

Statutes of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC)



Approved by the 68th General Assembly of the CIC

Riga, Latvia

11 June, 2022

**International Council for Game and Wildlife
Conservation | Conseil International de la
Chasse et de la Conservation du Gibier |
Internationaler Rat zur Erhaltung des Wildes
und der Jagd**

The Vision of the CIC is a world where wildlife is valued and conserved as part of nature for the benefit of humanity.

The Mission of the CIC is to promote and support the conservation of wildlife and related landscapes, local communities, and traditions through sustainable use including hunting.

STATUTES

Article 1

Name, Legal Status and Registered Seat

The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) was founded through its Constitutive Session held on 7th November 1930 in Paris, France and was registered in 1935 under the French law of 1901¹ with its original legal seat in Paris. In 2003, under the Federal Law of the Republic of Austria, the CIC was granted the privileges of an International Non-Governmental Organisation (BGBl. Nr. 174/1992) with its legal seat in Vienna, Austria. After a change to the Federal Law of the Republic of Austria, the CIC had to re-apply for the legal status of an International Non-Governmental Organisation, which was granted in December 2021 (BGBl. I Nr. 54/2021²).

The CIC is a public welfare organisation, its activities are not profit oriented, and are conducted in the interest of the public to conserve nature. Its seat is in Vienna and it has an Administrative Office in Budakeszi, Hungary. Its members abide by the Statutes as modified on 11 June 2022.

Article 2

Purpose

The purpose of the CIC is exclusively and directly the conservation of nature, of the environment and of biodiversity through the conservation of wildlife and its habitats through sustainable use.

The CIC may, apart from completely subordinate secondary aims, not pursue any purposes other than those which are for the public welfare and interest.

The CIC does not aim to gain any profit.

¹ *in accordance with the law of July 1, 1901 published in the Journal Official on January 20, 1935 – registration number SIREN 7843635090042.

² Federal Law Gazette II No. 594/2021 of 27.12.2021 on Granting of Legal Capacity to Other International Bodies; and the Federal Law Gazette II No. 593/2021 of 27.12.2021

The CIC is particularly committed to the protection of endangered wildlife species. The CIC promotes the reduction of possible conflict involving wildlife and humans. It strives, in the interest of the public, to achieve these goals whilst preventing damage to agriculture and forestry as an essential service to nature and society. The CIC promotes and furthers research and scientific knowledge in the field of wildlife biology and the management of wildlife populations.

Article 3

Non-material means

3.1 Promotion of the conservation of biodiversity through sustainable use

- a) promotion of the conservation of nature, its habitats and species, through the sustainable use of wild biological resources
- b) publication of “The Evolution of CITES” as a reference work for *inter alia* customs authorities to prevent illegal trade in endangered species
- c) supporting the worldwide dissemination of knowledge about nature conservation through the **sustainable use of nature including hunting of wild animals**
- d) supporting **traditional forms of wildlife management** in accordance with the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) to manage their natural resources
- e) safeguarding **local customs** in connection with wildlife management with their irreplaceable contributions to the conservation of tangible and intangible natural and cultural heritage, including recognition as part of UNESCO’s intangible cultural heritage
- f) promoting the importance of wildlife managers as necessary in building and maintaining healthy ecosystems and as inevitable actors in achieving the **UN “One Health”** goal
- g) promoting the highest possible level of biological diversity (species, habitats and genetics) including healthy, sustainable wildlife populations
- h) paying special attention to improving the conservation status of threatened wildlife populations, in the interest of present and future generations
- i) improving the habitats of wildlife through rewilding and ecosystem restoration such as through supporting the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration

- j) raising awareness of the general public about the services rendered to conservation through sustainable use of nature
- k) enhancing understanding of nature and natural processes among the public with special emphasis on youth
- l) regular communication and information to CIC members and partners on the importance of the conservation of nature, its habitats and species as a prerequisite for the sustained management of wildlife resources
- m) assess and coordinate existing education programmes on nature for youth, and increase their reach and rate of incorporation into the central education plans of governments
- n) regularly issue publications, maintain an up-to-date and user-friendly website, and increase the contents of the CIC library which is available to the public, while seeking to digitalize existing and new materials
- o) production of publications and films about exemplary wildlife population management
- p) the awarding of prizes to projects and individuals for exemplary results in wildlife management, for nature conservation, for writing of literary publications and for work on hunting culture and in art
- q) creation of and collaboration with national CIC Delegations in order to realize the goals of the CIC on a national level
- r) providing knowledge to and sensitizing media on the merits of conservation through sustainable use
- s) employment of staff for the achievement of the CIC objectives
- t) the establishment of essential support operations to achieve the objectives of the CIC
- u) the CIC may not itself engage in any commercial hunting activities.

3.2 Participation in the work of international organizations

- a) participation in international organizations which support one or more of the purposes of the CIC such as being a recognized inter-governmental observer of relevant multi-lateral environmental agreements including:
 - CBD – Convention on Biological Diversity
 - CITES – Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
 - CMS – Convention on Migratory Species including its Agreements, such as AEWA – African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement

- b) participate in and contribute to the work of the world's largest umbrella organization for nature conservation, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a longstanding member
- c) continue as a founding member of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW) to collaborate with other international organizations on all issues related to wildlife management (wildlife health, species conservation, food security, wildlife trade etc.)
- d) coordinate stakeholders and be the voice of conservation through sustainable use in the activities of relevant multi-lateral environmental agreements and organizations, as well as drawing the attention to the human rights of IPLCs to manage their natural resources sustainably
- e) providing science-based advice and information to public authorities and national and international organizations.

3.3 Promoting the economic benefits of sustainable wildlife management

- a) promoting the sustainable use of natural resources as an important tool for generating social and economic benefits and, therefore, as an incentive for their conservation
- b) providing information on the benefits of game meat as an important contributor to food security, and as part of a healthy diet
- c) promoting enhanced acceptance of the harvesting of game as an essential element of sustainable wildlife management and conservation, including in relevant international fora, building on the recognition of nature conservation through sustainable use by the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- d) promotion of the concept that land should be managed for the benefit of people, wildlife and their habitats
- e) coordinate, promote and disseminate the results of research on the economics of sustainable wildlife management and conservation
- f) develop and implement a communications programme to enhance the acceptance of harvesting game as an important part of sustainable wildlife management and conservation, recognizing the benefits to people, wildlife and their habitats.

3.4 Promoting and supporting science and research in the field of wildlife conservation

- a) promotion of work of the global network of game and wildlife biologists, with the aim to assist in the coordination of their actions and disseminate their findings
- b) dissemination of scientific knowledge in particular for policy formation

in the field of wildlife management and conservation

- c) motivating and coordinating CIC members as to the detection, monitoring and fighting of wildlife diseases and zoonoses, in collaboration with international and national partners
- d) organizing workshops, conferences, symposia and other fora for discussion and dissemination of research and guidance on topics of relevance to wildlife management and conservation
- e) sharing of experience and best practices in the management of wildlife populations
- f) cooperation with and providing advice to national governments, agencies, national and international organizations, hunting organizations and landowners in matters pertaining to wildlife management and nature conservation, including through the development of policy briefs and legislation reviews and formulation
- g) granting of scholarships for publications and research in the fields of management of wildlife and conservation of nature, creation, adaptation and administering of wildlife monitoring systems
- h) promoting the responsible and sustainable use of wildlife through a trophy evaluation system.

3.5 Promoting human rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in connection with wildlife and fighting wildlife crime

- a) promoting the concept that IPLCs should be respected as custodians of their natural resources as part of their human rights
- b) facilitate that IPLCs have a voice when the management of their wildlife resources is at stake
- c) raising awareness of the negative consequences of wildlife crime and distribute knowledge of best practices for combating it
- d) providing humanitarian aid to refugees and victims of wildlife crime and their families.

3.6 Co-operation with other organizations

- a) to participate in corporations and organizations
- b) to use vicarious agents according to § 40.Abs. (1) *Austrian Federal Tax Law (Bundesabgabenordnung, BAO)* and also to act as vicarious agent itself
- c) to pass on funds or other assets pursuant to § 40a.Z.1 *BAO* to other organizations with respect to which donations are benefitting from a favorable tax treatment, provided that such funds etc. are paid with a corresponding purpose, and provided further that at least one matching purpose exists

- d) to make deliveries or provide other services pursuant to § 40a.Z.2 BAO on a remuneration basis and at most at cost price to other charitable or public welfare organizations, provided that at least one matching purpose exists
- e) establishment, acquisition and operation of institutions and companies which support the achievement of the CIC objectives.

3.7 Scholarships and prizes

To the extent the CIC grants monetary scholarships or monetary prizes, the panel making the decision on such scholarships or prizes shall consist of at least one third of members who have the right to teach at a university or other institution of tertiary education (§ 40b BAO.).

Article 4

Material means

Material means to finance the activities of the CIC are:

- a) membership fees
- b) fees for participation in events of the CIC
- c) commissions from hotels for using them as conference hotels and recommending them to participants
- d) government funding (subsidies, grants and funds for the execution of projects)
- e) donations from foundations, funds and individual giving
- f) donations and sponsoring (both in kind and monetary contributions)
- g) income from the use of CIC logos and copyrights of the CIC
- h) income from the use of CIC trophy evaluations (training, issuance of trophy evaluator cards and medals)
- i) CIC patents
- j) income from the proceeds of the sale of CIC products to members (such as ties, badges, hunting knives, caps, T-shirts, books...)
- k) inheritances and legacies
- l) income from interest earnings
- m) income from trainings, seminars and congresses
- n) income from the sale of publications and films
- o) income from consultancy services
- p) income from ventures supporting the achievement of CIC objectives
- q) income from dividends from subsidiaries
- r) income from asset management
- s) in kind support to fulfill the mission of the CIC.

Article 5

Membership

5.1 Composition

The CIC is composed of:

- a) state members
- b) government agencies and public institutions/authorities
- c) international non-governmental organisations
- d) national non-governmental organisations
- e) individual members
- f) “Young Opinion” members
- g) patrons
- h) expert members
- i) associate members
- j) sponsor members (natural persons and legal entities).

5.2 Membership Application

Any natural person or legal entity, who identifies themselves with the objectives of the CIC and wishes to contribute to the realization of these goals, may apply for membership of the CIC through a National Delegation, or in case that no National Delegation exists, through the Executive Committee.

5.3 Approval of Membership Application

Such applications shall be presented through the Executive Committee for approval by the General Assembly or the Council.

5.4 Member Candidates’ Rights

Once the respective Delegation has nominated a member candidate, the candidate may participate in the activities of the CIC without voting rights, until final approval of the application by the General Assembly or the Council.

5.5 States

A State which is a member of the United Nations or subject to the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice may become a member of the CIC by notifying the President of its wish to become a member and of its recognition of these Statutes. The President will inform the General Assembly of this application and the General Assembly may by simple majority vote to admit the State as a CIC Member.

5.6 Government Agencies and Public Institutions

The same requirements as for States also apply to the membership of governmental agencies and national public institutions.

5.7 INGOs

International non-governmental organisations may apply for a membership of the CIC to the Executive Committee. The application shall be presented for a decision to the General Assembly or the Council. Clauses 5.3 and 5.4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such applications.

5.8 National NGOs

National NGOs may become members of the CIC through the membership application procedure as defined in Article 5.2 of the Statutes and the By-laws. Clauses 5.3 and 5.4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such applications.

5.9 Individual Members

Any natural person may become an individual member through the membership application procedure as defined in Article 5.2 of the Statutes and the By-laws. Clauses 5.3 and 5.4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such applications.

5.10 Young Opinion and Artemis Working Group

Any natural person from the age of 12 up to the age of 40 may become a Young Opinion member of the CIC through the regular application procedure, as defined in Article 5.2 of the Statutes and the By-laws. Any female member of CIC may be a member of the Artemis Working Group. Clauses 5.3 and 5.4 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such applications.

5.11 Experts

Any natural person who has expertise which is relevant for fulfilling the objectives of the CIC may become an Expert member of the CIC, as defined in Article 20 of these Statutes.

Experts do not have voting rights at a General Assembly but have the right to submit proposals for consideration by the General Assembly.

5.12 Associates

Individuals, organisations or corporations may become Associates upon proposal by the Executive Committee and confirmation of the General Assembly or the Council on a case-by-case and temporary basis.

Associates do not have voting rights at a General Assembly but have the right to submit proposals for consideration by the General Assembly.

5.13 Sponsors

Any natural person or legal entity supporting the objectives of the CIC may become a Sponsor member (bronze, silver, gold and platinum levels) upon proposal of the Executive Committee and approval by the General Assembly or the Council.

Any organisation contributing to the 'One Euro per Hunter' initiative is entitled – with the approval of the Executive Committee and confirmation from the General Assembly or Council – to become a Sponsor member.

Sponsor members do not have voting rights at a General Assembly, but have the right to submit proposals for consideration by the General Assembly.

5.14 Payments to Members

The members of the CIC may not receive any profit shares and may not in their capacity as members obtain any transfers whatsoever from the funds of the CIC. When Members resign or are expelled, they may not receive any repayment of their membership dues or donations they have made to the CIC.

The CIC may not advantage any person by the payment of any expenses and other re-imbursments which are not actually incurred, or do not further the purposes of the CIC. No unreasonably high compensation such as salaries for officers or board members will be paid. In all cases payments must be reasonable and wholly necessary for the permitted purposes of the CIC.

Article 6

Termination of Membership

6.1 Causes of Termination

Membership may be terminated

- by death
- by dissolution as a legal entity
- by resignation
- by non-payment of dues for more than two years
- by expulsion on the basis of an action in contravention of the Statutes, By-laws and/or decisions of the General Assembly
- by engaging in acts contrary to the objectives of CIC
- by behaving in a way which the Executive Committee considers as bringing the CIC into disrepute.

6.2 Exceptions

Upon proposal of the Executive Committee, the General Assembly may decide on exceptions for State Members and intergovernmental organisations on a case-by-case basis.

6.3 Expulsion and Cancellation

A member can be expelled for causes outlined in Article 6.1 by its National Delegation or by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may cancel the mandate of a member to any office in CIC.

Any cancellation of membership may be appealed to the General Assembly.

6.4 Loss of Rights

In the case of resignation, for whatever reason, or expulsion, the respective member loses all rights in connection with the CIC.

Article 7

National Delegations

7.1. Formation and Composition

In each state recognized by the United Nations (a “State”) at least three CIC members in good standing may come together to initiate the formation of a National Delegation of the CIC. The formation of the Delegation requires the approval by the General Assembly based upon a recommendation by the Executive Committee. The members of a National Delegation shall either hold citizenship or have their residence/legal seat or carry out substantial activities in support of the goals of the CIC in the respective country. Individuals may be a member of more than one National Delegation, but only with the approval of the Head of Delegation of each Delegation, and on payment of the appropriate membership fees to each Delegation.

7.2 Regulations of National Delegations

Every National Delegation follows the rules and procedures described and recommended in the By-laws to develop their own rules and procedures. These draft national regulations (“National Regulations”) shall be presented to the Legal Council in English for review prior to becoming effective. Any amendments to the National Regulations of a National Delegation should be submitted for approval in the same way. In the event of a dispute or concern as to the National Regulations submitted by the Delegation, the Executive Committee shall decide on recommendation by the Legal Council whether they should be accepted or not.

7.3 Election of Heads of Delegation

Members of a National Delegation shall elect the Head of Delegation and the governance bodies of such Delegation in accordance with the provisions of their National Regulations.

7.4 Rights and Obligations

a) Delegations are to promote the objectives of the CIC in their State and actively cooperate with the President and the Administrative Office, as well as follow directions of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.

b) The Head of Delegation manages and informs their delegation about the activities of the CIC. He or she shall plan and coordinate the activities of the Members of his or her Delegation within the framework of the CIC objectives and programme, as decided by the General Assembly. He or she represents the Delegation in Council and informs the Administrative Office on a regular basis about the work of his or her Delegation, its composition and about relevant national developments related to the objectives of the CIC.

c) The Head of Delegation is in charge to assure that collected membership fees are transferred to the CIC Administrative Office in accordance with Article 21.2.b.

7.5 National Delegations under Formation

Following an application to the Executive Committee to form a National Delegation in line with Article 7.1, the Executive Committee may grant the status of “National Delegation under formation” for a maximum of two years. This status will grant the right to participate in the General Assembly and to be invited to the Council.

7.6 Statutes of National Delegations

To the extent National Delegations have their own statutes, they shall be brought as much as possible into conformity with these Statutes, subject to any requirements of local law both under the law of associations and under tax law with respect to entities acting for the public benefit.

Article 8

General Assembly

8.1 Rights and Obligations

The General Assembly is the highest corporate body of the CIC. It has the following major tasks:

- a) to approve the application of new members
- b) to approve the formation of new National Delegations

- c) to review the reports of the President and Treasurer
- d) to establish Divisions, as well as approving their reports, resolutions and recommendations
- e) to decide on the CIC strategies, policies and programme
- f) to grant exoneration to all Officers
- g) to approve the annual budget and the annual financial report
- h) to adopt and amend the Statutes
- i) to elect the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Auditors, and the members of the Legal Council (the “Officers”)
- j) to elect the Division and Working Group Presidents and their Deputies
- k) to decide to deviate from statutory term limits of office of elected Officers upon proposal by the Executive Committee
- l) to relieve CIC elected Officers of their post upon proposal by the Executive Committee
- m) to decide on the appeals permitted by the Statutes
- n) to determine membership dues and
- o) to enhance the constructive relationships between its members.

8.2 Convocation

Upon the decision of the Executive Committee or upon request by at least five National Delegations, the President of the CIC shall convene a General Assembly at least once every three years. Five State Members or government agencies/national public institutions or seventy-five voting members from five National Delegations may also call at any time for a General Assembly. All such requests shall require a proposed agenda and the motions to be tabled. A General Assembly shall be called at least two months prior to the date of the meeting with a provisional agenda.

Additional agenda items may be sent to the Executive Committee by any member who proposes a motion to such agenda points no later than 14 days prior to the General Assembly and will be added to the agenda if such agenda items have been approved by the Executive Committee.

8.3 Prior Notification

Documents necessary for deliberation or decision by the General Assembly, in particular the annual financial report and the budget, shall be provided to the Members at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting. This may be done by placing such information on the website of the CIC.

8.4 Quorum and Decisions

- a) The General Assembly shall have a **quorum** as long as at least one

hundred Members from at least fifteen different National Delegations holding voting rights are present or represented through valid proxies. In the event that a meeting of the Council takes place in lieu of a General Assembly any decision can be taken if a simple majority of the Heads of Delegations and others entitled to vote in the Council are present at the meeting. A meeting of the Council may not change the Statutes of the CIC (except in cases of Art. 10.3), nor may it dissolve the organisation.

- b) **Decisions** on all matters except for the revision of the Statutes and dissolution of the organisation shall be carried by a simple majority of Members with voting rights present or represented.
- c) The following decisions shall require a **two thirds majority** of the votes cast:
 - 1. amendment of the Statutes
 - 2. dissolution of the organisation
 - 3. vote overruling an objection by the Treasurer on a decision of the General Assembly regarding the approval of the budget of the CIC (Ref. Article 14.2).

8.5 Examination of Proxies

Voting nominations by the Head of National Delegations and voting proxies shall be verified by at least one member of the Legal Council.

8.6 Secret Ballot

Any voting member may demand a secret ballot. Such a demand requires the support of at least twenty members with voting rights from at least three different National Delegations in order to be binding.

8.7 Chair

The General Assembly shall be chaired by the President or, in case she/he is unavailable, by the Deputy President or a Vice-President designated by the President or, in case of his inability to make such a designation, by at least five Vice-Presidents.

8.8 Minutes

Following any General Assembly, minutes of the General Assembly shall be prepared by the Administrative Office and approved by the President to be distributed to every Member within a period of three months after the General Assembly. This distribution may be done by placing the minutes on the website of the CIC.

Article 9

Voting Rights at the General Assembly

9.1 State Members

CIC State Members present or represented at the General Assembly have three votes, and government agencies/national public institutions of non-Member States present or represented have at the General Assembly one vote.

9.2 Individual Members

Individual Members present or represented at the meeting having been nominated by the Head of the National Delegation in observance of the quotas fixed by Article 9.5 have the right to vote. They each have one vote, as do Young Opinion members after having reached the age 18.

9.3 INGO Members

Each International Non-Governmental Organisation present or represented at the meeting which is a member is accorded two votes in the General Assembly.

9.4 Membership of Honour

Each Member of Honour of CIC has one vote.

9.5 Voting Limitation

- a) Each National Delegation has two votes per million or additional fraction of a million of the number of the respective state's inhabitants.
- b) Delegations, which have fewer than ten votes according to Article 9.5.a) may round the number up to ten as long as they have a minimum of ten CIC Members presented or represented at the meeting.
- c) None of the Delegations may have more than twenty-five votes.

9.6 Proxies for Heads of Delegations

In case no member of a National Delegation is able to attend the General Assembly, the Head of that Delegation may give proxy to another Head of Delegation or to a Vice-President by written power of authority to vote for his or her Delegation on points of the agenda. No Vice-President or Head of Delegation may hold more than five proxies from Heads of Delegations.

9.7 Proxies for Voting Members

With written power of authority, Members with voting rights may be represented in the General Assembly by another Member. No Member may assume more than nine proxies.

9.8 Two-Chamber System

Unless provided otherwise, decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast by representatives of States, government agencies and national public institutions on the one hand and the representatives of the remaining membership categories on the other hand. The Two-Chamber System shall apply only if at least six State Members are present or represented and voting. Applying the Two-Chamber System requires that both chambers are supportive of a given decision with a simple majority in both chambers.

9.9 Entitlement to Voting Rights

No one is entitled to exercise his or her voting rights if the annual dues of such person for the preceding year have not been received.

Article 10

Council

10.1 Composition and Voting Rights

The Council is composed of the Heads of the National Delegations and the President of the CIC with voting rights. In case of unavailability of the President, the Deputy President or a Vice-President designated by the President or in case of his unavailability, by the other Vice-Presidents present shall be a member of the Council.

Members of the Executive Committee and of the Legal Council are members with consultative status at meetings of the Council.

10.2 Invitees

Personalities invited by the President to participate in a Council meeting have no voting right.

10.3 Representation of the General Assembly

When no General Assembly is convened, the Council assumes the General Assembly's legal and statutory responsibilities. The Council may amend the Statutes to bring them into conformity with requests or suggestions by tax or other authorities. Such amendments shall require the confirmation by the next General Assembly.

10.4 Rights and Obligations

The Council represents the General Assembly in the period between sessions of the General Assembly.

On these occasions, its tasks are to take decisions on urgent matters as proposed by the Executive Committee:

- a) the temporary filling of vacancies within the Executive Committee until the next General Assembly

- b) to provide an advisory opinion concerning the Budget as proposed by the Executive Committee, at least two months in advance of a General Assembly and not later than two weeks after receipt of the Budget and of the agenda, as the case may be
- c) adoption of By-laws and their modifications as proposed by the Executive Committee (in accordance with Article 26)
- d) removal of an Officer elected by the General Assembly (refer to Article 10.5)
- e) review and approve membership applications.

10.5 Reporting Requirement

All decisions of the Council are to be brought to the attention of the CIC Members. This may be done by placing them on the website of the CIC.

10.6 Removal of Officers

A motion to remove an Officer elected by the General Assembly requires the support of at least five Heads of Delegations. A decision on such motion requires a two-thirds majority of voting members of the Council present or represented.

10.7 Convocation

The Council shall meet at least once a year. Meetings shall be called by the President upon his or her own initiative, by the President upon the request of the Executive Committee, or upon the request of ten voting members of the Council. Such a request shall be accompanied by a proposed agenda for the meeting and the motions to be tabled.

10.8 Agenda

The agenda shall be proposed by the person or persons convoking the meeting pursuant to Clause 10.7. Any member of Council may propose further or alternative items for consideration on the proposed Agenda.

10.9 Chair

The meeting shall be chaired by the CIC President. In the case of a draw, the President may cast the deciding vote. In case of unavailability of the President, the Deputy President or a Vice-President designated by the other Vice-Presidents present, shall chair this meeting with the same rights, including the deciding vote.

10.10 Quorum and Decisions

At least half of the voting members of the Council must be present or represented to have a quorum.

Decisions of the Council require a simple majority of its voting members present or represented. Should this quorum not be attained, the respective

motion shall be decided by a video conference or by written resolution with the same quorum and majority requirements as for in-person meetings. Motions shall therefore in such cases be decided by simple majority of all participants, with the President being entitled to a casting vote.

10.11 Secret Ballot

Upon request by a voting member of the Council, supported by at least three other voting members, votes shall be cast by secret ballot. In the case of meetings not held in person, the President shall insure proper proceedings for keeping the vote confidential.

10.12 Motions Outside the Agenda

Any motion presented to the Council for decision not included in the agenda shall be submitted to the President in writing prior to the meeting. If such additional agenda items are accepted by the majority of the voting members present, they become part of the agenda.

10.13 Proxies for Heads of Delegation

In absentia, the Heads of National Delegations can be represented by another member of their Delegation or by a voting member of the Council by proxy with written instructions. No member of the Council may hold more than five proxies at any given meeting.

10.14 Proxies for Presidents of Divisions and Working Groups

In case of unavailability of a President of Division or Working Group and/or his or her Deputy, he or she may be represented by a President or a Deputy of another Division or Working Group of his or her choice.

Article 11

The Executive Committee

11.1 Composition

The Executive Committee is composed of the President, a possible Deputy President, the Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer as well as the Presidents and Deputies of each Division and Working Groups, including Young Opinion and Artemis. These members have one vote each. The members with voting rights may represent each other at Executive Committee meetings through a written proxy. No member of the Executive Committee may hold more than two proxies.

The following persons shall be entitled to participate in the Executive Committee meetings and may participate in the debates, but shall have no voting rights:

- the Presidents of Honour
- the Chair of a Steering Group

- representatives of the Legal Council
- the Auditors
- and the Presidents of the Regional Coordination Fora (see Article 18).

11.2 Steering Groups

Upon the request by the President, the Executive Committee may nominate a Steering Group to handle certain tasks.

11.3 Invitees

The President may invite persons to participate in an Executive Committee meeting without voting rights.

11.4 Rights and Obligations

The Executive Committee is responsible for the conduct of all current affairs of the CIC, and in particular:

- a) approving the draft agenda of the Council and General Assembly
- b) defining and updating CIC strategy and programme
- c) monitoring the implementation of its own decisions and the decisions of the Council and General Assembly
- d) approving of the proposed draft Budget and in particular modifications to the Budget in case of any unexpected expenses or income
- e) supervision of expenses
- f) supervision of the Divisions and Working Groups
- g) reviewing the mid-term balance sheet and financial report
- h) revising the By-laws (in accordance with Article 26).

11.5 Decisions

Decisions by the Executive Committee are taken by consensus. If a vote is necessary, a two-thirds majority of the voting members present or represented according to Article 11.1 is required – unless otherwise regulated.

11.6 Convocation

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the President at least twice a year, or upon request by the General Assembly, the Council, or of six voting members of the Executive Committee.

Article 12

President

12.1 Candidacy

Any Member of the CIC is eligible for the office of President, provided his National Delegation supports his or her candidacy and it is presented in

writing to the President in office at that time at least thirty days prior to the respective General Assembly.

12.2 Rights and Obligations

The President is entrusted with directing the affairs of the CIC. He or she is responsible to the General Assembly. In addition, to his or her functions defined in Article 22.1, he or she has, in particular, to perform the following tasks:

- a) to develop, prioritize and realize the policies of the CIC
- b) to represent the CIC
- c) to chair the General Assembly, the Council and the Executive Committee
- d) to delegate specific responsibilities
- e) to assume responsibility of the overall financial management, safeguard financial discipline and promote the financial well-being of CIC
- f) to supervise the Director General.

12.3 Permanent Unavailability

In the event of permanent unavailability or resignation of the President, the Deputy President or – If no Deputy President has been elected or if he is unavailable – the Vice-Presidents will choose amongst themselves a Deputy President who is to assume the tasks of the President until the next General Assembly.

12.4 Election

The President is elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. He or she can be re-elected once. An exceptional further re-election is only admissible in accordance with Article 8.1.k. Unless the same person is re-elected, the new President should be of a different nationality than the outgoing President.

12.5 Election Procedure for President

- a) If only a single candidate is nominated, the General Assembly may conduct the vote by show of hands.
- b) Any Member of the CIC may request a secret ballot. Such a demand requires the support of at least twenty members with voting rights from at least three different National Delegations in order to be binding.
- c) If there are several candidates running for office of the Presidency, votes shall always be cast by secret ballot by preference voting procedure as detailed in the By-laws.

Article 13

Deputy President and Vice-Presidents

13.1 Candidacy

The CIC shall have at least four and at most nine Vice-Presidents preferably from different geographic regions.

Upon proposal by the Executive Committee or a National Delegation, any CIC member may be a candidate for the office of Vice-President. The proposal shall be submitted in writing to the President at least thirty days prior to the General Assembly.

The President and Vice Presidents may choose a Deputy President from among the Vice Presidents. The Deputy President shall be elected for the remainder of the term of the President during which he or she was elected.

13.2 Rights and Obligations

The Executive Committee shall entrust each Vice-President and, if applicable, the Deputy President with special tasks to support the interests and the objectives of the CIC.

13.3 Election

The Vice-Presidents are elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. They can be re-elected once. An exceptional further re-election is only admissible in accordance with Article 8.1.k. Unless they are re-elected, new Vice-Presidents shall ideally be of different nationalities than the outgoing Vice-Presidents.

Article 14

The Treasurer and his Deputy

14.1 Rights and Obligations

The Treasurer, and in case of their absence his or her Deputy, is responsible for the financial affairs of the CIC. Among his or her tasks are:

- a) control of CIC budgets
- b) monitoring the financial situation
- c) investment and administration of assets
- d) preparation of the draft budget for the following year in cooperation with the Executive Committee
- e) preparation of the necessary financial reports
- f) follow-up on payment of membership dues.

With approval of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer may delegate certain tasks to his Deputy Treasurer.

14.2 Right of Veto

If the General Assembly takes a decision concerning the budget which the Treasurer cannot accept, he shall voice his objections to the General Assembly. If he or she does not convince the General Assembly, then he or she may declare a veto over this decision. The General Assembly may only overrule such a veto by a decision of a two-thirds majority of the voting members present or represented.

14.3 Election

The Treasurer is elected by the General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Committee for a term of three years. He or she can be re-elected once. An exceptional further re-election is only admissible in accordance with Article 8.1.k. The Deputy Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Committee upon proposal by the Treasurer.

14.4 Obligations of Members to the Treasurer

Members entitled to re-imbusement, Divisions and Working Groups are obliged to close their accounts on the 31st of December and present them to the Treasurer at the latest by the 31st of January of the following financial year with all relevant original documentation and accounts entitling them to compensation from the CIC budget. No claims will be accepted after this deadline.

Article 15

Auditors

15.1 Obligations and Rights

The Auditors shall provide their annual audit report to the Executive Committee at least eight weeks prior to the date of the General Assembly.

The Auditors shall have access to all documents and information relevant to the audit. The responsible bodies of the CIC shall accord them the support they require in order to fulfil their duties.

15.2 Election

Two Auditors are elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. They can be re-elected once. An exceptional further re-election is only admissible in accordance with Article 8.1.k. They shall be of a different nationality amongst themselves and from the Treasurer. The election procedure follows Article 12.5.

15.3 Election of auditors if there are several candidates for a position

If there are several candidates running for office of the Auditors' positions, votes shall always be cast by secret ballot by preference voting procedure as detailed in the By-laws.

Article 16

Director General

16.1 Nomination and Recalling of the Director General

The Director General shall be nominated by the President. This nomination has to be approved by a 2/3 majority of the Executive Committee. If such approval is given, the President shall appoint him or her and conclude the employment agreement.

The President shall be the supervisor of the Director General. The Director General may be recalled by the Executive Committee with a simple majority.

16.2 Responsibilities

The Director General is the Chief Executive of the CIC. He is the head of all hired employees and short/long-term contracted personnel of the CIC. The President delegates tasks to the Director General (in line with Article 22.1) through a notary-approved power of attorney, entitling the Director General to take all decisions within the framework of CIC policies, strategies and approved budget.

Article 17

Divisions, Specialist Groups and Working Groups

17.1 Rights and Obligations

- a) The Divisions and their Specialist Groups as well as the Working Groups work within their specialized areas, on the basis of the CIC objectives and in the scope of the strategy according to Article 11.4.b. They support the fundraising efforts of the CIC. Their publications and reports have to be approved in advance by the Director General.
- b) The Divisions and their Specialist Groups as well as the Working Groups may submit to the General Assembly their written drafts for resolutions and recommendations addressed to governments, international or national organisations or entities outside the CIC. These texts are to be presented through the Executive Committee for adoption by the General

Assembly. They shall be the expression of the overall policies of the CIC, and are conveyed to the addressee(s) within the responsibility of the President. In urgent cases, the Council representing the General Assembly in intersessional periods may adopt resolutions and recommendations following the approval by the Executive Committee.

17.2 Composition

Any member of the CIC interested in a particular subject can register himself or herself as a member of one or more Divisions, Specialist Groups or Working Groups.

17.3 Meetings and Procedures

- a) Meetings shall be convened by the President or Chairs of the Divisions, Specialist Group and Working Group within the framework of their budget. The CIC Administrative Office may be called upon for assistance. Possible internal regulations or guidelines of the Divisions, Specialist Groups or Working Groups need prior approval of the Executive Committee.
- b) Each President of a Division and Working Group or Chair of a Specialist Group shall present a written report along with annual work plans and budgets of the activities of his or her Division, Specialist Group or Working Group, including the list of inscribed members, to the Executive Committee, the Council and General Assembly at least one month prior to these meetings.

17.4 Presidents of Divisions and Working Groups, and Chairs of Specialist Groups

- a) The Divisions and Working Groups shall each be headed by a President and a Deputy President. Specialist Groups of the Divisions are headed by a Chair.
- b) Each Division and Working Group proposes through its internal structures the candidate for Division Presidency. The Chairs of Specialist Groups within a Division propose one Chair of a Specialist Group to become Deputy President of Division.
- c) The candidates for Division or Working Group Presidents and their Deputy candidates are then proposed through the Executive Committee to be elected by the General Assembly for a term of three years. They can be re-elected once. An exceptional further re-election is only admissible in accordance with Article 8.1.k.
- d) The President of a Division and of a Working Group may request from the Executive Committee the cancellation of the registration of a member in his or her Division providing appropriate justification, and the Executive Committee may then cancel such membership.

Article 18

Regional Coordination

Regional Coordination Fora can be established by the Executive Committee. They are regional bodies of cooperation of National Delegations and their partners to work on trans-boundary problems and issues.

The President of the respective Coordination Forum coordinates the work of the Forum. He or she is elected by the Heads of the participating National Delegations from among their number.

Article 19

Legal Council

19.1 Composition

The Legal Council consists of at least three and at most six lawyers who are members of the CIC. Members of the Legal Council are selected by the Executive Committee and proposed by the Council for appointment by the General Assembly for three-year terms. Such terms may be renewed by the Executive Committee without limit.

The General Assembly may elect a deserving member of the Legal Council as Honorary Member of the Legal Council.

19.2 Rights and Obligations

In view of the large variety of national and international legal provisions, the duties of the Legal Council extend in particular to:

- a) the legal review of official or binding documents
- b) the interpretation of the Statutes
- c) the clarification of legal questions
- d) examination of proxies and nominations to vote at the General Assembly
- e) the conduct of elections including the casting of votes
- f) legal advice to the CIC.

Article 20

Experts of the CIC and of National Delegations

20.1 Rights and Obligations

Appointed Experts advise the CIC upon request on tasks requiring a specific technical knowledge.

20.2 Categories

There are two categories of experts:

- a) **Experts of the CIC**, who are appointed by the Executive Committee in agreement with the National Delegation of their home country and confirmed by the General Assembly for a three-year term. Such appointments may be renewed by the Executive Committee from time to time at their discretion. Experts of the CIC are experts of all types and include scientists and any other experts who contribute to the work, and further the objectives of the CIC. Such persons are entitled to bear the title of "Expert of the CIC"
- b) **Experts of the National Delegations**, who are **appointed** by the National Delegations, subject to their by-laws and confirmed by their Delegation's Assembly for a three-year term, subject to re-appointment at the discretion of the Delegation. They are entitled to bear the title of "Expert of the CIC (name of National Delegation)".

20.3 Number of Experts

No National Delegation may appoint more than one tenth of its paying Members as Experts of their National Delegation.

Article 21

Financial Income

21.1 Sources of Revenues

The financial resources of the CIC are listed in Article 4.

21.2 Membership Dues

- a) Membership dues shall be paid to the CIC on an annual basis, beginning with the first year of confirmed membership. Membership dues shall be determined by the General Assembly as proposed by the Executive Committee. All Members of CIC are required to pay membership dues, with the exception of State Representatives, one representative of each member government agency or national public institution of non-Member States, Members of Honour, Experts and Associates.
- b) Collection of membership dues and contributions are carried out by the National Delegations, if any, or on a case-by-case basis exceptionally by the CIC Administrative Office. National Delegations are obliged to allocate these upon receipt of a notification from the CIC Administrative Office in the interest of budget administration, but no later than the end of the first trimester of the financial year.

21.3 Regulations Concerning Members in Arrears

In the event of outstanding membership dues:

- a) rights – such as voting rights – of those Members shall be suspended, who by the beginning of a General Assembly have not fulfilled their financial obligations of the year preceding the General Assembly (Refer to Article 9.9)
- b) the Treasurer shall initiate the process of membership termination following Article 6.3 after the membership due arrear reaches two years.

Article 22

General Administrative Provisions

22.1 Legal Representation

The President is the legal representative of the CIC in and out of court, however he signs all legally binding documents together with one Vice-President. In case of non-availability, the President can be represented by the Deputy President or two Vice-Presidents, which means that in such cases a total of three Vice-Presidents have to sign.

No other Officer or corporate body may enter into legally or financially binding commitments for the CIC.

The President is, however, entitled to authorize the Director General to conclude certain commitments within the framework of the approved Budget (refer to Article 16).

22.2 Decisions of Urgency

Should a necessity for an urgent decision arise, the President may, in accordance with the Statutes, consult the members of the General Assembly, the Council or the Executive Committee by means of a written resolution. Should the written resolution result in a statutory majority in favour of such a motion, the latter shall be regarded as adopted and proper notification will be sent to the persons who participated in the decision by written resolution.

22.3 Legal Succession

Elected Officers shall remain in office until the election of their successors.

22.4 Financial Year

The financial year corresponds to the calendar year.

22.5 Official Languages of the CIC

The official languages of the CIC are English, French, and German. Budget permitting all official texts and announcements shall be presented in these languages.

Should the finances of the CIC so permit on a long-term basis, other languages may be adopted as an official language by decision of the General Assembly.

22.6 Internal Use of Languages

- a) Meetings of the Executive Committee and other sessions of the CIC with the exception of the General Assembly and sessions of the Council as defined in Article 10 may be held in one or two of the official languages of the CIC and their minutes kept accordingly, if the members present agree by simple majority.
- b) Further languages may be used for sessions and publications.

22.7 Voluntarism

With the exception of staff members, all members of the CIC work on a voluntary basis.

22.8 Incompatibility

The office of President, Deputy and Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Auditors, President or Vice-President of Divisions and Working Groups, or CIC Expert is not compatible with any other function in the CIC.

22.9 Gender Provision

All Officers' posts of the CIC are open to both genders. If these Statutes refer to a male pronoun it also applies to the female pronoun.

22.10 Liability

The CIC is solely responsible for commitments of the Organisation. Any personal, civil or legal responsibility of its Officers is excluded – in as much as they have acted within the scope of their responsibility and not by wilful misconduct on their part.

22.11 Use of Contemporaneous Communications Systems

a) Meetings

In principle, any Member entitled to vote in any meeting of the CIC, in any General Assembly, Council or Executive Committee meeting, or in any meeting of a Working Group or Division mentioned in Statute 17.3 above, or in any other meeting properly approved under these Statutes, may utilize a contemporaneous communications system in which all participants in the

meeting can hear each other and can present their arguments; and participation in a meeting by this system constitutes the presence of the participant at the meeting.

The President shall decide whether remote participation should be made available for any given meeting. The right to attend meetings remotely shall also be subject to technical considerations.

b) Communications

Any communication required to be given to Members of the CIC or to Members of the CIC pursuant to these statutes may be given by placing such communication in the members area of the CIC website.

Article 23

Interpretation of the Statutes or Other Binding Texts

- a) The Statutes and the By-laws are binding in all official languages of the CIC. The General Assembly may declare other texts as binding for CIC Members.
- b) In the event of a doubt or a difference of opinion as to the interpretation of binding texts, the English version of these Statutes shall prevail, subject to a decision by the Legal Council. Appeals may be made to the General Assembly.

Article 24

Amendment of the Statutes and Dissolution

24.1. Decisions

The General Assembly upon proposal of the Executive Committee decides on the adoption of amendments to the Statutes or on the dissolution of the CIC and the disposal of its assets. In intersessional periods of meetings of the General Assembly the Council may amend the Statutes to bring them into conformity with requests or suggestions by tax or other authorities. Such amendments shall require the confirmation by the next General Assembly.

24.2 Qualified majority

Pursuant to the provisions of Articles 8.4, such decisions require a two-thirds majority of Members with voting rights, present or represented, from at least fifteen different nationalities.

24.3 Dissolution

In case of dissolution, should the appointment of one or several liquidators be required or not, the President, Deputy President and Vice-Presidents and Treasurer continue to serve until all transactions have been concluded. The President is in charge of overseeing the transfer of the remaining assets to an organisation with similar goals as the CIC which fulfils the requirements of an association which has as its purpose the public welfare as defined under Austrian law and which is obliged to use the funds for the public welfare.

If the CIC should change its purpose as defined in Article 2 in such a manner that the purpose can no longer be considered as not-for public welfare, then the CIC is obliged to transfer its remaining assets to an organization with similar goals as the CIC which fulfils the requirements of an association which has as its purpose the public welfare as defined under Austrian law and which is obliged to use the funds for the public welfare.

24.4. Assets in case of dissolution

In the case of a dissolution or termination of the CIC, any assets of the CIC in excess of amounts which have been contributed by members may only be used for public welfare purposes as defined under Austrian law.

In the case of a voluntary dissolution or abolition by the authorities of the CIC or in the case that none of the objectives of the CIC can be fulfilled anymore,

- the Members may not receive any assets from the CIC which are in excess of their paid-up capital contributions or contributions in kind
- the assets of the CIC may only be used for purposes which fulfill the requirements of public welfare or charitable activities as defined by the Austrian Bundesabgabenordnung to the extent such assets exceed the capital and contributions in kind contributed by the members of the CIC. The General Assembly shall decide upon the use of the assets in such a case.

Article 25

Arbitration

Any difference related to the application or interpretation of these statutes, the by-laws of the CIC, the relationship of members to the CIC and of the goals or objectives of the CIC shall first be referred to the Executive Committee which shall attempt to mediate such dispute for a period of two months.

If such mediation does not result in a settlement within the two months period, the parties may proceed to arbitration as follows:

Members of the CIC accept the obligation to solve any disagreement and/or conflict on CIC matters by arbitration.

- a) The arbitration shall be conducted under the Vienna Rules by VIAC in the English language in Vienna.
- b) The arbitration decision shall be final and each party shall implement it.

Article 26

By-laws

The By-laws of the CIC specifying the detailed application of the Statutes shall be proposed for approval by the Executive Committee to the Council and upon its approval all members will be notified.

If a member objects to one or several provisions of the By-Laws, he or she has to do so in writing to the President of CIC prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

Following the Council's decision, the General Assembly renders the final decision after consulting with the Legal Advisors.