

## Statutes of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies (adopted at the tenth Council Meeting in Zürich on 2 September 1970).

### 1. Objects of the Federation

The Federation is established for the public benefit to advance research and education in the science of biochemistry and to publish or arrange for the publication of the results of biochemical research and other information tending to advance the science of biochemistry.

For those purposes or either of them

- (a) to hold and arrange instructional courses on matters connected with biochemistry and
- (b) to facilitate the exchange of scientific information between biochemists generally and especially European biochemists by the holding of meetings and discussions and by other appropriate means.

Since the aim of the Federation is to advance biochemistry and not to benefit personally the biochemists who are members of the Federation the publications and other facilities provided by the Federation shall so far as practicable and subject to any reasonable charge be made available to persons who are not members as well as members.

### 2. Administration and Membership

- (a) The Federation shall consist of Biochemical Societies in the European area. All members of the Constituent Societies are *ipso facto* members of the Federation with equal privileges.
- (b) New admissions of Biochemical Societies to membership of the Federation are to be decided by its Council, provided that the Society making the application has lodged full details and documentation of its activities with the Secretary-General at least three months before the Council meeting.
- (c) The affairs of the Federation shall be conducted by a Council. The Council may empower a Constituent Society to act on its behalf.
- (d) Each Constituent Society shall nominate one delegate or a deputy to the Council of the Federation. The delegate shall be re-appointed biannually by the Constituent Society.
- (e) The Council shall from time to time appoint one of the Constituent Societies to be the Host Society. The delegate to the Council of the Host Society shall when present act as Chairman of the Council and is in this Statute referred to as the Chairman.
- (f) The Council shall appoint the following officers namely a Secretary-General, a Treasurer, a Chairman of the Publications Committee and a Chairman of the Advanced Courses Committee. Each of these officers shall serve for a term of three years but shall be eligible for re-appointment. None of these officers shall be a delegate of his Constituent Society. Each of these officers and also the immediate past Chairman shall be ex-officio a full member of the Council with the right to vote.

- (g) Except as otherwise expressly provided by these Statutes any matter to be decided by the Council shall be decided by a simple majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Council.
- (h) The Council shall meet at each General Meeting of the Federation and at such other times as may be necessary.
- (i) Subject to the Council the administration of the Federation shall be vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Chairman the immediate past Chairman the Secretary-General the Treasurer the Chairman of the Publications Committee and the Chairman of the Advanced Courses Committee. They shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Council and to enter into contracts in the period between meetings of the Council.
- (j) Any Constituent Society is free to withdraw from the Federation at a meeting of the Council provided notice of such a withdrawal has been communicated to the Chairman at least one month before the Council Meeting.

### 3. Meetings of the Federation

- (a) A General Meeting of the Federation shall be held at least every two years at a place chosen by the Host Society and approved by the Council. A General Meeting shall also be open to non-members.
- (b) A General Meeting of the Federation shall provide opportunities for the presentation of original communications, demonstrations, and symposia. The detailed arrangements for the Meeting shall be at the entire discretion of the Host Society.
- (c) The financial arrangements for a Federation Meeting are the responsibility of the Host Society. Registration fees for those attending a General Meeting may be charged by the Host Society and members of all Constituent Societies shall be charged on the same basis.

### 4. Exchange of Information

- (a) Each Constituent Society shall send to a nominated officer of all other Constituent Societies the same relevant circulars that it sends to its own members.
- (b) It shall be the duty of each Constituent Society to publicize the activities of the other Constituent Societies so as to encourage contacts between biochemists in the different European countries, and on request to circulate to its members information of the next Federation meeting.

### 5. Attendance at Domestic Meetings

Any member of the Federation, may, on making proper application, be admitted to an open meeting of a Constituent Society other than his own, on the same terms as if he were a member of that Society, although permission to present a paper shall be at the discretion of the Society holding the meeting.

#### 6. *Central Fund*

There shall be formed a central fund, composed of membership fees, royalties and other income. The membership fee shall be determined from time to time by the Council. The fund shall be applied to further the objects of the Federation.

#### 7. *Dissolution of the Federation*

The Federation and its Statutes may be dissolved at any time at a meeting of the Council at which two-thirds of the delegates are present and at which there is two-thirds affirmative majority vote in favour of the proposal. The proposal must be notified in writing to the Secretary-General, at least three months before a Council Meeting. The Secretary-General shall in turn notify all Constituent Societies of such proposals, at least two months before the Council Meeting. On the dissolution of the Federation any surplus assets of the Federation shall in such manner as the Council may decide be applied for charitable purposes in connection with the advancement of research and education in the science of biochemistry.

#### 8. *Statutes of the Federation*

The Statutes of the Federation may be amended, deleted, or augmented at any Council meeting by a two-thirds affirmative majority vote, provided that at least two-thirds

of the delegates are present. Proposed changes must be notified in writing to the Secretary-General, at least three months before a Council Meeting. The Secretary-General shall in turn notify all Constituent Societies of such proposals, at least two months before the Council Meeting. No change shall be made which would extend the objects of the Federation beyond the main objects of advancing education and research in the science of biochemistry and publishing or arranging for the publication of the results of biochemical research and other information tending to advance the science of biochemistry and charitable purposes ancillary to those main objects.

#### 9. *Location of Office*

The principal office of the Federation shall be situated in England and until otherwise decided by the Council shall be at the office of the (British) Biochemical Society\*.

#### 10. *English law to apply*

The Federation shall be deemed to be an association governed by the Law of England and these Statutes shall be construed and operate in accordance with English Law.

\* The Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, London, WC1R 5DP, England.