

## UPDATED ISG ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The articles of Association of the ISG have been updated by the board and prepared to discussion and decision by the General assembly at the Nagoya Conference.

### PREAMBLE

On 3 September, 1997 Mrs. Vappu Tuulikki Taipale, professor, born in Vaasa (Finland) and Mr. Heinz Richard Pieper, professor, born in Tübingen (Germany) officially established the International Society for Gerontechnology.

The society is a non-profit organisation, which has been established under Dutch law as a *vereniging* and will be governed by Dutch law. The Articles of Association have been witnessed by and deposited with a notary.

### *Part I: Name, Address, and Objectives*

#### **Article 1 (NAME)**

The society will be known as International Society for Gerontechnology, or ISG for short.

#### **Article 2 (ADDRESS)**

The official address is the seat of the Secretary-General.

This address can be changed by a simple majority decision by the administrative council. Any change of address shall take effect one month after publication in the official journal of the ISG.

#### **Article 3 (TIME)**

ISG is established for an unlimited period of time.

**Article 4 (NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION)**  
ISG is a non-profit organisation.

#### **Article 5 (OBJECTIVES)**

The objectives of ISG are to promote the study of technology and ageing for ensuring an optimal technological environment for aged and ageing people up to a high age, an interdisciplinary field hereafter referred to as gerontechnology.

The society seeks to achieve these objectives by involving all relevant academic

disciplines and practitioners (gerontologists, engineers, product designers, architects, health professionals, managers, etc.) in relevant tertiary educational establishments, industry, and public and private sector organisations.

The society will achieve these objectives by:

- Encouraging the creation of networks of professionals working in the field of gerontechnology, among others by organising regular international meetings;
- Publishing new advances in the field of gerontechnology in the society's quarterly journal 'GERONTECHNOLOGY' or other relevant journals or books;
- Promoting scientific research, design, and development in the field of gerontechnology;
- Encouraging education and training in the field of gerontechnology;
- Encouraging exchange of information and expertise between professionals and ageing people and their representative organisations;
- Bringing to the attention of the general public the position of ageing people in technological society.

### *Part II: Members*

#### **Article 6 (MEMBERSHIP)**

ISG shall be open to membership from:  
Individual members: professionals in the field of gerontechnology also including students and trainees or interested private individuals;

Associate members: national and international societies, private or public sector organisations, related to gerontechnology.

#### **Article 7 (MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES; RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS)**

##### **i Individual membership:**

a). *Full members.* Full paying individual members have voting rights, receive publications, and have the right to participate in the meetings of ISG; they may further be entitled to discounts at ISG's activities.

Individual membership fees shall be determined by the General Assembly on a proposal from the Board.

*b). Student members.* Student members pay a reduced membership fee, they will receive publications of the society and may further be entitled to discounts at the society's activities; they have no voting rights. Upon completing their degree, student membership can no longer be maintained but can be converted to full membership. Student membership fees shall be determined by the General Assembly on a proposal from the Board;

*c). Honorary members.* Honorary members are persons who have particularly distinguished themselves in the field of gerontechnology. They pay no membership fee, but will receive publications of ISG.

#### **ii Associate membership:**

Associate members. Associate members are entitled to voting rights. They have the right to participate in the meetings of ISG. Fees and privileges such as receipt of publications are negotiable and will be determined by the Board, taking into account size and relevance of the organisation.

#### **Article 8 (APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP)**

Individual members have to submit a completed application membership-form to the Board. Membership will commence on receipt of the appropriate membership fee. Student members must add a written statement of their educational organisation.

Associate members have to submit a completed application membership-form to the Board. An arrangement will be negotiated and membership will commence on receipt of the agreed membership fee.

In exceptional cases the Board may decide to refuse applications. Applicants may contest such decision at the general assembly. In years that the regular general assembly does not meet, the board at the

request of the refused applicant will organize an e-mail general assembly.

**Article 9 (TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP)** Members may voluntarily resign from ISG at the end of the year of subscription by sending a written notification to the Board. Membership will be terminated by default of payment, but members will continue to be liable to pay their last years' membership fees.

Membership will end on the death of an individual member.

In exceptional circumstances, the Board may expel members behaving contrary to the aims and interests of ISG after due process. Expelled members will be given the opportunity to contest their expulsion at the General Assembly.

#### *Part III: General Assembly*

#### **Article 10 (MEETINGS)**

The General Assembly will meet at least once every three years. Additional General Assemblies may be initiated by the Board or on the request of at least half of the members of ISG who have voting rights. The President of the Board will send the convening notice and agenda at least 30 days before the meeting.

#### **Article 11 (AGENDA)**

The agenda will include a report by the Vice-presidents, a report by the Secretary-general, a report by the Treasurer, and a report by the Editor-in-chief of 'Gerontechnology'.

#### **Article 12 (VOTING, WHO)**

Full paying members have the right to one vote. Associate members have the right to two votes. Student members do not have the right of vote. Honorary members do not have the right to vote, unless authorised to do so by the General Assembly. The General Assembly may transfer this authority to the Board.

Voting by proxy is allowed. Written confirmation is needed. A member may not represent more than five votes, including his/her own.

## **Article 13 (VOTING, HOW)**

All decisions will be taken by a simple majority of the members present. Amendments to the articles of association require a quorum of at least 40% of the members and a majority of at least two thirds of the votes. If the quorum is not reached, a next General Assembly may decide by a majority of two thirds of the vote without a quorum requirement.

### *Part IV: The Board*

## **Article 14 (POWERS)**

The Board has the final responsibility for the matters of ISG. The Board will delegate the daily affairs to the Council.

## **Article 15 (MEMBERSHIP)**

Members of the Board will be elected for a three-year term. Their term can be renewed for two more three-year periods. The Board will have at least 12 members representing several countries. Board members shall be full members of ISG. Board members can be dismissed by the General Assembly.

## **Article 16 (OFFICERS)**

The Board shall elect among themselves a President, a Secretary-General, an Assistant Secretary and a Treasurer. If elected, convenors of the last and next international congresses are Vice presidents; the Editor-in chief of 'Gerontechnology' shall be a member. Further portfolios can be created and filled as the Board sees fit.

## **Article 17 (BOARD MEETINGS)**

The Board will meet at least once every three years, convened by the President at least 30 days before the meeting. A Board meeting is valid if at least half of its members are present or represented. With

a written statement to that effect, Board members can represent one or two other Board members by proxy.

## **Article 18 (DECISIONS OF THE BOARD; VOTING)**

Decisions are made by majority of the votes cast. Each Board member has one vote. In case of a tie, the President shall have a casting vote.

## **Article 19 (Commitments)**

The President and either the Secretary-General or the Treasurer shall sign any document committing ISG. The Treasurer alone may handle minor commitments to a size of € 5,000 as long as these commitments are in agreement with the certified budget of that year.

### *Part V: Administration*

## **Article 20 (THE COUNCIL)**

The Council shall handle the daily affairs of ISG. The Council consists of the following Board members: the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary-General, the Treasurer, and the Editor-in-Chief of 'Gerontechnology'. Further members can be elected by the General Assembly. The Council is held responsible to the Board. The Council meets at least once a year.

### *Part VI: Dissolution*

## **Article 21 (DECISION)**

Dissolution of the ISG will be decided by the General Assembly on a proposal by the Board.

## **Article 22 (FINANCES)**

On dissolution, the assets of ISG will be used for purposes of advancing gerontechnology. Decision is taken by the General Assembly on a proposal by the Board.