and international associations of engineers;
- (f) to encourage the freedom of movement of engineers between different countries;
- (g) to sponsor scientific and engineering meetings, symposia, congresses and the like;
- (h) to undertake special projects relating to the professional interests of members;
- (i) to promote, sponsor and otherwise *engage* in engineering activities that particularly benefit the public welfare such as sustainable development, protection of the environment, and the reduction of man made and natural hazards and disasters;
- (j) to safeguard the public at all times in matters of health and safety;
- (k) to co-operate with governmental and non-governmental organisations;
- (l) to do all other things incidental and conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Federation.

## Article 2B VISION

*WFEO is recognised by international agencies as the overall leader of the engineering profession and cooperates with other professions' national and international institutions to apply engineering to resolve national and international engineering related issues for the benefit of humanity.*

## Article 2C MISSION

- 1. To serve humanity through the use of best practice technology.*
- 2. To represent the engineering profession internationally, harnessing its collective wisdom and leadership to assist national agencies choose appropriate policy options that address the most critical issues affecting countries of the world.*
- 3. To enhance and promote good engineering practice.*
- 4. To promote zero tolerance anticorruption policies.*
- 5. To make information available to the countries of the world on the world's best engineering practice in key activities.*
- 6. To foster socio-economic security and sustainable development and poverty alleviation among all countries of the world, through the proper application of technology.*
- 7. To be recognized by national and international organizations and the public, as a respected and valuable source of advice and guidance.*
- 8. To offer advice and guidance on policies, interests and concerns that relates to best engineering and technology practice for sustainable development of the built and natural environments.*

## **MEMBERSHIP OF THE FEDERATION.**

### Article 3A.

The Federation shall consist of National, Regional, Affiliated, and International Members with voting right and Corresponding, Associate and Technical members with no voting right..

### Article 3B.

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

### Article 3C.

A Regional Member shall comprise the National professional engineering organisation or organisations constituted within a number of countries in a geographical region, each representing engineers engaged on a high level of technical competence according to the national standards of the respective countries or states, and where those national professional organisations were unable individually, to undertake the responsibilities of a National Member.

Article 3D.

An Affiliated Member shall comprise the professional engineering organisation or organisations existing in a special geographical area, each representing engineers engaged on a high level of technical competence according to the standards of that special geographical area.

Article 3E.

A Technical Member shall be an international non-governmental professional organisation devoted to activities in a particular area of engineering.

Article 3F.

A Corresponding Member shall be a National professional engineering organisation not able to participate fully as a national member, but wishing to participate by correspondence in the activities of the Federation

Article 3G.

An International Member shall be a group of National professional engineering bodies organised on a regional or other international basis. An International Member shall not normally be qualified for admission to the Federation unless it has been in existence for five years, and has satisfied the General Assembly that it is sufficiently active to warrant inclusion”.

Article 3H.

An Associate shall be an Engineering Organisation, Corporate body or individual, who registers as such for the purpose of supporting the Federation, and receiving regular information on its activities.

**ADMISSION TO THE FEDERATION.**

Article 4A

Applications from National professional engineering organizations for membership as National members shall be made to the Executive Director, and shall be assessed by the Executive Board. Applications shall be approved by a vote at a meeting of the Executive Council OR by postal/electronic ballot. In the latter case there shall be a period of sixty (60) days from posting of the application in which objections may be received, and in the absence of such objections the application shall be deemed approved.

Article 4B

Applicants shall agree to pay contributions (shares) set according to the approved schedules on an ongoing basis.

Article 4C

After approval, applicants shall become members immediately upon receipt of a full year fee.

## **ADMINISTRATION OF THE FEDERATION.**

### Article 5.

- (a) The supreme governing body of the Federation shall be the General Assembly,
- (b) the affairs of the Federation shall be directed between meetings by the Executive Council
- (c) the urgent business of the Federation shall be dealt with by the Executive Board
- (d) the ordinary business of the Federation shall be conducted by the Secretariat, under the responsibility of the Executive Director, in accordance with the directions of the General Assembly and of the Executive Council.

### Article 6.

The composition and functions of the General Assembly, Executive Council and Executive Board shall be governed by this Constitution.

### Article 7.

Excepting as provided otherwise in this Constitution and Rules of Procedure, decisions at meetings of the General Assembly, Executive Council and Executive Board shall be by a majority of 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.

## **THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

### Article 8A

The General Assembly shall consist of the representatives of such Members as shall be in good standing pursuant to Article 15D. Representatives of one-third of all Members having the right to vote shall constitute a quorum.

### Article 8B.

At meetings of the General Assembly each National, Regional, Affiliated, and International Member shall have one vote subject to the provisions of Article 13D. Voting may be by a proxy assigned to a Member present by letter delivered to the Secretariat prior to the meeting. Voting may be in person, by post or electronically.

### Article 8C.

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 Council.

Article 8D.

The President shall summon an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly if requested to do so in writing by one-third of the National, International, Regional and Affiliated Members of the Federation. He may, in addition, summon such meeting with the consent of the Executive Council.

Article 8E.

The Secretariat 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 Council at least one year in advance, and the place and date of each extraordinary meeting at least three months in advance.

Article 8F.

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

Article 8G.

The agenda of the General Assembly, prepared by the Secretariat following requests for, and submissions of, proposed items from Members of the Federation, and accompanied by the relevant supporting papers, shall be established by the Secretariat and shall be communicated by the Secretariat to all Members and Officers of the Federation 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.

Article 8H.

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

Article 8I.

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

Article 8J.

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

- a) to review and ratify the decisions of the Executive Council and the administration of the Federation by the Secretariat 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 Council, 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 Council 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 Council of liability;
- (g) to approve a biennial budget and to indemnify the Secretariat against all costs, charges, damages and expenses sustained by acting in good faith in the execution of duties carried out on behalf of the Federation;
- (h) on the proposal of the Executive Council to decide, in accordance with Article 34 hereof, the annual dues to be paid by Members of the Federation;
- (i) to elect the Members of the Executive Council and appoint the Treasurer on a proposal of the Executive Council; A Deputy Treasurer may be appointed by the President.
- (j) to decide upon amendments to this Constitution, pursuant to the provisions of Article 42; and
- (k) to decide upon the dissolution of the Federation, pursuant to the provisions of Article 43.

## **THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.**

### Article 9A

The Executive Council. which shall be responsible to the General Assembly, shall consist of.

- (a) the President, the President-Elect, the immediate Past President, the Vice Presidents directly elected by the General Assembly up to a maximum of four, all Vice Presidents who hold office by virtue of their election as chairmen of Standing Committees (*Appendix 1*), the Treasurer, the Deputy Treasurer and the Executive Director both without voting rights;
- (b) twelve representatives of the National, Regional and Affiliated members;
- (c) one representative of each of the following Founder International Members:
  - the Pan-American Federation of Engineering Societies (UPADI)
  - the Commonwealth Engineers' Council (CEC)

- the European Federation of National Associations of Engineers (FEANI)
  - the Federation of Arab Engineers (FAE)
- and one representative of each of the International Members. (Appendix II)

Article 9B

One half of the members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum.

Article 9C.

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

Article 9D.

The President of the Federation or the nominee of the President shall be Chairman of the Executive Council.

Article 9E.

The International Members shall themselves nominate their representatives on the Executive Council.

Article 9F.

The members of the Executive Council, who shall be elected in their personal capacities, shall hold office until the second ordinary meeting of the General Assembly following their election. Election should, if possible, be so arranged that, after each ordinary meeting of the General Assembly, the membership of the Executive Council shall be such that half the elected members shall be in their first term while the remainder shall be in their second term.

Article 9G.

No member of the Executive Council shall speak or vote on behalf of a Member at a meeting of the Executive Council, unless authorised to do so by that Member by letter delivered to the Secretariat prior to the meeting.

Article 9H.

The Executive Council shall direct the affairs of the Federation between meetings of the General Assembly. It shall meet at least once a year, and shall be convened by the President upon request in writing by one third of its members. It may be further convened by a decision of the President in case of particular urgency.

Article 9I.

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

Article 9J.

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

## **THE OFFICERS.**

Article 10A.

The President shall be elected by the General Assembly, and shall hold office until the end of the following, ordinary meeting of the General Assembly. The Past President will remain a member of the Executive Council until the next following General Assembly.

Article 10B.

The President-Elect will be elected by the General Assembly at the ordinary meeting two years prior to the completion of the President's term of office, and at the completion of the President's term of office shall be elected President.

## **DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.**

Article 11A.

The Secretariat shall keep Members informed of the important proposals, decisions and actions of the Executive Council, and of any action taken by the Executive Board as a matter of urgency.

Article.11B

A record of the proceedings of the Executive Council including an audited statement of accounts and of the financial statements submitted and signed by the Treasurer, 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.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Article 12A

The Executive Board shall be responsible for appointing the Executive Director who shall manage the secretariat of the Federation.

Article 12B.

Responsibility for transacting urgent business of the Federation shall be invested in an Executive Board consisting of the President, the Past President, the President-Elect, two Vice Presidents elected by the Executive Council, the Treasurer, the Deputy Treasurer and the Executive Director both without voting right.

The President may invite also Vice Presidents in accordance to the issues to be discussed.



The Executive Board may consult by correspondence if necessary and act on a simple majority of votes. All decisions of the Executive Board shall be submitted for ratification by the Executive Council at its next meeting or by correspondence. The Executive Director shall act as the Secretary of the Executive Board.

## **FINANCE.**

### Article 13A.

Each National, International, Regional and Affiliated Member shall agree to pay annual subscriptions as determined by the General Assembly. International Members must pay a minimum subscription as set by the General Assembly from time to time to be eligible to vote. The financial year shall be from 1 January in each year to 31 December next following.

### Article 13B.

Subscriptions are due by 1st January, at the beginning of each financial year. For those members whose circumstances merit special consideration, and who have made application for delay, a period of grace may be allowed to 31 July in that year.

### Article 13C.

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

### Article 13D

Any Member of the Federation that by 31 December which has not fully paid its annual subscription, nor had special consideration by a decision of the Executive Board, shall not be entitled to exercise or benefit from any right or privilege of membership, and its membership of the Federation may be terminated by a decision of the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of all Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy.

### Article 13E

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 13D a Member which has been in arrears for four consecutive years, will automatically have its membership terminated at the end of that time period unless the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of all Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy determines otherwise.

### Article 13F

A Member having had special consideration by a decision of the Executive Board or General Assembly 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 year, but is not required to pay any subscription for any year that it was not required to pay under its special consideration status.

Article 13G.

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

Article 13H.

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

## **HONORARY BOARD**

Article 14A

The President is to form an Honorary Board comprised of all past WFEO Presidents who are able and willing to act. The Honorary Board may include individuals from WFEO Associates and individuals who are acknowledged leaders in the international engineering, technological and scientific communities. These individuals are nominated by the Honorary Board and approved by the President.

Article 14B

The Honorary Board will be invited to General Assembly.

Article 14C

The Honorary Board will be chaired by the Past, Past President for two years.

Article 14D

The Honorary Board will hold its meetings at the time of General Assembly and Executive Council Meetings.

## **RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS.**

Article 15A.

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

Article 15B.

The General Assembly may, by a two-third majority of such 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.

## **COMING INTO FORCE AND ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION.**

Article 16.

No change shall be made in this Constitution except by the General Assembly with the approval of a majority of two-thirds of all Members which, being entitled to do so, vote by representative present or by proxy.

## **DISSOLUTION OF THE FEDERATION.**

### Article 17

The General Assembly, if convened for the purpose, may dissolve the Federation by a vote pursuant to Article 42. 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.

## **APPENDIX 1**

The Standing Technical Committees as at November 2009 are:

Capacity Building (CCB).  
Education and Training (CET).  
Engineering and the Environment (CEE).  
Energy (CE)  
Information and Communication (CIC)  
Technology (ComTech)  
Women in Engineering (WIE)  
Anti Corruption.(CAC)

## **APPENDIX II**

Commonwealth Engineers Council (CEC)  
European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI)  
Federation of African Organisations of Engineers (FAOE)  
Federation of Arab Engineers (FAE)  
Federation of Engineering Institutions in the Asia and Pacific (FEIAP)  
Federation of Engineering Institutions of South and Central Asia (FEISCA)  
Pan American Federation of Engineering Associations (UPADI)  
Union of Scientific and Engineering Associations (USEA)  
World Council of Civil Engineers (WCCE)  
ASEAN Federation of Engineering Organisations (AFEO)