

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS (IFLA)

CONSTITUTION

Approved by IFLA World Council in Buenos Aires, Argentina on the 02nd of June 2014.



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INTRODUCTION.

In Cambridge, UK in September 1948, further to discussions held in Brussels (1935), Paris (1937) and Berlin (1938), a federation, now known as the International Federation of Landscape Architects (hereinafter referred to as IFLA) was established and is governed by the following Constitution. IFLA is a not-for-profit, non-political, non-governmental organisation.

VISION.

IFLA will be the leading international body promoting the creation of a globally sustainable and balanced living environment from a landscape architectural perspective.

MISSION STATEMENT.

IFLA will promote the landscape architecture profession within a collaborative partnership of the allied built-environment professions, demanding the highest standards of education, training, research and professional practice, and providing leadership and stewardship in all matters.

1. OBJECTIVES.

IFLA shall have the following objectives:

1.1. To establish, develop and promote the profession, discipline and education of landscape architecture, combined with its diverse range of arts and sciences on an international basis.

1.2. To establish, develop and promote the highest standards of education and professional practice influencing the widest range of landscape architectural operations (including but not limited to planning, design, ecology, biodiversity, management, maintenance, culture, conservation, and socio-economics).

1.3. To develop and promote international exchange of knowledge, research, skills and experience in all matters related to landscape architecture across all cultures and communities.

In order to achieve such objectives the governing body of IFLA shall:

1.4. Encourage and support the formation and development of new and existing national and multi-national professional associations of landscape architects.

1.5. Encourage and support the establishment of Regions, regional groups and associated councils or assemblies, and special interest groups.

1.6. Hold congresses, conferences and other relevant meetings.



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- 1.7. Allow the formation of appropriate committees and working groups for task-specific purposes in accordance with predetermined strategies and plans.
- 1.8. Encourage and support the formation, establishment and development of landscape architecture educational opportunities, standards and research worldwide.
- 1.9. Encourage and support all levels of government to establish and to improve legislation relating to the profession of landscape architecture.
- 1.10. Collaborate and cooperate with appropriate international bodies and professional groups for the progression of the profession.
- 1.11. Encourage and support the publishing and distribution of research information relevant to the profession's progression and development.
- 1.12. Make appropriate representations to governmental, non-governmental, national and international agencies in support and on behalf of existing and potential national associations.
- 1.13. Encourage and support any other action that will benefit the profession of landscape architecture in an appropriate fashion throughout the world.

2. MEMBERSHIP.

- 2.1. Category A: National and multi-national associations of landscape architects defined by country, countries or territories whose Constitution and By-laws have been approved by the World Council. Only one representative association per country, countries or territory/s is permitted.
- 2.2. Category B: Individual Members are landscape architects from a country, countries or territory where no national or multi-national association exists and whose qualifications and status are determined by the World Council to be acceptable.
- 2.3. Category C: Honorary Members are those individuals whom IFLA may wish to honour for their support and engagement with the profession on an international, regional or national level.
- 2.4. Category D: Corporate Members are scientific, educational and professional institutions, associations or corporations, connected with landscape architecture, and professional, commercial or industrial organisations wishing to promote or support the objectives of IFLA.
- 2.5. Admission and loss of membership is governed by and detailed in the IFLA By-laws.
- 2.6. Details of membership dues are governed by and detailed in the IFLA By-laws.
- 2.7. Only members in Category A, represented by appointed delegates from each national or multi-national association, and Executive Committee members shall have the right to vote (one vote per eligible member).



2.8. Members in categories B, C and D are not eligible to vote.

2.9. A simple majority of affirmative votes cast by the eligible membership shall determine the carrying of a motion.

2.10. Members are not eligible to vote if the association that they are representing has failed to pay its full dues in the year immediately preceding the world council at which the vote is taking place.

2.11. Delegates to the World Council representing members in Category 'A', past delegates, IFLA officers, regional, national officers, and committee chairs, shall all be eligible to hold office of the President and the Treasurer in IFLA at world level after personally attending two World Council meetings during the six-year period prior to nomination. All must have personally attended as Delegate or observer at least the equivalent of one full day of a World Council Meeting to be listed as an attendee for eligibility purposes. The IFLA Committee on Communications and External Relations shall keep a list of those eligible to hold office at world level.

3. ORGANISATION.

IFLA shall comprise the following:

3.1. Membership as defined in Item 2 above.

3.2. A World Council comprising officers of the Executive Committee and the duly appointed delegates of the national or multi-national associations which have been admitted to IFLA as members.

3.3. An Executive Committee comprising an elected President, an elected Treasurer, a maximum five Regional Presidents (elected regionally), a maximum three elected Standing Committee Chairs and one ex-officio member of the IFLA Secretariat.

3.4. The member associations of IFLA shall be arranged as determined the World Council in a maximum of five Regions reflecting appropriate geographic areas in the world.

4. THE WORLD COUNCIL.

4.1. The World Council shall act as the governing body of IFLA.

4.2. The World Council shall determine how the operational regions, groups and committees are set up around the world to ensure the most effective and efficient structure for the international Federation in accordance with an approved Strategic Plan.

4.3. The World Council shall elect a president and a treasurer.

4.4. The World Council shall agree the level of annual dues to be paid by all members.



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4.5. The World Council shall establish and agree an annual budget, determining sources of income and expenditure in accordance with the approved Strategic Plan and receive and approve an annual audit of the IFLA accounts.

4.6. The World Council shall authorise the establishment of an administrative office and employment of staff required for the conducting of IFLA's business and affairs (the Secretariat).

4.7. The World Council shall meet physically in ordinary session annually with a minimum of ninety days notice being given by IFLA Executive Committee in advance of any such session.

4.8. An extraordinary session (physical or online) of the World Council shall be convened when at least one half of the eligible voting members or if the Executive Committee requests it with a minimum of ninety days notice being given by IFLA Executive Committee in advance of any such session.

4.9. The president, or at the president's request, one of the IFLA Regional Presidents, shall preside at any session of the World Council.

4.10. The World Council shall adopt its own By-laws and Rules of Procedure in accordance with this Constitution.

4.11. All matters within the competence of the World Council could be decided by a pre-approved online system of electronic voting.

5. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

5.1. The Executive Committee shall comprise: the president, the treasurer, the regional presidents (maximum five in number), the chairs of standing committees (maximum three in number) and one ex-officio member of the IFLA Secretariat.

The Executive Committee shall:

5.2. Be responsible to the World Council for determining all necessary decisions to achieve the objectives, aims and aspirations of IFLA in accordance with the approved Strategic Plan and associated action plans.

5.3. Be responsible for all day-to-day administrative operations in accordance with the approved procedures set down in the By-Laws by the World Council.

5.4. Be responsible for the collection and disbursement of the funds and finances of IFLA.

5.5. Represent the interests of IFLA, not those of their respective associations.

5.6. Convene a meeting at least once a year to be presided over by the president.



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5.7. All officers shall be elected initially for a minimum period of two years with the possibility of standing for re-election for a further, second, two-year term of office after a successful mandate (i.e. a maximum period of four years in the elected role).

5.8. All matters relating to the rules of procedure and officers elected to the Executive Committee shall be set out in the IFLA Rules of Procedure (By-laws) in accordance with this Constitution.

6. FINANCE.

6.1. The IFLA financial year shall be the calendar year (starting January 1st).

6.2. The properties of IFLA comprise its capital, fixed and movable assets.

6.3. The assets of IFLA are the only warranty for the management of the Executive Committee as approved by the World Council. Therefore, no claims shall be entertained against the members of the Executive Committee, either jointly or severally.

6.4. The income of IFLA may be derived from any legally approved method accredited by the World Council, including but not limited to members dues, fees for holding World Council and Congress meetings, sponsorship, grants, donations, legacies, sale of publications, events, seminars and other services rendered to further the objectives of IFLA.

6.5. The Officers, Delegates, Committees and designated representatives of IFLA shall receive no fees for the duties they perform.

6.6. The Officers, Delegates, Committees and designated representatives of IFLA may be reimbursed, but only by pre-arrangement, for an amount of expenses they incur in connection with those duties approved by the World Council and/or the Executive Committee.

7. LEGAL ADDRESS.

7.1. The legal address of IFLA is in the country where it is legally registered.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.

8.1. The level of administrative support required by the organisation shall be determined by the World Council and paid for from the funds of IFLA.

9. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE.

9.1. The official language of IFLA is English.

9.2. In order to facilitate the organisation of international meetings, such other languages as deemed necessary may be used in addition to the official language.

10. LEGAL STATUS.



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10.1. IFLA, a not-for-profit, non-governmental and non-political organisation, is an international federation established pursuant to the laws of the country where it is legally registered.

10.2. IFLA, as an international professional federation concerned with education, professional practice, social and cultural matters, is eligible for support by international organisations and their agencies.

10.3. IFLA is constituted for the unlimited time.

11. BY-LAWS & RULES OF PROCEDURE, ADOPTION AND AMENDMENT.

11.1. The World Council shall adopt and may amend the By-laws & Rules of Procedure, which shall conform to the objectives of this Constitution.

11.2. The By-laws & Rules of Procedure shall not limit the powers of IFLA, vested in its World Council, to exercise control over any matter covered by this Constitution.

11.3. Any amendment to the By-laws & Rules of Procedure shall be communicated to the member associations with a minimum of ninety days' notice before the meeting (physical or online) of the World Council that must vote on it.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

12.1. The World Council shall consider any amendment to this Constitution providing it has been proposed by at least 20% of voting members or by the Executive Committee. Any such proposal must be received by the president not less than ninety days prior to an ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Council for circulation to the members. Full explanations of the purposes of the amendment(s) must be included.

12.2. The World Council shall consider amendments proposed in accordance with 11.1 and shall become effective immediately upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote of all eligible members.

13. DISSOLUTION.

13.1. The World Council may only resolve on the matter of the dissolution of IFLA on the basis of a written, signed motion submitted either by the Executive Committee or by at least half of the voting members of the World Council. The signed motion must be distributed to all members not less than ninety days before submission of such a resolution to the World Council meeting. Adoption of such a resolution would require a two-thirds majority vote of all eligible members.

13.2. On dissolution, the assets of IFLA shall be distributed in accordance with the decision of the World Council and any legal requirements of the law of the country where IFLA is legally registered.