

# **The Statutes of the European Photochemistry Association**

## **TITLE I: Name, Headquarters, Permanence and Objects**

### **ARTICLE 1**

(a) An incorporated organisation under the name of the European Photochemistry Association (EPA) has been set up under the provisions of the Swiss law.

(b) It is a permanent body.

(c) Its headquarters are in Zürich.

(d) In the event that EPA is disbanded, the remaining finances must ultimately be transferred to an organisation having the same or similar aims. A distribution of the funds among its members is excluded.

### **ARTICLE 2**

(a) The EPA is established to promote and encourage the international development of photochemistry and related subjects with special reference to European and neighbouring countries. The Association is concerned with all experimental and theoretical aspects of the interaction of light with molecular systems. These range from basic knowledge and practical know-how to applications in areas such as materials science, biology, medicine and the environment.

(b) In particular, the aims to be pursued by EPA are:

(1) Promotion of co-operation between European photochemists in universities, research centres and industry through fostering international contacts and European exchange.

(2) Encouragement, stimulation and co-ordination of meetings in Europe.

(3) Educational activities including summer schools, workshops and incorporation of photochemistry into the curricula of universities.

(4) Promotion of photochemical literature.

(5) Promotion of photochemistry with funding agencies.

(6) Promotion of awareness of photochemistry and its applications to the wider public.

## **TITLE II: Membership**

### **ARTICLE 3**

(a) Membership of EPA is open to all scientists both from Europe and from countries outside Europe.

(b) Membership is annual and is subject to a fee as assessed by the Executive Committee and approved by the General Council. Membership fees must be paid according to the rules established by the Executive Committee.

(c) It is the responsibility of the members to provide and maintain correct contact details, including email addresses. Changes should be notified to the General Treasurer.

(d) EPA members of a given country may organize, by agreement with the Executive Committee, a national EPA section with a designated national representative who serves as a contact person.

(e) A national section may lose its status upon the decision of the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

Membership implies compliance with the decisions and resolutions made by the General Council and the Executive Committee as provided in the statutes

#### **ARTICLE 5**

Membership of EPA may be terminated at the request of the Executive Committee for just reason.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

Members are not personally liable for the contracted debts of the EPA; liability is limited to the assets of the association.

#### **ARTICLE 7**

The organs of the EPA are the General Council and the Executive Committee.

#### **ARTICLE 8**

(a) The General Council consists of all members of the EPA and is its supreme organ.

(b) The General Council has the following rights and functions:

- (1) To agree and to alter the statutes.
- (2) To decide about the amounts of the annual contributions (membership fees), following the proposal of the Executive Committee.
- (3) To vote on the annual reports of EPA activities and finances presented to it by the Executive Committee.
- (4) To elect biennially from among its ordinary members the Executive Committee.
- (5) To elect biennially two auditors who must prepare a report on the financial situation of EPA and ensure proper management of financial affairs by the Executive Committee.

(c) The General Council should meet at least biennially, usually in connection with an international scientific meeting, to discuss the agenda, which may be proposed by all members, to determine the general policy of EPA and to exercise its rights according to ARTICLE 8b. This meeting should be organised by the Executive Committee.

(d) At the request of 20% of all EPA members, an extraordinary meeting of the General Council must be organised, and at least three month's notice given, by the Executive Committee. Due provision must be made for those who can not attend the extraordinary meeting of the General Council personally to express their opinion in writing and, if necessary, by postal or electronic vote.

(e) A resolution for winding-up or merger of EPA must be put to a meeting of the General Council, which if it agrees will instruct the Executive Committee to ballot all members of EPA. Such a resolution can only be passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the votes cast. In winding-up the General Council should decide whether to dispose of the balance of the assets of EPA to a similar scientific body.

## **ARTICLE 9**

(a) The Executive Committee administers EPA.

(b) The Executive Committee consists of the President, the past-President, the Vice President, the General Treasurer and up to six other members who may be responsible of a specific function at the discretion of the President. Exceptionally, additional members can be co-opted by the Executive Committee to fulfil specific roles.

(c) The tasks of the Executive Committee include in particular:

- (1) The achievement of the aims of EPA as outlined in ARTICLE 2.
- (2) The management of the property of EPA including gifts and legacies left to EPA.
- (3) The preparation of an annual report on the activities of EPA and on the financial accounts which must be presented to the General Council together with an auditor's report.
- (4) The convening of the General Council and/or the individual consultation of the members in accordance with these statutes.
- (5) The execution of the decisions of the General Council.
- (6) The organisation of the biennial elections for the Executive Committee (as outlined in ARTICLE 9f).

(d) Formal decisions of the EPA require the signature of the President or, exceptionally, of the Vice-President in order to be binding. The President shall have power to delegate certain of his/her powers to other members of the Executive Committee.

(e) The term of office for an elected member of the Executive Committee is normally two years. Re-election is permitted up to a maximum of three consecutive terms.

(f) The Executive Committee organizes elections for its own succession

- (1) Elections take place normally by a show of hands at the General Council (or exceptionally, by electronic voting).
- (2) The candidate(s) for President must normally be a member of the Executive Committee in office.
- (3) The candidate(s) for President will present a program for the EPA's future activities and actions and for the efficient functioning of the Executive Committee.
- (4) Not less than one month prior to the election, the Executive Committee will publicise to EPA members the name(s) of the candidate(s) for President and their program(s).
- (5) Members may nominate themselves or other EPA members with their consent for election to the Executive Committee. Nominations should be made in writing, signed by the nominee, to the Executive Committee any time up to one month prior to the General Council.

## **TITLE IV: Finances**

### **ARTICLE 10**

(a) EPA is a non-profit making organisation.

(b) The income of the EPA shall consist of:

- (1) Contributions of members as assessed by the General Council.
- (2) Contributions from governmental bodies or national scientific societies representing member countries.
- (3) Gifts, donations, and legacies.
- (4) Grants, which may be accorded to it.
- (5) Royalties from publications.
- (6) Revenues from advertisements in publications.

**ARTICLE 11**

(a) A national section may hold a account to which EPA members pay their dues and where other official revenues and expenses are recorded.

(b) The person in a national EPA section responsible for the finances may be the national Local Treasurer. Local Treasurers are appointed by the Executive Committee.

(c) The Local Treasurer of a national EPA section sends a yearly report and justifications to the EPA General Treasurer. They transfer official revenues to the account of EPA International according to the requirements of the Executive Committee.