**Statutes of the World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology – WFNMB**

§ 1 Name, Seat and Scope of Activities

(1) The name is the "World Federation of Nuclear Medicine and Biology" abbreviated to WFNMB
(2) It extends its activities throughout the world
(3) Its official language is English

§ 2 Objectives

The Federation is a voluntary non-profit making organisation of societies/associations or groups associated for the following purposes:

- To organise congresses, workshops and other educational activities covering all aspects of Nuclear Medicine and Biology
- To develop co-operation between societies/associations or groups active in Nuclear Medicine and Biology
- To promote the development of Nuclear Medicine and Biology
- To facilitate the exchange of scientists between the member societies/associations or groups, and to set up a body which will centralize and help such exchange
- To prepare and recommend the organization of a unified programme of teaching and training in the field of Nuclear Medicine and Biology
- To establish technical standards, to aid in the diffusion of knowledge and exchange of scientific and technical information by means of conferences, colloquia, symposia and courses on regional, national and international levels
- To publish, alone or in collaboration, monographs, studies, teaching, courses, reports from conferences, colloquia, symposia and congresses concerning Nuclear Medicine and Biology
- To represent with one voice all Nuclear Medicine activities to the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency and other appropriate organizations
- To organize whatever commissions and meetings are necessary to attain such objectives
- To work with and support WFNMB subsidiary organizations and related organisations to promote worldwide expansion of Nuclear Medicine and Biology

§ 3 Means to reach the federations purposes

(1) To reach these purposes the Federation uses means such as the following:
- educational events;
- the publication of journal(s) or other printed or electronic information carrier;
• the creation and hosting of a website;
• the formulation and distribution of guidelines;
• advocacy.

(2) The necessary financial funds (money and goods) will be raised through:
• membership fees;
• donations or donations in kind;
• grants;
• advertisement;
• sponsoring;
• consulting;
• educational programmes;
• organisation of events;
• interest earnings;
• heritage, legacies, donations.

(3) Finances
• Annual dues will be paid by the members of the Federation. They will be calculated according to the index fixed by the Executive Board, in proportion to the number of persons in each national society/association or groups, so that the same amount will be paid for each person. Modifications of the index need to be approved by the General Assembly;
• Calculation of the index shall be based on the number of persons in a national society/association or group who pay the full membership fee of that society/association or group;
• A national society/association or group may apply for exemption from the obligation to pay dues, showing cause why such exemption should be granted;
• The proposed index will be advised to all member societies/associations or groups at least sixty (60) days in advance of a scheduled Assembly;
• The Federation Office can receive donations under legal forms and conditions from any person, public or private organization;
• Congress revenues shall be split in equal parts between the WFNMB and the hosting national organisation. The minimum amount WFNMB shall receive by the hosting national organisation is USD 50,000.

The members of the Executive Board and any other Officers of the Federation for their term of office shall be indemnified out of the funds of the Federation against all costs, charges, losses, damage and expenses which they shall respectively incur or be put to, on account of any act, deed, matter or thing which shall be executed, done or permitted by them respectively in good faith in or about the execution of their respective offices, unless such act, deed, matter or thing is executed, done or permitted by them constitutes gross negligence or wilful misconduct.

§ 4 Membership

(1) The Federation is based on the principle of the equality of all its members
Membership of the Federation is defined as follows:

- **Ordinary membership**
  "national societies” associations/societies acknowledged as representatives in each country in the field of Nuclear Medicine and Biology and are incorporated, based on the respective national law of associations (proof of legal bylaws through testified translation). An ordinary membership is subject to a membership fee and the only membership including a voting right at the General Assembly.

- **National group membership**
  “national groups” primarily involved with research, education, training or/and practice in Nuclear Medicine and Biology and not yet established as official bodies of Nuclear Medicine and Biology.

- **Associate membership**
  Associate members might be national or international societies/interest groups in Nuclear Medicine and Biology research and clinical practice.

The regional societies including SNMMI, EANM, AOFNMB, ARCCNM, ALASBIMN, AANM, ANZSNM and ARSNM are automatically members of the Federation and represent their region in the Executive Board.

Only one society or group may represent each country. Only those national societies or groups which are non-profit organizations may become ordinary member.

The national groups, societies and associations that signed the Statutes prior to the First Assembly are considered to be the founding members of the Federation.

Further national groups and societies shall be able to become members of the Federation after approval of the General Assembly.

IAEA shall be represented in the Executive Board by their current Head of the Department for Nuclear Sciences and Applications.

WHO shall be represented in the Executive Board by a liaison officer, nominated by the Executive Board or the WHO.

§5 Application for membership

Applications for membership shall be reviewed by the Executive Board and their findings shall be recommended to the Assembly for endorsement of membership.

§6 Termination of membership

(1) The membership will be terminated by the loss of the legal entity, voluntary termination or exclusion of the national society/group.
(2) Termination may be voluntary by giving written notification three months in advance of the next calendar year to the Executive Board.

(3) Termination will be at the discretion of the Executive Board by a unanimous decision. As important reasons might be considered:
- Violation of rights and duties, according to the federations statutes;
- Dishonourable and objectionable behaviour;
- In the event of non-payment of membership dues for 2 years despite three notifications of past due payment, the respective society/association or groups’ membership will be terminated automatically without further notice.

(4) A member may appeal against the exclusion, within one month after receipt of the written notification, to the members’ assembly. Until the decision is taken, the membership shall be suspended.

The national society may be reinstated as a member of the WFNMB once all outstanding dues are paid in full back through the period for which dues first became delinquent, up to a maximum of 4 years. In addition, the right to vote will require full reinstatement, as a member organization, for at least 31 days prior to the date of the election(s).

§ 7 Rights and duties of members

(1) Every member is entitled to perform in activities in accordance with the objectives and principles of these statutes, to make use of its facilities upon availability.

(2) Duties of members:
- All members shall promote and protect the objectives of the Federation as set out in the statutes.
- Inform the Secretary General regarding the names and affiliations of office bearers of the national society/association or group or any change in such office bearers.
- Inform the Secretary General regarding the designated delegates who will represent the national society/association or group at a scheduled Assembly if their national society/association or group is to be represented at such an Assembly, not less than ninety (90) days prior to such an Assembly.

§ 8 Integral Parts

The integral parts of the Federation are:
- Executive Board (§9)
- Congress Committee (§10)
- General Assembly (§11)
- Auditor (§12)
- Court of Arbitration (§13)
These bodies ensure a democratic and transparent functioning of the Federation. Positions should be subject to geopolitical considerations, but irrespective of language, ethnic group, religious orientation or gender.

§ 9 Executive Board

The Executive Board is the highest executive level of the Federation. It shall create a vision for the future of the Federation and develop strategies to fulfil them as well as to develop strategies regarding the cooperation with partner societies for the future of the medical specialty and the benefit of its Members and national Member societies.

It shall execute and supervise the execution of operational goals along the strategic lines as developed together with the different Integral Parts of the Federation. The Executive Board represents the Federation legally and is responsible for its financial management according to the Statutes and legal regulations.

It may initiate the creation of rules and procedures for different purposes, for example, Committee Instructions, Instructions for Congress, Transparency Guidelines or policy statements. The Executive Board will be required to approve such policies and procedures and will be obliged to justify its actions towards the General Assembly. For any kind of meetings the Executive Board may take advantage of alternative meeting technologies and techniques such as tele/video-conferences. Decisions can be made via electronic media if accepted unanimously.

1) The Executive Board shall be composed of the following Members:
   • The President (term of office 2 years)
   • The President Elect (term of office 2 years)
   • The Immediate Past-President (term of office 2 years)
   • The Secretary General (term of office 3 years)
   • The Treasurer (term of office 3 years)
   • The Chair of the Congress Committee (term of office 4 years)
   • The representatives of each regional partner organisation (SNMMI, EANM, AOFNMB, ARCCNM, ALASBIMN, AANM, ANZSNM, ARSNM).
   • The representatives of international organisations (IAEA, WHO)

2) The term of office of the President is two years, not renewable

3) The term of office of the President Elect is two years, not renewable. The President Elect is the automatic successor of the President for a period of two years

4) The term of office of the Secretary General and the Treasurer is three (3) years not renewable
5) Candidates for the position of President Elect, Secretary General and Treasurer will be proposed by the Members and elected during the General Assembly. A candidate needs at least two additional seconder forms from ordinary member societies/groups other than the country of his/her place of residence. The Executive Office, supported by the Secretary General, sends out seconder forms at least three (3) months prior to the respective assembly.

6) The term of office of members of the Congress Committee is four (4) years. Voting is in conjunction with the election of the congress venue (see § 10).

7) The term of office of the representatives of each regional partner organisation is regulated by their own statutes.

8) Representatives of international organisations are either appointed by the respective organisation for a maximum of four (4) years or appointed by the Executive Board for the same period of time, in both cases renewable once.

9) The President may invite observers without voting rights to the Executive Board.

10) The Executive Board shall meet at least twice a year (at least once face to face). Additional meetings may be held by conference call), during a major international nuclear medicine meeting and at the time of each Assembly, or at such times as the President requests.

11) Decisions of the Executive Board will be taken by simple majority vote. In the event of a tied vote, the President shall have a casting vote.

12) Rights and duties of the Executive Board:
   - Decide on the strategic plan of the Federation.
   - Receive and review the reports of the President, Secretary General and Treasurer.
   - Review the approval process of national societies and groups for membership.
   - Review and coordinate the candidate applications for hosting the next congress. The top candidates shall be voted on within a Delegates Assembly.
   - Obtain proposals and deciding on a Professional Congress Organizer or opt for “in house congress organisation”.
   - Approve exemptions from the obligation to pay dues.
   - Discuss the general policy put forth by the Executive Board.
   - Bring forward the views of the national societies or groups and the Congress Committee.
   - Establish subsidiary organs to facilitate the function of the Federation, as deemed necessary, including committees on Statutes and Regulations, on membership and credentials, on promoting of Nuclear Medicine and Biology, on finance and budget, on education and training and on publications.
   - Nominate members for the committees.
   - Appoint Executive Board members to represent the Federation in its relationship with other organizations.
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- Modify the Statutes, provided the required notice has been given to all members after adoption at the General Assembly
- Consider and discuss any matters relating to the objectives of the Federation
- The Executive Board shall lead the Federation, according to these Statutes and in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly, with the accurateness of an ordinary and diligent organisation
- The President, in case of his/her incapacity, shall be replaced by the President Elect
- The Executive Board is eligible to hire an Executive Office to assist in carrying out its duties and assist in all the special duties of the President, Secretary General and Treasurer
- Make recommendations to member national societies, associations or groups related to the objectives of the Federation

13) Special duties of the President:
- Represents the Federation
- The President may select the venue of the Executive Office and nominate the Executive Director for approval by the Executive Board
- Appoints the chair and members of a Committee, under consideration of nominations of the Executive Board
- The President will represent the WFNMB at meetings with societies and associations that have Nuclear Medicine and Biology activities, and with relevant government and non-government organisations, and companies, and report such meetings to the Executive Board at scheduled meetings
- Shall perform his/her duties in accordance with the statutes
- The President, with the authority of the General Assembly, shall be authorized to enter into an agreement or agreements establishing an appropriate relation to international, regional or national organizations that are involved in activities related to Nuclear Medicine and Biology which will be important to co-ordinate with that of the Federation
- In the pursuit of the objectives defined by the Statutes, the President shall sign and execute all contracts, conventions and other legal documents in the name of the Federation, under these conditions fixed by the General Assembly. In this office and under this conditions, he/she can purchase or rent property

14) Special duties of the President Elect
- Attend meetings and congresses and represent the Federation in case of incapacity of the President
- Chairing official meetings in case of incapacity of the President

15) Special duties of the Secretary General:
- Shall assist the President in his/her duties, and most specifically keep the records of the Federation
- In co-operation with the President, he/she shall prepare the agenda for the meetings of the Executive Board and the General Assembly
- In case of incapacity of the Secretary General, a successor shall be appointed by the President, subject to the subsequent approval by Executive Board
• The Secretary General through the Executive Office will facilitate the election process. This includes the formal call for nominations for the Congress Site at least twelve (12) months prior to the election
• Election ballots will be distributed (electronically), by the Secretary General, via the Executive Office, to all eligible voting members, at least thirty (30) days prior to the close date of the election. All ballots must be returned before midnight (GMT) on the close date of the election
• The Secretary General, through the Executive Office, shall be responsible for the distribution as well as the evaluation of the ballots
• The Secretary General, through the Executive Office, shall be responsible for the day to day business (membership maintenance, homepage, global networking, communication, etc.); activities concerning industry partners, implementation of professional standards in all activities assigned by the General Assembly or the Executive Board; coordinate continental partners; promote Nuclear Medicine at global level through education and training as well as co-operations with international organizations such as IAEA and WHO

16) Special duties of the Treasurer:
• Shall be responsible for the finances of the Federation
• Shall report to the Executive Board and the General Assembly on the financial state of the Federation, through a written account of income and expenditure for the preceding two years together with a balance sheet made up at the same date
• Shall submit these accounts to be audited by a professional auditor
• Shall be responsible for collecting, supervising and dispersing the funds of the Federation
• Shall recommend to the Executive Board the index for required annual dues
• Shall recommend to the Executive Board the exemption from the obligation to pay dues
• In case of incapacity, a successor shall be appointed by the President, subject to approval by the Executive Board
• Shall receive from the President and/or Secretary General the power to carry out all accounting, financial transactions according to the Statutes and decisions of the Executive Board

17) Special duties of the Congress Chair:
• Shall preside over the Congress Committee for organizing the congress
• Shall be responsible for the implementation of the Executive Boards views with regards to content, finance or strategy of the congress
• Is required to report the status quo of the congress organization within every Executive Board meeting. This report has to be electronically forwarded to the Executive Secretariat three weeks prior to the meeting

§ 10. Congress Committee
The congress of the Federation shall be organized by the Executive Secretariat (in house congress management) or a Professional Congress Organizer selected by the Congress Committee in consultation with and approved by the Executive Board. The selection of the congress venues shall follow a geographical rotation pattern which enables each continental region to host the WFNMB congress.

The tasks of the Congress Committee are set out in the following:

- Creation of a scientific program
- Organization of local and social events
- Public Relations
- Representation of the hosting region
- Nomination of Congress Committee Members

1) The Congress Committee shall be composed of:
   - Chair of the Congress Committee
   - Chair of the Scientific Program Committee
   - Chair of the Budget Committee
   - Individual Members, as required

2) Rights and duties of the Congress Committee:
   - The creation of a scientific program which also includes appropriate times allocated for sessions for the host country, clinical partner societies, developing countries and young participants
   - Select and present appropriate locations within the financial guidelines
   - Organize an appropriate Public Relation campaign in the region
   - At least one member shall not be above the age of 40 years
   - The Congress Committee is obligated to acquire sponsors. The Budget Committee Chair shall be authorized to enter contracts given the permission of the Congress Committee

3) Members of the Congress Committee:
   - The proposals for congress site would include the Congress Chair, the Scientific Program Committee Chair and the Budget Committee Chair
   - In case of incapacity of the Congress Chair, the Scientific Program Committee Chair or the Budget Committee Chair due to whatever reason, a successor shall be appointed by the Congress Committee after approval by the Executive Board. The term of office equals the remaining period of the predecessor

§ 11 General Assembly

1) Shall meet in regular sessions at yearly intervals between and during WFNMB Congress meetings

2) The General Assembly may be part of a WFNMB Summit meeting, which will provide a forum for presentations and discussion on global issues relevant to Nuclear Medicine
and Biology. The WFNMB Summit meeting may be a part of a continental or international congress or on the occasion of a major national congress.

3) An extraordinary Delegates Assembly has to be convened by the Executive Board within eight weeks upon:
   - Resolution of the General Assembly
   - Written notification of at least one tenth of all members with voting right
   - Request of the Treasurer
   - Request of the Executive Board

4) A meeting of the General Assembly will be convened by the written announcement by the Secretary General and accompanied by the agenda, not less than sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled date. The agenda for the formal part of the meeting does not need to be exclusive, but shall provide full details of any amendments of the statutes, membership fees or elections.

   The date shall be communicated by the Secretary General to those delegates designated by their national society or group. If a national society or group has failed to advise the Secretary General of the names of designated delegates, the Secretary General should provide details of the scheduled Assembly to that individual who has last recorded by him/her as the senior office bearer of that society or group.

   To vote at the Assembly all dues (including arrears) must be received by the Treasurer or Executive office before the assembly. The assembly shall consist of no more than two delegates per national society/association or group.

5) Proposals to the General Assembly are to be submitted to the Executive Board at least seven (7) weeks prior to the scheduled Assembly.

6) Representatives of at least one third of national society/association or group, which are eligible to vote must be present to constitute a quorum of the Assembly for formal matters. If the Assembly is not quorate at that time, it shall be postponed for thirty (30) minutes. Thereafter the Assembly shall take place with the same agenda and is quorate with the number of members present.

7) Delegates must represent the view of their national society or group. Each national society or group shall be entitled to a single vote. Proxy voting at the General Assembly is not allowed.

8) Decisions of the Assembly shall be made by a majority of votes except in relation to decisions to amend the present Statutes, in which circumstances a two thirds majority of votes will be necessary. Such provision shall extend to mail ballots which may be held between sessions at the discretion of the Executive Board.
9) Change of Statutes: amendments to these Statutes may be submitted by each national society/association or group, being member in good standing of the Federation. Certified copies shall be prepared by the Secretary General and sent to all members in good standing of the Federation sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled Assembly.

10) Amendments shall become effective for all members societies or groups of the Federation when they have been adopted by a two thirds majority of the delegates present at the Assembly.

11) Alterations in the wording of a duly proposed amendment can be accepted by the President if the Assembly considers that they do not alter the overall intent of the amendment.

12) The Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Federation.

Duties of the General Assembly

1) The General Assembly will be the principal governing body of the Federation. The Assembly will have the authority to carry out the functions of the Federation in accordance with the objectives and principals of the Statutes.

Each assembly shall:
- Receive the Annual Report of the President, Secretary General and Treasurer.
- Approve the nomination or deposition of members of the Executive Board and auditors.
- Resolution on amendments of the Statutes.
- Fix the index for dues to be paid by member societies or groups.
- Grant exemption to the obligation to pay dues to any society or group which it deems has shown due cause why such exemption should be granted.
- Approve the site for the Federation Executive Office.
- Approve and define subsidiary bodies. Subsidiary bodies shall be operational bodies functioning under the Federation. The roles and administration of these organs shall be specified in their rules and regulations.
- Resolution on the dissolution of the Federation.

2) At the appropriate Assembly,
- Voting for the site for the Federation Congress to be held six (6) years subsequently. In the course of this election, the positions of the next Congress Chair, the Scientific Program Committee Chair as well as the Budget Committee Chair will be announced. Their office starts with January 1, two (2) years after the respective Assembly and lasts for four (4) years. The filling of the offices is part of the candidacies for the congress site of the Federation. The selection of the persons is not subject to of the vote of the General Assembly.

§ 12. Auditors
1) Two (2) independent and unprejudiced persons shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of office of two (2) years. A re-election is possible.

2) The auditors are obliged to assess the income and expenditure report within four (4) months. The report shall be submitted to the Executive Board.

§ 13. Court of Arbitration

The Court of Arbitration may be called by the President on the advice of the Executive Board to resolve all disputes arising within the Federation that cannot be solved by the integral parts or officers. It shall be composed of three Full Members:

1) one chosen by the General Assembly,
2) one chosen by the Executive Board,
3) a third chosen by the aforementioned two Members, who shall be acceptable to both and who shall act as Chair and have the decisive vote should any deadlock occur.

If no agreement is reached as to the choice of Chair, the choice of one of the alternative proposals shall be determined by lot. The Court of Arbitration shall then decide in matters of dispute as conscientiously as it can by majority vote, without being bound by fixed rules.

4) For the Federation the decisions taken by the Court of Arbitration shall be final.

§ 14. Dissolution of the Federation

The voluntary dissolution of the Federation can only be resolved with a qualified majority of three quarters of the votes in an extraordinary General Assembly convened for this purpose. This General Assembly also has to pass a resolution concerning the assets of the Federation, if such assets exist. The meeting has to appoint a Liquidator to whom the assets of the Federation remaining after the payment of the debt have to be transferred. These assets, as far as it is possible and permitted, shall go to a non-profit making organization aiming at the same or having similar objects as this Federation. The last Executive Board of the Federation has to inform the competent authorities in writing of the voluntary dissolution and it is obliged to announce, in accordance with article 26 of the “Vereinsgesetz” (law on societies), the voluntary dissolution in an official newspaper.