



STATUTES

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ARTICLE I. GOALS

I.1 - The World Road Association - **PIARC** - (referred to herein as the "Association") aims to develop international cooperation and promote progress in the roads and road transportation fields by:

- (a) being a leading international forum for analysis and discussion of the full spectrum of related issues including roads policy; management, finance, and economics of roads; integration with other transport modes; technology; safety and the environment;
- b) identifying and disseminating best practice and facilitating access to international data, in order to bring about improved decision making based on technically sound and impartial technical information; and
- (c) providing support for developing countries and countries in transition.

The Association is continuing the work initiated by the first international Road Congress, held in Paris in October 1908, and continued in subsequent Congresses.

I.2 - The Association's specific goals are to:

- (a) provide quality services designed to meet the specific needs of its members, its policy makers and the international community;
- B) be a leader in international cooperation and technology transfer;
- (c) develop an institutional, interdisciplinary, and intermodal approach that aims to break down international and organizational barriers;
- (d) be objective and impartial;
- (e) develop effective ways of expressing the needs of member countries regarding road and road transport issues and to develop appropriate responses, with special emphasis on developing countries and countries in transition;
- (f) address road transport issues in the context of environmental protection, safety, and integration of different transport modes and social issues;
- (g) propose, examine and support the adoption of international agreements on all matters concerning the improvement of roads and road transport throughout the world for the benefit of travelers, passengers and freight transport operators; and
- (h) encourage the pursuit of research into road and road transport issues and open and prompt exchange of the results of this research among all countries.

I.3 - To achieve its goals, the Association can, among other things, use means such as:

- (a) setting up Technical Committees to carry out studies and to examine and report on individual questions of international significance within the sphere of interest of the Association;
- (b) publishing a periodical magazine and other documents relating to the Association's goals and activities;
- c) organizing and managing the World Road Congress, and the World Road Congress for Winter Sustainability and Resilience;
- (d) setting up National Committees and encouraging and supporting national road associations;
- (e) encouraging and supporting international regional road associations in organizing and conducting regional and international road seminars and conferences;
- (f) sharing roles and co-operating closely with other international organizations; and
- (g) collecting and disseminating research, information, and practices concerning roads, road transport, the use and management of road systems, the needs of road users, and the impact of roads and transport on society and the environment.

ARTICLE II. HEADQUARTERS

The Association Headquarter is in Puteaux, France.

ARTICLE III. LANGUAGES USED IN THE ASSOCIATION

The Association's statutory documents are interpreted using the French language, and are governed according to the 1901 French law on associations.

The English, French, and Spanish languages are the Association's usual working languages, in the conditions defined by the Internal Rules.

Other working languages can be used on an ad hoc basis for the Association's meetings and specific productions, according to relevance.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIPS

The Association comprises several categories of members, namely:

IV.1 - National Governments, i.e. National Governments which, having officially stated their intention of becoming Members and having been admitted to membership, pay for the prescribed annual subscription or make such other suitable contributions to the Association.

IV.2 - Regional Authorities, i.e. Regional Authorities at the highest level within a national State (federal or not) which, having officially stated their intention of becoming a member, and having been admitted as members, pay for the prescribed annual subscriptions.

IV.3 - Collective Members, i.e. authorities or public services of states, departments, provinces, counties, municipalities, other political sub-divisions and executive agencies, scientific and technical associations, universities, public and private sector companies, consultants, user associations, and other organizations concerned with issues relating to roads and road transport which, having applied for membership to the Association and having been admitted as members, pay the prescribed annual subscriptions to the Association.

IV.4 Individual Members, i.e. persons with an interest in roads and road transport, who, after applying for and being admitted to membership in the Association, pay for the prescribed annual subscriptions.

IV.5 Honorary Members, i.e. persons raised to this status by a two-thirds vote of the Council members, in recognition of their outstanding services to the Association or of distinguished contributions to progress in matters relating to roads or road transport; if they are a former president, they may receive the title of Honorary President and the title of Honorary Vice-President may be conferred on a past Vice-President.

No subscription fee shall be required from honorary members.

ARTICLE V. MEMBER RIGHTS

The following membership rights apply only if the payment of membership fees is up to date.

V.1 National Governments

Association membership gives National Governments the right to:

- a) appoint two or more delegates to the Council, including the First Delegate, who is the country representative to the Association; the rules for determining the number of delegates are specified in Article VI below;
- b) nominate members to Technical Committees and other bodies;
- c) receive as many copies of each edition of the Association's Magazine as they have delegates to the Council (minimum of five);
- d) receive as many copies of all the other documents printed by the Association as they have delegates to the Council;
- e) have access to the members' area of the Association's website;
- f) receive the Association's electronic newsletter;
- g) appoint official delegates to the World Road Congress - the Internal Rules define the number of these delegates according to the amount of the government subscriptions or other voluntary contributions; it defines the exemption for Congress registration fees or the application of special rates for these official delegates; and

- h) appoint up to two official delegates to the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress; these official delegates will be exempted from paying registration fee.

V.2 Regional Authorities

Association membership gives Regional Authorities the right to:

- a) nominate one member to up to three Technical Committees;
- b) receive five copies of each edition of the Association's Magazine;
- c) receive one copy of all the other documents printed by the Association;
- d) have access to the members' area of the Association's website;
- e) receive the Association's electronic newsletter;
- f) appoint one official delegate to the World Road Congresses; this official delegate will be exempted from paying a registration fee; and
- g) appoint one official delegate to the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congresses; this official delegate will be exempted from paying a registration fee.

V.3 Members of a Collective

Association membership gives Collective Members the right to:

- a) receive four copies of each edition of the Association's Magazine;
- b) have access at a reduced rate to other Association publications and products;
- c) receive one copy of the published proceedings issued for each Congress;
- d) have access to the members' area of the Association's website;
- e) receive the Association's electronic newsletter;
- f) appoint two delegates to the World Road Congress for each subscription fee paid; these delegates shall benefit from a reduced registration fee to the Congress if they have paid the relevant membership fees for at least the last three years; and
- g) appoint one Delegate to the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress; this delegate will have the right to a reduced registration fee to the congress if the relevant membership fee has been paid for at least the last three years.

V.4 Individual Members

Association membership gives individual members the right to:

- a) receive a copy of each edition of the Association's Magazine;
- b) have access at a reduced rate to other publications and productions of the Association;
- c) have access to the members' area of the Association's website;
- d) receive the Association's electronic newsletter;
- e) benefit from a reduced registration fee to the World Road Congress and to the International Winter Road Congress if the relevant membership fee has been paid for at least the last three years;
- f) receive one copy of the Congress proceedings published on the occasion of each World Road Congress and World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress if the relevant membership fee has been paid for at least the last four years.

V.5 Honorary Members

Honorary Members are given the right to:

- a) be a Council Member with a voting right if they had been appointed Honorary Member or Honorary Vice-President until 2013; if appointed starting from 2014, they may attend Council meetings without voting right; Honorary Presidents have a lifetime voting right;
- b) receive a copy of each edition of the Association's Magazine as well as one copy of the proceedings published for each World Road Congress and World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress;
- c) have access to the Association website's Members area;
- d) receive the Association's electronic newsletter; and
- e) be exempted from the registration fee to the World Road Congress and the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress.

ARTICLE VI. WORLD ROAD ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

The Council is the ultimate overall authority for the Association.

VI.1 Council Composition

The Council consists of:

- the following Voting Right Members:
 - a) representatives of the Member Countries;
 - b) the Immediate Past President;
 - c) Honorary -Presidents;
 - d) Honorary Vice Presidents and Honorary Members appointed until 2013;
 - e) Former Executive Committee Members who have held office for a continuous period of six years, and whose term ended before 2012;
 - f) Presidents and Secretary Generals of the World Road Congress and the International Winter Road Congress up until 2004; and
 - g) representatives of the PIARC National Committees;
- the following members without voting right:
 - h) Honorary Vice-Presidents and Honorary Members appointed since 2014;
 - i) former Executive Committee Members who have held office for a continuous period of six years and whose term ended after 2011.

VI.2 Delegates from Member Countries

Each Member National Government shall be entitled to nominate at least two members to the Council.

Moreover, it may designate a certain number of additional members to the Council taking account of the total subscription or other contributions (including the value of the staff seconded to the PIARC General Secretariat) by the country concerned and by its nationals; the calculation method is defined by the Council.

The Council determines the calculation mode. The members designated in Article VI.1 paragraphs b), c), d), e), f), g), h) and i), and the President are not included in this calculation.

VI.3 Representatives from PIARC National Committees

Each PIARC National Committee or Organization recognized by PIARC as acting as a National Committee shall be entitled to nominate one member to the Council.

VI.4 Council Responsibilities

The Council:

- a) decides the Association Statutes and proposes and ratifies changes;
- b) elects the Association President, the three Vice-Presidents and the other Executive Committee Members;
- c) elects the three internal auditors;
- d) approves the appointment of the Secretary General, selected by the Executive Committee from the nominations put forward by the National Government members;
- e) determines the membership categories and decides on the admission and expulsion of National Governments;
- f) appoints the Honorary Presidents and Honorary Members;
- g) approves the Association's General Policies and its Strategic Plan;
- h) provides a forum for annual debate among senior executives on current Road and Road Transport issues;
- i) approves the accounts and the budget, determines the annual rate of subscriptions for the various categories of members, and approves the rules for sharing subscription income between the Association and National Committees or equivalent organizations;
- j) select the venue for the World Road Congress and the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress from proposals based on the terms of reference defined by the Executive Committee;
- k) approves the general format of the World Road Congress and the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress and approves the agreement protocol with the host country;

- l) determines the number of official representatives of a National Government and a Regional Authority member to the World Road Congress and the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress;
- m) determines rules defining the number of Members that a Member Country has the right to appoint to the Council;
- n) examines and approves an annual report submitted by the Executive Committee; and
- o) lays down the Association's Internal Rules, which define the way the Executive Committee operates within the delegation of powers to it by the Council.

VI.5 Council Operation

The Council shall meet at least once a year. The Council shall also meet when convened by the Executive Committee or on request from one-quarter of the Council Members to the Association's President.

Unless stated otherwise, the Council decisions and elections require a majority vote of Council Members present, or their proxies.

Quorum shall be one-third of Council Members for amendments to the Statutes. In this case, the decisions must be voted by a two-thirds majority of Council Members present, or their proxies. If quorum is not reached at the start of the meeting, the Council decision shall be taken by a postal vote. The postal vote will provide a one-month voting period. There is no quorum in the case of a postal vote, and a two - thirds majority of votes is required.

VI.6 Council Decision by Electronic Means

When justified by emergency, on an exceptional basis, the Executive Committee may propose resolutions to the Council by electronic means, without waiting for the annual meeting.

In such cases, the Executive Committee shall address the Council Members as defined in Article VI.1.

The proposed decisions must be clear and well-argued.

These resolutions will be subject to electronic approval (e-mail, online voting tool, etc.).

The Executive Committee will be in charge of ensuring that this is organized properly (confidentiality, etc.).

Unless otherwise specified, a simple majority is required.

There is no quorum in the case of electronic voting.

A one-week deadline will be given for electronic voting.

VI.7 "Force majeure"

"Force majeure" situations (epidemic, war, etc.) may lead to the proposal of exceptional measures, which may include:

- postponing the Annual Council Meeting;
- allowing decisions by electronic means;
- postponing certain decisions such as elections to renew the Executive Committee;
- extending the Executive Committee mandate;
- considering the First Delegates as the sole representatives of the Member Governments with corresponding voting rights; and
- considering the National Committee Chair as the National Committee representative with corresponding voting rights.

In such cases, the Executive Committee shall address the Council Members as defined in Article VI.1.

The Executive Committee then declares "force majeure" and proposes exemption measures.

These exceptional measures must be clear, measured, well argued, and aimed at the proper functioning of the Association. They are accompanied by an explanation of the context that justifies the "force majeure" and present the period of validity of the exceptional situation, which may not exceed 14 months (renewable if necessary, by the same means).

These exceptional measures are subject to the approval of the Council Members defined above, by any appropriate means, including electronic means (e-mail, online voting tool, etc.).

A two-thirds voting majority is required to recognize the “force majeure” situation and approve the exceptional measures. There is no quorum.

ARTICLE VII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Association is administered by the Executive Committee, which operates within powers delegated by the Council, established in these Statutes.

VII.1 Composition of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

- a) the President;
- b) the Immediate Past President;
- c) three Vice-Presidents;
- d) between 13 and 22 other Members; and
- e) one representative elected by the National Committee Conferences.

The Executive Committee Members mentioned in a), c), and d) are elected by the Council every four years. An Executive Committee Member whose term of office is four years cannot be re-elected more than once, except if that member is elected President of the Association or if they had to fill an unexpected vacancy for less than or equal to two years, which arose due to the departure of one of the other Members.

The President and Vice-Presidents may not serve more than one term in these positions unless they have had to fill an unexpected vacancy of less than or equal to two years because of the departure of the incumbent of one of these positions.

The representatives of National Committees can be elected for not more than two successive terms.

Honorary Presidents may attend the meetings of the Executive Committee without the right to vote.

The Association Officers include the Association’s President, the immediate Past President and the three Vice-Presidents.

VII.2 Responsibilities of the Executive Committee

The Council delegates the management of Association’s routine business to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is responsible to the Council and acts in accordance with policies approved by the Council.

The Executive Committee:

- a) identifies emerging road and road transport issues and develops strategies to counter them;
- b) oversees the development and revision of the Strategic Plan, including development of Strategic Themes and the appointment of Strategic Theme Coordinators;
- c) establishes Technical Committees within each Strategic Theme, approves their terms of reference, and designates a Committee Chair;
- d) establishes Commissions, including the appointment of their Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Commission Members on the recommendations of their respective Chairs;
- e) regularly monitors achievement of the Association’s goals and objectives under the Association’s strategic and business plans;
- f) establishes an annual activity report;
- g) oversees the Association’s financial management and the development of its annual budgets and present the required Council financial reports and budgets;
- h) approves the appointment of an external professional auditor in agreement with the internal auditors for a contracted period of up to six years;
- i) oversees the Association’s internal and external communications, including the publication policy;
- j) oversees initiatives concerning developing countries and countries in transition;
- k) encourages the formation of National Committees and Regional Committees with National Committee status representing two or more countries;
- l) approves admission of National Committees or equivalent organizations and of their operating rules and modifications to these rules;

- m) maintains links with the organizing committees of the World Road Congress and the World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress and implements the general format of the Congresses, as approved by the Council;
- n) maintains links with the organizing committees of other congresses and approves the Association's contribution;
- o) supports the Secretary General in delivering the Association's day-to-day operations;
- p) decides the admission and expulsion of Regional Authorities and the membership of Regional or International Road Associations;
- q) issues the Association's PIARC Member Guide ("Blue Guide"), which defines the operating rules for the Association's various committees, groups, and activities under the Executive Committee's direction and oversight.

VII.3 Operation of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year.

The Executive Committee will meet at the request of the President or a third of the Executive Committee members.

The quorum shall be met if half of the Executive Committee Members are present, either physically or via communication through any means enabling members to hear and take part in the discussion. The Executive Committee decisions shall rest on a majority vote of Members participating in the meeting.

Executive Committee Members unable to attend a meeting may be represented by a substitute from the same country to whom they may delegate their vote by written proxy, which must be submitted to the General Secretariat prior to the meeting.

In urgent cases or if quorum is not reached, the Executive Committee decisions may be taken by a majority vote of Executive Committee Members by means of postal vote. The postal vote will allow a two-week voting period.

ARTICLE VIII. PRESIDENT

VIII.1 The President:

- a) represents the Association at the highest level;
- b) chairs the Council and Executive Committee meetings;
- c) endorses the Council and Executive Committee meeting agendas;
- d) is responsible for ensuring that the policies agreed by the Council and the Executive Committee are pursued;
- e) represents the Association in international and regional conferences and meetings; the President may delegate this task on appropriate occasions; and
- f) presents the Executive Committee's annual activity report to the Council.

VIII.2 The President decides, in agreement with the three vice-presidents, the allocation of geographical areas of responsibility to each of them. Each Vice-President liaises with the First Delegates, the Council Members, the National Committees and the International Regional Organizations in their area.

VIII.3 Should the President be unable to fulfill any official duties, the immediate Past President shall act on behalf of the President until either the President is able to resume duties or until the Council makes a new appointment.

ARTICLE IX. SECRETARY GENERAL

IX.1 The Secretary General:

- a) ensures the Association's daily management in accordance with the Council and Executive Committee's resolutions and decisions.
- b) represents the Association in all legal and administrative matters that impact the Association's operations;
- c) assists the President, Council and Executive Committee concerning Association management;
- d) attends Council, Executive Committee, and other important Association meetings; and

- e) decides on the admission and expulsion of individual and collective Members when there is no National Committee managing its Members.

ARTICLE X. COMPTROLLERS

X.1 The Council shall elect three Comptrollers, each from three different member countries. If necessary, these countries may provide a substitute comptroller.

X.2 The comptrollers shall report annually to the Council covering the external professional auditor's assessment of the Association's accounts and the results of their own investigations.

ARTICLE XI. NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Member national governments are encouraged to create National Committees or designate equivalent organizations to act as their National Committee.

Two or more Member National Governments of a world region may designate a Regional International Organization, Committee, or Association to jointly perform the role of a National Committee on their behalf.

XI.1 The National Committee and equivalent National and Regional International Organization will serve its country or countries by:

- a) being the main national interface for the Association's activities;
- b) publishing the Association's information to a national audience;
- c) disseminating information on the national or regional situation to an international audience through the Association;
- d) selecting and proposing specialists to their First Delegate to have them participate in the Association's Technical Committees and, subsequently, providing support to these specialists;
- e) organizing seminars on topics related to or concerning PIARC activities in their countries or jointly with other countries in their region; and
- f) ensuring management of National Members on behalf of the Association. In this case, Association subscription income will be shared with the National Committees or equivalent organizations.

XI.2 The Association recognizes an organization as a National Committee or equivalent organization if the Executive Committee is satisfied that the organization meets the following conditions:

- a) has been recognized by the relevant Member National Government(s) to be qualified to act as the National Committee, particularly in regard to dissemination of the Association's material and organizing its seminars;
- b) has an institutional character that will allow it to have continuous relationships with the Association's international activities in a way that is consistent with the Association mission and values; and
- c) either is actively disseminating or plans to disseminate international information on road-related issues to the nation's Organization, Collective and Individual Members.

ARTICLE XII. WORLD ROAD CONGRESS AND WORLD WINTER SERVICE AND ROAD RESILIENCE CONGRESS

The Association holds a World Road Congress, a World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress each of which should normally take place every four years.

XII.1 Memorandum of Agreement

For each World Road Congress, World Winter Service, and Road Resilience Congress, a Memorandum of Agreement shall be signed by the Minister in charge of roads and road transport of the host country and the President of the Association.

XII.2 Registration Fee

Honorary Members, Chairpersons and Committee Secretaries who have been involved in the preparation of the Congress, the General Secretariat staff and representatives from International Organizations invited by the Association President are exempted from the payment of registration fees.

Article V of the Statutes and the Internal Rules define the exemption of registration fees and special rates applying to official government and regional authority representatives.

Any other person wishing to participate in a Congress will have to pay a registration fee, the rates being determined by the Council. There will be:

- a) a reduced rate for representatives of Collective and Individual Members;
- b) a normal rate for other participants.

ARTICLE XIII. ASSOCIATION FUNDS

The Association Funds consist of:

- a) subscriptions or other contributions mentioned in Article IV;
- b) the portion of the registration fees due to the Association as specified in Article XII;
- c) any other donations and benefactions;
- d) resources resulting from contracts with other organizations;
- e) subscription fees for the Association's Magazine and receipts from the sale of the Association products;
- f) resources derived from investment assets.

ARTICLE XIV. FINANCIAL YEAR

The financial year shall begin on January 1st.

ARTICLE XV. DISSOLUTION

The dissolution of the Association can only be pronounced by the Council specially convened for this purpose. The convening of this meeting must be addressed at least three months before the date of the meeting.

The dissolution decision must rest on a majority vote of Council Members present or their proxies.

In case of dissolution, the Council shall be responsible for winding up the Association's affairs.

The Council shall ensure that the Association assets are applied to philanthropic or technical activities connected with roads and road transport.



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World Road Association (PIARC)

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