



IMIA STATUTES

Approved by the General Assembly in Cape Town, South Africa, 12 September 2010

Replacing the version approved by the General Assembly in Kyoto, Japan,
12 September 1993

ARTICLE 1

1.1. Name

The name of the association shall be International Medical Informatics Association (hereinafter IMIA).

1.2. Legal Form and Location

IMIA shall be organized under Swiss law in the form of an association, as defined in the Swiss Civil Code, article 60. The seat of the association shall be located in the Canton of Geneva, Switzerland.

1.3. Objectives and Purposes

IMIA exists to serve the specific needs of the application of informatics methodology and information technology in the field of health care and biomedical research. The basic aims of IMIA shall be:

- to promote informatics in health care, public health and biomedical research;
- to advance international cooperation;
- to stimulate research, development and routine application;
- to move informatics from theory into practice in the full range of health and care settings;
- to further the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, information, best practice and technology;
- to promote education and responsible, professional and ethical behaviour;
- to seek and maintain formal channels of communication with any relevant professional or governmental organization.

1.4. Language

English shall be IMIA's working language.

ARTICLE 2

Membership

2.1. Inclusivity

In order to achieve IMIA's objectives to contribute to the health and quality of life of the people in our world through dissemination and use of informatics for high-quality, efficient health care and public health and for high-quality research in biomedicine and in the health, information and computer

sciences, IMIA's members collaborate in a tolerant and peaceful way, transcending nations, cultures, and political or social structures.

2.2. Categories of Membership

2.2.1. IMIA Member Societies

In each country, one society or a group of societies or an appropriate body which is representative of activities within the field of medical informatics may become a Member Society. Only one Member Society may be admitted from each country, except as defined in IMIA Policies. Each Member Society shall appoint one representative to IMIA.

The legal status of a Member Society shall allow its representative to vote on all matters of concern to IMIA and the Member Society.

2.2.2. Regional IMIA Members

Where a functional Regional Group of Member Societies exists, it may be accepted by the IMIA General Assembly as a Regional Member.

The Regional Member is allowed to elect a representative to act as a liaison officer to the IMIA Board.

2.2.3. Associate Members

The Chairpersons of such Groups as the General Assembly of IMIA may designate in Policies shall be Associate Members for the duration of their terms of office as chairpersons.

2.2.4. Affiliate IMIA Members

Any duly recognised international organization, professional or governmental, professionally engaged within the field covered by IMIA or closely related fields, may be accepted as an Affiliate Member by the IMIA General Assembly.

2.2.5. Honorary Fellows

Persons who have earned exceptional merit in furthering the aims and interests of IMIA may be accepted as Honorary Fellows by the IMIA General Assembly. Honorary Fellowship is conferred for life, or as otherwise defined in IMIA Policies.

2.2.6. Institutional Members

Any duly recognised institution, company, hospital or other organization working in the field covered by IMIA or closely related fields may be accepted as an Institutional Member. Each Institutional Member shall appoint one representative to IMIA.

Institutional Members may be further categorised as defined in IMIA Policies.

2.2.7. Corresponding Members

An individual residing in a country that does not have an appropriate body eligible to be an IMIA Member Society may apply to become a Corresponding Member.

2.2.8. Observers

Representatives from countries or organisations which qualify under IMIA Policies may, by a majority vote of the General Assembly, be accepted as Observers at IMIA meetings for a period defined in the said Policies.

2.3. Admission and Termination of Membership

Membership of IMIA shall be granted and/or terminated as defined in IMIA Policies.

ARTICLE 3

3.1 Operation

3.1.1. The governing bodies of IMIA shall be, in descending order of authority:

1. the General Assembly (GA),
2. the IMIA Board,
3. the Executive Committee.

3.1.2. The scientific activities of IMIA will be channeled through standing or limited-term groups as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.1.3. The General Assembly or the Board may appoint and dissolve standing, or ad-hoc committees or taskforces as required for specific purposes.

3.2. The General Assembly

3.2.1. Composition

The General Assembly shall be composed of one representative or an alternate from each Member Society and one from each Regional, Affiliate and Institutional Member, the Associate Members, the Honorary Fellows, the members of the Board and a representative of IFIP. Accredited Observers, Corresponding Members, and others at the discretion of the President, may attend but have no voting rights.

3.2.2. Voting Rights

3.2.2.1. Voting on the following topics is restricted to representatives of Member Societies:

1. changes of the IMIA statutes,
2. the admission and exclusion of Members,
3. the election of Officers,
4. the adoption of the budget.

3.2.2.2. In all other respects voting rights shall be as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.2.3. Quorum

The conditions under which the General Assembly shall be able to conduct business shall be as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.2.4. Authority

3.2.4.1. Within IMIA, the General Assembly shall be the supreme authority, responsible for the implementation of the program of IMIA.

3.2.4.2. The General Assembly may establish Policies to define:

1. Procedural aspects of IMIA's Statutes,
2. Specific duties and responsibilities of Officers and other members of the Board,
3. Rules and guidelines for specific IMIA activities or events, and
4. Such other matters as deemed appropriate

3.2.4.3. The General Assembly may delegate its responsibilities to the Board, except for the following:

1. changes of the IMIA statutes,
2. the admission and exclusion of Members,
3. the election of Officers,
4. the adoption of the budget.
5. the approval of new or modified Policies.

3.2.5. Meetings

The General Assembly shall meet at least once in each calendar year. The organisation and conduct of meetings shall be as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.3. Board

3.3.1. Composition

3.3.1.1. The Board shall be composed of the Officers as follows:

1. the President (who will hold the Chair),
2. the President-elect,
3. the Secretary,
4. the Treasurer,
5. the Past President,

and a maximum of eight vice-presidents, each one responsible for one specific part of IMIA activities.

3.3.1.2. Persons appointed to specific functions by the Board or General Assembly may participate in Board meetings as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.3.1.3. In addition, each Regional Member has the right to nominate a liaison officer to the Board.

3.3.1.4. Support staff as defined in IMIA Policies may be attached to the Board.

3.3.2. Terms of Office The terms of office of members of the Board shall be as defined in IMIA Policies.

3.3.3. Authority

The authority of the Board shall be to administer and to make decisions for IMIA, including decisions within the competence of the General Assembly but delegated to the Board, with the exception of those decisions specially reserved for the General Assembly as defined in 3.2.4.2.

The Board will review and revise the program and budget, if needed, between General Assembly meetings.

The President shall convene and conduct the General Assembly, the Board and the Executive Committee. During the absence or incapacity of the President and designated alternate, the President-elect or the Officer longest in office shall act in the President's stead.

3.3.4. Quorum and Majority

The Board shall conduct its business as specified in IMIA Policies.

3.3.5. Meetings

The Board shall schedule and conduct its meetings and other business as specified in IMIA Policies.

3.4. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Executive Committee may make decisions on behalf of IMIA when time constraints make a full meeting of the Board impracticable. Such decisions must be notified to the Board as soon as possible and presented for ratification at the next meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE 4

Finances

The finances of the Association shall be managed as specified in IMIA Policies.

ARTICLE 5

Statutes and Amendments

All proposals for modification of these Statutes or dissolution of the Association must be submitted by the Board or by the representative of at least one Member Society. Any such proposal shall be brought to the notice of all Members of the Association at least one month in advance of the meeting of the General Assembly at which it will be discussed. Approval of such proposals shall require a two-thirds majority of all Member Societies of the Association.

In case of the dissolution of the Association, its assets will be transferred to an Institution pursuing the same basic aims. In no case will those assets be returned to Members or to Donees of the Association, and in no case will they be utilised wholly, in part, or in any way to the financial gain of the Association.