



STATUTES (as translated from the official French text)

Adopted by the *Extraordinary General Assembly* on 4 March 2006 in Brussels

NAME

Article 1:

In accordance with the Belgian Act of 25 October 1919, modified by the Act of 6 December 1954, granting civil status to international associations, an international association has been formed under the name: Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union abbreviated "FACE".

The statutes may be translated into the various languages of the E.U. Member States, but in the event of difficulties in their interpretation, the French text shall be considered as original and as binding.

OBJECTS

Article 2:

The objects of the non-profit making Federation, with particular reference to the European level, are:

- a) to promote and defend hunting, in the interests of maintaining a natural balance, on the basis of scientific and biological principles, in particular by the conservation of wildlife and habitats, by opposing their misuse and destruction, and by defending rational game and environmental management;
- b) to establish and maintain permanent relations and exchanges between hunting associations, supporting their efforts and taking part in their work;
- c) to defend the moral and physical interests of members of member associations, taking joint decisions on subjects of common interest and implementing those decisions;
- d) to contribute towards enlightening the public at large as to the principles of sustainable hunting, their value in the management and wise use of game and its habitats, as well as to the important role the public can play in the conservation of game and its habitats;
- e) to promote all forms of activity, research and contacts associated with game and habitats, in particular with all national and international organisations which have similar concerns or would help in achieving the Federation's goal.
- f) to raise and manage funds to contribute financially to projects of scientific research, of technical work, of conservation and management of wildlife and its habitats, of information and awareness raising and to any other initiative aiming to promote biodiversity conservation through the sustainable use of renewable natural resources.

REGISTERED OFFICE AND LIFE

Article 3:

The Federation's registered office address is 82, rue Frédéric Pelletier, 1030 Brussels.

It may be transferred to any other location in Belgium at any time by decision of the Board.

Any change to or transfer of the Federation's registered office address shall be published in the Annex to the *Moniteur belge*.

Administrative or operating offices may be established elsewhere as required, by the decision of the Board.

Article 4:

The life of the Federation is unlimited.



MEMBERS

Article 5:

Are Full Members, representative hunters' associations from States in the European Union or Council of Europe, admitted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 7. Only Full Members have the right to vote and they are each represented by one Delegate and one Deputy which they designate.

OTHER MEMBERS

Article 6:

Hunters' associations suitable for Full Membership, but who cannot yet be granted such status because their country's application for Council of Europe membership has not yet been decided upon, as well as other non-governmental organisations, sharing and supporting the Federation's objectives, may be admitted as Associate Members.

The General Assembly may also admit, on a proposal by the Board, individuals or corporate bodies as Honorary Member, Sponsor Member, State Member or any other category of Member it considers appropriate.

These Members have no voting rights.

ADMISSION

Article 7:

All Members are admitted by the General Assembly on a report by the Board, if applicable subject to a favourable opinion from the existing Full Members from the country of the candidate.

RESIGNATION AND EXPULSION

Article 8:

All Members are free to resign at any time from the Federation by notifying the Board in writing of their resignation; this does not affect their liability for any subscription due for the financial year during which the resignation was sent in.

Expulsion of Members is pronounced by the General Assembly on a motivated report from the Board.

Expulsion cannot take place unless the party concerned has been given the chance to defend itself.

Resigning or expelled Members will have no claim upon the Federation's assets.

BODIES

Article 9:

The Federation's bodies are:

- 1° the General Assembly
- 2° the Board
- 3° the Bureau

GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

Article 10:

The General Assembly is the Federation's supreme body; it meets at least once a year, at a place and time specified by the Board. It may also be convened upon the request of one third of its Full Members.

Each Full Member may be represented in the General Assembly by its Delegate or his Deputy, indicated at Article 5. Any other person admitted in advance by the Board may also take part in the General Assembly

Notice of the General Assembly must be given at least one month before the appointed date, with a detailed Agenda.



TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Article 11:

The General Assembly lays down guidelines on the Federation's policy, in particular by approving a *Work Plan* and the adoption of *position papers*, prepared by the Board; it evaluates the implementation of this policy. It decides on the Agenda items drawn up by the Board, in particular on the admittance and expulsion of Members, approval of the accounts, subscription levels, amendments to the statutes and dissolution of the Federation; it also proceeds to the statutory election of the President and of the Treasurer General, as well as to the ratification of the Board members designated according to article 14.

Urgent matters not on the Agenda can only be discussed and decided upon with the Board's approval and a majority of votes cast in favour.

ASSEMBLY VOTING

Article 12:

General Assembly decisions are reached by simple majority voting, the quorum being half the number of Full Members plus one.

The Full Members of a country, represented in the General Assembly by their Delegate, in compliance with the provisions laid down in Article 10, share one vote, regardless of the number of Full Members of that country.

However, for votes taken on the modification of the Statutes, dissolution of the Federation, approval of the accounts and adoption of the budget, a system of weighted voting will apply whereby each country will receive a number of votes corresponding to the percentage of its contribution to the Federation's budget of the current year.

When votes are taken on subjects that concern E.U. countries only, the other Full Members will refrain from voting.

Voting rights are vested in the Delegate or his Deputy from the Full Member or Full Members of each country concerned and having a written mandate to this end at the time of opening of the Assembly.

Decisions relating to the modification of the Statutes and the dissolution of the Federation must be taken by a three-quarters majority at least, the quorum being two thirds. If these conditions are not met, a second, Extraordinary Assembly will be held within two months, which will be able to rule validly by a three-quarters majority, whatever the number of voters present.

In this case, postal voting is exceptionally permitted. Those who do not cast their vote are considered to be in agreement with the Board's proposals. This point must be made expressly in the Notice of the second General Assembly. Members making use of the postal voting facility must attach to their letter the written mandate referred to in paragraph 5.

Only Full Members having satisfied their subscription obligations will be allowed to vote.

Voting will be public, except if a secret ballot is requested by one third of those voting.

Proxy voting by a Member of another country is not permitted.

In the case of a tied vote, the proposal is deemed to have been rejected.

Other participants at the Assembly have no voting rights, but may take part in discussions on a consultative basis.

The General assembly sets itself *Rules of Procedure*, including inter alia the procedure for election of the President and of the Treasurer General, and for the designation of Board members and their ratification, as well as the conditions and modalities for the admission of Members, indicated ad Article 6.



THE BOARD

Article 13:

The Board is the Federation's management and policy development body.

It prepares and carries out the Assembly's decisions. It carries out the policy guidelines and liaises between the Federation's bodies and its Members. It takes all the Federation's management and administrative decisions as the need arises.

It represents the Federation in all civil and legal activities.

The Board may establish and disband *Technical Groups* or other structures on an temporary or permanent base as it deems appropriate, in order to assist its own activities and those of the Secretary-General. Each *Technical Group* or structure shall operate under *Terms of Reference* given to it and endorsed by the Board. Membership to a *Technical Group* or structure is open to Board members, to Delegates of Full Members and their Deputies, and to any other person deemed qualified by the Board. A *Technical Group* or structure may also co-opt or invite on a temporary basis persons with the appropriate expertise.

Without prejudice to Article 18 concerning day-to-day management, the Board may delegate certain of its powers, for specific purposes, by special power of attorney.

The Board is accountable to the General Assembly for its management.

COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

Article 14:

The Board consists of 11 Vice-presidents, of which 5 represent each one of the 5 countries paying the largest contribution, and 6 represent each one of the 6 regional constituencies in Europe identified by the General Assembly in its *Rules of Procedure*, as well as of the President and of the Treasurer General, plus the Secretary General of the Federation, the latter two having no voting rights.

The Full Members of each country or regional constituency concerned designate among the Delegates or Deputies their representatives for the Board, after which the General Assembly will proceed to their ratification for a three year period; their term may be renewed.

The Board appoints the Secretary-General, on proposal by the Bureau.

The President and the Secretary General must be a national of a E.U. country.

The position of Secretary General is incompatible with any other leading and paid office in a national or international hunters' association for the duration of his mandate. The Secretary General is appointed for three years and may be reconfirmed in his function.

Members of the Board hold their office without remuneration, except for the Secretary General, who may be paid by decision of the Bureau, which will then recruit him and set the details and conditions of his employment.

The Board sets itself *Rules of Procedure*, including inter alia the procedure for election of the members of the Bureau and for taking decisions according to the modalities of Article 15.

BOARD PROCEDURE

Article 15:

The Board will meet when convened by the President or a member of the Bureau. The Notice of the meeting must give the Agenda and be sent out at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting. The Board will also meet upon request of one third of its members.

The Board may only take decisions if at least one half of its members are present. The Board reaches its decisions by a majority voting. For all decisions, the principle of one vote per member applies.



THE BUREAU

Article 16:

The Bureau consists of the President and two of the Vice-Presidents, of which one representing the 5 countries paying the largest contribution and one of the 6 regional constituencies. Each of these two Vice-Presidents may replace the President in case of absence or of *force majeure*. The Treasurer-General of the Federation, plus the Secretary-General are also member of the Bureau, but with no voting rights.

The Bureau is the representative body of the Federation in between meetings of the Board and/or the General Assembly. It operates under the guidance and the responsibility of the Board to which it shall report.

The Bureau sets itself *Rules of Procedure*.

THE PRESIDENT

Article 17:

The President chairs the meetings of the General Assembly, the Board and the Bureau. Unless otherwise foreseen in the Statutes or agreed by the Board or Bureau, the President represents the Federation in all contacts with third parties.

In case that the President, when taking office, is a Delegate or Deputy of a Full Member at the General Assembly, he shall, for the duration of his mandate, renounce this function. In that case, this Full Member will designate a new Delegate or Deputy to be represented at the General Assembly.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Article 18:

In addition to any specific and special mandates, which the Secretary General may be given, he is responsible for the routine and permanent running of the Federation and, on this basis, may validly carry out any day-to-day acts of management.

SIGNATURE

Article 19:

Without prejudice to any delegation of power as specified in article 13 and the acts of routine management referred to in article 18, the Federation will be validly committed to Third Parties by the joint signatures of any two of the following persons: the President (or one of the Bureau's Vice-Presidents), the Treasurer General and the Secretary General, who are under no obligation to justify their powers to Third Parties.

Legal actions, both as plaintiff and defendant, are initiated and executed by the Board, represented by its President or a Board member appointed to this effect by the President.

FINANCE

Article 20:

1. The Federation's financial year will commence on the 1st January and close on the 31st December of each year.

The Treasurer General will submit accounts to the Board, which will have them approved by the General Assembly.

Each year, the Board draws a Budget containing an estimate of expenses and incoming payments for the next financial year.

The Board has final control over this Budget.

2. a) On the Board's proposal, the General Assembly annually fixes the total amount of subscriptions to be paid by Full Members.



- b) This amount is shared out among the countries in accordance with the rules laid down by the Board.
- c) Members of the same nationality reach agreement among themselves as to the manner of sharing the subscription payable by their country. Nevertheless, they will be jointly and severally liable to the Federation for the whole of the subscription payable by Members of their country.
3. On the Board's proposal, the General Assembly annually fixes subscriptions payable by the Associate Members, who will settle these in accordance with paragraph 2. c) above.
 4. Subscriptions are to be settled in full by the 1st May each year at the least.
 5. The General Assembly may, on proposal by the Board, decide to set up a special Fund from which resources will only be allocated to the objectives identified under Article 2(f). The Bureau will manage this Fund, of which all administrative costs will be covered by the working budget of the Federation

LANGUAGES

Article 21:

The official languages of the Federation are the official languages of the European Union. The Board determines the working languages of the Federation.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 22:

The legal domicile and place of performance for all matters relating to the Federation is its registered office.

The General Assembly called to decide upon the dissolution of the Federation will be convened six months in advance, with an explanatory report by the Board.

The General Assembly deciding to dissolve the Federation will appoint the liquidator(s) and decide as to the allocation of the assets after the liabilities have been paid off.

If no liquidator(s) is/are appointed, the Federation will be wound up by the President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer General in office at the time of the decision to dissolve the Federation.