



Bylaws

I. Basics

Article 1 – Name

Under the name of "International Association of Agricultural Production Insurers", and hereinafter referred to as "AIAG", an association exists. Its membership is open to all insurance companies or institutions of whatever legal form who are covering agricultural risks in any country.

Article 2 – Headquarter

The headquarter of AIAG is in Zurich (Switzerland), at Seilergraben 61, or, subsequently, at any other place that may be approved by the Board.

As an association domiciled in Switzerland, the AIAG is subject to Swiss law, in particular to the part of the Swiss Civil Code which applies to associations.

Article 3 – Purpose

The purpose of the AIAG is, within the areas directly or indirectly relating to the insurance of agricultural production, to facilitate the international exchange of experience and information, to facilitate the joint study of current topics and the organisation of international congresses and other events, to establish good relationships and loyal ties among its members, and to exchange international statistical data, taking into account the applicable (inter-)national regulations on competition.

II. Finance

Article 4 – Financial resources and Funding

The association is mainly financed by membership fees, which cover the administration costs of the AIAG.

Other income may include financial income, any sponsorships and surpluses from events organized by the association.

III. Membership

Article 5 – Types of membership

The AIAG is composed of all full members and subscribing members who are a member on the date of approval of these bylaws.

The countries who participated in the first International Congress of Hail Insurers in Paris on October 22 and 23, 1951 are considered as founding members.

A. Start of the Membership

Article 6 – Admission as a Full Member

Insurance companies or institutions of whatever legal form which engage in insurance covering agricultural risks in their respective countries on the basis of free competition, resp. crop insurance associations may be admitted as full members.

Applications for admission must be addressed to the President and the Secretariat and the final decision on admission will be taken by the Board.

Full members are required to pay an annual membership fee calculated based on their premium volume. This fee must be approved by the General Meeting. The membership fee is paid by each company or institutions, either directly or through another association of which the companies or institutions are a member of.

Article 7 – Admission as Subscribing Member

The AIAG may admit insurance companies or other institutions related to agricultural insurance which do not meet the requirements as stated in Article 6 as subscribing members.

Applications for admission as subscribing members must be addressed to the President and the Secretariat and the final decision on admission will be taken by the Board.

Subscribing members receive all publications of the AIAG and may participate in the congresses as visitors. However, they have no voting rights.

Subscribing members are required to pay an annual membership fee. This fee is to be set by the General Meeting. The membership fees are paid by each company or institutions, either directly or through another association of which the companies or institutions are a member of.

B. Termination of the membership

Article 8 – Resignation

Any member seeking to resign from the AIAG must notify the Board in writing or in another form verifiable by text. The letter of resignation must be addressed to the President and the secretariat and sent before October 1.

The whole membership subscription must be paid for the year of resignation.

Article 9 – Exclusion

A member can be excluded from the AIAG at any time.

The decision to exclude a member is taken by the General Meeting and becomes effective as from the date on which the insurance company or institution concerned received the information on its exclusion.

If members fail to pay the member subscription in spite of a reminder, they may be excluded by the Board immediately. The General Meeting will be informed accordingly.

If membership is terminated in accordance with Article 8 or 9, the concerned member's financial obligations remain unaffected.

IV. Organization of the association

Article 10 – Bodies

The bodies of the association are:

- The Board
- General meeting

A. Board

Article 11 – Board members

The Board consists of a President, three Vice-Presidents and a maximum of eight other members, who are elected or re-elected for two years by the General Meeting. Re-election of the three Vice-Presidents and other members is allowed.

The President shall not be re-elected for more than two consecutive terms. However, if extraordinary circumstance require the General Meeting may re-elect the President for a third term.

The Secretary-Treasurer is elected or re-elected by the Board for the turn of two years. Re-election is allowed.

The Board pass elections by a simple majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

In the event of the resignation of one of its members, the Board may elect a replacement until the next General Meeting.

The members of the Board and the Secretary-Treasurer work in a voluntary capacity and will not be remunerated.

It shall be the duty of the Board to collect documents and statistics, to study all topics mentioned in Article 3, to distribute the information related to these topics to the members, to prepare the international congresses and events as well as to determine the place of congress.

The Secretariat of AIAG is run at the headquarters of Schweizer Hagel, Seilergraben 61, 8001 Zurich, by a Delegate nominated by the Board.

Article 12 – Meetings

The Board meets at least twice a year or whenever required. The Secretariat sends the invitation to the meeting at the initiative and on behalf of the President.

The Board may, if it deems it necessary, consult other members of the association as advisory and form commissions for the study of particular questions or the preparation of congresses.

The President and Vice-Presidents, together with the Secretary-Treasurer, may constitute an executive committee, which may hold meetings at the request of one of their representatives, outside the ordinary Board meetings.

B. General Meeting

Article 13 – Procedure

The General Meeting takes place every two years, usually during the bi-annual congress. If required, and upon the invitation of the Board, a deviation from the two-year term is possible.

The General Meeting has the following inalienable duties and powers:

- a) Approval of the annual reports provided
- b) To determine the amount of the membership fees
- c) Election or re-election of the President, the Vice-Presidents and the other members of the Board

- d) Election of the auditing body
- e) Amendment the current bylaws
- f) Passing a resolution on the dissolution of the Association

These decisions are taken by a simple majority of the votes cast. A two-thirds majority is required for amendment of the bylaws.

The General Meeting may be held as a physical meeting, as an electronic meeting or in the form of a written or electronic vote. In case of an electronic meeting, it must be ensured that video and audio of all participating members are transmitted in good quality. The Board shall decide on the form in which the meeting shall be held.

Article 14 – Review of the annual accounts

The General Meeting elects an independent auditor to review the accounts at least once a year. The independent auditor reports to the Board for the attention of the General Meeting. Their term of office is 2 years. Re-election is allowed.

Such auditor shall not be considered as a body of the association.

Article 15 – Dissolution

The association may be dissolved by resolution of the General Meeting or an extraordinary General Meeting by a majority of votes of a two-thirds majority of the members present.

The net assets remaining after payment of all debts and other charges and after settlement of other obligations shall be distributed by resolution of the General Meeting to a purpose consistent with the purposes of the association or to the full members.

In all other respects, the provisions of Swiss law concerning liquidation shall apply accordingly.

V. Final provisions

Article 16 – Languages

The English version of the by-laws shall be binding. They shall also be translated into German, French and Italian.

As a general rule, all communications will be in English, German, French and Italian.

Article 17 – Association fiscal year

The financial year of the AIAG is the calendar year.

Article 18 – Liability

Only the assets of the association shall be liable for the obligations of the association. Any personal liability of its members or the Board is expressly excluded.

VI. Approval and entry into force

These bylaws replace those of October 8, 2019 and become effective on November 14, 2023

Note: In the interests of readability, all references to persons were made using the male title. However, the female title is also intended in each case.