

**STATUTE OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA ON THE MORPHOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

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### *Preamble*

Through the initiative of Professor Doctor Salvador Gómez-Álvarez, the I International Symposium on Morphological Sciences Teaching was held in Mexico City, from 16 to 20 November 1971.

The II International Symposium on Morphological Sciences Teaching was held in Cordoba City, Argentina, from 22 to 27 July 1973, on the occasion of the commemoration of the Fourth Centennial of the City, under the Presidency of Professor Doctor Pedro Emilio Olivares.

The III International Symposium on Morphological Sciences was held in at the University of Tel-Aviv, Ramat-Aviv, Israel, from 21 to 25 August 1977, presided over by Professor Doctor Hilel Nathan.

The IV International Symposium took place at the Medical College of Ohio, USA, from 1 to 5 August 1979, under the presidency of Professor Doctor Liberato J.A.. Di Dio. Owing to the increasing emphasis given to scientific research as the focus of the event, the name was changed to “IV International Morphological Sciences Symposium”, henceforth a meeting of world leaders in Anatomy to deal with modern and future scientific, technological, didactic, administrative and social aspects of the morphological disciplines.

The V International Morphological Sciences Symposium was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 25 to 31 July 1982, under the presidency of Professor Doctor Mauricio Moscovici.

The VI International Morphological Sciences Symposium was held in Lisbon, Portugal, in the building of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, New University of Lisbon, from 23 to 28 July 1984, under the presidency of Professor Doctor José A.R. Esperança-Pina.

Owing to the remarkable development of the Symposia, which have become a forum for discussion and deliberations for the world leaders of the anatomical sciences, and because of the extraordinary services rendered by them to the Morphological Sciences from the subcellular level to the macroscopic anatomy level, it was resolved to organise them according to bylaws, which were approved by unanimous vote on the 26<sup>th</sup> July 1982, in Rio de Janeiro, by the Organising International Committee of the V International Symposium on Morphological Sciences.

At the plenary session of the International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences (ICSMS), in Rome, Italy, on September 15, 1999, a resolution was approved by unanimous vote to revise, amend, consolidate and update the original statute.

At the plenary session of the International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences (ICSMS), in Beograd, Serbia-Montenegro, on June 8th, 2005, a resolution was approved by unanimous vote to revise, amend, consolidate and update the original statute.

At the plenary session of the International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences (ICSMS), in Taormina, Italy, on September 20th, 2010, a resolution was approved by unanimous vote to revise, amend, consolidate and update the original statute.

*Statute***SECTION I****INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SYMPOSIA ON MORPHOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
(ICSMS)**

**Article 1.** The International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences is a permanent body, responsible for the organisation of these official International Symposia on the Morphological Sciences.

**Article 2.**

1. The *International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences (ICSMS)* is constituted by *Ordinary Members*. These are: a) past presidents of the Symposia; b) presidents-elect of future Symposia, i.e. persons who have officially committed themselves to lead and organise precise future Symposium and whose presentations were fully approved through majority vote by the components of the International Committee (*Members and Delegates*; for these, see later: Articles 6.1; 6.2) at the plenary session of each Symposium.
2. The International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences will have a President, elected among Members who have already led a Symposium, a Secretary General, a Secretary and a Vice-President, elected among Members and Delegates.
3. The President, the Secretary General, the Secretary and the Vice-President, compose the Executive Board (see also Article 20). They are elected by the official components (*Members and Delegates*; Articles 6.1; 6.2) of the ICSMS for a 5 year term, during a plenary session of the ICSMS, and the same position can be renewed only once (for a total of 10 years).

The Past-President (e.g. the last President-elect that concluded his mandate) is component of the Executive Board for the same period of the following President-elect of ICSMS.

The President designated to organize the incoming ISMS (indicated by the number of the Symposium) is component of the Executive Board for the period of organization of the Symposium.

If the President-elect of the ICSMS leaves his position a new President must be elected by the *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS (following the rules of the Article 2).

If the President of the ICSMS is occasionally temporarily unable to exert his function, this is exceptionally exercised “ad hoc” by the Vice-President or by a Member of the Executive Board for no more than one year and under the designation of the President-elect. After this period is expired, a new President must be elected according to the rules of Article 2.2 . The same rules can be applied to the Secretary General, i.e. in case of *temporary release* he can be substituted by the Secretary or by a Member of the Executive Board for no more than one year and under the designation of the President-elect. After this period has expired and in case of permanent release (more than one year), a new Secretary General will be elected according to the rules of Article 2.2.

4. Each officer (*Member* or *Delegate*) of the ICSMS, who wishes to relinquish his (her) position or completes the term of officer, may be awarded the honorific title of Honorary President, Honorary Secretary General, upon approval of the plenary session of the International Committee of *Members and Delegates* of a report showing that he (she) has rendered outstanding services to the ICSMS for at least ten years.

Members that have rendered outstanding services to the ICSMS for at least ten years may be awarded the honorific title of Honorary Vice-President, on proposal of the Executive Board and upon approval of the plenary session of the International Committee of Members and Delegates.

Only one title of Honorary President, one of Honorary Secretary General and two of Honorary Vice-Presidents can be given. In other words, the ICSMS can have only one Honorary Presidents, only one Honorary Secretary General and only two Honorary Vice-Presidents Honorary Members, i.e.: Honorary President, Honorary Secretary General and Honorary Vice-Presidents, are regularly admitted to the meetings of the Executive Board and are consulted in regard of the decisions assumed by the Executive Board itself.

## **SECTION II**

### **SPONSORS**

**Article 3.** Sponsors are Institutions that contribute to the organisation of each Symposium selected by the local Organising Committee.

## **SECTION III**

### **HONORARY NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

#### **Article 4.**

1. There will be an Honorary National Committee, made up of official entities, which will support each Symposium.
2. The Honorary National Committee will be selected by the President(s) and local Organising Committee components.
3. For each Symposium one or more Honorary President(s) can be nominated, selected by the President and local Organising Committee components among internationally renowned and outstanding scientific personalities. For the designation of Honorary President(s) of a specific Symposium, consultation with the Executive Board of the ICSMS as well as its *Members* and

*Delegates*, is recommended. This nomination of Honorary President(s) is limited to the specific Symposium and terminate with it.

#### **SECTION IV**

##### **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE ICSMS**

###### **Article 5.**

1. Honorary Membership of the ICSMS may be awarded to internationally renowned scientists, by virtue of their scientific achievements in the field of the morphological sciences. The number of Honorary *Members* cannot be more than 20% of the total number of the official *Members* of the ICSMS,
2. Candidatures for Honorary Membership can be presented by two official *members* of the ICSMS. Incoming (new) Honorary *Members* of the ICSMS are ratified as such after majority vote of all *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS.

#### **SECTION V**

##### **INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF DELEGATES**

###### **Article 6.**

1. The International Committee of *Delegates* is an advisory body of the International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences for one or more Symposia.
2. The International Committee of *Delegates* is constituted by colleagues selected and elected by *Members* of the ICSMS from among renowned morphologists, being –as a rule- one *Delegate* for each country. In case the President of a specific Symposium were decided to be two, the

second fellow can be exceptionally admitted as *Delegate*. The above nomination must have the general agreement (majority vote) of the official *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS.

The duties of the *Delegates* are related to advise and actively support and help those among the new *Members* who have committed themselves -after rotation- to lead and organise a Symposium. Furthermore, *Delegates* are much encouraged to organise future Symposia in their own, thus becoming ordinary official *Members* (see Article 2.1).

## **SECTION VI**

### **SPECIAL GUESTS**

#### **Article 7.**

1. In each Symposium there might be special guests, from among internationally renowned scientists, by virtue of their scientific achievement in the field of the morphological sciences.
2. The Special Guests will be appointed by the President and the local Organising Committee of the specific Symposium.

## **SECTION VII**

### **SYMPOSIUM PRESIDENT(S)**

#### **Article 8.**

1. The President(s) of the Symposia is(are) nominated after specific request to the Executive Board of the ICSMS and/or its *Members* and then elected by the International Committee of ordinary official *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS (during a specific session of the official meeting of the ICSMS in the Symposia).



2. The President(s)-elect of each Symposium become(s) automatically (a) full *Member(s)* of the ICSMS.
3. The President-elect of a specific Symposium will appoint the Local Organising Committee.

## **SECTION VIII**

### **LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

#### **Article 9.**

1. The Organising Committee will have the following officers:
  - a) President(s)
  - b) Vice-President
  - c) Scientific Co-ordinator
  - d) Finance Co-ordinator
  - e) Secretary and Public Relations Co-ordinator
  - f) Co-ordinator of Scientific Sessions, Publications and Exhibits
  - g) Social Program Co-ordinator

#### **Article 10.** There will be the following Local Committees:

- a) Scientific Committee
- b) Finance Committee
- c) Secretary and Public Relations Committee
- d) Committee of Scientific Sessions, Publications and Exhibits
- e) Social Program Committee

**Article 11.** The Local Committees will be presided over by a co-ordinator and will be made up of a variable number of members, nominated by the co-ordinator and approved by the Local Organising Committee.

**Article 12.** The charges of the Local Organising Committee and its subcommittees will be given by the President and by the Local Organising Committee, respectively.

## **SECTION IX**

### **SITE OF THE SYMPOSIUM**

**Article 13.** The site of each Symposium is the Country in which the President resides.

## **SECTION X**

### **SITE OF THE ICSMS**

**Article 14.** The site of the ICSMS and of its Executive Board is the address site where the President and/or General Secretary reside.

## **SECTION XI**

### **LANGUAGE**

**Article 15.** The language of the Symposia will be English. The language of the country in which each Symposium is held and other languages may be also utilised as long as simultaneous translation is provided.

## **SECTION XII**

### **AWARDS**

**Article 16.** Awards may be given during each Symposium upon the suggestion of the President(s) and Local Organising Committee following consultation with *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS.

- a) The “*Anatomist Excellence Award*” may be given to the anatomists who most distinguished himself (herself) on a world wide basis during the period preceding 2 or 3 Symposia.
- b) The “*Leonardo da Vinci Award*” may be given to the morphologist who has rendered the most outstanding services in the establishment and improvement of international relations among morphological institutions, including development and organisation of International Symposia, during the period preceding 2 or 3 Symposia.
- c) The “*Best scientific papers Award*” may be given to a maximum of three papers among those presented during each Symposium.

### **Article 17.**

1. Awards a) and b) will be given after presentation of their candidature nomination in a written form to one of the members of the Executive Board of the ICSMS from at least three *Members* and/or *Delegates* of the ICSMS. Candidatures should be presented at least five months before the established dates of the Symposium and must have the majority approval of all *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS. The official election will take place during the meeting of the ICSMS of a specific symposium.
2. Award c) will be given by the ICSMS, after selection of an “ad hoc” jury composed of 2-4 individuals from the ICSMS *Members* and *Delegates*.

**SECTION XIII****MEETINGS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (IOC)****Article 18.**

1. As a rule, meetings of the International Organising Committee will be held prior to and during each Symposium. If there is no quorum at the scheduled time for each session, the meeting will take place after 30 minutes with the number of *Members* and *Delegates* present. Decisions will be made by majority vote of the *Members* and *Delegates* present.
2. If necessary, the Executive Board of the ICSMS as well as the *Members* and *Delegates* can also meet at any time, preferably at the occasion of general Congresses or Events prior advise to all components of the ICSMS.

**Article 19.** Decisions pertinent to future Symposia will be made during the preceding Symposium by the *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS. *Members and Delegates who are unable* to attend the meeting of a specific Symposium can designate an “ad hoc” substitute with a specific signed letter addressed in time to the Secretary General.

*Members* and/or *Delegates* of the ICSMS who do not attend the meetings for 3 consecutive Symposia or do not maintain effective relations with the Executive Board and/or the official *Members* of the ICSMS –without a pertinent justification- are automatically excluded by the above ICSMS.

**Article 20.** Activities and decisions of the ICSMS will be the responsibility of its President, Past-President, Secretary General, Secretary, Vice-President.

## **SECTION XIV**

### **SYMBOL OF THE ICSMS**

**Article 21.** The official symbol of the ICSMS has been institutionalised at the General Assembly of the ICSMS during the VIII International Symposium of Morphological Sciences held in Rome (July 1988). It consists in a bronze medal with engraved the *logo* of the International Symposia on Morphological Sciences on one side which reproduces the “*Vitruvius Homo* by Leonardo da Vinci”, symbol of the perfect anatomic parameters of the human body. On the other side of the medal there is the engrave, chronologically arranged, of the celebrated Symposia, including the city, state and names of related Presidents.

At the end of each Symposium, during the closing ceremony, the medal will be passed from the Past President of the Symposium to the new President-elect who will keep it safe until the end of his Symposium. Similarly, an official flag with the same logo of the International Symposia on Morphological Sciences (see above) will be passed from one President to the next. This ceremony will serve to maintain vivid the tradition of the Symposia and assure their continuity passing from one nation to the other as a sign of the world wide value of the International Morphological Symposia on Morphological Sciences.

## **SECTION XV**

### **VITALITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND INTERNATIONALIZATION OF ISMS**

**Article 22. Scheduling of Symposia.** In order to ensuring a regular and adequate participation to the ISMS, each Symposium, as a rule, is programmed to be held every two years. Modification to the above time schedule can be approved under special and motivated circumstances and must have the general agreement (majority vote) of the official *Members* and *Delegates* of the ICSMS.

**Article 23. Symposium Advisory Committee.** In order to sustain the President of a Symposium during the organization of the scientific program and to ensure consistency of the scientific program of each ISMS with the objectives of the present statute, an International Advisory Committee, on request, will support the President of the incoming meeting in the organization of incoming ISMS. The Committee is made of 3 persons selected among *Members* and *Delegated* by the Executive Board of ICSMS. The President elected of the incoming ISMS may ask to this Committee a collaboration in preparing the scientific program.

## **SECTION XVI**

### **AMENDMENTS**

**Article 24.** Amendments to this Statute may be made by majority vote of the *Members* of the ICSMS.

*Approved in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on July 26, 1982, revised, amended, consolidated and updated according to the resolutions of the International Committee of Symposia on Morphological Sciences at the plenary session held in Rome, Italy, on September 15th 1999, in Belgrade, Serbia-Montenegro on June 8th 2005 and in Taormina, Italy on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010*

#### ***The Executive Board of the ICSMS:***

***Prof. Dr. Tsuneo Fujita, President (represented by delegation of the Secretary Prof. Dr. Yasyo Uchiyama)***

***Prof. Dr. Guido Macchiarelli, Secretary General***

***Prof. Dr. Gordana Teofiolsky-Parapid, Vice-President***

***Prof. Dr. Yasuo Uchiyama, Secretary***

**Taormina, September 20th, 20110**