

STATUTES¹

Article I – REGISTERED NAME

An association is hereby created between the parties to these articles of association, governed by the French law of July 1st, 1901, and the decree of August 16, 1901, having the title **Association Internationale des Musées d'Agriculture** (AIMA) (International Association of Agricultural Museums)

The AIMA is affiliated with the ICOM (International Council of Museums)

ARTICLE II – HEAD OFFICE

The registered office of the Association is at the registered office of the AFMA, 6 avenue Mahatma Gandhi, 75116 Paris (France).

It can be transferred to any other place upon simple decision of the Board of Directors (also called *Praesidium*): ratification by the General Assembly will be required.

ARTICLE III – DURATION

The duration of the Association is unlimited.

Article IV - PURPOSE

The objectives of this Association are to:

1. Promote cooperation between various categories of agricultural and rural life museums (including those relating to agricultural techniques, food industries, forestry, viticulture, fishing, hunting, and other service or transformation industries in agricultural production, as well as open air museums), as well as among researchers, specialists and enlightened amateurs in these fields
2. Promote and encourage all initiatives that aim to interest experts, connoisseurs and museums towards research and exhibit activities.
3. Promote and encourage international cooperation enabling better knowledge of museography in agriculture, collection sciences and representation of the development of agriculture up to today.
4. Promote and encourage all initiatives aiming at improving the training of young people, in particular exchanges and knowledge transfer.
5. Promote development of training and educational material about agriculture and rural life.
6. Promote cooperation, on the local and international levels in all technologies linked to museology, conservation and restoration of collections of objects linked to agriculture.

¹ These statutes nullify and replace the preceding statutes of the AIMA that were never registered (1978, modified in 1998 and 2004).

7. And, more generally, promote and encourage all action aiming at improving the image of agriculture, its sciences and history, on the international level.

Article V – MEMBERS

Membership in the Association is open to:

1. All entities who are members of the ICOM and concerned with museography for agriculture and collections of agricultural and rural life objects.
2. All associations or private organizations related to and representative of activities connected with museums of agriculture.
3. National or regional governmental entities and organizations subject to property of a State, related to museography for agriculture.
4. Individual members.
5. Supporting members (either as individuals or institutions)
6. Individual honorary members

Article VI - ADMISSION

VI-1 – Admission

In order to become a member of the Association, one must:

- Accept and respect the ICOM Code of Ethics,
- Fill in a membership form,
- Pay annual membership fees (individual or institutional) the amount of which is decided by the General Assembly,

VI-2 – Striking-off

Membership can be lost through:

- a) Written resignation addressed to the President,
- b) Death of an individual member,
- c) Dissolution of the Association
- d) Striking-off pronounced by the General Assembly, upon proposal of the Executive Committee, for non-payment of membership two years in succession, or for a serious reason, the individual or institution having been invited by registered letter to provide oral or written explanations.

Article VII – ADMINISTRATION

The Association is administered by:

- The General Assembly,
- The Executive Committee (Also called the ‘Praesidium’)

Article VIII – GENERAL ASSEMBLY

VIII-1 – Powers and functions

The General Assembly constitutes the supreme body of the Association. It assembles all of the members of the Association and defines its major policies. It elects, upon proposal by the outgoing Executive Committee: the new Executive Committee, the President, one or several Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary and the Treasurer.

It meets in ordinary session at least once every three years during the triennial AIMA congresses and may be held more often, when convened by the Executive Committee, as according to the conditions set out below.

VIII-2 – Conditions for convening meetings

Convening letters, containing the agenda, are to be sent out at least a month before the meeting date. Members of the Association are convened by post or e-mail by the Secretary. A proxy is sent to the members who cannot attend.

VIII-3 – Procedure for the General Assembly

It deliberates on all the questions on the agenda

- The President, assisted by members of the Executive Committee (“Praesidium”) presides over the Assembly.
- The General Secretary presents the activity and moral reports.
- The Treasurer reports on his/her management and submits the financial balance to approval of the Assembly.
- The Assembly appoints an Auditing Committee, composed of three members, for the annual accounts, and requests the Committee to make a report on the accounts.
- The Assembly acts on the financial and moral situation of the Association, approves the preceding fiscal-year accounts and the budget project for the following year, votes the amount of annual membership fees and ratifies the requests for membership made to the Executive Committee.
- It decides to grant honorary membership upon proposal by the Executive Committee.

VIII-4 – Procedure for the General Assembly

The General Assembly cannot deliberate unless half plus one of its members are present – physically or through any appropriate technical means – or are duly represented. If this is not the case, a second General Assembly, convened according to law, must deliberate on all the questions on the agenda, whatever be the number of participants present or represented. The decisions are taken by simple majority of those present or represented. Members unable to attend the General Assembly may be represented by a member of the Association holding a proxy duly dated and signed. Each member present may not hold more than three proxies. In theory, voting is secret, but it may be carried out, if need be, by a count of hands or acclamation.

VIII-5 – Extraordinary General Assemblies

The General Assembly can meet in an extraordinary session when circumstances require (as by Article XII of the present Statutes.)

Article IX – Executive Committee

IX-1 – Powers and functions

- The Executive Committee (also called “Praesidium”) is the implementing and regular management body of the Association:
- Is responsible for the regular affairs and activities of the Association.
- It studies, before they are submitted to the General Assembly, all projects and activity programs, in particular the dates and venues of congresses and meetings;
- Decisions are taken by the Executive Committee by the majority of members present and voting. In case of equality of votes, the vote of the President carries the session.
- The Executive Committee is elected for a period of three years. It can be renewed in thirds every three years; the outgoing members are chosen the first time by lot.
- The Members of the Executive Committee are re-eligible, although each member cannot be re-elected more than three terms in succession.
- It prepares the budget voted by the General Assembly and is responsible for implementing it. The Executive Committee report on the budget to the General Assembly.

IX-2 – Composition

The Executive Committee includes ten to fifteen titular members elected by the majority of votes of the General Assembly:

- The President,
- One or more Vice-Presidents,
- The General Secretary,
- The Treasurer,
- Four to nine other counselors.

The Executive Committee may appoint alternate members to take part in meetings with the right to vote in the absence of the respective titular members.

IX-3 – Functioning - Meetings

Upon convening by the President, the Executive Committee shall meet as often as the interest of the Association requires and at least once per year, physically or through any appropriate technical means by distance, teleconference, Internet, etc.

Any titular member of the Executive Committee who, without excuse, does not attend three consecutive meetings may be considered to have resigned.

The meetings shall be the object of minutes.

IX-4 – Allocation of tasks

Responsibilities within the Executive Committee shall be:

- **President:** He/she represents the association in all civil procedures. He/she presides over the association within the framework of its activities. He/she heads the Executive Committee and presides over General Assemblies. He/she watches over implementation of the decisions taken by the General Assembly. He/she is responsible for material management of the Association and assures its proper functioning.
- **Vice-President:** He/she replaces the President in his/her function. In case the President is permanently kept from attending, he/she assures his/her functions.
- **General Secretary:** He/she keeps the archives of the Association; presents the moral report to the General Assembly at the end of the year. Under the authority of the President, he/she is responsible for relations with associations and national and international groups. He/she writes up and sends out the minutes of meetings.
- **Treasurer:** He/she is responsible for managing the financial resources of the Association, keeps the accounting files. He/she presents the resource balance of the Association to the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.
- **Counselors:** They participate in the ensemble of work of the Executive Committee and may be assigned special tasks.

In case of vacancies, the Executive Committee temporarily appoints a replacement for the vacant posts until the following General Assembly which shall proceed to their definitive replacement. The terms of members elected shall end at the time when the terms would normally expire for the members replaced.

Article X – FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- The Associations resources are essentially meant to finance implementation of its objectives. The resources of the Association include:
- Membership fees,
- Subsidies from States and other public groups,
- Bequests and donations of national, international groups and persons of good will,
- Support for co-financing patrimonial projects,
- All resources permitted by the law.

The Associations funds shall be registered in its name in banking institutions decided upon by the Executive Committee.

The signature of the President or the Treasurer is necessary for each operation carried out in the account.

Accounting is done annually, from January 1 to December 31, a financial result, a balance and an annex, according to the provisions of the Regulation of 16 February 1999 concerning setting up annual accounts of associations and foundations.

Article XI – INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Internal rules of procedure may be set up by the Executive Committee, which will request their approval by the General Assembly. These rules may make more explicit certain points in the statutes, especially those related to internal management of the Association.

Article XII – FINAL PROVISIONS

If necessary or upon request by half plus one of the regular members, the President may convene an Extraordinary General Assembly, according to the formalities provided for by Article VIII.

Revision of these Statutes can be carried out by convening an Extraordinary General Assembly, with the majority of two thirds of its members present – physically or through all appropriate technical means – or duly represented.

Dissolution of the Association may be carried out following a decision by the Extraordinary General Assembly with the majority of two thirds of its members present or represented.

In case of dissolution of the Association, the remains of its possessions after debts have been paid shall be left to any organization, association or institution pursuing similar objectives, following decision of the Extraordinary General Assembly to liquidate the Association.

The present Statutes come into effect from the date of their adoption, that is, the date of the General Assembly of 28 of June 2013 in Tartu (Estonia).

They were filed and registered at the Préfecture de Police de Paris, France, at the Bureau des Associations.

Adopted by the General Assembly in Tartu (Estonia) on 28 June 2013.

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Merli SILD

René BOURRIGAUD

Pierre DEL PORTO