

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR RADIONUCLIDE METROLOGY

Adopted at the General Meeting in Gaithersburg, USA
23 May, 1997

1. Name and Membership

- 1.1 The name of the organisation is “International Committee for Radionuclide Metrology”, hereinafter referred to as “ICRM”⁽¹⁾.
- 1.2 ICRM is an international association of radionuclide metrology laboratories whose membership comprises delegates of such laboratories together with other scientists engaged in the study and applications of radioactivity.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of ICRM shall be to promote, through the active participation of all its members, the advancement of radionuclide metrology in the world-wide applications of radioactivity and to disseminate information relating to, for example, new metrological methods or recent nuclear data.

3. Membership and Rights and Obligations of Members.

- 3.1 ICRM shall comprise two types of membership: these shall be designated “delegate” and “associate”. In this document “member (s)” shall refer collectively to both types of membership.
- 3.2 A delegate shall be the person who represents a national standardising laboratory or any other organisation that actively pursues the objectives of ICRM. This delegate shall be appointed by his or her organisation, to represent it in all its interactions with ICRM, by the procedure specified in Section 5 of these bylaws, which also specifies the procedure for any change in representation.
- 3.3 An associate shall be a person who is recognised for his or her special contributions to the work of the ICRM working groups or who has indicated his or her willingness to serve in an ICRM organisation (clause 4.2), and shall be appointed in accordance with Section 6.
- 3.4 Voting⁽²⁾ at General Meetings of the members (Section 7) is restricted to delegates.
- 3.5 Any matter to be decided by majority vote by the delegates shall be the subject of a resolution proposed by a delegate or associate and seconded by a delegate.
- 3.6 Each member of ICRM should receive notice by letter⁽³⁾ or all meetings and elections.

- 3.7 Each delegate should mail annually to all other members a brief summary of expected activities in the field of radionuclide metrology to be undertaken by his or her organisation in its new working year. An associate whose organisation is not represented in ICRM should assume this obligation in relation to his activities.
- 3.8 Each member should mail annually to all other members copies of progress reports and publications of his or her organisation which are relevant to the objectives of ICRM.
- 3.9 Every delegate should provide liaison with associates in his or her organisation or country.

4. Organisation of ICRM

- 4.1 The delegates in General Meetings (Section 7) constitute the supreme authority of ICRM. But amendments to these bylaws are subject to the provisions of Article 12.
- 4.2 The formal organisations of ICRM are: an Executive Board (Section 8), that shall administer the affairs of ICRM; a Nominating Committee (Section 9) that shall seek nominees to fill vacancies of the Executive Board and the Nominating Committee; and Working Groups (Section 10) created by the delegates to carry out specific tasks for ICRM.
- 4.3 The Executive Board of ICRM shall comprise six officers, namely a President, the immediate past President, three Vice-Presidents and a Secretary. The President and two Vice-Presidents shall be delegates; any member is eligible to be elected to the office of Vice-President or Secretary; noting that
- (i) at any time there should be four delegate members on the Board, and
 - (ii) Members from the same organisation at a meeting of the Board shall cast single ‘organisational’ vote.
- 4.4 ICRM shall not assume any financial or contractual responsibilities, nor shall it be responsible for any consequence arising from activities or those of its members.

5. Organisational Membership

- 5.1 Notwithstanding any informal approach that may have been made, the procedure for appointing a delegate from an organisation not represented in ICRM shall be according to the following steps :
- (a) a proposal by a member at a General Meeting of ICRM or, prior to a General Meeting, by letter to the President or Secretary, that a particular organisation engaged in radionuclide metrology, hereinafter called the “Organisation”, be invited to join ICRM and to appoint a representative who shall serve as a delegate to ICRM ;
 - (b) Approval of the proposal by majority vote of the delegates at the same General Meeting ;
 - (c) Letter to the Director or Head of the organisation from the President or Secretary inviting membership ;

(d) Reply by letter to the President or Secretary from the Director or Head of the Organisation giving the name of the person appointed to serve as delegate to ICRM.

5.2 An organisation that is represented by delegate shall be able, by letter to the President or Secretary, to replace on a temporary or permanent basis, the person appointed to serve in this capacity. The time at which the change in representation shall come into effect and the period for which it shall be effective shall be specified in the letter.

6. Election of Associate Members

6.1 Any members of ICRM may suggest by letter to the President or Secretary the election to associate membership of any person by reason of his or her past or anticipated special contributions to ICRM. At its discretion the Executive Board may then propose this at a General Meeting and election shall be by majority vote of delegates at that meeting.

6.2 The term of associate membership shall not normally be restricted, but any associate no longer willing or able to participate in the activities of ICRM should so inform the Secretary by letter. An associate no longer serving as an officer of ICRM, nor engaged upon a specific task for ICRM, may be asked by the Secretary to confirm his or her wish to continue as an associate; in the absence within one year of any positive response to this request, the membership shall be deemed to have lapsed.

7. General Meetings

7.1 The Executive Board shall endeavour to convene a General Meeting of the members of ICMR at least once in every two years. The time and place of the meeting shall be chosen by the Executive Board, and notice of the meeting shall be sent by letter to each member from the Secretary not later than nine months prior to the date of the meeting.

7.2 The agenda for the General Meetings shall be proposed by the Executive Board and approved by the delegates present at the meeting. The proposed agenda should be distributed to members not later than two months before the meeting.

7.3 An Extraordinary General Meeting may, if deemed necessary, be called by the Executive Board. Likewise such a meeting may be proposed, by letter to the President or Secretary, by any two delegates. The decision to convene such a meeting shall rest with the Executive Board which, in the event, shall also choose its location and date.

7.4 The quorum for a General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be eight delegates or twenty per cent of the delegate membership, whichever is larger.

8. Executive Board : Duties, Terms of Office, Nomination and Election

- 8.1 The Executive Board consists (Article 4.3) of a President, the immediate Past President, three Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary.
- 8.2 The Executive Board may invite any member of IRCM to attend a meeting of the Board for a specific purpose, e.g, to assist in the planning for a forthcoming General Meeting.
- 8.3 The Executive Board shall endeavour to meet once a year.
- 8.4 The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Board shall be three. At any meeting of the Executive Board there shall be a voting majority of delegate members.
- 8.5 All decisions made at duly convened meetings of the Executive Board shall be by agreement of a majority of members present, keeping in mind the provision of Article 4.3 (ii).
- 8.6 The President shall normally chair General Meetings of the members and meetings of the Executive Board, and will co-ordinate the work of other officers in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of ICRM. In particular, the individual members of the Board should be appointed to provide liaison with each Working Group (Article 10).
- 8.7 The Vice Presidents and the Secretary shall perform duties according to these bylaws. If the President should be unable to perform his or her duties, they shall be assumed during that disability by a Vice-President designated by the President immediately after the latter is elected.
- 8.8 The Secretary shall give notice of and attend meetings of the Executive Board and of the membership, and shall perform the duties of recording secretary at such meetings. The Secretary shall perform such additional duties as may be required of him or her in accordance with these bylaws. If the Secretary is indisposed, the President shall appoint an ICRM member to serve as Secretary, for such time as may be needed.
- 8.9 The president shall be elected for one term of two years and shall be eligible for immediate re-election only once.
- 8.10 Vice-President shall be elected for a term of two years and shall be eligible for immediate re-election only once.
- 8.11 The Secretary shall be elected for an initial term of two years, but shall be eligible for immediate re-election regardless of the number of consecutive terms in office which he or she has served.
- 8.12 The election of officers to serve on the Executive Board and Nominating Committee shall be carried out in accordance with Section 11 of this constitution.
- 8.13 The Secretary shall inform all members by letter within four weeks of the result of every election.

8.14 The Executive Board shall choose Board Members to provide liaison with each Working Group.

9. Nominating Committee: Duties, Terms of Office, and Election

9.1 The aim of the nominating committee shall be to ensure the continuity of purpose and vigour of ICRM by soliciting from the membership, and itself proposing, the names of eligible candidates to fill vacancies about to occur on the Executive Board and the Nominating Committee.

9.2 The Nominating Committee shall comprise three persons elected from the membership of ICRM, who shall not be members of the Executive Board. The Secretary of ICRM shall serve as liaison between the Nominating Committee and the Executive Board. The members of the Nominating Committee shall appoint one of their members to act as chairman of their committee. The appointee shall identify himself or herself to the Secretary within four weeks of the most recent election to the Nominating Committee. The Chairman shall coordinate the work of the Committee.

9.3 The duty of the Nominating Committee shall be to prepare a list of candidates who have agreed in writing to be nominated to stand for election to any office becoming vacant on the Executive Board or Nominating Committee. This list shall be sent to the President and Secretary at least 10 weeks prior to the election.

9.4 The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall notify all members of ICRM, by letter sent to be received not later than five months before the date of an election, of any forthcoming vacancies on the Executive Board and Nominating Committee. The list of candidates already nominated by the Nominating Committee (article 9.3) to fill these vacancies shall be sent at the same time, together with an invitation to the members to submit further nominations to the Nominating Committee, not later than three months before the date of the election.

9.5 Each member of the Nominating Committee shall hold office for a term of four years. Members shall be eligible for immediate re-election only once.

10. Working Groups and Committees of ICRM

10.1 There shall be such working groups or other committees as may be established by majority vote of the delegates at a General Meeting.

10.2 Each working group of ICRM shall be established, initially for a period of two years, and for a specific purpose which is consistent with objectives of ICRM.

10.3 A Co-ordinator for each working group shall be chosen by majority vote of the delegates. If the elected Co-ordinator is not already a member of ICRM, he or she shall automatically become an associate member.

10.4 The need for the continuation of existing working groups shall be reviewed every two years by the delegates at a General Meeting on the basis of a written status report prepared by the Co-ordinator of the Working Group and circulated with the agenda.

10.5 The Co-ordinator of each working group shall plan the work of the group, and may appoint qualified persons, who need not be members of ICRM, to his working group.

10.6 In the event of a within-term resignation of a Working Group Co-ordinator, the Executive Board shall appoint an interim replacement in accordance with article 11.4.

11. Election of ICRM Officers

11.1 Any member of ICRM may nominate (according to 3.5) a candidate to fill vacant ICRM office after first obtained his or her agreement in writing. All such nominations shall be sent to reach a member of the Nominating Committee at least three months before the date of the election. If a vacancy should be created at the General Meeting by a candidate in one office being voted into another office, and by virtue of Article 4.1 , any member shall have the right to propose, at that General Meeting, a candidate for election to the vacated office.

11.2 If only one candidature has been nominated for a given office, his or her election shall be formally approved by the delegates at a General Meeting or, in the absence of a General Meeting, by the Executive Board.

11.3 If more than one candidate has been nominated for a given office, the election shall be by secret, if necessary mailed, ballot⁽⁴⁾ of the delegates arranged by the Secretary.

11.4 In the event that any office becomes vacant before expiry of the term, a temporary appointment to run until the next General Meeting shall be made by the Executive Board. Such temporary service as an officer shall not constitute a term in office as defined elsewhere in these bylaws.

11.5 Where the result of an election to office in ICRM is declared at a General Meeting or at meeting of the Executive Board, the term in office shall commence at the conclusion of that meeting. In all other cases the term shall begin on the day following the election.

12. Amendments

This ICRM constitution and these bylaws, apart from the Notes, may be amended, repealed or altered, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates at a General Meetings of ICRM, provided that a copy of any proposed amendment has been sent by letter to each delegate at least sixty days prior to the date which has been announced for the meeting. Amendment of the Notes may be proposed at a General Meeting without prior notice and adopted by majority vote.

Notes

(1) Under normal circumstances and by consensus, English is the preferred language for the conduct of the business and other activities of ICRM.

(2) Except where specified elsewhere in these bylaws majority voting at meetings of ICRM will normally be by a show of hands, unless a secret ballot is requested by a majority of the delegate members. Persons to count the votes shall be appointed by the presiding officer if needed.

(3) "Letter" in these bylaws shall mean a written message communicated by mail, telex or telefax.

(4) A secret mailed ballot shall be carried out as follows:

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall prepare ballot forms listing each office for which an election is required, and the name, organisation and country of each candidate. These forms are then mailed to each delegate at least eight weeks before the date announced for the election.

Each delegate, having recorded his or her vote, shall return the ballot form by mail, or in person, to the Secretary in time to reach that officer no later than two weeks before the date of the election.

The Secretary and a member of ICRM or, lacking that, another colleague "of good repute" shall tally the votes, certify the results and telefax or telex them to all other members of the Executive Board for their confirmation and resolution of any tied vote. The results of the election should be sent by the Secretary to the members of ICRM within four weeks. In this event of a tied vote, only delegates on the Executive Board shall be entitled to vote.