

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATIONS**

# **CONSTITUTION**

**IN FORCE AS FROM 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

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## ARTICLE 1

### **The International Association of Athletics Federations**

1. The International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) is the world governing body for the sport of Athletics.
2. The IAAF is established for an indefinite period with legal status as an association under the laws of Monaco (Act No. 1072 of 27 June 1984).

## ARTICLE 2

### **Definitions**

#### ***Area***

The geographical area comprising all of the Countries and Territories affiliated to one of the six Area Associations.

#### ***Area Association***

An area association of the IAAF responsible for fostering Athletics in one of the six areas into which the Members are divided in the Constitution.

#### ***Athletics***

Track and Field, Road Running, Race Walking, Cross Country Running, Mountain Running and Trail Running. ||

#### ***Club***

A club or society of athletes directly or through a body affiliated to a Member of the IAAF in accordance with the rules of the Member.

#### ***Code of Ethics***

The code of the IAAF containing principles of ethical conduct and related rules and procedures.

***Commission***

A Commission of the IAAF that has been appointed by the Council under the terms of this Constitution.

***Congress***

The IAAF Congress.

***Constitution***

The IAAF Constitution.

***Council***

The IAAF Council.

***Council Member***

A member of the Council who has been elected under the terms of this Constitution.

***Country***

A self-governing geographical area of the world recognised as an independent state by international law and international governmental bodies.

***Ethics Commission***

The IAAF Ethics Commission is an independent judicial body established in accordance with the IAAF Code of Ethics and for the avoidance of doubt is not a Commission of the IAAF.

***IAAF***

The International Association of Athletics Federations.

***IAAF World Athletics Series***

The major events in the IAAF's four-yearly official competition programme.

***IOC***

International Olympic Committee.

***Majority***

An Absolute Majority is more than half the valid votes cast.

A Simple Majority is the highest number of valid votes cast for a candidate, subject or motion in a specific vote.



A Special Majority is two-thirds of the valid votes cast at a Congress or Special Congress, such two-thirds to represent at least one half of the total voting power of all Members of the IAAF.

***Member***

A national governing body for Athletics affiliated to the IAAF.

***Membership***

Membership of the IAAF.

***National Federation***

The Member of the IAAF to which an athlete or other person under this Constitution is affiliated directly or through club or another body affiliated to a Member.

***Regulations***

The Regulations of the IAAF as may be passed by the Council from time to time.

***Rules***

The rules of the IAAF, including the IAAF Competition Rules (which include the Technical Rules), the Code of Ethics, the Rules of Congress Procedure and such other rules as approved from time to time in accordance with this Constitution.

***Rules of Congress Procedure***

The rules of the IAAF governing the procedure to be followed at the Congress.

***Technical Rules***

The Rules contained in Chapter 5 of the IAAF Competition Rules.

***Territory***

A geographical territory or region which is not a Country, but which has certain aspects of self-government, at least to the extent of being autonomous in the control of its sport and which is thus recognised as such by the IAAF.

***Valid Vote***

A valid vote is one that conforms to all stated requirements. The following

shall not be counted as valid votes:

- (a) abstentions;
- (b) blank votes;
- (c) votes for more or fewer candidates than the number required;
- (d) votes declared void by the scrutineers whose decision shall be final, e.g., unintelligible votes.

*Note 1: All references to the masculine gender shall also include references to the feminine and all references to the singular shall also include references to the plural.*

*Note 2: Amendments to the Constitution, as approved by the 2015 Congress, are marked by double lines in the margin.*

## ARTICLE 3

### **Objects**

The Objects of the IAAF are:

1. To act as the world governing body for the sport of Athletics.
2. To promote the sport of Athletics and its ethical values as an educational subject and life affirming and life enhancing activity.
3. To encourage participation in Athletics at all levels throughout the world regardless of age, gender or race.
4. To strive to ensure that no gender, race, religious, political or other kind of unfair discrimination exists, continues to exist, or is allowed to develop in Athletics in any form, and that all may participate in Athletics regardless of their gender, race, religious or political views or any other irrelevant factor.
5. To compile and enforce rules and regulations governing Athletics and to ensure in all competitions, whether sanctioned by the IAAF, an Area

Association or a Member, that such rules and regulations shall be applied in accordance with their terms.

6. To supervise and enforce the obligations of Members.
7. To create and enforce a mechanism whereby disputes and disciplinary matters within Athletics are subject to procedures set out in the applicable Rules and to final resolution by arbitration.
8. To promote fair play in sport, in particular, to play a leading role in the fight against doping both within Athletics and externally in the wider sporting community and to develop and maintain programmes of detection, deterrence and education which are aimed at the eradication of the scourge of doping within sport.
9. To safeguard the authenticity and integrity of Athletics and to take all possible measures to eliminate corrupt conduct which might place the authenticity or integrity of Athletics at risk.
10. To foster and support the worldwide development of Athletics and the dissemination of technical, medical, logistical, statistical, financial or other information which achieves this aim to its Members and Area Associations.
11. To affiliate to the IOC and play a leading role in the achievement of the aims of the Olympic Movement. In particular, to assume full responsibility for the organisation, supervision and officiation of the Athletics programme at the Olympic Games.
12. To foster and develop links with other International Federations, National Governments, Inter-Governmental Organisations and International and National Non-Governmental Organisations in order to promote the interests of sport in general, and Athletics in particular, at all levels throughout the world.
13. To recognise World, Olympic and other records in Athletics as Congress considers should be recognised.

14. To encourage and support a responsible concern for environmental issues and to promote sustainable development in Athletics.
15. To organise and promote World Championships and any other Athletics championship, competition or event the Congress considers would be desirable.
16. To promote all rights of the IAAF towards the achievement of these Objects.

## ARTICLE 4

### **Membership**

1. The IAAF shall comprise national governing bodies for Athletics which have been democratically elected in accordance with their constitutions and which agree to abide by the Constitution and by the Rules and Regulations. A national governing body (including its executive body) which has not been so elected, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the IAAF.

### **Eligibility for Membership**

2. The national governing body for Athletics in any Country or Territory shall be eligible for Membership. Members that represented Territories on 31 December 2005 shall continue to be Members. No new Territories shall be admitted to the Membership. Only one Member from each Country or Territory may be affiliated to the IAAF, and such Member shall be recognised by the IAAF as the only national governing body for Athletics in such Country or Territory. The jurisdiction of Members shall be limited to the political boundaries of the Country or Territory that they represent.

In the event of a conflict that brings the activities of a Member to a standstill, an ad hoc committee may be set up, for a defined period, to be in charge of the management of Athletics in the Country or Territory concerned and/or the preparation of a general assembly to be conducted in accordance with

the Member's constitution, provided always that such an ad hoc committee has been approved by the IAAF in advance.

### **Application for Membership**

3. Application for Membership to the IAAF by a national governing body for Athletics shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretary who shall place the matter on the agenda for the next Council meeting. The application for Membership must include the following information:
  - (a) the national governing body's official address and contact details;
  - (b) a copy of its current constitution and by-laws, which are in compliance with the IAAF Constitution, Rules and Regulations;
  - (c) a list of its principal officers;
  - (d) its active membership (i.e. clubs, athletes, coaches, officials);
  - (e) a financial declaration as to its solvency;
  - (f) a formal undertaking to observe and abide by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations; and
  - (g) a report on past and current Athletics activities.
4. The Council shall have the power to elect a national governing body to Membership on a provisional basis. Membership provisionally granted by the Council must be confirmed at the next Congress, which confirmation must obtain a Special Majority.
5. On granting a national governing body Membership, Congress shall decide the name under which the Member is to be listed in the List of Members and under which the Member may compete.
6. There shall be an annual fee for each Member affiliated to the IAAF and this shall be paid in advance, by the 1<sup>st</sup> of January each year.

### **Rights and Obligations of Members**

7. Subject to Article 5.11, all Members shall have equal rights at Congress.

8. Members shall have the following obligations of Membership:
  - (a) to respect and further the Objects set out in Article 3;
  - (b) to comply with all applicable Rules and Regulations;
  - (c) to accept and comply with decisions of the Council and Congress;
  - (d) to insert into their constitutions and regulations such provisions as may be required by the Constitution, Rules and Regulations;
  - (e) to participate in international Athletics competitions (including World Athletics Series competitions and/or Area competitions under Rule 1.1(f));
  - (f) to keep on file at the IAAF a copy of its current constitution and regulations in English or French;
  - (g) to make the annual report set out in Article 4.9.
  
9. All Members shall be required to submit to the IAAF, within the first three months of each year, an annual report which shall include the following information:
  - (a) the Member's address, telephone, fax, e-mail, etc.;
  - (b) a list of principal officers;
  - (c) active membership of the National Federation (i.e., clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, etc.);
  - (d) major championships and competitions held during the year (senior, junior, men, women, etc.);
  - (e) national records at the close of the preceding year;
  - (f) a report on all in and out-of-competition testing conducted in the Country or Territory of the Member in the preceding year other than that carried out by the IAAF.

Members shall be required to submit a copy of the annual report to their respective Area Association at the same time as submitting a copy to the IAAF. Appropriate sanctions shall be imposed on Members which fail to meet the deadline for submitting the annual report to the IAAF and fail to supply the report within a reasonable period of time of receiving a written reminder to do so.

10. Neither this Constitution nor a Member's Membership shall constitute the IAAF or a Member being an agent of the other or create a partnership,

joint venture or similar relationship between the parties, nor shall this Constitution constitute the authorisation of either party to act for or on behalf of the other.

**Grouping of Members**

- 11. There shall be one official List of Members composed of the Countries and Territories set out in Article 4.12.
- 12. For the purpose of electing the Council in accordance with Article 6.2, or any Area Association council or committee, Members shall be divided into the following areas:

**AFRICA (54)**

Algeria	Ethiopia	Niger
Angola	Gabon	Nigeria
Benin	Gambia	Rwanda
Botswana	Ghana	Sao Tome
Burkina Faso	Guinea	Senegal
Burundi	Guinea-Bissau	Seychelles
Cape Verde	Ivory Coast	Sierra Leone
Cameroon	Kenya	Somalia
Central African Republic	Lesotho	South Africa
Chad	Liberia	South Sudan
Comoros	Libya	Sudan
Congo	Madagascar	Swaziland
Congo Democratic Republic of)	Malawi	Tanzania
Djibouti	Mali	Togo
Egypt	Mauritania	Tunisia
Equatorial Guinea	Mauritius	Uganda
Eritrea	Morocco	Zambia
	Mozambique	Zimbabwe
	Namibia	

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**ASIA (45)**

Afghanistan	Kazakstan	Palestine
Bahrain	Kyrghizstan	Philippines

Bangladesh	Korea	Qatar
Bhutan	Korea (Democratic	Saudi Arabia
Brunei	People's Republic of)	Singapore
Cambodia	Kuwait	Sri Lanka
China (People's	Laos	Syria
Republic of)	Lebanon	Chinese Taipei
East Timor	Macao	Tajikistan
Hong Kong-China	Malaysia	Thailand
India	Maldives	Turkmenistan
Indonesia	Mongolia	United Arab Emirates
Iran	Myanmar	Uzbekistan
Iraq	Nepal	Vietnam
Japan	Oman	Yemen
Jordan	Pakistan	

## EUROPE (51)

II	Albania	Germany	Monaco
	Andorra	Gibraltar	Montenegro
	Armenia	G.B. & N.I.	Netherlands
	Austria	Greece	Norway
	Azerbaijan	Hungary	Poland
	Belarus	Iceland	Portugal
	Belgium	Ireland	Romania
	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Israel	Russia
	Bulgaria	Italy	San Marino
II	Croatia	Kosovo	Serbia
	Cyprus	Latvia	Slovak Republic
	Czech Republic	Liechtenstein	Slovenia
	Denmark	Lithuania	Spain
	Estonia	Luxembourg	Sweden
	Finland	Macedonia	Switzerland
	France	Malta	Turkey
	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine



## **NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (31)**

Anguilla	Cuba	Puerto Rico
Antigua	Dominica	El Salvador
Aruba	Dominican Republic	Saint Kitts & Nevis
Bahamas	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Barbados	Guatemala	Saint Vincent
Belize	Haiti	Trinidad & Tobago
Bermuda	Honduras	Turks & Caicos
British Virgin Islands	Jamaica	USA
Canada	Mexico	US Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands	Montserrat	
Costa Rica	Nicaragua	

## **OCEANIA (20)**

American Samoa	Marshall Islands	Palau
Australia	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Papua New Guinea
Cook Islands	Nauru	Samoa
Fiji	New Zealand	Solomon Islands
French Polynesia	Norfolk Island	Tonga
Guam	Northern Marianas	Tuvalu
Kiribati		Vanuatu

## **SOUTH AMERICA (13)**

Argentina	Ecuador	Surinam
Bolivia	Guyana	Uruguay
Brazil	Panama	Venezuela
Chile	Paraguay	
Colombia	Peru	

13. In every form of information, bulletin, circular, competition document, etc., and on official occasions, the names of the participating Members shall correspond, in the language of the organising Member, to the translation of the List of Members. Any abbreviation used for the names

of these participating Members must be in conformity with the official abbreviations recognised by the Council.

### **Withdrawal of Membership**

14. Any Member may withdraw its Membership at the end of any calendar year provided it has provided to the General Secretary at least six months notice in writing of its intention to do so and provided the Member has settled all outstanding fees or other monies payable to the IAAF.
15. Withdrawal of Membership from the IAAF shall mean simultaneous withdrawal of membership from the Member's Area Association.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### **Congress**

1. The Congress is the general assembly of the Members and the highest authority of the IAAF.
2. A Congress shall be convened biennially in conjunction with the World Championships. The date and venue of the Congress shall be confirmed at the preceding Congress.

### **Powers of the Congress**

3. The Congress alone shall have the power to amend the Constitution. Such power must be exercised in accordance with Article 12.
4. The Congress shall have the power to amend the Rules and to decide whether any interim amendments made to the Rules by the Council since the last Congress shall be made permanent. Such power must be exercised in accordance with Article 13.

5. The Congress shall have the power to suspend or take other sanctions against Members and to reinstate Members that have been suspended. Such power must be exercised in accordance with Article 14.
6. The Congress alone shall have the right to decide upon the introduction of new competitions directly organised by the IAAF, i.e., World Championships and World Cups.
7. The Congress shall have the power to establish an Ethics Commission as an independent judicial body to adjudicate upon violations of the Code of Ethics, to impose sanctions for violations of the Code of Ethics and to perform such other functions as may be set out in the Statutes of the Ethics Commission. Members of the Ethics Commission shall be appointed by the Council.

### **The Congress Agenda**

8. No later than two months before the Congress, the General Secretary shall dispatch the Congress agenda finalised by the Council. In years in which one or more elections are to be held, a list of the persons who have been nominated for the election(s) shall be attached to the Congress agenda.
9. Members may suggest a matter to the Council for inclusion on the Congress agenda at least 6 months prior to the Congress at which it is to be considered.
10. No business other than items appearing on the Congress agenda shall be dealt with.
11. The Council shall however have authority to add a new matter to the Congress agenda if it is an urgent item.

## Participation at Congress

12. A Member may participate and vote in a meeting of the Congress provided that:
- (a) it has taken part in at least one World Athletics Series event and/or one Area Competition under Rule 1.1(f) since the last meeting of the Congress; and
  - (b) it is not suspended.

A Member that is not suspended but is otherwise in breach of Article 5.12(a) may participate at the meeting of Congress but shall not be eligible to vote unless the Council determines that there was a justifiable reason for the breach in question.

13. Members shall only be represented by delegates. Delegates shall be affiliated to the Member which they represent. A delegate may represent only one Member.
14. Members must certify the names of their delegates in writing to the General Secretary prior to the commencement of the Congress meeting. A Member may have no more than three delegates present at the Congress, only one of whom may record votes from that Member.
15. The Council shall attend the Congress but no members of Council shall represent their own Member. Council members may speak, but may not vote.
16. Honorary Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members may attend the Congress and may speak, but may not vote.
17. The Chairpersons of all Committees and Commissions shall attend the Congress but no Committee or Commission Chairperson shall represent his or her own Member. Committee or Commission Chairpersons may speak but may not vote. Committee and Commission Members may attend the Congress as observers.

18. Area Associations formed for each of the six areas listed under Article 4.12 may appoint up to 3 representatives who may attend the Congress as observers.

### **Quorum**

19. No business shall be transacted at Congress unless a quorum is present. A quorum shall exist if delegates representing one-third of the Members are present.
20. If it is clear that no quorum is present, the President shall adjourn the Congress until either such a quorum is present or, if there is no real possibility of a quorum within a reasonable period, until the next date for Congress or Special Congress as set out hereunder.

### **Proceedings of Congress**

21. The Congress shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Congress Procedure.
22. Immediately after the number of Members present has been confirmed, the first voting strength shall be announced and the appointment of scrutineers nominated by the Council from the delegates at the Congress shall be put to the Congress for approval.
23. Confirmation of any Membership provisionally granted by the Council under Article 4.4 shall then be voted upon and the second voting strength shall be announced.

### **Elections**

24. Elections will be held at the even numbered Congresses.
25. All nominations shall have been submitted to the General Secretary at least three months prior to the date of the Congress. In all cases, nominations can only be made by the Member to which the candidate is

affiliated. Members shall be limited to nominating one person for election to each position. No person who is seventy (70) years old on the date of the Congress shall be eligible for election or re-election. A person who reaches the age of seventy (70) years whilst in office shall continue in office until the next Congress at which elections are held. No person who has served three (3) consecutive terms as President shall be eligible for re-election as President.

26. Electronic voting and tabulating equipment shall be used for voting on the election of members to the Council and Committees, whenever possible.

The elections shall be held in the following order:

(a) President

(b) Four Vice Presidents

Congress shall first elect one female Vice-President. In order to be registered as voting, each Member shall vote for one candidate, no more and no less. Following election of one female Vice-President, Congress shall vote for the remaining 3 Vice-Presidents. This second vote is open to males and females. In order to be registered as voting, each Member shall vote for three candidates, no more and no less. If there are two or three successful candidates in the second vote from the same Area Association as the first elected female, then only the one with the most votes shall be declared elected, and, in the next round of voting, only candidates from the other Area Associations may participate.

(c) Treasurer

(d) Individual Members of Council

Females and males must each be represented by at least 5 individual members of Council. There shall be a single vote for the individual members of the Council. In order to be registered for voting, each Member shall vote for 15 candidates, no more and no less, of whom at least 5 shall be female and 5 shall be male. Subject to this rule, the candidates with the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected. If the candidates who have obtained the greatest number of votes do not include at least 5 candidates of each gender, the candidates of the affected gender who obtained the greatest number of votes of that gender, in sufficient number to meet the afore-mentioned minimum

gender representation for individual members, shall be declared elected.

(e) Committees

The Technical Committee; the Women's Committee; the Race Walking Committee; the Cross Country Committee and any other Committee as the Congress may consider to be necessary or advisable.

Congress shall elect first the Chairperson of the Committee.

Congress shall next elect the individual members of each Committee. Females and males must each be represented by at least 3 members of the Technical Committee and at least 2 members of each of the Cross-Country, Race Walking and Women's Committees. There shall be a single vote for the individual members of the Committees. In order to be registered for voting for the Technical Committee, each Member shall vote for 15 candidates, no more and no less, of whom at least 3 shall be female and 3 shall be male. In order to be registered for voting for each of the Cross-Country, Race Walking and Women's Committees, each Member shall vote for 10 candidates, no more and no less, of whom at least 2 shall be female and 2 shall be male.

Subject to this rule, the candidates with the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected. If the candidates who have obtained the greatest number of votes do not include at least 3 candidates of each gender for the Technical Committee and at least 2 candidates of each gender for the Cross-Country, Race Walking and Women's Committees, the candidates of the affected gender who obtained the greatest number of votes of that gender, in sufficient number to meet the afore-mentioned minimum gender representation for individual members, shall be declared elected.

27. Elections held for the positions of the President, the 4 Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the Chairperson of each Committee shall require an Absolute Majority on the first round and a Simple Majority on the second round. Elections held for the individual members of Council and of each Committee shall be in accordance with the provisions of Articles 5.26(d) and (e).

28. If, at the time of an election, there are fewer candidates than there are vacancies, the President may invite all Members at the Congress to submit further nominations.
29. Any unsuccessful candidate for any position may, if also so nominated, be included in a subsequent election for any other position.
30. The Council and Committees elected at a Congress coinciding with a World Championships shall take office immediately following the end of the Championships

### **Granting of IAAF Awards**

31. On the recommendation of Council, in recognition of valued services given to the IAAF, Congress shall be entitled to nominate past Council Members as Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members, without voting powers.
32. In addition, the Congress, on the recommendation of the Council, may grant the following awards:
  - (a) IAAF Veteran Pin  
For long and meritorious service to the cause of world Athletics within IAAF and/or Area Association activities. Normally, eighteen per Congress shall be awarded on the recommendation of the Area Associations and up to an additional three as directly proposed by the Council.
  - (b) Plaque of Merit  
For exceptional service to the cause of world Athletics within Area Association activities, to be proposed by Area Associations.
  - (c) Admittance to the Hall of Fame  
For exceptional, meritorious performances of outstanding athletes, and other persons within IAAF activities.  
A suitable IAAF diploma will be presented to all recipients of the above awards as well as to Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members.



## Special Congress

33. A Special Congress may be convened by the Council, and shall be so convened if not less than one-third of the Members give notice in writing to the General Secretary stating that they desire such a meeting and the reasons therefore. The Council shall summon a Special Congress to be held within three months from the receipt of the aforementioned notice.
34. If a Special Congress is so convened, the Rules of Congress Procedure shall apply to the proceedings before such Special Congress, where appropriate.

## ARTICLE 6

### Council

1. The Council shall be responsible for overseeing and supervising the activities of the IAAF, reporting to Congress every two years.

### Composition of Council

2. The Council shall consist of:
  - (a) a President elected by Congress under Article 5;
  - (b) four Vice-Presidents elected by Congress under Article 5;
  - (c) a Treasurer elected by Congress under Article 5;
  - (d) fifteen individuals elected by Congress under Article 5; collectively referred to as “Elected Council Members”.
  - (e) Area Representatives: Presidents of each of the following six Area Associations in accordance with their constitutions:
 

Africa	North America, Central America and the Caribbean
Asia	Oceania
Europe	South America
3. Not more than one Council Member may come from any one Member.

4. At least six Council Members, including at least one Vice-President, shall be female.
5. Elected Council Members shall be in office for a period of four years. If during the first two years of the term of office, a vacancy arises in the Council for an elected Council Member, a substitute shall be elected at the next Congress for the residuary period.
6. Area Presidents shall be in office as Area Representatives on the Council for a period of four years and their term of office shall commence at the same time as the Elected Council Members. If at any time a position as Area Representative on the Council becomes vacant, the Area Association shall elect or designate a replacement in accordance with Article 9.5 below.

### **Proceedings of Council**

7. The Council shall meet at least once a year. In advance of the meeting, the General Secretary shall provide all Council Members with an agenda of the business that is to be discussed at the meeting.
8. The President, or Senior Vice President in his absence, will preside at all meetings of the Council.
9. At its first meeting of a new term of office, the Council shall nominate one of the Vice Presidents as Senior Vice President for the purpose of presiding over the Council in the absence of the President. The Vice Presidents shall occupy honorary positions and shall have equal rights to other Council Members (other than the President and the Senior Vice President, as referred to above).
10. The President and each Council Member shall have a vote on all decisions to be taken and all decisions of the Council shall be by a Simple Majority. The President, in the case of a tie in the voting, shall have a second or casting vote. The General Secretary shall not participate in the voting.

## **Powers and Duties of the Council**

11. The Council's powers shall include the following:-

- (a) to elect a national governing body provisionally to Membership in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.4.
- (b) to suspend or take other sanctions against a Member in accordance with the provisions of Article 14.7.
- (c) to make any interim amendments to the Rules it considers to be necessary between Congresses and to fix a date on which such amendments shall take effect. The IAAF Office shall notify the Members of the amendments and the date on which they shall take effect and shall publish them on the IAAF website. The interim amendments shall be reported to the next Congress. Where the interim amendments pertain to Rules other than Technical Rules, Congress shall decide whether they shall be made permanent in accordance with Article 13.
- (d) to make decisions in urgent matters relating to all Rules. Any such decisions may be notified to the Members by the IAAF Office and shall be reported to the next Congress.
- (e) to make decisions regarding the interpretation of the Rules. Any such decisions may be notified to the Members by the IAAF Office and shall be reported to the next Congress.
- (f) to approve the annual budget presented by the Treasurer.
- (g) to appoint the IAAF's financial auditors in accordance with Article 6.19.
- (h) to summon a Special Congress to deal with any special case of great importance requiring an urgent decision.
- (i) to approve, reject or amend any Regulations.
- (j) to establish any Commission or sub-Commission, whether on an ad hoc or permanent basis, that it deems to be necessary or advisable for the proper functioning of the IAAF. There shall be a minimum of two members of each sex in each Commission except where the Commission is composed solely of ex officio members.
- (k) to make recommendations to Congress to elect Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice Presidents and Honorary Life Personal

Members, without voting powers, in recognition of valued services given to the IAAF.

- (l) to appoint the members of the Ethics Commission.

12. The Council's duties shall include the following:

- (a) to oversee and supervise the activities of the IAAF in accordance with the Objects laid down in Article 3.
- (b) to submit to each Congress a report of its activities in the preceding two-year period, together with audited financial statements for such period, and to submit a budget for the succeeding two years.
- (c) to examine any proposals from Members, Committees or Commissions which are to be discussed at Congress, to submit such reports on them as they think fit and to submit to Congress any other proposals they may deem desirable.
- (d) to ensure the execution of all decisions taken by the Congress.
- (e) to notify Members of the imposition of any suspensions or other sanctions by either Congress or Council.
- (f) to recognise World, Olympic and any such other records as Congress may decide to recognise.
- (g) to ensure the maintenance of proper standards in the organisation of all events and competitions under the direct control of the IAAF.
- (h) to control and supervise the technical organisation of the Athletics programme at the Olympic Games.
- (i) to facilitate and co-ordinate the establishment of an official worldwide calendar of Athletics events.
- (j) to make the necessary appointments of Technical Delegates and other officials at all major International Competitions directly organised by the IAAF and at the Olympic Games.
- (k) to appoint the official IAAF Representative at Area, Regional or Group Games and Area or Regional Championships or Inter-Area matches. This IAAF Representative shall, if possible, be appointed from the Council and shall ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, that the Rules and Regulations are observed.
- (l) to appoint the General Secretary, who shall attend all meetings of the Council and of Committees and Commissions. The General Secretary

shall be responsible for the engagement of IAAF staff, with the approval of the President and the Treasurer.

- (m) to appoint such honorary assistants as it may deem necessary for the purpose of administering the affairs of the IAAF.
- (n) to promote a Development Programme for the benefit of Members requiring assistance in administration, marketing, anti-doping education, sports medicine, the training of coaches, technical officials, etc.
- (o) to nominate one or more Vice Presidents or Council Members to undertake special responsibility for the supervision of the Development Programme, or to perform any other special duties subject to the overall control of the Council.
- (p) to decide on dates and venues for International Meetings defined in the Rules which are directly organised by the IAAF.

### **Obligations of Council Members**

13. Each Council Member shall have the following obligations:

- (a) to respect the Objects set out in Article 3;
- (b) to comply with all applicable Rules and Regulations; and
- (c) to accept and comply with decisions of the Council and the Congress.

### **The Finances of the IAAF**

14. The Council shall be responsible for the finances of the IAAF and only the Council shall have the right to administer the revenues obtained by the IAAF during the Council's four-year term.

15. The finances shall be conducted by the Council in a prudent manner to assure the retention of sufficient reserves and to assure continuation of the many activities and programmes of the IAAF, including the following:

- (a) the organisation of IAAF events;
- (b) the participation of athletes and teams in IAAF events;
- (c) the administration of the IAAF Office;

- (d) the IAAF Anti-Doping Programme;
  - (e) the worldwide promotion of Athletics;
  - (f) the support of, and contributions to, Area Associations and Members through the Development Programme.
16. The Council may delegate, in its supervision of the activities of the IAAF, the authority to act in urgent financial matters to the President and the Treasurer, as appropriate. In such a case, the Council must be advised at the earliest opportunity of any action that is taken pursuant to such delegated authority.
17. A Finance Commission shall be appointed by the Council composed of the Treasurer and such other members as the Council may deem particularly suited to contribute to the oversight of the financial affairs of the IAAF by virtue of their relevant expertise and experience.
18. An annual budget (accompanied by a financial forecast for the four-year cycle), which shall have been approved by the Finance Commission, shall be presented to the Council by the Treasurer at the first meeting of the calendar year, and shall be adopted as approved by the said Council. In preparing the annual budget of the IAAF, an adequate amount shall be set aside to carry out the administrative and operational duties of the various Committees and Commissions.
19. The complete set of financial accounts and records of the IAAF shall be audited by an outside accounting firm of international reputation which shall be appointed by the Council for a fixed term of four years subject to earlier termination by the Council at any time. The auditors shall be required to deliver a report to the Council on an annual basis in the form of a true and fair audit of the IAAF's finances.

### **Status of Council Members in National Federations**

20. A Council Member shall, as of right, be a voting member of the council and/or the executive body of his National Federation. He shall also be entitled to vote in the general assembly of his National Federation.

## ARTICLE 7

### **The President**

1. The principal elected officer of the IAAF shall be the President.
2. The President shall have the following roles and duties:
  - (a) to preside over all meetings of the Congress, the Council and the Executive Board.
  - (b) to represent the IAAF in all dealings with the IOC and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) and any other relevant international organisations.
  - (c) to negotiate or oversee the negotiation of all major contracts on behalf of the IAAF in consultation with the appropriate members of the Executive Board and/or any other relevant persons.
  - (d) to evaluate the performance of the General Secretary and make an annual report to the Council in this regard.
  - (e) to be an ex officio member of all Committees and Commissions.
  - (f) to be an ex officio member of the executive committee of all Area Associations.
  - (g) to create any task force or working group he may deem necessary or advisable to address any urgent situation.
  - (h) to be responsible, as the principal elected officer of the IAAF, for the oversight of the operations of the IAAF Office and, where appropriate, to take such measures as he may deem necessary for the proper administration of the IAAF. He shall periodically report to the Council in this regard. Such oversight shall be conducted in close co-operation with the General Secretary.
3. In consultation with the Executive Board, the President may engage such persons as he may deem necessary or advisable for the fulfilment of his role or duties as President.
4. The President may delegate any of his duties as he considers appropriate.

## ARTICLE 8

### **The Executive Board**

1. There shall be an Executive Board composed of the President, the 4 Vice Presidents and the Treasurer.
2. The Executive Board shall meet on at least one occasion between each Council meeting and more often if required to deal with any urgent business that may arise. The General Secretary should be in attendance at all meetings of the Executive Board and the President may also request the attendance of such other persons as may be required.
3. When necessary at Executive Board meetings, the Executive Board may take decisions on the Council's behalf which, because of their urgency, cannot be transferred to the next Council meeting.
4. All decisions of the Executive Board must be reported to the Council at its next meeting. The Council may confirm or otherwise act upon such decisions.

## ARTICLE 9

### **Area Associations**

1. Area Associations shall be formed for each of the six groups listed under Article 4.12 and each Member shall be affiliated to the Area Association under which it is listed. Area Associations shall perform an essential role in the IAAF in fostering and developing Athletics in their respective areas taking into consideration the specific needs of their Members.
2. Each Area Association shall be incorporated or registered as a separate legal entity in a Country or Territory within its Area and draw up its own constitution and rules of operation which shall in all cases be limited to operation within its own Area and shall in no sense be conflicting with this



Constitution or the Rules or Regulations. In the case of conflict between this Constitution and the constitution of an Area Association, the terms of this Constitution shall prevail.

3. The constitution of each Area Association shall establish the following:
  - (a) that there be a central office established to administer the affairs of the Association;
  - (b) that there be a meeting of the members of the Association held at least once every two years;
  - (c) that there be a president and executive council democratically elected by the Association every four years such elections to take place in the same year as and in advance of an elective Congress; and
  - (d) that the Association shall be represented on the Council by its president.
  
4. Each Area Association shall:
  - (a) render a detailed, written report of its activities to Congress every two years and, in so doing, draw to the attention of Congress any Athletics-related issues specific to its Area.
  - (b) establish and control a competition structure suitable for the needs of Athletics in its Area.
  - (c) grant authorisation for International Invitation Meetings to be held in its Area in accordance with IAAF Rule 2.
  - (d) be responsible for publishing and controlling an annual calendar of all International Competitions to be held at an Area level within its Area. The calendar shall include the national championships of its Members.
  - (e) establish and control from its own resources a development programme having the objective of ensuring the continuity of the development of Athletics in its Area and co-ordinate such a programme with the IAAF's development activities.
  - (f) have the right to be represented at Congress by up to three observers.
  - (g) have the right to make proposals to Congress.

5. If at any time a position as Area Association Representative on the Council becomes vacant, through resignation or otherwise, the General Secretary shall ask the Area Association concerned to elect or designate a Representative within three months to hold office until the next Congress.
6. Neither this Constitution nor the constitution or activities of an Area Association shall constitute the IAAF or the Area Association being an agent of the other or create a partnership, joint venture or similar relationship between the parties, nor shall this Constitution constitute the authorisation of either party to act for or on behalf of the other.

## ARTICLE 10

### **Committees**

1. All Committees shall be elected for a period of four years, unless otherwise decided by Congress.
2. The President shall be an ex officio member of all Committees.
3. There shall be at least the following Committees:
  - (a) Technical Committee - the Technical Committee, to whom all questions concerning Technical Rules shall be referred, shall consist of a Chairperson and fifteen individuals. At least three members of the Technical Committee must be female and at least three members of the Technical Committee must be male.
  - (b) Women's Committee - the Women's Committee to whom all questions concerning women's Athletics shall be referred, shall consist of a Chairperson and ten individuals. At least two members of the Women's Committee must be male and at least two members of the Women's Committee must be female.
  - (c) Race Walking Committee - the Race Walking Committee, to whom all questions concerning race walking shall be referred, shall consist of a

Chairperson and ten individuals. At least two members of the Race Walking Committee must be female and at least two members of the Race Walking Committee must be male.

(d) (d) Cross Country Committee – the Cross Country Committee, to whom all questions concerning Cross Country and Mountain Running shall be referred, shall consist of a Chairperson and ten individuals. At least two members of the Cross Country Committee must be female and at least two members of the Cross Country Committee must be male.

4. All Committees shall meet when summoned by the General Secretary and their recommendations shall be reported to the Council through their respective Committee Chairpersons.
5. Individual members of Committees (excluding ex officio members) must come from different Countries or Territories. If an Area Association is not represented on a Committee, that Area Association President shall nominate one additional person for that Committee, unless the Area Association's Constitution provides otherwise, until the next election.

### **Extraordinary vacancies on IAAF elected Committees**

6. If, at any time, a position on a Committee becomes vacant through resignation or otherwise, the following action shall be taken:
  - (a) should the vacancy be for an Area Association Representative, the General Secretary shall ask the Area Association to nominate a Representative within three months to hold office until the next Congress.
  - (b) should the vacancy be for an individually elected member, then the candidate with the highest number of votes of those not elected for that Committee at the last election shall be appointed by the Council to hold office until the next Congress.

## ARTICLE 11

### **Official Languages**

1. The official languages of the IAAF shall be English and French.
2. The Constitution and Rules and Regulations, Minutes, Reports and other communications shall be drawn up in English and French and in any other language(s) as the Council may decide.
3. In all cases of a difference in interpretation of any text, the English version shall apply.
4. All documents or letters addressed to the IAAF shall be in English or French.
5. At Congress meetings, each delegate of a Member may speak in his own language. Simultaneous translations must be made in Arabic, German, Russian and Spanish, in addition to English and French. Simultaneous translations may be made from and into any additional language required, provided that the cost of this can be met by, or on behalf of, the Member requesting the additional language.

## ARTICLE 12

### **Amendments to the Constitution**

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any Congress. Only the Congress shall be entitled to make amendments to the Constitution.
2. A proposal to amend the Constitution, unless this is proposed by the Council, must be submitted to the General Secretary by a Member, or by an Area Association council or congress, at least six months prior to the Congress at which it is to be considered. All proposals, together with the recommendations of the Council in relation to such proposals, shall be

sent by the General Secretary to the Members at least three months before the Congress.

3. A proposal for amendment to the Constitution may be withdrawn at any time but a withdrawal by a Member must be in writing unless it is made by the head of the delegation of that Member during the Congress.
4. To be accepted, any proposal to amend the Constitution must obtain a Special Majority.
5. Any subsequent amendments that may be necessary to the wording of Articles of the Constitution which have been passed by Congress can only be made by the President (or by any person or persons nominated by him for such purpose) or by the General Secretary, and this provided no material change to the decision of Congress is made.
6. The amendments referred to in Article 12.5 shall be pointed out to the Council at the first opportunity and, if necessary, to Congress.
7. Amendments to the Constitution adopted by Congress shall take effect on the publication of the Constitution in English, unless otherwise specified by the Congress. The Constitution shall be published in English by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November and in French by the 1<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year.

## ARTICLE 13

### **Amendments to the Rules**

1. Amendments to the Rules may be made at any Congress.
2. A proposal to amend any Rule including a Technical Rule, unless made by the Council or any permanent Committee, must be submitted to the General Secretary at least six months prior to the Congress at which it is to be considered. A proposal to amend a Rule may only be submitted by a Member, the Council, a Council Member, any permanent Committee, any

Commission established by the Council, or by an Area Association council or congress.

3. A proposal for amendment to a Rule may be withdrawn at any time but a withdrawal by a Member must be in writing unless it is made by the head of the delegation of that Member during the Congress.
4. All proposals for amendment to a Technical Rule shall be sent by the General Secretary to the Technical Committee and/or, where relevant, to another Committee or any Commission established by the Council for study. After receiving the recommendations, the Council shall decide on each proposal.
5. The Council shall give its recommendations on all proposals for amendment to a Rule other than a Technical Rule.
6. The Council shall also identify and make preliminary decisions on those proposals for amendment of a Technical Rule, if any, which for their importance or for their controversial or sensitive nature shall be submitted to the Congress for its final decision.
7. All decisions of the Council on the proposals to amend a Technical Rule and all proposals to amend a Rule other than a Technical Rule, with the recommendations of the Council, shall be sent by the General Secretary to Members at least three months before the Congress.
8. The Congress shall:
  - (a) receive information on all interim amendments to Technical Rules made by Council in accordance with Article 6.12(c);
  - (b) receive information on all decisions made by Council regarding proposals to amend Technical Rules in accordance with Article 13.4.;
  - (c) receive information on the recommendations made by Council on all proposals to amend a Rule other than a Technical Rule in accordance with Article 13.5, and make decisions on those proposals;
  - (d) receive information on the recommendations made by Council on all proposals for amendment to Technical Rules which the Council has

- submitted to Congress in accordance with Article 13.6, and make decisions on those proposals;
- (e) receive information and decide whether the interim amendments to Rules other than Technical Rules, made by the Council in accordance with Article 6.11(c) shall be permanent; and
  - (f) receive information on the decisions in urgent matters relating to the Rules made by the Council in accordance with Article 6.11(d).
9. To be accepted, the following must obtain an Absolute Majority in a Congress vote:
- (a) any proposal to make permanent an interim amendment to a Rule made by Council in accordance with Article 6.11(c) since the previous Congress;
  - (b) any proposal to amend a Rule other than a Technical Rule; and
  - (c) any proposal to amend a Technical Rule that has been submitted to Congress under Article 13.6.
10. When an amendment to a Rule is adopted by Congress (other than an interim amendment by the Council already in effect which has been made permanent by the Congress), a fixed date for when the amendment shall take effect shall be stated, failing which the amendment shall take effect on the date of publication of the new IAAF Competition Rules handbook in English in accordance with Article 13.13.
11. Any subsequent amendments that may be necessary to the wording of the Rules which have been passed by Congress can only be made by the President (or by any person or persons nominated by him for such purpose) or by the General Secretary, and this provided no material change to the decision of Congress is made.
12. The amendments referred to in Article 13.11 shall be pointed out to the Council at the first opportunity and, if necessary, to the Congress.
13. The IAAF Competition Rules handbook incorporating the changes to the Rules made by or reported to Congress shall be published in English by the 1<sup>st</sup> of November and in French by the 1<sup>st</sup> of December of the same year.

## ARTICLE 14

### **Suspensions and other Sanctions**

1. The Congress shall have the following powers under this Article:
  - (a) to suspend a Member from Membership for a fixed period or until a specified set of circumstances changes or ceases to exist;
  - (b) to reinstate a Member who has been suspended under (a) above, before the end of the fixed period or before the set of circumstances specified has changed or ceased to exist;
  - (c) to caution or censure a Member;
  - (d) to issue fines against a Member;
  - (e) to withhold grants or subsidies from a Member;
  - (f) to exclude a Member's athletes from any one or more of the types of International Meeting defined in the Rules;
  - (g) to remove or deny accreditation to officers or other representatives of a Member; and
  - (h) to impose any other sanction it may deem to be appropriate.
  
2. The Congress may exercise its suspensive powers under Article 14.1(a), and may reinstate a Member under Article 14.1(b) only if:
  - (a) a proposal for such suspension or reinstatement, as the case may be, has been received by the General Secretary at least six months before the relevant Congress meeting (unless the Member is already suspended by the Council, or is suspended by the Council during those six months); and
  - (b) either:
    - (i) the proposal has been sent by the General Secretary to Members at least four months before the said Congress; or
    - (ii) the Members have been informed at least four months before the said Congress of a Member's suspension by the Council and of a Council proposal that the Member be suspended by Congress; or
    - (iii) the Members have been informed at least four months before the said Congress of a Council proposal that the Member should be reinstated; or



- (iv) the Members have been informed in writing, before the start of the Congress, that the Council has suspended a Member within the four months preceding the Congress and of a Council proposal that the Member should be suspended by Congress; and
  - (c) the proposal obtains a Special Majority.
3. The Congress may exercise its suspensive powers under Article 14.1(a) only if:
- (a) a Member has failed to pay the subscription for the preceding year by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of that year; or
  - (b) in the opinion of the Congress, the Member is in breach of the Constitution or any one or more of the Rules (other than the Code of Ethics); or
  - (c) the conduct of the Member, or the Government of the Country or Territory that the Member represents, breaches, or remains in breach of, the Objects of the IAAF; or
  - (d) the Congress considers that the Member does not fulfil the requirements of eligibility for Membership.
4. Before the Congress may exercise its suspensive powers under Article 14.1(a), the Member must have been sent notice in writing of the grounds for suspension at least one month before the Congress meeting, at which the Member will be afforded a reasonable opportunity of being heard.
5. A Member who has been suspended by the Congress under Article 14.1(a) may request, provided that notice in writing is received by the General Secretary at least six months before the next ensuing Congress, that a proposal for that Member's re-instatement be considered at the next Congress meeting.
6. A Member who has been suspended by the Congress under Article 14.1(a) shall automatically cease to be suspended:
- (a) at the end of the fixed period, or
  - (b) once, in the opinion of Council, the set of circumstances specified has changed or ceases to exist.

7. The Council shall have the following powers under this Article:
  - (a) to suspend a Member from Membership until the next meeting of Congress or for any shorter period;
  - (b) to reinstate a Member who has been suspended by the Council in accordance with Article 14.7(a);
  - (c) to provisionally suspend a Member pending a hearing conducted under Article 14.10;
  - (d) to caution or censure a Member;
  - (e) to issue fines against a Member;
  - (f) to withhold grants or subsidies from a Member;
  - (g) to exclude a Member's athletes from any one or more of the types of International Competitions defined in the Rules;
  - (h) to remove or deny accreditation to officers or other representatives of a Member; and
  - (i) to impose any other sanction it may deem to be appropriate.
  
8. The Council may exercise its suspensive powers under Article 14.7(a) only if:
  - (a) a Member has failed to pay the appropriate subscription for the preceding year by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of that year; or
  - (b) in the opinion of the Council, the Member is in breach of the Constitution or any one or more of the Rules (other than the Code of Ethics); or
  - (c) the conduct of the Member, or the Government of the Country or Territory that the Member represents, breaches, or remains in breach of, the Objects of the IAAF; or
  - (d) the Council considers that the Member does not fulfil the requirements of eligibility for Membership;
  - (e) in the event of a conflict bringing the activities of a Member to a standstill, the Member has failed to comply with the provisions of Article 4.2 above.
  
9. Before the Council may exercise its suspensive powers under Article 14.7(a), the Member must have been sent a notice in writing of the

grounds for suspension and must have been given a reasonable opportunity to be heard on the matter.

10. Any hearing under Article 14.9 shall take place before a three person panel appointed by the President no later than 60 days following the date of service of the above notice on the Member. The panel shall report in writing to the Council at its next meeting and the Council shall decide whether or not to suspend the Member on the basis of the findings in the panel's report. The Council's decision shall be communicated to the Member in writing.
11. A decision of the Council whether to suspend a Member under Article 14.7(a) or to issue any other sanction under Article 14.7 shall be subject to an appeal before the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).
12. In any case where a Member has been suspended or has had any other sanction issued against it by the Council in accordance with Article 14.11, such a decision, together with any CAS award where applicable, shall be reported to the next Congress which shall take any further action it considers to be necessary.

## ARTICLE 15

### **Disputes**

1. All disputes arising under this Constitution shall, in accordance with its provisions, be subject to an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne (CAS).
2. The CAS appeal shall be in accordance with the rules of CAS currently in force, provided always that the CAS Panel shall be bound to apply the Articles of this Constitution and the appellant shall file its statement of appeal within sixty days of the date of communication in writing of the decision that is to be appealed.

3. The decision of CAS shall be final and binding on the parties and no right of appeal will lie from the CAS decision. The decision shall have immediate effect and all Members shall take all necessary action to ensure that it is effective.
4. The governing law of any such appeal shall be the law of Monaco and the arbitration shall be conducted in English, unless the parties agree otherwise.
5. All disputes arising under the Rules and Regulations shall be resolved in accordance with their provisions.

## ARTICLE 16

### **Governing Law**

The governing law of the IAAF shall be the law of Monaco.

## ARTICLE 17

### **IAAF Office**

1. The registered office of the IAAF shall be in Monaco at a location to be determined by the Council. Any decision to change the registered office to a location outside of Monaco may be made only with the approval of Congress.
2. The IAAF Office shall carry out the daily administration of the IAAF in accordance with the decisions of the Congress, the Council, the President and the Executive Board.
3. The IAAF Office shall be managed by the General Secretary.

## ARTICLE 18

### **Dissolution**

1. The IAAF may be dissolved only at a Special Congress convened for the purpose and by a Special Majority.
2. In the event of dissolution, the Congress shall appoint one or more liquidators who shall discharge all debts and liabilities incurred on behalf of the IAAF. The remaining assets, if any, shall be donated to a suitable body for the ongoing promotion and development of Athletics.
3. At the conclusion of the liquidation, the liquidators shall submit a final report to the Congress, which shall declare the liquidation closed.