

**STATUTES OF THE  
ASSOCIATION OF  
GEOLOGISTS AND MINING ENGINEERS  
OF CYPRUS**



# STATUTES

## STATUTES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS AND MINING ENGINEERS OF CYPRUS

### CHAPTER 1

#### NAME-HEADQUARTERS-OBJECTIVES

##### **Article 1**

1. A scientific Association shall be established as the collective organ of Cypriot professional, diploma-holding Geologists, Mining Engineers and other related fields of specialisation under the name "ASSOCIATION OF GEOLOGISTS AND MINING ENGINEERS OF CYPRUS".
2. The headquarters of the Association shall be in Nicosia.

##### **Article 2**

The objectives of the Association shall be:

1. To provide for the scientific elevation and legal professional safeguarding of its members.
2. To develop a spirit of co-operation, solidarity and professional ethics among its members.
3. To contribute to scientific research and full knowledge of Cyprus from the geological and mining points of view and to promote all related branches of science.
4. To contribute as an Association and as members to the economic development and general prosperity of the country.
5. To safeguard the scientific, professional and social status of its members.
6. To pursue any other objective related to the above.
7. To cultivate and secure mutual relations with similar establishments in Cyprus or elsewhere.
8. To establish, create and maintain a library, scientific collections and museums related to the aforementioned objectives.
9. To provide facilities by way of social gatherings between the members of the Association and its friends.
10. To adopt such means as may be conducive to making known the objectives of the Association, as may be deemed necessary, and in particular to publish circulars in the press, to publish books and journals, to participate in radio and television broadcasts and any other media.
11. To establish and maintain such offices, premises and representation offices wherever it may be necessary in order to promote the objectives of the Association and to facilitate its members.

12. To do such things or acts in Cyprus or abroad as shall promote the interests of the Members or the Association.
13. To sell or lease or otherwise deal in movable or immovable property.
14. To acquire offices, meeting-rooms or other premises as may serve the objectives of the Association.
15. To borrow or secure money for the objectives of the Association on such terms and on such security as may be deemed appropriate.
16. To join federations, to co-operate in Cyprus or abroad with other societies or organisations or associations whose objectives are similar to this Association's.
17. To contribute money for charitable, educational or other social purpose deemed beneficial to the Association or its Members.
18. To proceed to any other act that is aimed towards the achievement of the above objectives.
19. The revenues and property of the Association, wheresoever these may come from, shall be used for promoting the objectives of the Association and the other aforementioned purposes.
20. To participate and express its opinions on issues related to the objectives of the above paragraphs to the competent governmental, municipal or other bodies.
21. The Association shall not be a part of any party political, religious or economic expediency.
22. To announce awards for scientific studies, to organise lectures, excursions, scientific conferences, symposia, seminars etc and to work with and co-operate with other Cypriot associations.
23. To present honorary awards to individuals who have contributed to and assisted the objectives of the Association.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **RESOURCES**

#### **Article 3**

The Association's resources shall be:

1. The member's registration fee.
2. The members' subscription fees.
3. Income from events of the Association
4. Money borrowed or secured for the objectives of the Association.

5. Any financial support or any form of additional contributions by the members or any legal or natural person and body, provided that such assistance shall not be to the detriment of the Association's independence.
6. All contributions and donations shall be paid to the Treasurer who shall issue a receipt. All the monies shall be deposited in a special bank account and shall be used for the various needs of the Association.

### **CHAPTER 3**

#### **A. MEMBERS - REGISTRATION - DEPARTURE - EXPULSION**

##### **Article 4**

1. The Members of the Association shall be divided into regular, honorary, associate and students.
2. The regular members of the Association shall be citizens of the Cyprus Republic or the spouses of citizens of the Cyprus Republic who have their usual place of residence in Cyprus or Greek citizens who reside in Cyprus and hold diplomas from a recognised University or Technical University or other equivalent establishment in any field of Geology, Mining Engineering, and other related sciences (Geophysics, Geochemistry, Paleontology, Hydrogeology, Metallurgy etc). Regular members attend General Meetings, form a quorum, have the right to elect and be elected and may participate in all the Association's administrative bodies.
3. Honorary members shall be declared by General Meeting following a proposal by the Board of Directors, and shall be persons who have offered significant service to the Association or have contributed generally to the elevation of science and technology.
4. Associate members may be:
  - (a) Holders of a post-secondary education diploma in a related field of specialisation who may not be registered as regular members.
  - (b) Persons with long experience in geological and mining work, who are proposed by two regular members, and
  - (c) Foreign diploma-holders.
5. Student members are Cypriot and Greek citizens residing in Cyprus who are students of Geology, Mineralogy and other related fields of Science.

##### **Article 5**

1. In order to be registered as a regular member a person must submit a written application to the Board of Directors, asking to be included in the register of members.
2. The application, which shall include all details of the person's identity, shall be accompanied by a copy of the degree held by the applicant and a declaration that he/she unequivocally accepts the provisions of these statutes and the

legal decisions of the General Meeting and that he/she shall be bound to pay his/her subscription fees regularly.

3. The Board of Directors shall examine the application and if it judges it satisfactory, it shall approve inclusion of the applicant in the register of members and shall classify the applicant into one of the main branches (namely, Geologists or Mining Engineers), or shall reject the application.
4. If the Board of Directors should reject the application, the applicant may seek recourse from the General Meeting, whose decision to accept the applicant or not shall be final and conclusive.
5. The same procedure shall be followed for both associate and student members, the only difference being that in the case of associate members, the criterion for examination of the application shall be the information regarding long term experience in the geological or mining fields, which shall be submitted by the applicant and certified by the two regular members supporting the application.

### **Article 6**

1. Any member shall be entitled to depart at any time, having notified this intention in writing to the Board of Directors.
2. The Board of Directors shall remove the names of deceased or departed members from the register.
3. The expulsion of a member from the Association shall take place by a decision of the General Meeting following a proposal to that effect by the Board of Directors in the following cases:
  - (a) Members proceeding to acts contrary to the Statutes, the by-laws and the interests of the Association.
  - (b) Anyone convicted of a felony.
  - (c) Anyone delaying without good reason and for more than two years to settle their financial obligations to the Association. In such a case the loss of membership shall be automatic, and the person shall remain liable for the amount of subscriptions due on the date of expulsion.
4. Any member may be removed or expelled from the Association if following a proposal at General Meeting agreement is expressed by 4/5 of the members present, provided that these shall be no less than 50% of the total number of paid-up members with a right to vote.
5. Any decision to expel a member may be contested at the next Annual General Meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

## **B. MEMBERS' RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS**

### **•Article 7**

1. Regular members of the Association must:

- (a) Make every effort to see to the fulfillment of the objectives of the Association and to uphold the provisions of these Statutes.
- (b) Comply with the decisions of the Administrative Bodies of the Association.
- (c) In addition to their registration fee, pay their annual dues regularly to the Association's Treasurer. These amounts may fluctuate following a decision by the General Meeting.

#### **Article 8**

- 1. All members of the Association shall be entitled to attend General Meetings, take the floor and express their views on all issues and participate in celebrations, excursions, and any other events organised.
- 2. All regular members shall have equal rights, shall be entitled to elect and be elected, to inspect the books, minutes and generally all the documents of the Association following application in writing to the Board of Directors and provided that they have a special reason to do so.
- 3. The right to vote on decisions of the General Meeting as well as the right to elect and be elected shall be restricted to regular members only.

### **CHAPTER 4**

#### **A. BODIES OF THE ASSOCIATION**

#### **Article 9**

The Association's Bodies shall be:

- a) The General Meeting which shall be the supreme body of the Association
- b) The Board of Directors
- c) The Election Committee
- d) The Auditing Committee

#### Annual Ordinary General Meeting

#### **Article 10**

- a) The Association's Annual Ordinary General Meeting shall take place in Nicosia, once a year, in the month of March.
- b) The Board of Directors shall inform the Members by written notice of the date, time, and place of the Annual Ordinary General Meeting and of the order of business at least 14 days before the date on which the meeting is to be held. Such notice shall be published in the daily press.

#### **Article 11**

All regular members attending the Annual Ordinary General Meeting shall have the right to discuss, vote, elect and be elected as specified below.

1. Each regular member shall have one vote.
2. Each regular member may attend in person or by proxy. One member may not represent more than two other members.
3. In order to exercise their rights members must have paid their dues by 31 December of the previous calendar year. Dues may also be paid on the day of the General Meeting.

#### **Article 12**

The business of the Annual Ordinary General Meeting shall be:

- (a) The report of the Board
- (b) Approval of the report of expenditure by the Board and the Report of the Auditing Committee (while deciding at the same time to relieve it of liability).
- (c) Election of the members of the Election Committee and Auditing Committee (in case of elections).
- (d) Miscellaneous matters arising from the Annual Ordinary General Meeting.
- (e) Any matter that has been submitted in writing to the Board for discussion by any member by end of January of each year.

#### **Article 13**

A quorum shall be formed at the Annual Ordinary General Meeting when at least half the regular members with a right to attend and exercise their rights are present. If no quorum is formed the meeting shall be adjourned and reconvened half an hour later, with exactly the same order of business, and a quorum shall be considered to have been formed no matter how many members are present.

#### **Article 14**

The Annual Ordinary General Meeting at which elections take place shall be chaired by a Chairperson elected by majority vote for this purpose.

The minutes of the Annual Ordinary General Meeting at which elections take place shall be kept by a Secretary elected by majority vote for this purpose.

#### **Article 15**

Decisions at the Annual Ordinary General Meeting shall be taken by majority vote. At the request of any member, voting shall take place by secret ballot. The Board shall always be elected by secret ballot.

#### Extraordinary General Meeting

#### **Article 16**

1. Extraordinary General Meetings shall be convened by the Board following its decision or following an application by one third of regular members, in which the business to be discussed at the Extraordinary General Meeting shall be

stated. When such an application is submitted, the Board must convene the meeting within thirty days following submission of the application.

2. The business to be conducted at an Extraordinary General Meeting may include amending these statutes. Amendments to the statutes require a 2/3 majority. Amendments to objectives of the Association require a 3/4 majority.

## Board of Directors

### **Article 17**

The Board of Directors shall be made up of seven members and shall be elected every two years by the General Meeting. In addition to the members of the Board of Directors the Meeting shall elect three alternative members. The person winning the most votes or the oldest, in case of a tie, shall convene the Board of Directors within seven (7) days following the date of election, in order to be formed into a body with a Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Member.

The composition of the Board of Directors shall be determined in such a way as to ensure that both branches of the Association (namely Geologists and Mining Engineers) are represented by at least two representatives in order to ensure a minimum participation of both branches in the proceedings of the Board of Directors.

If a Geologist is elected Chairman, the Deputy Chairman must be a Mining Engineer and vice versa, provided that both branches are participating in the composition of the Board of Directors.

The office of Chairman may not be undertaken by the same member for more than two successive terms.

### **Article 18**

The Chairman shall preside over the activities of the Association and shall represent the Association at public ceremonies and events. He/she shall represent the Association in court and out of court proceedings and generally before any public authority. He/she shall convene General Meetings and meetings of the Board of Directors, see to that the decisions of the General Meeting and the Board of Directors are upheld and executed, oversee the publication of the report of his/her term of office, sign all Association documents and co-sign any cheques with the Treasurer. He/she shall preside over all General Meetings except for Meetings at which elections are held.

The Deputy Chairman shall assist the Chairman in the above duties and replace him/her in case of absence or other impediment.

The Secretary shall keep the seal and archives of the Association, maintain a protocol of in-coming and out-going documents, minutes of the meetings and General Meetings, carry out the Association correspondence, and enroll members. At the commencement of each meeting of the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall read the minutes, which shall be approved and co-signed by all Board members.



The Treasurer shall keep the books and treasury of the Association, keep receipts, be responsible for the accurate keeping of the treasury books and its normal operation and shall, following a decision by the Board of Directors and the instructions of the Chairman, make payments and collections of money.

The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary and replace him/her in case of absence or impediment.

The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer and replace him/her in case of absence or impediment.

The Member shall assist all the other members of the Board and shall replace any one of them in case of absence or other impediment, at the instructions of the Board or the Chairman.

#### **Article 19**

The Board of Directors shall form a quorum when at least four of its members are present. The Board's decisions shall always be taken by a majority of the members who are present.

#### **Article 20**

The Board of Directors shall direct the actions of the Association, promote and execute the decisions of the General Meeting, administer the property of the Association and in general manage the Association pursuant to the decisions from time to time of the General Meeting.

#### **Article 21**

The Board of Directors shall meet regularly once a month and extraordinarily whenever the need should arise, following the Chairman's invitation or at the request of a member of the Board.

#### **Article 22**

If during the term of office of the Board of Directors more than three positions should fall vacant, a General Meeting must be convened within one month from the date on which the fourth position falls vacant, with a view to electing a new Board of Directors, which shall complete the term of office of the previous Board of Directors. This shall not apply if the remainder of the term of office of the Board of Directors is less than six months.

If the positions that have fallen vacant are no more than three, they shall be filled by the runners-up at the elections held for this Board of Directors.

When a member of the Board of Directors is absent without good reason from meetings for longer than three months, such member shall be replaced by the next in line runner-up.

#### **Article 23**

The Board of Directors may authorise any one of its members to sign specific documents or to represent the Association at any event.

## Election Committee

### **Article 24**

At the General Meeting at which elections are held a Chairman and Secretary of the Meeting shall be elected. After the report of the Chairman of the out-going Board of Directors, the Chairman of the General Meeting shall accept nominations, which must be seconded by two members, and shall proceed to the election of a three-member Election Committee.

### **Article 25**

The Election Committee shall see to it that order is maintained, ensure that elections for a Board of Directors and Auditing Committee are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes on the basis of the register of members and decide upon any dispute or challenge that may arise or be submitted.

### **Article 26**

Voting for the Board of Directors and Auditing Committee shall take place by secret ballot, with specially sealed ballot papers. Voters shall make their preference known by inscribing the names of the candidates of their choice on to the ballot paper. No more than seven (7) names may be chosen in the case of the Board of Directors and no more than three (3) for the Auditing Committee. Voters shall place their ballot papers in an envelope provided by the Election Committee, on which the seal of the Association has been affixed. A list of voters shall be kept by the Election Committee.

The Election Committee shall count the votes by writing on a board the **crosses** placed against candidates' names. The counting of the votes to elect the Board of Directors shall be done after election of the two candidates who secured the most votes in each branch. After the votes have been counted the winning candidates shall be announced in descending order. The order of the runners-up shall also be announced. These shall be considered as alternative board members. A copy of the minutes shall be delivered to the candidate who received the most votes and, in case of a tie, to the oldest.

In case of submission of only seven candidatures for the Board, elections shall not take place but the General Meeting must propose and declare the three (3) runners-up. The same procedure shall be followed in cases where the candidates for the Election Committee are only three (3).

If only one, or no candidate has declared him/herself from either of the two main branches of the Association, the elections shall be considered valid and the Board of Directors shall be made up of winning candidates from the other branch.

Once the composition of the Board of Directors has been completed, the three runners-up are selected who shall be considered as alternative Board members in absolute order of success. It is understood that if the unsuccessful candidates for election to the Board of Directors include candidates from both main branches, the runners-up must include one candidate from each of the main branches. This will be the person who has received the most votes among the candidates from his/her branch.

A copy of the minutes of the elections shall be delivered to the candidate who has received the most votes. It is clarified that in case of a tie in any election, the older candidate shall be selected.

#### **Article 27**

All the election material, i.e. the list of those eligible to vote, the list of those who voted, the minutes of the ballot and the announcement of the winners, the table of the vote counting, and any objections, together with the decisions of the Election Committee in relation to such objections, shall be delivered to the out-going Secretary of the Board, who shall deliver it, together with all the Association's records, to the new Board of Directors.

#### **Article 28**

The Board's term of office shall commence on the date of its election and shall end on the date of election of the new Board of Directors.

The out-going Board of Directors shall deliver to the new Board of Directors the seal, books, records, treasury, and any other property of the Association. Special minutes shall be created with regard to such delivery, and these shall be recorded in a special book kept by the Association. The Chairman of the out-going Board of Directors shall be entitled to receive a copy of these minutes.

#### Auditing Committee

#### **Article 29**

The Auditing Committee of the Association shall consist of three (3) members and shall be elected at the same General Meeting at which the Board of Directors is elected, by the regular members of the Association, eligible to vote for the Board of Directors. Election of the members of the Auditing Committee shall take place by majority and without taking into account the main branches of the Association. This Committee shall audit any act of management by the Board of Directors, its services and the services of any other Committee or Body of the Association. The report of the Auditing Committee shall be submitted at the Annual Ordinary General Meeting.

The term of office of the Auditing Committee shall be for two years.

### **B. AMENDMENT OF THE STATUTES AND DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION**

#### **Article 30**

The General Meeting shall decide on amendments to the Statutes. In order for the General Meeting to decide upon amendments a quorum and majority shall be required as specified in article 16 of these Statutes.

**Article 31**

- (a) The Association shall be dissolved following a decision by 4/5 of the Members taken at General Meeting at which at least 1/2 of fully paid-up members with a right to vote are present.
- (b) In case of dissolution of the Association, its movable and immovable property shall be given to charitable institutions, pursuant to a decision by the General Meeting.

**CHAPTER 5**

**SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 32**

The Association shall have its own circular seal, with the name of the Association inscribed on the periphery and two crossed geological hammers and a representation of an ancient object portraying a worker transporting a copper talent at the centre.

On the bottom section of the seal is inscribed the number 1980, which is the year of establishment of the Association.

**Article 33**

Any matter not provided for or regulated by these Statutes or by interpretative notes approved from time to time by the Board and the General Meeting and by the special regulations approved by the General Meeting, shall be settled by a decision of the Board of Directors, and shall be subject to the approval of the General Meeting.

**Article 34**

The original Statutes consisting of 43 articles, which were approved at the General Meeting of the Founding Members on 5 June 1980 were amended by the General Meeting of 20 March 1987 and also consisted of 43 articles.

These Statutes, which are also an amendment of the original, consist of thirty four (34) articles and were approved article by article and as a whole by the General Meeting of Regular Members, on 19 March 1996 and shall be valid after their approval by the Competent Authority.

Nicosia.....