

Statutes

Article 1: Name, registered office, business year

The association bears the name World Student Environmental Network (hereafter listed as WSEN or 'the network') and is an unincorporated association as defined under British law. The association, historically founded at Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, has its official headquarters in London, United Kingdom. The business year of the association is the calendar year.

Article 2: The purpose of the association

The purpose of the association is to be a reference hub and worldwide supporter of creative student initiatives for the incorporation of sustainability into tertiary education systems, policies and institutions at the local, national, and international levels. The association shall pursue the following aims:

1. Facilitates the development and implementation of student-led sustainability projects through its bundled expertise and experience;
2. Collaborates with other student organisations working for sustainability, with a particular goal to articulate a student's position in institutions and negotiations related to sustainability in tertiary education;
3. Develops its own capacities for enhancing meaningful exchanges and collaborations among student members around the planet.

The core but not sole activity of the WSEN is the supervision of the organisation of student-led conferences on sustainability, called WSEN Summits.

Active members of the association commit themselves implicitly to respect and comply with the vision, mission and working principles of the WSEN as presented in Appendix A.

The association operates on a disinterested basis; its first priority is not the pursuit of its own financial aims. The funds of the association are used only to serve such purposes as are in keeping with these statutes of the association. Members do not obtain any profits or, in their capacity as members, any other allowances from association funds. No person or group must be favoured by expenditures which are alien to the purpose of the association or by disproportionate remuneration. If the association is dissolved or its former purpose disappears, its property shall go to an organisation pursuing similar aims as the association itself, to be used for a project in sustainability topics that directly and exclusively serves non-profit purposes.

Article 3: Acquisition of membership

Members are the student delegates to an official WSEN Summit, representing any university or tertiary education institution engaged with the network, together with the former student delegates, Summit organisers and student volunteers for 3 years following their last participation in a WSEN Summit.

Is considered as eligible for active student representation any full-time or part-time student who has not yet participated as student delegate to a WSEN Summit and is currently enrolled in one of the education institutions formally invited to send student delegates to a WSEN Summit. Students from other institutions will be considered eligible on an *ad hoc* basis.

To establish this eligibility to membership status, the network relies upon committed universities or tertiary education institutions (hereafter 'network universities') whose students have participated in a WSEN Summit. New institutions and their students will be considered on an *ad hoc* basis for collaboration and invitation to a WSEN Summit.

After their first participation to a WSEN Summit, former student delegates join automatically the alumni section of the WSEN. During their full membership period defined here above, alumni enjoy full member status and rights, and can vote at the General Assembly. Full membership status and rights are not affected if graduation occurs during the 3-year period or if, during that period, the member leaves the tertiary education institution which allowed him to acquire membership of the network.

At the end of this full membership period, alumni become honorary alumni members of the association with access to platforms and services provided by the WSEN, but cannot hold any elected office within the network nor vote at a General Assembly.

Any member not holding simultaneously another formal office in the organisation can apply to join the Advisory Board of the WSEN at any time following the first participation (as student delegate, Summit organiser or active helper) to a WSEN Summit.

Summit organisers and active student volunteers which did not hold a student delegate status prior to their involvement can join the alumni network with eligibility rights, at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Student groups, organisations and networks can become associate partners of the WSEN.

Article 4: Termination of membership

A member may withdraw from the association at any time by submitting a written statement to the Executive Board. A member can be expelled from the association if his conduct is flagrantly contrary to the interests, mission or principles of the association as stated here and in the Appendix A of this present document.

Article 5: Membership dues

Financial contribution by members or/and participating network universities can be sought for sustaining the association. Appropriate level and form of this contribution shall then be fixed by the WSEN Executive Board in coherence with the diversity in conditions and resources among the different actors.

Article 6: Executive bodies of the association

The executive bodies of the association are

1. the Executive Board
2. the General Assembly

Article 7: The Executive Board

The Executive Board of the association consists of at least three persons, namely

1. the President
2. the Vice-President
3. the Treasurer

Judicial and extra-judicial representation of the association is to be undertaken by two members of the Board, including either the President or the Vice President. The Board constitutes a quorum if at least three of its members are present. Consensus is actively sought by all present members for regular formal decision-making. This should, however, not allow any individual member to block a decision supported by the rest of the body. In case of impossibility to reach consensus for key pressing decisions, and only when dialogue remains unsuccessful, resolutions can be exceptionally passed by majority voting among those present, with direct explanation on reasons for inability to reach consensus. Passing of resolutions by the Board can also be effected in writing; and any Board member absent for the decision-making can also express in writing his choice regarding a particular decision, this in advance to the decision-making session and addressed in an unambiguous way to the President or Vice-President. In the case of the resignation by a member of the Board, the "remainder of the Board" itself can elect a successor.

Every year, all student delegations of the current year's Global Summit elect among their midst student representatives to accompany the work of the Executive Board with decision-making power for 1 year.

Article 8: The responsibilities of the Executive Board

The Executive Board is entrusted with the following duties:

- Preparatory arrangements for the General Assembly and planning of the agenda;
- Convening of the General Assembly;
- Execution of the resolutions of the General Assembly;
- Drawing up a budget for each business year with appropriate accounting;
- Compilation of an annual report;
- Conclusion and termination of contracts of employment;
- Public relations; Admission of new members;
- Fixing, when officially introduced, of the membership dues for associate members and/or network universities;
- Selection of future WSEN Summit hosts;

- Facilitation of discussions with WSEN Summit organisation teams and representatives of the student delegates for matters and decisions related to the WSEN Summits;
- Diffusion of the association's environmental and social responsibility principles.

Article 9: Terms of office of the Executive Board

The Executive Board is elected once a year by the General Assembly from among the eligible members of the association for a one-year term, beginning on the day of the election held in the framework of a WSEN Global Summit. Existing Board members remain in office until the next election of the Board. The Board is elected as a whole and distributes the roles among its elected members.

Article 10: The General Assembly

In the General Assembly, each member has one vote. The voting rights can be exercised by a member as defined by article 3, sentence 1, either directly, through participation in the yearly WSEN Global Summit or indirectly following the on-line voting procedure defined by the Executive Board. The General Assembly is responsible for all matters which have not been assigned to another executive body of the association. In matters that fall under the purview of the Executive Board, the General Assembly can submit recommendations to the Board. In such matters, moreover, the Executive Board, for its part, can obtain the opinion of the General Assembly.

Article 11: Convocation of the General Assembly

The statutory General Assembly takes place annually. The General Assembly must also be convened whenever the association's interest may require it or whenever such convocation may be demanded in writing to the Executive Board, by one tenth of the members, these representing at least 4 universities, whereby the purpose and reason for convocation must be stated. Each General Assembly must be convened in writing at two weeks' notice by the Executive Board. The invitation includes a statement of the agenda as fixed by the Executive Board. Any member can take a written application to the Executive Board concerning an addition to the agenda, as long as this is done at least one week before the General Assembly. This does not apply to changes in the statutes or the election of the Executive Board. The chairperson of the assembly has to announce the addition at the beginning of the General Assembly.

Article 12: Voting in the General Assembly

Inasmuch as the statutes of the association do not stipulate otherwise, a resolution of the General Assembly is passed if endorsed by a majority of the valid votes cast. Amendment of the statutes of the association requires a two thirds majority, votes must be then taken by one third of the members in attendance at the vote in question.

Minutes of the resolutions of the General Assembly must be taken down and signed by the chairperson and recording clerk of the assembly. They have to include the following: the place and time of the meeting, the identities of the chairperson and the recording clerk, the number of members in attendance, the agenda, the results of each vote and the manner of voting. In the case of amendment of the statutes of the association the exact wording has to be stated.

Article 13: Dissolution of the association

The decision to disband the association can only be made in a General Assembly by a three fourths majority of the votes. Inasmuch as the General Assembly does not decide otherwise, two members of the Executive Board are appointed as jointly authorized receivers. The stipulations hereinabove also apply in the event that the association should be disbanded or lose its legal status for any other reason.

The current statutes are submitted for adoption by the 2nd WSEN General Assembly on the 17th of July 2015 in Perth, Australia at the occasion of the WSEN Global Summit 2015.

APPENDIX A

Vision

The WSEN connects and supports students from all over the world who are striving to be incubators of the positive change needed for sustainability to be actively practised in all aspects of society.

Mission

The core mission of the World Student Environmental Network (WSEN) is to be a reference hub and worldwide supporter of creative student initiatives for the incorporation of sustainability into tertiary education systems, policies and institutions at the local, national, and international levels. To achieve this, the WSEN

1. facilitates the development and implementation of student-led sustainability projects through its bundled expertise and experience;
2. collaborates with other student organisations working for sustainability, with a particular goal to articulate a student's position in institutions and negotiations related to sustainability in higher education;
3. develops its own capacities for enhancing meaningful exchanges and collaborations among student members around the planet.

Working Principles

Diversity is our strength, difference is our goal, youth is our mojo, happiness is our purpose, and sustainability is our path.

Sustainability - When the WSEN was founded in Kyoto in 2008, its traditional focus was on environmental aspects of sustainability, particularly on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation. During our yearly summits since, it has increasingly become apparent that all challenges related to sustainability are relevant to our work. Therefore, we now holistically address all social, environmental, and economic problems that result from current ways of life. As a consequence, the WSEN itself and its actions have to be socially, environmentally, and economically sound. Due to our historic rootedness in environmental aspects of sustainability, we decided to keep our name as 'World Student Environmental Network', recognising that we are living in a time of widespread environmental destruction, which affects negatively the social and economic integrity of global society.

Diversity - The diversity of our members, of our cultures and backgrounds is our strength. We therefore cultivate co-creation and encourage to overcome existing barriers by an attitude of respect, openness and understanding. There are multiple paths to reach a common goal.

Transparency and fairness - In our daily operations, we are consensus-oriented, instead of majority-driven; we therefore strive to find common solutions that all our team members feel comfortable with. Our working structures aim to be democratic, equal and fair as we aim to be transparent and open to the public and interested students.

Resilience - We aim for resilience, and thus consider mistakes part of our iterative learning process. We flexibly react to problems, and allow for

adaptations if necessary. This includes being reflective about our work and ourselves and being creative in identifying new ideas and paths.

Boldness and creativity - A young student community with budding experience in making changes happen, we judge ourselves entrusted with the responsibility to think outside the box for promoting bold ideas and innovative projects to bring sustainability concretely into the realities of our universities and communities around the world.