# Statutes of the International Research Group on Very Low Dose and High Dilution Effects (*Groupe International de* Recherche sur I'Infinitésimal, GIRI)

# Name and headquarters

#### Article 1

International Research Group on Very Low Dose and High Dilution Effects (*Groupe International de Recherche sur l'Infinitésimal*), named later GIRI, is a non-profit association governed by the present statutes and, secondly, by Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code. It is neutral politically, and non-denominational. The Association is an independent international scientific society and is continuing the tradition of the Association with same name registered the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1994 in the *Journal Officiel de la République Fancaise 'Lois et Décrets'* 126 année, No. 1.

#### **Article 2**

The Organization's headquarters are located in Dornach, Switzerland. The Association shall be of unlimited duration.

# Aims

## Article 3

The aim of the GIRI is to bring together pharmacologists, biologists, physicians, chemists, physicists, mathematicians and other scientists to communicate, exchange experiences and develop joint research projects; the distinctive feature of the research activities of the group is the study of ultra low doses or very high dilutions, homoeopathic preparations included. The mechanism of action of the very dilute solutions of active principles on biological systems is the main concern of the GIRI; however, due to its translational feature, all GIRI activities are also directed towards the possible medicinal and therapeutic relevance of very low doses and high dilutions, as well the development of technological tools in agriculture, veterinary and environment management.

More specifically, the Association shall pursue the following aims:

- Organization of yearly workshops providing to the participants the possibility to present their studies in the field of basic or clinical homeopathy research. This aim includes collecting and reviewing of abstracts, assignment of the approved abstracts for oral or poster presentations, notification of authors, planning of a conference schedule, and organization of a venue.
- Hosting of the International Journal of High Dilution Research (IJHDR).

- Publishing of the GIRI-meeting proceedings in IJHDR.
- Emission of a newsletter (monthly or bi-monthly).
- Supporting and facilitating of the establishment of national and international scientific collaboration projects in the field of basic and clinical research in homeopathy.
- Promoting high quality basic and clinical research in homeopathy.
- Collaboration with other organs pursuing similar aims.

# Resources

# Article 4

The Association's resources are derived from:

- donations and legacies;
- sponsorship;
- · public subsidies;
- · membership fees;
- any other resources authorized by the law.

The funds shall be used in accordance with the Association's social aims. No sponsor has the right to define or influence aims or activities of the Association.

# Members

#### Article 5

Any physical or moral person may become a member if (i) they have demonstrated their dedication to the goals of the Association through their commitments or actions, and (ii) provided that they are not employed the Association.

The Association has different member categories:

- scientific members, with full voting rights
- honorary members, with full voting rights
- institutional members, without voting rights
- student members, without voting rights

Requests to become a member must be addressed to the Committee. The Committee may also approach and invite members. The Committee admits or refuses new members and informs the General Assembly about any new or refused members.

The Committee appoints the state of membership (scientific member, honorary member, institutional member, student member) to any new member. To apply for being scientific member of the Association, a person has to be author or co-author of at least one scientific peer-reviewed article. To become a student member a person has to be enrolled at a full-time university or to be active in a PhD or MD thesis.

Membership ceases:

a) on death;

- b) by written resignation;
- c) by exclusion ordered by the Committee, for just cause, with a right of appeal to the General Assembly. Appeals must be lodged within 30 days of the Committee's decision being notified.

Members who have resigned or who are excluded have no rights to any part of the Association's assets.

Only the Association's assets may be used for obligations/commitments contracted in its name. Members have no personal liability.

# **Organs**

### Article 6

The Association shall include the following organs:

- a) The General Assembly,
- b) The Main Board,
- c) The Executive Committee.

# **General Assembly**

## Article 7

The General Assembly is the Association's supreme authority. It is composed of all members with full voting rights.

The General Assembly shall hold an Ordinary Meeting once each year. It may also hold an extraordinary session whenever necessary, at the request of the Committee or at least of one-fifth of its members.

The General Assembly shall be considered valid regardless of the number of members present.

The Committee shall inform the members in writing of the date of the General Assembly at least six weeks in advance. The notification, including the proposed agenda, shall be sent to each member at least 10 days prior to the date of the meeting.

## Article 8

The General Assembly:

- a) shall approve the admission and expulsion of members;
- b) appoints the members of the Main Board and the Committee and elects the President, two vice-Presidents, the Secretary, and the Treasurer;
- c) notes the contents of the reports and financial statements for the year and votes on their adoption;
- d) approves the annual budget;
- e) supervises the activity of other organs, which it may dismiss, stating the grounds therefore;

- f) appoints an auditor for the Organization's accounts;
- g) decides on any modification of statutes;
- h) decides on the dissolution of the Association;
- i) fixes the annual membership fees.

#### Article 9

The General Assembly is presided over by the President of the Association.

#### Article 10

Decisions of the General Assembly shall be taken by a majority vote of the members present. In case of deadlock, the President shall have the casting vote.

Decisions concerning the amendment of the Statutes and the dissolution of the Association must be approved by a two-third majority of the members present.

#### Article 11

Votes are by a show of hands. Voting can also take place by secret ballot, if at least five members request it.

### **Article 12**

The agenda of the ordinary annual session of the General Assembly must include:

- approval of the Minutes of the previous General Assembly
- the Committee's annual Activity Report
- the report of the Treasurer and of the Auditor
- the setting of membership fees
- approval of the budget
- approval of reports and accounts
- planning of the next GIRI meeting
- · election of Committee members and Auditor
- miscellaneous business

# **Committee and Main Board**

#### Article 13

The Committee is authorized to carry out all acts that further the purposes of the Association. It has the most extensive powers to manage the Association's day-to-day affairs.

#### Article 14

The Committee is composed of a President, 2 Vice-presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer and an Editor. This Committee is renewed every three years. Each member's term of office shall last

for three years and is renewable three times. The President can only be reelected once. The Committee meets as often as the Association's business requires.

The Main Board is composed of 15 members elected by the whole body of scientists and honorary members every 3 years. The Main Board may propose members of the Committee. The president may propose the secretary, the treasurer and the editor. The role of the Main Board is to assist the Committee for its executive activities; members of the Main Board are entitled to propose activities to the Committee. The committee consults the Main Board for important questions relating to the activities of the Association.

### Article 15

The Committee and Main Board members work on a volunteer basis and as such can only be reimbursed for their actual expenses and travel costs. Potential attendance fees cannot exceed those paid for official commissions. For activities beyond the usual function, each Committee member is eligible for appropriate compensation.

Any paid employees of the Association have only a consultative vote on the Committee.

# Article 16

The functions of the Committee are:

- to take the appropriate measures to achieve the goals of the Association;
- to convene the ordinary and extraordinary General Assemblies;
- to take decisions with regard to admission of new members as well as the resignation and possible expulsion of members;
- to ensure that Statutes are applied, to draft rules of procedure, and to administer the assets of the Association;
- to define the program and the organization of the following meeting together with the host.

The Committee distributes the tasks to be accomplished amongst its members. The president has the right to appoint specific tasks to specific members of the Committee.

#### Article 17

The Association is legally bound by the joint signature of the President and one other member of the Committee.

# Various provisions

#### Article 18

The financial year shall begin on 1 January and end on 31 December of each year. The Treasurer is responsible for the Association's finances. Financial transactions up to CHF 1000 can be performed by single signature of either president, vice-president or treasurer.

### Article 19

Should the Association be dissolved, the available assets should be transferred to a non-profit organization pursuing public interest goals similar to those of the Association and likewise benefiting from tax exemption. Under no circumstances should the assets be returned to the founders or members. Nor should they use a part or a total of assets for their own benefit.

The present Statutes have been approved by the Constituent General Assembly of September 11, 2016 at Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

For the Association

Stephan Baumgartner

President

Carla Holandino Vice-President 1

Maria Olga Kokornaczyk Vice-President 2

Woller in couch

Martien Bran

Secretary

Leoni Bonamin

Editor