



## INTERNATIONAL TOURING ALLIANCE ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DE TOURISME

### STATUTES

#### **NAME, SEAT, OBJECTS**

##### ***Article 1***

The International Touring Alliance (Alliance Internationale de Tourisme, AIT) is a non-profit association, duly established as a corporate body under Article 60 ff. of the Swiss Civil Code and endowed with legal personality.\*

##### ***Article 2***

The legal seat of the AIT is Geneva, Switzerland.

##### ***Article 3***

The objects of the AIT are:

- Promotion of the aims of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) by means of material support.
- Production and administration of internationally recognised documents which facilitate international travelling and touring.
- Participation in the work of the World Customs Organisation.
- Maintenance and fulfilment of the consultative status with the UN.
- Management of the rights of the name, brand and logo of the AIT.

#### **MEMBERS**

##### ***Article 4***

Associations and federations interested in tourism and motoring may become members of the AIT.

## **TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP**

### ***Article 5***

ACTIVE MEMBERS of the AIT are

a) in their capacity as founding members :

the associations which founded, on 4th August, 1898, the International League of Touring Associations, insofar as they were still members of the AIT on 1st January, 1965, and associations recognised as founder members by the statutory amendments of 1965;

b) in their capacity as full members :

national organisations grouping individual members in their capacity as motorists and/or tourists, or national federations composed of associations of motorists and/or tourists, so admitted and accepted according to Article 7.

### ***Article 6***

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS of the AIT are those organisations, groups or offices which, while not composed of motorists and/or tourists or tourist associations, have as their aim to promote tourism and wish to give moral and material support to the AIT. They are admitted as members according to Article 7.

## **ADMISSIONS AND MEMBERSHIP FEE**

### ***Article 7***

The eligibility of associations and federations for AIT membership under the Statutes shall be determined by their interest in tourism and motoring as well as by their independence from any sectional political and economic control.

In derogation of the independence criterion set out in the preceding paragraph, corporate associations or organisations that are already or used to be members of the AIT and the supervising bodies of which have been transferred to a commercial enterprise for internal or economic reasons following a restructuring or a change of ownership, may remain members or rejoin the AIT.

Prior to the admission of new active members, member organisations of the AIT in the applicant's country shall be heard on the pending request. Objections to the admission of new clubs shall be submitted to the Administrative Services in writing and the reason for the refusal should be explained.

In case of objections raised according to Article 7, Paragraph 3 above, the General Assembly shall decide on the admission by a secret vote and a two-thirds majority of the votes validly cast will be required. When no objections are raised, then applications for membership may be accepted by a simple majority.

New members shall be admitted for a provisional period of two years, but shall be given full membership rights and duties. The General Assembly shall confirm their final admission after the provisional period.

The aims and objectives of applicants for AIT membership must be compatible with those of the AIT.

Prior to the admission of new active members, all active member organisations of the AIT in the applicant's country shall be consulted.

The General Assembly which meets following the membership application shall decide on the admission to the AIT. The General Assembly may, in particular, examine the compatibility of the candidate with the Statutes of the AIT in terms of its by-laws, service activities and other established criteria.

All applicants requesting AIT membership after the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 must already be affiliated to the FIA according to Article 3.1 or 3.2 of the FIA Statutes.

## **RESIGNATIONS**

### ***Article 8***

Resignations from the AIT must be submitted in writing. They must be sent by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt, and addressed to the AIT President at the AIT Seat or the AIT Administrative Services, not later than 30th September to be effective for the following year.

## **SUSPENSIONS AND DISMISSALS FOR NON-PAYMENT OF FEES**

### ***Article 9***

Non-payment of the subscription fees or any other financial obligations to the AIT for one year entails the suspension of membership rights by a decision of the General Assembly. Suspension shall be notified by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt after at least one written reminder.

When the non-payment extends beyond the second calendar year, dismissal shall take place after at least one written reminder, and provided the General Assembly does not rule otherwise taking into consideration special circumstances invoked by the faulty member. Written notice of dismissal must be sent by the AIT Administrative Services by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt.

## **EXPULSIONS**

### ***Article 10***

Expulsion of a member on grounds other than those listed in Article 7 and 9 may be pronounced by the President only for cause.

The expelled member may appeal against the decision to the General Assembly within one month from notification.

The appeal must be presented in writing to the President of the AIT. A written appeal suspends the expulsion.

The General Assembly shall afford a proper hearing to the parties. Its decision is rendered at its next regular meeting and is final.

## **STRUCTURE**

### ***Article 11***

The structure of the AIT shall be:

- the General Assembly;
- the President;
- the Committee, consisting of the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer;
- the Administrative Services.

## COMPOSITION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### *Article 12*

- 12.1 The General Assembly comprises the whole of the membership of the AIT. Associate members may be heard in a consultative capacity.
- 12.2 The General Assembly meets once a year, on convocation by the President. Unless the President decides otherwise, it should be held in the same place and close in time to the General Assembly of the FIA.
- 12.3 Each active member organisation shall have one vote. Any active member organisation may be represented by several delegates; however, only one delegate shall be entitled to vote on behalf of a member organisation.
- 12.4 Active member organisations may assign their vote to a delegate representing another active member organisation providing, however, that no voting delegate of any active member organisation shall represent more than three other active member organisations. Written Proxies must be received by the Administrative Services at least two weeks before the meeting of the General Assembly concerned.
- 12.5 Voting by mail is not allowed, except in the circumstances set out in Article 18.
- 12.6 The draft agenda for the General Assembly shall be forwarded to members by the President together with the convocation at least six weeks before the date of the meeting.
- 12.7 Members wishing to place other matters on the agenda must inform the President in writing not later than seven weeks before the date of the meeting.
- 12.8 The final agenda is drawn up by the President, at his/her discretion. Members must agree to any eventual changes in the agenda at the latest at the opening of the meeting.
- 12.9 The General Assembly:
- a) elects from among its members the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer for a term of three years; they can be re-elected;
  - b) takes note of the President's report on the current situation of the AIT;
  - c) approves the annual budget for the coming year and the audited accounts of the previous year;
  - d) approves all procedures concerning financial matters and to be applied by the President, the Committee or the Administrative Services, if any;
  - e) determines the annual subscription fees for all categories of AIT membership;
  - f) ratifies the proceedings of the General Assembly and the Committee;
  - g) deliberates on all questions appearing on the agenda;
  - h) approves amendments to the Statutes and the dissolution and liquidation of the AIT in accordance with Articles 17 and 18 respectively;
  - i) rules on appeal in matters concerning admission to AIT membership and expulsion therefrom.

## **THE COMMITTEE**

### ***Article 13***

The Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer.

- a) It shall review the accounts of the previous year and the annual budget for the coming year, for approval by the AIT General Assembly.
- b) It shall implement any necessary measures to properly manage all financial matters, including but not limited to:
  - i. nominating outside auditors to audit the AIT annual accounts;
  - ii. appointing consultants to oversee the AIT investments portfolio.
- c) It shall propose to the General Assembly the annual subscription fees for all categories of AIT membership.
- d) It may establish a joint council or committee with the FIA to deal with the main activities of the AIT.
- e) It shall be responsible for the approval of any relevant internal regulations.
- f) It shall appoint any members of such body.
- g) It shall negotiate and enter into contracts on behalf of the AIT, or delegate such authority to the AIT Administrative Services.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

### ***Article 14***

The Administrative Services of the AIT shall comprise full support services in secretarial functions, legal matters, travel and customs documents, accounting, IT and archives. These support services shall be provided by another organisation of a similar nature in exchange for an annual fee, unless decided otherwise by the AIT Committee.

## **OFFICE BEARERS: PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT AND TREASURER**

### ***Article 15***

The President is ex-officio-Chairman of the General Assembly. He casts a vote only in case of a tie. He may not hold a proxy.

The President represents the AIT at International Organisations. This representation may be delegated to another AIT office-bearer, any other AIT Member Club's representative, or a representative of the AIT Administrative Services, at the President's discretion.

In the event that the President is unable to complete his term of office, his functions shall devolve on the Vice-President, who shall exercise them ad interim until the next regular General Assembly, which shall proceed with the election of a new President for the remainder of the term of office, according to Article 16 of the Statutes.

The President administers the AIT and is responsible to the General Assembly for its activities. He is seconded by the Vice-President and the Treasurer.

If the Vice-President or the Treasurer is unable to complete his term of office, the office will remain vacant until the next regular General Assembly, which shall proceed with the election of a new Vice-President or Treasurer for the remainder of the term of office, according to Article 16 of the Statutes.

The President shall convene the General Assembly (Article 12.2).

Potential candidates to stand for election to the position of AIT President, AIT Vice-President or AIT Treasurer must be under 75 years of age on the day of the election or of the re-election.

## **ELECTIONS**

### ***Article 16***

At the close of the incumbent President's period of tenure, the AIT President shall invite all active member organisations to present their candidates no later than 45 days before the election date. The nominations must be seconded by at least three active member organisations of the AIT.

The President shall verify the applications and transmit the list of candidates to the General Assembly for election. For uncontested elections, meaning elections where the number of candidates is equal to the number of persons to be elected upon such election, voting takes place by show of hands unless a vote by secret ballot is expressly requested by at least one member with voting rights. For contested elections, voting shall be by secret ballot.

The proposed candidates must inform the President in writing before the election of their readiness to serve.

The President, the Vice-President and the Treasurer are elected by an absolute majority of the votes cast by all active member organisations present or validly represented.

If more ballots are necessary to arrive at the required absolute majority, the candidate who has obtained the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated at each subsequent vote.

In the case of the President's inability to complete his term of office, the Presidency shall be assumed ad interim by the Vice – President. Prior to the next regular General Assembly, he shall proceed as stipulated above on securing candidacies for any vacant office.

Should, however, the President become permanently incapacitated less than 45 days before the date of the General Assembly at which no Presidential election is due to take place, the interim mandate of the Vice-President shall be extended until the following General Assembly.

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES**

### ***Article 17***

Any proposal to amend the AIT Statutes must be placed on the agenda of the General Assembly and must secure two-thirds of the votes validly cast. The presence or valid representation of at least one-third of all active members is required.

## **DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION**

### ***Article 18***

The AIT may not be dissolved except by a ballot at an Extraordinary General Assembly at which no less than two-thirds of the active members are present or validly represented and a majority of four-fifths of the votes is validly cast. Voting by mail is accepted in this one instance.

An Extraordinary General Assembly must be convened by registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt three months before the fixed date. The dissolution and liquidation of the AIT must appear on the agenda at the time of this notice.

If a quorum is not obtained, a new meeting must be convened no earlier than three months later. A second Extraordinary General Assembly must then be convened by registered mail with acknowledgement of receipt, and shall then take a decision regardless of the number of members present, provided a majority of four-fifths of the votes validly cast is secured.

The Extraordinary General Assembly shall appoint liquidators who will apportion the remaining assets according to the instructions by the General Assembly to one or more organisations whose activities are similar to those of the AIT.

### **Article 19**

The official language of the AIT is English.

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(\*) The "Ligue Internationale des Associations Touristes (International League of Touring Associations, L.I.A.T.)", founded in Luxembourg, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1898, became the Alliance Internationale de Tourisme (International Touring Alliance, AIT) according to a decision of the General Assembly of Paris, 30<sup>th</sup> May 1919.

Its articles of association have been adopted and statutorily amended by the General Assemblies of Brussels, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 1920; Milan, 28<sup>th</sup> September 1924; Brussels, 26<sup>th</sup> June 1925; Istanbul, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1930; Prague, 25<sup>th</sup> May 1931; Copenhagen, 25<sup>th</sup> May 1932; Rome, 29<sup>th</sup> September 1933; Budapest, 16<sup>th</sup> September 1935; Paris, 25<sup>th</sup> June 1937; Geneva, 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1946; Munich, 26<sup>th</sup> May 1954; Oslo, 9<sup>th</sup> August 1963; Vichy, 18<sup>th</sup> May 1965; Budapest, 15<sup>th</sup> April 1975; Singapore, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1977; Nice, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1978; Ottawa, 28<sup>th</sup> June 1979; Rome, 28<sup>th</sup> May 1982; Washington, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> June 1983; Kuala Lumpur, 28<sup>th</sup> June 1985; Sydney, 19<sup>th</sup> April 1991, New Delhi, 25<sup>th</sup> March 1993, Paris, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2004; Paris, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2010; Doha, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014; and Paris, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015.

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