

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION

INTERNATIONAL SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION STATUTES.

Preamble.

The undersigned sociologists from various countries, having met in Oslo from 5 - 11 September 1949, under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, being convinced of the desirability and necessity of improving relations between sociologists of various countries, hereby establish the International Sociological Association.

Article I. Nature of Organisation.

The International Sociological Association is an organisation for purely scientific purposes.

Article II. Purposes.

The object of the Association is to advance sociological knowledge throughout the world. To this end the Association shall undertake measures of international collaboration designed to assist the advancement of sociological study, teaching and research, and in particular:

- (a) To secure and to develop personal contacts between sociologists throughout the world.
- (b) To encourage the international dissemination and exchange of information on significant developments in sociological knowledge.
- (c) To facilitate and promote international sociological research.

Article III. Membership.

- (1) Membership in the Association, in principle, shall consist only of sociological organisations.
- (2) In countries or regions, however, where no organisations which are affiliated with the International Sociological Association exist membership shall be open to qualified individuals until a national or regional organisation whose membership is open to such individuals, is formed.
- (3) Otherwise qualified sociologists, sociological institutes and institutions, whether members of national or regional societies or not, are also eligible for individual membership in special circumstances.

*) Superseding document UNESCO/SS/ISA/8 of 8. September 1949.

- (4) Organisations and institutions concerned with problems related to sociology but not directly active in the field of sociology shall be eligible for associated membership. Associate members shall have the right to participate in all activities of the Association but shall not be entitled to take part in the designation of a national representative to the Council or to vote in the Council.

The Executive Committee, or Membership Committee designated by it, shall have power to set up qualifications for the several types of memberships and pass on all applications for membership.

Article IV. Governing Body.

The supreme governing body of the Association shall be the Council. In the interim between meetings of the Council, the powers of the Council, with the exception of the power of amending the constitution, shall be vested in the Executive Committee.

Article V. The Council.

Every country whose sociological organisations are affiliated with the International Sociological Association shall have at least one member and one vote and not more than two members and two votes in the Council.

Whether a country shall have two members in the Council shall be determined from time to time by a two-thirds vote of the Council, taking into account the importance of sociology in each country.

The Council shall consist of one or two members from each country to be designated by the affiliated sociological organisation or organisation representative of the affiliated members in that country. In case of disagreement on a country's members in the Council, or in case no affiliated sociological organisation exists, the Council shall have power to decide on the representation of the country in question.

One or more alternate members may be designated from each country. These alternate members shall have the privilege of participating in the deliberations of the Council, but shall have no votes unless representing the absent Council member.

The members of the Council shall hold office for a term of three years or until the respective successors are chosen.

The Council shall elect the President of the Association and one or more Vice-Presidents and the members of the Executive Committee.

All decisions of the Council shall be reached by majority vote of those present, except as specified in article XI, which require a two-thirds vote of those present.

The Council shall meet at least once every three years. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or upon the written request of one-third of the members of the Council.

One-third of the total membership of the Council shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of Council meetings mail votes shall have the same effect as votes taken at Council meetings.

Article VI. The Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of not less than seven and not more than eleven members, including the President and the Vice-Presidents of the Association. It shall be elected by the Council from among the Council's own members.

In case of vacancies on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall have the power to fill vacancies from the Council membership.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every three years. Special meetings may be called by the President or upon the written request of one third of its members. The term of office of members of the Executive Committee shall be six years, except that one half of the original Executive Committee members shall have terms of three years. All other rules of procedure of the Council shall also apply to the Executive Committee.

Article VII. The Executive Secretary.

The Executive Secretary shall be elected by the Executive Committee for a term of three years. He need not be a member of the Council.

He shall be in charge of the administrative affairs of the Associations and will receive instructions from the Executive Committee through the President and will be responsible to the Executive Committee.

He shall make full reports on the state of the organisation, its membership, finances, programme, activities and accomplishments at least twice a year.

The stipend and allowances of the Executive Secretary shall be fixed by the Executive Committee.

The office of Treasurer may be combined with that of Executive Secretary in the same person.

Article VIII. President and Vice-Presidents.

The term of office of the President and Vice-Presidents shall be three years. The President shall not be eligible for re-election to the office of President.

The President shall preside at all of the meetings of the Council and Executive Committee. In this absence a Vice-President shall preside.

Article IX. Headquarters of the Organisation.

The Headquarters of the Organisation shall be determined by the Executive Committee at the time of the election of the Executive Secretary.

Article X. Dues.

The dues of member organisations and individual members shall be fixed by vote of the Council.

Article XI. Amendments.

Amendments to the constitution shall only be voted on at meetings of the Council at which at least one half of the total Council membership is present and shall require a two-thirds vote of those present and shall not come into effect until ratified by a two-thirds mail vote of the total membership of the Council unless the vote for the amendment at the Council meeting constituted a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Council.

All proposed amendments shall be submitted to members of the Council in writing at least sixty days before the date of the meeting where they are to be acted upon.
