



**International Colour Association  
Internationale Vereinigung für die Farbe  
Association Internationale de la Couleur**

## **Statutes**

(Based on the statutes approved by vote of the regular members in Winterthur, Switzerland, 10 August 1988. Modified by the 2002-2005 and 2006-2009 AIC Executive Committees, and approved by vote of the regular members in the General Assembly in Hangzhou, China, 14 July 2007. With a modification introduced by the 2006-2009 AIC Executive Committee, presented at the General Assembly 2009 in Sydney, and approved by vote of the regular members on 3 December 2009. With a modification introduced by the 2010-2013 AIC Executive Committee, presented at the General Assembly 2013 in Newcastle, and approved by the regular members. With a modification introduced by the 2016-2017 Auditors and 2018-2019 AIC Executive Committee, presented at the General Assembly 2019 in Buenos Aires and the General Assembly 2021 in Milan [online], and approved by the regular members.)

### Article 1. Name

The

**International Colour Association  
Internationale Vereinigung für die Farbe  
Association Internationale de la Couleur**

was founded on 21st June, 1967 in Washington, D.C. When referred to by initials, the abbreviation AIC will be used.

### Article 2. Objects

The objects of the AIC are to encourage research in all aspects of colour, to disseminate the knowledge gained from this research, and to promote its application to the solution of problems in the fields of science, art, design and industry on an international basis.

The AIC shall also aim for a close cooperation with existing international organizations, such as, for example, the International Commission on Illumination, the International Organization for Standardization and the International Commission for Optics, regarding issues concerned with colour. The AIC will neither duplicate the work of these bodies nor will it attempt to assume any of their responsibilities.

### Article 3. Congresses and Meetings

The AIC shall be responsible for arranging international colour congresses to take place at convenient and appropriate intervals, nominally every 2 years. The AIC will also be responsible for arranging midterm meetings, which will take place one year after the congress.

All meetings, including the congresses, shall be organized by regular members on a self-sustaining basis without incurring expense to the AIC. The AIC may also organize or promote special international or regional congresses or symposia.

## Article 4. Membership

Three categories of AIC membership exist:

- regular member
- associate member
- individual member

### Regular members

A colour organization from a country or a region, at the discretion of the AIC executive committee, can become a regular member of the AIC. To be admitted, the organization shall be one

- (a) whose aims are essentially in conformity with the objects of the AIC as defined in the first paragraph of article 2;
- (b) which is broadly representative of those people in its country or region interested in these aims;
- (c) which is properly constituted so as to enable an authorized representative to speak on its behalf.

Also, a national colour committee may be set up representative of the various organizations and interests concerned with colour in a country or region, and this committee may then apply to become a regular member of the AIC.

### Associate members

An international association can be admitted as an associate member if

- (a) its aims are related to particular aspects of colour;
- (b) it is internationally representative of those people interested in these aims;
- (c) it is properly constituted so as to enable an authorized representative to speak on its behalf.

Associate members may take part in the activities of the AIC and receive the information and documents intended for regular members. They shall, however, have no right to vote.

### Individual members

Persons may be affiliated with the AIC as individual members if they are interested in the aims of the AIC and show they have knowledge in the field of colour. To be affiliated as an individual member, a person must not be from a country or region that is already represented by an AIC regular member.

Individual members may take part in the activities of the AIC and receive the information and documents intended for regular members. They shall, however, have no right to vote. They cannot make part of the AIC Executive Committee unless they belong to and are nominated by a regular member.

Admission of regular members, associate members, and individual members shall be decided by vote of the Executive Committee on receipt of a written application addressed to the President, and effective upon payment of an annual subscription fee. It will be the responsibility of the Executive Committee to determine whether the organization applying for membership satisfies the conditions mentioned above. The membership year corresponds to the calendar year.

Withdrawal of a regular member, an associate member or individual member is possible at the end of each calendar year; notice must be given in writing to the President and the Secretary at least three months in advance.

Expulsion of a regular or an associate member shall be upon majority vote of the Executive Committee on recognition that the conditions of membership are no longer met by the organization or upon non-payment of subscription fees. Expulsion of an individual member will be automatic on non-payment of subscription fees.

#### Article 5. Meeting of Delegates

A General Assembly meeting of delegates shall normally be held at least every 2 years on the occasion of each congress. If required, additional meetings may be held by a decision of the Executive Committee or at the request of a majority of the regular members. At least 3 months notice must be given for any meeting of delegates.

Each regular member can delegate any number of representatives from among its members to attend the meeting. Representatives of associate members shall also be entitled to take part, as well as individual members.

The meeting of delegates shall discuss all matters submitted to it by the Executive Committee or by a regular member or associate member.

#### Article 6. Resolutions

The Executive Committee and each regular member can require that a resolution be taken upon any matter. Resolutions shall be notified by means of a registered circular from the Executive Committee.

Each regular member shall have one vote. A formal letter written to the Secretary/Treasurer should name a proxy if the person representing a regular member cannot vote for the resolution or attend the election at the General Assembly. The regular members may vote in electronic (email) form by writing to the President within 60 days after receipt of the circular, or at a meeting of delegates designated in the circular. In this case, a delegate duly appointed by the regular member shall cast the vote.

The voting procedure for elections can be found in Article 7. Executive Committee.

Resolutions notified in the above manner are decided by a simple majority of the votes cast within the specified period.

The right is reserved for extraordinary resolutions —other than such mentioned in Article 9— to be taken by a meeting of delegates without prior notice, provided this is agreed by all those delegates present who are entitled to vote. No such resolution will be valid unless it is approved by an absolute majority of votes of all regular members.

#### Article 7. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the AIC, the preparation and execution of resolutions, elections and meetings of delegates and shall represent the AIC in any discussions or negotiations with other bodies.

The Executive Committee shall consist of a President, a Past President, a Vice President, a Secretary/Treasurer, and four ordinary members. The Past-President position is a “consultant” position or trustable advisor in order to benefit the work of the EC. The editor of the Journal of International Colour Association, JAIC, will be invited to attend every meeting of the Executive Committee.

One member of the Executive Committee shall always belong to a regular member organization in whose country the next congress is to take place. The country hosting the congress should appoint that member. That member should also be unanimously endorsed by the current EC. If that member is not endorsed by the current EC, then the country hosting the congress should propose another member. The other members of the Executive Committee shall each belong to one of the other regular member organizations. The membership of the Executive Committee should be such that no regular member is represented by more than one person. The exception to this rule is the Past President.

The Executive Committee shall be elected for a 2-year term commencing from the beginning of the calendar year after the election. The ordinary members of the Executive Committee are able to stay on for one consecutive 2-year term if they so choose. A re-election will not be necessary. Ordinary EC members who wish to stay on for a consecutive second 2-year term must make their intentions known at least 6 months before nomination requests are sent out to regular members for the available ordinary EC positions. If an ordinary member of the Executive Committee wishes to serve a second 2-year term at some time other than the consecutive 2-year period after their first term, they are free to do so, but in that case, they must be re-elected. The retiring Vice President shall automatically continue as President of the Executive Committee for an additional 2-year term and will then have the role of Past President for a 2-year term. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be eligible for three re-elections.

When there is an even result in any decision, the President shall have the casting vote to make the final decision.

Nominations for the next term may be made, with agreement of the candidates, by the Executive Committee or by regular members. Nominations by the Executive Committee, taking into consideration as far as possible an even distribution of the officers among regular members, must be sent to the regular members at least six months before the next congress. Endorsements are not necessary for candidates nominated by the Executive Committee. Nominations by a regular member organization must reach the Secretary/Treasurer at least five months before the congress to enable sufficient time for the submission of the slate of candidates to the Executive Committee and the regular members.

A candidate must be a member of an AIC regular member organization or an individual AIC member. All nominations, other than from the EC, must come from regular members only. Each candidate will represent the regular member nominating them, whether or not the nominating regular member is their home organization. Each candidate must indicate their acceptance to represent the nominating regular member by sending an acceptance letter (the term “letter” in these Statutes means a postal letter and/or a letter sent via email) to the nominating regular member organization. This letter should also indicate that the candidate is ready, willing and able to assume the responsibilities of the office for which he or she is being nominated. The letter should also mention why the candidate wants to serve in their nominated position on the Executive Committee. Thus, a nomination sent from the nominating regular member to the Secretary/Treasurer should contain the candidate’s curriculum vitae and the acceptance letter containing all the necessary information as outlined above.

Each candidate nominated by a regular member must be endorsed by one other regular member. It is necessary for the Secretary/Treasurer to send out all nomination information as a first step so that all regular members can familiarize themselves with the candidates and make a well-informed

decision on who to endorse. Endorsements shall be initiated exclusively by the Secretary/Treasurer with possible support from the nominating regular member, and not by the candidate or any other person representing the candidate. One month after the distribution of the slate of candidates, the Secretary/Treasurer should ask all regular members to endorse the candidates that they wish to support. A regular member can only endorse one candidate for the same Executive Committee position. If more than one endorsement is received for each candidate, only the first one will be the official one. The remainder will not be made public. If the Secretary/Treasurer does not receive one endorsement for each candidate, the nominating regular member of any candidate in need will be asked to seek the necessary endorsement to complete the required number of one. Should the Secretary/Treasurer be a candidate herself/himself, another EC member who is not a candidate should be appointed by the President to take over the tasks necessary to perform the election preparations as proxy for the Secretary/Treasurer.

On the basis of these nominations, an election shall be conducted at the General Assembly meeting of delegates at the congress. A person has the right to vote on behalf of a regular member if they have been duly appointed by this regular member. Such appointment should be made by letter from the regular member to the Secretary/Treasurer. An individual can represent their own regular member plus one other regular member as a proxy vote at one General Assembly Meeting. Please see Article 6 paragraph 2 on how to name a proxy. Votes can be cast preferably in person at the General Assembly or electronically when procedures have been put in place to maintain voting privacy. In an electronic voting procedure, only the person tallying the votes should know who voted from which regular member and for whom each vote was cast. The Vice President shall be elected first, then the Secretary/Treasurer by separate ballot. The ordinary members necessary to fill the available positions shall be elected in a third round of voting where the nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall become members of the new Executive Committee, together with the candidate nominated by the regular member hosting the next congress and unanimously endorsed by the current EC. Finally, two auditors shall be elected. Please see Article 8 paragraph 6 for more details.

If necessary, the current EC can appoint an additional non-voting EC member for registration and financial representation purposes. If such an appointment is made, this additional non-voting EC member should be in office as long as the current EC. A re-appointment by the next EC is possible if necessary.

In the case of the death or resignation of the President during the tenure of office, the Vice President shall succeed to the position of President for the rest of the term. If a vacancy occurs among the Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer or other regular members of the Executive Committee a by-election shall be held to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the tenure at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

#### Article 8. Financial

The members of the Executive Committee shall serve without financial compensation. Secretarial expenses will be met from the funds of the AIC derived from the subscriptions of regular members, associate members, and individual members. Travelling and other expenses of the Executive Committee will not be a charge on AIC funds.

The annual subscription of the regular members shall be the same for each regular member and shall be voted upon by a majority of votes of the delegates at the General Assembly during the congress. The annual subscription for an individual member shall be 25% of the regular member fee. The annual subscription for an associate member shall be determined by the Executive Committee but shall not be below 75% of the regular member fee. Upon decision of the Executive Committee, associate members can be admitted free, i.e., without paying an annual subscription.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep proper accounts of the income and expenditure of the AIC and shall present an annual financial statement to the Executive Committee and a statement of two-year progress to the General Assembly meeting of delegates during each congress.

The regular members shall not be under any financial obligation to the AIC beyond their member subscriptions.

The Executive Committee has the authority to raise funds only by means of voluntary contributions, membership subscriptions, or profit derived from sponsored congresses or symposia.

Together with the new EC, an election of two auditors who have to audit the bookkeeping must take place at each General Assembly. Candidates, preferably former experienced EC members, have to be nominated by the outgoing EC. The auditors start their work in the year following the year of their election with auditing the accounts of the previous fiscal year.

An auditor's report has to be published together with the annual financial statement of the Secretary/Treasurer according paragraph 3 of Article 8.

#### Article 9. Amendment of Statutes and Dissolution of the AIC

These statutes may be amended or the AIC dissolved only upon a vote by at least a two-thirds majority of all regular members and a discussion at the General Assembly during the congress having immediately preceded the vote. The vote will be conducted by postal/electronic ballot in order to include all members. In the event of dissolution, any balance remaining in the funds of the AIC shall be equally divided among regular members.

#### Article 10. Languages

The languages of the AIC shall be English, French and German. Each AIC member may choose which of these languages they wish to use for carrying on correspondence with the AIC. Since English is the most used international language, all correspondence to and from the members and any other important types of communication shall be in English. The Secretary usually writes in English. In the event of any dispute arising in the interpretation of the statutes, the English version shall be regarded as the official document.