



**STATUTES OF THE
WORLD FEDERALIST MOVEMENT – INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL POLICY, LTD.
AND
STICHTING VERELD VERBOND VAN WERELD FEDERALISTEN**

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PREAMBLE

1. As members of the World Federalist Movement, we affirm our determination to exercise our rights and responsibilities as citizens of the whole world in order to achieve the high purposes of the United Nations.
2. Ours is a planet in crisis, suffering grave problems unable to be managed by nations acting separately in an ungoverned world. It has become urgent for the world's people and governments to join in achieving a new level of global solidarity such as can only be sustained by a commitment to the planet as a genuine community. We make that commitment and call on our fellow citizens and governments to do the same.
3. As world federalists, we view the world as one society embracing all of humanity in all its diversity. We affirm that the ideals and principles of community life which are basic to civilized existence can and must be applied to international relations. To this end, we call for urgent progress in developing democratic world institutions of law by which the world's people and nations can govern their relations to assure a peaceful, just and ecologically sustainable world community.
4. These institutions must have actual and sufficient authority to make and enforce law in their given jurisdictions in accordance with the basic federalist principle of subsidiarity, which is the division of political authority and jurisdiction between different levels of government and the solving of problems at the level at which they occur, in general at the most local level possible. For this is the essence of world federalism: to seek to invest legal and political authority in world institutions to deal with problems which can only be treated adequately at the global level, while affirming the sovereignty of the nation-state in matters which are essentially internal. Our objective is a world order in which the legitimate rights of nations to self-determination are balanced by and consistent with the collective rights of the global community to protect and advance the common good of humanity.
5. Our objective is to have not only governments, but individuals recognize their obligation to uphold and affirm world law through allegiance to these institutions. It is the citizen who is finally the rightful source and subject of the authority of world law. Individuals, whether heads of government or ordinary citizens, must be accountable under due process of world law for crimes against humanity.
6. In our work for world federation, we are dedicated especially to work for:
 - understanding and amity among the world's cultures and political ideologies;
 - an end to the arms race, and the elimination of all weapons of mass destruction;
 - an end to the use and threat of use of military force;

- respect for universal human rights and freedoms, including the right of all to the requirements of a dignified life, and the freedom of all to responsibly express their beliefs;
- equitable participation of all in the global economy and in global decisions which affect their lives; equitable distribution of world resources between rich and poor countries, in order to eradicate poverty, disease and illiteracy;
- the protection of our common environment and the preservation of the ecosystem for succeeding generations; and

7. the emergence of a global ethos and a consciousness of humanity as one community and of every person as a citizen of one world.

In the service of our goals we support transnational tendencies which lead towards a legal and democratic world order and world community. We especially support:

- the important functions and work of the United Nations system, while working at the same time to make it more democratic, reliable and effective;
- respect for international law, as well as its further development through such existing mechanisms as state ratification of treaties and conventions;
- the development of democratic accountability and representation within regional, international and global organizations; and

8. the development of associations and/or federations for regional or functional purposes. We recognize that the building of a world community -- one based on fundamental justice and an appreciation of differences -- is the greatest intellectual, moral and political challenge of our time. It calls on each of us to examine our beliefs and priorities, and to express in our personal way our commitment to global change.

9. Change requires the organized will and intelligence of many individuals, and each person has something positive and vital to contribute to the process of change. Believing that by working together we can achieve more than by working separately, we unite our efforts through the World Federalist Movement and adopt hereby these statutes.

Article 1 MEMBERSHIP

- 1.a** Membership shall be open, irrespective of race, color, nationality, religion, class or gender to any individual, organization or group subscribing to the Vision, Mission, Values and Statutes of the World Federalist Movement – Institute for Global Policy Ltd (WFM) as is hereinafter provided.
- 1.a.i. The Vision, Mission and Values (aims) of WFM can be found on the WFM website.
- 1.b** Membership shall be of the following categories:
- 1.c** Full Member Organizations
- 1.c.i. Full Member Organizations shall be those established with a primary purpose similar to that of WFM, and which are open for individual members in their area or sector of operation. Full Member Organizations must have a minimum of 10 paid-up members.
- 1.c.ii. Full Member Organizations shall have a significant capacity to contribute to the enhancement of public and political support for the aims of WFM. They shall commit to carrying out one or more programmes consistent with the fundamental policies adopted by Congress. They shall be committed to and shall practice democratic internal organization. They shall be organized and administered in accordance with the legislation of their respective countries. The establishment of Full Member Organizations shall be carried out in close cooperation with the Congress and Executive Board (Board), which shall receive for approval a copy of their statutes. The annual dues shall be defined by Congress.
- 1.d** Associate Member Organizations
- 1.d.i. Associate Member Organizations shall be those established with a primary purpose other than those of WFM as outlined under the above Preamble, but which are in general sympathy with the idea of world federalism; or those which are not open for personal members in their area or sector of operation; or new organizations that shall be considered as future Full Member Organizations; or organizations that do not request full membership as Full Member Organizations. As Associate Member Organizations can also be accepted Parliamentary Groups, Umbrella Organizations, Youth Organizations, sectoral interest groups which may be termed Transnational Networking Organizations, and others that do not yet fulfill the criteria for a Full Member Organization.
- 1.d.ii. Associate Member Organizations shall have some capacity to contribute to the enhancement of public and political support for the aims of WFM. The establishment of Associate Member Organizations shall be carried out in close cooperation with the Congress and Board which shall receive for approval a copy of their statutes. Applicants

for Associate Member Organization membership shall endorse the WFM Vision, Mission and Values. The annual dues shall be defined by Congress.

1.e Member Organizations shall be Full Member and Associate Member Organizations collectively

1.f Individual Members

- 1.f.i. Individuals who support the idea of world federalism can become members of the International Member Organization (IMO) of the WFM. Unless otherwise stipulated by these Statutes, this organization shall follow the same rules as any other Full Member Organization.
- 1.f.ii. The WFM IMO shall be incorporated in the country or countries where the WFM is incorporated and shall be administered in accordance with the legislation of such countries. The membership dues of the WFM IMO shall be paid to the WFM directly and administered by the WFM International Secretariat, according to rules to be provided in the Statutes of the WFM IMO. The annual statement of paid-up members of the IMO shall be administered by the WFM International Secretariat.
- 1.f.iii. The President(s) of WFM is (are) ex officio president(s) of the IMO. The members of the IMO will elect other board members among themselves by means as provided in the Statutes of the WFM IMO.

1.g Congress accepts new Full Member Organizations, and the Board accepts new Associate Member Organizations (to be ratified by Congress before they can vote at Congress) by a simple majority, by recommendation from the Credentials, Nominations and Statutes Committee (CNSC). If membership requirements are not met, the Board may, in special circumstances, make exceptions to them. Such exceptions shall be reported to the Congress.

1.h The Congress may, on recommendation of the Board, withdraw by a two-thirds majority vote (of those present, in-person or online, and entitled to vote) the membership of a particular WFM member if the individual or organization fails to comply with or contravenes the Statutes or acts in a manner harmful to the work of WFM. The individual or a majority of the members of the organization may appeal against the action to the next Congress, the decision of which is final.

- 1.h.i. Expulsion of any individual member or Member Organization can be initiated by the Board. Any such proposal shall be sent to the Head of the WFM Secretariat and by him/her be submitted to the members of the Board and the CNSC with simultaneous information to the charged party. If the Board decides, in consultation with the CNSC, to make a recommendation for expulsion, the charged party will be suspended by registered letter without delay and the case will be circulated to all Member

Organizations. Decisions shall be taken at the first following meeting of the Congress by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates present and voting. An expelled party may appeal to the next Congress. Such an appeal shall be placed on the agenda before any voting is done. The charged party has the right to be represented during discussions in Congress.

Article 2 CONGRESS

- 2.a** WFM shall be governed by its Congress, which shall formulate the fundamental policy of WFM. Between Congresses all powers not reserved to Congress shall be vested in the Board.
- 2.b** The Congress shall be called by the Board every two years. An Interim Congress may also be called by the Board, or by one-third of all Member Organizations, currently paid-up, requesting the same in writing to the International Secretariat.
- 2.c** Notice and Deadlines
- 2.c.i. The Board shall determine the date and place of Congress meetings, and the decision to be communicated to the Member Organizations in a timely manner.
 - 2.c.ii. Notice of the meeting of the Congress shall be sent to all recognized members so as to be received not later than three months before its commencement. This shall include a notification to the organizations of the delegates to which it is entitled.
 - 2.c.iii. Not less than six weeks before the meeting, proposals for the Congress shall be submitted to the International Secretariat, including proposed items for the meeting agenda, proposed amendments to the Statutes, and proposed resolutions. Member Organizations, members of the Board, and the Head of the WFM Secretariat have the right to make such proposals and to have them considered by Congress. Proposals that are not submitted by this deadline may be accepted for consideration by a two thirds majority of Congress, except for Statutes amendments where the deadline is mandatory.
 - 2.c.iv. Not less than six weeks before the meeting, Member Organizations shall provide to the International Secretariat a report of their activities since the previous Congress, and submit the names of appointed delegates for the upcoming meeting, as well as other information as requested in the notice of Congress. They are also invited to submit nominations for Officers and Board Members.
 - 2.c.v. Information received in response to the notice, and a provisional agenda of the meeting shall likewise be circulated to the same parties not less than one month before the meeting date.

- 2.c.vi. The names of all Congress delegates shall be circulated one month prior to Congress. Member Organizations are responsible for informing the Secretariat of changes in its appointments no later than two weeks prior to a meeting of Congress.

2.d Composition

- 2.d.i. The Congress shall be composed of delegates appointed by Member Organizations, and ex officio delegates. Full Member Organizations shall always have a voting majority. If necessary, the votes of Full Member Organizations delegates will be weighted to achieve this.
- 2.d.ii. Each Full Member Organization with up to 200 members shall be entitled to 2 delegates; those with 201 to 800 members shall be entitled to 3 delegates; those with 801 to 2000 members shall be entitled to 4 delegates; those with 2001 or more shall be entitled to 5 delegates.
- 2.d.iii. The number of delegates each with a vote at the Congress shall be calculated on the basis of the number of paid-up members in the previous year. No organization can have more than 25% of the total vote.
- 2.d.iv. Associate Member Organizations shall be entitled to send one delegate each to Congress.
- 2.d.v. The Officers and Board Members shall be ex officio delegates to Congress. The Head of the WFM Secretariat shall be an ex officio observer with the right to speak, but not to vote. If the Assistant Treasurer is not already a delegate, they shall be an ex officio observer.
- 2.d.vi. The Congress may appoint members of Member Organizations, or non-members with desired competence, to serve in an advisory position to each Congress meeting. Such advisors will have the right to speak and propose, but not to vote.
- 2.d.vii. Any delegate otherwise eligible to participate and vote is entitled to participate virtually via online communications. The delegates who participate virtually shall be able to participate in discussions, make motions, and cast votes, in the same way as delegates who are physically present. Any delegate intending to participate virtually must notify the Secretariat in writing by the meeting registration deadline(s) as stipulated by the Secretariat. In the event of an emergency, a waiver to this deadline can be granted by the Chair of Congress.

2.e Decisions

- 2.e.i. All decisions of the Congress shall be taken by a simple majority of delegates present (in-person or online) and voting, except in the case of expulsion of a Member

Organization, changing the Statutes and of dissolving WFM. In case of a tie the Chair of Congress shall have a second and casting vote.

2.e.ii. Each delegate shall have one vote. Votes of Full Member Organizations may then be weighted to comply with 2.d.i. At the beginning of Congress, the Chair determines the voting weight of Full Member Organization delegates. Each delegate may also, upon presentation to the Chair of the session of a written authority to act, cast proxy votes for their organizations only, but not exceeding five votes in all. Staff members may not serve as proxies for delegates.

2.f The Congress shall adopt a document of fundamental policies of WFM, to be open to amendments at each Congress session.

2.g The Board shall submit a report to Congress on the work of the WFM since the previous Congress. A condensed report shall be submitted to all participating organizations by the Head of the WFM Secretariat after review of the Chair of the Board.

2.h The Congress may appoint such Congress committees as it thinks fit.

2.i The Congress shall establish its own rules of procedure, which must be in conformity with the Statutes. The Congress Chair shall establish a Congress Steering Committee to assist in the general conduct of the work of the Congress. The Congress Steering Committee's composition and role shall be defined in Congress's rules of procedure and shall include developing the agenda for Congress with input from the Board and the Member Organizations. Congress approves the final agenda for each Congress meeting.

2.j Those years when Congress is not called, the Board shall arrange other events; in particular regional meetings, networking, recruiting and educational events. These events should be subject to budget and activity level in each region.

Article 3 THE EXECUTIVE BOARD (BOARD)

3.a The Congress shall delegate policy execution to the Executive Board (Board) between Congress meetings, acting as the Board of Directors in the US. The Board shall harmonize programs and campaigns established by the Congress, in accordance with available resources. The Board is responsible to the Congress for its actions.

3.b The Board shall consist of:

- all Officers elected by Congress in accordance with Article 4 of these Statutes
- up to four additional members elected by Congress
- the Head of the WFM Secretariat as a non-voting member

- 3.c** Half of the members of the Board, including Officers, shall be elected every second Congress, for four-year terms. When necessary in order to achieve this, members of the Board can be elected for two-year terms.
- 3.d** The Board may additionally appoint members of Member Organizations, or non-members with desired competence, to serve in an advisory position for a period. Such advisors will have the right to speak and propose, but not to vote.
- 3.e** All decisions of the Board, unless otherwise specified, shall be taken by a simple majority vote of the members present and voting.
- 3.f** Members of the Board may not appoint alternates or substitutes or vote by proxy. Five voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, any decisions shall be validated only when subsequently ratified in writing/email by a majority of the Board.
- 3.g** The Board shall meet not less than twice a year, and its decisions shall be subject to review by Congress.
- 3.h** The Board may appoint such subcommittees and working groups, whose membership is not limited to members of the Board, as it thinks fit.
- 3.i** The composition of the Board, and the election of Officers, shall ensure broad representation in the WFM among genders, age groups, and geographical background, to the widest extent possible.

Article 4 OFFICERS

- 4.a** The Congress shall elect at least one and no more than two Presidents of WFM, the role of which shall be to represent WFM and to publicly promote its aims. The presidents shall be persons with an international profile who have subscribed to the aims of WFM, can appeal to a wide variety of audiences, and have an ability to attract funds and public and political support for WFM. Nominations should be made that represent a balance of individuals in terms of gender, geographic origin and background.
- 4.b** The Congress shall elect its Chair and a Vice-Chair to act in the Chair's absence. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Congress, develop in collaboration with the Congress Steering Committee the agenda for Congress meetings, serve as a spokesperson for WFM as appropriate when the President(s) and Chair of the Board are not available, and assume other responsibilities as directed by the Congress.
- 4.c** The Congress shall elect a Treasurer responsible for the safeguarding of assets, for banking arrangements and the financial soundness of WFM. They shall also ensure that

material is available for audit review. The Treasurer may appoint an Assistant Treasurer from time to time subject to the approval of the Congress at its next meeting.

- 4.d** The Congress shall elect the Chair of the Board, Vice-Chair of the Board, and the Chairs of the following Board committees; Credentials, Nominations and Statutes; Policy Review; Membership and Outreach; Development; and a Secretary from its members. The Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Finance Committee.
- 4.e** The Secretary shall be responsible for ensuring the preparation and distribution of the minutes of meetings of the Congress and Board.
- 4.f** Congress shall elect the officers mentioned above by secret ballot on an absolute majority of members voting in person or by proxy in a manner prescribed in the Appendix.
- 4.g** A member of the Board, who is manifestly not fulfilling their Board duties (such as by persistently failing to attend Board meetings), may be removed by an affirmative majority vote by the current Board. The Board member in question may appeal such a decision, the effect of which would be the Board inviting that person to be heard, and after that a decision taken by 2/3 of the Board would be final.
- 4.h** All vacancies in the Board may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining members of the Board, giving priority to qualified applicants from (i) existing Board members or (ii) suggestions from the Membership Council, provided that any such member of the Board shall only hold the office until a new member of the Board is duly elected by the next Congress.

Article 5 HONORARY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

- 5.a** The Board shall have the power to appoint, in consultation with the Membership Council, Honorary Officers of WFM originating from different regions of the world and with due regard to the interest of WFM members existing in the areas.
- 5.b** The Board shall invite, in consultation with the Membership Council, distinguished individuals to serve as members of the Advisory Council. The size of the Advisory Council shall be determined by the Board.
- 5.c** Such officers and advisors shall have no formal responsibilities in the governance of WFM, and may serve, for varying lengths of time, at the pleasure of the Congress.

Article 6 COMMITTEES

- 6.a** The Congress shall appoint the following continuing Board committees: Finance; Development; Credentials, Nominations and Statutes; Policy Review; Membership and

Outreach. In addition, the Board may set up standing or ad hoc committees and task forces between meetings of Congress. The membership of such committees shall be established so as to satisfy, to the largest possible extent, the organizational interests of the Full Member Organizations.

- 6.b** The Chair of the Board shall also in consultation with the Head of the WFM Secretariat be authorized to nominate delegates to represent WFM at appropriate national and international conferences.
- 6.c** Board committees and task forces shall report to the Board, and the Congress when in session. They will inform, plan, and collaborate with the Head of the Secretariat.

Article 7 MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

- 7.a** The Chair of Congress is to invite all Member Organizations to participate in the Membership Council, to facilitate ongoing two-way communication between the Board and the members.
- 7.b** The Membership Council shall have no formal responsibilities in the governance of WFM.
- 7.c** The Membership Council may request joint informal meetings with the Board.
- 7.d** The Membership Council decides its own rules of procedure.
- 7.e** Serving a paid position at WFM or other forms of personal financial dependence on WFM, or serving on the Board of WFM, are incompatible with membership in the Membership Council.

Article 8 SECRETARIATS

- 8.a** The Head of the Secretariat shall be appointed by the Board. The Board shall determine their salary and conditions of service. They shall attend the sessions of the Congress and the Board. Between meetings of the Congress and the Board, the Head of the Secretariat shall be responsible as the Chief Executive Officer for managing the affairs of WFM.
- 8.b** Other senior officers of the Secretariat and senior officers of the Regional Secretariats shall be appointed by the Head of the Secretariat subject to the approval of the Board.
- 8.c** The Seats of the Secretariat and the Regional Secretariats shall be determined by the Board.

Article 9 FINANCES

- 9.a** WFM shall be financed by:

- Annual dues paid by Member Organizations and others
- Donations and grants

All sources of funding will be scrutinized as being ethically appropriate to the objects and reputation of WFM.

- 9.b** The annual budget shall be prepared by the Head of the Secretariat in cooperation with the Treasurer. The budget shall be submitted to the Board for approval, circulated to all Member Organizations and distributed at Congress.
- 9.c** The execution of the financial policies is the responsibility of the Head of the Secretariat.
- 9.d** The arrangements for appropriate auditing are to be approved by the Board and the report shall be presented and circulated to all Member Organizations not later than six months after the end of the fiscal year and distributed at Congress.
- 9.e** The financial accountability of WFM shall be maintained by the procedures established in the Appendix.

Article 10 STATUTES AMENDMENTS

- 10.a** Member Organizations and the Board may propose amendments to the Statutes.
- 10.b** Proposals to amend these Statutes shall be sent to the Secretariat to be received there not less than six weeks prior to the meeting of the Congress and shall be dealt with by the Secretariat in accordance with the provisions of the relevant articles of these Statutes.
- 10.c** Any amendments to the Statutes shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the delegates voting in person or by proxy.
- 10.d** Amendments shall be operative as of the moment of their adoption.

Article 11 DISSOLUTION

- 11.a** WFM may be dissolved only by decision of the Congress acting on the proposal from the Board or any Full Member Organization.
- 11.b** The Chair of Congress shall circulate such a proposal simultaneously by registered letter or email to each of the Member Organizations not less than 60 days prior to the date for a decision.
- 11.c** Any such proposal shall be adopted if passed by a two-thirds majority of the delegates either at a Congress or through a mail/email ballot.

- 11.d** The dissolution of WFM shall be in accordance with the law and practice relating to non-profit organizations in the jurisdiction(s) in which it is incorporated, which may include any distribution of assets.

APPENDIX

Article I _____ MEMBERSHIP DUES

- I.i** Full Member Organizations shall pay membership dues to WFM based on the number of members, and Associate Member Organizations a set amount. Each of the Full Member Organizations shall forward to the Secretariat an annual statement of paid-up members organized in that Organization.
- I.ii** Annual membership dues for Member Organizations or other Congress-recognized groups shall be set by the Congress at the recommendation of the Treasurer and the Board. The burden of demonstrating to the satisfaction of the Board that special rates should apply rests with that particular organization; otherwise, the Congress-defined rates shall apply.
- I.iii** The dues may be paid in equivalent amounts in any currency, but there shall be no changes in amounts due because of changes in exchange rates. Any payment of dues shall automatically be applied to the furthest remote arrears.
- I.iv** Dues shall be paid annually. Any Member Organization which has not fully paid their dues prior to the Congress session shall not be granted delegates at Congress. Any delinquency or penalty may be waived at the discretion of the Board.

Article II _____ REIMBURSEMENTS

- II.i** There will be no compensation paid to members of the Board. The members of the Board shall be entitled to be reimbursed for traveling and lodging expenses when attending meetings of the Congress and Board subject to the availability of funds.

Article III _____ ELECTIONS

- III.i** All contested elections of Officers and the Board shall be by secret ballot. The Credentials, Nominations and Statutes Committee (CNSC) shall be responsible that all delegates be provided with a list of delegates and a list of candidates nominated by Member Organizations before Congress, and with support from the Secretariat shall provide the means for all delegates participating in person or virtually to vote.
- III.ii** The CNSC shall accept nominations of candidates for election to Officers and the Board in accordance with Article 3.b of the Statutes. The CNSC shall determine and make known to delegates a closing time for the reception of nominations. Nominations for the election of President(s), Honorary Officers or Advisory Council cannot be given from the floor of the Congress, but must be submitted in advance. The CNSC shall make a recommendation regarding which offices in the Board should be filled for 4-year and 2-year periods, respectively.

- III.iii** No officer shall be eligible to serve simultaneously for more than one of the offices listed in Article 4 of the Statutes. Staff members shall not be eligible as candidates for any office or for the Board.
- III.iv** In the case of contested elections of officers or of the Board, a second vote shall be taken between the two leading contenders, if no contender has obtained a 50% majority of the vote first taken. In the event of a tie, a further ballot shall be held from among those candidates who have not withdrawn their names. In the event of a continued tie between two candidates, the election shall be decided by drawing lots. In all cases a candidate needs a majority of the votes cast in order to be elected, even if there is only one candidate.
- III.v** The voting figures from the elections of Officers and the Board shall be made available upon request following the announcement of those elected.

Article IV ACCOUNTABILITY

- IV.i** The Head of the WFM Secretariat, in cooperation with the Treasurer, shall twice a year circulate to the Board statements of receipts, disbursements and obligations in due time before the Board meetings.
- IV.ii** The Board shall, in coordination with the Treasurer and Secretariat, take appropriate action to review the fiscal records of WFM at least once each year. The results of this review will be reported to Congress. The fiscal year of WFM is the calendar year.
- IV.iii** Officers empowered to sign legal and policy documents are the Chair of the Congress together with the Chair of the Board.
- IV.iv** The Board shall determine from time to time who shall be authorized to sign on WFM's behalf checks, notes, drafts, acceptances, bills of exchange, and other orders or obligations for the payment of money; to enter into contracts; or to execute and deliver other documents and instruments. No individual shall be authorized to bind WFM to any obligation unless expressly authorized by the Board.
- IV.v** In all other matters documents shall be signed by the Head of the WFM Secretariat or the officer designated by him/her.
- IV.vi** The Head of the WFM Secretariat shall in political matters be guided by the advice of the Chair of the Congress and the Chair of the Board and, when dealing with major issues of organization and finance, shall provide prompt and complete reports to the Chair of the Congress, the Chair of the Board and the Treasurer. When Congress and Board are not in session, the Head of the WFM Secretariat shall be responsible that statements on current affairs be issued. The text of any such statement must be

approved by two of the following: the President(s), the Chair of the Congress and the Chair of the Board.

Article V _____ ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS AND MEETING

- V.i** Any reference to physical communication or meetings includes online equivalents, such as emails in place of letters, and zoom in place of in-person meetings.