

THE STATUTE OF THE SLOVENIAN ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING

On the basis of the second paragraph of Article 5 of the Slovenian Academy of Engineering Act (the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 127/2006), the Slovenian Academy of Engineering adopted, at its Founding Assembly on 10 April 2007, the following:

1. General provisions

Article 1

The Slovenian Academy of Engineering, in Slovenian called the Inženirska akademija Slovenije (abbreviated as IAS), was founded on the proposal of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia with the Slovenian Academy of Engineering Act (the Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 127/2006). The founding rights and obligations shall be exercised by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

Article 2

The Slovenian Academy of Engineering shall be the central national institution in the area of engineering sciences and disciplines.

Article 3

The IAS shall be an autonomous legal entity of public law having its rights, obligations and liabilities regulated by its instrument of incorporation, as well as by the other acts and regulations relevant to its management and operation. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia shall not be held responsible for the liabilities of the IAS.

The registered office of the IAS is in Ljubljana.

Article 4

The finest specialists can be elected to the IAS on the basis of their achievements in the areas of technical sciences, technology development, the introduction of new technologies and products, or the efficient development of industrial companies and other business entities.

Article 5

The Slovenian Academy of Engineering shall be represented by the President responsible for the regularity of the IAS's operation.

Article 6

The IAS shall be a legal entity, an independent holder of the rights, obligations and liabilities relating to the legal transactions, having the right to make contracts or other legal arrangements within the framework of its activities stipulated by the Slovenian Academy of Engineering Act and the IAS Statute.

The IAS shall be liable for the obligations undertaken in the course of its legal transactions with all its property.

Article 7

The IAS shall be entered in the court register and shall have its stamp. The stamp is round; in the middle it has the logo including the abbreviation IAS and along its circumference it has the inscription Inženirska akademija Slovenije.

Article 8

The tasks of the IAS shall be:

- to stimulate the acquisition of the top-level technical knowledge that provides the basis for technological progress and a balanced, sustainable development;
- to promote the role and influence of technical experts in society in general and when dealing with issues relating to the economy and development;
- to assess and give opinions on the conditions and development of technical sciences and disciplines, research and education;
- to discuss basic issues relating to innovations and the organisation of the economy with regard to technological development;

- to be involved in the formation of policies relating to research, technology and innovations;
- to propose measures for enhancing innovations, increasing the quality of research-and-development activities and fostering the transfer of research achievements and innovations to the economy;
- to be involved in forming the policy and the programmes of training technicians and engineers at all educational levels;
- to enhance international cooperation in its areas of operation;
- to promote the development and use of Slovenian terminology in the areas of technical sciences and disciplines;
- to produce regular and occasional publications;
- to organise and support national and international discussions, conferences, panels and other meetings in the areas of engineering and business;
- to present annual and occasional awards for exceptional achievements in the areas of engineering and business, promoting engineering activities;
- to carry out other tasks aimed at fostering the effectiveness of engineering activities and reinforcing the role of engineers in society.

Article 9

To realise its tasks the IAS shall set up permanent and temporary bodies including, in addition to its own members, colleagues from the areas of the economy, research-and-development activities, and all the other areas that complement the basic tasks of the IAS.

Article 10

The work of the IAS shall be public. The IAS shall inform the general public about its work by:

- publishing annual reports;
- producing scientific and specialist publications and monographies, regular publications, conference and consultation proceedings, bibliographies of the IAS members and publications in the media;
- organising consultations, conferences, panels and other meetings, as well as public lectures.

Article 11

The IAS shall cooperate with national and international institutions and companies operating in the same fields of activity.

2. Members of the IAS

Article 12

The IAS shall have regular, associate, honorary and correspondence members.

The members of the IAS shall be active in two groups:

- the Scientific-Research Group
- the Business-Development Group

Minimum criteria are set for electing a member of the IAS.

Article 13

The following minimum requirements shall be needed for the election of an IAS member:

- electing a new member to the Scientific-Research Group requires a PhD in technical studies, at least 15 years of active involvement in scientific research, at least 20 publications, of which a half should be included in high-quality scientific and specialist journals published abroad, and at least ten citations from scientific and specialist publications.

An independently written and published book, except for a textbook, is equal to 10 publications in journals. Mentorship to doctoral and master-degree students involved in research-and-development activities in industry and/or holding important managerial positions in industry is equal to two publications and one citation;

- electing a new member to the Business-Development Group requires a completed university degree or completed advanced-level studies in technical or natural science, at least five scientific or specialist publications and at least five innovations included in the production programme of a company, or an involvement in the development and/or management of constructing a large production facility or large construction works; or a completed university degree or completed advanced-level studies, at least 10 years of working in the managerial areas of successful business companies that have efficient research-and-development departments or services and also give grants to the students of technical faculties.

The references for the candidates from universities and public research institutions receive half of the agreed value if the candidate is not the only author.

When assessing the candidates from public research institutions and universities to be elected to the Scientific-Research Group, preference will be given to the candidates that have been members of the Slovenian Association of Technical and Natural Sciences (SATENA) for at least 2 years.

Article 14

Elections to the IAS shall take place every second year, and exceptionally each year during the first three years of the IAS's operation under this statute.

A candidate that was proposed, in writing, by two regular members of the IAS shall be elected to become a member provided the candidate fulfils the requirements from Article 12.

A candidate for a regular or a correspondence member shall be elected if the candidate gets the support of at least half of all the IAS regular members, while a candidate for an associate or a honorary member shall be elected if the candidate gets the support of at least half of all the regular and associate IAS members.

Only when the number of members in each group exceeds 15 can a new candidate for election be proposed to the IAS Assembly, provided he/she has been supported by at least half of the members of the respective group.

Written proposals for electing a new candidate shall be submitted to the IAS management at least three months prior to the Assembly.

The Committee for Assessing the Candidates for the Election to the IAS shall propose, on the basis of the assessed submitted references, a candidate to be elected to one of the groups. A new candidate can be proposed to be elected as a regular member only when he/she has especially good and important references concerning his/her work. There can be no election to the Scientific-Research Group for as long as the Business-Development Group has fewer than 30 members.

Article 15

The rights of the IAS members shall be:

- to elect new members to the IAS in line with the Slovenian Academy of Engineering Act;
- to elect the members of the IAS bodies or to be elected to these bodies in line with the Slovenian Academy of Engineering Act;
- to express their opinions on all the issues relating to the IAS's activities.

The obligations of the IAS members shall be:

- to attend the Annual Assembly meetings and the Assembly meetings at which an election is organised;
- to prepare their own documents to be included in the annual report and in other publications;
- to promote, in different circles, the ideas and influence of the IAS and protect the IAS's reputation;
- to be actively involved in the activities of their respective groups;
- to constructively assess the work of the Presidency, the Executive Committee and other IAS bodies.

The IAS members, except for the honorary members, shall pay an annual membership fee.

Article 16

The work of a group shall be chaired by a head, elected with a majority vote of all the group members.

The head shall be elected for 3 years.

3. Management of the IAS

Article 17

The bodies of the IAS shall be the Assembly, the Executive Committee and the Presidency Board.

The Executive Committee and the Presidency Board shall be responsible for implementing the decisions and guidelines formed at the Assembly meetings.

Article 18

The Assembly shall consist of all the regular and associate members of the IAS.

The Assembly shall discuss issues and make decisions at the meetings that can be attended by all the members of the IAS.

The Assembly shall be convened by the Executive Committee, the Presidency Board, a group or at least one tenth of all the regular and associate members.

The convocation of the IAS Assembly, together with the proposed agenda, shall be presented to all the members at least 30 days before the Assembly meeting.

The Assembly shall form a quorum if the majority of the regular and associate members are present. The Assembly shall adopt decisions with a majority vote of the present regular and associate members.

Proposals for the amendments to the agenda of the Assembly shall be adopted with a majority vote of all the present regular and associate members.

A proposal for an agenda item to be discussed at the Assembly shall be submitted in writing by at least three IAS members present at the meeting.

To decisions relating to the IAS Statute shall require a majority vote of the all the regular and associate members.

The decisions of exceptional significance for any of the groups shall require a consensus of all the regular and associate members of the respective group.

Article 19

The Annual General Assembly of the IAS shall:

- discuss basic issues concerning the realisation of the IAS's tasks;
- elect the IAS members;
- elect and discharge the bodies of the IAS;
- adopt the statute and other documents of the IAS;
- discuss, amend and adopt the agenda of the Assembly;
- discuss and adopt the reports from the bodies and working groups of the IAS;
- adopt the annual and multi-annual working programmes of the IAS;
- adopt the report for the previous year and the financial plan for the current year;
- elect the Committee for Assessing the Candidates for Election to the IAS;
- decide on the appeals against the decisions made by the IAS bodies;
- set the annual membership fees for regular, associate and correspondence members of the IAS;
- decide on purchasing and selling property;
- decide on cooperation and involvement with the other organisations in Slovenia and abroad.

Article 20

The IAS Assembly is chaired by the IAS President.

As a rule, the Assembly's elections shall proceed by secret ballot. However, following a proposal of at least two members, it can be decided, with the majority vote of the regular and associated members present at a meeting, that the voting on one or more agenda items shall proceed by open ballot.

Elections of new members of the IAS shall proceed by secret ballot.

4. Presidency

Article 21

The Presidency Board shall consist of the President and two Vice-Presidents. The members of the Presidency Board are elected for 3 years and the position of the IAS President rotates on a yearly basis. In the year following an election to the post of President, he or she becomes a Vice-President of the IAS.

Members of the Presidency Board shall be elected by the Assembly, with a majority vote of all the regular and associate members of the IAS.

In exceptional circumstances the members can vote by post.

The Presidency Board shall meet as and when required, but at least six times per year.

Article 22

The Presidency Board shall carry out the following tasks:

- discuss the issues to be discussed and adopted by the Executive Committee and the Assembly of the IAS;
- monitor the activities of the IAS and comment on the dynamics and the quality level of performing the undertaken tasks and projects;
- take initiatives and give proposals with respect to new projects;
- take initiatives with respect to involving the IAS in the matters of public interest relating to the IAS's working programme;
- make contacts with important figures from the areas of politics and economy;
- nominate the candidate for the IAS Secretary.

5. Executive Committee

Article 23

The Executive Committee shall have nine members including the following:

- three members of the Presidency Board,
- two group heads,
- four other members.

The other four members of the Executive Committee shall be elected by the Assembly with a majority vote of the present regular and associate members. Candidates for members of the Executive Committee shall be nominated, in writing, by at least two members of the IAS. The mandate of the Executive Committee shall be three years.

Article 24

The Executive Committee shall carry out the following current tasks:

- prepare the draft annual and long-term working programmes;
- prepare the financially evaluated working plan of the IAS for the current year;
- prepare the draft annual report in line with the Accounting Act and the implementing regulations issued on the basis of the above act;
- prepare proposals for the amendments to the acts of the IAS;
- realise the decisions of the Assembly of the IAS, manage and report on the material operations of the IAS;
- appoint representatives of the IAS to the national and other bodies and companies;
- prepare the annual reports of the IAS and other publications;
- inform the general public about the decisions, proposals and views of the IAS;
- manage the assets of the IAS;
- register the candidates for the members of the IAS bodies on the basis of a written proposal from at least two IAS members;
- appoint groups for realising periodic projects and tasks;
- decide on employing the staff needed to carry out the current administrative and financial tasks.

Article 25

The Executive Committee shall carry out its tasks and make decisions at its meetings.

The meetings shall be called by the President of the IAS, who shall also prepare a proposal for the agenda of a meeting.

In the case of the absence of the President a meeting can be called by the Vice-Presidents, one third of the members of the Executive Committee or at least 10 regular members of the IAS.

The Executive Committee shall form a quorum if at least two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee are present and shall make decisions with the majority vote of the present members.

In urgent cases, the members of the Executive Committee can make decisions by way of a correspondence session.

The meetings of the Executive Committee shall take place at least four times per year.

6. Secretary

Article 26

The IAS shall have a Secretary, elected by the Assembly for a mandate of three years. The candidate for the Secretary shall be nominated by the Presidency Board of the IAS. A contract for temporary employment, i.e., for the period of the Secretary's mandate shall be made with the Secretary.

The obligations of the Secretary shall be:

- to organise and run the current administrative affairs and other activities necessary for the current realisation of the tasks determined for the IAS in the instrument of incorporation, in this statute and in the Working Programme of the IAS;
- to carry out the preparations for the meetings of the Presidency Board, the Executive Committee and the Assembly of the IAS;
- to follow the developments at the state, public and economy levels informing the bodies and members of the IAS about the affairs important for the operation of the IAS, as well as promoting its role in the society and in the country.

7. Financial resources of the IAS

Article 27

The Republic of Slovenia shall provide financial resources from the national budget for the operation of the IAS covering the following:

- the basic working programme;
- the publishing activities and organisation of specialist and scientific consultations;
- specialist, administrative and technical work;
- material expenses and operational expenditure;
- members' subscriptions and the attendance at periodic meetings of international institutions of which the IAS is a member.

The IAS shall obtain the resources from the previous paragraph on the basis of a financially evaluated annual programme that is submitted for approval to the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

The IAS shall obtain financial resources for its operation also from other sources, e.g., membership fees, funds from sponsors – industrial companies and institutions - funds obtained on the basis of public tenders, donations, bequests, gifts, or funds obtained on any other legal basis.

Article 28

Any surplus of revenues over expenditure shall be used solely for performing and developing the activities of the IAS. The use of the surplus of revenues over expenditure shall be determined by the founder following a proposal from the IAS Assembly.

In the case of a surplus of expenditure over revenues (a deficit) the IAS President shall prepare an analysis of the reasons for the deficit and a proposal for its elimination. Based on this analysis, the IAS Assembly, in agreement with the founder, shall adopt a program for the elimination of the deficit and determine the method of its repayment.

Article 29

The financial operations of the IAS shall be supervised by the Court of Audit of the Republic of Slovenia.

The regularity of the use of budgetary resources shall be supervised by the ministry responsible for finance.

8. Transitional provisions

Article 30

The members of the IAS Founding Assembly are all those individuals that are the members of the IAS founded within the framework of the Slovenian Association of Technical and Natural Sciences (SATENA).

Article 31

This statute begins to apply when it is adopted by the IAS Assembly and approved by the founder.

Ljubljana, 10 April 2007

Prof. Dr Peter Glavič
President of the IAS Assembly

The founder gave approval to the Statute of the IAS on 8 May 2007.