



# **World Bioenergy Association Statutes**

## **1. Name, Seat, Language**

The association is a non-governmental, non-profit international member association named World Bioenergy Association. Its abbreviation is WBA.

WBA is registered in Stockholm, Sweden.

The seat of WBA is situated in Stockholm.

The official language is English, except in dealing with Swedish authorities, in which case it is Swedish.

## **2. Statutory Purposes**

The purpose of WBA is to promote the increasing utilisation of bioenergy in an efficient, sustainable, economic and environmentally friendly way.

WBA deals with all kinds of bioenergy applications based on liquid, gaseous and solid biofuels.

WBA promotes distribution of the global resources of biomass for energy.

WBA will be a strong voice for global bioenergy actors, both industrial and institutional.

WBA will track debates in the media, correct false information, and give a positive picture of bioenergy by presenting the accurate information and facts to media and the public.

WBA will participate in the development and promotion of certification programmes, both for liquid and solid biofuels. The purpose of the certification programmes will be to guarantee that fuels are produced in an environmentally friendly and sustainable way under acceptable working and social conditions.

WBA will promote the development of standards for different kind of biofuels and equipment, such as boilers and burners. Standards are necessary for making bioenergy commercially viable and tradable on a global scale.

WBA will initiate and support match making to stimulate business and spread knowledge about equipment, fuels, systems and technical development.

WBA will stimulate innovation and technology development related to bioenergy.

### **3. Organisational Elements**

The WBA consist of the General Assembly (GA), the Steering Committee (SC) and the Board Members (Board).

An ordinary GA and an ordinary SC will be held at least once every calendar year, during the first six months of the year if possible connected to each other in time and place. They shall be convened by the President on the basis of a decision of the Board. A meeting of the ordinary SC and the ordinary GA will be considered valid if the members have been informed in writing or by e-mail at least 2 months in advance of the scheduled meeting. The convened meeting must include an agenda.

An extraordinary GA can be convened by the Board or on following a written request encompassing at least 25 percent of the voting rights of the Members. In this case, the President must convene the extraordinary GA within two months of receipt of the request of the members. The call for a meeting must include the agenda.

Decisions of the GA and the SC are recorded in minutes, which are signed by the President and one appointed member present at the GA and SC respectively. The confirmed minutes shall be published on a password-protected section of the web site. The password will be made available to each affiliate.

### **4. Affiliation**

There are three categories of affiliation with the WBA: full member, associated member and Individuals (individuals without voting rights).

Affiliation as a *full member* is open to different kinds of bioenergy associations dealing with a single fuel or a broader field. They are mainly non-profit organisations.

Affiliation as an *associated member* is open to different enterprises and organisations including, but not limited to, producers of biofuels (solid, liquid and gaseous), processors, traders, handling and transport entrepreneurs, farmers, consumers and equipment manufacturer as well as to those engaged in research, education, training, consulting, certifying, promoting and advocacy related to biofuels.

Individuals may affiliate as *individual member*.

Applications for membership shall be submitted to the Board. The Board reserves the right to admit or refuse an application for membership. In the case of a refused application, the applicant may apply to the GA for a reversal of the decision.

Members have to pay an annual fee related to their category and size. The criteria to distinguish the categories and sizes of the members will be proposed by the Board and maintained in a document entitled "WBA member fee". Once developed by the Interim Board this document will come into force until the first GA, which will approve it or make necessary amendments before approval. In addition, future changes to the document will be proposed by the Board and also require approval by the GA before coming into force. In exceptional circum-

stances, the Board will decide upon a member's request to reduce that member's category and/or membership fee.

The Board may expel affiliates

- a) If it communicates in written form to the Board its decision to cancel its membership. The membership expires on the 1st of January the year after the receipt of the written statement.
- b) If it has not paid the annual fee for 2 years at the time of the ordinary GA.

An ordinary GA may expel affiliates

If the GA considers that the affiliate acts against the objectives or interests of WBA. Any member can propose the expulsion of a member. The member proposed for expulsion will be informed about the reasons for the proposed expulsion and has the right to explain its position to the GA before the latter takes a decision.

## **5. General Assembly**

The GA is open for all members. The President chairs the GA.

The GA votes by simple majority of the present voting rights. Members have one vote each. Voting is open or by secret ballot, if so requested by one member.

WBA members and the Board may submit motions to the GA. Motions from members must be proposed to the Board at least 3 month before the session of the GA. Motions must be sent to the members together with the announcement of the GA. Motions from the floor may only amend the aforementioned motions. Adopted motions must be implemented. Once adopted, a new motion at the next GA can only change the content of a motion.

The GA has following functions:

- a) To examine and approve the annual report presented by the Board.
- b) To examine and approve the accounts and balance sheets.
- c) To determine the membership fees, on proposal of the Board.
- d) In general, to approve and comment on the activities of the Board as well as to be informed and decide about any activity of WBA.

## **6. Steering Committee**

The SC is open for full members only. The President chairs the SC.

The SC votes by simple majority of the present voting rights. Full members have one vote each. Voting is open or by secret ballot, if so requested by one member.

The SC has following functions:

- a) To elect the President, a member of the Board.
- b) To elect 14-18 additional members of the Board. The elected board members shall represent different parts of the world and different bioenergy expertise.
- c) To elect 2-5 persons as vice presidents

- d) To elect 4 members of the nominating Committee
- e) To decide about modifications of the statutes. In order to get WBA running before the first SC it is up to the Interim Board to decide the statutes, which can be modified by the SC.
- f) To decide about the termination of the WBA.

## **7. Elections**

The ordinary SC elects the President, 14 to 18 additional board members, two to five vice presidents. Board members, vicepresidents and the president are elected for a two years period. They can be re-elected but cannot stay longer than 6 years as member of the board. Exceptions of this rule up to a period of 10 years are possible with a 2/3 majority vote of the steering committee.

The nominating committee proposes to the Secretariat at least four months before the ordinary SC a list of candidates for the board.

Candidates must be received by the Board at least 3 months before the ordinary SC and must be endorsed by five full members. In case of new candidates a presentation of the candidates must be sent to the full members together with the convocation of the SC.

## **8. Board**

The Board decides all issues not yet determined by the GA and the SC. The Board establishes Rules of Procedure for the Board including the President, which are to be approved by the GA. In order to get WBA running before the first GA it is up to the Interim Board to decide the Rules of Procedure, which can be modified by the GA.

Board meetings will be held at least four times a year. The Board may set up Working Groups, Committees and regional or thematic task groups. It may also delegate specific tasks to such bodies or to individuals.

The board takes decisions by simple majority with at least six members, including the President, present and voting in favour of a motion. If the presence is lower than 6 persons all decisions have to be presented in the minutes to the board for approval by mail. A board meeting can only take place if at least two members and the president are present.

## **9. President, Vice President**

The President may create a secretariat, which executes the decisions of the WBA's organisational element under guidance by the President and the Board. The secretariat and the President will be funded by the WBA based on a budget approved by the board.

WBA is legally represented by the President. The President can designate a vice President to represent WBA, in case the President is unavailable.

## **10. Amendments, Modifications**

The Board may pass provisional amendments of these statutes that remain in force until the final decision is taken by the next SC. Any such amendment has to be made known to all

members at least two months before they are implemented. Any modification of the statutes proposed by the Board should be sent to the members by e-mail not less than two months before the next SC.

## 11. Finances

WBA's financial year is equal to the calendar year.

The GA decides affiliation fees. The Board submits a financial report to every regular GA, which covers the period since the preceding GA. This report is to be approved by an authorized public accountant appointed by the Board. The members of the Board are not personally liable for the WBA's debts. A budget covering the period until the next GA is to be submitted to the GA by the Board for approval.

If and when WBA is terminated its remaining assets shall be transferred to another non-governmental, non-profit international organisation dealing with promoting bioenergy.

The statutes are hereby approved upon signing by WBA's Interim Board on this date, November 26, 2008 and modified SC 2010-02-03, SC 2012-05-28, SC2015-06-09



Sribas C. Bhattacharya



Douglas R. Bradley



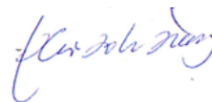
Laercio Couto



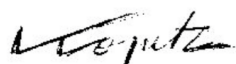
Hong Hao



Jean-Marc Jossart



Kai Johan Jiang



Heinz Kopetz



Andrew Lang



Michael McAdams



Philip Peck



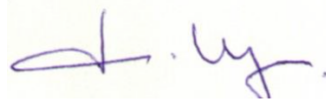
Wan Asma Ibrahim



Benard Muok



Albert Binger



Tanay Sidki Uyar



Hisashi Kajiyama



Hazir Farouk



Jörgen Sandström



William Strauss



Kes McCormick