



Freiburg, 12.06.2016

CONVOCATION
of the 27th Ordinary General Assembly
of the International Forestry Students' Association e.V.

Dear members of the International Forestry Student's Association,

In accordance with the statutes of IFSA, we have the pleasure to invite you to attend the 27th Ordinary General Assembly of our association.

The 27th Ordinary General Assembly will take place from August 8th 2016 until August 21th 2016 during the International Forestry Student's Symposium (IFSS) in Austria and Bavaria, Germany:

1 st Plenary Session	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences; Feistmantelstraße 4, 1180 Vienna, Austria
2 nd Plenary Session	Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management; Stubenring 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria
3 rd Plenary Session	Center for Education and Research Raumberg-Gumpenstein; Raumberg 38, 8952 Irdning, Austria
4 th Plenary Session	Binder Feuerwerk; Binderholz Straße 49, 6263 Fügen, Austria
5 th Plenary Session	Applied University for Agriculture; Klosterstraße 11, 4553 Schlierbach, Austria

The General Assembly (GA) is one of the most important events of the IFSA, as here you as IFSA's members can raise your voice and change the association's statutes as well as become officially elected IFSA Officials. Several important decisions, votings and discussions lie ahead of us!

More information on what you have to watch out for regarding the GA are provided on the next few pages of this document. Please read them carefully in order not to forget anything important, especially if you are going to attend the GA.

Thank you and best greetings,

Jonas, *IFSA Executive Secretary*, on behalf of the IFSA Board

Note: First, we want to explain you the importance of updating your contact information in our database, as otherwise e.g. the invoice would not reach you and finally you might not be eligible to vote at the GA. You can update your contact information at ifsa.net/update-contact-information

GA agenda

After this information section, you can find the agenda for the GA.

Membership fees

We would like to remind you that only members who have paid their membership fees for the year to come (2016/2017) are eligible to vote in the GA. In case you did not receive an invoice yet, it will be sent out to your LC shortly, so that you will know how much you owe. Please do not forget to confirm the reception of the invoice.

You also will have the possibility to pay the fees in cash (only EUROS are being accepted) during the IFSS. However, a transfer prior to the IFSS is recommended and much appreciated.

If you have any question about the membership fees and the payment, feel free to contact Jan Lindblad (our Treasurer) at treasurer@ifsa.net

Transfer of voting right

If your Local Committee is not able to send any representatives to the GA, it is possible to transfer your Local Committee's voting right to another LC whom you trust to represent your opinion. In case you wish to do so, your LC President should contact the Secretariat at secretariat@ifsa.net and state, which Local Committee he/she represents and which Local Committee he/she would like to transfer the voting right to. This Local Committee of course needs to be present at the GA. Watch out that every present Local Committee *must not represent more than three votes* in total (IFSA statutes article 8.3).

The deadline for transferring your Local Committee's voting right is Saturday, August 6th 2016 at 23:59 UTC+1.

Voting cards

For the votings during the GA you will get an official GA voting card for the representatives of your Local Committee. The cards will be provided at the GA. In case you transferred your voting right to an other Local Committee, the respective representatives will get your voting card additionally.

Statutes changes

During the GA, we will vote on proposed changes to our statutes. For this, you already got the chance to submit proposals. You can find the list of all accepted proposals after the GA agenda.

For everybody who is not familiar with our current statutes it might be helpful to read them before the IFSS. You can find the statutes in the end of this invitation letter. A German version of the statutes and decrees (Satzung und Dekreten) is available on request from the Secretariat; the by-laws are available in English only, as they are not being translated for the German association court and English is the official working language of IFSA.

Appointment of Consulting and Honorary Members

During the GA, we will vote on the appointment of Consulting and Honorary Members.

Consulting members are natural persons who contribute their experience to IFSA. Consulting members are natural persons that need to have contributed to IFSA as officials and shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session. A nomination supported by a majority in GA shall qualify the appointment of an individual. The consultative status of appointed consulting members shall be reviewed every three years. (IFSA statutes article 7.5)

Consulting members are appointed for an initial period of three years. In case the consulting member agrees, this appointment can be renewed if desired. (IFSA decrees article 7.7)

Honorary members can be persons or organisations that IFSA wishes to honour, and who/which have accepted being an honorary member of IFSA. They shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session and each year a total of three honorary members can be appointed. (IFSA statutes article 7.7)

If attending the GA, please think about if, whom and why you would like to appoint potential Consulting and Honorary Members. At the respective agenda point, you can then raise your voice and the GA will vote on your proposal.

Minutes of the 26th General Assembly

If attending the upcoming 27th GA, it might be very helpful for you to have read the minutes of the previous 26th GA held in the Philippines during the IFSS 2015.

Having read them is crucial for you understanding the agenda and processed during the GA. As such, please read the minutes before the start of the IFSS or before the start of the 1st Plenary Session of the 27th GA the latest. Thank you. The minutes can be found in the end of this document. A German version of the minutes is available on request from the Secretariat.

We look forward to welcoming you at the 27th General Assembly and the International Forestry Students' Symposium 2016 in Austria and Bavaria, Germany!



Agenda of the 27th General Assembly of the International Forestry Students' Association e.V.

1st Plenary Session

1. Opening of 27th General Assembly (GA)
2. Admission or exclusion of guests, press or broadcasting media
3. Appointment of the Board of Assembly (BoA)
 - a. Appointment of the Chairperson
 - b. Appointment of the Chairperson's assistant
 - c. Appointment of Keepers of the Minutes
4. Appointment of Electing Committee (EC)
5. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
6. Explanation of different decision making procedures
7. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 27th GA and 1st Plenary Session
8. Approval of the minutes of the 26th GA held in the Philippines
9. Reports for the year 2015-2016 and quick presentations of the positions
 - a. Presentation of report from Executive Secretary
 - b. Presentation of report from Treasurer
 - c. Presentation of the Council's note of the annual report and the financial report
 - d. Presentation of reports from IFSA Commissions
 - i. Communication Commission
 - Web Sub-Commission
 - Marketing Sub-Commission
 - Publications Sub-Commission
 - ii. International Processes Commission
 - Forest Europe Sub-Commission
 - UNFF Sub-Commission
 - UNFCCC Sub-Commission
 - CBD Sub-Commission
 - iii. Forestry Education Commission
 - IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education
 - iv. Fundraising Commission
 - v. Professional Development Commission
 - Mentorship Sub-Commission

- e. Presentation of report from Council
 - i. Adoption of new members approved by Council 2015-2016
 - ii. Information on expelled members in 2015-2016
- f. Presentation of report from President
- g. Presentation of report from Vice President
- h. Presentations from Regional Representatives
 - i. Asia-Pacific
 - ii. Northern Africa
 - iii. Southern Africa
 - iv. Northern America
 - v. Latin America
 - vi. Northern Europe
 - vii. Southern Europe
- i. Presentations from Liaison Officers
 - i. IUFR0
 - ii. FAO
 - iii. CFA
 - iv. CIFOR
 - v. ITTO
 - vi. EFI
 - vii. IFISO
 - viii. Alumni
- j. Presentation of IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position
- 10. Approval of IFSA Annual Report 2015-2016
- 11. Approval of the financial report from the last (2015) calendar year
- 12. Approval of the financial report from the last IFSA year 2015-2016
- 13. Presentation of the budget for the IFSA year 2016-2017
- 14. Explanation of procedures for statutes, decrees and by-laws amendments
- 15. First call for candidature for IFSS 2018 and explanation of the procedure
- 16. First call for candidature for Interim 2016-2017 host
- 17. First call for candidature of IFSA Officials
- 18. Closure of the 1st Plenary Session

2nd Plenary Session

- 1. Opening of the 2nd Plenary Session
- 2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
- 3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session
- 4. Approval of budget for the IFSA year 2016-2017
- 5. Second call for candidature for IFSS 2018
- 6. Second call for candidature of IFSA Officials
- 7. Presentation by the Organizing Committee of the IFSS 2017 in South Africa
- 8. Introduction on the appointment of honorary and consulting members

9. Presentation of the IFSA Strategy 2016-2019 draft
10. Changes in statutes, decrees and by-laws
 - a. Explanation of change procedures in statutes, decrees and by-laws
 - b. Presentation and approval of proposed changes in statutes, decrees and by-laws
 - i. Statutes
 - ii. Decrees
 - iii. By-Laws
11. Closure of the 2nd Plenary Session

3rd Plenary Session

1. Opening of the 3rd Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 3rd Plenary Session
4. Third call for candidature for IFSA Officials
5. Presentation of the candidatures for host country of the IFSS 2018
6. Vetting of Board candidates
 - a. Direction candidate(s)
 - i. President candidate(s)
 - ii. Vice President candidate(s)
 - iii. Treasurer candidate(s)
 - iv. Executive Secretary candidate(s)
 - b. Council candidate(s)
7. Vetting of Liaison Officer candidates
 - a. IUFRO
 - b. FAO
 - c. CFA
 - d. CIFOR
 - e. ITTO
 - f. EFI
 - g. IFISO
 - h. Alumni
8. Presentation of the Master Folder
9. Follow up of the implementation of the IFSA Strategy 2015-2016
10. New IFSA Strategy 2016-2019
 - a. Presentation
 - b. Change proposals
 - c. Approval
11. Second call for candidature for Interim 2016-2017 host
12. Closure of the 3rd Plenary Session

4th Plenary Session

1. Opening of the 4th Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 4th Plenary Session
4. Election of the host country of IFSS 2018
5. Discharge of the Board
 - a. Discharge of the Direction
 - b. Discharge of the Council
6. Discharge of other Officials
7. Election of the Board
 - a. Direction
 - i. President
 - ii. Vice President
 - iii. Treasurer
 - iv. Executive Secretary
 - b. Council
8. Election of Liaison Officers
9. Appointment of Regional Representatives
10. Decision on continuation and the establishment of (new) Commissions
11. Appointment of Heads of Commissions
12. Appointment of Consulting Members
13. Appointment of Honorary Members
14. Miscellaneous
15. Election of Interim 2016-2017 host
16. Closure of the 4th Plenary Session

5th Plenary Session

1. Opening of the 5th Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 5th Plenary Session
4. Statements by the incoming Regional Representatives
 - a. Asia-Pacific
 - b. Northern Africa
 - c. Southern Africa
 - d. Northern America
 - e. Latin America
 - f. Northern Europe
 - g. Southern Europe
5. Statements by the incoming Heads of Commissions
 - a. Communication Commission
 - Web Sub-Commission
 - Marketing Sub-Commission

- Publications Sub-Commission
- b. International Processes Commission
 - Forest Europe Sub-Commission
 - UNFF Sub-Commission
 - UNFCCC Sub-Commission
 - CBD Sub-Commission
- c. Forestry Education Commission
 - IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education
- d. Fundraising Commission
- e. Professional Development Commission
 - Mentorship Sub-Commission
- 6. Statements by the incoming Liaison Officers
 - a. IUFRO
 - b. FAO
 - c. CFA
 - d. CIFOR
 - e. ITTO
 - f. EFI
 - g. IFISO
 - h. Alumni
- 7. Statement by the incoming IFSA Board
 - a. Council
 - b. Direction
- 8. Closure of the 5th Plenary Session and the 26th IFSA General Assembly

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Statutes of the International Forestry Students' Association

A. GENERAL

Article 1 Name and seat

(1.1) The association is named "International Forestry Students' Association", IFSA. It has been registered in the associations' register and received the name extension "e.V.".

(1.2) The association has its seat in Freiburg/Breisgau (Germany).

Article 2 Logo

The Logo of the association contains a globe with a tree, the letters IFSA within and beside this on the left side the full written name of the association "International Forestry Students' Association" as shown in the picture below:



Article 3 Vision and Mission

(3.1) IFSA's global vision is for cooperation among students of Forestry and related sciences in order to broaden knowledge and understanding to achieve a sustainable future for our forests, and to provide a voice for youth in international forest policy processes.

(3.2) IFSA's mission is to provide a platform for students of Forestry and related sciences to enrich of their formal education, promote cultural understanding by encouraging collaboration with international partner organisations and to gain practical experiences with a wider and more global perspective. Through its network, IFSA encourages student meetings, enables participation in scientific debates, and supports the involvement of youth in decision making processes and international forest and environment policy.

Article 4 Objective

The objectives of IFSA are to:

- (a) Enrich the formal education of forestry students, creating a wider, more global perspective through extracurricular activities and the exchange of information and experiences such as the International Forestry Students' Symposium (hereafter referred to as IFSS), seminars and the publication of IFSA News.
- (b) Contribute to a more complete professional preparation for forestry students.
- (c) Promote cultural understanding, co-operation and networking amongst forestry students and the professional forestry sector as well as with other sectors such as Agriculture, Medicine and Law.
- (d) Encourage improvements in higher education in forestry and related sciences internationally to the benefit of all students.

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Article 5 Registered charity

(5.1) IFSA pursues exclusively and directly purposes of a registered charity in the sense of the chapter "tax-favoured purposes" in the German tax regulations.

(5.2) The association works without self-interest, it does not primarily pursue lucrative purposes of its own. IFSA is a non-discriminatory and politically independent association with no religious affiliation.

(5.3) IFSA's funds are to be used only for purposes according to these statutes. The members do not receive gifts out of the association's funds. Nobody must be favoured by expenses that are not in accordance with the association's purposes or by disproportionate compensations.

(5.4) In case of dissolution or abolition of IFSA or removal of its tax-favoured purposes the association's possessions devolve upon "AFS/Interkulturelle Begegnungen e.V." (Hamburg) exclusively and directly for purposes of registered charity and purposes of international students matters.

Article 6 Language; IFSA year and financial year

(6.1) The official language of IFSA is English.

(6.2) The IFSA year begins and ends with the closure of the ordinary session of the General Assembly, hereafter referred to as GA.

(6.3) The financial year of IFSA is the calendar year beginning January 1st.

B. MEMBERSHIP

Article 7 Members

(7.1) Members of IFSA can be natural persons, legal entities or unions of persons. The Council decides on admission of ordinary and associate members on written request according to the requirements, such as the democratic structure of the applicant. Consulting and honorary members are appointed by the GA.

(7.2) IFSA has five kinds of members:

- (a) Ordinary members;
- (b) Associate members;
- (c) Consulting members;
- (d) Supporting members; and
- (e) Honorary members.

(7.3) Ordinary members of IFSA must be student organisations that operate in accordance with the statutes and values of IFSA, of the university/ies (and/or similar institutions of internationally recognised university level) they are affiliated with, and which have natural persons as members. Council should use their discretion to determine whether the structure of further education, the scientific or technical qualification offered, and the connection to forestry is relevant to the goals and purpose of IFSA.

(7.4) Associate members are natural persons or student organisations representatives that wish to be a member of IFSA without fulfilling all of the conditions to be an ordinary member, but still act in accordance with the statutes and values of IFSA.

(7.5) Consulting members are natural persons who contribute their experience to IFSA. Consulting members are natural persons that need to have contributed to IFSA as officials

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and shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session. A nomination supported by a majority in GA shall qualify the appointment of an individual. The consultative status of appointed consulting members shall be reviewed every three years.

(7.6) Supporting members are natural persons or organisations that make an annual contribution of a minimum value fixed by the GA in the Decrees of IFSA.

(7.7) Honorary members can be persons or organisations that IFSA wishes to honour, and who/which have accepted being an honorary member of IFSA. They shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session and each year a total of three honorary members can be appointed.

(7.8) Membership ends with:

- (a) Dissolution or death of the member; or
- (b) Cancellation by the member with a written message to Direction or Council in time as fixed in the Decrees of IFSA by the GA; or
- (c) Expulsion by the GA with a three-quarters majority if the member has seriously violated the association's interests. Before putting this decision to the GA the concerned member has to be given an occasion to justify their behaviour, by word or in writing, in front of the Direction. There is no appeal possible after the decision of the GA.

Expulsion can be decided by the Council after a member does not pay the membership fees according to Art. 8.1 for two consecutive years, and following two formal warnings. Expulsion for reason of not having paid membership fees must not be decided until three months have passed since mailing of the second warning without the debts being paid. A decision on expulsion must be announced to the concerned member with reasons mentioned.

Article 8 Membership fees, duties and voting rights

(8.1) Members and registered alumni are required to pay fees. Consulting and honorary members are exempted. The value of the annual membership fees that have to be paid in advance of the year of membership is decided by the GA and fixed in the Decrees.

(8.2) Members have to keep the Regional Representatives informed of their contact person(s), contact details and of major changes in their structure on a yearly basis.

(8.3) Every ordinary member that has paid its membership fee for the IFSA year to come will receive one voting-certificate for the GA, which its signatories can transfer to a member of any ordinary member thus authorising this person to represent the transferring member and to vote. A representative must not represent more than three votes.

Every other member that has paid its membership fee (if required) for the IFSA year to come will be invited to the GA and can transfer this invitation to a person of any eligible member thus authorising this person to represent the transferring member.

The right to vote in the GA of IFSA can be withdrawn from ordinary members by Direction or GA if they:

- (a) Do not pay the required membership fees; or
- (b) Do not respond to requests for information by Direction, Council or Secretariat of IFSA or their Regional Representatives.

The right to vote may be reinstated at the discretion of the Direction once the ordinary member fulfills the requirements outlined in **(8.2) (a)** and **(b)**.

(8.4) In the eventuality that a student organisation is applying for membership, yet its affiliated tertiary institution was previously the host of an expelled LC, ~~at least two years should have passed since expulsion of said LC in order for the applying organisation to be accepted into IFSA again~~ the member can agree to pay fees that are delinquent for at least 1 year but not more than 3 years to be reinstated as regular members. Members that have fees delinquent for over three years must begin the formal application process to become an IFSA member.

In the eventuality that a student organisation is applying for membership, yet is already a member of IFSA and has not paid its membership fees, at least four years must have passed since the organisation last paid its membership fees before it can be accepted as an IFSA member again.

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C. ORGANS AND BODIES

Article 9 Organs, bodies and Liaison Officers

(9.1) IFSA has the following organs:

- (a) GA, including Board of Assembly, hereafter referred to BoA, and
- (b) the Direction.

(9.2) IFSA has the following bodies:

- (a) Secretariat;
- (b) Council;
- (c) Commissions; ~~and~~
- (d) Liaison Officers (hereafter referred to as LOs); and
- (e) Regional Representatives (hereafter referred to as RRs).

(9.3) Direction, Council, Secretariat, BoA decide on important affairs in their scope of duty by simple majority of the votes of their members. Conferences and the voting of these organs and bodies can be held on request of any of their members in vocal, telephone, electronic or written mode.

(9.4) At the point of time when being elected, the members of Direction and Council have to be members of ordinary members enabled to vote, or must have finished their courses not longer than one year before as members of ordinary members enabled to vote. The members of the BoA and the Commissions can be IFSA members of any kind when being elected.

(9.5) With exception of the Treasurer (who is an obligatory member of the Fundraising Commission), no member of the Direction or Council may hold another function in any other organ (with the exception of the GA and BoA) or body of IFSA at the same time, nor can they be representatives of any member.

Direction, BoA, Council, Secretariat, Commissions and LOs give themselves internal regulations and record them continually in a written form. They report their activities to other organs and bodies periodically as fixed in the Decrees.

When necessary, in the case of prolonged absence of a member of the Direction or Council, the duties of the absent member may be completed by the member of either the Direction or Council who is most knowledgeable of the role, (for example, the Vice President may assist in approving membership applications) provided that this transfer of responsibility is agreed on by the majority of the Direction and Council.

Article 10 General Assembly

(10.1) The GA is the deliberative organ of IFSA and consists of all members of IFSA. All powers not granted to other organs or bodies by IFSA's Statutes or by law are vested in the GA, which is responsible for:

- (a) Approving the Direction's proposed budget for the following IFSA year, receiving the IFSA Annual Report by Direction and bodies;
- (b) Fixing the value of the annual membership fee;
- (c) Electing and discharging members of Direction, Council, Commissions and, on request of one ordinary member, the Chairperson of the BoA;
- (d) Electing and discharging LOs;
- (e) Approving Commissions and members of Commissions;
- (f) Making decisions on alterations of Statutes or Decrees or the Association
- (g) Deciding on the location of the IFSS; and
- (h) Appointing consulting and honorary members.

(10.2) Each Ordinary member that has paid its membership fee is represented by a natural person authorised to be its representative by the signatures of that member's signatories on the voting-certificate. Certificates have to be approved by the Chairperson's the GA before a session of the GA or a meeting of the session has started.

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(10.3) Each ordinary member that paid its membership fee has one vote in the GA if the voting certificate of its representative has been approved according to Art. 10.2.

Article 11 Convocation of the General Assembly

(11.1) The GA shall meet at least once a year. By the Direction's instructions the Secretariat convokes it at least eight weeks before meeting according to the procedure fixed in the Decrees.

Time limit starts with mailing the invitations. The invitation is valid if being directed to the member's address last announced to the Secretariat in writing. The Direction fixes the agenda, which is included in the invitation.

(11.2) An extraordinary GA can be convoked at any time by the Direction or on written request including purpose and reasons to the Direction by a group of ordinary members constituting no less than 30% of all ordinary members. It must be convoked in the Association's interests and article 12 and 13 are correspondingly valid in case of an extraordinary GA. All decisions made in an extraordinary GA will require regional balance.

Article 12 Decisions of the General Assembly

(12.1) The GA is chaired by the President or in the event of the President's inability by (in order of preference) the Vice-President, the Treasurer or the Executive Secretary. On request they are freed from this task. If such a case occurs, or on request of the GA according to Art. 10.1 (c) the GA decides on a Chairperson by election. In case of elections the chairing of the GA can be delegated to a special Commission for the duration of discussions and ballots.

(12.2) The Chairperson names an Assistant and the Keeper of the minutes in the BoA when entering his / her task. He / She has all powers necessary to facilitate proceedings, maintain standards of proper conduct and to ensure that correct GA procedures are followed.

(12.3) The GA is not public. The GA can admit guests, press or broadcasting media.

(12.4) The Chairperson decides on the method of decision making. Decisions are secret on request of one present member entitled to vote. Elections are secret. Decisions by correspondence by the GA are possible as described in the Decrees.

(12.5) The GA is competent to take general decisions with a quorum of 25% of the ordinary members enabled to vote. If the quorum is not sufficient, decisions by correspondence are possible as described in the Decrees. The number of authorised votes from the members of one country must not be more than 20% of the total number of authorised votes present. If such a case occurs, the representatives of this country make a pre-selection among their votes in a way that reduces the number of their votes to 20% or less of the authorised votes present.

(12.6) The GA decides only on points of the agenda and with ~~simple majority of votes~~ majority passing the vote, unless regulated differently in these Statutes. Members must vote yes, no or abstain, where the vote abstain is counted in the total pool of votes as against. If there are more nos and abstains than yeses the vote will pass to an open call except in cases for President, Vice-President, and Secretary.

(12.7) (a) An alteration of these Statutes needs a quorum of at least 30% of all the ordinary members entitled to vote and a majority of at least three quarters of the valid given votes. The proposal to do so must be included in the agenda of the session. The approval of changes to Statutes shall be done per proposed change.

(b) A decision to dissolve IFSA or to alter its purpose needs a quorum of at least 70% of all the ordinary members and a majority of at least 50% of the authorised votes. The GA must have been convoked especially for one of these purposes.

(12.8) If no majority of given votes is achieved by a single candidate in the first ballot of an election, a second ballot will be held among the candidate(s) who reached the equal highest numbers of votes. If the votes are equally divided in an election a second ballot

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will be held. Should again no majority be reached the matter ~~will be decided by lot~~ pass to an open call following the GA except in the cases of President, Vice-President, and Secretary.

(12.9) Decisions of the GA have to be recorded in the minutes. The minutes have to be signed by the Chairperson and the Keeper of the minutes. They have to name the place and time of Assembly, the Chairperson, Assistant and Keeper of minutes, numbers of members present and enabled to vote, agenda, decisions and the decision-making process. In case of alteration of the Statutes the detailed text must be recorded. The minutes are presented to the following GA.

Article 13 Proposals for the agenda

(13.1) Members' proposals for the agenda have to reach the Secretariat at least ~~twelve~~ nine weeks before the beginning of the GA. The proposals can be sent to either the Secretary or Council directly. The Secretariat refers them to the Council at once. After the immediate evaluation of their accordance with the Statutes by the Council they are transmitted to the Direction. The GA decides on delayed proposals for the agenda and on those being proposed during the GA, after their accordance with the Statutes was evaluated by the Council.

Article 14 Direction

(14.1) The Direction consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the Executive Secretary. The Association is legally represented, judicially and extra-judicially, always by two members of the Direction together.

(14.2) Members of Direction are annually elected individually by the GA. If a member of Direction retires within his/her term of duty the Direction in consultation with Council elects a substitute for the rest of his/her term. This will begin with a call for candidates for the position, which lasts for 15 days. The call must be made available to all IFSA ordinary members.

(14.3) The active term of office for members of the Direction shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election, followed by a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. During this changeover period they shall be required to give reasonable assistance to new Direction members. If this changeover does not occur outgoing officials will be considered delinquent in their roles and will not receive a certificate of completion.

(14.4) The Direction especially has the following tasks:

- (a) Preparing the GA and setting up the agenda;
- (b) Convoking the GA;
- (c) Co-ordinating the activities of IFSA's organs and bodies except those not explicitly subordinate to the Direction;
- (d) Preparing the budget for every IFSA year, bookkeeping and preparation of IFSA Report; and
- (e) Providing adequate change over to their successors and support until at least the end of the calendar year.

(14.5) The Direction needs a quorum of at least three members of Direction for decisions. In case of parity of votes the vote of Council must be consulted and will decide. In the event that two members of the Council are known to be not contactable for a lengthy period (until after the time the decision must be made), or if only two Council members are present and they are unable to reach a decision, the President shall have the casting vote. Decisions of the Direction have to be recorded in a book of decisions for purposes of proof. The book of decisions has to be kept and signed by the meeting's chairperson. This is the President or, in case of his/her absence, the Vice-President. The records shall name place and time of meeting, names of participants, decisions and results of voting.

(14.6) It is not permitted to unite more than one function of Direction in one person.

(14.7) At least one of the members of Direction must attend the GA that ends their active term of office and presents the IFSA Annual report. This member of Direction is the

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Chairperson of the BoA but can be released from this task on request and then only has to chair the election of a new Chairperson by the GA.

(14.8) If a member of the Direction does not fulfil his/her mission in accordance with the job description as written in the By-laws for a period exceeding one month without previously informing other members of Council and Direction of their situation, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new member of the Direction will be elected by the Direction and Council.

Article 15 Secretariat

(15.1) The Secretariat is the international administrative office and must have access to necessary communication facilities. The Secretariat is run by the Executive Secretary who should be a member of the ordinary member at the Secretariat's location. In the case that a member of this ordinary member cannot take the position of the Executive Secretary, the GA can vote for candidates from other ordinary members to fill this position. In that case the newly elected Executive Secretary should move to the Secretariat's location for the majority of his/her term or enlist assistance from the members of the ordinary member at the Secretariat's location, whose work he/she will supervise and be responsible for.

(15.2) The tasks of the Secretariat are:

- (a) Organisation of all official publications,
- (b) Mailing, keeping of archives, updating records and distributing information, and any other special tasks delegated by the GA, the Direction or Council.
- (c) Sharing the tasks of internal and external communication with the Vice-President.

Article 16 Council

(16.1) The Council consists of three Councillors from different countries. They are elected individually every year by the GA. If there is more than one candidate for Council from one ~~country~~ region a pre-selection will be held among them to choose one final candidate from that ~~country~~ region.

(16.2) The active term of office for the Council shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election at the GA, unless a councillor is appointed in the middle of the IFSA year, in which case their term will span until the next GA. The Council shall decide on one member who shall participate in a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. During this changeover period he/she is required to give reasonable assistance to new Council. If this assistance does not occur the outgoing officials will be considered delinquent and forfeit their certificates of completion.

(16.3) There should be a meeting of the Council at least ~~once~~ three times per quarter of a year. Decisions of the Council have to be recorded in a book of decisions ~~and are signed by the chairperson of the meeting.~~ Decisions are to be documented in the IFSA Annual Report.

(16.4) The Council has the following tasks:

- (a) Judging the suitability of members and applicants for membership and admitting new members;
- (b) Making smaller changes in the Statutes as they pertain to grammatical and spelling errors, formatting, and number mix-ups, without it being approved by the GA;
- (c) Evaluating the appropriateness of proposals for the agenda according to the Statutes;
- (d) Evaluating the IFSA Annual report for the GA;
- (e) Verifying the IFSA accounts and ~~book-keeping~~ bookkeeping at the end of the calendar year and at the end of the Treasurer's term, including a presenting a signed note to the GA that names irregularities or respectively confirms that none such where found;
- (f) Advising and supervising all organs and bodies of IFSA on its own initiative or on request;
- (g) Mediating in case of internal quarrels; and
- (h) Directing the Vice-President to substitute the President if necessary.

(16.5) At least one of the members of Council must attend the GA that ends their term of active duty.

(16.6) If a member of the Council retires within their term of duty, the Council elects a substitute for the rest of its term. If a member of the Council does not fulfil his/her mission for a period exceeding ~~one month~~ two weeks without previously informing other members of Council and Direction, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all

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IFSA members. After this period, the new councillor will be elected by the Direction and Council.

Article 17 Commissions

(17.1) Commissions are executive bodies of IFSA established by the GA in any composition and for any tasks. The members of Commissions are approved for one IFSA year by the GA. Additional members may be admitted to a commission during the year subject to application to and approval by the Council and members of the relevant Commission. ~~Each commission nominates one person only to be the head of the commission. These decisions must be approved by the GA.~~ Heads of Commissions must be nominated and voted in by the GA. Each head of commission is expected to lead his/her commission for one IFSA year, if not decided otherwise by the GA, which includes planning an efficient changeover to the next head and providing support to them until the end of the calendar year. If the Head of Commission does not fulfill their changeover period they may be considered delinquent in their responsibilities and forfeit their completion certificate.

(17.2) The Commissions and their tasks are fixed in the Minutes of the GA and are decided jointly with the previous head of commission and are valid for a period of one IFSA year if not decided otherwise by the GA from the time of their approval.

(17.3) At least one of the members of any Commission ought to attend the GA that ends their term of duty.

(17.4) If a head of commission does not fulfil his/her mission, given the demands of the post as determined by the Head of Commission, Councillor in charge, or Direction for a period exceeding ~~two~~ one months or wants to retire, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new head of commission will be appointed by the Council.

Article 18 Liaison Officers

(18.1) The LO is the correspondent between IFSA and a Professional Partner of IFSA. He/She is elected for one IFSA year by the GA (or is appointed by the Council if nobody nominates for the position during the GA and someone is interested during the IFSA year).

(18.2) The LOs have the following main tasks:

- (a) Maintain regular contact with both the IFSA President and the partner organisation;
- (b) Work with both parties to find suitable arrangements for collaborative activities;
- (c) Collaborate with commissions or regions on activities relevant to partners that also involve those commissions and/or regions;
- (d) Engage actively with the partner to create value-added opportunities for IFSA members;
- (e) Raise awareness of one organisation to the other; and
- (d) Ensure an efficient change over to the next LO and provide support at least until the end of the calendar year.

(18.3) Under no circumstances can the LO make a decision engaging IFSA without the approval of the IFSA President. If an LO makes such a decision they may be subject to dismissal.

(18.4) If a LO does not fulfil his/her mission, as decided by Direction and Council, for a period exceeding ~~two~~ one months or wants to retire, the Direction can begin a call for candidates to replace him/her. This call shall last 15 days and the information must be available to all IFSA members. After this period, the new LO will be appointed by the President and Council.

Article 19 Partnership positions

(19.1) A partnership position involves IFSA and one of its professional partners in a joint undertaking to fulfil a specific aim. These can be full-time, paid positions that would allow IFSA to better serve its vision and mission as described in Article 3 of the Statutes. The Joint Position established with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations in 2014, is an example of such a partnership position.

(19.2) The position is neither appointed nor elected at the GA, but rather a selection process is to be set up jointly by the IFSA Direction and Council and the professional partner, allowing them to decide on the position holder.

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- (19.3) The Direction and Council, in coordination with the professional partner in question, shall write together Terms of Reference for the partnership position. These shall be presented to the GA following the partnership position's establishment.
- (19.4) The partnership position counts as an Official for their attendance to IFSA meetings, meaning that they shall have their reserved place and do not count as a member of an Ordinary Member.
- (a) The partnership position serves both IFSA and IUFRO and is required to support the aims of both organizations fairly.
 - (b) The individual holding the partnership position thus reports to staff at IUFRO as well as with the IFSA Board.
 - (c) As the individual who holds the partnership position is not a regular member they shall not be allowed to vote or lobby for decisions concerning IFSA. They may provide their assessment while remaining objective.
 - (d) If issues should arise with the individual serving as joint position holder the matter will be discussed internally with the President and Vice-President, as well as with IUFRO.
- (19.5) Information about the position has to be communicated to all members of IFSA.
- (19.6) Should the position holder retire within their term of duty, the Direction will begin an open call for a candidate for the position, which will last for at least one month. This call must be made available to all IFSA members.

D. DISSOLUTION; COMING INTO FORCE

Article 20 Dissolution of the Association

(20.1) The dissolution of IFSA can only be decided by a GA convoked especially for that purpose with a majority according to Art. 12.7(b). Two members of Direction together are entitled to act as liquidators if the GA does not decide differently. The regulations above are correspondingly valid in the case of the Association being dissolved because of different reasons or the loss of legal capacity or legality.

Article 21 Coming into force

(21.1) These Statutes were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the ~~2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines~~ 9th of August 2016 at the 44th IFSS in Austria, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.

(21.2) These Statutes replace the official former Statutes of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the ~~10th of August 2014 at the 42nd IFSS in Canada~~ 2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines.

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Decrees

These Decrees are to realise, complement and explain the Statutes of IFSA. (Numbering in accordance with the articles of the Statutes.)

A. General

Article 1 Name and seat

(1.2) Independent from the location of any of IFSA's organs or bodies IFSA's seat can remain at the location of the registration court.

Article 2 Logo

Any changes in the logo of IFSA must be approved by the GA. The IFSA logo can only be used for official IFSA matters. IFSA members may use the logo of IFSA but have to clearly state the name of the member.

Article 3 Vision and Mission

(3.1) Any amendments to the Vision of IFSA must be approved by the GA.

(3.2) Any amendments to the Mission of IFSA must be approved by the GA.

Article 4 Objective

(4.1) A change of objective must be announced to the registering German authorities, which are the local court (Amtsgericht) and the tax-authority (Finanzamt) at the seat of IFSA.

Article 5 Registered charity

(5.1) To be admitted as an association of registered charity by the competent tax-authority IFSA must have an office at that tax-authority's location. In case the office moves, the competent authorities must be informed beforehand.

Article 6 Language; IFSA year and financial year

(6.1) The English language is to be used for all formal documents and communication such as GA proceedings, website, IFSA News, the Annual Report and Progress Reports.

B. Membership

Article 7 Members

(7.7) Consulting members are appointed for an initial period of three years. In case the consulting member agrees, this appointment can be renewed if desired.

(7.8) The cancellation of membership by the member's own free will has to be sent to the Direction or the Secretariat at least twelve weeks in advance.

Article 8 Membership fees

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(8.1) Annual membership fees and contributions of minimum value have to be paid one year in advance. The amount of the fee for each member depends on the country the member is from. Countries are organised into separate categories according to the GDP per capita compiled annually by the CIA World Factbook at the start of the previous IFSA year. The three categories are:

- Low income countries (LICs): Country GDP per capita < World average GDP per capita
- Medium income countries (MICs): World average GDP per capita ≤ Country GDP per capita < EU average GDP per capita
- High income countries (HICs): EU average GDP per capita < Country GDP per capita

The fees are as follows:

- (a) An annual membership fee of 25 Euro for ordinary members from LICs, 50 Euro for ordinary members from MICs and 105 Euro for ordinary members from HICs. All LICs are offered their first year of membership for free. Upon a well-founded request the Direction can reduce this fee for individual members.
- (b) In the case a HIC or MIC is suffering from financial insecurity a case can be made to direction to lower their fee by one country category for one year. Such a plea must be made at least 16 weeks prior to the GA.
- (c) An annual membership fee of 25 Euro for associate members from LICs, 40 Euro for associate members from MICs and 75 Euro for associate members from HICs. Upon a well-founded request the Direction can reduce this fee for individual members.
- (d) A minimum annual contribution of 30 Euro for supporting members.

C. Organs, bodies

Article 9 Organs, bodies

(9.1) Bodies are not "Organe" (organs) in the sense of § 31 BGB (German Civil Code).

(9.2)

- (a) Direction, Secretariat, Commissions, Regional Representatives and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities (including decisions) to the Council on request and at least every three months. If such reports are not submitted within one month of their due date the official in question can be considered delinquent in their responsibilities and either receive a warning letter or a letter of dismissal.
- (b) Secretariat, Council, Commissions and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities to the Direction on request and at least every three months.
- (c) Direction, Secretariat, Council, Commissions and LOs have to give an annual report on their activities to the GA (for IFSA Annual Report see Statutes & Decrees Art. 14.4d).

Article 10 General Assembly

(10.1) The agenda of a session of the GA must have the following structure:

First plenary session

1. Opening of the GA and the first plenary session by a member of Direction;
2. Admission or exclusion of guests, press or broadcasting media;
3. Appointment of the BoA;
4. [If necessary election of a new Chairperson for the GA];
5. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant;
6. Agenda of the GA: distribution of items to the plenary sessions;
7. Agenda of the plenary session;
8. Approval of minutes of the last session of GA;
- ... points of agenda (POA's); and
- X. Closure of the plenary session.

Second, third and following plenary sessions

1. Opening of the plenary session;
2. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant;
3. Agenda of plenary session;

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... POA's; and

X. Closure of the plenary session

Last plenary session

1. Opening of the plenary session;

2. Announcement of the number of members present and entitled to vote by the Assistant;

3. Agenda of the plenary session;

... POA's; and

X. Closure of last plenary session and GA.

POA's are items and topics that have to be dealt with according to the following lists which includes both annually and not annually returning items[in brackets]:

The following points should be included:

- Information from Local Committees,
- [- General Proposals]
- [- Proposals for (re)-establishing Commissions]
- Changes to and approval of budget (Treasurer)

The following points should be included and must be completed in chronological order:

- Reports including:
 - Report of the Executive Secretary
 - Report of Treasurer
 - Presentation of the Council's note on the Annual Report and the Financial Report, including a note on possible irregularities in the Treasurer's report,
 - Report of the Secretariat,
 - Reports of the Commissions,
 - Report of the Council,
 - Report of the President,
 - Report of the Vice President,
 - Report of the RRs,
 - Report of the LOs,
 - Approval of IFSA Annual Report,
- Approval of the financial reports from the last IFSA year,
- Approval of the financial report from the last calendar year
- Presentation of candidates for IFSS-organizing committee for the (two) following year(s),
- Election of IFSS-organiser for the two following years,
- [Presentation of the IFSA Strategy]
- Follow up of the implementation of the IFSA Strategy
- Proposal of changes in the IFSA Strategy and approval by the GA
- [Presentation of new commission(s) and approval by the GA]
- Presentation of candidates for elections,
- Discharge of Direction by GA,
- Discharge of Council by GA,
- Election of members of Direction and Council

Article 11 Convocation of the General Assembly

(11.1)

- (a) The Direction fixes a provisional agenda for the GA considering the proposals and requests by members that are in accordance with the Statutes and that have arrived in time. The agenda shall contain the schedule, date and place of the sessions.
The Secretariat must receive the provisional agenda at least ~~ten~~ **eight** weeks before the GA.
- (b) The Secretariat mails the invitations for the GA together with necessary documents such as the agenda and voting certificates at least ~~eight~~ **six** weeks before the start of the GA.

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Article 12 Decisions of the General Assembly

(12.4) Decision making by correspondence is possible on request of the Direction in case of insufficient quorum for special decisions according to Statutes Art. 12.7 or from at least 10% of all ordinary members. The proposal to be decided on must be authorised by the signatories of all proposers and arrive at the Secretariat at least sixteen weeks before the GA deciding on it. The process of decision making by correspondence is conducted by the Secretariat according to the following procedure:

- (a) After receiving a proposal in time the Secretariat sends the proposal immediately to the Council for evaluation and to the Direction for information;
- (b) The Council returns the evaluated proposal to the Secretariat within two weeks of being received;
- (c) The Secretariat mails proposals accepted by the Council to the ordinary members together with the recommendations of the proposers and the assessments of the Council (and possibly of the Direction), or in case of rejection by the Council all documents are returned to the proposing members;
- (d) The deadline for the ordinary members' votes to arrive to the Secretariat is within six weeks of mailing the proposals to the members;
- (e) The Secretariat counts the votes that arrived in time and are valid and informs the organs, bodies and members immediately of the result; and
- (f) The decisions come into force at once.

(12.5) If the GA is not able to decide due to insufficient attendance of ordinary members the Direction lists the necessary decisions and hands them in to the Secretariat within four weeks after the end of the GA. The Secretariat sends these documents to all members entitled to vote not later than six weeks after the GA for a decision by correspondence according to the procedure described in these Decrees in Art. 12.4 d-f.

Article 13 Proposals for the agenda

Article 14 Direction

(14.4)

- (d) The Vice-President prepares the IFSA Annual report for the GA listing the annual activities of the IFSA year, showing the result of each activity. The Treasurer prepares the financial report for the previous IFSA year and presents it to the GA. The Treasurer will also present the financial report for the last completed calendar year, which is prepared with the assistance of the previous Treasurer. These accounts must be verified and signed by the Council. The reports from the other bodies (Council, Secretariat, Commissions and LOs) are included in the IFSA Annual Report.

Article 15 Secretariat

(15.2) The tasks delegated to the Secretariat may consist of:

- (a) Editing and distributing the official publications of IFSA including articles from members, organs and bodies in it;
- (b) Maintaining an archive for addresses, and organisational state of all IFSA members;
- (c) Maintaining an archive for addresses and information concerning forestry faculties and forestry student organisations world-wide;
- (d) Maintaining an archive for IFSA correspondence (including IFSA News);
- (e) Maintaining an archive for the Statutes, Decrees, By-laws and the minutes of the GA and adjusting regulations if decided;
- (f) Conducting correspondential decision making by GA (see Statutes Art. 12.5);
- (g) Co-ordinating the internal mailing among members, organs and bodies.
- (h) Running external mailing from organs and bodies of IFSA to the outside and back, including
- (i) Communication with court and tax-authorities;
- (j) Administering the cash-box, bookkeeping and the payments according to the financial By-laws and instructions by the Treasurer.

Article 16 Council

(16.4)

- (a) The Council judges members' and applicants' suitability by considering if they:
 - i.) Respect Statutes and Decrees of IFSA;

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- ii.) Convey all information concerning IFSA to their members;
- iii.) Enable their members to participate in IFSA;
- iv.) Pay the annual membership fee as fixed in the Statutes and Decrees of IFSA; and
- v.) Assure that their representative at the GA is competent, and authorised with the voting certificate (Art. 10.2).

Article 17 Commissions

Article 18 Liaison Officers

Article 19 Partnership positions

D. Dissolution; Coming into force

Article 20 Dissolution of the Association

Article 21 Coming into force

(21.1) These Decrees were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the ~~2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines~~ 9th of August 2016 at the 44th IFSS in Austria, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.

(21.2) These Decrees replace the official former ~~Statutes~~ Decrees of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the ~~10th of August 2014 at the 42nd IFSS in Canada~~ 2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines.

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By-laws

CHAPTER 1: THE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is the international office of IFSA.

All official records, reports, documents, information materials etc. shall be kept at the Secretariat. Relevant records to be kept at the Secretariat should include original invoices of transactions (to be stored for 10 years, or longer if required by law), data on all members with updated addresses, lists of all IFSA publications and publications received by IFSA, all GA proceedings including Annual Reports of Direction and Council, standard IFSA documents such as ordinary membership applications forms, membership requirements and criteria, information overview leaflets, other official reports, court and bank registration documents, statutes and other regulation documents and a list of all things at the Secretariat or elsewhere that belongs to the Association. All official records shall also be stored online with hardware backup copies. There should be at least fourteen days of overlap period between the outgoing and incoming officials who work at the Secretariat.

CHAPTER 2: REGIONALISATION

2.1 Establishment of Regions

To enhance effective mobilisation of members at sub-continental or continental levels, the world shall be classified into Northern and Southern Africa, Northern and Latin America, Northern and Southern Europe and Asia-Pacific regions.

2.2 Definition of Regions

Northern and Southern Africa: The equator will be the boundary separating Northern and Southern Africa and countries lying on the boundary will decide which regions they prefer to belong to.

Asia-Pacific: All countries on the geographical land of Asia and all countries on the geographical land of Oceania will belong to this region.

Northern and Southern Europe: The 50th parallel will be the boundary separating Northern and Southern Europe. Of those countries which the 50th parallel runs through, all but France shall belong to Northern Europe with Luxembourg, Moldova and Slovakia also being included in the Northern Europe region. Germany will be split in two along the 50th parallel to form Germany North and Germany South, with each part belonging to their respective regions.

Northern America and Latin America: The geographical areas of two continents will form the respective regions, with the exception of Mexico, which will be included in the Latin American region.

2.3 Sub-Regions

To facilitate easy administration and effective contact among members in a region, sub-regions can be formed by the Regional Working Group meetings at a GA. Divisions and the administrative mechanism for the sub-region will be approved by the GA.

2.4 Regional Representatives

At the GA, delegates of each region will nominate one or two Regional Representative(s) (hereafter referred to as RR) for their region, who should, where possible, be residing in the region for the majority of the IFSA year subject to approval of the GA. If possible, prior nomination of candidates should be done at the Regional meetings that precede the GA.

The RR is responsible to the Direction and Council.

The RR will perform such duties as the following to promote the aims of the Association in their region:

- Assist the Direction in carrying out activities such as tracer studies in the region;
- Encourage and promote activities such as working camps, seminars, forestry-related projects

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relevant to the region etc.

The period of office for RRs shall be for the period of one IFSA year, followed by a changeover period until the end of the calendar year. If this changeover period is not conducted they member could be considered delinquent in their role and forfeit their completion certificate.

During this changeover period he/she is required to give reasonable assistance to the new RR.

In case of resignation or failure to complete duties and responsibilities for a period of at least one month of the RR, the Council sends an open call to the ordinary members of the designated region to fill the vacant position; this call shall last for at least 15 days. The representatives of the ordinary members of the designated region will elect the new RR through an online voting tool. If their is a low response rate to this vote Council and Direction will decide who the next RR should be from the pool of candidates.

2.6 National Committees

A member or members in a country may form a National Committee (NC) to liaise between the members and the Secretariat.

Each IFSA Ordinary member in a country will have equal representation of students in the NCs. The NC will be supported to perform its tasks by the members unless the GA and/or the Direction decide otherwise. The NC is not an Association or independent from the members and can be dissolved by majority decision of the members. The Secretariat of IFSA may also recommend for the dissolution of the NC especially if there is lack of communication or flow of information to members is impeded.

IFSA members in a country are obliged to submit the names and addresses of its NC members to the Secretariat at the GA or at most a month after the GA.

It is the responsibility of members in a country to decide on location of the NC and other internal matters that will enhance the performance of the committee.

Each NC will have a contact officer for the RR and will seek to maintain regular contact and communication.

CHAPTER 3: THE DIRECTION

3.1 Duties of the President

The President will:

- Be the principal official representative of the Association;
- Initiate, direct and supervise the work of the Direction; Initiate and maintain contacts with external non-student organisations; and
- Initiate and maintain contacts with external student organisations.

3.2 Duties of the Vice-President

The Vice-President will:

- Perform the duties of the President in his/her absence or when incapacitated by sickness or death. The Vice-President will in this case receive official notice or authorisation from the President; otherwise he/she shall receive authorisation from the Council;
- Co-ordinate the organisation of internal activities; and
- Perform any other duty delegated by the President or the Direction.

3.3 Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer will:

- Have a close working relationship with the IFSA Secretariat;
- In consultation with other members of the Direction, initiate activities and contacts for raising funds for the Association;
- Be an obligatory member of the fundraising commission and has to be informed about all activities concerning fundraising within IFSA;
- Supervise the work of the Secretariat in relation to financial matters;
- Prepare for presentation to and approval of the GA an estimated budget for the IFSA year to come and a financial report on the previous year; and
- Prepare a financial report of the previous calendar year to be presented to the GA as well as at the Interim meeting. They are responsible to handle all affairs regarding the tax law and to stay in

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regular contact with the competent authorities.

3.4 Duties of the Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary should be located in Freiburg at the IFSA Secretariat for most of his/her active term and at least for 14 days of overlap period after the IFSS, and will:

- Take care of the duties of Secretariat as defined in Article 15.3;
- Be the principal internal administrative officer at IFSA International Secretariat;
- Organise all of the Association's publications unless otherwise stated;
- Receive all internal reports and bring them for the attention of the Direction;
- Assist in internal and external communication in collaboration with the Vice-President ;
- Ensure all receipts and invoices of transaction records are copied and appropriately stored;
- Regularly back-up all electronic data saved at the Secretariat, at least once a month;
- Supervise the work of the IFSA-IUFRO joint position as stated on the signed agreement;
- Perform any other duty, to the extent that is necessary, delegated by the Direction.

Some of the tasks above may be delegated to other persons but it is the duty of the Executive Secretary to assure their completion.

3.5 Resignation

Any member of Direction wishing to resign shall do so by written letter with stated reason to the Council through the Secretariat, at least eight weeks before the intended date of resignation.

The Council will immediately request the Direction to submit an update of financial statement from the Bank and a record of the Association's properties for its consideration. The Council will authorise the Direction to terminate the signatory status and access to the Association's properties of the resigning officer. The Council will also authorise for the return of all the Association's properties stamps, books etc. to the Secretariat and the items returned shall be documented.

The Direction will give a report to the Council indicating its satisfaction of the conditions of resignation before the Council shall officially write to accept the resignation on behalf of the GA.

3.6 Termination of Office

Any member of the Direction will have his/her office terminated when upon proven evidence the member in the judgement of Council has seriously violated the interest especially the purpose of the Association has misappropriated and/or embezzled the Association's funds. In this case, he/she will be made to refund the amount misappropriated or embezzled and can be liable to prosecution.

3.7 Vacancies

In case of vacancy in the Direction, the other members in consultation with the Council will appoint another member to occupy the vacant position.

In case of complications, the Council will use its discretion to find a temporary solution until the next GA.

3.8 Delegation of Tasks

The Direction or a member will have the right to delegate a task under its/ his / her responsibility but will be held responsible for the accomplishment of that task.

CHAPTER 4: FINANCES

4.1 Bank Account

- a) Type of Account: The Association ~~will have a current account with a reputable Bank in the Federal Republic of Germany~~ has
- (a) a current account with a reputable bank in the Federal Republic of Germany; and
 - (b) a PayPal account.

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- b) The association's ~~will name the account "IFSA e.V. General"~~ bank accounts will have the name "IFSA e.V.".
- c) The administration of the accounts ~~can be~~ are managed through an online portal of the respective bank service by the Treasurer.
- d) Members of the Direction will be signatories to the accounts and two of them at a time are competent to make cash withdrawal with general agreement by the majority of the Direction. All other business such as transactions or standing orders can be handled by ~~only of the competent persons at any one time~~ the Treasurer or a substitute elected by the Board (must be member of the Direction) only.
- e) ~~Money contributed to the IFSA Development Fund shall also be held in the IFSA e.V. General bank account, with funds being kept separate through bookkeeping.~~
- e) All funds of IFSA are held in the IFSA e.V. bank accounts and being kept separate through double entry bookkeeping.
- f) At least one member of the Council will audit the financial accounting every quarter of the year, at the same time as the progress reports are made.
The Treasurer should therefore produce a short report which gives information about the liquidity of IFSA during the rest of the year.
- g) The GA or Council Board will decide and approve the allocation of funds from the accounts.
- h) All expenses made on behalf of IFSA must have prior written approval for a specified amount from the Treasurer in consultation with the Direction.
- i) Money contributed to the running of any Commission shall be held in the IFSA e.V. General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.

4.2 Annual Budget

- a) The treasurer has to prepare the following budgets:
 - i) Estimated budget for the IFSA year to come (in this case beginning and ending with the opening of the IFSS), which should contain all administrative costs and funds that are necessary to run the association.
 - ii) Estimated budget for the calendar year to come including all activities and sectors of IFSA worldwide. This budget is meant to serve as a basis for fundraising activities. It is not binding for the sectors and organising teams of events concerned, but shall give a realistic estimation of the global financial turnover of the association.
- b) The Annual Budget for the bank accounts should meet the requirements of the German Tax Law, and can include the following items:

Expenditures:

- i) General administration
- ii) ~~Fund for Direction~~
- iii) ~~Fund for Council~~
- iv) ~~Fund for Regional Representatives and committees~~
- v) ~~Fund for IFSA NEWS~~
- vi) ~~Fund for Other Publications~~
- vii) ~~Fund for planned activities~~
- II) IFSS Fund
- III) Interim Fund
- iv) Fund for Regional Meetings
- v) Fund for other meetings and activities
- viii) Development Fund
- ix) Officials Fund
- x) Contingency fund

Income:

- i) Ordinary membership fees
 - ii) Supporting member membership fees (if so stating what fund the money goes to)
 - iii) Donations and sponsorships (if so stating what fund the money goes to)
 - iv) Other income (with the source to be stated in the financial report)
- c) The budget for the global finances will contain the same items and additionally all planned activities, commissions and meetings. It shall report all money spent for IFSA purposes no matter the funding source it comes from.

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4.3 Expenses

Expenses on official business covering travelling cost and in some cases accommodation can be reimbursed upon submission of an official declaration form and copy of valid receipts to the Treasurer and approval of the Direction that the Association is able to refund. Furthermore, the original receipts must be sent by post to the Secretariat.

Unless a specific official business has been catered for in the Annual budget and the needed funds are available, any other business should be paid for using personal fundraising.

The Direction can only spend money on an official business that is not planned in the Annual budget when the Council agrees with the need to do so and in the case that the Association's financial situation will not be seriously affected.

In the event that a substantial amount of funds are received by the Association, the Direction and Council can decide on the allocation of funds to a member of the Direction to work at the Secretariat, with the amount paid being equivalent to standard student accommodation costs for the area, not for personal profit.

4.4 Development Fund

a) The Development Fund exists to assist the participation of members from LICs in IFSA activities and to attend and organise IFSA events.

b) Money for the Development Fund can be gathered by the Direction during fundraising activities such as an annual tombola or auction that takes place during IFSS, as well as by sponsorship grants and donations.

c) The availability and details of the grant should be promoted to all IFSA members by the IFSA Council. This should be done well in advance (i.e. four months) of major events such as the IFSS.

d) The use of the development fund is decided by the Council, with successful applicants chosen based on a letter of motivation, the importance or relevance (and development potential) of the activity, the economic status of the applicant's home country and the membership level of the applicant.

e) Council may decide to open several development fund applications per year. They must be advertised in the same manner each time and decisions taken following the same guidelines.

4.5 Officials Fund

- a) The Officials Fund exists to assist the participation Officials in IFSA.
- b) Money for the Officials Fund can be gathered through sponsorships, grants and donations. Sponsors can be named on IFSA's website on the respective sub-page.
- c) The availability and details of the Officials Fund should be promoted to all IFSA Officials by the IFSA Council. This should be done well in advance (i.e. two months) of major events such as the IFSS.
- d) The use of the Officials Fund is decided by the Council, with successful applicants chosen based on a letter of motivation and the importance or relevance (and development potential) of the activity. Each applicant can be refunded maximum 50% of the proposed expenses, in order to support as many Officials as possible.

CHAPTER 5: GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS

5.1 Composition

It will be composed of representatives of ordinary members, members of the Direction and Council, internal and external observers and special participants. The total number of

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IFSA members shall be stated at the beginning of the GA sessions and in reference to the present IFSA members including a clear indication of those enable to vote.

- a) Representatives of ordinary members shall be invited to participate unless otherwise not permitted by a provision in the statute or By-laws.
- b) Internal observers will comprise honorary, consulting, associate and supporting members. Internal observers' participation will be subject to availability of space and resources.
- c) External observers are persons or organisations outside the Association specially invited or who upon some agreement, are supposed to participate in the GA.
- d) Special participants will be non-ordinary IFSA members whose participation is perceived by the Direction as crucial to the deliberations of the GA. Special participants will be invited by the Direction or directed by the Direction to be invited to the GA.
- e) The GA is not public but can admit press and other guests as it deems necessary.

5.2 Agenda

It will follow the pattern as provided in the Decrees.

5.3 Special GA Bodies

There will be two special bodies in any GA, namely the BoA and Election Committee, hereafter referred to EC.

The BoA comprises a Chairperson, Chairperson's assistant, and Keeper of the minutes.

An EC consisting of three members from different countries will be appointed by the GA to oversee the election of members of elected IFSA officials according to the rules in these by-laws.

5.4 Election and appointment of officials

5.4.1 Conduction of the Elections

The election will be conducted by the EC, formed at the first session of the GA.

5.4.2 Election Procedure

The EC will follow the time schedule for the election as stated in the agenda of the GA.

Nomination of candidates for the various offices in the Direction, ~~and Council~~, Heads of Commissions, and LOs shall be made by self-nomination or by peer nomination.

The EC will at the end of the deadline for nomination submit the list to the GA. The EC will screen the nominees to accordingly determine their eligibility.

A list of eligible candidates shall be submitted to GA for vetting. During vetting, the candidates will be given the floor to make statement and participants may examine candidates on their motivation, experience and qualification for the office they wish to hold. Statements must not last more than 4 minutes but must not be less than 2.

At least a day (24 hours) will elapse between vetting and voting.

A vetting can be followed by a voting within 24 hours when candidates for the Direction or Council positions are unsuccessful and wish to be considered for another elected position.

Voting will begin with candidates for Direction (in order of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Executive Secretary) followed by candidates for Council.

The elected candidates for Council are the three persons with the majority of votes in the first election.

There will be different voting for each office in the Direction and a simple majority is needed for the election. A candidate who loses election in an office in the Direction and Council will be eligible to stand for another elective office in subsequent elections.

The elected members of Council will appoint the Head of Council.

5.4.3 Appointment Procedure

In case it is not mentioned that an official position is chosen through election, it will be appointed by the GA. The appointment is conducted the same way as other decisions during the GA.

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5.5 Eligibility of officials

A person eligible for any official position must be a member of an Ordinary member at the time of the GA or at least during the past year and not have any track record of financial embezzlement or convicted of criminal act.

5.6 Report of Proceedings of a GA

- a) The final report of proceedings of a GA will be prepared by the newly elected Direction and will contain:
 - i) The Agenda
 - ii) Record of dates and places of the sessions
 - iii) List of members present and voting (as an Appendix)
 - iv) Annual report of the Direction and Council including financial report
 - v) Other relevant reports, deliberations and decisions.
- b) The Annual report of the Direction will endeavour to capture the activities of the Association at regional and international levels (exchange programme, projects etc.), membership status, internal and external relations, financial status, recommendations for the future, for example.
- c) The report of the Council will endeavour to capture the activities of Council in the year especially relating to internal conflicts, financial auditing of IFSA accounts, performance of Direction and Secretariat, recommendations for the future, for example.
- d) This report shall be made available to all members of IFSA not later than eight weeks after closing of the GA.

CHAPTER 6: IFSA OFFICIALS

6.1 List of IFSA officials

Those occupying the following positions are considered as IFSA Officials:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Executive Secretary
Councillors
Liaison Officers
Heads of Commissions
Heads of Sub-commissions
Regional Representative

6.2 Contractual agreement for official positions

- a) At the beginning of each IFSA year, new officials are required to sign a contractual agreement with IFSA.
- b) This contractual agreement shall contain:
 - a. A description of the responsibilities of the position in question
 - b. The following paragraph:

"I, (first name, name, country), certify I understand the responsibilities of my elected position within IFSA and shall engage myself to fulfil this position during the year 20xx-20xx. I understand as an elected official of IFSA I am answerable for my actions to the German Court. If I am unable to fulfil my position I accept to be replaced during the year, through consultation with the Direction and Council. To testify my contribution to IFSA, a certificate of appreciation and proof of work will be delivered at the end of my term."

- c. The signature of the official and the one of the President newly elected for all officials. For the President the other signature shall be the one of the newly

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elected Council.

6.3 Delegation of an official position for the statutory meetings

If a Head of Commission (or sub commission) is unable to attend a statutory meeting he/she should name a commissioner as his/her replacement. The person named will be considered as an official for this particular meeting.

CHAPTER 7: STATUTORY MEETINGS

7.1 International Forestry Students' Symposium (IFSS)

- a) Purpose: The IFSS is the annual symposium of IFSA to provide a platform for interaction and exchange of knowledge in forestry and related issues among forestry students from all over the world. It additionally serves as a platform for the official bodies of IFSA to meet and plan their activities for the year ahead
- b) As far as possible, the IFSS and the GA will be concurrently organised to save financial and other resources.
- c) The IFSS will be organised by one or more ordinary member(s) elected by the GA and who has/have accepted the responsibility to host the programme for a particular year.
- d) The Organising Committee (hereafter referred to as OC) must accept that the symposium is being organised in trust of IFSA and that the Direction may decide on sensitive matters such as sponsorship and invitation.
- e) The final programme shall be submitted to the Secretariat before the symposium begins.
- f) The OC will submit a progress report including constraints to the Secretariat every four months or more regularly on request by the Direction. The Direction shall endeavour to assist in addressing special constraints.
- g) Any ordinary member(s) wishing to host an IFSS must make a proposal to GA at least two years in advance.
 - i) Such a member will be required to make a presentation to the next GA including proposed programme and budget, participation fee and number of participants expected.
 - ii) The GA, upon satisfaction, shall then decide accordingly.
 - iii) The Direction and Council reserve the right to monitor the continued feasibility of an ordinary member hosting IFSS and can if necessary retract the hosting of IFSS if there are concerns. The Direction should provide evidence for such a decision and present it to IFSA members in writing.
- h) The OC will submit a report on the symposium and a copy of the proceedings to the Secretariat at most three months after the closure of the IFSS.
- i) Two members per LC, excluding IFSA officials, are invited to participate in the IFSS. According to the number of places available, the OC can authorise more than two members per LC in agreement with the IFSA Council.

7.2 Interim Meeting

- a) The Interim meeting is the midterm meeting of IFSA officials during which they explain the difficulties met during the first part of their terms, try to find solutions to them and plan the work to the next GA. Discussions about general IFSA topics can also be facilitated.
- b) A comprehensive and detailed report of the Interim meeting including all topics discussed and all decisions made shall be written and made available to ordinary and associate members. A brief summary should be published on IFSA Website.
- c) Non-official members of IFSA can attend the Interim meeting in agreement with the IFSA Direction.

7.3 IFSA Board Meeting

- a) The IFSA Board Meeting is the meeting of the Direction and Council before the GA. The aims are to prepare the annual report of IFSA and the GA of the Association. Other important themes may be discussed.
- b) Decisions taken during the IFSA Board Meeting should be recorded in the minutes of the event and made available ordinary and associate members. A brief summary should be published on

7.4 Regional Meetings

- a) Each official IFSA region is encouraged to organise an annual Regional Meeting. In such a case, at least one member from each LC of the Region must be invited. Each Regional Meeting shall be organised in collaboration with the RR of the Region and must be advertised on the IFSA website. The aim of such an event is to strengthen the link between students from the same geographic area and to promote the development of new projects at a regional scale. An IFSA workshop can be organised during the event to improve the work of IFSA in the Region and follow its development each year.
- b) An official report of each regional meeting should be written which specifies the agenda, names of attendants and the outcomes of discussions. This report should be submitted to the IFSA Direction and Council. A brief summary should be published on IFSA Website.
- c) Each year, the location of the next meeting should be decided democratically by the meeting participants. If this does not occur, the location can be decided at a later time by discussion between ordinary members, RRs and Council
- d) The Regional Meeting may also be an opportunity for the region to decide on the RR for the next IFSA year, subject to appointment at the following GA.

CHAPTER 8: PUBLICATIONS

8.1 Official IFSA Publications

The official IFSA publications will be the IFSA News, Information overview leaflet, Minutes of the GA and any other document a GA will decide to publish in whatever format.

8.2 The IFSA News

The GA appoints an Editor or an Editorial board to oversee the preparation of the articles and materials to be published in the IFSA News. The Editor of IFSA News can be referred as the Head of IFSA News Commission.

The principal aim of the IFSA News will be to report and inform members about the activities of the Association, offer students the opportunity to express their views on forestry related issues and to provide relevant information on forestry to readers.

Advertisements may be published, upon the approval of the Direction, to raise funds or sponsorships for the publication, to acknowledge the supporters of IFSA activities or as a result of any special agreement between IFSA and other organisations.

The readership of the IFSA News will include forestry student groups, training institutions, organisations and persons in forestry related organisations.

8.3 Information Overview

The Secretariat will see to the publication of the Information Overview in English, and if funds are available, in any other languages relevant to the development of IFSA.

The Overview will be a simple leaflet generally providing statements on aims, activities, membership, supporters and future projects.

It will be a first hand information and promotion material, and shall be distributed in large quantities to members for such purposes.

The Overview should be updated as and when necessary.

CHAPTER 9: PROJECTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

A project is any task commissioned by external funding sources and/or any activity external to regular IFSA activities involving IFSA members.

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The Association will only undertake projects and other activities which are consistent with its aims.

The Direction, in collaboration with other parties, will write down guidelines for an activity or a proposal for the GA's approval. In case the activity/proposal cannot wait for a GA session, the Council will adopt the rules including contracts etc.

For any project funded by external sources, the receipt and allocation of funds must be approved by the Direction and Council.

Such projects or activities will be reported to the GA as well as reporting to the Direction at agreed intervals.

If such projects occur more than two years running the following GA must consider a formal partnership or Memorandum of Understanding with the partners associated in the joint project.

In such cases a representative of IFSA is needed for a special project the representative must be an ordinary or honorary member. The decision to have an individual represent IFSA for a special project must be approved by the GA, if this cannot wait the Board will have executive authority.

CHAPTER 10: ADOPTION, READING AND AMENDMENTS TO THE BY- LAWS

10.1 Adoption

These By-Laws were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the 2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines 9th of August 2016 at the 44th IFSS in Austria, and they replace the By-laws of IFSA, last changed by the GA the 10th of August 2014 at the 42nd IFSS in Canada 2nd of August 2015 at the 43rd IFSS in the Philippines.

10.2 Reading

The By-laws will be read together with the Statutes of the Association and it is subject to the provisions of the Statutes.

10.3 Amendments

Any provision in these By-laws including the Appendices can be amended by a majority vote of an ordinary quorum of any GA session.

Minutes of the 26th General Assembly of the International Forestry Students' Association

Held from 31 July to 9 August 2015 in the Philippines

All times stated in this document are in Philippine Time PHT (UTC+8), and in the 24-hour format.

List of abbreviations

Abbreviations within IFSA

APRM	Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting
CARM	Canadian-American Regional Meeting
FE	Forestry Education
GA	General Assembly
HoC	Head of Commission
HoSC	Head of Sub-Commission
IFSA	International Forestry Students' Association
IFSA 7	IFSA Direction and Council (IFSA Board)
IFSA year	Time between one GA and the next GA
IFSS	International Forestry Students' Symposium
IPC	International Processes Commission
LARM	Latin American Regional Meeting
LC	Local Committee
LO	Liaison Officer
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NARM	Northern African Regional Meeting
NERM	Northern European Regional Meeting
OC	Organisation Committee (for events)
RR	Regional Representative
SARM	Southern African Regional Meeting
SERM	Southern European Regional Meeting
VP	Vice-President

Related Organisations and Processes

CBD/UN CBD	(United Nations) Convention on Biological Diversity
CFA	Commonwealth Forestry Association
CIFOR	Centre of International Forestry Research
CPF	Collaborative Partnership on Forests
EFI	European Forest Institute
EGEA	European Geography Association
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations
IPFE	International Partnership for Forestry Education
IAAS	International Association of Students in Agriculture and Related Sciences
IFISO	Informal Forum of International Students' Organisations
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organisation
SAF	Society of American Foresters
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests

Agenda of the 1st Plenary Session

Friday, 31 July 2015. 08:00-11:30 (D Circle Hotel, Manila)

1. Opening of 26th General Assembly (GA)
2. Admission or exclusion of guests, press or broadcasting media
3. Appointment of the Board of Assembly (BoA)
 - a. Appointment of the Chairperson
 - b. Appointment of the Chairperson's assistant
 - c. Appointment of Keepers of the Minutes
4. Appointment of Electing Committee (EC)
5. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
6. Explanation of different decision making procedures
7. Approval of Agenda of 26th GA
8. Explanation of the Agenda of the 1st Plenary Session
9. Approval of the minutes of the 25th GA held in Vancouver, Canada
10. Reports for the year 2014-2015 and quick presentations of the positions
 - a. Presentation of report from Executive Secretary
 - b. Presentation of report from Treasurer
 - c. Presentation of the Council's note of the annual report and the financial report
 - d. Presentation of reports from IFSA Commissions
 - i. Fundraising Commission
 - ii. IFSA News Commission
 - iii. Promotion and Graphic Design Commission
 - iv. Web Commission
 - Social Media Sub-Commission
 - v. International Processes Commission
 - UNFF Sub-Commission
 - UNFCCC Sub-Commission
 - UN CBD Sub-Commission
 - Forest Europe Sub-Commission
 - vi. Training Commission
 - vii. Forestry Education Commission
 - e. Presentation of report from Council
 - i. Adoption of new members approved by Council 2014-2015
 - ii. Information on expelled members in 2014-2015
 - f. Presentation of report from President
 - g. Presentation of report from Vice President
 - h. Presentations from Regional Representatives
 - i. Northern America
 - ii. Latin America
 - iii. Northern Europe
 - iv. Southern Europe
 - v. Northern Africa
 - vi. Southern Africa
 - vii. Asia-Pacific

i. Presentations from Liaison Officers

- i. IUFRO
- ii. FAO
- iii. CFA
- iv. CIFOR
- v. ITTO
- vi. EFI
- vii. IFISO
- viii. Alumni

j. Presentation of IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position

- 11. Approval of IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015
- 12. Approval of the financial report from the last (2014) calendar year
- 13. Approval of the financial report from the last IFSA year 2014-2015
- 14. Presentation of the budget for the IFSA year 2015-2016
- 15. Explanation of Statutes change procedures
- 16. Presentation of the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education
- 17. Call for candidature for IFSS 2017 and explanation of the procedure
- 18. Closure of the 1st Plenary Session

Minutes of the 1st Plenary Session

CHAIRPERSON

May Anne Then (Canada)

ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON

Katharina Albrich (Austria)

MINUTES KEEPER

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa)

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Christopher Morton (Australia)

Keegan Hofmann (Canada)

Jasmin Zisch (Austria)

VENUE

D Circle Hotel

Manila, the Philippines

DATE AND TIME

July 31st, 2015

Opened: 08:15

Closed: 11:46

1st Plenary Session

Friday, 31 July 2015. 08:00-11:30 (D Circle Hotel, Manila)

1. Opening of the 25th General Assembly (GA)

At 08:15, May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015, opens the 26th General Assembly (thereafter GA) of the International Forestry Students' Association (thereafter IFSA), and the first Plenary Session of this GA.

2. Admission or exclusion of guests, press or broadcasting media

Ilario Colarossi (Italy) and Mahtuf Ikhsan (Indonesia) have to be approved as guests as they are not IFSA members. Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to accept them. Keegan Hofmann (Canada) seconds the proposal.

3. Appointment of the Board of Assembly (BoA)

Appointment of the Chairperson. Christopher Morton (Australia) proposes May Anne Then (Canada) as the Chairperson of the 26th GA. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) seconds his proposal.

Appointment of the Chairperson's assistant. Christopher Morton (Australia) proposes Katharina Albrich (Austria) as the Chairperson's assistant. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) seconds the proposal.

Appointment of Keeper of the Minutes. Christopher Morton (Australia) proposes Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) as the Keeper of the Minutes. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) seconds the proposal.

4. Appointment of the Election Committee

May Anne Then (Canada) asks for volunteers for the Election Committee. Christopher Morton (Australia), Keegan Hofmann (Canada) and Jasmin Zisch (Austria) volunteer to be part of it.

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to accept these three persons as the Election Committee. Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) seconds the proposal.

5. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

The Election Committee counts 34 votes present and entitled to vote.

May Anne Then (Canada) confirms that the quorum is reached and that the GA is eligible to vote.

6. Explanation of different decision making procedures

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explained the audience how the decision-making is to be done in the GA in the workshop on the 30th of July. She explained the proposing-seconding system, the votes system, and the different cases in which these have to be used.

7. Approval of Agenda of the 26th GA

Katharina Albrich (Austria) shows the Agenda of the 26th General Assembly. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) suggests the GA to approve the Agenda. Theodore Squires (USA) seconds her proposal.

8. Explanation of the Agenda of the 1st Plenary Session

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains to the assembly the Agenda of the 1st Plenary Session.

9. Approval of the minutes of the 25th GA held in Canada

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains that the Minutes of the 25th General Assembly, held in Canada in 2014, have to be approved by the GA. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to accept these Minutes. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) seconds the proposal.

10. Reports for the year 2014-2015 and quick presentations of the positions

a. Presentation of report from Executive Secretary

Moritz Kramer (Germany) Executive Secretary 2014-2015, has sent a video in which he describes the work he had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

b. Presentation of report from Treasurer

No report has been submitted. Assistant Chairperson Katharina Albrich (Austria) mentions that the overview of Treasurer Jani Nivala (Finland) tasks during the IFSA year 2014-2015 is captured in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

c. Presentation of the Council's note on the annual report and the financial report

On behalf of the Council, Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) presented the Council's note on these reports. No irregularities has been found in those.

d. Presentation of reports from Commissions

➤ Fundraising Commission

Eva von Schoenebeck (Germany), Head of Fundraising Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ IFSA News Commission

No report has been submitted. The overview of the tasks of Head of Commission Christina Lawrence (USA) can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

➤ Promotion and Graphic Design Commission

Alina Kasten (Germany), Head of Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ Web Commission

May Yi Then (Canada) as the Head of Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

Note: Previous Head of Commission was dismissed in December 2014.

○ Social Media Sub-Commission

Jesse Mahoney (Australia) as the Head of Sub-Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which he describes the work he had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ International Processes Commission (IPC)

Olivia Sanchez (Canada) as the Head of Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

○ UNFF Sub-Commission

No report has been submitted. The overview of the tasks of Head of Sub-Commission Anna Stemberger (Canada) can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

○ UNFCCC Sub-Commission

Paola Coronado Werner (Peru) as the Head of Sub-Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

○ UNCBD Sub-Commission

Juan Samuel Simbolon (Indonesia) as the Head of Sub-Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which he describes the work he had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

○ Forest Europe Sub-Commission

Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) as the Head of Sub-Commission 2014-2015 presented in front of the GA his tasks during the IFSA year 2014-2015.

➤ Training Commission

No report has been submitted. The overview of the tasks of Head of Commission Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015. Philipp will be present at the IFSS 2015 later on.

➤ Forestry Education

Lena Lackner (Austria) as the Head of Commission 2014-2015, has sent a video in which she describes the work she had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

e. Presentation of report from Council

On behalf of the Council (*Hugo Pierre, Ethan Lin, Tatenda Mapeto*), Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) presented the work they have been doing during the IFSA year 2014-2015. This includes their division of the work.

- i. Adoption of new members approved by Council 2014-2015
The Council presents the 4 new IFSA members accepted into IFSA during the year
- ii. Information on expelled members in 2013-2014
The 6 members that were expelled are then presented by the Council.

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) proposes to adopt the new IFSA members approved by Council 2014-2014. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal.

May Anne Then (Canada) announces a break.

BREAK starts at 09:15

BREAK finishes at 09:30

May Anne Then (Canada) reopened the session after the break. The Election Committee counted the number of votes. 33 votes are present after the break.

f. Presentation of report from President

May Anne Then (Canada) presented in front of the GA an overview of her year as the IFSA President 2014-2015.

g. Presentation of report from Vice President

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) presented in front of the GA an overview of her year as the IFSA Vice President 2014-2015.

h. Presentations from Regional Representatives (RRs)

➤ Northern America

Keegan Hofmann (Canada) presented the work that he did together with Camille Chow Moyers (USA) during last IFSA year as the Regional Representatives for Northern America.

➤ Latin America

Denver Cayetano (Belize) and Irma Verastegui (Peru) have sent a PowerPoint presentation describing the work they had done during the IFSA year 2014-2015 as Latin American Regional Representatives. As they were not attending the IFSS in person and have not delegated the presentation to someone else, the presentation was not presented. The overview of their tasks can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

➤ Northern Europe

Reetta Pilhjerta (Finland) and Eline Schothorst (The Netherlands) have sent a video in which Reetta describes the work they did during the IFSA year 2014-2015 as Northern European RRs. The GA watches the video.

➤ Southern Europe

Gregor Lanz (Germany) and Isabel Engel (Germany) have sent a video in which they explain their tasks as the Regional Representatives for Southern Europe throughout the IFSA year 2014-2015.

➤ Northern Africa

No report has been submitted. The overview of the tasks of Onaopemipo Awosika (Nigeria) can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

➤ Southern Africa

Ullrich Hechter (South Africa) presented the tasks he had as Regional Representative for Southern Africa (together with Brendan Marais from South Africa) during the IFSA year 2014-2015.

➤ Asia-Pacific

Ivy Lin (Taiwan) presented the tasks she and Sekar Ayu Woro Yunita (Indonesia) have been undertaking during the IFSA year 2014-2015 as the Regional Representatives for IFSA Asia-Pacific region.

i. Presentations from Liaison Officers (LOs)

➤ IUFRO

Vladislav Vejnovic (Serbia) as the LO IUFRO 2014-2015 has sent a video in which he describes the work he accomplished during the last IFSA year. The GA watches the video.

➤ FAO

Melanie Schulte (Germany) as the LO FAO 2014-2015 has sent a video describing her tasks as the LO during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video. She highlights the involvement of IFSA in the upcoming World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa (September 2015).

Note: Previous Liaison Officer for FAO was dismissed in December 2014.

➤ CFA

Joanna Li Yung Lung (Canada) as the LO CFA for last IFSA year has sent a video describing her work as the LO during IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ CIFOR

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) presents in front of GA the work she has been doing as the Liaison Officer of CIFOR during IFSA year 2014-2015.

May Anne Then (Canada) announces a break.

BREAK starts at 10:38

BREAK finishes at 10:48

May Anne Then (Canada) reopened the session after the break. The Election Committee counted the number of votes. 33 votes are present after the break.

➤ ITTO

Sylvia Mayta (Peru) as the LO ITTO for 2014-2015 sent a presentation describing the work she had done during the last IFSA year. As she was not attending the IFSS in person and did not delegate the presentation to someone else, the presentation was not presented. The overview of her tasks can be found in the IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015.

Note: Previous Liaison Officer for ITTO was dismissed in December 2014.

➤ EFI

Iida Viholainen (Finland) has sent a video where she presents the work she as the Liaison Officer for EFI carried out during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ IFISO

Jekk Mickale Paderes (The Philippines) as the LO IFISO for last IFSA year has sent a video describing his work as the LO during IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

➤ Alumni

Martina Meyer (Austria) as the LO Alumni 2014-2015 has sent a video describing her tasks as the LO during the IFSA year 2014-2015. The GA watches the video.

j. Presentation IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position

Andre Purret (Austria) presented the work he has been doing since November 2014 as the current holder of the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position. He also mentioned that in a few days a call for applications for the next Joint Position holder will be announced. New Joint Position holder would start his/her work from January 2016.

11. Approval of IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) presented IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015 on behalf of the Head of Council (Hugo Pierre from France). Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to approve IFSA Annual Report 2014-2015. There are no objections and Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal.

12. Approval of financial report from the last (2014) calendar year

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) as the Vice President of IFSA presented financial report for the year 2014 on behalf of IFSA Treasurer Jani Nivala (Finland). Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to approve the financial report for year 2014. No one objects. Keegan Hofmann (Canada) seconds the proposal.

13. Approval of financial report from the last IFSA year 2014-2015

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) as the Vice President of IFSA presented financial report for the last IFSA year 2014-2015 on behalf of IFSA Treasurer Jani Nivala (Finland). Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to approve the financial report for year 2014. No one objects and Keegan Hofmann (Canada) seconds the proposal.

14. Presentation of the budget for the IFSA year 2015-2016

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) as the Vice President of IFSA presents the budget for next IFSA year 2015-2016 on behalf of IFSA Treasurer Jani Nivala (Finland). Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asked for clarification about the intended deficit in next year's budget. Katharina Albrich (Austria) explained that the money in IFSA's accounts should be spent by the organization and that the intended deficit is being carried out to rectify the buildup of money that happened in IFSA the last 5 years.

As a non-profit organization, IFSA is not allowed to build up too much money in the bank account. In addition, IFSA is audited every three years by the State of Germany and these amounts might be questioned by the auditors in the future.

Salina Abraham (USA) also asked for the clarification of the duration of this intended deficit. Katharina Albrich (Austria) explained that it is really a short term strategy and will only be practiced till we reach a stable financial position (incomes do not exceed outcomes).

15. Explanation of Statutes change procedures

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) briefly explained the Statutes change procedures for the GA. Workshop for IFSS participants regarding the approval and main ideas behind the changes is going to take place on the 2nd of August from 09:00 AM – 11:00 AM, right before the 2nd Plenary Session starts.

16. Presentation of the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education

Andre Purret (Austria) as the current IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position gave a presentation (on behalf of Lena Lackner from Austria, Joint Task Force Coordinator from IFSA) about the very recently approved Joint IFSA-IURO Task Force on Forest Education and its objectives, activities and functions.

17. Call for candidature for IFSS 2017 and explanation of the procedure

Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the call for IFSS 2017 organizers at 11:44 and explains the procedure. Nominated Local Committees compete in a bid and have to prepare a presentation including initial program, budget, and the proposed number of delegates.

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) proposes to nominate LC Saasveld Forestry Association from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in South Africa. They accept the nomination. Ariel Adimahavira (Indonesia) proposes to nominate IFSA LC Gadjah Mada University from Indonesia. They also accept the nomination. No other nominations are presented and the call is closed for today.

18. Closure of the 1st Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) officially closed the 1st Plenary Session of the 26th IFSA General Assembly at 11:46.

Agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session

Sunday, 2 August 2015. 11:00-13:00 and 14:00-15:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 2nd Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session
4. Approval of budget for the IFSA year 2015-2016
5. Second call for candidature for IFSS 2017
6. Presentation by the Organizing Committee of the IFSS 2016 in Austria
7. Introduction on the appointment of honorary and consulting members
8. Outline of the Strategy review and Structure change recommendations
9. Statutes changes
 - a. Presentation of proposed Statutes changes
 - b. Report from the workshop groups
 - c. Approval of proposed Statutes changes
10. First call for candidature of IFSA Officials
11. Closure of the 2nd Plenary Session

Minutes of the 2nd Plenary Session

CHAIRPERSON

May Anne Then (Canada)

ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON

Katharina Albrich (Austria)

MINUTES KEEPER

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa)

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Christopher Morton (Australia)

Keegan Hofmann (Canada)

Jasmin Zisch (Austria)

VENUE

University of the Philippines Los Baños
College of Forestry and Natural Resources
Los Baños, the Philippines

DATE AND TIME

August 2nd, 2015
Opened: 11:57
Closed: 13:58

2nd Plenary Session

Sunday, 2 August 2015. 11:00-13:00 and 14:00-15:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 2nd Plenary Session

At 11:57, May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015 and Chairperson of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA, opens the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA.

2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

The Election Committee counts 33 votes present and entitled to vote. May Anne Then (Canada) confirms that the quorum is reached and that the GA is eligible to vote.

3. Explanation and approval of the agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session

Katharina Albrich (Austria) shows the Agenda of the 2nd Plenary Session of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA. Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to approve the Agenda. Niclas Aleff (Germany) seconds his proposal.

4. Approval of budget for the IFSA year 2015-2016

Budget for the IFSA year 2015-2016 was presented in the 1st Plenary Session. Katharina Albrich (Austria) proposes the approval of the budget. She asks if there are any questions. There are no questions. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to approve the budget. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal.

5. Second call for candidature for IFSS 2017

Katharina Albrich (Austria) announces that there are already 2 candidates – South Africa and Indonesia. She asks if there are any additional candidates. Jonas Geschke (Germany) nominates Australia. Christopher Morton (Australia) responds that they do not have enough student to successfully organize the symposium and that they are thinking of running for the Asia Pacific Regional Meeting. Thus, they reject the nomination. Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the call for IFSS 2017 and outlines election process.

6. Presentation by the Organizing Committee of the IFSS 2016 in Austria

Jasmin Zisch (Austria) and Manuel Rakos (Austria) come forward to present on behalf of the Organization Committee. Overview of the organization of IFSS 2016 is being presented: programme is already finished; motto of the IFSS is "Growing together"; facts about Austria and Bavaria are given (IFSS 2016 will take place in Austria and Germany); IFSS 2016 logo is presented and explained. They explain the structure within Organization Committee (OC), itinerary and schedule of the symposium, details about the venues and sights. Budget is presented by Manuel Rakos (Austria), who explains the proposed participation fees and the current situation with fundraising.

Jasmin Zisch (Austria) explains that more information is coming in December 2015. There will be 10 tentative places for Alumni members, split between 2 weeks (5 Alumni per week). Ideally, in the first call, only 1 person per LC can attend the IFSS 2016. They have also proposed a Statutes change regarding this matter (By-Laws, Article 7.1 i).

Information on the registration fee payment dates is given. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) makes an intervention and notes that February is too early for the payment deadline.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains that for registration IFSA members need to decide within their LCs who will be attending the IFSS. Interested students should notify their LC about their wish and in case there are more people wishing to go, each LC needs to rank the interested people. Each possible participant will also need a verification letter from their LC president.

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks that if the proposed Statutes change (changing the number of possible participants to IFSS from each LC to 1 – previously 2) does not go through, how the organizers would manage to take still 2 people per LC, what would they do and how would they deal with this issue. Manuel Rakos (Austria) explains that their idea was to give 1 place for each LC to ensure that all IFSA members could participate. In case there are 2 participants from each LC and all LC-s send their participants, the OC has to figure out how to adapt to this situation. Probably they need to then have cheaper food and sleep in less expensive places.

Andre Purret (Estonia) ask for clarification about the visa issue, as IFSS takes place physically in two different European countries. Katharina Albrich (Austria) answers that the participants who apply for a visa, would get a Schengen visa which means it is valid for both countries.

Jasmin Zisch (Austria) and Manuel Rakos (Austria) mention that OC will provide invitation with all the necessary information on time. They could not get the promotional video to work, but they plan to show it during another part of the General Assembly. Contact details for the Organization Committee are shown to the GA participants.

7. Introduction on the appointment of honorary and consulting members

Katharina Albrich (Austria) gives a brief introduction on the appointment of honorary and consulting members. She explains who honorary members are and can be. She also informs that the consulting members are usually people with IFSA experience and can provide valuable input. IFSA would like to change the requirements so that consulting members have to be former IFSA Officials. She also explains that the appointment of honorary and consulting members is identical to current “proposing” and “seconding” system, where someone has to propose a name and another person has to second that proposal. In case there are objections, it will go to voting. The appointment is going to happen in the 4th Plenary Session.

8. Outline of the Strategy review and Structure change recommendations

Katharina Albrich (Austria) gives the floor to May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015. She explains that the Strategy is a document to guide IFSA's focus and that IFSA needs Strategy to achieve its vision in the long term. Short-term Strategy is being reviewed in every 3 years. Last IFSA year (2013-2014) the review process was delayed until present IFSA year (2014-2015). She explains that a group of IFSA consulting members have formed a working group on Structure Change and have collected feedback from IFSA members and Alumni. They have produced a report that will be distributed in the next Plenary Session together with the recommendations on how to move forward. Workshops have planned in IFSS 2015 on both Strategy and Structure Change. There are no additional questions regarding this topic.

9. Statutes changes

a. Presentation of proposed Statutes changes

Katharina Albrich (Austria) gives the floor Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa), IFSA Councillor 2014/2015. Tatenda presents first the Statutes and proposed changes, then explains the Statute changes procedure. She also asks to be sure if Election Committee members are only one from their LC (the sole voting members) or not. In case they are the only members from their LC, they cannot be at the same time voting and acting as Election Committee members. The members of the Election Committee state that they are not the only representatives from their LC, thus can continue with the tasks of the Election Committee.

b. Report from the workshop groups

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains that this reporting was done during the workshop session (in the end) and will not be repeated at this point.

c. Approval of proposed Statutes changes

Katharina Albrich (Austria) makes it clear that these changes may be accepted or not and that they can be refused. If anyone would be in favour of refusing a change, voting is needed. She adds that an article needs $\frac{3}{4}$ (75%) of the votes to be in favour of it to be accepted.

CHANGES TO THE STATUTES

1. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 7.5 of the Statutes as follows:

(7.5) Consulting members are natural persons who contribute their experience to IFSA.

→ *(7.5) Consulting members are natural persons who contribute their experience to IFSA. Consulting members are natural persons **that need to have contributed to IFSA as Officials and shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session. A nomination supported by a majority in GA shall qualify the appointment of an individual. The consultative status of appointed consulting members shall be reviewed every three years.***

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to change the article as outlined above. There are no objections. Niclas Aleff (Germany) seconds that proposal.

The Article is changed.

2. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 7.7 of the Statutes as follows:

(7.7) Honorary members can be persons or organisations IFSA wishes to honour, and who/which have accepted being an honorary member of IFSA.

→ *(7.7) Honorary members can be persons or organisations **that** IFSA wishes to honour, and who/which have accepted being an honorary member of IFSA. **They shall be appointed at an ordinary GA session and each year a total of three honorary members can be appointed.***

Salina Abraham (USA) proposes to approve this change. There are no objections. Alice Cosatti (Austria) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**



3. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 7.8 of the Statutes as follows:

(7.8)

(c) Expulsion by the GA with a three-quarters majority if the member has seriously violated the association's interests. ~~Before deciding on this the concerned member has to be given an occasion to justify within appropriate time limited by word or in writing in front of the GA or Direction.~~ Before putting this decision to the GA the There is no appeal possible after the decision of the GA.

Expulsion can be decided by ~~Direction in consultation with~~ the Council after a member does not pay the membership fees according to Art. 8.1 for two consecutive years, and following two formal warnings.

(7.8)

*(c) Expulsion by the GA with a three-quarters majority if the member has seriously violated the association's interests. Before putting this decision to the GA the **concerned member has to be given an occasion to justify their behaviour, by word or in writing, in front of the Direction.** There is no appeal possible after the decision of the GA.*

Expulsion can be decided by the Council after a member does not pay the membership fees according to Art. 8.1 for two consecutive years, and following two formal warnings.

→

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to accept this change. There were no objections. Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) encourages people to speak up without the microphone, as it takes too long otherwise.

4. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 8.2 of the Statutes as follows:

***(8.2)** ~~Members are obliged to regularly inform the Secretariat about their address, their actual organisational state and their authorised signatories.~~*

(8.2)** ~~Members~~ **have to keep the Regional Representatives informed of their contact person(s), contact details and of major changes in their structure.

→

Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to accept this change. No objections. Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

5. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 8.3 of the Statutes as follows:

(8.3)

~~(b) Did not inform the Secretariat according to Article 8.2; or~~

~~(c) Do not respond to requests for information by Direction, Council or Secretariat of IFSA.~~

~~Thus such members are no longer enabled to vote.~~

(8.3)

→ (b) Do not respond to requests for information by Direction, Council or Secretariat of IFSA.

The right to vote may be reinstated at the discretion of the Direction once the ordinary member fulfills the requirements outlined in (8.2) (a) and (b).

Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to change the article as suggested. No objections. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

6. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 9.2 of the Statutes as follows:

(9.2) IFSA has the following bodies:

(a) Secretariat;

(b) Council;

(c) Commissions; ~~(optional)~~ and

d) Liaison Officers (LOs). ~~(optional).~~

→

(9.2) IFSA has the following bodies:

(a) Secretariat;

(b) Council;

(c) Commissions; and

d) Liaison Officers (**hereafter referred to as LOs**).

Niclas Aleff (Germany) proposes to accept this change. There are no objections. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

7. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 9.3 of the Statutes as follows:

(9.3) Direction, Council, Secretariat, BoA ~~and Commissions~~ decide on important affairs in their scope of duty by simple majority of the votes of their members. (...)

→

(9.3) Direction, Council, Secretariat, BoA decide on important affairs in their scope of duty by simple majority of the votes of their members. (...)

Niclas Aleff (Germany) proposes to accept this change. No objections. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

8. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 9.5 of the Statutes as follows:

(9.5) With exception of the Treasurer (who is an obligatory member of the Fundraising Commission), ~~and the BoA~~, no member of the Direction or Council may hold another function in any other organ or body of IFSA at the same time, nor can they be representatives of any member. (...) →

*(9.5) With exception of the Treasurer (who is an obligatory member of the Fundraising Commission), no member of the Direction or Council may hold another function in any other organ **(with the exception of the GA and BoA)** or body of IFSA at the same time, nor can they be representatives of any member. (...)*

Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) proposes to change the Article. There were no objections. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

9. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 11.2 of the Statutes as follows:

(11.2) An extraordinary GA can be convoked at any time by the Direction or on written request including purpose and reasons to the Direction by a group of ordinary members constituting no less than 30% of all ordinary members. It must be convoked in the Association's interests and article 12 and 13 are correspondingly valid in case of an extraordinary GA. →

*(11.2) An extraordinary GA can be convoked at any time by the Direction or on written request including purpose and reasons to the Direction by a group of ordinary members constituting no less than 30% of all ordinary members. It must be convoked in the Association's interests and article 12 and 13 are correspondingly valid in case of an extraordinary GA. **All decisions made in an extraordinary GA will require regional balance.***

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to change the Article. There were no objections. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

10. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 12.7 of the Statutes as follows:

(12.7) (a) An alteration of these Statutes needs a quorum of at least 30% of all the ordinary members entitled to vote and a majority of at least three quarters of the valid given votes. The proposal to do so must be included in the agenda of the session. →

*(12.7) (a) An alteration of these Statutes needs a quorum of at least 30% of all the ordinary members entitled to vote and a majority of at least three quarters of the valid given votes. The proposal to do so must be included in the agenda of the session. **The approval of changes to Statutes shall be done per proposed change.***

Nicholas Dormaar (Canada) proposes to approve the changes. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) objects. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks why Sarah objects and then clarifies it. There are no further questions. There are no other objections. Keegan Hofmann (Canada) seconds that proposal.

The Article is changed.

11. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 12.8 of the Statutes as follows:

(12.8) If no majority of given votes is ~~achieved~~ by a single candidate in the first ballot of an election, a second ballot will be held among the candidate(s) who reached the highest numbers of votes. (...)

→

*(12.8) If no majority of given votes is **reached** in the first ballot of an election, a second ballot will be held among the candidate(s) who reached the **equal** highest numbers of votes. (...)*

Alice Cosatti (Austria) proposes to change the Article. There were no objections. Hilda Mikaelsson (Sweden) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

12. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 14.2 of the Statutes as follows:

(14.2) Members of Direction are annually elected individually by the GA. If a member of Direction retires within his/her term of duty the Direction in consultation with Council elects a substitute for the rest of his/her term. This will begin with a call for candidates for the position, which lasts for 15 days. The call must be made available to all IFSA members.

→

*(14.2) Members of Direction are annually elected individually by the GA. If a member of Direction retires within his/her term of duty the Direction in consultation with Council elects a substitute for the rest of his/her term. This will begin with a call for candidates for the position, which lasts for 15 days. The call must be made available to all IFSA **ordinary** members.*

Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

13. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 14.3 of the Statutes as follows:

(14.3) The active term of office for members of the Direction shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election, followed by a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. During this changeover period they shall be required to give reasonable assistance to new Direction members.

→

*(14.3) The active term of office for members of the Direction shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election, followed by a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. **The total change over period shall be six months.** During this changeover period they shall be required to give reasonable assistance to new Direction members.*

Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) proposes to change the Article. Jonas Geschke (Germany) objects. Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) asks for further explanation about the reason of objections. Jonas Geschke (Germany) explains that there is no need for such a long changeover period. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) adds that when looking at the proposed change (addition of sentence), it says that the changeover period should be 6 months, though the previous sentence states it should be until the end of the calendar year. Thus this change in Article is contradictory. It basically asks to do 2 different things.

A vote is called and the Election Committee is asked to come to the front. Votes are counted. Result: 0 votes for YES; 32 votes for NO; 1 vote for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session. **The change does not go through, thus the Article is NOT changed.**

14. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 16.2 of the Statutes as follows:

(16.2) The active term of office for the Council shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election. The Council shall decide on one member who shall participate in a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. (...)

→

*(16.2) The active term of office for the Council shall be for the period of one IFSA year from the time of their election **at the GA, unless a councillor is appointed in the middle of the IFSA year, in which case their term will span until the next GA.** The Council shall decide on one member who shall participate in a changeover period for the remainder of the calendar year. (...)*

Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Valerio Frattura (Italy) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

15. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 19 of the Statutes as follows:

~~(19.1) IFSA can establish partnership positions with relevant professional partners (e.g., IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position) in order to better serve its vision and mission, as described in Article 3 of the Statutes. A partnership position involves IFSA and one of its professional partners in a joint undertaking to fulfil a specific aim.~~

~~(19.2) The Direction can make the decision to make an agreement with this professional partner and present it to the GA. The agreement is a contract between IFSA and the professional partner where the position's assignments and responsibilities, including the time period, are described.~~

~~(19.3) The position is neither appointed nor elected at the GA, but a selection process is to be set up jointly by IFSA and the professional partner, allowing them to decide on the position holder.~~

~~(19.4) The partnership position counts as an Official for its attendance to IFSA meetings~~

(19.1) A partnership position involves IFSA and one of its professional partners in a joint undertaking to fulfil a specific aim. These can be full-time, paid positions that would allow IFSA to better serve its vision and mission as described in Article 3 of the Statutes. The Joint Position established with the International Union of Forest Research Organizations in 2014, is an example of such a partnership position.

(19.2) The position is neither appointed nor elected at the GA, but rather a selection process is to be set up jointly by the IFSA Direction and Council and the professional partner, allowing them to decide on the position holder.

(19.3) The Direction and Council, in coordination with the professional partner in question, shall write together Terms of Reference for the partnership position. These shall be presented to the GA following the partnership position's establishment.

(19.4) The partnership position counts as an Official for their attendance to IFSA meetings, meaning that they shall have their reserved place and do not count as a member of an Ordinary Member.

NOTE: Articles 19.5 and 19.6 remain the same.

Redho Fauzon (Indonesia) proposes to change the Article. No-one objects. Karoli Hainsoo (Estonia) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

16. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 21 of the Statutes as follows:

(21.1) These Statutes were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the ~~10th~~ August ~~2014~~ at the ~~42st~~ IFSS in ~~Canada~~, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.

→

*(21.2) These Statutes were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the **2nd of August 2015** at the **43rd** IFSS in **the Philippines**, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.*

(21.2) These Statutes replace the official former Statutes of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the ~~4th~~ of August ~~2013~~ at the ~~41th~~ IFSS in ~~Spain~~.

*(21.2) These Statutes replace the official former Statutes of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the **10th of August 2014** at the **42nd** IFSS in **Canada**.*

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to change the Article. Niclas Aleff (Germany) points out spelling mistakes. No objections occur. Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

CHANGES TO THE DECREES

17. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 9 of the Decrees as follows:

~~(9.5)~~

(a) Direction, Secretariat, Commissions and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities (including decisions) to the Council on request and at least every three months.

(b) Secretariat, Council, Commissions and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities to the Direction on request and at least every three months.

(c) Direction, Secretariat, Council, Commissions and LOs have to give an annual report on their activities to the GA (for IFSA Annual Report see Statutes & Decrees Art. 14.4d).

(9.2)

*(a) Direction, Secretariat, Commissions, **Regional Representatives** and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities (including decisions) to the Council on request and at least every three months.*

→

*(b) Secretariat, Council, Commissions, **Regional Representatives** and LOs have to give a brief report on their activities to the Direction on request and at least every three months.*

*(c) Direction, Secretariat, Council, Commissions, **Regional Representatives** and LOs have to give an annual report on their activities to the GA (for IFSA Annual Report see Statutes & Decrees Art. 14.4d).*

Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to change the Article. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) objects. She explains that Regional Representatives (RRs) are not referred to as organs/bodies in the related Article in the Statutes (description of organs and bodies). Therefore, this change would be contradictory.

A vote is called and the Election Committee comes to the front. Voting takes place. Result: 7 votes for APPROVE; 19 votes for NO APPROVAL; 7 vote for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session. **The change does not go through, thus the Article is NOT changed.**

18. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 21 of the Decrees as follows:

~~(20.1)~~ *These Decrees were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the ~~10th~~ August ~~2014~~ at the ~~42st~~ IFSS in ~~Canada~~, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.*

→

(21.1) *These Decrees were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA on the **2nd** of August **2015** at the **43rd** IFSS in **the Philippines**, and come into force with the Statutes being registered by the competent court.*

~~(20.2)~~ *These Decrees replace the official former Statutes of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the ~~4th~~ of August ~~2013~~ at the ~~41th~~ IFSS in ~~Spain~~.*

(21.2) *These Decrees replace the official former Statutes of IFSA, last changed by the GA on the **10th** of August **2014** at the **42nd** IFSS in **Canada**.*

Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Erlita Indah (Indonesia) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS

19. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Chapter 1 of the By-laws as follows:

(Chapter 1) *The Secretariat is the international office of IFSA. All official records, reports, documents, information materials etc. shall be kept at the Secretariat. (...) There should be at least fourteen days of overlap period between the outgoing and incoming officials who work at the Secretariat.*

→

(Chapter 1) *The Secretariat is the international office of IFSA. All official records, reports, documents, information materials etc. shall be kept at the Secretariat. (...) **All official records shall also be stored online with hardware backup copies.** There should be at least fourteen days of overlap period between the outgoing and incoming officials who work at the Secretariat.*

Ariel Adimahavira (Indonesia) proposes to change the Chapter. No objections. Alice Cosatti (Austria) seconds the proposal.

The Chapter is changed.

20. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 2.4 of the By-laws as follows:

(2.4) Delegates of each region will nominate one or two Regional Representative(s) (hereafter referred to RR) for their region, who should, where possible, be residing in the region for the majority of the IFSA year, subject to the approval of the GA. In case that two RRs are nominated, a clear statement should be given during the GA specifying how tasks will be divided between the two RRs.

→

(2.4) At the GA, delegates of each region will nominate one or two Regional Representative(s) (hereafter referred to **as** RR) for their region, who should, where possible, be residing in the region for the majority of the IFSA year subject to approval of the GA. **If possible, prior nomination of candidates should be done at the Regional Meetings that precede the GA.**

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to change the Article. Noémi Gay (Switzerland) objects. She agrees with the phrasing but does not like that it is possible through nomination. It could be unfair to those who are new, very interested want to run for the position during the GA, without having previously attended the Regional Meeting (and prior nomination). Katharina Albrich (Austria) clarifies that in this case it is not an appointment in the Regional Meeting, but a nomination brought forward to the GA from the Regional Meeting.

Election Committee is called forward and the voting takes place. Result: 27 votes for YES; 2 votes for NO; 4 votes for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session.

As a result of the voting, the Article is changed.



21. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 3.1 of the By-laws as follows:

(3.1) Duties of the President

He / She will be the principal official representative of the Association

He / She will initiate, direct and supervise the work of the Direction ~~and the Secretariat~~

He / She will initiate and maintain contacts with external non-student organisations.

He / She will initiate and maintain contacts with external student organisations.

(3.1) The President will:

- *Be the principal official representative of the Association;*

- *Initiate, direct and supervise the work of the Direction; Initiate and maintain contacts with external non-student organisations; and*

- *Initiate and maintain contacts with external student organisations.*

→

Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

22. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 4.1 of the By-laws as follows:

(4.1)

~~*f) At least one member of the Council will audit the financial accounting every quarter of the year, at the same time as the progress reports are made. The treasurer should therefore produce a short report which gives information about the liquidity of IFSA during the rest of the year.*~~

~~*g) The GA or Council will decide and approve the allocation of funds from the account.*~~

~~*h) All expenses made on behalf of IFSA must have prior written approval for a specified amount from the Treasurer in consultation with the Direction.*~~

~~*i) Money contributed to the running of any Commission shall be held in the IFSA e.V General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.*~~

(4.1)

f) The GA or Council will decide and approve the allocation of funds from the account.

g) Money contributed to the running of any Commission shall be held in the IFSA e.V General bank account, with funds being kept separate through book-keeping.

→



Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to change the Article. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) objects and explains that in case that statute was deleted, there would be no way to appraise financial accountability at all. Until another law had been reinstated, it would be better to leave it in here.

Election Committee is called forward and the voting takes place. Result: 4 votes for YES; 22 votes for NO; 7 votes for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session.

As a result of the voting, the change is NOT accepted and the Article is NOT changed.

23. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 5.1 of the By-laws as follows:

(5.1) It will be composed of all representatives of ordinary members, members of Direction and Council, internal and external observers and special participants.

→

*(5.1) It will be composed of representatives of ordinary members, members of the Direction and Council, internal and external observers and special participants. **The total number of IFSA members shall be stated at the beginning of the GA sessions and in reference to the present IFSA members including a clear indication of those enable to vote.***

Veronica Leung (Taiwan) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Jan Lindblad (Sweden) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

24. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 5.3 of the By-laws as follows:

(5.3) There will be two special bodies in any GA, namely the BoA and Election Committee, hereafter referred to EC. The BoA comprises a Chairperson, Chairpersons assistant, and Keeper of the minutes. ~~A three member EC will be appointed by the GA to oversee the election of members of the Direction and Council according to the rules in this by-law.~~

→

*(5.3) There will be two special bodies in any GA, namely the BoA and Election Committee, hereafter referred to EC. The BoA comprises a Chairperson, Chairperson's assistant, and Keeper of the minutes. **An EC consisting of three members from different countries** will be appointed by the GA to oversee the election of members of **elected IFSA officials according to the rules in these by-laws.***

Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to accept the changes for this Article. No objections. Pranjal Dubey (India) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

25. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 5.4.1 of the By-laws as follows:

<p>(5.4.1) <i>The election will be conducted by the EC consisting of three non-delegate participants from different countries appointed by the GA. The EC will be formed at the first session of the GA.</i></p>	→	<p>(5.4.1) <i>The election will be conducted by the EC, formed at the first session of the GA.</i></p>
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Salina Abraham (USA) proposes to accept the changes. No-one objects. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

26. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 5.6 of the By-laws as follows:

<p>(5.6) <i>The final report of proceedings of a GA will be prepared by the immediate past IFSA board and will contain: (...)</i></p>	→	<p>(5.6) <i>The final report of proceedings of a GA will be prepared by the newly elected Direction and will contain: (...)</i></p>
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Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Karoli Hainsoo (Estonia) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

27. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 7.1 g) of the By-laws as follows:

(7.1)

g) Any Ordinary member(s) wishing to host an IFSS must make a proposal to GA at least two years in advance.

i) Such a member will be required to make a presentation to the next GA including proposed programme and budget, participation fee and number of participants expected.

ii) The GA, upon satisfaction, shall then decide accordingly.

(7.1)

g) Any ordinary member(s) wishing to host an IFSS must make a proposal to GA at least two years in advance.

i) Such a member will be required to make a presentation to the next GA including proposed programme and budget, participation fee and number of participants expected.

ii) The GA, upon satisfaction, shall then decide accordingly.

iii) The Direction and Council reserve the right to monitor the continued feasibility of an ordinary member hosting IFSS and can if necessary retract the hosting of IFSS if there are concerns. The Direction should provide evidence for such a decision and present it to IFSA members in writing.

Daniel Boehnke (South Africa) proposes to change the Article. Theodore Squires (USA) objects. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) comments on the objection that the current proposed wording leaves open areas for generalization and interpretation. Why to approve something that could be better worded? What happens if the Article never changes in the future, therefore is a very big risk. Manuel Rakos (Austria) opposes that the risk could be greater in the case that IFSS could be hosted in a dangerous place. Salina Abraham (USA) asks how the process (retracting the hosting of IFSS) would look like. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) tells an example. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) mentions that just because we do not approve this change does not mean that the Board do not have any power. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) replies that if it is not written in the Statutes, this (retraction of the host of IFSS) cannot be done. Gabrielle (Canada) asks about the last year's case regarding Nigeria. Tatenda (South Africa) explains that it was a big mistake.

Election Committee is called forward and the GA goes for a vote. Result: 27 votes for YES; 2 votes for NO; 4 votes for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session.

As a result of the voting, the change is accepted and the Article is changed.

28. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 7.1 i) of the By-laws as follows:

(7.1)

i) ~~Two~~ members per LC, excluding IFSA officials, are invited to participate in the IFSS. According to the number of places available, the OC can authorise more than ~~two~~ members per LC in agreement with the IFSA Council.

(7.1)

*i) **One** member per LC, excluding IFSA officials, are invited to participate in the IFSS. According to the number of places available, the OC can authorise more than **one** member per LC in agreement with the IFSA Council.*

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) explains why the GA is accepting these changes, g) and i), regarding the Article 7.1 separately. Manuel Rakos (Austria) proposes to change the Article. Ullrich Hechter (South Africa) objects. Ariel Adimahavira (Indonesia) argues that delegates going to the IFSS are expected to share the experience with others at home. Ariel (Indonesia) thinks that delegates will not be able to disseminate the information they learned if only 1 per LC attends IFSS. Daniel Boehnke (South Africa) opposes the change in Statutes because it should be the decision of the Organizer Committee (OC) of IFSS. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) clarifies and says that there is no option to go down from 1, but can always be increased. Currently you cannot go down from 2 per LC (Statutes do not allow). Heinrich Hechter says that if we allow 1 person per LC, IFSA would grow. Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) says that it states the obvious. Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) says that in some regions, where there are less LCs currently, it could happen that there will be only 1 LC in the region and then only 1 person is representing the region. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) clarifies that it is utopic that every LC sends a representative, there are always more openings than places. It is better to have a minimum (1) and then increase the number than to promise places (2) to every LC and in a rare case when everyone would send 2 people, the Organizer Committee cannot manage that situation anymore (too many participants). Theodore Squires (USA) would like an argument why 1 per LC would be better than 2 per LC. Jonas Geschke (Germany) notes that 1 Italian guy would be very boring. Manuel Rakos (Austria) explains that depending on the funding they (Austrian OC for IFSS 2016) could even take 10 from every LC, but imagine when they have to take 2 from LC and all the IFSA members (75 LCs) send 2 people, plus organizers have to guarantee place for all the IFSA Officials (40-44 people) and the members of the Organizer Committee (e.g. 10). In total it would be more than 200 people and the organizers might not be able to manage this number of participants (*note – it has been around 100-130 participants during the last IFSS-s*). Steven Laranjo (The Philippines, Head of OC of IFSS 2016) explains that 1 per LC is not limiting the delegation. In the Philippines they found it very hard to find accommodation for people. Making it 1 (instead of 2) per LC is better for the OC and also for the LC. Both can have lower expenses. If you leave in "2 per LC" you are required to take at least 2 people.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) says that historically speaking, for the last few IFSS, especially for Spain in 2013, this issue of participants had already been a huge problem. In fact, Canada (IFSS 2014) in the first call only allowed one delegate per LC. We could have Organizer Committees violating the Statutes without knowing it, we have to face the reality that if we keep the number "2 per LC" and force LCs to send and OCs to host that amount of people, we might dissuade IFSS hosts and this might affect the hosting of IFSS-s in the future (risk of not having it). If we do not accept this change proposal it means that the number will stay "2 per LC" and could mean that the OCs might violate the Statutes again. It could raise also the diversity if we have 1 per LC.

Election Committee is called forward and the GA goes for a vote. Result: 17 votes for YES; 13 votes for NO; 3 votes for ABSTAIN. The number of votes corresponds to the number of eligible votes in the session. *Note: Changes in these documents require 3/4 of the quorum to be accepted.*

As a result of the voting, the change is NOT accepted and the Article is NOT changed.

29. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 8.2 of the By-laws as follows:

(8.2) (...) The readership of the IFSA News will include forestry student groups, training institutions, organisations and persons in forestry related organisations. ~~Given that funds are available, at least four editions will be produced in a year.~~

→

(8.2) (...) The readership of the IFSA News will include forestry student groups, training institutions, organisations and persons in forestry related organisations.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to change the Article. No objections. Dini Novia Sabila (Indonesia) seconds the proposal. **The Article is changed.**

30. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) suggests that the GA changes Article 10.1 of the By-laws as follows:

(10.1) These By-laws were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the ~~24th~~ GA on the ~~10th~~ August ~~2014~~ at the ~~42st~~ IFSS in ~~Canada~~, replace the By-laws of IFSA, last changed by the GA the ~~4th~~ of August ~~2013~~ at the ~~41th~~ IFSS in ~~Spain~~.

→

*(10.1) These By-laws were approved by the participants of the 2nd Plenary Session of the **26th** GA on the **2nd** August **2015** at the **43rd** IFSS in **the Philippines**, and they replace the By-laws of IFSA, last changed by the GA at the **10th** of August **2014** at the **42nd** IFSS in **Canada**.*

Gavin Livingston (Australia) proposes to change the Article. No-one objects. Niclas Aleff (Germany) seconds the proposal.

The Article is changed.

Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) proposes to accept ALL previously made changes to IFSA Statutes, Decrees and By-laws. No objections. Sunya Nani (India) seconds the proposal.

10. First call for candidature of IFSA Officials

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains it is the time to run for IFSA positions and opens the call. Candidates who wish to run for a position can either nominate themselves or let others nominate him/her.

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) nominates Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) for the position of IFSA Councillor. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) accepts the nomination.

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) nominates May Anne Then (Canada) for IFSA President's position. May Anne Then (Canada) accepts the nomination.

Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) nominates Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) for the position of IFSA Councillor. Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) accepts the nomination.

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) nominates Jonas Geschke (Germany) for the position of IFSA Executive Secretary. Jonas Geschke (Germany) accepts the nomination.

May Anne Then (Canada) nominates Natalia Cisneros (Peru) for the position of IFSA Vice President. Natalia Cisneros (Peru) accepts this nomination.

Alice Cosatti (Austria) nominates Katharina Albrich (Austria) for IFSA Liaison Officer (LO) for IUFRO. Katharina Albrich (Austria) accepts the nomination.

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) nominates herself for the Head of Forestry Education Commission in IFSA. By nominating herself she automatically accepts the nomination.

Sunya Nani (India) nominates Pranjal Dubey (India) for the position of LO ITTO. Pranjal Dubey (India) accepts the nomination.

Angelica Alcantara Sanchez (Mexico) nominates Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) for the position of LO IFISO. Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) accepts the nomination.

Valerio Frattura (Italy) nominates Mohammad Chehreh Ghani (Turkey) for the Head of Social Media Sub-Commission. Mohammad Chehreh Ghani (Turkey) accepts the nomination.

Christa Vilkki (Finland) nominates herself for the Head of UNFCCC Sub-Commission. By nominating herself, Christa Vilkki (Finland) automatically accepts the nomination.

Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) nominates Jan Joseph Dida (The Philippines) for the position of IFSA Councillor. Jan Joseph Dida (The Philippines) accepts the nomination.

Ariel Adimahavira (Indonesia) nominates himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. By nominating himself he automatically accepts the nomination.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) nominates Daniel Boehnke (South Africa) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Africa region. Daniel Boehnke (South Africa) accepts the nomination.

Olivier Gagnon (Canada) nominates Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern America region. Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) accepts this nomination.

Jan Joseph Dida (The Philippines) nominates Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) accepts the nomination.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) nominates Alice Cosatti (Austria) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Europe region. Alice Cosatti (Austria) accepts the nomination.

Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) nominates Miku Lenentine (USA) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern America region. Miku Lenentine (USA) accepts the nomination.

Daniel Boehnke (South Africa) nominates Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Africa region. Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) accepts the nomination.

Nancy Tiacuahuac (Mexico) nominates Angelica Alcantara Sanchez (Mexico) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Latin America region. Angelica Sanchez (Mexico) accepts the nomination.

Pranjal Dubey (India) nominates Sunya Nani (India) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. Sunya Nani (India) accepts the nomination.

Kai-Wen Chung (Taiwan) nominates Veronica Leung (Taiwan) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. Veronica Leung (Taiwan) accepts this nomination.

Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) nominates herself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. By nominating herself, Sylviah Anwar (Indonesia) automatically accepts the nomination.

Natalia Cisneros (Peru) nominates Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) for the position of LO Alumni. Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) accepts the nomination.

Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) wants to nominate a person for the Head of the UN CBD Sub-Commission. The nomination cannot be made, as the position is a 2-year position and is currently held by Juan Samuel Simbolon (Indonesia).

Gavin Livingston (Australia) nominates Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) accepts the nomination.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the first call for candidature of IFSA Officials.

She mentions that the next opportunity to nominate candidates for official positions is in the next (3rd) Plenary Session.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains the procedure for the nominated candidates. IFSA Board positions (including Council) and Liaison Officers will be doing vetting in front of the GA (during the next, 3rd Plenary Session). The vetting will be done orally and no presentation is needed. Based on the vetting, these positions will be voted on by the GA.

Nominated candidates for the Regional Representatives and the Heads of Commissions and Sub-Commissions will not have to do vetting in front of the GA. Regions and (Sub) Commissions will need to decide their preferred representatives during the upcoming workshops. These positions will be appointed and not voted on by the GA.

11. Closure of the 2nd Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) officially closed the 2nd Plenary Session of the GA at 13:58.

Agenda of the 3rd Plenary Session

Sunday, 4 August 2015. 09:00-12:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 3rd Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation and approval of the Agenda of the 3rd Plenary Session
4. Second call for candidature for IFSA Officials
5. Presentation of the candidatures for host country of the IFSS 2017
6. Vetting of Direction Candidates
 - a. President candidate(s)
 - b. Vice President candidate(s)
 - c. Treasurer candidate(s)
 - d. Executive Secretary candidate(s)
7. Vetting of Council candidate(s)
8. Vetting of candidates for Liaison Officers
 - a. IUFRO
 - b. EFI
 - c. CIFOR
 - d. ITTO
 - e. FAO
 - f. CFA
 - g. Alumni
 - h. IFISO
9. Presentation of the Master Folder
10. First call for Interim 2016 host
11. Closure of the 3rd Plenary Session

Minutes of the 3rd Plenary Session

CHAIRPERSON	May Anne Then (Canada)
ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON	Katharina Albrich (Austria)
MINUTES KEEPER	Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa)
ELECTION COMMITTEE	Christopher Morton (Australia) Keegan Hofmann (Canada) Jasmin Zisch (Austria)
VENUE	University of the Philippines Los Baños College of Forestry and Natural Resources Los Baños, the Philippines
DATE AND TIME	August 4 th , 2015 Opened: 09:00 Closed: 14:26

3rd Plenary Session

Sunday, 4 August 2015. 09:00-12:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 3rd Plenary Session

At 09:00, May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015 and Chairperson of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA, opened the 3rd Plenary Session of the GA.

2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

The Election Committee counts 36 votes present and entitled to vote. May Anne Then (Canada) confirms that the quorum is reached and that the GA is eligible to vote.

3. Explanation of the Agenda of the 3rd Plenary Session

Katharina Albrich (Austria) shows the Agenda of the 3rd Plenary Session of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA. She proposes changes to the Agenda - to move the presentation of the Strategy review and Structure change recommendations to the 4th Plenary Session; to add new Agenda item to make the first call for Interim 2016 host country already in the 3rd Plenary Session. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to accept the changes to the agenda and the agenda of 3rd Plenary Session.

4. Second call for candidature of IFSA Officials

Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the second and last call for IFSA official position candidatures.

Alice Cosatti (Austria) nominates Noémi Gay (Switzerland) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Europe region. Noémi Gay (Switzerland) accepts the nomination.

Nicholas Dormaar (Canada) nominates himself for the Head of UNFF Sub-Commission. Katharina Albrich (Austria) comments that this is not possible as the position is a 2-year position and is currently held by Anna Stemberger (Canada).

Jonas Geschke (Germany) nominates Anna Nilsson (Sweden) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern Europe region. Anna Nilsson (Sweden) accepts this nomination.

Keegan Hofmann (Canada) nominates Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) for the Head of Training Commission. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) accepts the nomination.

Niclas Aleff (Germany) nominates himself for the Head of UNFCCC Sub-Commission. By nominating himself, he automatically accepts the nomination.

Miguel Torres (Finland) nominates Ngoc Hoang (Finland) for the Head of Social Media Sub-Commission. Ngoc Hoang (Finland) accepts this nomination.

Noémi Gay (Switzerland) nominates Hilda Mikaelsson (Sweden) for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern Europe region. Hilda Mikaelsson (Sweden) accepts the nomination.

(Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) nominates herself for the position of LO Alumni. By nominating herself, she accepts the nomination. *(NOTE— she was also nominated by Natalia Cisneros (Peru) for LO Alumni, but could not run in the first call, as she was not eligible to run. By this 3rd session her LC paid the IFSA membership fee and she is eligible for running for the position, thus nominates herself).*

Miku Lenentine (USA) nominates Salina Abraham (USA) for the Head of International Processes Commission (IPC). Salina Abraham (USA) accepts the nomination.

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) nominates Keegan Hofmann (Canada) for the Head of Social Media Sub-Commission. Keegan Hofmann (Canada) accepts the nomination.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) nominates Theodore Squires (USA) for the position of IFSA Treasurer. Theodore Squires (USA) does NOT accept the nomination and is not running for the position.

NOTE: In addition to the nominations from the first and second call for candidatures of IFSA Officials during the GA Plenary Sessions, open call had been sent out to IFSA members (LCs) via e-mail before the GA sessions. From the open call these additional candidates have showed interest (sent their application and motivation letters) and are running for the following IFSA official positions:

- Dana Marie Mejia (The Philippines) has nominated herself for the position of IFSA Treasurer;
- Iida Viholainen (Finland) has nominated herself for the position of LO EFI;
- Jesse Mahoney (Australia) has nominated himself for the position of LO CIFOR;
- Sekar Woro Ayu Yunita (Indonesia) has nominated herself for the position of LO ITTO;
- Melanie Schulte (Germany) has nominated herself for the position of LO FAO;
- Khalil Walji (Canada) has nominated himself for the position of LO FAO;
- Jesse Way (Canada) has nominated himself for the Head of UNFCCC Sub-Commission;
- Joakim Lundsten (Sweden) has nominated himself for the Head of Forest Europe Sub-Commission;
- Eva von Schoenebeck (Germany) has nominated herself for the Head of Fundraising Commission
- Walter Mupezuweni (Zimbabwe) has nominated himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Africa region
- Unathi Dambile (South Africa) has nominated herself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Africa region. (NOTE – as her LC has not paid the membership fee by the time of the GA, she is not eligible to run for any positions in IFSA).
- Isabel Engel (Germany) has nominated herself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Europe region.
- Marko Kelember (Serbia) has nominated himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Southern Europe region.
- Irma Verastegui (Peru) has nominated herself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Latin America region.
- Denver Cayetano (Belize) has nominated himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Latin America region.
- Karoli Hainsoo (Estonia) has nominated herself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern Europe region.
- Okon Mbuotidem (Nigeria) has nominated himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern Africa region.
- Adaramoye Opeyemi (Nigeria) has nominated himself for the Regional Representative of IFSA Northern Africa region.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the second and last call for candidature of IFSA Officials.

5. Presentation of the candidatures for host country of the IFSS 2017

During the 1st Plenary Session, South Africa and Indonesia have been nominated for the IFSS 2017. In this Agenda point both candidates presented their plans and overview.

Representatives from South Africa come forward and present their proposal. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks about the flights to South Africa and what would be the best way to book a return flight (their plan for IFSS 2017 indicates that the start and end of IFSS are in different parts of South Africa). Presenters respond that a return flight from Johannesburg would be the most suitable. Theodore Squires (USA) asks about the price of domestic flights. Supposedly they will cost between 40 and 100 USD (from Johannesburg to Cape Town). May Anne Then (Canada) asked about the challenges they might have. Presenters replied that probably the time will be the most crucial problematic, as there are many activities and distances can be far from each other. Manuel Rakos (Austria) asked about the safety. Respondents explain that it will be a state alert event. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks about the continuation of the current active Officials. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) replied that there are junior students who will take on the organizing on the ground, yet the outgoing Officials will be working and help with organizing logistics for venues.

Representatives from Indonesia come forward and present their proposal. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) asks how the organizers plan to transport people from one island to other and how much funding they have planned and from where. Presenters reply that there will be night drives with the bus and for the budget they expect a third from registration fees and the rest they will need to find from municipalities. They have not started the fundraising yet. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asked about how the “first come first serve” discount works, because it might work for students that can pay the registration fees early, yet usually those that need the discount cannot pay so early. Response indicated that the organizers will think about this issue. They also added that extra stay would be cheaper for all Officials. Manuel Rakos (Austria) asked about how many delegates they expect and how will they manage to do lots of activities and official plenary sessions. Presenters said that they are thinking about 200 participants and that the plenary sessions are not yet fixed in the program. Lucas Leslie (Canada) asks how much money would be needed during this trip (for one delegate) – presenters respond that 200 USD would be enough. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) asked where would be the point of departure in the end. Jakarta would be the ending point of proposed IFSS. May Anne Then (Canada) asks what would be the contingency plan for a 24 hour bus drive. Presenters reply that it would be also possible to fly, though then the funding needs to be increased a lot (or delegates pay extra for their own tickets). Salina Abraham (USA) asked about the visa process –there is no need for visa to go to Indonesia. Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin asks about how Indonesia will host Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting (in case they run for it) and IFSS. Presenters say that they would have a joint committee in that case. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) asks how they will then fundraise for two events. Presenters respond that in case they have planned two events, they would be more credible to get fundraising.

Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the Agenda point and mentions that the election (voting) for the host of IFSS 2017 will be done in the next (4th) Plenary Session.

May Anne Then (Canada) announces a break.

BREAK starts at 10:15

BREAK finishes at 10:30

Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks Election Committee to replace on members, since Keegan Hofmann (Canada) has been nominated for IFSA official position and cannot continue his duties as a member of the Election Committee. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes Valerio Frattura (Italy) as new Election Committee member. Valerio Frattura (Italy) accepts the nomination. No objections and Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) seconds the proposal.

May Anne Then (Canada) reopened the session after the break. The Election Committee counted the number of votes. 35 votes are present after the break.

Theodore Squires (USA) proposes to re-open the nomination round for IFSA Officials for a short time. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) - what is the reason why GA should allow this. Theodore Squires (USA) says that there is a candidate who wants to run for IFSA official position and was absent during the time of the last call. No objections follow and Keegan Hofmann (Canada) seconds the proposal.

- Lani Nguyen (USA) nominates herself for the position of IFSA Treasurer. By nominating herself, she automatically accepts the nomination.

6. Vetting of Direction candidates

a. President candidate(s)

May Anne Then (Canada) comes to the front and delivers her vetting speech. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks about the list of big tasks (what are 3 things that she would want to achieve). May Anne replies that she wants to increase mentorship to the Board members, document clear reports and achieve at least half of the tasks she has in mind in a year. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) asks about her goal in streamlining the Statutes – May Anne says the Statutes should guide IFSA for the long term and we should not be changing the so much and so often, yet we are doing this which shows that we need to revamp the way we do things. Ullrich Hechter (South Africa) asks about her time availability during the next IFSA year – May Anne says she will have more time as she will not be working for at least a year and is planning time for IFSA. Christopher Morton (Australia) asks her how she will instigate cultural inclusion in IFSA. She replies she will work with the Board and Officials and have them lead the way on cultural inclusion.

She says IFSA is already doing that at Interim meetings and should be thinking about formally including it in the IFSS program. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks about how will the two year term culminate – May Anne says that we are at a position where we really need to have longer term, especially regarding our current partnerships. Past and present overlap would also help with the formal mentorship period.

b. Vice President candidate(s)

Natalia Cisneros (Peru), who is running for this position, had to leave before this Plenary Session and sent a video with her vetting speech. The GA watches the video. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) would like to know how she will balance time. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) would like to ask about the development of the Communication Strategy. Andre Purret (Estonia), as the holder of the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position, commented that the Communication Strategy is already in the progress and Natalia and he are working on it. May Anne Then (Canada) comments that Natalia already oversees most of IFSA's communication channels. May Anne further mentions that Natalia has a great ability to motivate people and that she has great interpersonal skills.

c. Treasurer candidate(s)

One of the two candidates, Dana Marie Mejia (The Philippines) has sent her application beforehand and cannot be present to answer the questions. Her motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) would like to know what type of experience Dana has in managing accounts and if she does not have any, how would she make up for that. Theodore Squires (USA) would like to know what kind of work she has done in IFSA and which challenges she expects would come up in this position. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) wants to ask how she will be able to manage the bank account and transfers (since it is in German). Salina Abraham (USA) wants to ask, what would be her vision beyond just balancing the numbers. Katharina Albrich (Austria) would like to know if she would be continuously available during the next IFSA year and what would be the contingency plan if she cannot make it.

Lani Nguyen (USA) is the second running candidate and is present in the IFSS. She delivers her vetting speech. May Anne Then (USA) comments that IFSA is not in debt as Lani had stated during her speech. Theodore Squires (USA) comments that Lani is a motivated individual and asked if she would be able to take on the responsibilities timewise. Lani replies that she has a lot of time. May Anne Then (Canada) asks about her ideas for fundraising as she will not be physically in all of the IFSA regions. Lani replies that she can delegate and has done so before. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks, how will Lani fundraise – Lani says that every LC should be able to do the fundraising and organize at least one fundraising event per year. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks if she has experience in reporting and budgeting – Lani indicates that she has some experience as she, for example, had raised/managed 16 000 USD for student club. May Anne Then (Canada): how can transactions be more efficient – Lani replies that IFSA should create a crowd funding account.

Niclas Aleff (Germany) asks about plans to improve transparency in IFSA. Lani – the receipts will be made clear. May Anne Then (Canada) commented that IFSA already collects receipts for everything, but do not present them to everyone.

d. Executive Secretary candidate(s)

Jonas Geschke (Germany) comes to the front and presents his vetting speech. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks him how he will work together with the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position and mentions that LC Freiburg has been having some membership issues. Jonas replies that he and current Joint Position have already had talks about working together and he (Joint Position) will visit IFSA office in Freiburg soon. He continues that he will be working on re-structuring the LC in Freiburg and wants to make sure it grows strong again. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) says that not everyone knows IFSA history and how would he deal with the archives and how he will get this information to IFSA people (as he mentioned that he wants to organize the archives). Jonas replies that he will get in touch with the RRs and gets the information out there. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) asks about his qualities for this role – Jonas says that he is German, organized, punctual and finishes projects on time. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) wants to know how he will balance the time as he is on the final study year – Jonas replies that he has quite a lot of time, as he is fully done with his first year of Master program and even took a job to fill up the time he has.

7. Vetting of Council candidate(s)

As there are total of 3 candidates and they all are present in the IFSS 2015, Katharina Albrich (Austria) explains order of vetting and that she will ask other candidates to leave the room during the individual vetting.

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) comes to the front and delivers her vetting speech. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks, how she will work with the other (2) Councillors and ensures that they work in a team – Gabrielle replies to the questions. Jonas Geschke (Germany) wants to know how she will manage the time zone differences – Gabrielle says she moves around a lot and will handle the time zone differences. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asked how she will be doing over the next year timewise and how she sees herself on a personal level working with Councillors that are from completely different backgrounds – Gabrielle replies she will give more time for IFSA tasks and as a result of the work she has done regarding UNFF and other international organizations, she has learnt how to respect other people's views. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) commented that Gabrielle has a very calming and great way of leading.

Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) comes to the front and delivers her vetting speech. Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) commented that Trudy is a great leader and she is always smiling and open. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asked how she would deal with international diversity as well as what are her goals for Training Commission.

Trudy explains that South Africa has a lot of international diversity and the ability to deal with that is entrenched within her. Jonas Geschke (Germany): Africa is a unique continent and it would be great to have an African in IFSA Board.

Jan Joseph Dida (Philippines) comes to the front and delivers his vetting speech. Paula Sarigumba (The Philippines) asked what measures he could use to narrow the gaps in South East Asia – Jan replied that he would be more emphatic. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks about the tasks of the Council – Jan mentions the work with Statutes, Annual Report etc. Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) wants to know that as Council is a team, what people related skills he has for the Council team and also to IFSA. Jan says he created an LC in the Philippines, helped to organize IFSS 2015, attend conferences etc. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks which Commissions he would be interested in and why – Jan replies that he is interested in IPC, Exchange Commission and UNFF, because he has been part of that and has some knowledge on these topics.

May Anne Then (Canada) announces a break.

BREAK starts at 12:20

BREAK finishes at 13:20

Housekeeping note: If someone is running for a position and is the only one representing his/her LC in this IFSS, he/she has to transfer the vote by coming to front and informing the GA chairperson about the LC to whom the vote is being transferred to.

May Anne Then (Canada) reopened the session after the break. The Election Committee counted the number of votes. 36 votes are present after the break.

8. Vetting of candidates for Liaison Officers

a. LO IUFRO

Katharina Albrich (Austria) is present in the GA and delivers her vetting speech. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) wants to know how she would coordinate with other LOs and work towards synergies of IFSA's partners. Katharina - LO CIFOR and LO FAO would be great to start with regarding the coordination and she could take a leadership role on the projects that cross boundaries between organizations. Jasmin Zisch (Austria) recommends Katharina as she has lots of knowledge about IFSA. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) asks her about the ideas for coordination with IUFRO – Katharina answers that she would solidify the position and make sure it is well coordinated with the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position, in addition she would inquire a list of IUFRO activities in regions, where IFSA could collaborate. Andre Purret (Estonia) wants to recommend Katharina for this position as she has worked with her and would appreciate continuing to do so.

b. LO EFI

Iida Viholainen (Finland) is running for the position and has sent her application and motivation letter beforehand, as she had no chance to be present in the IFSS. Her motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. There are no questions from the floor.

c. LO CIFOR

Jesse Mahoney (Australia) is running for the position and has sent his application and motivation letter beforehand, as he had no chance to be present in the IFSS. His motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) wants to know if Jesse would have the opportunity to attend the Global Landscapes Forum 2015 in Paris (December 2015) and comments that Jesse is a great worker and has been involved in strengthening his LC. He is also in a good position to get a streamlined changeover as he is in Australia where Sarah herself (outgoing LO CIFOR) is based at.

d. LO ITTO

Sekar Woro Ayu Yunita (Indonesia) is running for the position and has sent her application and motivation letter beforehand, as she had no chance to be present in the IFSS. Her motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) comments that Sekar has energy and she is very passionate. Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) also recommends Sekar as she has a lot of experience and passion for the position.

Pranjal Dubey (India) is present in the GA and announces that he wants to withdraw his nomination as he might not be able to fulfil this position. He is no longer running for the position.

e. LO FAO

Melanie Schulte (Germany) is running for the position and has sent her application and motivation letter beforehand, as she had no chance to be present in the IFSS. Her motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. May Anne Then (Canada) comments that Melanie had been recently appointed as LO FAO and she has done an incredible job in catching up with the upcoming FAO World Forestry Congress tasks, she has worked with poise even though there was a lot of things needing attention and that had been left hanging. She managed to get going and it would be great to have her for continuity reasons.

Khalil Walji (Canada) is running for the position and has sent his application and motivation letter beforehand, as he had no chance to be present in the IFSS. His motivation letter is read out in front of the GA. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) would like to know how he will manage to step up with the changeover as the FAO World Forestry Congress is coming up next month. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) commented that IFSA needs to make a decision about the work going forward as the partnership between FAO and IFSA has struggled a bit lately.

f. LO CFA

As there are no nominations or candidates for LO CFA, no vetting takes place. Open call for this position will be posted via IFSA communication channels shortly after the IFSS 2015.

g. LO Alumni

Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) is present in the GA and delivers her vetting speech. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) wants to know which project she will work with. Ivy says she would like to get more Alumni spaces in IFSA Regional Meetings. May Anne Then (Canada) mentions that it is difficult to communicate with Alumni as they are not connected to the LCs anymore. Ivy replies that she will try and use personal e-mails or other group e-mails. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) asks how she will deal with the overlap of supporting and Alumni members. Ivy promises to discuss that issue with May Anne as she has some good ideas.

h. LO IFISO

Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) is present in the GA and delivers his vetting speech. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks what the challenges with IFISO which he has identified are. Odilon answers that funding for meetings and poor communication have lately been the main issues. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) wants to know how does IFSA benefit from IFISO – Odilon replies that IFSA gets insight on structure of other student organizations and can also disseminate forestry information to other student organizations.

With that, the vetting of candidates for IFSA Board and Liaison Officers is finished.

9. Presentation of the Master Folder

Andre Purret (Estonia) as the current holder of the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position presents the Master Folder (IFSA online knowledge database) briefly to the GA. There are no questions from the floor.

10. First call for Interim 2016 host

Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the floor for Interim 2016 host proposals. No candidates are nominated during the first call. Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the first call and announces that there will be second call.

11. Closure of the 3rd Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) officially closed the 3rd Plenary Session of the 26th GA at 14:26.

Agenda of the 4th Plenary Session

Thursday, 6 August 2015. 09:00-12:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 4th Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation of the agenda of the 4th Plenary Session
4. Second call for Interim 2016 host
5. Election of the host country of IFSS 2017
6. Discharge of the Direction
7. Discharge of the Council
8. Discharge of other Officials
9. Election of the Direction
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. Executive Secretary
10. Election of the Council
11. Election of Liaison Officers
12. Appointment of Regional Representatives
13. Decision on continuation and the establishment of (new) Commissions
14. Appointment of Heads of Commissions
15. Appointment of Consulting Members
16. Appointment of Honorary Members
17. Miscellaneous
18. Proposal and approval of timeline for structure, Statutes and strategy review
19. Election of Interim 2016 host
20. Closure of the 4th Plenary Session

Minutes of the 4th Plenary Session

CHAIRPERSON	May Anne Then (Canada)
ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON	Katharina Albrich (Austria)
MINUTES KEEPER	Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa)
ELECTION COMMITTEE	Christopher Morton (Australia) Theodore Squires (USA) Kai-Wen Chang (Taiwan)
VENUE	University of the Philippines Los Baños College of Forestry and Natural Resources Los Baños, the Philippines
DATE AND TIME	August 6 th , 2015 Opened: 09:18 Closed: 12:26

4th Plenary Session

Thursday, 6 August 2015. 09:00-12:00 (University of the Philippines Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 4th Plenary Session

At 09:18, May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015 and Chairperson of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA, opened the 4th Plenary Session of the GA.

2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

There might be some conflicts in case the GA continues with the current Election Committee. 2 members of the Election Committee have to be replaced. Nicholas Dormaar (Canada) proposes Theodore Squires (USA) and Kai-Wen Chang (Taiwan) as new members of the Election Committee. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal.

The Election Committee counts 38 votes present and entitled to vote. May Anne Then (Canada) confirms that the quorum is reached and that the GA is eligible to vote.

3. Explanation of the Agenda of the 4th Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) shows the Agenda of the 4th Plenary Session of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA.

She proposes changes to the Agenda - to add new Agenda item to make the second call for Interim 2016 host (as the next Agenda item no. 4) and elect the host of Interim 2016 in the very end of the session (as the Agenda item no. 19). She also proposes to add an Agenda item named "Proposal and approval of timeline for structure, statutes and strategy review" (as the Agenda item no. 18).

Manuel Rakos (Austria) proposes to accept the changes to the agenda and the agenda of 4th Plenary Session. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal.

4. Second call for Interim 2016 host

Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the second call for Interim 2016 host proposals. No candidates are nominated during also during the second call. Katharina Albrich (Austria) closes the second and last call. Open call to find the host of Interim 2016 will be posted via IFSA communication channels shortly after the IFSS 2015.

5. Election of the host country of IFSS 2017

Katharina Albrich (Austria) states that there are 2 candidates who wish to host the IFSS 2017 and both South Africa and Indonesia have presented their proposals to the GA. Secret election will be practiced and Election Committee is handing out the voting cards. Katharina explains that the members of IFSA eligible to vote in the GA can either write "South Africa", Indonesia" or "Abstain" on the voting card.

Results: 36 votes for South Africa, 2 votes for Indonesia and 0 votes for abstaining. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks the South African Organizer Committee if they accept to organize the IFSS 2017. They accept and thus the IFSS 2017 will be taking place in the Republic of South Africa.

6. Discharge of the Direction

Olivier Gagnon (Canada) proposes to discharge the IFSA Direction 2014/2015. Alice Cosatti (Austria) seconds the proposal. The Direction 2014/2015 is now officially discharged.

7. Discharge of the Council

Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to discharge the IFSA Council 2014/2015. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal. The Council 2014/2015 is now officially discharged.

8. Discharge of other Officials

Manuel Rakos (Austria) proposes to discharge the other IFSA Officials 2014/2015. Veronica Leung (Taiwan) seconds the proposal. Other Officials for 2014/2015 are now officially discharged.

9. Election of the Direction

Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) transferred the vote (from IFSA CFNR-UPLB) to Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia).

a. President

The Election Committee counts 37 votes for May Anne Then (Canada) and 1 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, May Anne Then (Canada) has been elected as IFSA President 2015/2016. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks if May Anne accepts the vote. She does accept it.

b. Vice President

The Election Committee counts 35 votes for Natalia Cisneros (Peru) and 3 Abstain. By simple majority of votes Natalia Cisneros (Peru) has been elected as IFSA Vice President 2015/2016. Natalia will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the position.

c. Treasurer

The Election Committee counts 23 votes for Dana Marie Mejia (The Philippines), 8 votes for Lani Nguyen (USA) and 7 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Dana Marie Mejia (The Philippines) has been elected as IFSA Treasurer 2015/2016. Dana will be asked via e-mail if she accepts.

d. Executive Secretary

The Election Committee counts 35 votes for Jonas Geschke (Germany) and 3 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Jonas Geschke (Germany) has been elected as IFSA Executive Secretary 2015/2016. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Jonas accepts the vote. He does accept it.

10. Election of the Council

The Election Committee counts the following votes:

3 votes are disqualified (35 votes as maximum remains);
26 votes for Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) and 9 Abstain;
34 votes for Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) and 1 Abstain;
22 votes for Jan Joseph Dida (Philippines) and 13 Abstain.

By simple majority of votes, Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada), Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) and Jan Joseph Dida (The Philippines) have been elected as IFSA Council 2015/2016 members. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Gabrielle, Trudy and Jan Joseph accept the vote. They do accept it.

11. Election of Liaison Officers

a. LO IUFR

The Election Committee counts 36 votes for Katharina Albrich (Austria) and 2 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Katharina Albrich (Austria) has been elected as LO IUFR 2015/2016. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Katharina accepts the vote. She does accept it.



b. LO EFI

The Election Committee counts 31 votes for Iida Viholainen (Finland) and 7 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Iida Viholainen (Finland) has been elected as LO EFI 2015/2016. Iida will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the position.

c. LO CIFOR

The Election Committee counts 31 votes for Jesse Mahoney (Australia) and 7 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Jesse Mahoney (Australia) has been elected as LO CIFOR 2015/2016. Jesse will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the position.

d. LO ITTO

The Election Committee counts 35 votes for Sekar Woro Ayu Yunita (Indonesia) and 3 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Sekar Woro Ayu Yunita (Indonesia) has been elected as LO ITTO 2015/2016. Sekar will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the position.

e. LO FAO

The Election Committee counts 33 votes for Melanie Schulte (Germany), 1 vote for Khalil Walji (Canada) and 4 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Melanie Schulte (Germany) has been elected as LO FAO 2015/2016. Melanie will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the position.

f. LO Alumni

The Election Committee counts 33 votes for Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) and 5 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) has been elected as LO Alumni 2015/2016. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Ivy (Chan-Yi) accepts the vote. She does accept it.

g. LO IFISO

The Election Committee counts 29 votes for Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) and 9 Abstain. By simple majority of votes, Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) has been elected as LO IFISO 2015/2016. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Odilon accepts the vote. He does accept it.

May Anne Then (Canada) announces a break.

BREAK starts at 10:30

BREAK finishes at 10:51

May Anne Then (Canada) reopened the session after the break. The Election Committee counted the number of votes. 38 votes are present after the break

12. Appointment of Regional Representatives

a. Northern Africa

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) proposes to appoint Okon Mbuotidem (Nigeria) and Adaramoye Opeyemi (Nigeria) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Northern Africa region. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal. Okon and Adaramoye will be asked via e-mail if they accept the appointment.

b. Southern Africa

Ullrich Hechter (South Africa) proposes to appoint Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) and Walter Mupezuweni (Zimbabwe) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Southern Africa region. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Heinrich accepts the appointment. He does accept it. Walter will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

c. Asia-Pacific

Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) proposes to appoint Wing Tuen Veronica Leung (Taiwan) and Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Asia-Pacific region. Yi-Chin Tseng (Taiwan) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks Veronica, then Steven, if they accept their appointment. They both do accept it.

d. Northern America

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to appoint Miku Lenentine (USA) and Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Northern America region. Félix Poulin (Canada) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Miku accepts the appointment. She does accept it. As Xavier is sick and could not attend the GA, he will be asked soon, if he accepts the nomination.

e. Latin America

Nancy Sanchez Tiacuahuac (Mexico) proposes to appoint Angélica Alcántara (México) and Irma Verastegui (Peru) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Latin America region. Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Angélica accepts the appointment. She does accept it. Irma will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the appointment.

f. Northern Europe

Jan Lindblad (Sweden) proposes to appoint Anna Nilsson (Sweden) and Karoli Hainsoo (Estonia) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Northern Europe region. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks Anna, then Karoli, if they accept their appointment. They both do accept it. As Anna is sick and could not attend the GA, she will be asked soon, if she accepts the nomination.

g. Southern Europe

Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to appoint Marko Kelember (Serbia) and Alice Cosatti (Austria) as the Regional Representatives of IFSA Southern Europe region. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Alice accepts the appointment. She does accept it. Marko will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

13. Decision on continuation and the establishment of (new) Commissions

Miguel Torres (Finland) proposes to continue Forestry Education Commission which would be working jointly with the newly established IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education. No objections. Gavin Livingston (Australia) seconds the proposal.

Niclas Aleff (Germany) proposes to continue International Processes Commission together with the UNFF, UNFCCC, UN CBD and Forest Europe Sub-Commissions. No objections. Jakob Kristensen (Denmark) seconds the proposal.

Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to establish Professional Development Commission together with Mentorship Sub-Commission. No objections. Jasmin Zisch (Austria) seconds the proposal.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to establish Communications Commission together with Web, Marketing and Publications Sub-Commissions. No objections. Miku Lenentine (USA) seconds the proposal.

Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) proposes to continue Fundraising Commission. No objections. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal.

14. Appointment of Heads of Commissions

For the Head of Forestry Education Commission, Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes to appoint Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa). Miguel Torres (Finland) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Tatenda accepts the appointment. She does accept it.

For the Head of Professional Development Commission, Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes to appoint Philipp Gerhardt (Germany). Alice Cosatti (Austria) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Philipp accepts the appointment. He does accept it.

- For the Head of Mentorship Sub-Commission, Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to appoint Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia). Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Sarah accepts the appointment. She does accept it.

For the Head of Communications Commission, Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes to appoint Jasmin Zisch (Austria). Paula Sarigumba (The Philippines) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Jasmin accepts the appointment. She does accept it.

- For the Head of Web Sub-Commission, Jasmin Zisch (Austria) proposes to appoint Mohammad Chehreh Ghani (Turkey). Ariel Adimahavira (Indonesia) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Mohammed accepts the appointment. He does accept it.
- For the Head of Publications Sub-Commission, Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes to appoint Keegan Hofmann (Canada). Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Keegan accepts the appointment. He does accept it.
- For the Head of Marketing Sub-Commission, Jasmin Zisch (Austria) proposes to appoint Ngoc Hoang (Finland). Niclas Aleff (Germany) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Ngoc accepts the appointment. She does accept it.

For the Head of International Processes Commission, Nicholas Dormaar (Canada) proposes to appoint Salina Abraham (USA). Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Salina accepts the appointment. She does accept it.

- For the Head of UNFCCC Sub-Commission, Salina Abraham (USA) proposes to appoint Niclas Aleff (Germany). Gavin Livingston (Australia) seconds the proposal. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if Niclas accepts the appointment. He does accept it.
- For the Head of Forest Europe Sub-Commission, Nicholas Dormaar (Canada) proposes to appoint Joakim Lundsten (Sweden). Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal. As Joakim was not present in the GA, he will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.
- *As the Head of UN CBD Sub-Commission and Head of UNFF Sub-Commission are 2-year positions, they will not be re-elected during the GA and will be continued by the current Heads of Sub-Commission.*

For the Head of Fundraising Commission, Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) proposes to appoint Eva von Schoenebeck (Germany). Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal. As Eva was not present in the GA, she will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the appointment.

15. Appointment of Consulting Members

Brief introduction on the appointment of Honorary and Consulting members was given by Katharina Albrich (Austria) during the 2nd Plenary Session. She reminds that the appointment of honorary and consulting members is identical to current “proposing” and “seconding” system, where someone has to propose a name and another person has to second that proposal. In case there are objections, it will go to voting. Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the call for Consulting Member nominations.

Jonas Geschke (Germany) proposes that Moritz Kramer (Germany), Executive Secretary 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Jasmin Zisch (Austria) seconds the proposal. Moritz will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) proposes that Ethan Lin (Taiwan), Councillor 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal. Ethan will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) proposes that Hugo Pierre (France), Head of Council 2014/2015 and IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position holder in 2013/2014, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Olivier Gagnon (Canada) seconds the proposal. Hugo will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) proposes that Lena Lackner (Austria), Head of Forestry Education Commission 2014/2015, LO IUFRO 2013/2014 and IFSA coordinator of IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education (ongoing), becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal. Lena will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the appointment.

Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) proposes that Ullrich Hechter (South Africa), South African Regional Representative 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks if Ullrich accepts the appointment. He does accept it.

Manuel Rakos (Austria) proposes that Andre Purret (Estonia), current IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position holder, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) comments that IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position is not an official position inside IFSA structure. Paula Sarigumba (The Philippines) comments that there is a conflict of interests. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) mentions that this is not an official IFSA position, though it counts as one for IFSA meetings and according to Statutes, anyone who has contributed their experience to IFSA can be appointed as Consulting Member. The Election Committee is called forward and this will go to a vote. Election Committee counts 38 votes present and eligible to vote.

Results: 23 votes for YES which means that by simple majority Andre Purret (Estonia) will become a Consulting Member of IFSA. Katharina Albrich (Austria) asks if Andre accepts the appointment. He accepts the appointment with a condition that he will start his duties as Consulting Members after January 2016, as he will hold the current IFSA-IUFRO Joint Position until that time.

Niclas Aleff (Germany) proposes that Lea Grosspietch (Germany), Executive Secretary with Moritz Kramer in 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Jasmin Zisch (Austria) seconds the proposal. Lea will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the appointment.

Matej Pavlič (Slovenia) proposes to renew the status of Dan Burgar Kuželički (Slovenia) as IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Alice Cosatti (Austria) seconds the proposal. Dan will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Andre Purret (Estonia) proposes that Vladislav Vejnovic (Serbia), LO IUFRO 2014/2015 and LO EFI 2013/2014, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) seconds the proposal. Vladislav will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Andre Purret (Estonia) proposes that Jani Nivala (Finland), Treasurer 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Niclas Aleff (Germany) seconds the proposal. Jani will be asked via e-mail if he accepts the appointment.

Andre Purret (Estonia) proposes that Olivia Sanchez Baldini (Canada), Head of International Processes Commission 2014/2015, becomes IFSA Consulting Member. No objections. Jonas Geschke (Germany) seconds the proposal. Olivia will be asked via e-mail if she accepts the appointment.

16. Appointment of Honorary Members

The procedure of appointing IFSA Honorary Members was explained during the 2nd Plenary Session. Katharina Albrich (Austria) opens the call for Honorary Member nominations.

Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) proposes Dr. Michael J. Wingfield, current IUFRO President, as IFSA Honorary Member. No objections. Manuel Rakos (Austria) seconds the proposal. Dr. Wingfield will be contacted and made aware of this nomination after the IFSS 2015.

Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) proposes Prof. Josua Louw, Director of the School of Natural Resource Management of Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in South Africa. No objections. Thabo Ngubeni (South Africa) seconds the proposal. Prof. Louw will be contacted and made aware of this nomination after the IFSS 2015.

17. Miscellaneous

- 1) Niclas Aleff (Germany) addresses the issue about how IFSA webpage runs and proposes that the Communication Commission would work on a login function and file sharing platform possibility. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks how this issue can be addressed in the current structure. Miku Lenentine (USA) asks how the Master Folder could be related to the webpage. Andre Purret (Estonia) responds that the Google Drive (where Master Folder currently is placed) is not connected to IFSA website and is only for internal use for IFSA Officials. It would be possible to use it on the same platform as the website, though someone has to investigate these options. May Anne Then (Canada) commented that at the Interim 2015 meeting in Denmark the same topic was discussed and is already being worked on. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) asks what kind of files would be on this file sharing platform – Niclas Aleff (Germany) answers that the LCs should be able to share files on one platform (e.g. photos and minutes of LC meetings). This would also be as a benefit of the membership to IFSA members. Salina Abrahams (USA) seconds the proposal to work on this issue.

- 2) Noémi Gay (Switzerland) proposes that the Communication Commission thinks on how to improve the way people express themselves in English so that they can be better understood by others. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks for clarification – whether this would be needed for social media and other communication platforms, in print or in IFSA meetings. Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) asks whether Noémi is referring to translators and if so, how that issue will be solved with the many different languages in IFSA. Noémi Gay (Switzerland) responds that the issue is about being sensitive and considerable with people that do not speak fluent English during IFSA meetings. May Anne Then (Canada) asks if the core of the issue would be solved through creating guidelines on communicating in English language at various IFSA meetings? Miku Lenentine (USA) states that this topic is something that Professional Development Commission would be dealing with and leans more towards intercultural communication and public speaking. Theodore Squires (USA) mentions that IFSA should also consider the use of simplified communication especially in writing. He gave reference to Asia-Pacific Regional Representatives who have been simplifying e-mails for their LCs who do not have a good understanding of the English language. Salina Abraham (USA) comments that there could be subtitles for some videos being presented during the vetting of candidates at the GA sessions. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) realigns the views on this proposal and proposes that the Communication Commission and Professional Development Commission works on and reflects on ways to improve intercultural and public speaking communication in English language during IFSA meetings. Gonzalo Gavilan (Australia) seconds the proposal.

- 3) Katharina Albrich (Austria) speaks on behalf of the Organizing Committee (OC) of IFSS 2016 in Austria and addresses that the OC might not be able to guarantee 2 places for every LC as the Statutes currently indicate. She proposes that there would be an exemption regarding "2 members from each LC" at IFSS 2016 and instead have 1 person per LC in the first call for participation. She explains that the reasons behind this proposal are following: funds are difficult to find for such big amount of people; accommodation is challenging to find (120 participants vs 200 participants); the proposal (including proposed number of participants) has been approved by the 25th IFSA General Assembly in Canada and they have been reporting about the developments in organizing process to the Board as required; LCs should rank their candidates who wish to get a spot at the IFSS 2016; this proposed limit would be therefore used for the first call for participation (can give more spaces in the second call, if there is space); in case the OC has to approve 2 participants per LC, they have to shorten IFSS and change the programme (which is difficult as there has already been 1 year of planning); OC can add more people if the funds allow them. Manuel Rakos (Austria) comments that the OC cannot go into the forests with the bigger buses and it would be difficult regarding overall logistics, yet they would take as many as they can. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) thanks Austria for being transparent and that Austria is not trying to reduce the diversity of the IFSS participants. Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) asks how will OC choose on who gets the second place and if there might be confusion inside LCs when they have to initially choose only one LC representative. Katharina Albrich (Austria) comments that they would use motivation letters and will not be discriminatory in terms of language issues. Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) comments on the transparency of OC in Austria and asks what would be the precedent of doing this exemption. Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa): in the end IFSA Board makes that decision and yet Austria has done a great job to raise awareness and to bring it up to the GA. Salina Abraham (USA) asks if they (OC) can also consider regional diversity beyond motivation letters. Katharina Albrich (Austria) replies that they will consider also regional diversity. There are no other questions and Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal.

- 4) IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education and the position of IFSA coordinator – Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) proposes that the Board would like to formally appoint Lena Lackner (Austria) as IFSA coordinator for this Joint Task Force. She continues that the reason behind the appointment is that Lena has been in the development process of this newly established Joint Task Force from the beginning and has shown strong dedication to work on this topic. The proposal to establish this Joint Tasks Force was rejected twice and even then she displayed commitment towards Forestry Education matters and worked towards getting the Joint Task Force officially accepted by the IUFRO Board. May Anne Then (Canada) comments that for such a call would normally follow an open call.

The Board has realized that as Lena is working currently as Interim Coordinator (not officially appointed) and interested to lead this, thus they propose a vote to the GA. However if the GA says NO, then the appointment would have to go through the open call procedure. Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada) seconds the proposal. Result – Lena Lackner is appointed as IFSA coordinator for the IFSA-IUFRO Joint Task Force on Forest Education.

18. Proposal and approval of timeline for structure, statutes and strategy review

May Anne Then (Canada) proposes following timeline for structure change and strategy review:

- *2015-2016: Thorough structure review and Statutes review*
- *27th GA (IFSS 2016): Propose and approve structure change and revised Statutes*
- *2016-2017: Create new strategy in line with structure and Statutes changes*
- *28th GA (IFSS 2017): Propose and approve new IFSA strategy*

Sarah Dickson-Hoyle (Australia) asks about the timelines – May Anne Then (Canada) explains that these timelines are more targeted looking at the interdependencies of the tasks and tries to sync with future GAs. Paula Sarigumba (The Philippines) asks how frequent will be strategy reviews – May Anne Then (Canada) replies that strategy would be reviewed every 3 years and the strategy would change with structure changes that come, but it does not mean IFSA will be throwing away the current strategy. There are no more questions -Jasmin Zisch (Austria) seconds the proposal.

19. Election of Interim 2016 host

As there were no nominations during the first and second call to host Interim 2016, there will be no elections and an open call to host Interim 2016 will be published via IFSA World mailing list after the IFSS 2015. Niclas Aleff (Germany) asks for clarification what is involved in hosting Interim. May Anne Then (Canada) explains that it involves hosting IFSA Officials for their workshops, usually for 20-30 participants. It is more flexible in terms of planning and the Board works together with the Organizer Committee (host) for Interim meeting.

20. Closure of the 4th Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) officially closed the 4th Plenary Session of the 26th GA at 12:26.

Agenda of the 5th Plenary Session

Sunday, 9 August 2015. 18:00-19:00 (Makiling Botanic Gardens, Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 5th Plenary Session
2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote
3. Explanation of the agenda of the 5th Plenary Session
4. Statements by the incoming Regional Representatives
 - a. Northern America
 - b. Latin America
 - c. Northern Europe
 - d. Southern Europe
 - e. Northern Africa
 - f. Southern Africa
 - g. Asia-Pacific
5. Statements by the incoming Heads of Commissions
 - a. Fundraising
 - b. Communication
 - c. International Processes
 - d. Professional Development
 - e. Forestry Education
6. Statements by the incoming Liaison Officers
 - a. IUFRO
 - b. FAO
 - c. CFA
 - d. CIFOR
 - e. ITTO
 - f. EFI
 - g. IFISO
 - h. Alumni
7. Statement by the incoming IFSA Council
8. Statement by the incoming IFSA Direction
9. Closure of the 5th Plenary Session and the 26th IFSA General Assembly

Minutes of the 5th Plenary Session

CHAIRPERSON	May Anne Then (Canada)
ASSISTANT CHAIRPERSON	Katharina Albrich (Austria)
MINUTES KEEPER	Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa)
ELECTION COMMITTEE	Christopher Morton (Australia) Valerio Frattura (Italy) Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada)
VENUE	Makiling Botanic Gardens University of the Philippines Los Baños Los Baños, the Philippines
DATE AND TIME	August 9 th , 2015 Opened: 17:40 Closed: 18:15

5th Plenary Session

Sunday, 9 August 2015. 18:00-19:00 (Makiling Botanic Gardens, Los Baños)

1. Opening of the 5th Plenary Session

At 17:40, May Anne Then (Canada), IFSA President 2014/2015 (continuing President 2015/2016), and Chairperson of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA, opened the 5th Plenary Session of the GA.

2. Announcement of the number of votes present and entitled to vote

The members of the previous Election Committee need to be replaced. Manuel Rakos (Austria) proposes Valerio Frattura (Italy), Christopher Morton (Australia) and Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) as the Election Committee. Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) seconds the proposal.

The Election Committee counts 34 votes present and entitled to vote. May Anne Then (Canada) confirms that the quorum is reached and that the GA is eligible to vote.

3. Explanation of the Agenda of the 5th Plenary Session

May Anne Then (Canada) explains Agenda of the 5th Plenary Session of the 26th General Assembly of IFSA.

4. Statements by the incoming Regional Representatives

All the newly elected Regional Representatives (RRs) present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, came in front and delivered a joint statement on behalf of all RRs. They said they would work towards strengthening Regional Meetings, help LCs to secure funds for IFSA meetings, update existing contact details in all the regions and serve as an effective bridge between all LCs and IFSA 7. Joint statement was followed by individual statements by regions.

a. Northern America

Miku Lenentine (USA) and Xavier Noël-Monastesse (Canada) stated their goals as Regional Representatives for Northern America 2015/2016. They wish to put more energy into the East coast and host a Regional Meeting on the East coast.

b. Latin America

Angélica Alcántara (México) stated her goals as Regional Representative for Latin America 2015/2016. She wishes to add new IFSA members (LCs) and promote IFSA in the region. Irma Verastegui (Peru) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, thus did not deliver any statement.

c. Northern Europe

Karoli Hainsoo (Estonia) and Anna Nilsson (Sweden) stated their goals as Regional Representatives for Northern Europe 2015/2016. They are already planning IFSA Nordic Partnership meeting.

d. Southern Europe

Alice Cosatti (Austria) stated her goals as the Regional Representative for Southern Europe 2015/2016. She wants to expand the number of LCs in the South-East Europe, Spain and Portugal. Marko Kelember (Serbia) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, thus did not deliver any statement.

e. Northern Africa

Since both Okon Mbuotidem (Nigeria) and Adaramoye Opeyemi (Nigeria) were not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, they did not deliver their statement as the Regional Representatives for Northern Africa 2015/2016.

f. Southern Africa

Heinrich Hechter (South Africa) stated his goals as the Regional Representative for Southern Africa 2015/2016. He would like to get new LCs from Madagascar and Zimbabwe. He would be asking help from the former RR, his brother Ullrich Hechter (currently IFSA Consulting Member). Walter Mupezuwani (Zimbabwe) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, thus did not deliver any statement.

g. Asia-Pacific

Wing Tuen Veronica Leung (Taiwan) and Steven Laranjo (The Philippines) stated their goals as the Regional Representatives for Asia-Pacific 2015/2016. They would work on simplifying IFSA messages for the region and its LCs, explore the use of social media and continue promoting communication between LCs in the region.

5. Statements by the incoming Heads of Commissions

a. Fundraising Commission

Since Eva von Schoenebeck (Germany) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, she did not deliver her statement as the Head of Fundraising Commission 2015/2016.

b. Communication Commission

Jasmin Zisch (Austria) as the Head of Communications Commission 2015/2016 stated her goals. She plans to work together with IFSA Vice President and Joint Position on the IFSA communication strategy, keep close contacts with the Sub-Commissions. She also mentioned that Publication Sub-Commission would like to publish the first journal after Christmas 2015; Marketing Sub-Commission will work on IFSA T-shirts and buttons; Web Sub-Commission will keep IFSA webpage updated, collect pictures and establish IFSA Instagram account.

c. International Processes Commission

Salina Abraham (USA) as the Head of International Processes Commission 2015/2016 stated her goals. She would like to create more opportunities for IFSA and will work on preparations for various congresses. She works to have more IFSA spaces available for conferences, work together with Professional Development Commission (focus on training and intercultural-understanding), develop new partnerships and prepare delegates so they can represent IFSA successfully.

d. Professional Development Commission

Philipp Gerhardt (Germany) as the Head of Professional Development Commission 2015/2016 stated his goals. He would like to shift the focus of the commission towards professional development and find out the demand within IFSA. He plans to have workshops in IFSA meetings (good coordination with event organizers is needed) and create a pool of trainers within IFSA network. Mentorship Sub-Commission would develop mentoring programs and will work closely with the International Processes Commission.

e. Forestry Education Commission

Tatenda Mapeto (South Africa) as the Head of Forestry Education Commission 2015/2016 stated her goals. She plans to finish updating the database on forestry education programs, continue workshops during Regional Meetings, work on the sustainable development program and raise awareness on the topic of forestry education.



6. Statements by the incoming Liaison Officers

a. IUFRO

Katharina Albrich (Austria) as the LO IUFRO 2015/2016 states her goals for the next IFSA year.

b. FAO

Since Melanie Schulte (Germany) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, she did not deliver her statement as the LO FAO 2015/2016.

c. CFA

Since there was no candidates running for this position, there will be no statement delivered.

d. CIFOR

Since Jesse Mahoney (Australia) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, he did not deliver his statement as the LO CIFOR 2015/2016.

e. ITTO

Since Sekar Woro Ayu Yunita (Indonesia) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, she did not deliver her statement as the LO ITTO 2015/2016.

f. EFI

Since Iida Viholainen (Finland) was not present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA, she did not deliver her statement as the LO EFI 2015/2016.

g. IFISO

Odilon Obias Picaso (The Philippines) as the LO IFISO 2015/2016 states his goals for the next IFSA year.

h. Alumni

Ivy (Chan-Yi) Lin (Taiwan) as the LO Alumni 2015/2016 states her goals for the next IFSA year. She plans to work on defining Alumni, how to get them interested and investigate, how Alumni could help IFSA grow.

7. Statement by the incoming IFSA Council

Gabrielle Schittecatte (Canada), Trudy Sebelebele (South Africa) and Jan Joseph Dida (The Philippines) state their goals as IFSA Council 2015/2016. The Council will be the keystone of IFSA. All Councillors pledged to work for the best, be reliable and invite criticism and encouragement.

Gabrielle will be dealing with Northern America and Northern Africa region, International Processes Commission and Forestry Education Commission. Jan Joseph will be responsible for Southern Africa, Latin America and Asia-Pacific regions plus Professional Development Commission. Trudy will be responsible for Northern and Southern Europe regions plus Fundraising Commission.

8. Statement by the incoming IFSA Direction

May Anne Then (Canada) as IFSA President 2015/2016 made a joint statement on behalf of IFSA Direction. She mentioned that the Direction will ensure that all arms of IFSA would be working, bridge that gap between what IFSA built and the new world of society ready foresters, and will hope to build a solid keystone for that bridge.

a. President

May Anne Then (Canada) as IFSA President 2015/2016 states her goals for the next IFSA year. She wants to work on strengthening the linkages between all IFSA bodies, emphasize fundraising and add value to being part of IFSA membership.

b. Vice President

Unfortunately, Natalia Cisneros (Peru) had to leave in the middle of the GA sessions and is not anymore present in the IFSS 2015 and the GA. Thus, she will not deliver a statement on behalf of IFSA Vice President 2015/2016.

c. Treasurer

Dana Marie Mejia (The Philippines) as IFSA Treasurer 2015/2016 stated her goals for the next IFSA year. She is excited for the upcoming year and would like to focus on fundraising for IFSA delegations.

d. Executive Secretary

Jonas Geschke (Germany) as IFSA Executive Secretary 2015/2016 stated his goals for the next IFSA year. He believes that the new Board will be strong, he will participate actively in the Direction activities and would like to work on optimizing the communication strategy.

9. Closure of the 5th Plenary Session and the 26th IFSA General Assembly

May Anne Then (Canada) officially closed the 5th Plenary Session and the 26th General Assembly of the International Forestry Students' Association at 18:15