

V 4.6, approved on 12 December 2021

STATUTES



SPACE GENERATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON SPACE APPLICATIONS



Statutes

Contents

ARTICLE I. NAME AND LOCATION	2
ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES	2
ARTICLE III. MEANS	2
ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP	3
ARTICLE V. GRANTING AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP	4
ARTICLE VI. BODIES	4
ARTICLE VII. THE COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY	5
ARTICLE VIII. DUTIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	6
ARTICLE IX. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	6
ARTICLE X. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.....	6
ARTICLE XI. DUTIES OF THE CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR.....	7
ARTICLE XII. EXECUTIVE OFFICE	7
ARTICLE XIII. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE.....	8
ARTICLE XIV. HONORARY BOARD	8
ARTICLE XV. ADVISORY BOARD.....	8
ARTICLE XVI. ELECTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.....	9
ARTICLE XVII. DUTIES OF THE ELECTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE	9
ARTICLE XVIII. ARBITRATION COMMITTEE	10
ARTICLE XIX. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE.....	10
ARTICLE XX. CODE OF CONDUCT COMMITTEE	10
ARTICLE XXI. CHANGES TO THE STATUTES	11
ARTICLE XXII. DISSOLUTION	11

ARTICLE I. NAME AND LOCATION

1. The name of the international non-governmental, non-profit organisation shall be "Space Generation Advisory Council in support of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications". Hereinafter, it is referred to as "SGAC" or "the Organisation".
2. The office of the Organisation shall be located in Vienna, Austria, and/or other locations as determined by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Advisory Board.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

1. As an international organisation endeavouring to have dedicated representatives in the form of National Points of Contacts for each United Nations member state ("State"), the purpose of the Organisation shall be the implementation of the recommendation of the 'The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development' that aims "to create, within the framework of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, a consultative mechanism to facilitate the continued participation of young people from all over the world, especially women and citizens of developing countries, in cooperative space-related activities" adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) held in Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999 and endorsed by the Fifty-fourth Session of the United Nations General Assembly on 11 February 2000 (A/RES/54/68), by:
 - a. Establishing a forum for dialogue on space-related issues between the youths of the world and the United Nations – in particular through the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS) and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UN OOSA) – and any other entities involved in the peaceful uses of outer space;
 - b. Mobilising the creativity, enthusiasm and vigour of the youth of the world to contribute to the advancement of humankind through the peaceful uses of outer space;
 - c. Facilitating and leading the implementation of the strategies set forth in the Space Generation Forum Technical Report (A/CONF.184/L.14);
 - d. Presenting a unified youth vision on space issues and the future of humanity to politicians, decision makers, and all other spheres of influence;
 - e. Facilitating and encouraging layer two networks (national, international organisations) to work together on common policies, strategies, and goals towards implementing the next steps for humanity in space.

ARTICLE III. MEANS

1. In furtherance of and limited to the objectives stated in ARTICLE II, the Organisation shall employ the intellectual and material means described hereinafter.
2. Intellectual means:
 - a. Affiliate, endorse, co-operate and enter into contracts with other organisations, companies, agencies, associations or initiatives pursuing common objectives;
 - b. Establish Teams to pursue specific initiatives and to implement the work of the Organisation;
 - c. Organise conferences and meetings in pursuance of the Organisations' objectives;
 - d. Establish Project Groups to promote and carry out or assist in promoting and carrying out research, surveys and investigations and publish the useful results of such research, surveys and investigations;

- e. Create, collect and disseminate information on matters concerning the Organisation's objectives.
3. Material means:
- a. Membership dues as determined by the Executive Committee and endorsed by the General Assembly;
 - b. Undertake, execute, manage or assist any charitable trusts which may lawfully be undertaken, executed, managed or assisted by the Organisation;
 - c. Purchase, lease, license, exchange, hire or acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the promotion of such objectives and construct, maintain and alter any buildings or erections necessary for the work of the Organisation;
 - d. Make regulations for any property which may be so acquired;
 - e. Sell, let, mortgage, dispose of or turn to account, all or any of the property or assets of the Organisation;
 - f. Accept gifts and borrow or raise money for such objectives on such terms and on such security as shall be thought fit;
 - g. Procure contributions to the Organisation by personal or written appeals, public meetings or otherwise;
 - h. Invest the money of the Organisation not immediately required for such objectives in or on such investments, securities or property as may be thought fit, subject nevertheless to such conditions (if any) as may for the time being be imposed or required by law;
 - i. Employ any person or persons to supervise, organise and carry on the work of the Organisation and make all reasonable and necessary provision for the payment of pensions and superannuation to or on behalf of employees and their surviving spouses and other dependants, if the need arises;
 - j. Procure to be written and print, publish, issue and circulate gratuitously or otherwise papers, books, periodicals, pamphlets or other documents or films or recorded tapes;
 - k. Do all such other lawful things as are necessary or desirable for the attainment of the Organisations objectives.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

1. The organisation shall have General, Registered, Ordinary, Executive, Alumni and Honorary Members.
2. Distinctively, any person born after 4 October 1957 (Sputnik) is to be considered a General Member of the Space Generation. The term "Member" does not apply to General Members within the SGAC Statutes and Bylaws. General Members have no voting rights within the Organisation.
3. Registered Members are those persons that have registered with the Organisation as determined in Article 4 of the SGAC Bylaws. Registered Members shall be 18-35 years old (counted from their actual date of birth). Members can register from the day of their 18th birthday and maintain Registered Membership until the day of their 36th birthday. On the day of their 36th birthday, Registered Members automatically become Alumni Members.
4. Ordinary Members of the Organisation are all National Points of Contact, all Project Group Co-Leads, and those with appointed SGAC team positions. National Points of Contact are Ordinary Members with voting rights at the SGAC General Assembly, while Project Group Co-Leads and those with appointed SGAC team positions are Ordinary Members without voting rights at the SGAC General Assembly.

5. Executive Members of the Organisation are all Regional Coordinators, the two Chairpersons of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director and other Members of the Executive Office as determined by the SGAC Bylaws.
6. Alumni Members are all former Registered, Ordinary, Executive and Honorary Members whose Member status transitioned to that of an Alumni Member either of their own volition or due to other processes outlined in the SGAC Statutes and SGAC Bylaws. Each transition to Alumni Member of one's own volition only takes effect after the Executive Committee has received a notification in this regard in writing and if such transition is not restricted in any other way by the SGAC Statutes or SGAC Bylaws.
7. Honorary Members are all members of the Honorary Board and the Advisory Board.

ARTICLE V. GRANTING AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Ordinary Membership shall be granted to National Points of Contact, Project Group Co-Leads, and those with appointed SGAC team positions throughout their respective whole term.
2. Executive Membership shall be granted to Executive Members including Regional Coordinators, the two Chairpersons of the Executive Committee, the Executive Director, and other Members of the Executive Office as determined in the SGAC Bylaws throughout their respective whole term. National Points of Contact elect two Regional Coordinators. In the case that Ordinary Members are elected into the position of Regional Coordinators, they lose their Ordinary Membership with immediate effect at the start of their respective term as Regional Coordinators and shall be replaced immediately pursuant to the SGAC Statutes and Bylaws. Regional Coordinators shall elect the two Chairpersons of the Executive Committee pursuant to the SGAC Statutes and SGAC Bylaws. Chairpersons of the Executive Committee lose any position previously held in the Organisation with immediate effect at the start of their respective term, and any such position shall be replaced immediately pursuant to the SGAC Statutes and SGAC Bylaws.
3. The Membership of the Honorary Board shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.
4. The Membership of the Advisory Board shall be comprised of up to twelve individuals who represent the views of the Organisation to promote space among the youth of the world. Members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and can include outgoing Regional Coordinators and outgoing Chairpersons. The Advisory Board shall preferably include one representative of the SGAC founders unless none of the SGAC founders is available or willing to be Member of the Advisory Board. The Membership of the Advisory Board is for one year and may be renewed.
5. Any SGAC Membership status terminates upon death. SGAC Membership statuses can further be terminated by voluntary renouncement of Membership or other processes laid out in the SGAC Statutes and SGAC Bylaws. Voluntary renouncement only takes effect after the Executive Committee has received a notification in this regard in writing. If a specific Membership status is inextricably linked to a specific position within SGAC, the termination of such Membership status also means the resignation from such position.

ARTICLE VI. BODIES

The Organisation shall have the following Bodies:

- a. The Council and General Assembly (ARTICLE VII)

- b. Executive Committee (ARTICLE IX)
- c. Executive Office (ARTICLE XII)
- d. Honorary Board (ARTICLE XIV)
- e. Advisory Board (ARTICLE XV)
- f. Election Oversight Committee (ARTICLE XVI)
- g. Arbitration Committee (ARTICLE XVIII)
- h. Registration Committee (ARTICLE XIX)
- i. Code of Conduct Committee (ARTICLE XX)

ARTICLE VII. THE COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Ordinary Members, Executive Members, and Honorary Members together comprise the Space Generation Advisory Council. The Council shall convene during the General Assembly.
2. The General Assembly shall be held at least once a year.
3. An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be held either on decision of the Executive Committee, the Advisory Board, the General Assembly or upon the request of at least 10% of the Ordinary Members. Provisions for the General Assembly shall be valid for the Extraordinary General Assembly if not stated otherwise in the present Statutes.
4. Invitation for the General Assembly shall be sent to all Ordinary Members at least two months in advance.
5. All documents for the General Assembly, including the detailed tentative agenda, should be sent to Ordinary Members at least a month before the General Assembly. Statute and Bylaw change requests have to be shared with the General Assembly about 15 days prior to the meeting for online voting.
6. Proposals for additional agenda items shall be submitted in writing by Members at least 5 days before the Assembly takes place.
7. Decisions, with the exception of the calling for holding an Extraordinary General Assembly, can only be voted upon Agenda Items.
8. Executive and Ordinary Members are entitled to participate in the General Assembly. Only elected Ordinary Members are entitled to vote in the General Assembly. Each State represented by elected Ordinary Members shall have one vote. An elected Ordinary Member can nominate a Proxy.
9. The General Assembly is entitled to take actions and decisions when more than half of the Ordinary Members who have indicated they will attend the General Assembly in response to invitations are present at the official starting time of the General Assembly. In the case where less than half of the Ordinary Members who have indicated they will attend the General Assembly in response to invitations are present 20 minutes after the official starting time of the General Assembly, the Ordinary Members present are entitled to commence the General Assembly with no regard to the number of Ordinary Members present.
10. Elections are taken with single majority vote. Decisions affecting the Statutes have to be taken with a two third majority vote.

11. The General Assembly shall be chaired by the Chair, in case of absence, by the Co-Chair. If the Co-Chair is not available as well, the Executive Director shall chair the General Assembly.
12. Except for stalemate situations, the Chairs shall not have voting power in the General Assembly.

ARTICLE VIII. DUTIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly shall approve the definition of Regions comprising States on a geographical basis upon proposition by the Executive Committee.
2. The General Assembly shall have the right to change the Statutes and the Bylaws.
3. The General Assembly shall have the right to deliberate and take decisions upon any other agenda item not conflicting with other provisions of the Statutes.
4. The General Assembly shall have the right to dissolve the association. (ARTICLE XXII)

ARTICLE IX. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the Executive Members, which include voting members (Regional Coordinators and Co-Chairs) and non-voting Members (other Members of the Executive Office as deemed necessary and defined in the Bylaws).
2. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall in principle be taken by consensus. In case a consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by majority vote.
3. The Executive Committee shall elect a Chair and a Co-Chair from the pool of candidates for a term of two years.
4. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be chaired by the Chair, in case of absence, by the Co-Chair. If the Co-Chair is not available as well, the longest serving Executive Member present shall chair the meeting.
5. During Executive Committee meetings where a non-election decision must be made, each Regional representative shall have one vote in decisions requiring a vote. There shall be at least two thirds of the regions represented. Only in case of a stalemate the consensus vote of the Chairs shall decide.
6. The Executive Committee may seek, when necessary, outside legal or auditing services.
7. The Executive Committee shall approve the strategy of the Organisation, work for its execution and be in charge of deliberating on matters of the Organisation for the period until the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE X. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall have the right to appoint and replace National Points of Contact.

2. The Executive Committee shall appoint Members of the Honorary Board.
3. The Executive Committee shall appoint Members of the Advisory Board.
4. The Executive Committee shall appoint representatives of the Organisation.
5. The Executive Committee shall make preparations for the General Assembly.
6. The Executive Committee shall invite all Ordinary, Executive and Honorary Members to the General Assembly.
7. The Executive Committee shall prepare the annual report.
8. The Executive Committee shall propose the establishment and termination of affiliations as defined in ARTICLE III.
9. The Executive Committee shall have the right to appoint and dismiss Members of the Executive Office.
10. The Executive Committee shall propose the definition of Regions comprising States upon geographical considerations to the General Assembly.
11. The Executive Committee shall generate and update every year a document describing the strategic vision for the future of the Organisation.

ARTICLE XI. DUTIES OF THE CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR

1. The Chair and Co-Chair shall represent the Organisation in all official duties.
2. The Chair shall chair the General Assembly and meetings of the Executive Committee.
3. In case of unavailability of the Chair, the Co-Chair shall assume the responsibilities of the Chair.

ARTICLE XII. EXECUTIVE OFFICE

1. The Executive Office shall be composed of a Treasurer, Executive Director, Secretaries, Team Coordinators, and other members, as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall have the right to appoint and replace Members of the Executive Office.
3. Members of the Executive Office might assist in Executive Committee meetings upon decision by the Executive Committee.
4. At least one member of the Executive Office shall be resident in the Organisation's State of Registry to effectively fulfil local mailing and administrative tasks.

ARTICLE XIII. DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

1. The Executive Office shall serve the Executive Committee.
2. Members of the Executive Office shall not have decision or voting power unless otherwise decided by the Executive Committee on a case by case basis.
3. The Treasurer shall keep the books, provide an additional layer of approval for all the spending, fulfil the decisions of the Executive Committee and be in charge of the preparation of the annual budget and tax returns. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping the books in accordance with the national law of the Organisation's official State of Registry and international book keeping standards.
4. The Executive Director is hired by the Executive Committee to manage the day to day matters of the Organisation.
5. The Secretaries shall fulfil secretarial duties, especially take protocols, send out invitations, and keep and archive the local mail traffic.
6. The Team Coordinators are appointed to manage their respective functional teams and report to the Executive Committee, either in the person of the Executive Director or other officials as stated in the SGAC Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV. HONORARY BOARD

1. The Honorary Board shall support the Organisation's progress and provide advice and assistance. It shall be comprised of distinguished individuals who have been of great service to the Organisation in the past and whom SGAC wishes to recognise for their furtherance of goals similar to those of the SGAC.
2. Members of the Honorary Board shall have the right to represent the Honorary Board of the Organisation.
3. Members of the Honorary Board shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. The NPoCs may provide comments and suggestions on the nominations of the Members of the Honorary Board to the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XV. ADVISORY BOARD

1. The membership of the Advisory Board shall comprise twelve individuals who represent the views of the Organisation to promote space among youth of the world. Members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and can include outgoing Regional Coordinators and outgoing Chairpersons. The NPoCs may provide comments and suggestions on the nominations of the Members of the Advisory Board to the Executive Committee.
2. The Advisory Board shall oversee the Organisation's progress and provide substantial advice on matters related to strategy, relations with the United Nations and other international Organisations and on any other matters of fundamental importance to the Organisation. The Board shall, also on at least an annual basis, review the finances of SGAC.

3. Members of the Advisory Board shall have the right to attend meetings of the Executive Committee.
4. Members of the Advisory Board shall have the right to call for an Arbitration Committee in case of internal disputes.
5. The Advisory Board shall appoint members of the Arbitration Committee. (ARTICLE XVIII)

ARTICLE XVI. ELECTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

1. The Election Oversight Committee shall be composed of: the two Chairpersons, Executive Director, and the Co-Secretaries.
2. Decisions of the Election Oversight Committee shall in principle be taken by consensus. In case consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by majority vote.
3. Each Member of the Election Oversight Committee shall have one vote. Abstentions shall not be permitted.
4. A candidate for a particular election shall not be part of the Election Oversight Committee. Should a current member of the Elections Oversight Committee be nominated for an election, an alternative member should be proposed by the Co-Chairs and the Executive Director to take this person's position on the Elections Oversight Committee until the election is completed; the alternative person should be appointed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XVII. DUTIES OF THE ELECTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

1. The Election Oversight Committee shall be responsible for ensuring elections have met the requirements of the Statutes and Bylaws and further, do not contain impropriety, negligence or fraud.
Specifically, the Election Oversight Committee shall oversee, monitor and approve or reject:
 - a. the election process for National Points of Contact;
 - b. the election process for Regional Coordinators;
 - c. the election process for Chairpersons.
2. The Election Oversight Committee shall carry out its function by reviewing the election reports forwarded by the Election Officer and by providing guidance to the Election Officer.
3. The Election Oversight Committee may request more information from the Election Officer, deem an election not valid for reasons of non-compliance with Statutes, Bylaws or evidence of impropriety, negligence or fraud, or verify the election.
4. Formal actions of the Election Oversight Committee must be conveyed to the Election Officer in writing (email acceptable).
5. The Election Oversight Committee shall report in writing on national and regional election processes to the Executive Committee at latest two weeks after termination of the election processes.

ARTICLE XVIII. ARBITRATION COMMITTEE

1. The Arbitration Committee shall comprise of at least three Members and up to 7 Members. These are appointed by the Advisory Board. One Member of the Advisory Board should be selected to lead the Arbitration proceedings, and will set the rules of procedure for the proceedings.
2. The Arbitration Committee shall settle internal disputes, including but not limited to disputes between Members and the Organisation which have not led to a conclusion after the involvement of the SGAC Co-Chairs and the Executive Director.
3. Decisions shall be made with simple majority vote and shall be considered final.

ARTICLE XIX. REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

1. The Registration Committee is composed of: the two Executive Committee Co-Chairs, the Executive Director, and the Treasurer. Together these individuals serve as the official registered officers of the Space Generation Advisory Council in the State of Registry, (i.e., Austria).

ARTICLE XX. CODE OF CONDUCT COMMITTEE

1. The Code of Conduct Committee shall be composed of: the two Chairpersons, Executive Director, one of the SGAC Human Resources Coordinators and one of the SGAC General Counsels.
2. The Code of Conduct Committee shall endeavour to foster a respectful and inclusive environment for all volunteers, staff, and office holders within SGAC, by applying the Code of Conduct and Harassment Policy.
3. The Code of Conduct Committee shall convene whenever there is an instance of violation of the Harassment Policy, violation of the Code of Conduct, or other such unprofessional behaviour that warrants further investigation. Upon receiving a report from an SGAC member describing the alleged misconduct from another SGAC member(s), the Code of Conduct Committee shall act in order to:
 - a. Prevent harassing conduct before it becomes severe or pervasive.
 - b. Conduct a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation into allegations of harassing conduct.
 - c. Take immediate and appropriate measures when SGAC determines that harassing conduct has occurred.
4. Decisions of the Code of Conduct Committee shall in principle be taken by consensus. In case consensus cannot be reached, decisions shall be taken by majority vote.
5. The Code of Conduct Committee may offer voluntary counselling service to any member of SGAC that might have felt a harassment instance, has any doubt on the harassment policy, or simply needs advice or counsel in any harassment-related matter.

ARTICLE XXI. CHANGES TO THE STATUTES

1. Changes to the Statutes and Bylaws of the Organisation shall be voted upon by the General Assembly under the separate Agenda Item “Changes to the Statutes and Bylaws” by majority vote of all Ordinary Members as outlined by Article VII.
2. The Executive Committee shall appoint at least four Members among themselves to the Statutes and Bylaws Review Committee. Additional Statutes and Bylaws Review Committee members can also be requested and selected by the Executive Committee from the Ordinary Members if additional Statutes and Bylaws Review Committee members are required or if no four Members of the Executive Committee can be appointed for the Statutes and Bylaws Review Committee. This Committee is created annually to prepare changes submitted by Members of the Organisation for presentation at the General Assembly.

ARTICLE XXII. DISSOLUTION

1. Dissolution of the Organisation shall be voted upon by the Extraordinary General Assembly under the separate Agenda Item “Dissolution of the Organisation” by 4/5 majority.
2. Remaining funds and properties shall be donated, in accordance with relevant national and international laws, to “space charitable organisations” selected by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.