



## **STATUTES**

### **Alliance of International Science Organizations**

Released in Nov. 2018

## Article 1: Establishment

The Alliance of International Science Organizations, hereinafter called “ANSO”, is an international, non-profit and non-governmental scientific organization, jointly created by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, other national scientific organizations and academies, universities and international organizations. ANSO came into being under the principles of "Extensive Consultation, Joint Contribution and Shared Benefits" championed by the "Belt and Road Initiative". It adheres to the spirit of the "Beijing Declaration" released at "The First International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative" held in Beijing in November 2016.

## Article 2: Objectives

- 2.1 ANSO is committed to regional and global sustainable development, academic capacity building, cooperation and exchange in fundamental research and S&T innovation, the spread and application of knowledge for societal benefit, communication and technology transfer. These will be achieved by inviting the participation and joint efforts of scientific organizations and researcher from all over the world.
  
- 2.2 ANSO is committed to the following tasks: (a) leading and promoting science & technology cooperation; (b) providing scientific advice to governments and policy makers; (c) supporting joint scientific research on the key issues of global and regional concern; (d) strengthening personnel training, academic communication and the exchange of scientists for the attainment of its objectives.

## Article 3: Activities

ANSO may initiate and carry out the following activities:

- 3.1 Organize international conferences, workshops and forums, promote academic communication on climate change, natural disasters, water scarcity, food security, energy crisis, cyber/internet/big data/insecurity and handling.
- 3.2 Organize strategic studies and consultation reports, to provide scientific advice to governments and policy makers;
- 3.3 Support joint scientific research and cooperation projects in areas of major mutual interests, to address global and regional concerns and challenges. This will include development of data sharing platforms, joint laboratories, cooperative research centers and field observation stations;
- 3.4 Award grants, scholarships, fellowships, prizes and medals for scientific research and innovation.

## Article 4: Membership

- 4.1 Eligible for membership of ANSO are national, regional or international scientific organizations and academies, especially those in “the Belt and Road” region.
- 4.2 More than one organization per country may be elected as members if the circumstances require. Should such a case happen, the Governing Board shall provide a letter of recommendation before it is presented to the General Assembly for final approval.
- 4.3 ANSO exercises the principle of “one member one vote”. But each country can only cast one vote in all the ANSO decision-making processes.

- 4.4 Application for membership may be made at any time. It shall be in writing and in English, providing information on the mission, structure, major programs and activities of the organization and the reasons for joining ANSO. Each organization seeking membership shall explicitly endorse the ANSO Statutes.
- 4.5 Membership applications will be reviewed by the Governing Board. Decisions on membership will be made during the regular meetings of the General Assembly.
- 4.6 Organizations that are not yet members may participate in ANSO programs and activities if invited by the Governing Board.
- 4.7 If eligible, the Governing Board may grant an organization seeking membership the temporary status of a ‘Provisional Member’. Organizations with ‘Provisional Membership’ may participate in all ANSO programs and activities, but without the right to vote.
- 4.8 In case of controversy about membership, particularly in relation to the criteria for membership as provided in articles 4.1 and 4.2, the ANSO President shall make a final decision on the basis of the advice of the Governing Board.

## Article 5: Structure

The constitutional bodies of ANSO are:

- (a) The General Assembly;
- (b) The Governing Board;
- (c) The Secretariat.

## Article 6: The General Assembly

- 6.1 The General Assembly shall consist of the heads or official representatives of the Member Organizations. As the highest decision-making body of ANSO, the General Assembly is empowered, subject to the provisions of the Statutes, to make decisions on all critical, important and major matters relating to ANSO.
- 6.2 The General Assembly shall have the following responsibilities:
- 6.2.1 Approve the development strategies and policies of ANSO;
  - 6.2.2 Elect the ANSO President, Vice Presidents and the Governing Board Members;
  - 6.2.3 Direct the Governing Board to carry out any tasks necessary for achieving the objectives of ANSO;
  - 6.2.4 Amend the Statutes and adopt the Procedures to govern ANSO.
- 6.3 The General Assembly shall adopt and approve amendments to the Statutes with a two-thirds majority of votes cast. Abstentions will not be considered a vote. The General Assembly may delegate specific tasks or responsibilities to the Governing Board, a Member Organization or any associated individual.
- 6.4 The General Assembly may only take official decisions, including the amendments of the Statutes with at least the participation of one-half of all members at a meeting. A vote shall be taken by show of hand unless a secret ballot is requested. Such requests can only be made by five or more members. Decisions relating to a specific individual, or individuals, shall always be taken by a secret ballot.

- 6.5 The regular meetings of the General Assembly shall be held at least once every two years. The meeting agenda will be circulated to the Assembly members at least two weeks before the meeting.

## Article 7: President & Vice Presidents

- 7.1 The President shall preside over the meetings of the General Assembly and the Governing Board, having responsibilities to perform all the duties approved by the General Assembly.
- 7.2 Presidents and Vice Presidents will be elected from the Heads of Member Organizations by secret ballot of the General Assembly. For the sake of the smooth and effective operation of ANSO, if the President or a Vice President retires from or leaves the Member Organization during his/her term of service in ANSO, he/she shall continue to serve as the President or the Vice President of ANSO for the remaining period so long as with the endorsement of the Member Organization.
- 7.3 The President and the Vice Presidents are elected for a term of two years and are eligible for re-election at the end of their first term, but not for further terms thereafter. Vice Presidents are eligible for election as President.
- 7.4 The General Assembly shall vote first on the election of the President. The candidate who gets a majority of the votes, abstentions not considered a vote, shall be elected President. If no candidate gets a majority of votes, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be taken off the list of candidates and a new round of votes follows. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate gets a majority of votes.

- 7.5 After the election of the President, the General Assembly shall vote on the election of the Vice Presidents. Each Member Organization shall cast affirmative votes in favor of two candidates for the Vice Presidents. The two candidates who get more votes than others, abstentions not considered a vote, shall be elected Vice Presidents. If more than one candidate gets the same number of votes, the candidates shall make a draw to decide.
- 7.6 If the President or a Vice President resigns before the end of their term, or is unable to exercise administrative responsibilities for reasons such as illness, the Governing Board shall have the power to appoint an Acting President/Vice President from the ANSO Governing Board for the remaining period till next election.
- 7.7 At least six months before the end of the term of office, the Governing Board shall request all the ANSO Member Organizations to nominate candidates for the posts of President and Vice Presidents.
- 7.8 In case of doubt as to the interpretation of any Rules, the President's interpretation shall hold until the next meeting of the Board, when the interpretation of a particular Rule is to be discussed and finally determined.

## Article 8: The Governing Board

- 8.1 The Governing Board shall consist of the ANSO President, two Vice Presidents and six other ANSO Members.
- 8.2 The Governing Board shall be presided by the ANSO President. The President, Vice Presidents and other members shall be elected from different countries by the General Assembly and shall be the Heads of the Member Organizations. The Governing Board Members shall hold office for two years

following their initial election and the Governing Board Members shall be eligible for re-election for one more term.

- 8.3 After the completion of election of the President and Vice Presidents, the General Assembly shall vote on the election of other Governing Board Members. Each Member Organization shall cast affirmative votes in favor of six candidates. The first six candidates who get more votes than others, abstentions not considered a vote, shall be elected Members of the Governing Board. If more than two candidates get the same number of votes for the last position of the Governing Board, the candidates shall make a draw to decide.
- 8.4 If a Member Organization resigns from the Governing Board before the end of the term, the Governing Board may fill up the position by appointing another ANSO Member Organization to take the place until next election.
- 8.5 Heads of the Member Organizations shall attend the meetings of the Governing Board. If not available, he/she may designate a representative from his/her organization to attend.
- 8.6 Subject to the provisions of these Statutes and the decisions of the General Assembly, the Governing Board shall take such initiatives and actions as necessary to accomplish the objectives of ANSO.
- 8.6.1 Formulate the annual plan and budget of ANSO;
- 8.6.2 Decide the times and venues for the General Assembly and its related activities;
- 8.6.3 Prepare and decide the agenda of the meetings of the General Assembly;
- 8.6.4 Implement the decisions made by the General Assembly;
- 8.6.5 Approve programs, activities and their budgets;



- 8.6.6 Carry out fund-raising activities;
- 8.6.7 Ensure the accountability of budget;
- 8.6.8 Contributions of Members of the ANSO Governing Board as contained in the statutes of ANSO, particularly mentioned in paragraphs 8.6.1-8.6.7 are subject and might be limited by provisions and statutes of the organizations represented in the ANSO Governing Board.
- 8.7 The Governing Board is empowered to form sub committees, scientific committees or ad-hoc committees as necessary.
- 8.8 The Governing Board meetings are only quorate if 6 or more members are present. Presence may include participation remotely by phones or videos. The Governing Board shall decide by a two-third majority vote, abstentions not considered a vote. In case of a tie, the President has the entitlement to make the final decision. During a Board meeting a vote shall be taken by hand raising unless at least two members request a secret ballot. As to the issues relating to a specific person or persons, it should always be done by a secret ballot.
- 8.9 The Governing Board shall consider and dispose of the proposals made by ANSO members and communications received from others, except in so far as such proposals and communications require the consideration of the General Assembly.
- 8.10 The Governing Board shall meet at least annually.

## Article 9: Secretariat

- 9.1 The Secretariat is responsible for assisting the work of the General Assembly and the Governing Board. It shall be led by an Executive Director, who will be

appointed by the Governing Board. The Executive Director shall be appointed for a term of office for four years and is eligible for one more term.

- 9.2 The Secretariat shall be located at the Chinese Academy of Sciences with a registered office in an institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The Chinese Academy of Sciences shall bear costs of the Secretariat, including personnel, office space and facilities, travel and communication expenses, etc.
- 9.3 Under the overall guidance of the ANSO President, the Secretariat shall support the General Assembly and the Governing Board in carrying out their respective tasks and responsibilities. The Secretariat shall be responsible for:
- 9.3.1 Preparing and organizing all official ANSO meetings;
  - 9.3.2 Disseminating relevant information to ANSO members;
  - 9.3.3 Appointing salaried staff of ANSO as sanctioned in the budget, defining their duties, terms and conditions of service, and dispensing their services as the occasion may require;
  - 9.3.4 Maintaining working relations with other relevant organizations;
  - 9.3.5 Raising and disbursing the funds of ANSO, according to the decisions of the Governing Board;
  - 9.3.6 Preparing and submitting to the General Assembly and governments the annual report on the affairs of the ANSO;
  - 9.3.7 Preparing reports and audits on the finances of ANSO;
  - 9.3.8 Preparing and presenting reports of the work of the Governing Board since the last Governing Board Meeting.

## Article 10: Financial Matters

- 10.1 The Governing Board, with the support of the General Assembly, shall be committed to seeking financial contributions such as grants, donations and gifts.
- 10.2 Unless explicitly arranged, the Member Organizations shall bear their own costs in participating in the meetings of the General Assembly and the Governing Board.
- 10.3 The Governing Board may also request the Member Organizations to make voluntary contributions to ANSO, or to any of its programs and activities.