



STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR STATISTICAL COMPUTING

1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be the International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC) hereinafter abbreviated to the Association. The Association shall be a section of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in accordance with Article 7a of the ISI Statutes.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the Association shall be to promote the theory, methods, and practice of statistical computing and to foster interest and knowledge in effective and efficient statistical computing through international contacts among statisticians, computing professionals, organisations, institutions, governments, and general public in different countries of the world.

2.2 The Association endeavours to accomplish its objectives by:

- a) recommending and helping to arrange programmes of relevant meetings during sessions of the ISI;
- b) organising international or regional meetings, seminars, conferences, research and training programmes and theoretical or practical investigations independently or in collaboration with other organisations;
- c) assisting participants to attend meetings;
- d) collaborating with international, national, regional and other organisations and institutions having objectives similar to those of the Association;
- e) promoting means for collaborative efforts;
- f) fostering evaluations of statistical computing techniques and programs;
- g) promoting and facilitating exchange of computer programmes and their documentation;
- h) publishing periodicals, reports and documents such as pamphlets, books, information circulars, independently or in co-operation with other organisations;
- i) promoting means and methods of training individual in sound and useful statistical computing procedures;
- j) promoting transactions, undertaking or participating in co-operative activities, and taking necessary actions for the promotion and advancement of the objectives of the Association.

3. MEMBERSHIP

3.1 The membership of the Association shall be of two types without any restriction on number.

- a) individual members;
- b) institutional members which may be educational and scientific institutions, government and non-profit organisations, business enterprises, etc. An institutional member shall be entitled to designate a representative who may attend meetings of the Association and participate in the scientific programme of the meetings with the same privileges as the individual members.

Institutional members shall be entitled to receive one set of the publications of the Association on the same conditions as individual members.

- 3.2 Members of the International Statistical Institute may become members of the Association by applying to the Executive Secretary and paying any prescribed dues. Payment of section dues by members of the Institute shall be in accordance with By-laws of the ISI.
- 3.3 Individuals or institutions who are not members of the ISI and are interested in the objectives of this Association may become members by applying to the Executive Secretary and paying any prescribed dues.
- 3.4 Membership shall be terminated either by resignation by the member or for non-payment of the dues of the Association for one year or for other reasons as may be prescribed by the By-laws. In exceptional cases of recognised hardship the Council may waive, reduce or postpone the payment of dues.

4. BY-LAWS

The By-laws of the Association shall be established by the General Assembly, and shall not contain any regulation which contravenes these statutes.

5. PRINCIPAL ORGANS

The principal organs of the Association are:

- 5.1 The General Assembly, composed of the members in accordance with Article 6.
- 5.2 The Executive Committee, composed of the officers of the Association.
- 5.3 The Council, composed of members and ex-officio members in accordance with Article 9.

6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 6.1 The members of the Association at a meeting convened in the manner specified below or casting their votes by mail on questions referred to them shall constitute the General Assembly and shall be the highest authority of the Association.
- 6.2 The business transactions of the General Assembly shall include:
 - a) consideration and adoption with or without modification of reports of the President, Scientific Secretary and others of the Council on the activities and finances of the Association;
 - b) acknowledgement of results of election of Officers and members of the Council;
 - c) consideration of reports of any committees appointed by the General Assembly, and proposals regarding policy and programmes of the Association;
 - d) amendments of Statutes, if any, and approval or rejection of proposed new By-laws and changes in By-laws which are then submitted for a mail vote of the membership;
 - e) all other business necessary for the promotion of the objectives of the Association.
- 6.3 The decisions of the General Assembly shall be made by a majority of votes cast at a meeting or by mail except for amendments of Statutes which shall be carried out in accordance with Article 15.
- 6.4 Each individual member shall have one vote.
- 6.5 A General Assembly shall be convened normally not less than once in two years and, if possible, conjointly with each ordinary session of the ISI.

- 6.6 Subject to Article 6.5 the meetings of the General Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Council may direct.
- 6.7 A notice specifying the place, date, time and the agenda of a General Assembly shall be sent by airmail to all members of the Association not less than three months before the date of the General Assembly.
- 6.8 If it is considered necessary by the Council to ascertain the views of the members of the Association by mail, the questions under reference shall be sent by airmail to all members of the Association not less than three months before the date by which the replies from members shall have to reach the Executive Secretary.

7. MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- 7.1 Ordinary meetings of the Association shall be convened normally not less than once in two years, and if possible, conjointly with each ordinary session of the ISI.
- 7.2 Subject of Article 6.1 and the need for meeting of the General Assembly, the ordinary meetings of the Association shall be held at such times and places as the Council may direct.
- 7.3 For each ordinary meeting of the Association the President in consultation with the Officers of the Association shall appoint a programme committee, which then will assume all the responsibilities for the organisation, finances etc. of this meeting including the appointment and co-ordination of activities of programme organisers.

8. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 8.1 The Executive Committee (Officers) of the Association shall consist of a President, a President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, two Vice Presidents, an Executive Director, a Scientific Secretary, a Treasurer, and the Director of the Permanent Office of ISI (ex officio), who may also serve as the Executive Director.
- 8.2 The term of office of all Officers except the Executive Director shall be two years. Officers on retirement shall be eligible for re-election to the same office for only one further consecutive term of two years.
- 8.3 Not more than two elected Officers shall be citizens of the same country (or federation of countries) and the President and two Vice Presidents shall all be citizens of different countries (or federations of countries).
- 8.4 The President shall represent the Association on all the official occasions and shall preside over the meetings of the General Assembly and the Council and shall have general responsibility for the execution of the policies and decisions of the General Assembly and the Council. In the President's absence these roles shall be filled in order of precedence by: the President-Elect, the immediate Past-President, some member of the Council nominated by the President. If no member of the Executive Committee or Council is able to be present at a meeting organised or sponsored by the Association to act as his representative for that occasion and to maintain liaison with the Scientific and Executive Secretaries. In order to insure the continuity of management of the Association, the President shall keep the President-Elect closely informed respecting all relevant management and policy activities.
- 8.5 If the Presidency becomes vacant or the President is for any reason unable to fulfil his responsibilities, the President-Elect or one of the Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the Council to serve for the remaining term of the President or until the President shall again be able to serve, as the case may be.
- 8.6 The President, with the approval of the Council, may designate one of the Vice-Presidents or the President-Elect to serve in his place for a period of up to six months.
- 8.7 The President-Elect shall utilize his term to get acquainted with the business of the Association. Upon the expiry of his term of office the President-Elect will assume, during the General Assembly of the Association, the duty of President for the following two-year term.

- 8.8 The immediate Past-President shall assist the new President using his experience in handling the business of the Association.
- 8.9 The Officers shall assist the President in the formulation of the policy of the Association and in all other important decisions. In order to facilitate their work, they will be kept informed about all the important matters arising in course of their term.
- 8.10 The Executive Director, under the general direction of the President, shall serve as an assistant to the President, co-ordinate the activities of the Association, be in charge of the executive work of the Association, and shall perform other duties as delegated by the President and the Council. A Secretariat serving under the direction of the Executive Director shall be responsible for current administration of operating activities, including the collection of membership dues, the preparation and distribution of reports, and shall circulate to members of the Association all required materials as prescribed by the Statutes and regulations.
- 8.11 The Scientific Secretary shall be responsible, under the guidance of the President and Council, for co-ordination of the activities involved in arranging seminars, conferences and publications as specified by Section 11, and the recording of minutes of meetings of the General Assembly and the Council.
- 8.12 The Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of the accounts of the Association.
- 8.13 The Director of the Permanent Office of ISI shall provide general advice and guidance to the Association on administrative affairs and meeting arrangements, and in particular shall promote liaison between the Association and (1) the Officers and the Permanent Office of the ISI, and (2) the ISI Organising Committee for the biennial Sessions and for other joint meetings with the ISI or its sections.
- 8.14 If, for any reason, an office becomes vacant, a new officer shall be nominated by the President and approved by the majority of the Council.
- 8.15 At the conclusion of their term of office, it shall be the responsibility of the President and the Scientific Secretary to prepare a comprehensive report to the Association about its activities during the previous two years (or since the last report). This report shall be presented to the General Assembly at the ordinary meeting of the Association, at which time outstanding funds and the relevant correspondence shall be transferred to the new Treasurer and the new Scientific Secretary.

9. COUNCIL

- 9.1 There shall be a Council of the Association which shall consist of :
- a) all Officers of the Executive Committee; and
 - b) twelve members who shall hold office for four years, on half of them retiring every two years in order of seniority, and who on retirement shall be eligible for re-election after a break of not less than two years.
- 9.2 Not more than five members of the Council shall be citizens of the same country (or federation of countries).
- 9.3 The Council shall have power to appoint for a period not exceeding five years at a time an Executive Secretary, who, on such terms and conditions as may be decided by the Council, shall be in charge of the executive work of the Association but shall not be a member of the Council.
- 9.4 The Council shall promote the objectives of the Association, administer the affairs of the Association and, for these purposes, shall have power to:
- a) appoint necessary staff and incur necessary expenditures for the work of the Association;
 - b) appoint committees, sub-committees, working groups, etc., for assigned tasks and delegate its power to such committees and sub-committees of one or more officers or members of the Council for assigned purposes;

- c) extend the term of the Officers and other members of the Council for a period not exceeding eight months pending a meeting of the General Assembly;
 - d) conduct its own business at meetings or by mail as and when necessary.
- 9.5 In the case of a vacancy arising during the term of the Council, a new member of the Council shall be nominated by the President and approved by a majority of the Council.

10. ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

- 10.1. Officers of the Executive Committee and members of the Council shall be elected by secret vote recorded on suitable ballot papers to be sent to all members of the Association by mail not less than six months prior to the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly and to be returned by them to the Executive Secretary by mail not less than three months prior to the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.
- 10.2. The Council shall appoint, not less than seven months before the date of issue of ballot papers, a Nominating Committee consisting of the President, President-Elect and at least three members who shall be selected from among the members of the Association and from not less than three different countries. The Council shall designate one member of the Nominating Committee as its convenor. The final list of nominations so prepared shall be printed on ballot papers and sent to members for voting. In the event that the Nominating Committee unanimously endorses only one candidate for each open position, then a secret ballot is necessary as specified above in paragraph 10.1; instead, it is sufficient for the Nominating Committee to announce the new officers in the ISI Newsletter six months before the next ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.
- 10.3. The completed ballot papers must reach the Executive Secretary not later than three months after the date of issue of the ballot papers.
- 10.4. Not later than three months before the next ordinary meeting the Executive Secretary shall open the envelopes with ballots, destroy the envelopes and then count the votes. Candidates for each office receiving the largest number of votes shall be considered elected and the membership of the Association shall be notified of the results of the elections. This notification shall include the information about any ties that may have occurred. The President shall resolve any ties by casting an additional vote.

11. SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, PUBLICATIONS

- 11.1 The Council may arrange seminars, conferences, etc. and other programmes on its own responsibility, or in collaboration with the other organisations, at the same time as the meetings of the General Assembly of the Association or at other times in suitable places.
- 11.2 At least three months notice of such meetings, other than the General Assembly, shall be normally sent to all members of the Association.
- 11.3 The Council may make arrangements to publish an official journal of the Association or to make necessary arrangements for publishing in a suitable scientific journal the proceedings and papers presented at the meetings and conferences of the Association and its national or regional sections, and news and communications relating to the work of the Association.
- 11.4 The Council may publish, as and when necessary, reports, pamphlets, books and other publications for the promotion of the objectives of the Association.

12. REGIONAL SECTIONS

- 12.1 When the number of members of the Association in a particular region is not less than twenty, a regional section of the Association may be formed with the approval of the Council to promote the aims and objectives of the Association in that region.

12.2 The objectives and functions of the regional sections of the Association shall be in conformity with those of the Association and must be approved by the Council. Periodic reviews of the activities of regional sections shall be the responsibility of the Council and of the General Assembly.

13. FINANCE

13.1 Financial resources of the Association shall consist of membership fees, donations, contributions and income, if any, from other sources.

13.2 No donation may be accepted unless approved by the Council.

13.3 The membership fees to be paid by members, which may be different for individual and institutional members and for different countries, shall be prescribed in the By-laws.

13.4 The funds of the Association may be used to meet the normal operating expenses of the Association and the expenses of conferences, meetings, publications, and other activities of the Association.

13.5 The Officers of the Executive Committee, except the Executive Director, and the members of the Council shall serve without compensation. They may be reimbursed for travel expenses associated with official functions.

13.6 Council may authorise the provision of grants or financial assistance for research or development projects consonant with the objectives of the Association. The Council is expected to maintain reserves sufficient to meet prior commitments; it may transfer funds to assist activities of ISI.

13.7 At each ordinary meeting the accounts of the outgoing Treasurer shall be audited by two members of the Association and their report shall be presented to the membership for acceptance by a majority of votes.

14. MANAGEMENT, BY-LAWS

14.1 The Council shall make suitable arrangements for signing contracts, agreements and other relevant documents, for maintenance of bank accounts, etc. and for all procedural matters relating to transactions, meetings, conferences, publications and other activities of the Association.

14.2 The Council shall have power to draw up By-laws for purposes mentioned in the Statutes and to add to, modify or delete any of the By-laws, provided they obtain a two-thirds majority of votes cast by the members of the Association either at a meeting of the General Assembly or by mail.

15. AMENDMENTS OF THE STATUTES

15.1 Proposals to amend the Statutes may be made in writing to the President by any five members of the Council or by any ten members of the Association. The President shall arrange through the Executive Secretary for all such proposals to be sent to all members not less than one month before the date of the next General Assembly.

15.2 Proposed amendments to the Statutes, after discussion in the General Assembly, shall be considered by the Council and then submitted to a mail vote of the membership. If the amendment is approved by a simple majority of members of the Council, then its ratification by the membership will require a simple majority of all those voting, then its passage by the membership will require two thirds of all votes cast.

15.3 The dissolution of the Association or the alteration of its name shall be treated as an amendment of its Statutes.