



BYLAWS SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE D'UROLOGIE

The Society known as the “Société Internationale d’Urologie” was founded in 1919, this name taking the place of “Association Internationale d’Urologie” founded in 1907.

The mission of the Society, as defined by its first President, Félix Guyon, is to study all questions relating to Urology, to stimulate international co-operation in the field of Urology and to further urological science and practice.

The present mission, as redefined by the Board of Directors (formerly the Board of Chairmen) in 1999, is to enable, through international co-operation in education and research, all nations to achieve the highest quality of urological patient care.

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DEFINITIONS

In the following:

“Board of Directors” or “BOD” means...

Board of Directors, formerly known as the Board of Chairmen

“SIU” means...

Société Internationale d’Urologie

“Society” means...

Société Internationale d’Urologie

“NS Delegate” and “NSS” means...

National Society Delegate and National Society Section respectively

“World Congress” means...

Official International Meeting including a General Assembly of the members of the Society

I – COMPOSITION OF THE SOCIETY

The Society is composed of:

- Active Members
 - Associate Members
 - Affiliated Members
 - Senior Members
 - Trainee Members
 - Honorary Members
-

1. Active Members

Active Members must be qualified urologists. The status of qualified urologist requires that the Urologist be certified:

- by a foreign or international accrediting body recognized by the Board of Directors; or
- by a national accrediting body in the country of the candidate; or
- by the recognized national urological society in the country of the candidate; or
- in special circumstances by the Board of Directors itself.

The applicant will be considered an Active Member immediately if the requisites of the application are fulfilled and dues are paid.

2. Associate Members

Urologists or surgeons practicing urology but not considered qualified as per the above definition may become **Associate Members**. The applicant will be considered an Associate Member immediately if the requisites of the application are fulfilled and dues are paid. Associate Members are non-voting members of the Society.

3. Affiliated Members

Physicians or health professionals engaged in affiliated branches of medicine may also become **Affiliated Members**. The applicant will be considered an Affiliated Member immediately if the requisites of the application are fulfilled and dues are paid. Affiliated Members are non-voting members of the Society.

4. Senior Members

Active Members can request a transfer to **Senior Member** status when they reach 65 years of age on January 1st of the year of the request. Senior Members are not required to pay annual dues.

5. Trainee Members

Physicians who are engaged in full-time training in Urology may apply for **Trainee Membership**. The status of trainee in Urology (i.e. resident, registrar, fellow or other training post in Urology) must be certified by the head of the training unit.

The applicant will be considered a Trainee Member immediately if the requisites of the application are fulfilled.

At completion of the Urology training or after a maximum of five (5) years as Trainee Member, and upon certification of qualification as described in Article 1 above, the Trainee Member will become an Active, Associate or Affiliated Member. Trainee Members are non-voting members of the Society.

6. Honorary Members

The title of **Honorary Member** may be conferred by the Board of Directors on anyone who has done special service for the Society. Honorary Members are non-voting members of the Society.

7. Membership in the Society Shall/May Cease

- By resignation
- For non-payment of annual dues without a reason accepted by the Board of Directors
- By expulsion by the Board of Directors for serious reasons. Such a decision must be voted by a majority of two-thirds of the Board of Directors in attendance.

II – ADMINISTRATION AND FUNCTION

The Society is composed of:

- National Society Sections
- A Committee of National Society Delegates
- A Board of Directors (BOD)

8. National Society Sections

Each National Society can nominate a Delegate and Deputy Delegate. Their function is to be the intermediate between the SIU and their National Society. The delegates may wish to organize a meeting to present and promote the SIU at their National level. The SIU will help to promote these activities.

Each National Society elects a Delegate and a Deputy Delegate who must be an SIU member in good standing to take office. The appointments are made by a majority of votes and for a period of two (2) years. Re-election can take place only once, the total serving time of a NS Delegate or Deputy Delegate in the same capacity being restricted to a maximum of four (4) years, unless authorized by the Board of Directors. Elected NS Delegates and Deputy Delegates automatically become members of the Committee of NS Delegates at the next World Congress. Matters considered of such importance as to be presented to the Board of Directors or to the General Assembly are referred by the NS Delegate or Deputy Delegate to the NS Delegate Representative on the SIU Board of Directors.

Should a National Society not wish to participate by nominating a Delegate or Deputy Delegate, the SIU members in good standing in the country which would otherwise be represented may elect a member who is also a member of the National Society to serve as NS Delegate and NS Deputy Delegate.

Each NS Delegate shall be considered a direct communication link to the parent body as represented by the General Secretary, and must submit the following:

- A summary of the meetings held by the National Society within six (6) weeks, as well as detailed information on any change of NS Delegate or Deputy Delegate status.
- Upon request from the Central Office, updates of the current membership of the National Society including the list of members, together with their addresses, names of those who are deceased, resigned and any other relevant change in contact information and status.

A National Society may propose its own country as a venue for a future Congress. Any such proposal must be submitted in writing by the NS Delegate to the Chairperson of the Congress Organization Committee.

When there is, or becomes, a vacancy in the position of NS Delegate for a National Society Section, by resignation, death or otherwise, the position shall normally be filled by a Deputy Delegate in good standing.

If no such Deputy Delegate is available, the Executive Committee of the SIU Board of Directors shall have the authority to appoint an Interim NS Delegate to serve until the next annual meeting of the National Urological Society, or other National Society Meeting where a new NS Delegate, and Deputy Delegate, if required, can be elected by the SIU Members in good standing of that NSS.

9. Committee of National Society Delegates

9.1 Composition

The Committee of National Society Delegates is composed of:

- All members of the Board of Directors.
- The NS Delegate and Deputy-Delegate of each NSS. The NS Delegate would be the voting member unless not present in which case the Deputy Delegate would vote (only one (1) can vote).

9.2 Meetings

The Committee of NS Delegates will meet immediately before each World Congress and the President will preside. An agenda will be circulated sufficiently in advance of the meeting.

It will meet at the request of the Board of Directors between two World Congresses whenever necessary. In that event votes may be sent by post or electronic means.

9.3 Duties

The Committee of NS Delegates discusses all important aspects of the running of the Society and makes recommendations to be considered by the Board of Directors and the members of the Society at the General Assembly.

It makes proposals concerning honorary membership and special awards.

It elects at each World Congress for a two (2) year term:

- One (1) of the two (2) NS Delegates with voting-power as "NS Delegate representatives" on the Board of Directors, having a specific role in improving communication between the Society, the Board of Directors, the General Secretary and the Central Office, and in maintaining the active participation of the Committee of NS Delegates in the affairs of the Society.
- One (1) of the two (2) NS Delegates who act as members of the Nominating Committee.
- In each case, the terms of the two (2) delegates shall be staggered so that only one (1) is replaced or renewed at each General Assembly.

If more than two (2) candidates are proposed, the candidate receiving the most votes shall be elected.

Minutes are kept of the proceedings of the meetings. They are signed by the President after circulation to the members of the Board of Directors. The minutes will be circulated to all members of the NS Delegates Committee.

10. The Board of Directors and Officers of the Society

10.1 Composition

The Board of Directors serves as the Board of Directors of the Society and is composed of 24 voting and 3 non-voting members as follows:

- President
- President-Elect (Chairperson of the Awards Committee)
- Vice-President
- Immediate Past-President (Chairperson of the Nominating Committee)
- Chairpersons of SIU Committees: General Secretary, Office of Education, Office of Research, Treasurer, Corporate Development, Congress Organization, Consensus & Education, Publications, Institutes & Scholarships, Innovators & Technology, Scientific Programme, and Membership & International Relations
- Elect Chairpersons of SIU Committees: General Secretary-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, Congress Organization-Elect
- Two (2) NS Delegates elected for two (2) year staggered terms by the Committee of NS Delegates
- Two (2) members (who are not serving as NS Delegates) nominated and elected for two (2) year staggered terms by the General Assembly

The Officers of the Society shall be a President, a President-Elect, a Vice-President, an Immediate Past-President, a General Secretary, a Treasurer, a Chairperson of the Office of Education, and a Chairperson of the Office of Research.

The members of the Board of Directors and Officers serve without remuneration.

10.2 Selection of Members of the Board of Directors and Officers

The President, President-Elect, Vice-President and the Immediate Past-President shall serve until the next World Congress, when a General Assembly will be held. This will normally entail terms of approximately one (1) year.

The term of office of the General Secretary shall be five (5) years, non-renewable, and that of the Treasurer, Office of Education and Office of Research four (4) years, non-renewable. The term of office of Chairpersons of Committees shall not exceed two (2) years, renewable once, and that of the representatives of the NS Delegates and General Assembly on the Board of Directors shall not exceed two (2) years, renewable once. Terms may, however, be extended by one (1) year when necessary to provide continuity. The term of office of Chairpersons of Committees shall not be considered as automatically renewed. The Officers of the Society and Nominating Committee may suggest not to renew a Chairperson if he/she has failed to fulfil the specific duties associated with their Committee. The members of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Society are required to attend a minimum of one of the two official Board of Directors meetings held each year.

Any individual nominated for a position within the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the SIU, as hereinafter defined at Section 10.10, shall be precluded from concurrently holding a directorial position within another international urological society, if such position may result in a potential conflict of interest.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Nominating Committee may consider such a candidate, after having determined that the dual occupation of positions within the separate international urological societies shall not result in a conflict of interest affecting the SIU.

Furthermore, any member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the SIU who is proposed or nominated for a directorial or officer position within another international urological society shall be required to promptly disclose such nomination to the President or the Secretary-General of the SIU prior to accepting or pursuing such nomination.

President:

- Upon completion of their mandate, the President-Elect shall automatically become the President of the Society

President-Elect:

- Upon completion of their mandate, the Vice-President shall automatically become President-Elect of the Society

Vice-President:

- Proposal by SIU members to Nominating Committee at least 1 month prior to Congress
- Formal nomination by Nominating Committee
- Approved and elected by the General Assembly

Immediate Past-President:

- Upon completion of their mandate, the President shall automatically become Immediate Past-President of the Society

Chairpersons:

- Proposal by SIU members to Nominating Committee at least 6 months prior to Congress, except for the following who shall automatically become Chairpersons upon completion of their mandates as Elect Chairpersons:
 - General Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Congress-Organization
- Formal nomination by Nominating Committee
- Approved and elected by General Assembly

Elect Chairpersons:

There shall be a General Secretary-Elect, Treasurer-Elect, Congress Organization-Elect one (1) year before the end of the term of their respective Chairperson.

- Proposal by SIU members to Nominating Committee at least 6 months prior to Congress
- Formal nomination by Nominating Committee
- Approved and elected by General Assembly
- Elect position automatically becomes Chairperson upon completion of their mandate as Elect Chairperson

Secretaries and Members of Committees:

- Nominated by Chairperson of their Committee, and approved by Board of Directors
- Number of members is not defined and depends on demand
- Geographical balance preferable to involve the main National and Multinational Associations

10.3 Replacement

President, President-Elect, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Chairpersons and Elect Chairpersons

- In the case of resignation or incapacity to act of any Officer of the Society, individual Chairperson or Elect Chairperson, a replacement is selected by a majority or alternatively the candidate who amasses the most votes of the members present at a meeting (formal or by electronic means) of the Board of Directors.

10.4 Dismissal

Dismissal of a Director or an Officer may occur by vote of a two thirds (2/3) majority of the Board of Directors members present at a Board of Directors' Meeting, provided that a quorum is established therein. Such dismissal may occur as a result of the following:

1. Non-fulfillment of assigned tasks or duties by a Director or an Officer; or
2. Manifestation of a conflict of interest. A conflict of interest shall mean any situation wherein a Director or an Officer's personal interest or those of a third party are perceived by the Board of Directors to supersede the tasks, duties, or obligations of same Director or Officer. A conflict of interest shall also include circumstances wherein such tasks and duties are perceived by the Board of Directors to benefit same Director or Officer or a third party.

10.5 Duties

President:

- Is the official and legal Head of the Society
- Represents the SIU in other societies, governments, international associations etc.
- Calls for meetings, signs agenda and minutes, chairs the meetings of Board of Directors, the Executive of the Society, Committee of NS Delegates and General Assembly

President-Elect:

- Replaces the President in case of absence
- Chairs the Awards Committee
- Performs any tasks or duties assigned by the President
- Performs any other duties assigned by the Board of Directors

Vice-President:

- Performs any tasks or duties assigned by the President
- Performs any other duties assigned by the Board of Directors
- Is responsible for preparing updates to the bylaws for approval by the Board of Directors and the General Assembly

General Secretary:

- Chairs the Operative Affairs Committee
- Oversees the Membership and International Relations Committee
- Oversees the administrative aspects of the Congress Organization Committee
- Oversees the Innovators Committee
- Signs all important contracts, agreements and legal documents
- Is responsible for all Society operations including, but not limited to, Membership, NS Delegates, General Assemblies, Bylaws, and Philanthropic activities

Treasurer:

- Chairs the Finance Committee
- Oversees the Corporate Development Committee
- Oversees the financial aspects of the Congress Organization Committee
- Oversees the financial aspects of the Office of Education and of the Office of Research
- Is responsible for all financial activities of the Society including, but not limited to, membership dues, budgets, annual audits or Review Engagement Reports, investments and accounting procedures

Office of Education Chair:

- Oversees the Consensus and Education Committee
- Oversees the Institutes and Scholarships Committee
- Oversees the Publications Committee
- Is responsible for all educational activities of the Society including, but not limited to, Academy, training institutes, scholarships

Office of Research Chair:

- Is responsible for all research activities of the Society including, but not limited to, the development and maintenance of Clinical Research, lead Research priorities, projects, and funding

Immediate Past-President:

- Chairs the Nominating Committee
- Oversees the Advisors Committee
- Performs any tasks or duties assigned by the President
- Performs any other duties assigned by the Board of Directors

Chairperson of an SIU Committee

- Member of the Board of Directors
- Directs, controls and oversees activities of the Committee
- Nominates secretary and members of the Committee
- Is responsible for minutes of meetings
- Submits:
 - Reports of activities to the Board of Directors at the request of the General Secretary
 - Reports to the General Assembly as required

Elect Chairperson of an SIU Committee

- Attends the Board of Directors meetings as observer without voting rights
- Assists the Chairperson in controlling and overseeing the activities of the Committee
- Replaces the Chairperson in case of absence
- Prepares for the assumption of the chairmanship of the Committee

10.6 Meetings

The Board of Directors meets at regular intervals and in any event no less than one (1) time each calendar year.

The General Secretary is responsible for the organization of these meetings.

Between Congresses, the Board of Directors is empowered to take all decisions required for the good governance of the Society or for the protection of the Society from threatening eventualities. Any extraordinary decisions taken under this section must be presented to the next meeting of the Committee of NS Delegates and the next General Assembly.

10.7 Quorum for the Board of Directors

Thirteen (13) members of the Board of Directors in office shall constitute a quorum for the Board of Directors. Any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretion by or under the bylaws of the Society for the time being vested in or exercisable by the members of the Board of Directors generally.

The vote of the majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at such a meeting shall be required for any question submitted thereto. In the case of equality of votes, the Chairperson of any such meeting shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a member of the Board of Directors.

10.8 Resolutions in writing

A resolution in writing, signed (in writing or electronically) by all the directors entitled to vote on that resolution at a meeting of the Board of Directors, is as valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board of Directors. A copy of every such resolution, which may be signed in counterparts, shall be kept with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors.

10.9 Teleconferencing – Telephone Participation

Any member of the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors by means of such telephone or other communications facilities as permit all persons to hear each other, and a member of the Board of Directors participating in such a meeting by such means is deemed for the purposes to be present at that meeting.

10.10 Executive Committee of the Board of Directors

An Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, comprising the President, the President-Elect, the Vice-President, the Immediate Past-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, the Chairperson of the Office of Education, and the Chairperson of the Office of Research will handle operational matters and the Investment policy of the Society between meetings of the Board of Directors. The General Secretary-Elect and Treasurer-Elect, will participate in meetings of the Executive Committee without voting rights. The Executive Committee will have a teleconference, or if necessary, face-to-face, meetings as required and will report any decisions so taken to the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

10.11 Indemnification of Directors and Officers

To the extent permitted by law, the Society agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the members of the Board of Directors and Officers, their heirs, executors and administrators and estate and effects respectively against claims arising from any negligent act, error or omission, breach of duty, misleading statement or any act done or alleged to have been done by any member of the Board of Directors or Officers in or about their role. The Society will obtain Insurance coverage for this liability.

11. SIU Committees and Offices

11.1 Operative Affairs Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson: General Secretary (member of Board of Directors)
General Secretary-Elect
Executive Director
Members as needed

Duties:

- All membership and communication matters
- Permanent contacts with the Chairmen of Committees through a modern communication network
- Regular contacts with NS Delegates and Deputy Delegates
- SIU data bank
- Diffusion of information
- Development of communication via internet
- Organization of Board of Directors meetings and minutes
- Organization of telephone and internet conferences
- Organization of SIU General Assemblies and minutes
- Application and amendment of SIU bylaws, when necessary; for approval by General Assembly

11.2 Finance Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson: Treasurer (member of Board of Directors)
Treasurer-Elect
Corporate Development Chairperson
Congress Organization Chairperson
Office of Education Chairperson
Office of Research Chairperson
Members as needed

Duties:

- Evaluation and payment of dues and expenses
- Preparation and implementation of annual fundraising strategy
- Budget preparation
- Yearly audit or Review Engagement Report to be communicated to the Board of Directors
- Contacts with SIU Foundation

11.3 Office of Education

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Consensus and Education Chairperson
Institutes and Scholarships Chairperson
Members as needed

Duties:

- Development of SIU Academy content
- Oversee the implementation and development of SIU@U
- CME Accreditation for Congresses
- Endorsed events

11.4 Office of Research

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Members as needed

Duties:

- Lead the identification of future research topics
- Establish research priorities and funding
- Oversee the implementation of research projects
- Ensure the publication timetable (presentation and publications) from research activities is effectively managed
- Identify clinical trials to be included in the clinical trial register
- Manage the research team

11.5 Corporate Development Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Treasurer
Members as needed

Duties:

- Fundraise for the Society and SIU Congresses
- Develop initiatives to obtain funding

11.6 Consensus and Education Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Members as needed

Duties:

- Relations with International Consultations on Urologic Disease (ICUD)
- Organization of International Consensus meetings
- Interim meetings, seminars and courses between Congresses
- Hybrid e-learning platform for Congresses (SIU@U)
- Co-ordination of programs with other societies
- Development of educational materials
- Development and promotion of SIU Academy

11.7 Congress Organization Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Congress Organization-Elect
Members as needed (to include member/s from the host nation)

Duties:

- Responsible for all aspects of SIU Congress organization including pre-screening of proposed future Congress sites for suitability
- Selection and coordination of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC)
- Responsible for raising required funds to support annual Congresses
- Select and support development of Regional meetings

11.8 Scientific Program Committee

Is composed of: Two (2) Co-Chairpersons (members of Board of Directors) for two (2) year staggered terms renewable once
Members as needed

Duties:

- Scientific program of SIU Congresses and Regional Meetings
- Selection of topics and speakers
- Selection of abstracts
- Sub-Specialties and instructional courses in SIU Congresses

11.9 Institutes and Scholarships Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Members as needed

Duties:

- Oversee and promote the development of SIU Institutes
- Study possibilities of further SIU Institutes
- Develop training programs
- SIU Scholarships (financial sponsorship, selection of candidates)
- Coordination of joint Fellowships with other institutions

11.10 Publications Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Members as needed

Duties:

- Liaison with the official Journal of the SIU
- Lead the organization of International Consultations (ICUD) and their publications
- Monographs/Books/Videos
- Newsletters
- News Blog

11.11 Membership and International Relations Committee

Is composed of: Four (4) Co-Chairpersons (members of Board of Directors) representing the Geographical Regions of the Americas, Europe, Africa & Middle East, and Asia-Pacific
Members as needed

Duties:

- Each Co-Chair is responsible for membership growth and retention
- Lectureships at National and Regional societies
- Public relations

11.12 Innovators Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson (member of Board of Directors)
Members as needed

Duties:

- Update and improve SIU website
- Establish / promote electronic communications between Head Office and NSS / SIU members
- Promote telecommunications contact among SIU members worldwide
- Social media
- Keep apprised of new trends in technology
- Membership growth among young urologists
- Stimulate direct involvement of young urologists in Society activities

11.13 Awards Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson: President-Elect (member of Board of Directors)
Members are the President, the Vice-President, the Immediate Past-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, the Chairperson of the Office of Education and the Chairperson of the Office of Research

Duties:

- Selects, within established criteria, the recipients of all SIU awards

11.14 Nominating Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson: Immediate Past-President (member of Board of Directors)
Two (2) SIU members elected by the General Assembly and not serving as NS Delegate or member of the Board of Directors
Two (2) NS Delegates elected by the Committee of NS Delegates
Two (2) members elected by the Board of Directors

The chairperson may cast the deciding vote in addition to his regular vote.

The President, President Elect, Vice-President and General Secretary will be considered non-voting members.

Duties:

- Solicits nominations for Board of Directors positions from BOD members, NS Delegates and SIU members
- Makes recommendations to the General Assembly for the election of the Vice-President, and, as required, of other Officers, Chairpersons and Elect Chairpersons of Committees whose terms have expired-(note that the nominations for representatives of the General Assembly on the Nominating Committee must come from the floor of the General Assembly and members so nominated should have knowledge of the workings of the Society)

11.15 Advisors Committee

Is composed of: Chairperson: Immediate Past-President (member of Board of Directors)
Past-Presidents

Duties:

- When called upon, will provide non-binding guidance and counsel to the Executive on current issues, when a consensus cannot be obtained by the BOD or other committees
- Serve as advisors to the President and General Secretary

III – MEANS OF ACTION

12. World Congress

The Society will have annual World Congresses. These Congresses will be held in the country of the Inviting Nation selected by the Society. The choice of the Congress venue is made at least four (4) years, and preferably more, in advance by the Board of Directors and submitted to the General Assembly for discussion. The Inviting Nation must give the assurance that all members of the Société Internationale d'Urologie will be welcome and that visas shall be issued to all members of the Society. The SIU is directly responsible for the entire legal, financial, and structural aspects of each Congress. The Scientific Committee of the SIU will be in charge of the entire scientific program.

The Congress Organization Committee will identify members of the Local Organizing Committee including representatives of the Inviting Nation. The official language of the Congress shall be English. The Inviting Nation shall facilitate access to services for simultaneous translation, including booths for interpreters, transmitting apparatus and headsets, for selected sessions for any country accepting to pay for these services and for their own interpreters. In addition to World Congresses, the Society may hold topic specific meetings according to recommendations of the Congress Organization Committee.

No other Sub-Specialty Society, International or National Association which holds a symposium or other educational activity under the auspices of the World Congress will be allowed to engage in any fundraising activities for the symposium/educational activity that could conflict with the fundraising for the Congress.

13. Publications of the Society

The Society may produce publications at the discretion of the Publications Committee. These publications shall be in English.

Logo of the SIU:

The SIU logo is the exclusive property of the Society and can only be used where approved by the General Secretary of the SIU, except for the use by NSS described below. When the logo is used, it must not be modified in any way.

NS Delegates and Deputy Delegates of Sections of the SIU may use the logo with respect to the normal operations of the NSS. Such use is restricted to the NS Delegate's letterhead when used for legitimate SIU activities, promotion of meetings of the members of the NSS, and other internal activities of the NSS. In such cases, it is permitted to add the name of the NSS immediately below the SIU logo, but not to modify the logo itself. Request for approval of the use of the logo must be addressed to the General Secretary sufficiently in advance of printing deadlines. The General Secretary will subsequently report any such approvals to the Board of Directors. Any misuse of the logo by a member will be considered a serious misdemeanour subject to the sanction of Article 7 above.

14. General Assembly

During each Congress a General Assembly is held, which Active Members in good standing and Senior Members may attend, and this shall constitute the Annual General Meeting of the Society. The Board of Directors determines the agenda.

At the General Assembly the members of the Society will receive reports from Officers and Chairpersons of Committees, discuss them if necessary, and make final decisions.

The report of the Treasurer will include the income, expenditures and balance sheet of the Society and must be subject to audit or Review Engagement Report by professional auditors or accountants prior to the Congress. It will then be read and accepted by vote by the General Assembly.

The following issues will be decided based upon recommendations of the Board of Directors:

- The election by majority vote or alternatively, the candidate who amasses the most votes, of the Vice-President and, as required, of other Officers and Chairpersons and Elect Chairpersons of Committees whose terms have expired.
- The election for a two (2) year term by simple majority vote of one (1) of the two (2) representatives of the General Assembly on the Board of Directors and of one (1) of the two (2) representatives of the General Assembly on the Nominating Committee (note that representatives of the General Assembly cannot be NS Delegates).
- Consideration and sanction if deemed appropriate, of any bylaw to repeal, amend or re-enact any such bylaw which should be sanctioned at said Assembly.
- Appointment of the Auditors or Review Accountants and determining or authorizing the Board of Directors to determine their remuneration.
- Other recommendations from the Committee of NS Delegates.
- If appropriate consideration, dealing with or resolution of any other business that might be brought before the Assembly.

Active Members in good standing and Senior Members are eligible to attend the General Assembly and to vote, subject to the stipulations of Article 18.

The Chairperson of the Nominating Committee presents the recommendations of his/her committee for election of the Vice-President, and for Officers, Chairpersons and Elect Chairpersons of Committees where required by the expiration of terms.

Nominations are solicited via e-mail or any other means which the Nominating Committee may determine appropriate from time to time to all members in good standing of the SIU. The call for nominations is done at least 6 months prior to the General Assembly. This shall be the only opportunity for members to nominate a candidate. Members of the Nominating Committee cannot nominate a candidate. The members of the Nominating Committee shall meet either in person, or virtually, to discuss the nominations. At that time, if the Nominating Committee finds no suitable candidate for a position, the members of the NC may propose a candidate for the slate which will then be ratified at the General Assembly. The proposed slate shall then be circulated to all members in conjunction with the timing of the Notice of Meetings criteria (Article 16). Major objections will be brought to the attention of the Nominating Committee Chair who will address them before ratification at the General Assembly.

Nominations from the floor at the General Assembly should be made only for the representative of the General Assembly on each of the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee whose terms have expired. Such nominations must be seconded to be considered, and the nominee must accept the intent of nomination verbally if present, or by signifying his or her consent in writing or by electronic means, or by attestation of the nominator to serve if elected in this capacity.

If a majority, or alternatively the candidate who amasses the most votes, is not obtained on first round, a second vote among the top two (2) will determine the vote.

Any General Assembly shall constitute an Extraordinary General Assembly to consider, deal with and resolve any business that should be considered, dealt with or resolved at an Extraordinary General Assembly. A procedure to dissolve the society must be proposed at an Extraordinary General Assembly.

15. Extraordinary General Assembly

An Extraordinary General Assembly is held whenever necessary and at the request in writing of either the President, or the General Secretary, or six (6) voting members of the Board of Directors, or twenty (20) NS Delegates. Extraordinary General Assemblies shall be held at the Head Office of the Society or at any other place or places as determined by the Board of Directors from time to time.

16. Notice of Meetings

Notice of General Assemblies, Extraordinary General Assemblies or Annual General Meetings other than those taking place during a Congress of the Society shall be communicated to the members of the Society at their respective addresses as they appear on the register of the Society at least 28 days prior to the date fixed for the meeting. Such notice shall specify the place, day and hour of each meeting. The notice of any General Assembly may, but need not, specify the purpose of such meeting, but should specify in general terms any bylaw and the repeal, amendment or re-enactment of any bylaw which should be sanctioned at such meeting and shall also specify any other business that should be considered, dealt with or resolved at an Extraordinary General Assembly. Notice of any Extraordinary General Assembly shall specify in general terms any business that should be considered, dealt with or resolved at such a meeting.

No notice of the time, place or purpose of any meeting of members, whether prescribed by law or by the bylaws, need be given to any member who attends in person or who, in writing, either before or after the holding thereof, waives such notice.

17. Addresses of Members

Every member shall furnish to the Society an address to which all corporate notices intended for such member shall be mailed or served upon him. Irregularities in the notice or in the giving thereof as well as accidental omission to give notice to, or the non-receipt of any notice by any of the members shall not invalidate any action taken by or at such meeting.

18. Right to Vote

Each matter at any General Assembly shall be decided by a vote on a show of hands or upon a poll of those present. Each Active Member in good standing and each Senior Member is entitled to one (1) vote, provided that on any one ballot, no more than ten percent (10%) of the total votes cast by members attending the General Assembly shall come from any single National Society Section. Should more than ten percent (10%) of those present at the General Assembly come from any single National Society Section, each time a matter is put to a vote at such a General Assembly each vote cast by an Active Member in good standing and a Senior Member from such National Society Section will be counted and the results shall be prorated to equal ten percent (10%) of the General Assembly's total votes.

An Active Member shall be deemed to be in good standing if annual dues have been paid.

In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair of any meeting of members shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to his vote as a member.

The act of a majority of the members at any meeting shall be the act of the members of the Society except as to matters on which the vote or consent of a greater number of members is required by law or by the deed of incorporation or the bylaws of the Society.

IV – SIU AWARDS

19. SIU AWARDS

The Society will have a Medal, to be known as the SIU Félix-Guyon Medal, for outstanding service to the Society. The SIU-Mostafa M. Elhilali Award will be given in recognition of excellent scientific and ethical standing. There will be Distinguished Career Awards to recognize members who have contributed significantly to the field of Urology during their careers. There will also be an award known as the Albert Schweitzer Award to recognize notable contributions to the teaching of urology in developing countries. The SIU-Innovators Award will be presented annually to a urologist who has obtained international recognition for his or her outstanding contribution in Urology and to the Society. Candidates must be 45 years of age or younger to be eligible. The SIU Distinguished Partner Award shall recognize outstanding continued support of the SIU by an individual, a company or a non-governmental organization.

The SIU Félix-Guyon Medal, Albert Schweitzer Award, Distinguished Career, and the SIU-Innovators awardees shall be members of our Society. Applications for the SIU-Innovators Award must include a one-page letter of support and abbreviated CV.

The SIU Félix-Guyon Medal will be awarded once per SIU World Congress. At the discretion of the Awards Committee, more than one (1) Distinguished Career Award and no more than two (2) SIU Distinguished Partner Awards may be granted at any SIU World Congress. The Awards Committee shall not be obliged to name winners of any of these awards if, in its judgment, there are no nominations of sufficiently high calibre.

Awardees must be informed that their award is contingent upon their willingness to receive it in person at the annual meeting of the society. In the absence of attendance, the Awards Committee may reconsider the individual for the award for the next year and select an alternative or no recipient for the current year. In exceptional circumstances, the Awards Committee may decide to confer the award in absentia.

Specific criteria for these and any new awards shall be approved by the Board of Directors and presented to the committee of NS Delegates and the General Assembly at the next Congress.

The Awards Committee in all cases will carefully consider the candidacy of nominees for each award reviewing several factors including without limitation, the career of the nominee, their contribution to the field and the Society, community work, past history and comportment in and outside the medical field to name a few. Once awarded, a nominee will be notified in confidence of the award they will receive, however said award will only be made public at such time as the Awards Committee determines the latter at all times reserving its right to revoke the award should the committee so determine in its sole and absolute discretion.

V – AFFILIATES

20. AFFILIATES

- An organization or society may apply to the Society for affiliate status. The application shall be made in writing to the General Secretary and shall include a copy of the constitutional documents of such organization or society. The Board of Directors shall consider the application at its next regular meeting and shall submit it to the membership at the next Annual General Meeting. An organization or society will become an affiliated society ("Affiliated Society") only by majority vote of each of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly.
- Membership in an Affiliated Society does not confer membership in the SIU.
- The SIU will not have any financial responsibility except that which may be specifically contracted.
- An organization which is granted Affiliate status may designate itself as follows: "Affiliated Society of the Société Internationale d'Urologie".
- An Affiliated Society should hold a general meeting preferably in conjunction with the annual or biennial meeting of their respective national urological society or association.
- An Affiliated Society may report to the Society membership at the Annual Meeting. Such a report may be requested by the Board of Directors from time to time, or alternatively may be requested by the Affiliated Society. In the latter case the request shall be made in writing to the General Secretary and shall be considered by the Board of Directors.
- An Affiliated Society may lose its status by majority vote of the Board of Directors and of the General Assembly.

VI – ALTERATION OF THE BYLAWS AND DISSOLUTION

21. Alteration/Amendment of the Bylaws

Alteration/Amendment of the bylaws is made after review and proposal for change by the Vice President to the Board of Directors. Upon approval of the Board of Directors for forwarding, the proposed bylaw changes are presented to the General Assembly for approval. All members shall have adequate notification of the date, time, and place of this Assembly and will receive the proposed alterations to the bylaws with adequate time for review. Valid decisions can be taken whatever the number of members present. Unless otherwise specified, changes to the bylaws take effect immediately upon approval by the General Assembly.

Changes to the Alterations/Amendments which do not substantively change the meaning or intent of the Bylaws can be made at the Assembly, and with approval take effect as stated above.

22. Dissolution

The dissolution of the Society may be made on the proposal of the Board of Directors after the convocation of an Extraordinary General Assembly, of which all members shall have adequate notification.

In the case of dissolution, the Extraordinary General Assembly will appoint one or more commissioners to liquidate the property of the Society and will stipulate the final disposition of any assets.