

# **Statutes of the African Membrane Society**

## **TITLE 1: PURPOSE AND COMPOSITION**

#### **ARTICLE 1**

It is created in Bamako, Republic of Mali, in accordance with the provisions of the code of Civil and Commercial Obligations, a non-profit, apolitical Association

#### **ARTICLE 2**

The Association shall be known as the "African Membrane Society" otherwise known as AMSIC, standing for the African Membrane Society International Congress.

#### ARTICLE 3

The Association is established for an indefinite period. It may be dissolved by decision of the Extraordinary General Meeting.

#### ARTICLE 4.

The Head office of the Association is established at the *Ecole Nationale des Ingénieurs Abderahmane Baba Toure of Mali* (ENI-ABT or ENI), whose address is: 410 Avenue Van Vollenhoven BP 242 Bamako Mali.



The Board of Directors reserves the right to create AMSIC structures outside of Mali upon request from the General Assembly.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

AMSIC shall disseminate knowledge in the field of filtration and separation techniques in Africa, and more specifically to promote the sustainable implementation of modern and adapted water purification and effluent treatment technologies on the continent.

To achieve this objective, AMSIC has set itself to lead the following efforts:

- Create and organize a framework for consultation and solidarity between decision-makers and specialists in water resources management and water treatment;

- Promote and disseminate the means and capacities of its members and, more generally, of the African and international community, in the institutional, technical and legal fields of quantitative and qualitative water resources management;

- Bring together the skills and develop partnerships between public and private organizations to initiate and carry out expertise, advice and training activities that promote internationally the know-how of the universities of the South in the field of water, separation techniques and filtration processes;

- To identify and make available to African countries the skills of the members of the Association;

- Promote the teaching of water technologies and filtration processes in African universities and colleges;

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- Foster the emergence of a culture of entrepreneurship in African universities in order to accelerate the implementation of sustainable water and filtration technologies;

- Prepare books, scientific publications and popularization pamphlets on filtration sciences and processes accessible to the members of the Association and intended for Africa;

- Serve as a link between water industrialists in Africa and those of other continents;

- Reflect on strategies for the development of renewable energies for water treatment.

- Encourage inter-academic or inter-industrial partnerships within the Continent in order to accelerate the emergence of a critical mass of experts in the field of water;

- Enable AMSIC to participate in international scientific events and trade fairs in the field of water and filtration.

## **ARTICLE 6**

The Association is open to teachers, researchers, students, industrialists, decision-makers settled in Africa and nationals of the African Diaspora who are interested in AMSIC. Enrolment may be finalized by any member of the Board of Directors upon approval by the President (cf. ARTICLE 10). Any political or religious discussion is prohibited within the Association.



Membership of the Association shall be open to natural persons without distinction of race, ethnicity, sex or religion, research and educational institutions, public and private sector bodies and enterprises, local authorities, associations, African and international organizations approved by the Board of Directors (cf. ARTICLE 10).

The conditions of AMSIC membership are defined by the Board of Directors and must be approved by the General Assembly (cf. ARTICLE 10). On the other hand, participation in scientific and technological events organized by the Association is subject to a fee. All members of the Association must provide detailed contacts in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Directors.

Some members of the Association may have the status of Honorary Members. They are appointed by the Board of Directors and may be called upon at any time by the latter in an advisory capacity or for the performance of specific tasks.

This title confers to those who have earned it the right to be part of the General Meeting assemblies without restriction.

The AMSIC may sign partnership agreements through its Board of Directors with:

- Local structures which participate in a specific and significant way in the achievement of the associative objectives and local organizations which provide human, material, logistical etc. resources to facilitate the realization of AMSIC initiatives;

- National and international public and private bodies that participate in the building up of the Association's equity capital through an endowment in reserve funds, without the right to take over, of a minimum amount set by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Assembly.



In accordance with Articles 7 and 10, the conditions of membership of AMSIC are defined by the Board of Directors and must be approved by the General Assembly. The latter may take advantage of scientific events and technology fairs to encourage AMSIC members to contribute financially to its associative activities.

Any new member's membership implies adherence to the Statutes, the Internal Regulations and the decisions of the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE 9**

Cease to be part of the Association, without their departure being able to terminate the Association:

1- Members who have given their written resignation to the President of the Association, by mail or e-mail;

2- Members who have been struck off the Association by the Board of Directors, i) because of flagrant non-compliance with the AMSIC Statutes and By-Laws, or with the recommendations of the Board of Directors approved by the General Assembly; ii) or because of a serious matter likely to be detrimental to the general interests of the Association.

The death, resignation or expulsion of a member does not terminate the Association, which continues to exist among the other members.



# TITLE 2: ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATION

#### **ARTICLE 10**

The AMSIC is administered by a Board of Directors elected at a General Assembly, in a physical or virtual meeting led by its President, for a three-year term, renewable once (6 years maximum). The Board of Directors is the decision-making body of the Association and meets at least once every three months in person or virtually.

-The Executive Committee applies the recommendations of the Board of Directors and those of the General Assembly.

-The Executive Board assists the Executive Committee in the implementation of specific tasks reflecting the aspirations of the Association.

-The General Assembly is the supreme body of the Association and meets once a year in person or virtually.

#### **ARTICLE 11**

The General Assembly elects, by secret ballot among its members, a bureau composed of the :

-President, Vice President, General Secretary and Treasury members.

-These four members, alongside the Past Presidents and Honorary Presidents, make up the Executive Committee of the Association (also known as the Executive Board or Executive Members).



- Director of the Academy-Industry Relations and Professional Development
- -Director of Communication, Information and Social Networks
- Director for New Talent and Leadership Committee
- -Director of Scientific and Technological Affairs
- Director of Visual Content and the Website
- Directors of External Relations
- Director of Fundraising.

All Directors and Executives are the Management Board of the Association.

The Executive Committee and the Management Board constitute the WSA Board of Directors. The roles and functions assigned to the elected members are detailed in the Association's Internal Regulations.

Elected members may change functions within the Board of Directors at the end of each term (3 years). Under no circumstances may the President, Vice-President and General Secretary hold the same position for more than six years. The Internal Regulations describe in more detail the eligibility criteria for membership of the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE 12

In the event of a vacancy, a member who has resigned or died shall be provisionally replaced by one of the members of the Board of Directors. The definitive replacement takes place at the next General Assembly. The functions of a member of the Board of Directors are voluntary.



The Board of Directors meets systematically during the AMSIC scientific events and technology fairs, or during remote meetings organized at least every three months. The Board of Directors must be convened at the request of at least a quarter of the members of the AMSIC and at the written request of the President. In the latter case, the means necessary for this organization, in the case of a physical meeting, will be left to the discretion of the members of the Board of Directors. Minutes are kept of meetings. The minutes must be signed by the members of the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE 14**

The Board of Directors is vested with the broadest powers, without any exception or reservation, to manage the affairs of the Association in all circumstances and to represent it in its dealings with third parties, in accordance with the law.

It shall have sovereign power to decide on all admissions or expulsions of members of the Association.

It is responsible for making all purchases, disposals, and rentals necessary for the Association's operations.

It may appoint any technical committees it deems useful, and which may include people that are external to the Association.



The President represents the Association in all circumstances. S/He is the leader of the Association and has the widest powers and the support of the Executive Committee to implement the decisions of the Board of Directors.

S/He is responsible for ensuring that the AMSIC elections are held in accordance with ARTICLE 10.

S/He represents the Association in all acts of civil life. S/He may delegate his/her powers to one or more agents for specific purposes. S/He directs and controls the activity of the Executive Committee of the Association.

## **ARTICLE 16**

The Executive Committee, with the approval of its President, may involve member students in the implementation of various tasks to assist the Board of Directors with its assignments.

## **ARTICLE 17**

Deliberations in the General Assembly can be validated when at least fifteen AMSIC members are present for remote meetings, or when at least ten members are present for physical meetings. Decisions are taken by majority vote, the President having the casting vote in the event of a tie.

Decisions are recorded in minutes transcribed in a special register, kept at the Association's headquarters, and signed by the Chairman of the meeting and the General Secretary.



The General Assembly, regularly convened, is made up of all the members of the Association.

The ordinary General Meeting is convened at least once a year by the Board of Directors. The latter shall endeavor to ensure that General Meetings coincide with scientific events and technology fairs organized by AMSIC.

In addition, the General Assembly shall meet extraordinarily whenever the Board of Directors deems necessary or at the request of at least fifteen AMSIC members. The deliberations of the General Assemblies recorded in the minutes are signed by the Chairman of the meeting and the General Secretary. In the absence of the President and the General Secretary, other members from the Executive Committee may replace them.

## **ARTICLE 19**

The Ordinary General Meeting approves the Treasurer's accounts and votes on the annual budget.

It confers all authorizations to the Executive Committee to conduct all operations for which the powers defined in the statutes would not be sufficient.

The General Assembly is empowered to make amendments to the AMSIC Statutes.



The General Assembly shall decide on all matters submitted during the General Meetings. It is entitled to make all amendments to the Statutes, order the extension or dissolution of the Association. It must be composed of at least fifteen AMSIC members for remote meetings; and must include a quorum of ten members for physical meetings. Decisions shall be taken by a two-third majority of the members present or represented. If the quorum is not reached, a new Extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened within thirty days. No quorum is then required. Its decisions are taken by a two-third majority of the members present and represented.

## **ARTICLE 21**

The General Assembly includes all members of the Association. It shall meet in ordinary session once a year, upon convocation by its Board of Directors; it can also convene in extraordinary session at the request of at least fifteen AMSIC members, or one quarter of the Board of Directors' members.

The General Meeting deliberates and instructs the Board of Directors regarding

- i) Its assessment of the management of the Association by the Executive Committee and the Management Board and
- ii) Its recommendations regarding the moral and financial situation of the Association.

The Board of Directors shall include the recommendations of the General Meeting when it approves the accounts for the financial year ended, and votes on the budget for the following financial year. The Board of Directors may



appoint an Audit Committee external to AMSIC whose responsibility is to audit the accounts for the year ended. The General Assembly alone is entitled to elect the members of the Board of Directors. Deliberations subject to the Board election shall be taken by a majority vote of the General Assembly that is organized remotely, and where each enrolled member is entitled to one vote. To validate the deliberations, a quarter of AMSIC members must vote. The electoral process set up by the Executive Committee or an ad-hoc Voting Commission is examined and approved by the Board of Directors. If the quorum is not reached, a new Extraordinary General Assembly is convened within thirty days at the request of AMSIC president. No quorum is then required. Its decisions are taken by a two-third majority of the members present and represented.

# ARTICLE 22

The Board of Directors shall establish Rules of Procedure to be approved by the AMSIC General Assembly by applying the voting criteria specified in Articles 3, and 17 to 21.

#### **ARTICLE 23**

The present Statutes may be modified by the General Assembly as explained in Articles 3, 20 and 21. Any proposal to amend the Statutes must be communicated to the Board of Directors at least ten days before the General Assembly's meeting.



Deposits, declarations, and publications relating to these Articles of AMSIC Association shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force.

# Sfax, TUNISIA February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024



Amended, Read, and Approved by:

.../...

Bamako, MALI, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Created, Read, and Approved by:

The Constituent General Assembly (President Abdoulaye Doucouré)

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