

BYLAWS

Ethanol REACH Association

Version December 2019

Please note: The official registered bylaws of the Ethanol REACH Association are drawn up in Dutch and deposited according to the requirements of Dutch Association Law. This English version is for information purposes only. In the event of any ambiguity or conflict the Dutch text shall prevail. The language of any proceedings shall be English. 18 July 2012, The Hague, The Netherlands

PREAMBLE

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (hereinafter called 'REACH'),

- Whereas Ethanol needs to be Registered by all its EU based manufacturers and importers and all the only representatives of its non-EU based manufacturers and formulators, within the deadlines prescribed for their respective volume bands,
- Whereas Registration of a substance implies submission of a complex and expensive dossier and Joint Submission of one single dossier by registrants of the same substance is legally possible and officially encouraged,
- Whereas the producing of one single dossier allows sharing of costs and other burdens by the registrants,
- Whereas it is desirable to adequately address the results of evaluation of the Ethanol dossier, and if necessary to adequately address Authorisation and Restriction,

It has been decided to create an Association regulated by the following bylaws.

The Association aims to have amongst it membership all the members of the Ethanol SIEF. If there is substantial interest by members, the infrastructure of the Association can also be used to facilitate compliance with REACH for substances associated with the production and distribution of Ethanol. If there is substantial interest a separate plan and budget will be proposed. To finance this an additional fee will be paid by those participating members.

Article 1

Name, legal basis, applicable law, residence and language

- 1. The official name of the Association is the "Ethanol REACH Association", hereinafter referred to as the Association.
- 2. The Association is a non-profitable international association registered under Dutch law for an unlimited term. Any litigation shall be ruled by Dutch law and submitted to the relevant Court(s) in The Hague, The Netherlands.
- 3. The Association has its formal residence in The Hague, The Netherlands and will be registered at the Chamber of Commerce of The Hague, The Netherlands.
- 4. The working language of the Association is English.

Article 2

Definitions

To the extent not otherwise defined below, the definitions in Article 3 of REACH shall apply to these bylaws.

• Associate Member: Associate Members are those Members who are not Ordinary Members, see Article 4.2.



- Associated Substance: Substance other than Ethanol and derived from Ethanol production or used in its distribution for which, if there is sufficient interest within the membership, and following a decision of the Executive Committee, the infrastructure of the Association can also be used to facilitate compliance with REACH.
- Chemical Safety Report: For substances in the tonnage category >10 tons per year a chemical safety report has to be submitted in addition to the technical dossier. The chemical safety report contains the following information:
 - Overview of risk management measures
 - o Explanations about the implementation of risk management measures
 - o Explanations about communication of risk management measures
 - \circ $\;$ Identity and physical and chemical properties of the substance
 - Manufacturing and uses
 - o Classification and labelling
 - o Movement and fate in the environment
 - Human health risk assessment
 - Human health risk assessment based on physical and chemical properties
 - o Environmental risk assessment
 - PBT- and vPvB assessment
 - Exposure assessment
 - o Risk characterisation
- Cumulative voting weight: The total of all the Ordinary Members' votes.
- Dossier information: Studies, and summaries of studies, test data and other information relevant to the content of the registration dossiers made available to the Association by Members without limitations imposed by confidentiality commitments or generated, determined or acquired by the Association.
- Executive Committee: The Executive Committee governs and represents the Association and is responsible for the daily management of the Association.
- Founding Fathers: The companies that have founded the Association and provided it with its starting capital.
- General Assembly: Meeting of all Members to be held at least once per year.
- Initial Period: The period between the founding of the Association and 30 November 2010, being the latest date by which Ethanol will need to be registered by producers and/or importers of 1000 tonnes per year or more.
- Lead Company: A Member registering to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) for Ethanol or possibly an associated substance as the start of a joint submission by Members. Regarding this registration the Lead Company acts within the decisions of the Executive Committee.
- Letter of Access: Ordinary members will be provided with a Letter of Access to allow them to register Ethanol as soon as the registration by the Lead Company is finalised. If an applicant for membership exists of multiple legal entities, all these legal entities have to become separate Ordinary Members of the Association to get this Letter of Access without which it is not allowed to register.
- Only Representative: A natural or legal person appointed in the Community by mutual agreement by a non-EU manufacturer or formulator to fulfil the obligations of importers under REACH as defined in Art.8.1 of REACH
- Ordinary Member: Ordinary Members are or have the intention to be EU-based manufacturers and importers of Ethanol, and non-EU-based manufacturers of Ethanol and formulators of preparations containing Ethanol intending to register Ethanol either by



themselves or through a Third Party Representative or an Only Representative. See Article 4.3.

- Safety Data Sheet: A safety data sheet for hazardous (and under certain circumstances also for nonhazardous) substances and preparations has to be provided under REACH. In addition a safety data sheet has to be provided for substances fulfilling the PBT and vPvB criteria and for certain other substances. The safety data sheet also must comprise information from the chemical safety report (exposure scenarios).
- Secretariat: Specialised service provider taking care of the daily operational,
- organisational and administrative tasks. It is the first entry point for inbound
- communication under the direct authority and responsibility of the Executive Committee.
- SIEF: Substance Information Exchange Forum as defined in Art. 29 REACH.
- Steering Group: Advisory body of the Association reflecting the interests of the
- Membership, appointed by the Executive Committee.
- Task Force: Appointed by the Executive Committee to address specific subjects such as
- toxicological dossiers, risk assessments, exposure scenarios, associated substances etc.
- Technical dossier: For all substances to be registered a technical dossier has to be submitted consisting of the following information:
 - Identity of the responsible registrants.
 - Identity of the substance.
 - Information about the manufacturing and all uses of the substance.
 - Classification and labelling of the substance.
 - Guidelines for the safe use of the substance.
 - Study summaries of tests carried out.
 - Robust study summaries of tests carried out.
 - o Information regarding which of the above-mentioned points has been vetted by a
 - qualified evaluator.
 - Test recommendations, in the case tests are required according to Annexes IX and/or X of REACH.
- Third Party Representative: A natural or legal person in the Community appointed by mutual agreement by a European formulator or manufacturer to represent this formulator or manufacturer with regard to its obligations under REACH as defined in Art. 4 of REACH.
- Voting weight: The number of votes of each Ordinary Member which depends on the tonnage band of the Member's registration of Ethanol.

Article 3

Purpose and Activities

3.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Association is to facilitate the compliance with the registration requirements of the REACH regulation with respect to the production, importation and distribution of Ethanol, and if there is substantial interest by members, also with respect to substances associated to Ethanol.

3.2 Ethanol

- 1. With regard to Ethanol the Association undertakes in particular:
 - a. Development of a Technical Dossier for Ethanol as intended in Art. 10a of
 - b. REACH fulfilling the requirements for the highest tonnage band including the
 - c. collection of the necessary existing data and robust summaries of studies and



- d. performing additional studies where necessary.
- e. Joint submission of the parts of the Technical Dossier for Ethanol through a Lead Company as intended under Art.11.1 of REACH.
- f. Preparation of a Chemical Safety Report as intended under Art 10.b REACH and Guidance on Safe Use for Use and Exposure Categories and intended uses not covered by these categories, such that it covers most of the common uses of Ethanol, including the collection of the necessary existing data and robust summaries of studies and performing additional studies where necessary.
- g. Exercising the rights to all Dossier Information and self-performed studies related to Ethanol and the rights to the aggregated Chemical Safety Reports developed for various uses of Ethanol.
- 2. The Technical Dossier and Chemical Safety Report covering most uses for Ethanol above will be ready for joint submission and use by the Ordinary Members no later than three months before the last possible date for submission of substances marketed in quantities of greater than 1000 tonnes per annum.
- 3. The Association will adequately address the results of the evaluation of the Ethanol dossier pursuant to Title VI, Chapter 1 of REACH, and, if necessary, of Authorisation and Restriction.

3.3 Associated substances

The Executive Committee may decide that the Association will prepare a Technical Dossier and Chemical Safety Reports of substances associated with Ethanol, or that the Association will help to facilitate in their preparation.

Article 4

Membership

4.1 Eligibility

- 1. The following are eligible to be members of the Association:
 - a. EU-based manufacturers and importers of Ethanol and their Third Party Representatives,
 - b. Non-EU-based manufacturers of Ethanol and formulators of preparations containing Ethanol and their Only Representatives,
 - c. Downstream users of Ethanol,
 - d. All others that are entitled to be members of the SIEF for Ethanol,
 - e. Trade federations representing groups of companies or individuals that are themselves entitled to membership.
- 2. In addition the Executive Committee may, by unanimous decision, allow membership to legal or natural persons not comprised in the above and for these members determine the appropriate membership category and fee.
- 3. All individual manufacturers and/or importers that wish to Register Ethanol must separately become a Member of the Association either directly or indirectly through a Third Party Representative or an Only Representative.

4.2 Membership categories

- 1. The Association is made up of Ordinary Members and Associate Members.
- 2. Ordinary Members are or have the intention to be EU-based manufacturers and importers of Ethanol and Non-EU-based manufacturers of Ethanol and formulators of preparations containing Ethanol and Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives intending to Register Ethanol under REACH.



- 3. Within the category of Ordinary Members a distinction is made between:
- 1. Large Ordinary Members intending to Register Ethanol in the tonnage band greater than 1000 metric tonnes per annum;
- 2. Small Ordinary Members intending to Register Ethanol in the tonnage band above 100 and up to 1000 metric tonnes per annum; and
- Micro Ordinary Members intending to Register Ethanol in the tonnage band from 0 to 100 metric tonnes per annum.
 Only Representatives and Third Party Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and/or importers that they represent for the purposes of REACH Registration. Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and/or importers that they represent for the purposes of REACH Registration. Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and/or importers that they represent the purposes of REACH Registration. Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and/or importers that they represent the purposes of REACH Registration. Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and/or importers that they represent the purposes of REACH Registration. Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives and Only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and only Representatives will provide the Association with an up-to-date list of all the manufacturers and on

pay a membership fee for each manufacturer and/or importer that they represent in accordance with their respective tonnage band.

- 4. The Executive Committee will require proof of the correctness of the number of manufacturers and/or importers that the Third Party Representatives and Only Representatives represent and whether they are Large, Small or Micro Ordinary Member, to be updated annually.
- 5. Associate Members are those Members who are not Ordinary Members. Within the category of Associate Members a distinction is made between:
 - a. Non-Registration Members: Manufacturers and importers of Ethanol who are not subject to a registration requirement for Ethanol.
 - b. SIEF Members: Any natural or legal person not falling into one of the membership categories above who is entitled to be a member of the SIEF for Ethanol.
 - c. Trade Federation Members: Trade associations or Federations of companies or natural persons engaged in a professional way with Ethanol.
 - d. Other Associate Members: Natural or legal persons engaged in a professional way with Ethanol and REACH not falling into the categories mentioned in Article 4.4 on Admission.

4.3 Admission

- 1. Obtaining Membership of the Association requires a written application to the secretariat. Upon receipt of the application, the secretariat will send a message confirming its receipt, which officially marks the start of the application process.
- 2. The applicant will declare that it agrees to comply with the bylaws and its membership obligations.
- 3. The Secretariat will propose acceptance of the applicant to the Executive Committee, which will take a decision within two months after this proposal. Membership will become effective after the express acceptance of the Executive Committee and the receipt of the first Membership Fee. The new member will then be given full access to the data and services of the Association with respect to its membership category.

4.4 Refusal of membership

- 1. The applicant for membership waives all legal rights on privacy and secrecy regarding the information provided to the Association during the application procedure.
- In the case of a refusal of membership, the applicant will receive the decision by letter. Refused applicants can object to the refusal by registered letter within two weeks providing additional information and explanation. It can request a personal hearing by the Executive Committee. The cost of the hearing will be borne by the applicant.
- 3. The Executive Committee may offer a potential registrant of Ethanol that is refused membership a letter of access to the joint submission of the whole or a part of the



registration dossier developed by the Association, in return for payment of an appropriate contribution towards the cost, as determined by the Executive Committee.

4. The Executive Committee will refrain from any decision that would bring the Association or any of its members in violation of European competition law.

4.5 Termination and withdrawal of membership

- 1. By unanimous decision the Executive Committee is entitled to terminate a membership with immediate effect in the event of breach of these bylaws or in the event of unacceptable behaviour possibly affecting the interests of the members, Executive Committee and the Association or causing a direct or indirect damage or potential threat.
- Termination of membership by the Executive Committee shall be done by registered mail. The member in question has the right to object to this decision in writing; this objection will defer the decision of the Executive Committee until the Executive Committee takes a new decision which will be final.
- 3. A member may withdraw its membership without giving reason in writing with a notice period of two years at the end of the calendar year.
- 4. A member may withdraw its membership in writing with a notice period of one year at the end of the calendar year, if due to circumstances involving the member, the member is no longer subject to the registration requirements or in the event that other serious reasons arise which make continued membership in the Association unreasonable.
- 5. If a member is expelled or resigns from membership, such member shall be required to meet its financial obligations to the Association until the date on which it ceases to be a member of the Association. The member shall remain entitled to exercise the rights it acquired before the date on which it ceases to be a member of the Association, on condition that the member has met all its financial obligations to the Association.
- 6. Payments already made by the terminated or withdrawing Member will not be refunded.

4.6 Transfer of membership,

- 1. An Ordinary Member shall be entitled to transfer its membership, including all rights and obligations, to a new Ordinary Member who belongs to the same group of companies.
- 2. Subject to the consent of the Executive Committee, an Ordinary Member shall be entitled to transfer its membership, including all rights and obligations, to a new Ordinary Member who does not belong to the same group of companies.
- 3. The Executive Committee will publish its intention to give its consent to a transfer of ordinary membership and allow members to file objections against this decision within six weeks. The Executive Committee may, before taking a decision, formally hear the persons involved, organise an internal arbitration or demand a vote at the General Assembly.

4.7 Membership fees,

1. Each Member shall be required to pay the membership entry fee agreed to on application for membership.

If an Ordinary Member increases its tonnage, as referred to in Article 4.2.3., such Member shall notify the Association accordingly without delay. The membership entry fee payable by such Member will then be increased to the membership entry fee applying to the higher category.

2. In addition to the membership entry fee, all costs and expenses incurred by the Association may be apportioned among and charged to the members in a ratio depending on their membership categories.



3. If a member fails to pay any amount due within six months of billing, the Executive Committee may terminate such member's membership.

Article 5

Rights and obligations of members

5.1 Responsibility

- 1. Every Ordinary Member remains responsible for its compliance with the requirements of REACH, inter alia as this concerns the pre-registration and registration of Ethanol and the submission of the information required in Art. 11 (1), subparagraphs 3 and 4 of REACH as well as in fulfilling the communication requirements in the downstream supply chain as addressed in Titles IV and V of REACH.
- 2. The Association will not be responsible for direct or indirect damages incurred by its members as a result of delays or submission problems. All members have an obligation to actively check and follow the work of the Association and must alert the Executive Committee immediately in writing in the case of irregularities.

5.2 Studies, data and knowledge

- 1. Where the Association has carried out studies at its own expense, the Executive Committee shall determine if and which member categories will enjoy free access to, and free use of, these studies.
- 2. Members can make available to the Association all Dossier information and knowledge available to them that is relevant to the purpose and projects of the Association. Where the member finds that such information and knowledge is not suitable to be freely disclosed, the member may demand confidentiality. In this last case, the member will agree with the Executive Committee how to proceed in the mutual benefit of the Association and the member.
- 3. Unless agreed differently, Dossier information and knowledge made available by a member to the Association remains under the ownership of the member. However, the Association and its Ordinary Members shall have the non-transferable and non-terminable right during their membership period to use the Dossier information and knowledge and the data for registration and for other purposes necessary to comply with REACH and to refer to study reports made available for that purpose, taking into account all the limitations hereby established.
- 4. Members shall themselves enforce their rights on intellectual property, copyrights and prevention of misuse of their studies or other intellectual material put at the disposal of the Association.

5.3 Dossier and letter of access

- The Secretariat will provide Ordinary members with a letter of access to allow them to register Ethanol as soon as the registration by the Lead Company is finalised. Evaluation will be adequately addressed by the Association to provide the Membership with the relevant results.
- 2. Members undertake:
 - a. only to use Dossier information for the purpose of registration and fulfilling other obligations under REACH and, in particular, not to exploit it commercially;
 - b. not to make Dossier Information, directly or indirectly, the subject of any patent application or other intellectual property right.



Violation may be reason for deferral and termination of the Membership and may lead to claims for financial compensation by the Association.

3. Where an Ordinary Member wishes to be in possession of a dossier developed or facilitated by the Association this is possible if the Ordinary Member declares in writing that the content of the dossier will not be changed in any way, will exclusively be used for the registration of Ethanol or associated substances by Ordinary Members of the Association and that future updates of the dossier will be submitted in the same way as the dossier of the Lead Company. Ownership of the dossier is not transferred from the Association to the member. The Executive Committee may stipulate additional conditions.

5.4 Value of dossier information

Where a member wishes to receive financial compensation for the Dossier information made available to the Association, the Executive Committee will, unless it decides otherwise, determine the value based on the historic cost of the part of the Dossier information that is of particular value to the work of the Association.

5.5 Lead Company

- 1. The Executive Committee shall appoint one 'Lead Company' for each substance for which the registration dossier shall be prepared by the Association and for which the preparation of the dossier is facilitated by the Association and that is to be subject to a joint submission by members.
- 2. The registration dossiers for which a Lead Company has been appointed shall be submitted to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) by the Lead Company at the latest three months before the end of the registration deadline applicable to the member with the highest tonnage band for the substance in question.
- 3. The Lead Company for Ethanol will do everything necessary to allow Ordinary Members to submit jointly with the Lead Company as large a part as possible of the Technical Dossier and Chemical Safety Report.

Article 6

Budget and Financial Reporting

- 1. The starting capital and the membership fees will provide the income of the Association. The fees will always be proportional to the membership classes.
- 2. The Association's financial year shall be from January 1 until December 31.
- 3. At the beginning of each year, the Executive Committee shall appoint in external expert to have the accounts of that year examined, and who will report back to them about his findings. The annual accounts will be agreed upon by the Executive Committee after having taken note of the expert's findings. Subsequently the accounts will be presented to the General Assembly for final approval.
- 4. Before the end of each calendar year the Executive Committee will approve a draft annual budget for the following year. After it has been approved by the Executive Committee it will be submitted to the General Assembly for its approval.
- 5. A copy of the approved budget and the auditor's reports shall be filed with the Secretariat of the Association.
- 6. The starting capital provided by the Founding Fathers will be reimbursed to them with interest based on Euribor Rate at the end of 2009, as will be justified in the financial report 2009.



7. Daily financial administration will be the responsibility of the Secretariat.

Article 7

General Assembly

7.1 Meetings

- 1. There will be at least one General Assembly held each year, the date for which will be set by a two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee.
- 2. By two-thirds majority, the Executive Committee may also invoke the General Assembly at any other time of the year.
- 3. The Executive Committee will call for a meeting of the General Assembly upon request of the Ordinary Members under the following conditions:
 - a. The request must be sent to the Secretariat by registered mail, along with a proposed agenda.
 - b. The request must include the signatures of such a number of Ordinary Members that at least 10% of the cumulative voting weight of the Association is represented by these Members.
 - c. If the Executive Committee does not respond to such a request within 14 days, the requesting Ordinary Members may call a meeting of the General Assembly
 a. themselves.
- 4. The Secretariat will invite members to a meeting of the General Assembly at least two weeks prior to the meeting_by electronic mail. It will prepare the agenda and distribute it with the invitation. In the case that the Ordinary Members unanimously agree to hold a General Assembly meeting, it can be held without prior notification and any matter can be discussed.
- 5. All Ordinary Members are allowed to participate in the General Assembly in person or via electronic means of communication. Participation via electronic means of communication is allowed on the condition that the electronic means of communication allows the identity of the voting member to be established and enables him to follow the proceedings at the meeting in real time and to exercise his voting right. It is not a requirement that the electronic means of communication allows the identity.

7.2 Voting

- All Ordinary Members are entitled to vote in the General Assembly. Associate Members do not have any voting rights. Large Ordinary Members are each assigned 100 (one hundred) votes, Small Ordinary Members are each assigned 10 (ten) votes, and Micro Ordinary Members are each assigned 1 (one) vote.
- 2. All decisions, unless specified otherwise in these bylaws, in the General Assembly are taken by a two-thirds majority of the votes of the Ordinary Members present and participating online. Blank votes, incorrect or incomplete votes or abstentions are not valid.
- 3. Ordinary Members of the Association may mandate their vote to other Ordinary Members of the Association by sending notice of this mandate to the secretariat no less than two weeks before the meeting of the General Assembly.
- 4. The meeting of the General Assembly is chaired by the President of the Association. In case of absence of the President the meeting will be chaired by another member of the Executive Committee.
- 5. Members shall vote by mail ballot, electronic means of communication or any other means approved by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have the authority to examine the eligibility of any voter.



6. Votes cast by electronic means of communication prior to the General Assembly, but no earlier than thirty days before the day of the meeting, shall be equivalent to votes cast during the meeting. Additional rules for voting by electronic means may be specified

Article 8

Executive Committee

8.1 Tasks

- 1. The Executive Committee shall govern and represent the Association. It shall initiate the Association's projects and determine the subjects and content of these projects.
- 2. The Executive Committee will annually elect amongst themselves the President of the Association, the Vice President of the Association, the Secretary of the Association and the Treasurer of the Association.
- 3. The Executive Committee appoints the Members of the Steering Group and Task Forces. The Executive Committee may propose new members to the Executive Committee to be elected and appointed by the General Assembly.
- 4. The responsibilities of the Executive Committee include the following:
 - Decisions on funding, scope and matters of policy:
 - Decisions to carry out testing;
 - Coordination of and guidance for data collection concerning the Substance;
 - Approval of the Core Data to be submitted jointly to ECHA;
 - Approval of the chemical safety report and the guidance on safe use of the Substance;
 - Appointment and supervision of activities of the Secretariat, and/or any external consultants;
 - Preparation of the registration dossier and all necessary assistance to the Lead Company on its submission;
 - Decision regarding access of new members or regarding provision of other rights to third parties;
 - Propose amendments of the bylaws to the General Assembly;

8.2 Structure

- 1. The Executive Committee shall be made up of a maximum of nine Ordinary Members of which:
 - a. Four are reserved for representatives of European manufacturers of Ethanol by fermentation.
 - b. One is reserved for a representative of a European manufacturer of synthetic Ethanol.
 - c. One is reserved for a representative of a European importer of Ethanol.
 - d. One Lead Registrant for ethanol and one Lead Registrant for each substance associated to ethanol that is facilitated by the Association are reserved a seat.
- 2. The first Executive Committee will be formed by those Founding Fathers that provided the Association with its starting capital. Members of the first Executive Committee will be allowed to remain Members of the Executive Committee for the Initial Period.
- 3. The Executive Committee has the obligation to ensure that the Executive Committee will always consist of at least six Ordinary members. All Executive Committee decisions shall be done collectively, if necessary by a vote.
- 4. A Member of the Association is allowed to withdraw its representation from the Executive Committee in writing.



5. The President of the Association will also be the Chairman of the Executive Committee. If the Chairman is absent, the Executive Committee will be chaired by the Vice President. If both are absent, the Executive Committee will select a chairman for the meeting.

8.3 Elections

- 1. After the Initial Period the General Assembly shall elect and appoint the Executive
- 1. Committee on an annual basis, with the exception of the Lead Company or Companies that will remain in the Executive Committee until the evaluation and/or authorisation of the dossier has been finalised and /or the dossier has been approved by ECHA.
- 2. After the Initial Period, all representatives of Members of the Association qualify upon election to be a Member of the Executive Committee.
- 3. After the Initial Period, members of the Executive Committee are elected by a majority vote of the General Assembly. When the Executive Committee deems the election of new members urgent and no meeting of the General Assembly is foreseen in the near future the election may be balloted by mail or e-mail.

8.4 Meetings

- 1. The Executive Committee will meet at least twice per year.
- 2. The President of the Executive Committee, and in its absence the Vice President, chairs the meetings of the Executive Committee. If both are absent, the Executive Committee will select a chairman for the meeting.
- 3. Unless specified otherwise in these bylaws any decision made by the Executive Committee requires a minimum two-thirds majority of the members present.
- 4. A valid quorum exists if four of the Members are present.
- 5. Each member of the Executive Committee has one vote.

8.5 Representation

- 1. The Executive Committee needs the prior approval of the General Assembly for all real estate transactions including leasing and letting, for signing over property as security to a creditor and for expenditure in excess of €50.000 per event if this expenditure is not foreseen in the annual budget.
- 2. Whenever the interests of a member of the Executive Committee conflict with those of the Association, such Executive Committee member shall not participate in any way in any decision making in relation to the subject matter of the conflict of interests.

8.6 Suspension and dismissal

Members of the Executive Committee can be suspended or dismissed, with reasons given, by the General Assembly with a two-thirds majority.

8.7 Representation of the Association in performing legal acts

In performing legal acts the Association must be represented by the President and the Vice-President acting jointly.

Article 9

Steering Group

The Steering Group advises the Executive Committee on the content and progress of the projects undertaken by the Association.



- 1. The chairperson and the members of the Steering Group are appointed by the Executive Committee.
- 2. The Executive Committee may appoint non-members of the Association as members or observers to the Steering Group.
- 3. Members of the Executive Committee are also Members of the Steering Group.
- 4. The Executive Committee can appoint a third party as the Chairperson and/or Secretary of the Steering Group.
- 5. After the Initial Period the Executive Committee may dissolve and reinstate the Steering Group as the need arises.

Article 10

Task Forces

Task Forces may be created upon decision of the Executive Committee to address specific subjects.

- 1. The chairperson and the members of the Task Forces are appointed by the Executive Committee. All Members of the Association can be appointed.
- 1. The Executive Committee may appoint non-members of the Association as members or observers to the Task Force.
- 2. Task Forces shall meet as often as necessary and report to the Executive Committee.

Article 11

Trustees

If required for compliance with competition laws, the Executive Committee can appoint an independent third party as trustee for the development and processing of Dossier Information. In such event, the trustee shall inform the Executive Committee in aggregated form concerning the information obtained, thereby observing confidentiality. The Executive Committee shall conclude a confidentiality agreement with the trustee prior to its assignment.

Article 12

Amendments of the bylaws

Any proposed amendment to the bylaws must be first approved by the Executive Committee. Only the Executive Committee can submit amendments to the bylaws to the General Assembly.

Amendments of the bylaws require a two-thirds majority vote of Ordinary Members at a meeting of the General Assembly, by the Ordinary Members that are present or are represented by mandate.

Article 13

Dissolution and liquidation

13.1 Dissolution

- 1. The Association may be dissolved at the proposal of the Executive Committee by the General Assembly. Dissolution requires a two-thirds majority vote of Ordinary Members at a meeting of the General Assembly, by the Ordinary Members that are present or are represented by mandate.
- 2. After the dissolution, the Executive Committee remains in place as long as the liquidation of the capital requires.
- 3. After dissolution all records shall be kept by a natural person or entity appointed by the General Assembly during the number of years prescribed by law.



13.2 Liquidation

- 1. At dissolution of the Association the General Assembly will appoint a liquidator. The Executive Committee may be appointed as such.
- 2. Where at liquidation sufficient funds are lacking, the liquidator has the right to demand additional payment from the members of the Association to cover the lack of funds. The additional payment will be pro rata to the latest fee paid by the members.
- 3. Where at liquidation funds remain these will be reimbursed to the members pro rata to the total of the fees paid by the members over the duration of their membership.