



International Association of Women in Radio and Television

Statutes 2013

Approved at the member's meeting in Casablanca, Morocco October 26th 2013

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Changes approved in the Member's Meeting during the Biennial, 2015, held in New Delhi

IAWRT was founded in 1951 as a network of professional media women. The organization has a worldwide membership of women engaged in electronic and/or digital media production, broadcasting and management. IAWRT is a non-governmental organization (NGO) in Consultative Status Cat II with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and also an affiliate with the UNDP/NGO.

Article 1

The mission of the International Association of Women in Radio and Television is to advance the impact of women working in the electronic and/or digital media. IAWRT shall encourage gender justice initiatives and ensure that women's views and values are an integral part of electronic programming."

Article 2 – Goals

IAWRT aims to work worldwide to promote the entry, development and advancement of women working in radio, television, film and digital media in order to raise the quality by:

- Raising awareness on gender perspective in program production, development issues and management.
- Supporting the development, and enhancing the professional quality of members.
- Engaging in the international debate on gender issues and women in the media, making noticeable impact.
- Developing IAWRT's global network as a professional and personal resource bank.
- Raising awareness on journalistic skills and journalism ethics, the right to free speech and the responsibility this entails for media professionals.
- Acting to support and defend media women fighting for respect, independence and the freedom to utilize media skills to ensure that women's points of view are heard and respected and their needs and rights recognized.

Article 3 – Implementation

Activities IAWRT implements to achieve the above mentioned goals:

- International conferences with workshops, screenings, lectures, professional skills and safety training and professional networking to facilitate the exchange of ideas, experience and technical knowledge.
- Regional meetings in different geographical areas.
- Documentary Awards to publicly recognize radio- TV and web documentaries that demonstrate the ability and creativity of women producers/directors.
- Study and scholarship programs.
- Media projects to highlight gender injustice in different parts of the world.
- Participation in international meetings.
- Active cooperation with relevant international and local organizations. Information sharing through Newsletter, website and social media.
- Media research.

Article 4 – Membership

Applications for membership in countries where there are local IAWRT chapters will be handled and approved by respective Chapter Head. All other applications must be approved by the International Board. The Board and the Secretariat shall be immediately informed of new members in the chapters.

Regular Members

- Members actively engaged, or with a minimum of 3 years of experience in production or management, for broadcasting, audio, film or digital multimedia.
- Women actively engaged in other positions related to the media fields mentioned above, such as researchers or media teachers.

Only regular members qualify for voting rights.

Associate members

- Students actively engaged in studies leading to careers in the field of electronic media or fields closely related to broadcasting. The goals and aims of such members must be in line with the stated goals of IAWRT.

Honorary Members

The International Board may appoint Honorary Members who have contributed significantly to the electronic media or toward the stated goals of IAWRT

Article 5 – Organizational Structure

The Biennial Members Meeting is IAWRT's highest authority.

The International Board is responsible for the daily running of the organization and must oversee all activities and all financial and administrative commitments.

Chapters can be established as country or regional entities. These must be approved by the International Board and governed according to the chapter procedures laid down in the Guiding Documents. Members of the chapters belong to the international organization and their membership applications must be approved by the International Board.

When deemed necessary and financially viable the International Board can establish a Secretariat. The Secretariat reports to the International Board and carries out policies and instructions as laid down by the International Board.

The Secretariat is governed by the procedures laid down in the IAWRT Guiding documents.

Article 6 – International Board

The members of the International Board shall consist of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and three members-at-large. Two additional members may be co-opted by the International Board, but without voting rights. Criteria for co-option could be linked to sponsors, UN/ECOSOC/UNDPI, financial or legal expertise or other resources needed.

The elected members of the International Board shall represent a diversity of geographical regions, age and media experience.

An elected member of the International Board may serve no more than maximum three 2-year terms. This is applicable for all positions except for a Board member/Vice President/Treasurer/Secretary who is elected President directly following her maximum three 2-year terms.

Any member of the Board who is elected President may then serve up to two 2-year terms as President. The President cannot be re-elected in another board position directly after her Presidency.

The President is the official representative and spokesperson of IAWRT and shall interpret the aims and goals of the organization, and has once a year to report to the membership. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside.

The International Board shall elect the IAWRT representative responsible for our Consultative Status Cat II with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

Article 7 – Governance

The International Board, the Chapters and the members should adhere to, and be guided by the IAWRT Guiding Documents. These documents represent the practical day-to-day interpretation of the Statutes.

The International Board may amend the Guiding Documents, but amendments must be reported in the Board's annual report to the membership, and approved by majority vote at the next Biennial Members Meeting.

Article 8 – Committees

The International Board should appoint any committee/s necessary to carry out the functions of the organization.

IAWRT has the Nominating Committee, which has the responsibility to present a list of candidates recommended for election to the International Board at the Biennial Members Meeting.

The Nominating Committee shall call for nominations from the membership, to be received no later than three months prior to the elections. Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the Biennial Members Meeting.

The Nominating Committee of at least three members shall be proposed and elected by the members present at each Biennial Members Meeting following the election of the International Board.

Members of the Nominating Committee should have a good overview of the current membership, and where possible represent geographical and media diversity. The new Nominating Committee may elect its own chair.

The Nominating Committee shall be charged with the responsibility to select candidates who together represent the diversity defined in article 6.

Article 9 – Country/Regional Chapters

Country/Regional Chapters may be established for members to interact, share media information, arrange training and engage in matters of country and regional interest.

- A minimum of seven members is needed to form a Chapter.
- Country or regional Chapters shall be approved by the International Board. Upon approval each Chapter shall be presented with a Charter confirming its IAWRT Chapter Status.
- Chapter Activities shall reflect the goals and objectives of IAWRT.
- A percentage of the dues collected from chapter members shall go to the international organisation. The percentage shall be recommended by the International Board and approved by the Biennial Members Meeting.
- Establishing country/regional Chapters shall be governed by the rules as outlined in the IAWRT Guiding Documents.
- All Chapters shall submit Annual Report – both narrative and financial by 31 December every year.
- The International Board has the right to propose dissolution of a national or regional chapter because of conduct inconsistent or actions prejudicial to the good order of IAWRT. The decision to dissolve must be approved by the Members Meeting. Upon dissolution all funds, assets and records on hand shall be accounted for and remitted to the Treasurer of IAWRT International or an organization that IAWRT approves of.

Article 10 – Voting Rights

All regular members whose dues are current shall have the right to vote in all elections and matters requiring a vote for approval. Majority vote of all accredited members in attendance at the Biennial Members Meeting shall rule in all official matters pertaining to IAWRT.

By approval of the International Board, a referendum vote may be solicited by post or e-mail

Voting privileges at Biennial Members Meetings are not granted to absentee members by proxy or by absentee ballot. Only one vote shall be granted to each voting member.

Article 11 – Dues

The amount of dues for regular and associate members shall be recommended by the International Board and approved at the Biennial Members Meeting.

Failing to pay membership fees for three successive years may lead to suspension of membership.

Article 12 – Amendments to the Statutes

Proposed amendments to these statutes must be submitted to the International Board three months in advance of the Members Meeting.

Amendments to the statutes shall be approved by 2/3 vote of the members in attendance at the Member's Meeting.

Article 13 – Dissolution

Dissolution of the organisation shall be voted upon at the Biennial Members Meeting or by a referendum vote by post or e-mail and shall be determined by a 2/3 vote of the membership.

The International Board shall appoint a committee to close the business and the financial books of the organization, and dispose of existing funds and records. The International Board shall approve the manner for distribution of funds and distribution of records.

Dissolution of Chapters is described in Article 9, Country/Regional Chapters.
