

Statutes of the International Association for Tourism Economics (IATE)

The Constituent Assembly met in Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands, Spain) on 26/10/2007 to agree the constitution of the International Association for Tourism Economics whose statutes are defined by the articles below.

Article 1.

The International Association for Tourism Economics (IATE) is hereby established with scientific aims. This Association is governed by Spanish laws. The legal residence of the association is room DB 201, Jovellanos building, Universitat de les Illes Balears, crta Valldemossa km 7.5, Palma de Mallorca 07122, Balearic Islands, Spain. The association's geographical scope is the whole world.

Article 2.

The aims of the Association are (a) to contribute to the development and application of tourism economics as a science and instrument for policy making, (b) to improve communication and contacts between teachers, researchers and students in tourism economics all over the world, (c) to improve communication and contacts between tourism economics and other fields in economics and in other disciplines, (d) to develop and encourage cooperation between university level teaching institutions and research institutions so as to promote knowledge of the concepts and applications of economic analysis to tourism issues and policy analysis.

To pursue these aims the Association will organize meetings; promote and encourage the organization of international conferences and workshops; support and promote publications specialized in tourism economics, such as journals or working paper series, as well as their improvement in terms of generally accepted scientific standards and ratings; promote the study and application of tourism economics; form working groups to further research on particular topics and collaborate with other international groups concerned with economics and tourism issues.

Article 3.

The Association is a non-profit organisation. Its revenues must be used exclusively and completely for furthering its aims as specified in Article 2. The Association may only acquire and dispose of assets in a manner consistent with furthering its aims. The Association must not give privileges to any person by expenditures alien to its aims or by unreasonably high compensations.

Membership

Article 4.

There are two categories of members: (a) the category of individual members open to persons who by their profession, training or function are involved in tourism economics as a science, (b) the category of institutional members open to public and private institutions which materially support the Association.

Article 5.

Membership will be granted, subject to approval of the Council of the Association, upon submission of an application and payment of dues.

Members whose dues are in arrears automatically forfeit any membership rights until such time as these dues are paid.

Article 6.

The status of member ends:

- by a letter of resignation from the member to the President. This resignation does not affect the obligation to pay one's dues or any other amount payable for the current financial year,
- if membership dues are in arrears for twelve months or if the Association has not received further material support for one year,
- by decision of the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Council of the Association. This decision is taken by the majority of individual members present or represented, with the member in question having the opportunity of personal representation but not participating in the vote,
- by death of the individual member.

A former member has no claims on the assets of the Association; the same holds for any other party with an interest in the former member's estate.

Article 7.

The individual members have the following rights:

- c) Participate and vote in the General Assembly.
- b) Be eligible for the executive positions of the Association.
- c) Receive information about the decisions adopted by the Association.

The institutional members have the following rights:

- a) Participate in the General Assembly.
- b) Receive information about the decisions adopted by the Association.

Article 8.

The members have the following duties:

- a) Pay the dues.
- d) Meet the obligations that stem from the executive position they may occupy.

General Assembly - powers

Article 9.

The General Assembly consists of all individual members and constitutes the basic legislative entity of the Association. Institutional members may participate with an advisory vote. The General Assembly has within the bounds of the law the power to do all that is needed and useful for the realisation of the aims of the Association. In particular it has the exclusive power to:

- change the statutes,
- approve and amend the by-laws as proposed by the Council of the Association,
- elect and dismiss members of the Council of the Association,
- terminate membership according to Article 6,
- dissolve the Association in accordance with Article 32,
- approve the annual report, the budget and the accounts.

More generally, the Assembly shall have the power to deal with any issue of general policy of the Association.

Ordinary and Extra-ordinary General Assembly

Article 10.

The General Assembly is convened every two years by the president of the Association. The Council of the Association determines the date, time and venue of the meeting.

The President shall convene an Extra-ordinary General Assembly at the request of either at least half of the members of the Council of the Association or at least one third of the individual members.

The President may also convene an Extra-ordinary General Assembly whenever it serves the interest of the Association.

The Extra-ordinary General Assembly must be communicated to the members at least three months before the date of the meeting.

Except by convention of its members the General Assembly can pass resolutions or carry out elections by written vote. In this case the Articles 12 to 14 apply correspondingly.

Convocation

Article 11.

At least four weeks before the date set for the Ordinary General Assembly and at least two weeks before the date set for the Extra-ordinary General Assembly a written convocation specifying the date, time, venue and the agenda of the Assembly shall be sent to all members of the Association.

The agenda is drawn up by the convenor of the meeting.

The President shall include in the agenda any item for which she/he has received a written request by any individual member. Requests by members for items to be included must be received by the President at least 3 weeks prior to any General Assembly.

The General Assembly cannot decide on an issue which has not been included in the agenda except when the resolution is approved by the unanimous vote of all individual members present or represented.

Article 12.

The General Assembly is presided by the President of the Association or in his absence by another member of the Council of the Association approved by a majority of the individual members present or represented.

Authorization

Article 13.

Every individual member of the Association may authorize in writing another individual member to represent her or him at any General Assembly. The authorized person has full powers to represent her or his nominee. However, no member can represent more than two other members.

Quorum

Article 14.

The convened General Assembly can only validly deliberate if at least 10 individual members or 20% of the individual members whichever is greater are present or represented. If the quorum is not reached no separate convention is required to hold a second meeting of the General Assembly within 48 hours of the first meeting. If indicated by the Council of the Association in the convocations, this second meeting is then valid with respect to the set of points in the original agenda, irrespective of the number of individual members present or represented.

Voting

Article 15.

In the convened General Assembly voting takes place by a show of hands, except when electing the President and the elected members of the Council of the Association, which takes place by a secret postal or electronic ballot. In the Constituent Assembly the election of the President and the Council of the Association takes place by a show of hands except if a minimum of 5% of the presented and represented members ask for a secret ballot.

Majority

Article 16.

Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes except in the cases explicitly mentioned in the statutes and by-laws of the Association. In the case of votes for members of the Council to be elected, candidates will be elected in descending order of the number of votes cast until the required number of candidates has been elected. In the event of a tie which would result in more members of council being elected than are required, the Secretary-General shall resolve the tie by a random process (e.g. tossing a coin)

Minutes

Article 17.

The decisions taken by the General Assembly are recorded in a register and signed by the President and the Secretary of the Meeting. The minutes can be consulted by the members at the legal offices of the Association.

Regional associations

Article 18

Regional tourism economics associations are those comprising membership from one geographical area. This geographical region may be a single nation, or it may be a collection of nations.

Regional associations will be formed when the membership from a particular region judges itself numerous and active enough to support an independent agenda of events and activities furthering the objectives of the Association. Each regional association will have a president and a secretary- treasurer, chosen by vote of the membership of that regional association.

The creation of a regional association will require a written proposal addressed to the President of the IATE of at least two members of the Association that belong to the region and a majority of favourable votes of the members of the Association that belong to that specific region.

The regional association will have as responsibilities the induction of members in that region, communication with regional members, and organization of regional conferences, workshops, educational activities, and other activities that further the objectives of the Association.

The activities of the officers of the regional association pursuant to these responsibilities will be financed from the current period dues paid by members of the regional association to the Association. The Secretary-General of the Association will draw from these funds sufficient amounts to finance activities of the secretariat, and will hold the balance of these funds on account for the regional associations. He will disburse them against claims by the officers of the regional association up to the maximum represented by the percentage of the current period dues.

The proceeds from any additional fund-raising activities of the regional association will accrue completely to the regional association, and can be held apart from the funds held by the Secretary-General of the Association.

Council of the Association - powers

Article 19.

The Council of the Association, henceforth called the Council, is responsible for the well-being of the Association, subject to the general control and powers of the General Assembly.

The Council is in particular responsible for:

- organisation of the activities of the Association,
- selection of the venues for the conferences of the Association,
- admission of individuals or institutional members,
- preparation of the annual report to the General Assembly about the state of the Association,
- appointment of executive officers of the Association,
- determination of membership dues on the recommendation by the Executive Committee.

The Council may delegate well-defined duties to one or more persons while retaining ultimate responsibility. If no member of the Council has the nationality of the state where the Association is legally seated the Council chooses one member of the Association with this nationality and gives special authorization to her or him for supporting the President in representing the Association in legal matters.

Except for the Executive Committee, which is established by the present statutes, the Council may convene other committees within the Association which it considers necessary for furthering its aims.

Convocation

Article 20.

The Council meets at least every two years and also on special convocation by the president either if so requested by one third of its members or if he considers it in the interest of the Association.

The Council meetings are convoked by letter, telegram, telephone, fax or electronic mail at least fourteen days before the date set for the meeting. Meetings may equally be held without preceding convocation as long as either all members be present or absent members have renounced the need for convocation before the meeting.

Composition

Article 21.

The Council consists of twelve members: the President, the Secretary-General and ten ordinary elected members. Council shall appoint one of the ordinary elected members as Vice-President. Elections will be held every two years. In each election five ordinary members of Council will be elected out of the candidates. Every two elections the President will be elected out of the candidates. The Secretary-General will be appointed by the President and will serve for a period of four years to coincide with the term of office of the President.

To choose those ordinary members of the Council that might be substituted in the first election two years after the constitution of the Association, the following criteria will be applied: first those members that manifest their willingness to be substituted; second, a random choice applied to the remaining ordinary members.

Authorization

Article 22.

A member may authorise another member of the Council to represent him or her. No member can represent more than two members.

Quorum

Article 23.

The Council cannot validly deliberate unless one half of its members are present or represented.

Article 24.

Decisions shall be taken by simple majority of votes of members present or represented. The President has the casting vote in case of equality of votes in favour or against.

Representation of the Association

Article 25.

All documents that commit the Association shall be signed by two members of the Council at least one of whom is the President.

The Council shall be represented by its President or one specifically designated member in legal proceedings in which the Association is involved.

Minutes

Article 26.

The decisions taken by the Council are recorded in a special register, signed by the President and kept by the Secretary-General who makes it available to the members. A copy of all minutes is sent to the Council members.

Executive Committee

Article 27.

The Executive Committee prepares and carries out the decisions of the Council and of the General Assembly. It is responsible for the day to day administration of the Association. It consists of the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary-General of the Association.

President

Article 28.

The President of the Association shall preside over the Council and the meeting of the General Assembly, shall represent the Association in legal matters (without restricting Article 23, second paragraph) and shall chair the Executive Committee.

The term of office is four years, starting January 1, and cannot be extended.

The President is assisted by the Vice-President. The Vice-President is appointed by the Council and chosen from amongst the ordinary elected members of the Council.

The Vice-President assumes the duties of the President if this is not able to execute those.

Secretary-General

Article 29.

The Secretary-General shall be in charge of the secretariat, draft a list of members once a year and keep the records of the Association. The President appoints the Secretary-General from amongst the members of the Association and stipulates the term of office of the Secretary-General.

The Secretary General is responsible for the day to day financial affairs of the Association and shall report on these at least once a year to the Council.

Nominating Committee

Article 30.

Before February 1 of those years at the end of which some of the Council members' term ends, the President nominates a Nominating Committee for the preparation of the election of the elected members of the Council. The Nominating Committee consists of three members. The Nominating Committee shall propose two names of members in good standing for the position of President (for those years when the President's term ends) and six names of members in good standing for the position of ordinary elected members of the Council. Additionally, a minimum of three members may nominate candidates who are then added to the proposals of the Nominating Committee

The names of the candidates for the respective positions are communicated to the members of the Association. The candidate with the highest number of votes is elected for the position of president and the four candidates with the highest number of votes are elected as members of the Council. If one of these four candidates is also elected for President, the fifth candidate in the list will be elected as member of the Council. The election is undertaken by postal or electronic ballot before the 31st of May, except for the Constituent Assembly, where the election of the President and rest of members of the Council will be made by the presented and represented members.

Article 31.

The financial year ends on December 31 of each year. The Council shall nominate candidates for auditors who are not themselves members of the Council. The General Assembly will elect two of these candidates as Auditors for the two subsequent financial years. The Auditors report on the compatibility of budget and accounts and on the conformity of expenditures to law and prevailing custom and practice to the meeting of the General Assembly, at which the accounts are presented and approved. The Council shall also submit the budget for the coming financial year for the approval of the General Assembly.

Article 32.

The revenues of the Association consist of annual membership dues, gifts and bequests, of subsidies received from national and international institutions, governments and public authorities and any other incomes that may accrue.

The initial assets of the association amount to 6000 euros.

The Council determines the amount of the dues and of the other expenses to be borne by the members of the Association as well as the method of payment.

Dissolution and amendment of the Statutes**Article 33.**

Without restricting the applicability of the pertaining Spanish law any proposal to change the Statutes or to dissolve the Association shall emanate from the Council or from at least one third of the membership of the Association.

Article 34.

Any amendment to the Statutes shall require a two-thirds majority of all those voting in the General Assembly.

The Council shall inform the membership at least three months in advance of the Extra-ordinary General Assembly which has to decide on the dissolution of the Association.

The dissolution of the Association cannot be passed unless a two-third majority of votes present or represented is in favour of it.

The General Assembly determines the way in which the Association will be dissolved.

Article 35.

Those members that participate in the Constituent Assembly of the Association are the founding members.

Article 36.

All matters not covered in the present Statutes are regulated by the by-laws or by default, the Spanish law.

Article 37.

These Statutes become effective the day after they have been accepted by the founding members.