

Proposed update of the Articles of Association

Proposed new texts are underlined; proposed removals are identified with a double strike-through.

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 address of one of the Council members.

This address can be changed by a simple majority decision by the 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 ISG 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 ISG will achieve these objectives by:

i. Encouraging the creation of networks of professionals working in the field of gerontechnology, ~~among others by organising regular international meetings;~~

ii. Organizing Official Periodical International Gerontechnology Conferences;

iii. Encouraging the establishment and activities of Regional Chapters;

iv. Stimulating Official International Gerontechnology Master Classes for young professionals;

v. ~~ii.~~ Publishing new advances in the field of gerontechnology in the ISG's quarterly journal 'GERONTECHNOLOGY' or other relevant journals or books;

vi. ~~iii.~~ Promoting scientific research, design, and development in the field of gerontechnology;

vii. ~~iv.~~ Encouraging education and training in the field of gerontechnology;

viii. ~~v.~~ Encouraging exchange of information and expertise between professionals and ageing people and their representative organisations;

~~ix.vi~~ Bringing to the attention of the general public the position of ageing people in technological societies.

Part II. Members

ARTICLE 6 (MEMBERSHIP)

ISG shall be open to membership to:

- i. Individual members: professionals in the field of gerontechnology also including students and trainees or interested private individuals;
- ii. 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 access to publications of the ISG and may further be entitled to discounts at the ISG'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, and have the same additional rights as Full Members.

ii 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 the years that the general assembly does not meet, and e-mail general assembly will be organized by the board, when requested by the refused applicant.

Article 9 (TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP)

Members may voluntarily resign from ISG one month before ~~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, members behaving contrary to the aims and interests of ISG may be expelled by the Board 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 at each Official Periodical International Gerontechnology Conference 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 convening notice and agenda will be sent by the President of the Board 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 and Honorary 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 votes 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 time period between two Official Periodical International Gerontechnology Conferences ~~three year term~~. Their term can be renewed for two more ~~three two year~~ periods. Extra renewals may be allowed by a decision of the General Assembly. The Board will have at least 12 members representing several countries. Presidents of regional chapters also serve as board members. Board members shall be full or honorary 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 for the next conference 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 each Official Periodical International Gerontechnology Conference ~~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)

Any document committing ISG shall be signed by the President and either the Secretary-General or the Treasurer. Minor commitments to a size of €5,000 may be handled by the Treasurer alone as long as these commitments are in agreement with the certified budget of that year.

PART V Administration

Article 20 (THE COUNCIL)

The daily affairs of ISG shall be handled by the Council. The Council consists of the following Board members: the President, the Vice-presidents, the Secretary-general, the Treasurer, the Associate secretary for the next conference, 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.

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