

The Statutes

of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)

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The Statutes of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY)

In view of the fact that in all parts of the world books for children and young people play an essential role in their personal development and because books, by bringing to the young a wider knowledge of other countries, encourage international understanding and good-will between the peoples and thus serve the cause of peace, and because literature for the young has some of its own values and rules and poses some problems which are not always the same as those of adult literature, therefore The International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), being a non-profit making association in conformity with Article 60 and followings of the Swiss Civil Code, with headquarters in Basel, Switzerland, hereby adopts the following statutes.

Clause I Aims

Section 1

To bring together groups throughout the world, which are concerned with furthering the cause of good books for young people and to encourage children everywhere to become life long readers.

Section 2

To promote and encourage the development of outstanding creative literature and pictorial works of art for young people. To contribute to the growth of their art and education standards by exchange of writers' and artists' experience, organizing competitions, symposia and seminars.

Section 3

To promote the availability of such books and access to them:

3.1 By encouraging their production to fit the needs throughout the world

3.2 By associating them with other modern means of communication.

3.3 By encouraging the growth of libraries for the young.

Section 4

To contribute to the promotion of books for young people in all possible ways.

Section 5

To assist in the spread of books of international quality and to encourage translations.

Section 6

To initiate, encourage and advance research into every aspect of children's literature and its illustration, and to organize the publication on an international scale of the results of such research.

Section 7

To assist with information and advice any persons, groups, institutions, or organizations, be they national or international, who wish to concentrate all or part of their activities upon books for the young and on the training in this field of

librarians, teachers, editors, writers or illustrators.

Section 8

To protect and uphold the Rights of the Child especially concerning the articles 14, 17, 23, 28, 29 and 30 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Clause II Members

Section 1 National Sections

A group of persons or organizations within a country, whose interests relate to the development of books for the young and whose aims are compatible with those of the International Board on Books for Young People, may organize a National Section and thereby qualify as a member. No nation may have more than one National Section. However, National Sections may, if they so choose, be composed of sub-groups which represent different regional, ethnic or linguistic groupings within their country. While a National Section need not to be governed by statutes, it must justify its representation by its composition and it must designate two delegates to ensure liaison with the International Board on Books for Young People.

Section 2 Individual Members

Where no National Section exists, it is possible, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to become a non-voting Individual Member upon application to the International Board on Books for Young

People and payment of dues. Such membership applications are welcome.

Section 3 Supporting members

Supporting membership is open to individuals as well as companies, organizations or institutions, whether they are members of a National Section of IBBY or not. Supporting members will have no voting or nomination rights. The membership has to be approved by the National Section of their respective country and by the IBBY Executive Committee or by the Executive Committee only in case of international organizations who are not related to a specific country.

Section 4 Honorary Members

The International Board on Books for Young People may vote to confer Honorary Membership upon persons meriting such an honour because they have devoted much of their lives to books for the young and the part they play in promoting international understanding. The Executive Committee shall determine the recipients of this honour. Members may suggest possible candidates to the Executive Committee.

Section 5 Applications for Membership

5.1 Applications for membership from National Sections shall be in writing, directed to the Secretariat, which will refer the application to the Executive Committee for action thereon by majority vote. Applications for membership from Individual Members shall be in writing, directed to the Secretariat, which will refer the application to the Executive Committee for final action thereon by majority vote.

5.2 Each application for membership shall include the following:

5.2.1 An account of collective or individual activities in the field of books for the young.

5.2.2 An account of the collective or individual contribution which it is thought the applicant may make to the International Board on Books for Young People.

5.2.3 A statement of the possible assistance – excluding financial assistance – which the applicant may require from the International Board on Books for Young People.

Section 6	Dues
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Members shall be required to pay annual dues. The exact amount of such dues shall be fixed by the Executive Committee following objective criteria, including measurable figures of the member country's economy, standard of living, children's book production and presence on the international children's book market. Dues for Individual Members and Supporting Members shall be fixed by the Executive Committee. On petition of five or more members the dues assessed may be reviewed at a regular or special meeting of the members and changes voted on by the members. In January of each year the Secretariat of the International Board on Books for Young People shall send to each member a statement of its dues as fixed by the Executive Committee. Statements are payable within 90 days after receipt. Membership lapses if dues are not paid within two years.

Section 7	Loss of Membership
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A member loses membership in the International Board on Books for Young People when it is engaged in practices against the statutes and the objectives of the International Board on Books for Young People. Loss of membership shall be effective only after a hearing by the Executive Committee on at least 90 days' written notice to the member. The notice shall contain a statement of the charges. No member shall lose its membership unless a majority of the Executive Committee has voted in favour of such an action. A member that has lost its membership by such an decision of the Executive Committee has the right to submit its cause to the General Assembly.

Section 8	Withdrawal of Membership
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A member has the right to withdraw its membership by a written notice. The Executive Committee will accept this withdrawal after a member has fulfilled all obligations to the International Board on Books for Young People, and provided that the application for withdrawal has been submitted at least six months in advance to the end of the calendar year.

Clause III Governing Bodies

There shall be two governing bodies for the management of the affairs of the International Board on Books for Young People: the General Assembly and the Executive Committee which, together with the President, acts on behalf of the General Assembly between its meetings and reports

to the General Assembly. There shall also be a Secretariat.

Section 1	General Assembly
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1.1 Regular meetings

A meeting of the members shall be held at least every other year and at a time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee. The purposes of such meetings shall be to:

1.1.1 Verify the legality of the meeting and accept the agenda; no decisions may be taken on any matter not on the agenda as accepted, except to call for a Special Meeting, as provided in Clause III, Section 1.2

1.1.2 Approve the report of the activities of the International Board on Books for Young People since the last regular meeting

1.1.3 Review the Treasurer's report on the financial status of the International Board on Books for Young People for the two complete calendar years prior to the year of the regular meeting

1.1.4 Review the Auditors' report for the two complete calendar years prior to the year of the regular meeting

1.1.5 Approve, or register disapproval of, the management of the funds of the International Board on Books for Young People for the two complete calendar years prior to the year of the regular meeting

1.1.6 Discharge the Treasurer, Executive Director and the Executive Committee

1.1.7 Receive information about and comment freely upon any current and

projected activities of the International Board on Books for Young People, as presented by the Executive Committee

1.1.8 Suggest guidelines to the Executive Committee as to the appropriate dues to be assessed under Clause II, Section 6

1.1.9 Vote on amendments to the Statutes of the International Board on Books for Young People

1.1.10 Elect

- The President of the International Board on Books for Young People
- The members of the Executive Committee
- The President of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury
- The Auditors

1.1.11 Consider any other business brought before the regular meeting by any member.

1.2 Special Meetings

Special meetings of the members for any purpose or purposes may be called by the President, or a majority of the Executive Committee, or at the request in writing of not less than one-fifth of the members representing National Sections. Such request shall state the purpose or purposes of the proposed meeting.

1.3 Notice of Meetings

Notice of all meetings of members stating the time and place thereof and, in the case of special meetings, the purpose and purposes thereof, shall be mailed to each member not less than 90 days nor more

than 180 days before such meeting and shall be in the name of the President. Each notice shall be addressed to the person or persons designated by a member to receive such notice. The names of the person or persons designated to receive notice shall be in writing, shall specify the address to which notices are to be sent and shall be filed with the Secretariat. In the event no such designation is on file, the person whose name is on record as the official representative of the member as of the date of the adoption of these statutes shall be the proper representative of the member to receive notice.

1.4 To Conduct the Business of the Meeting

At any regular or special meeting of the International Board on Books for Young People, in order to conduct the business, evidence must be presented that the meeting was convened according to the statutes, and there shall be present one third of the members. A member may be represented at any meeting by an official representative or a party acting for an official representative and properly accredited to do so; or by proxy, duly filed with the Secretariat. No member may represent more than one other member, either by proxy or by designation by that other member. At any meeting where it is legally possible to conduct the business, all elections shall be had and all questions decided by a plurality of the votes cast by the members present at the meeting or represented by proxy. If at any meeting of the members there shall be less than a number making it legally possible to conduct the business, the members present and entitled to vote at such meeting may without further notice adjourn the same until a

necessary number of members shall attend, either in person or by proxy.

1.5 Voting

1.5.1 Each National Section shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings of the International Board on Books for Young People. All voting shall be by written ballot, unless a majority of those members present direct that voting shall be *viva voce*

1.5.2 Individual Members shall not be entitled to vote

1.5.3 Honorary Members shall not be entitled to vote

1.5.4 Supporting members shall not be entitled to vote.

1.5.5 Members whose dues have not been paid shall not be entitled to vote or to propose candidates for the elections

1.5.6 The President and/or a majority of the Executive Committee may determine that a vote on a matter of general interest to the members shall take place by mail between meetings. In such a case each member shall receive full information on the matter to be voted on, and shall also receive, in writing, the results of the election. A vote by mail between meetings may not be taken on any proposed amendment(s) to the statutes of the International Board on Books for Young People.

Section 2	Executive Committee
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2.1 Powers

The Executive Committee shall have as its principal duties the determining of the

policies of the International Board on Books for Young People and the development of programmes for its regular and special meetings. With the President, it shall be vested with the direction and the general management of the International Board on Books for Young People.

2.2 Membership

The Executive Committee shall include the following:

2.2.1 President of the International Board on Books for Young People, *ex officio* and with a vote

2.2.2 Ten elected members with a vote

2.2.3 President of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury, *ex officio* and without a vote

2.2.4 Editor of Bookbird, *ex officio* and without a vote

2.2.5 Treasurer, *ex officio* and without a vote

2.2.6 IBBY Directors, *ex officio* and without a vote

2.3 Election

The persons elected to serve on the Executive Committee except by virtue of the office they hold will be elected by the members at the regular meeting. Each member of the Committee will serve for a period between two regular meetings of IBBY membership, and shall be eligible to be re-elected to the Committee immediately upon the completion of the first term of service, but only for one additional term between regular meetings.

Upon completion of two successive terms on the Committee, an interim term of at least one term between regular meetings must expire before a member may once again be eligible for election to the Committee. A person whose affiliation with the Executive Committee is by virtue of office held, and is, therefore, an *ex officio* member of the Committee, may be elected to the Committee by the members immediately upon completion of a term as an *ex officio* Committee member.

2.4 Meetings

A regular meeting of the Executive Committee shall be held for the election of the two Vice-Presidents and a Treasurer and for other affairs as soon as possible after each regular meeting of the members. Other regular meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at such times as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine. Special meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held whenever called by the President or by a majority of the Executive Committee.

2.5 Notice of Meetings

Notice of the time, place and purpose of any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be mailed to each member of the Committee at least 90 days before the meeting, unless each member not attending signs a waiver of notice thereof. Attendance of the meeting shall be deemed a consent to the holding of the meeting and a waiver of notice thereof.

2.6 To Conduct the Business of the Meeting

A majority of the elected, voting members of the Executive Committee shall be present in

order to conduct the business of the Executive Committee. If a majority is not present the meeting can be held, but decisions would need confirmation by a majority of the Executive Committee members, either by mail vote or in a following meeting.

Each Executive Committee may, in adopting its operating rules, accept non-voting proxies from members of the Committee unable to attend a meeting. If such is the case, the non-voting proxy must be duly filed with the Secretariat.

2.7 Vacancies

Whenever any vacancy shall occur on the Executive Committee by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the same shall be filled by that person next in order of voting for the opening on the Executive Committee at the General Assembly at which the person no longer on the Executive Committee was elected to that Committee. The person so chosen shall hold office for the whole portion remaining in the term of the vacancy he or she is filling.

2.8 Adoption of Rules

The Executive Committee may from time to time by resolution adopt rules for the conduct of the affairs of the International Board on Books for Young People. Such rules shall be and remain in effect until rescinded or amended by further action of the Executive Committee, or by a majority of the number of votes cast by the Executive Committee members at a meeting or by mail.

Section 3

Secretariat

3.1 The Secretariat shall exist to administer the policies and programmes of the General Assemblies and Executive Committees.

3.2 The IBBY Directors shall serve as Secretaries of the International Board on Books for Young People and its governing bodies.

Clause IV Officers

Section 1

President

A President shall be elected by the members at regular meetings. In general, Presidents shall serve for a period between two regular meetings of the General Assembly. They shall not be eligible for election to succeed themselves more than once upon completion of their term as President. They shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Executive Committee and, with the Executive Committee, shall be responsible for the direction and management of the affairs of the International Board on Books for Young People. In general, they shall perform all duties incident to their office and such other duties as the Executive Committee may from time to time delegate to them, and shall be an *ex officio* member of all committees.

Section 2

Vice Presidents

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee after each regular meeting of the General Assembly, two Vice Presidents shall be elected by the Executive Committee from their number. They shall, in the

absence, illness or inability of the President to act, perform such of the duties of the office of President as the Executive Committee may by resolution determine and shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to them by the Executive Committee.

Section 3 **Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall be elected by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer is the controller of the finances of the International Board on Books for Young People and is responsible for executing the financial and fundraising policies determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 4 **IBBY Directors**

IBBY Directors shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. They are the administrators of the programmes and activities approved by the Executive Committee. Their regular duties are determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 5 **Vacancies**

Whenever a vacancy shall occur in any office by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the same shall be filled by the Executive Committee and the officers so chosen shall hold office until the next regular meeting of the members and until their successors shall have been duly elected.

Clause V Hans Christian Andersen Jury

Section 1 **Powers**

The Hans Christian Andersen Jury shall select the winners of the Hans Christian Andersen Awards.

Section 2 **Membership**

The Hans Christian Andersen Jury shall include the President of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury, the President of the International Board on Books for Young People and ten additional persons.

Section 3 **President**

A President of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury shall be elected by the members at a regular meeting, and by the same voting rules, which apply to the election of the President of the International Board on Books for Young People and other matters before regular meetings. Presidents of the Jury shall not be eligible for election to succeed themselves more than once upon completion of their term as Jury President.

Section 4 **Selection of Jurors**

A National Section may suggest to the President of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury a candidate for the Jury. It is understood that each person suggested as a juror must be an eminently qualified children's literature expert, able to evaluate the nominees for the Andersen Awards. The President of the Jury shall forward the names of all persons nominated to the Executive Committee. By majority vote, the

Executive Committee will select the jurors. No elected member of the Executive Committee may serve as a member of the Hans Christian Andersen Jury, except the President of the International Board on Books for Young People, who serves *ex officio* and without a vote. No juror shall be eligible to serve more than two successive terms.

Section 5	Vacancies
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Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the office of President of the Jury by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the same shall be filled by the Executive Committee, on the advice of the President of the International Board on Books for Young People, and by mail vote, if necessary. Whenever any vacancy shall occur on the Jury for any reason, the same shall be filled by the Executive Committee, on the advice of the President of the Jury, and by mail vote, if necessary.

Section 6	Adoption of Rules
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The Executive Committee may from time to time by resolution adopt rules governing the conferring of the Hans Christian Andersen Awards and the conduct of the Jury's affairs. Such rules shall remain in effect until amended by further action of the current or a subsequent Executive Committee.

Clause VI Committees

Section 1	Committee on Elections
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1.1 Powers

The Committee on Elections shall solicit nominations from the National Sections for all offices to be voted on by the members at the regular meeting of the General Assembly. The National Sections are to be acquainted with the list of proposed nominations at least four weeks before the meeting.

1.2 Membership

The Committee on Elections shall be elected by the Executive Committee and shall include three persons, one of whom will serve as Chairperson. The Committee shall be elected as far in advance of the regular meeting of the General Assembly as possible, but in no case later than three months before the meeting.

Section 2	Other Committees
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The Executive Committee may appoint such special committees not specifically provided for in these statutes as may be deemed necessary.

Clause VII Income and Dissolution

Section 1	Assets and Liabilities
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No part of the earnings of the International Board on Books for Young People shall inure to the benefit of any member, except

as voted upon by the members at a General Assembly. The financial commitments of the International Board on Books for Young People shall be met from its income and any other assets available to it. Members shall not be liable for the commitments of the International Board on Books for Young People.

Section 2

Dissolution

The International Board on Books for Young People may be dissolved if, on recommendation of the Executive Committee, three-quarters of the members vote at a regular or special meeting to effect such a dissolution. Existing funds in any of its accounts will, after payment of all just obligations, be contributed to an appropriate non-profit educational or cultural organization to be agreed on by the Executive Committee.

Clause VIII Amendments

These statutes may be amended by a majority of the number of votes cast by the members present or represented by a proxy at any meeting of the members at which a number sufficient for the conduct of the business are present. Proposals can be submitted by a National Section or the majority of the Executive Committee. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be contained in the notice of such meeting.

Approved by the General Assembly in: Bologna, April 5, 1970. Amendments by the General Assemblies in: Nice, May 21, 1972; Rio de Janeiro, October 25, 1974; Athens, October 1, 1976; Würzburg, October 27, 1978; Prague, October 2, 1980; Cambridge, September 9, 1982; Nicosia, October 13, 1984; Tokyo, August 22, 1986; Oslo, September 30, 1988; Williamsburg, September 5, 1990; Berlin, September 10, 1992; Seville, October 14, 1994; Groningen, August 15, 1996; New Delhi, September 24, 1998; Cartagena de Indias, September 21, 2000; Macau, September 23, 2006; London, August 26, 2012.