



**World Association for Sexual Health (WAS)**

# **STATUTES AND BYLAWS**

**Approved by the WAS General Assembly on November  
the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 in Antalya, Turkey.**

# STATUTES

## Section I DEFINITION-MISSION-PURPOSE-MEMBERSHIP

**Statute 1.** The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) is an international confederation made up of federations, international and national societies, associations, institutes, and individual supporting members, professionally involved in the field of sexual health and rights, including sexual well-being, clinical sexology, sexuality research, sexuality education, sexual public policy and laws, and advocacy.

**Statute 2.** The World Association for Sexual Health is incorporated in Minnesota, United States of America as a non-profit organization.

**Statute 3.** The Statutes are written in English, which is the official language.

**Statute 4.** The application of the present Statutes is assisted by the By-Laws.

### **Statute 5. Vision and mission of WAS.**

**Vision of WAS:** Sexual Health and Rights for ALL.

**Mission Statement:** The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) promotes and advocates for sexual health and sexual rights throughout the lifespan and across the world by advancing sexology, science-based sexuality knowledge, research, comprehensive sexuality education, clinical care, and services.

The purpose of WAS is to advance international cooperation in the field of Sexual Health and to coordinate activities designed to increase research and knowledge in sexual health and

sexual rights, including sexuality education, sexual medicine, psycho-sexology, policy making and advocacy.

**The mission of WAS is carried out through:**

- I. Promoting sexual rights for all.
- II. Developing the field of sexuality, sexual health, and sexology.
- III. Facilitating the dissemination and exchange of information, ideas, and experiences.
- IV. Promoting scientific and ethical standards for educating professionals and others working in the area.
- V. Establish and maintain working relations with international agencies, organizations, and societies.

**Statute 6.** The World Association for Sexual Health has six different types of members:

1. International Organizations
2. National Organizations
3. Professional Institutes
4. Individual supporting members
5. Student members
6. Honorary members

**Statute 7. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:** are those organizations working at an international level and/or in several countries with a focus in areas related to sexual health, sexuality education or sexual rights that submit an official application and are admitted by the General Assembly of WAS.

**Statute 8. NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:** are those organizations that have a membership representative of a country's sexual health, sexuality education or sexual rights related professionals and others that submit an official application and are admitted by the General Assembly of WAS.

**Statute 9. PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTES:** are groups of two or more individuals who organize themselves to provide services or products in the areas related to sexual health, sexuality education or sexual rights that submit an official application and are admitted by the General Assembly of WAS.

**Statute 10. INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTING MEMBERS:** are those individuals working professionally in areas related to sexual health, sexuality education or sexual rights who submit an official application and are admitted by the General Assembly of WAS.

**Statute 11. STUDENT MEMBERS:** are those individuals enrolled in a relevant course of study, in a recognised University, College or WAS Professional Institute who submit an official application and are admitted by the General Assembly of WAS.

**Statute 12. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP:** may be conferred by the General Assembly to persons or organizations who have made important contributions in the area of sexual health, sexuality education or sexual rights or to an individual who has provided outstanding service to WAS.

**Statute 13.** There are Regional Federations affiliated with WAS composed of organizations working in sexual health, sexuality education sexual

rights. The presidents of these Federations are part of the governing bodies of WAS.

**Statute 14.** Membership of WAS may be terminated by resignation or suspension. Suspension is an action taken by the General Assembly or by the Executive Committee between meetings of the General Assembly with the approval of the majority (half plus one) of the members of the Advisory Committee of WAS. Members who have not paid dues for more than 4 years will have their membership automatically terminated.

## **Section II ORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH**

**Statute 15.** The World Association for Sexual Health has three operating bodies: The General Assembly, the Advisory Committee, and the Executive Committee.

**Statute 16.** The General Assembly is the governing body of WAS.

**Statute 17.** The General Assembly is composed of:

(1). Delegates from each member organization. The number of delegate votes of each member organization will be from *one* to six according to the conditions stated in the Bylaws.

(2). Members of the Advisory Committee of WAS. Elected members of the Advisory Committee and Federation President will have one vote each.

(3). Individual supporting members may be present in the General Assembly; they may participate and comment but will not have a vote.

**Statute 18.** The General Assembly meets every year. When the World Congress of Sexual Health occurs, then the General Assembly meeting will occur during the Congress. The general assembly will meet face-to-face every time that conditions permit during the Congress.

Every effort will be made to have the meeting available via an online platform, so absent members can participate via online connection.

In the years that there is no in-person meeting, the General Assembly will be conducted online via a functional platform. Voting will also be implemented via electronic options that allow online secure and secret voting in the case of elections or contested decisions.

A special General Assembly may be convened by the Executive Committee or at the request of the majority (half plus one) of the members of the Advisory Committee or the request made by 30% of the organizational members of WAS.

The agenda of the General Assembly is proposed by Officers to the Executive the Executive Committee and should be approved by the Advisory Committee. Any agenda should have as the last point: Miscellaneous. The decisions of the General Assembly are based upon a simple majority vote, excluding any amendment to these Statutes.

The announcement of an Assembly should be made via secured electronic means at least 30 days in advance.

**Statute 19.** The General Assembly of the World Association for Sexual Health has the following functions:

1. Receives and approves the Report from the President
2. Receives and approves the Report from the Secretary-General/Treasurer, which should include a financial statement and a budget for the following year
3. Receives the Report from the Organizing Committee of the World Congresses
4. Receives the Report of other Statutory Committees and from any *ad hoc committees* that have been created.
5. Approves the membership of new applicants.
6. Elects from among its members 19 persons to the Advisory Committee for a period of 4 years. The voting is secret. For a valid election, the persons elected must represent a minimum of ten nationalities and at least five continents. A gender balance of the Advisory Committee is also required. Gender balance is understood as a proportional representation of the elected members from the human diversity of gender identities, hence it is required that gender identities represented in the final election be at least 40% men and 40% women and 5 % gender minority identities (intersex, non-binary, transgender, gender fluid, etc.), If the representation cannot be achieved with the available candidates, the best approximation to this requirements will be enforced.

7. It is understood that the voting will be completed and announced on the day that the ordinary General Assembly takes place. A gender balance of the Advisory Committee is also required. It is understood that the voting will be completed and announced on the day that the ordinary General Assembly takes place.
8. Decides upon matters brought to the attention of the General Assembly

**Statute 20.** The General Assembly of WAS is represented by a body called the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee is the second-ranking governing body of the World Association for Sexual Health. It consists of 19 elected members, the immediate Past President of WAS, and the current Presidents of the Regional Federations. All these described members of the Advisory Committee have voting rights.

All Past Presidents of WAS are considered ex-officio members of the Advisory Committee (without voting rights). Other ex-officio members may be nominated; however, they shall not have voting rights.

**Statute 21.** The Advisory Committee is a consultative, supportive, decisive, and supervising body whose fundamental role is to watch over the stability of WAS.

**Statute 22.** The Advisory Committee meets at the request of the President of WAS or when at least 51% of its members request a meeting. It is mandatory that the Advisory Committee meet before any General Assembly (ordinary or extraordinary).

The Advisory Committee shall meet any time it is required by the Executive Committee as a whole or by any five (5) members of the Executive Committee. Its decisions are based on a simple majority vote. The Advisory committee meets at least twice per year. Meetings can be held via electronic platforms or in a hybrid nature when part of the committee meets face to face and the rest of participants online.

**Statute 23.** The Advisory Committee has the following functions:

1. Elect among its elected members an Executive Committee comprising a President, Vice-President and four Associate Secretaries immediately after their election by the General Assembly. After that, the new President will choose the Secretary General/Treasurer from among the members of the new Advisory Committee
2. Serve on the various statutory and ad-hoc committees of WAS.
3. Approve the strategy of WAS as proposed by the WAS Executive Committee
4. Approve the theme for World Sexual Health Day each year.
5. Approve the hosting member organisation, venue and PCO for upcoming WAS Congresses
6. Approve any suspension of membership.
7. Approve the agenda for the ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly
8. Approve any impeachment of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary General/Treasurer, or any other Advisory Committee member.

9. Approve or deny any recommendation for membership (Individual or Organizational) made by the Executive Committee.

**Statute 24.** The Executive Committee is the third-ranking governing body of the World Association for Sexual Health.

**Statute 25.** The General Assembly and the Advisory Committee delegate the execution of daily activities, management of projects and executive decisions to the Executive Committee.

Their decisions are based on a simple majority vote. Any decision that implies a new policy, a new procedure or that would require the approval of the General Assembly must be consulted and approved by the Advisory Committee of WAS.

**Statute 26.** A meeting of the Executive Committee will be conducted at least four times a year through online, hybrid or face to face meetings.

**Statute 27.** The Executive Committee has the following members: President, Vice-President, Secretary General/Treasurer, four (4) Associate Secretaries, the immediate Past-President of WAS, the current Regional Federation Presidents, and the Chair of the Scientific Committee.

**Statute 28.** The officers are President, Vice-President, Secretary General/Treasurer, and Immediate Past-President. The Officers are in charge of carrying out the daily activities necessary for the Association to fulfill its purposes. The Officers need to be in constant communication and to have

regular meetings via electronic means, hybrid, or face to face.

**Statute 29.** The President of WAS is the chairperson of the Executive Committee, the

Advisory Committee and of the General Assembly. The President, along with the other

Executive Officers, - Vice President, Past President and Secretary General /Treasurer are entrusted with the conceptualisation and definition of the WAS Strategy and once approval has been obtained from the WAS Executive Committee and WAS Advisory Committee, the

execution of the WAS Strategy. The Executive Officers are also tasked with the responsibility for the execution of the daily work of WAS. The Vice-President is in charge of overseeing publications, statements and other documents issued by the different committees of WAS. At the end of their term of office, the President will remain a member of the Executive Committee as Immediate Past-President for an additional term.

For these activities, the President might contract professional organisations or individuals who always will act and report under the supervision of the Officers. The hiring of any personnel should comply with the approved policies by the Advisory Committee.

**Statute 30.** The Vice-President acts in the absence of the President representing the Association and may be entrusted with special duties by the Executive or Advisory Committee.

**Statute 31.** The Vice-President will be an official representation of WAS as defined by the role of the Vice-President. In the case of a prolonged absence of the

President, the Vice President will become the Acting President of the Association with all responsibilities and duties pertaining to the President by the Advisory Committee.

If the absence of the President extends for 6 months, the Vice-President will become President, and the Advisory Committee will conduct a new election for Vice President.

In the case that the elected person holds a position in the executive committee, a new election is required of the Advisory Committee to fill the vacant position, according to Statute 23 item 1. The criterion of absence is decided by the Executive Committee.

**Statute 32.** The Secretary-General/Treasurer is entrusted, along with the President and the other officers, with carrying out the day-to-day work of WAS, and will be responsible for the execution of all decisions taken by the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee and the Executive Committee and is accountable for the policies and activities of the WAS.

The Secretary-General/Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of WAS and for presenting an audited financial statement to the General Assembly.

All responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General/Treasurer might be fulfilled via contracting professional organizations or individuals that might act under the supervision of the Secretary-General/Treasurer, and the Officers. The hiring of any personnel should comply with the approved policies by the Advisory Committee.

**Statute 33.** In case of conflicting interests between the Executive Officers, the officers may request that the Executive Committee vote to remove one or more of the officers and choose a replacement/replacements from the members of the Advisory Committee. The officer(s) may appeal to the Advisory Committee if they believe that the Executive Committee's decision was unfair.

**Statute 34.** The Secretary-General/Treasurer, at the end of their term, should provide, in electronic form, a detailed and complete record of WAS programmatic and financial activities, including the USA IRS returns undertaken during their term and a report on WAS' current financial status.

For these activities, the Secretary General/Treasurer might contract professional organizations or individuals who always will act and report under the supervision of the Officers. The hiring of any personnel should comply with the approved policies by the Advisory Committee.

**Statute 35.** The Associate Secretaries play an active role in the functions of the Executive Committee. They may be entrusted with special duties by the Executive or Advisory Committee.

**Statute 36.** Decisions on the day to day running of WAS are made by consensus of the Officers or a majority vote. For all contentious issues, the Officers convene the Executive Committee and follow its decisions made by a simple majority vote.

**Statute 43.** All Committees must maintain an official record (minutes) of each meeting and present an annual report to the Executive and Advisory Committees and to the biennial General Assembly. Interim reports shall also be submitted upon request by the Executive Officers.

**Statute 37.** No member of the Executive Committee may be re-elected for a consecutive second term in the same position, and in no case may a successor to a President be from the same country.

**Statute 38.** The World Association for Sexual Health has as income sources the following:

- i. Dues of the member organizations.
- ii. Dues of individual and student members.
- iii. Income from the World Congresses, Regional Meetings, etc.
- iv. Grants, donations and/or special contributions.
- v. Any other approved income.

**Statute 39.** The Secretary-General/Treasurer of WAS, in accordance with the President, should present an annual operating budget to the Executive and Advisory Committees and reports on this budget to the General Assembly of WAS.

#### **Section IV COMMITTEES**

##### **STATUTORY**

**Statute 40.** There shall be the following Statutory Committees:

- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Scientific Committee
- Sexual Rights Committee
- Membership Committee

**Statute 41.** Each Committee will operate under approved Terms of Reference approved by the Advisory Committee.

**Statute 42.** The chair and composition of each Committee shall be proposed by the Executive Officers and approved by the Advisory Committee.

**Statute 43.** All Committees must maintain an official record (minutes) of each meeting and present an annual report to the Executive and Advisory Committees and to the biennial General Assembly. Interim reports shall also be submitted upon request by the Executive Officers.

##### **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**Statute 44.** The Executive Officers may propose to the Advisory Committee the establishment of *ad hoc* committees as the need arises. If approved, all *ad hoc* committees shall be governed by Terms of Reference and follow the same requirements of Statutory Committees.

##### **COUNCIL OF PAST PRESIDENTS**

**Statute 45.** Council of Past Presidents: A council of all WAS past presidents will be called upon to advise and offer guidance to the President of WAS. Its role is that of a consultative body and might be requested by the President or the Advisory or Executive Committees.

This council is advisory and does not have a vote on the Advisory Committee. The Chairperson of the Council of Presidents shall be the Immediate Past President. This council is required to have at least one meeting every year with the current President of WAS.



## **Section V MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES**

**Statute 46.** The Statutes of the World Association for Sexual Health may be modified on the recommendation of the General Assembly taken by two-thirds majority vote after a proposal offered by the Advisory Committee or any five (5) members of the General Assembly. Any proposed change must be presented to the membership at least 30 days before the day of the General Assembly.

## **Section VI DISSOLUTION OF WAS**

**Statute 47.** A quorum of two-thirds of the member organizations is necessary in order that the General Assembly may, by a two-thirds majority, order the dissolution of the Association. The distribution and allocation of funds, goods and property of WAS will follow the procedures required of the non-profit status granted by the USA authority.

# BYLAWS

## Section I HEADQUARTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

**Item 1.** The World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) is incorporated in the United States of America and subject to the civil laws and regulations of that country.

**Item 2.** WAS has one official address, where the Association is incorporated. The current President and Secretary General/Treasurer addresses may also be used.

## Section II

### MEMBERSHIP

**Item 3.** Any National or International Sexological Society, Association or Institute may request admission to the World Association for Sexual Health. A Sexological Society, Association or Institute is a properly constituted organization concerned with sexuality, whether it is research, education, diagnosis and/or therapy, sexual health, or sexual rights promotion.

**Item 4.** International Organizations, National Organizations and Professional Institutes may apply for membership in WAS. The application should be completed and submitted through the WAS Website and must include:

- The name of the Society, Association, or Institute.
- The date of its formation.
- Its purpose and objectives.
- Its statutes and bylaws/memorandum of incorporation or other regulatory documents.

- The names of its members and officers, including email addresses.
- A one-page report of the activities since its inception, especially referring to the last year as well as a plan for the next year.
- Links to social media accounts.
- A written statement to confirm that the organisation or institution operates within all legal and ethical frameworks within their country of registration.
- Two letters of recommendation from colleagues respected in the field of sexual health, sexology, sexual rights, or sex education, referring specifically to the organisation's area of work.
- The proper dues.

After hearing the advice of the Executive and the Advisory Committees, the General Assembly, at the beginning of its ordinary meeting, a decision will be made on the admission of the applicant societies, associations, institutes, or groups to WAS.

Those applicants who are admitted are invited to attend the General Assembly. Between General Assemblies, the Executive Committee is permitted to grant provisional member status to an applicant member as long as all proper documentation has been received and reviewed. Final acceptance or rejection of membership is made by the next General Assembly.

**Item 5.** An individual may apply for individual supporting membership of WAS. The application should be completed and submitted through the WAS Website and must include:

- A registration form.
- Proof of qualifications and registration with a professional body in the country of origin (as a medical doctor, nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, psychologist, social worker, educator, or proof of employment as a researcher or in another academic capacity, related to sexual health, sexology, sexual rights or sex education, at a nationally recognized, legal, institution).
- A signed statement that the individual will comply with the ethical principles of WAS and not use WAS membership as false representation of skills or qualifications.
- Payment of fees

In cases where *there is no qualification and/or professional registration as stated above*, WAS will require:

- A curriculum vitae
- Two letters of recommendation from colleagues respected in the field of sexual health, sexology, sexual rights, or sex education, referring specifically to the individual's scope of practice or area of work. A personal letter stating why WAS membership is desired and will be beneficial for the individual.

The application will be reviewed by the WAS administrator, and all applicants who meet all the requirements, including a professional qualification and/or registration, will be granted provisional membership.

All other applications will be forwarded to the Membership Committee, who will review the applications and grant provisional membership if all requirements have been met.

All provisional members and rejected members will be brought before the Advisory Committee and reviewed.

All provisional members will also be made known to the other members of WAS.

Provisional Membership might be withdrawn in cases where the Advisory Committee or other members object.

Rejected members will have the right to appeal to the General Assembly.

Final acceptance or rejection of membership is made by the next General Assembly. Individual supporting members do not have a vote in the General Assembly.

**Item 6.** An individual may apply for student membership for WAS. The application should be completed and submitted through the WAS website and must include:

- Evidence of current, full-time enrolment in a recognized university, college or a Professional Institute recognised by WAS.
- A curriculum vitae.
- Two letters of recommendation from colleagues respected in the field of sexual health, sexology, sexual rights, or sex education, referring specifically to the individual's scope of practice or area of study.
- The corresponding payment of dues.

The application will be forwarded to the Executive and Advisory Committees, which recommend admission to the General Assembly.

Between General Assemblies, the Executive Committee is permitted to grant provisional member status to an applicant as long as all proper documentation has been received and reviewed.

Final acceptance or rejection of membership is made by the next General Assembly. Student members do not have a vote in the General Assembly.

**Item 7.** The Advisory Committee may recommend that Honorary Individual Membership be conferred to a person who has carried out important work in the field of sexual health. Final acceptance or rejection of honorary membership will be made by the next General Assembly.

**Item 8.** An impeachment process against anyone holding an office within WAS may be initiated by the Executive Committee, by a member of the Advisory Committee or by three (3) member organizations. This action should be approved by the General Assembly if it is in session or by a two-thirds majority vote of the members of the Advisory Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

**Item 9.** A suspension of WAS membership is an action that could be taken in the General Assembly if it is in session or by a majority (half plus one) vote of the members of the Advisory Committee when the General Assembly is not in session.

### **Section III GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Item 10.** Before each General Assembly a meeting of the Executive Committee and Advisory Committee will be held.

**Item 11.** Each member organization is allowed one to six delegates to the General Assembly. Only delegates from member organizations whose dues are paid to date may vote.

A delegate may represent only one member organization at the General Assembly, having the right to vote as many times as the number of votes this organization has.

**Item 12.** The Executive Committee draws up the agenda of the General Assembly, which is approved by the Advisory Committee before being sent to the member organizations.

Members of the General Assembly may request the addition of items to the agenda when this is presented for approval to the Assembly at the beginning of the meeting. Acceptance or rejection of additional agenda items will be decided by a simple majority vote of the General Assembly.

**Item 13.** Membership dues are to be paid on an annual basis and are determined based on the type of membership (organizational or individual) and on the number of members of an organization. The following categories will be used:

- Individual supporting members
- Student members
- Organizations with up to 100 members
- Organizations with 101 to 399 members
- Organizations with 400 to 699 members
- Organizations with 700 to 999 members
- Organizations with 1000 to 1999 members
- Organizations with 2000 or more members.

The calendar year for computing payment shall commence on January 1<sup>st</sup> and terminate on December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

The dollar amount of dues for individual supporting members and member organizations shall be determined by the Advisory Committee and approved by the General Assembly for the period immediately following each General Assembly Meeting.

**Item 14.** Voting Delegates in the General Assembly:

1) Each member organisation shall be entitled to:

- One (1) Delegate for less than 100 members
- Two (2) Delegates for 101 to 399 members
- Three (3) Delegates for 400 to 699 members

- Four (4) Delegates for 700 to 999 members
- Five (5) Delegates for 1000 to 1999 members
- Six (6) Delegates for 2000 members or more.

2) Only the organizations whose membership dues are paid to date are eligible to vote at the General Assembly.

3) At the beginning of each calendar year, member organizations must electronically submit a mailing list of its members and list of current officers, including contact email addresses, to the Secretary-General/Treasurer. Membership dues will be determined using this information.

**Item 15.** The Executive Committee will suspend the membership of any organization or individual supporting member that is four (4) or more years in arrears with their payment of dues.

A re-joining fee will be required, the sum being determined and declared by Advisory Committee.

**Item 16.** Members of the Advisory Committee are elected by secret ballot every four (4) years. The voting shall be conducted pursuant to Statute 19 point 6.

**Item 17.** The General Assembly may vote by secret ballot vote or by a show of hands on all other actionable items on the agenda. Electronic and secret voting will be preferred and implemented as much as conditions permit.

#### **Section IV SECRETARIAL AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**Item 18.** The secretarial and financial management responsibilities of WAS are the charge of the Secretary-General/Treasurer and the President.

The hiring of appropriate staff and external consultants to complete necessary tasks is at their discretion. These may include, but are not limited to, accounting and auditing consultants, legal and technical advisors, and assistants for financial and clerical activities.

**Item 19.** All correspondence received and sent by WAS should be handled by the President and/or the Secretary-General /Treasurer. The proper filing of the correspondence should be made in electronic form for easy transmission to the subsequent elected officers.

**Item 20.** The Secretary-General/Treasurer is responsible for the financial management of WAS, controlling the WAS resources with whatever means of disposition are decided to be convenient by the officers.

**Item 21.** All WAS expenditure is subject to approval by the Secretary-General/Treasurer and the President through prior submission of a detailed and evidenced request.

**Item 22.** At each meeting of the Executive and Advisory Committees and the General Assembly, the Secretary-General/Treasurer shall report on the current financial position of WAS. The Secretary-General/Treasurer will be a member of any Finance Committee appointed by the Executive Committee.

**Item 23.** During the period between the ordinary General Assemblies, the Executive Committee is entrusted by the General Assembly with the operations of WAS.

#### **Section V WORLD CONGRESS OF THE WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR SEXUAL HEALTH**

**Item 24.** The World Congress of WAS must be held every two (2) years, taking into consideration the dates and locations of other related Congresses and meetings.

**Item 25.** The date and location of upcoming World Congresses shall be proposed, after evaluation of eventual bids, by the Executive to the Advisory Committees, which will decide according to the best available evidence pertaining to feasibility, economic viability, and logistic considerations.

**Item 26.** The General Assembly, based on recommendations from the Executive and Advisory Committees, will elect the President of a World Congress.

In the absence of an ordinary General Assembly, the WAS Advisory Committee is empowered to elect a provisional Congress President with final approval pending at the next General Assembly of the WAS. The President of the Congress must have the support of a WAS member organisation.

**Item 27.** A written agreement must be made between all organizations and individuals responsible for the World Congress.

These may include, but are not limited to, the Host Organizing Committee of a World Congress, the President of the Congress, any other responsible individuals associated with WAS member organization(s), the WAS President, the Secretary-General/Treasurer, and any other entity entrusted by WAS for the organization of its World Congress.

**Item 28.** The finances of the World Congress of WAS will be the responsibility of the WAS Executive Committee, which may entrust a Professional Congress Organization Company (PCO) to ensure the best promotion, fundraising and attendance of the WAS Congresses.

**Item 29.** The responsibilities of the President of the Congress, under the supervision and with the advice and approval of the Executive and Scientific Committees, will encompass the following:

1. The responsibility to structure the scientific program after the proposal by the WAS scientific committee.
2. The establishment of a Host Organizing Committee and a Host Scientific Committee, which

will take charge of the various tasks necessary for the organization of the Congress.

3. To provide input to the WAS Scientific Committee in the process of organizing the Congress.

**Item 30.** The President of a Congress of WAS will serve as an Ex-officio member of the Advisory Committee, with no voting rights.

**Item 31.** The President of a Congress is an office independent from that of the President of WAS. The President of a Congress cannot hold the office of the President of WAS during the period they serves as President of the Congress.

**Item 32** The President of the Congress or the appointed PCO must present a full, independent, audited financial report on the World Congress within six months of the conclusion of the Congress.

This report will be submitted to the Executive and Advisory Committees. In addition, the report will be delivered by either the appointed PCO or the President of WAS at the next General Assembly of WAS.