

International Association
“Union Internationale de Radioécologie”
“International Union of Radioecology”

Byelaws

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Grades

The constituted membership of the Association shall consist of Regular Members, Emeritus Members, Supporting Members, and Honorary Members. Regular Members shall have the particular designations of Student members, Members or Fellows. Except as otherwise provided in these Byelaws, Regular Members shall be equally entitled to all rights and privileges of the Association. Emeritus Members, and Honorary Members shall have the rights and privileges of Association membership, except that they may not hold any governing office of the Association. Supporting Members shall have no vote in the General Assemblies.

Section 2 Members

A Member, at the time of admission or advancement to that grade, shall be at least twenty (20) years of age and shall:

- 1) Have a bachelor's or professionally higher degree in a subject relevant to radioecology, and shall be active in radioecology or related fields of studying, measuring and monitoring the effects of radioactivity released in the environment or otherwise bear public responsibilities linked thereto;
- 2) Have demonstrated competence and understanding within the discipline of radioecology as evidenced by professional and/or academic achievements.
- 3) A Student Member who completes fulfilment of the above mentioned requirements will be eligible for advancement to the grade of Member.

Section 3 Fellows

A Fellow, at the time of such designation, shall be actively engaged professionally in radioecology (temporary unemployment excepted), and shall have had at least fifteen years of active experience in one or more radioecology positions. Graduation in an appropriate curriculum of an accredited educational institute approved by the Board of Council shall be considered the equivalent of four years of the requisite fifteen years of professional experience.

a. In addition to meeting all of the requirements of Section 3.a. of these Byelaws, a Member shall, in order to be designated the grade of Fellow,

- 1) Be professionally engaged in a technical, administrative, or consultative position in radioecology and in that capacity shall have had responsibility, over a period of at least two years, for work requiring application of radioecology principles, or
- 2) Be a teacher of a subject or subjects related directly to the radioecology field and, as such, be capable of teaching a major course in one or more branches of that field, and shall have had responsible charge for at least two years in a field approved by the Board of Council, or
- 3) Be a person engaged in the nuclear field (or in a closely related field) who by the development of radioecology principles or procedures, or by proficiency in agronomy, soil science, climatology, radiobiology or in related subjects, or as an executive of a technical or operating enterprise of large scope, or as an executive with major responsibility in the field of radiation protection, has attained a standing equivalent to that required for the grade of Fellow under Section 3.b. (1) and (2) of these Byelaws

b. In addition, such member shall have established a record of excellent contribution to the discipline of radioecology and have been in good standing in the grade of Member for at least five consecutive years immediately prior to the date of the proposal for designation to the grade of Fellow.

c. Fellows of the Association shall be assessed the same dues as Members.

Section 4 Student Members

A Student Member, at the time of admission to that grade, shall be at least eighteen years of age; shall be engaged in or interested in radioecology, or in an allied field of technical or administrative nature; and shall be enrolled as a student at the university level in an accredited educational institution approved by the Board of Council. Student Members shall be assessed dues substantially lower than those assessed Members.

Section 5 Emeritus Members

Any Member or Fellow in good standing at the time of application, who is no longer gainfully employed through retirement or other cause may, upon proper approval of the Board of Council, be granted Emeritus membership of the Association. Such applicants shall have completed several continuous years of regular membership in the organization. In addition, they shall have, in the judgment of the Association, rendered significant unremunerated services to the Association and its programs during the period of their membership. Emeritus Members shall be assessed dues substantially lower than those assessed members.

Section 6 Supporting Members

- a. Since many private corporations or divisions thereof, governmental agencies, and other collective groups share the objectives outlined in Article 3 of the Association's Constitution and may wish to make financial contributions on a regular basis to encourage and assist the endeavours involved in meeting these objectives, such contributing groups, upon their application, may be recognized by designation as Supporting Members. The money collected from these dues shall be restricted for use in technical activities of the Association such as technical meetings, technical staff, special publications and grants.
- b. Each Supporting Member shall designate and be represented by an individual employed by or associated with it who is also qualified under Article 1, Section 2.a. and b. of these Byelaws. Supporting Members shall be privileged to send a number of their employees to sponsored meetings of the Association.

Section 7 Honorary Members

Honorary Members shall be prominent political, governmental, scientific, academic or other figures usually from outside of the membership of the Association who have rendered acknowledgement eminent services to radioecology or to the allied arts and sciences. Such membership may be granted only by the Board of Council. Honorary Members shall not be assessed dues.

ARTICLE II - ADMISSION, ADVANCEMENT, TRANSFER, SUSPENSION, RESIGNATION AND REINSTATEMENT OF MEMBERS

Section 1 Admission

- a. Admission to the Association, except as an Honorary Member, shall be only to the grade of Student Member, Member, , or Supporting Member. Fellow Member grades may be attained only by advancement, and Emeritus Membership only by transfer, in accordance with Sections 4 and 5 of this Article.
- b. A candidate for admission to the Association must file with the General Secretary a completed application form as issued by the Association designating the type of membership applied for, accompanied by the membership fee as established by the Executive Committee.
- c. Upon finding the application in conformance with the requirements for membership, the General Secretary shall indicate acceptance of the application, or will note deficiencies, and will forward the application to the Treasurer who will perform a similar review and forward it to the President. Upon a unanimous acceptance of the application by the Executive Committee, the applicant shall be declared to be a Member, shall be so advised by the President, and shall have its name recorded on the roll of members by the General Secretary. The membership fee submitted with the application shall be considered as payment of dues for the year during which the application was accepted. In the event that application was accepted between September 1 and December 31, the fee shall be

considered as payment of dues for the remainder of the current year and for the year following.

Section 2 Rejection

If an application fails to have the approval of all members of the Executive Committee, it shall be declared as rejected by the President. The Treasurer notifies the applicant of the rejection and returns the originally submitted membership fee to the applicant along with a notice of rejection stating the reason(s) for rejection.

Section 3 Dues and Suspension

Membership dues for each year beginning on January 1 shall be due and payable in December of the preceding year. The Executive Committee shall establish dues for the various grades of membership, and such procedures as are appropriate for their billing and collection, and shall determine when a member will be suspended for non-payment of dues.

Section 4 Fellows

- a. The grade of Fellow may be attained only by advancement from the grade of Member, and may not be attained by application. A proposal for the advancement of a Regular Member to the grade of Fellow shall be originated by five or more Members of the Association who shall provide data sufficient in their judgment to substantiate the qualifications of their candidate with respect to the requirements of Article I, Section 3 of these Byelaws. Such proposals shall be submitted to the General Secretary who shall refer them to the Executive Committee for its consideration.
- b. If the Executive Committee finds such candidate fully qualified for the grade of Fellow, and that such advancement to that grade would be in the best interest of the Association, it shall certify the nomination and forward its recommendation to the Board of Council. If the nomination receives the favourable vote of two thirds of the members of the Board of Council, the candidate shall be made a Fellow of the Association.

Section 5 Emeritus Members

Any Member or Fellow in good standing who is eligible for Emeritus Membership under Article 1, Section 6 of these Byelaws may apply for transfer to that classification by submitting a proper application to the General Secretary. The General Secretary shall then present such request to the Executive Committee, which may act directly to approve or disapprove it or refer it to the Board of Council for report and recommendation. The General Secretary shall notify the applicant of the final action by the Association and, if approved, the effective date of the transfer shall normally be January 1 of the operating year in which such transfer was approved.

Section 6 Resignation

A member of any grade in the Association may resign by a written communication to the President. If all dues and other indebtedness have been paid, the resignation in good standing shall be accepted.. A member who has failed to remit current dues by June 1 of the operating year, shall be considered as having resigned from the Association. The Executive Committee may grant such temporary dues relief as they deem proper because of prolonged unemployment or other appropriate reason.

Section 7 Reinstatement

A member of the Association in any grade, who has resigned in good standing, may be reinstated by the Executive Committee upon review of that member's professional record. Such member may then renew all membership privileges by paying the required dues for the fiscal year in which the reinstatement occurs. A member in any grade who has been considered to have resigned because of failure to remit current dues may be reinstated in the same manner provided all indebtedness, such as services and materials previously received but not paid for, have been paid.

ARTICLE III - ELECTION OF OFFICERS, MEMBERS-AT-LARGE AND ADVISORS

Section 1

The Board of Council shall be composed and its members shall be elected according to the Constitution article 11. Globally and regionally elected members of the Board of Council are elected by ballot mailed to the members of the Association globally and regionally as appropriate. It is the responsibility of the Board of Council to ensure that both global and regional elections are held.

Global election:

The six candidates receiving the most votes shall be elected members of the Board of Council.

Regional elections:

The candidate who receives the most votes in each region shall be elected member of the Board of Council.

Section 2

Elected members of the Board of Council shall serve for a term of four years beginning January 1, or in the event of a delayed election, until their successors are elected. In the event of a delayed election, the newly elected officers shall serve until December 31 of the fourth year. The President may be immediately re-elected to his/her post for one additional period (art. 11 of the Constitution). The Vice President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer shall be eligible for re-election to their respective offices for successive terms. After two consecutive periods, the President may be eligible for election to other Board positions for successive terms.

Section 3

In the event of a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice President shall vacate that office and become President for the unexpired term of office. All other Board vacancies occurring may be filled by interim appointment for the unexpired term of office through an internal vote by the Board of Council.

Section 4

Members may be offered a post of **Advisor** by decision of the Board of Council. Such appointments are in principle restricted to those Members who hold an outstanding record of

activities in favour of the Association. Designated Advisors shall serve for a term of four years beginning January 1.

Section 5

The newly elected General Secretary shall, before December 31 of the year ending the term, notify each member in good standing of the results of the elections of the Executive Committee.

Section 6

After the election the out-going President of the Association shall call a meeting of the Board of Council at which time the newly elected members of the Board of Council shall meet with the outgoing members to arrange for the transfer of responsibility for each office and elective position by April 1 of the year after the election.

Section 7

All officers shall serve without remuneration. When an officer is leaving his office, the General Assembly may decide upon proposal of the General Secretary acting on behalf of the Executive Committee, to designate this officer to the honorary function previously occupied. This designation does not alter the membership rights of the designated officer.

ARTICLE IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1

The duties of the officers shall be those customarily performed by such officers together with those specifically mentioned in these Byelaws and such other duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Council or the Executive Committee.

Section 2

The **President** shall preside at all General Meetings and meetings of the Board of Council and of the Executive Committee and shall perform all duties customarily pertaining to that office.

Section 3

The **Vice President** shall assist the President in all matters referred and, in the absence of the President, shall perform all of the duties of that office.

Section 4

The General Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Association and shall serve as Secretary of the Executive Committee. The General Secretary shall also:

- a. Give due advance notice of all meetings of the Association to each member.
- b. Mail to each member ballots for the election of officers, proposed amendments to the Constitution and Byelaws and other decisions that requires voting, as necessary.
- c. Notify each member of the results of elections and of other voting results.

- d. Record the names of new members on the roll of members and advise new members of their acceptance into membership by the Association.
- e. Perform such other duties as the office shall require or as shall be assigned by the Board of Council or the Executive Committee.
- f. Surrender to his successor all books, records, correspondence and documents of the Association.

Section 5

The Treasurer shall collect the fees and manage the funds of the Association. Approval of the budget by the Bureau Association's shall constitute authority to the Treasurer to disburse appropriate funds provided that such individual disbursements have been vouched by the President or individually designated by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall also:

- a. Present a financial report to the Board of Council at the end of each fiscal year and at other times as requested by the President.
- b. Receive applications for membership and membership fees from the General Secretary and forward applications for membership to the President of the Association.
- c. Advise any rejected applicant for membership of such rejection and return to the applicant the membership fee originally submitted with the application.
- d. Issue to each member a notice of dues payable. Such notice shall show the due date on or before which payment is to be made.
- e. Perform such other duties as the office may require or as assigned by the Executive Committee.
- f. Surrender to his successor all funds and property of the Association.

Section 6

The General Secretary and the Treasurer may delegate any of their aforementioned duties to another Executive Committee member upon approval of the Board of Council.

Section 7

The **Executive Committee** shall be the governing body of the Association and as such, shall have full power to conduct, manage, and direct the business and affairs of the Association in accordance with its Constitution and Byelaws. It shall:

- a. Maintain a register of minutes of all proceedings at meetings.
- b. Interpret and execute the provisions of the Constitution and Byelaws.
- c. Fill any vacancy in any office of the Association or Executive Committee except that of the President.
- d. Select and appoint a Statutory Agent with a business address in Belgium in which the principal office of the Association is located.
- e. Select and appoint an **Administrative Secretary** which under the supervision of the General Secretary and an editorial board prepares prints and mails all information to the Membership.
- f. Select and appoint committees as may be appropriate for conducting the Association's business.

Section 8

The **Executive Committee** shall meet at least twice each operating year upon due notice to its members at the call of the President or upon the written request of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee directed to the President. In the absence of a quorum, which shall be

three members of the Executive Committee, called meetings of the Executive Committee shall be adjourned to another date.

Section 9

The **Executive Committee** shall submit to the Board of Council for its approval proposed dates, meeting accommodations, and agenda for general membership meetings and shall be responsible for such other arrangements as may be necessary to ensure the orderly conduct of the meeting. It shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to it by the Board of Council.

Section 10

The **Executive Committee** shall review all nominations for advancement to the grade of Fellow, shall evaluate each candidate for such advancement to assure that the requirements of Article I, Section 3 of these Byelaws are met, and shall recommend such candidates for advancements as they deem appropriate.

Section 11

All appointed committees shall maintain a record of all proceedings and otherwise provide for their own operation.

Section 12

Members of committees appointed by the Executive Committee shall serve for a term of four years or until their successors have been appointed.

Section 13

The Archives of the Association are kept at the **Administrative Secretariat** which is also the standing information office of the Association.

ARTICLE V - REGIONAL OFFICES

Section 1

Upon the written petition over the signatures of seven members submitted to the Board of Council through the President, the Board of Council may authorize the formation of the **Regional Office**. Such petitioners shall either reside or be employed within the geographical area for which the Office is proposed. After due consideration of the petition by the Board of Council, that Board through its General Secretary shall notify the petitioners of its decision as to the authorization of the proposed Regional Office.

Section 2

Upon notice of favourable action on the petition by the Board of Council, the members of the Regional Office shall prepare its Constitution and Byelaws and submit them to the Board of Council for review and approval.

Section 3

A Regional Office shall at all times be subject to the Constitution and Byelaws of the Association and to all rules and regulations prescribed from time to time by the Board of Council for the conduct of the Association as a whole.

Section 4

It shall be the function of a Regional Office to foster, promote, and further within the geographical area assigned to it by the Board of Council, the purposes and objectives of the Association as contained in the Constitution and Byelaws of the Association and as promulgated by the Board of Council.

Section 5

Each Regional Office shall submit a copy of the minutes of each business meeting to the General Secretary of the Association and shall maintain a record of all proceedings and otherwise provide for their own operation.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

On proposal by the Executive Committee these Byelaws may be amended by decision of the General Assembly.