



# European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

## STATUTE

### CHAPTER I. ESTABLISHMENT, AIMS, ACTIVITIES

#### ART. 1: ESTABLISHMENT – NAME – LEGAL SEAT - DURATION

A non-profit association named EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMISTS is herewith established.

The Association is governed by this statute and has its legal seat in Italy, Venice, Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore 8, 30124.

The Council of the Association has full capacity to transfer its legal seat and to open new offices and websites.

“EAERE” is the abbreviation of the Association.

The Association has unlimited duration and can be dissolved by deliberation of the Extraordinary General Assembly of the members.

#### ART. 2: AIMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The aims of the Association are: (a) to contribute to the development and application of environmental and resource economics as a science in Europe, (b) to encourage and improve communication between teachers, researchers and students in environmental and resource economics in the different European countries, (c) to develop and encourage cooperation between university level teaching institutions and research institutions in Europe.

The aims of the Association are mainly accomplished by organising workshops, conferences, events, exhibitions, seminars, meetings, and discussions, by cooperating in editing professional journals, and by promoting postgraduate education for junior scholars.

### CHAPTER II. MEMBERS

#### ART. 3: MEMBERS

The Association consists of the following member categories:

- Honorary
- Individual
- Institutional

(a) For their fundamental contribution to the establishment of the Association, Professor Henk Folmer (The Netherlands); Professor Karl-Göran Mäler (Sweden); Professor Juan Martinez-Alier (Spain); Professor Ignazio Musu (Italy); (the late) Professor David Pearce (United Kingdom); Professor Rüdiger Pethig (Germany); Professor Domenico Siniscalco (Italy) are **honorary members**.

(b) the category **individual members** gathers individuals whose application for membership was accepted by the Council of the Association and was subsequently ratified by the General Assembly of Members.

(c) the category **institutional members** gathers associations, local public institutions, and other public or private institutions, with or without legal status, whatever their name, whose application for membership was accepted by the Council of the Association and was subsequently ratified by the General Assembly of Members.

On the basis of an application for membership, the Council of the Association examines the eligibility of the candidate in accordance with the following conditions:

- the category **individual members** is open to persons who by their profession, training and/or function are involved in environmental and resource economics as a science.
- the category **institutional members** is open to associations, and public and private institutions which operate in fields connected with the aims of the Association, or which pursue the aims and materially support the activities of the Association, or individual initiatives promoted by the Association, by providing human, organisational or financial resources.

If the Council of the Association approves the application for membership, the candidate acquires the status of individual or institutional member at the same time as the Association receives the relevant dues or material support. The decision of the Council of the Association must be ratified by the General Assembly of Members at the first scheduled meeting following such decision.

If the Council of the Association does not approve the application for membership, the candidate may require that his/her/its application be submitted to the General Assembly of Members, who will take a final decision.

Members are formally bound to these Statutes, to the Association's rules, and to the resolutions of the Association's boards.

#### **ART. 4: LOSS OF THE STATUS OF MEMBER**

The status of member ends by death of the member, by voluntary written withdrawal or by decision of the General Assembly of Members in the following cases:

- (a) if the member is subject to a procedure of liquidation or dissolution, or to a insolvency procedure, whatever it may be.
- (b) in the case of individual members, if membership dues are in arrears for one year; in the case of institutional members, if the Association has not received further material support for one year;
- (c) on the recommendation of the Council of the Association. In this case, the member in question has the opportunity to argument against the proposal of ending his/her/its status of member. On the first appropriate occasion, the General Assembly takes a final decision by examining both the recommendation of the Council and the arguments of the member in question

The General Assembly's decision is taken by the majority of members present or represented.

The motivated loss of the status of member decided by the Assembly must be communicated in writing to the member in question by letter, telegram, fax or electronic mail.

The loss of the status of member – for whatever reason – does not exempt the former member from any previous obligations towards the Association and does not entitle the member to the reimbursement of the dues or discontinuation of material support .

### **CHAPTER III. THE BOARDS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

#### **ART. 5: THE BOARDS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Boards of the Association are:

- (a) the General Assembly of Members;
- (b) the Council of the Association;
- (c) the President;
- (d) the Board of Auditors.

#### **TITLE I. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS**

#### **ART. 6: COMPOSITION**

The General Assembly of Members consists of all members in good standing of the Association. It establishes the guidance of the Association and takes strategic decisions which all of the boards of the Association should follow.

The General Assembly of Members is Extraordinary in case of amendments of these Statutes and in case of dissolution of the Association. It is Ordinary in all the other cases.

#### **ART. 7: POWERS**

In particular, the General Assembly of Members deliberates on:

- (a) the budgets and final accounts, within seven months from the end of the financial year which ends on December 31 of each year;
- (b) the general guidance of the Association;
- (c) the election of members of the Council of the Association, except for the secretary general;
- (d) the election of members of the Board of Auditors;
- (e) the by-laws of the Association;
- (f) on the acquisition and the loss of the membership status according to articles 3 and 4 of this Statute;
- (g) on any other issue concerning the activities of the Association.

#### **ART. 8: CONVOCAATION**

The President shall convene a General Assembly of Members at least four weeks before the date set for the meeting. Convocation is made through posting in the Association's website and through written convocation by letter, telegram, fax or electronic mail, specifying the agenda, the venue which may be different from the legal seat, the date and time of the first and second convocation. The first and second convocation should be scheduled on different dates.

The General Assembly of Members is convened at least once per year and whenever the President believes it serves the interest of the Association. The General Assembly is also convened either upon request of at least half of the members of the Association's Council or upon request of at least one third of the members, who send a written request containing the items to be discussed.

The General Assembly that decides on the amendments to these Statutes or on the dissolution of the Association is convened by the President at least two months before the date set for the General Assembly.

#### **ART. 9. QUORUM**

The first convened General Assembly can only validly deliberate if at least half the number of the members is present. The second convened General Assembly can validly deliberate with the same agenda irrespective of the number of members present.

Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes.

For amendments of these Statutes or for resolutions about the dissolution of the Association, the first convocation of the General Assembly can only validly deliberate if at least two thirds of the voting members are present. Resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes. In its second convocation, it can validly deliberate irrespective to the number of individuals present. In the General Assembly second convocation, resolutions are passed by a simple majority of votes.

For decisions on the dissolution of the Association and how the assets of the Association will be devolved, the General Assembly can only validly deliberate if at least three quarters of the voting members are present. Resolutions are passed with the votes of at least three quarters of the voting members.

#### **ART 10: RIGHT TO VOTE**

Every member has the right to vote at the General Assembly of Members.

Each member has the right to only one vote.

Every member may authorize in writing another member to represent him/her at the General Assembly. No member can represent more than two other members. Authorizations must be mentioned in the minutes of the General Assembly and included in the Association's archives.

#### **ART. 11. THE ASSEMBLY**

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 members present or represented.

The General Assembly appoints one secretary and, if needed, two or more scrutineers.

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 ballot. In this case the use of telecommunications technology is allowed as defined in the Assembly proceedings.

In the case of written votes for members of the Council to be elected according to Article 12 of these Statutes, 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).

The decisions taken by the General Assembly are recorded and signed by the President and the Secretary. The minutes can be consulted by the members at the legal seat of the Association.

### **TITLE II. THE COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION**

#### **ART. 12: COMPOSITION**

The Council of the Association consists of eight members: the President, the President-Elect, the Past-President, the Secretary General and four ordinary elected members.

The Council shall appoint one of the ordinary elected members as Vice-President. The Vice President assumes the duties of the President if the President is not able to execute these.

Elections will be held every two years.

In each election the President-Elect will be elected out of two candidates, who are nominated under provisions described in Article 17. The person elected will serve for two years as President-Elect, two years as President, and two year as Past-President.

In each election two ordinary members of Council will be elected out of four candidates. Each member of the Council will serve for four years according to article 17 of these Statutes.

The Secretary-General will be appointed by the Council of the Association and will serve for a period of four years.

#### **ART. 13: CONVOCATION AND VALIDITY OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND VOTES**

The Council of the Association shall convene at least once a year on the President's convocation. The President may also convene the Council of the Association whenever he/she considers it in the interest of the Association or if so requested by one third of its members.

The Council meetings will be convened 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 present or absent members have renounced the need for convocation before the meeting.

A member may authorize another member of the Council of the Association to represent him/her. No member can represent more than two other members.

The Council of the Association cannot validly deliberate unless at least half the members is present.

Decisions shall be taken by simple majority of votes of members present or represented. The President (or his/her representative) has the casting vote in the event of a tie.

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 upon request.

The Secretary General prepares minutes for every meeting. The minutes of the meeting are recorded in an appropriate register, signed by the President and kept by the Secretary General, who will send copies to all members of the Council of the Association.

#### **ART. 14: ACTIVITIES AND POWERS**

The Council of the Association 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:

- (a) organisation of the activities of the Association;
- (b) admission of individual or institutional members;
- (c) proposal of termination of the status of members;
- (d) preparation of the annual report to the General Assembly about the state of the Association;
- (e) appointment of executive officers of the Association;
- (f) determination of membership dues.

The Council may delegate well-defined duties to one or more persons while retaining ultimate responsibility. The specific tasks and the date of start and end of the proxy must be clearly stated by the Council of the Association.

If no member of the Council has the nationality of the state where the Association is legally seated, the Council promptly chooses one member of the Association with this nationality and gives special authorization to him/her for supporting the President in representing the Association in legal matters.

### **TITLE III. THE PRESIDENT**

#### **ART: 15: APPOINTMENT, FUNCTIONS, AND POWERS**

The President shall preside over the Council and the meetings of the General Assembly of Members and shall represent the Association in general and in particular in legal matters.

The term of office is two years, starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, and cannot be extended immediately.

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.

After completing a full term of office, the President becomes Past-President until succeeded in that position.

The Past-President assumes the duties of the President if the Vice-President is not able to execute these.

If the Past-President is unavailable these duties shall devolve upon a member of the Council appointed by the same Council.

### **TITLE IV. THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

#### **ART. 16: APPOINTMENT, FUNCTIONS, AND POWERS**

The Council of the Association will appoint one member of the Association as Secretary General, who will serve for a period of four years.

The Secretary General coordinates the offices of the Association, is in charge of the Association's Secretariat and carries out any other duties assigned by the President or by the Council of the Association. The President and the Council of the Association decide the policy for the progress of his/her duties.

In particular, the Secretary General is responsible for the minutes of the General Assemblies of Members and meetings of the Council of the Association, looks after the correspondence and membership archives, transmits the convocations of the General Assemblies and looks after the relations with public administrations, local institutions, banks and any other institutions.

The Secretary General is responsible also for the administrative management of the Association, keeps accounts and keeps books.

## **TITLE V. THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

### **ART. 17: APPOINTMENT, FUNCTIONS, AND POWERS**

Before February 1st of each year at the end of which the elected 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, who cannot be self-nominated for any position in the Council.

The Nominating Committee proposes to the General Assembly two names of individual members in good standing for the position of President and four names of individual members in good standing for the position of elected members of the Council. Additionally, any group of at least one fourth of the members may nominate candidates who are then added to the proposals of the Nominating Committee. The candidates with the highest number of votes are elected for the respective positions.

## **TITLE VI. THE BOARD OF AUDITORS**

### **ART. 18: APPOINTMENT, FUNCTIONS, POWERS**

The Board of Auditors is a board of the Association comprised of two persons of proved professional competence, who are not members. The Board of Auditors shall report on the compatibility of the financial management to the provisions of law and to this Statute to the annual General Assembly deliberating on the approval of the Association's accounts. The Board of Auditors' written report shall be enclosed with the Association's final balance.

The General Assembly of members appoints the Auditors on the recommendation of the Council of the Association. Auditors will serve for two years.

The appointment of Auditor is incompatible with any other appointment in the Association.

## **CHAPTER IV. ASSETS**

### **ART. 19: ASSETS**

The assets of the Association are comprised of any movable or immovable goods pertaining to the Association by any means, as well as any rights on the assets of the Association. The assets of the Association initially consist of a bank account.

The assets and the financial means of the Association must be used exclusively and completely for furthering its aims.

### **ART. 20: THE REVENUES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

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

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

### **ART. 21: ACCOUNTS**

The financial year starts on January 1st and ends on December 31st of each year.

For every fiscal year, the Council of the Association shall prepare a budget for the coming financial year and the final accounts for the General Assembly of Members' approval.

The final accounts and their annexes shall be available for members at the legal seat of the Association during the ten-day period preceding the Assembly convened for their approval. A copy of the final accounts is sent to all those members requiring it.

## **CHAPTER V. FINAL PROVISIONS**

### **ART. 22: DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The General Assembly of Members that deliberates on the dissolution of the Association shall appoint one or more liquidators preferably amongst its members.

Following the dissolution, the General Assembly of Members determines the way that the assets of the Association will be devolved through contributions to no-profit institutions for support of research in the field of environmental and resource economics.

**ART. 23: LAWS OF REFERENCE**

All matters not covered in the present Statute is regulated by the by-laws or by default, the Italian law.