

ISAG Statutes Amendment Summary (2026)

For approval by the General Members Meeting

The Executive Committee proposes a limited update of the ISAG Statutes to modernize governance, align the Statutes with current practice, and ensure compliance with applicable accounting and reporting standards. The amendments are intentionally targeted and do not alter the fundamental structure or objectives of the Society.

1. Financial Reporting (Article 15)

The Statutes are updated to reflect current accounting practices and proportionality:

The requirement for a full audit has been replaced by the possibility to obtain either a review report or, where appropriate, a compilation report from a certified public accountant.

A board report has been formally introduced, describing activities, financial position, risks, and future developments, in line with applicable reporting standards.

These changes ensure appropriate financial oversight while allowing flexibility proportional to the size and activities of the Society.

2. Membership Admission (Article 4)

The membership provision has been clarified to reflect current operational practice:

Membership is now based on registration and payment of the membership fee, rather than requiring formal approval by the Executive Committee in each case.

The Executive Committee retains the right to refuse membership in exceptional cases.

This aligns the Statutes with the existing membership process while maintaining appropriate oversight.

3. Executive Committee Structure (Article 9)

Several clarifications and improvements have been made:

The rotation system for Executive Committee members is clarified (retirement by rotation instead of “resignation”).

The Early Career Scientist Representative may now be reappointed once, allowing continuity across two conference cycles.

Provisions regarding interim vacancies and ex officio members have been streamlined without changing substance.

These changes improve clarity and ensure continuity in governance.

4. Introduction of Past Officer Roles (Article 9a – new)

A new provision introduces Past Officer (post-function) roles:

Outgoing President, Secretary, and Treasurer may serve for a limited period in an advisory capacity.

These roles have no voting or representation rights and are intended solely to support continuity and knowledge transfer.

This strengthens institutional continuity without altering decision-making structures.

5. Voting Rights Clarification (Article 17)

Voting rights have been clarified:

Voting is linked to fulfilment of membership requirements, including payment of fees.

The Executive Committee may set a record date to determine voting eligibility for General Members Meetings.

This ensures transparency and avoids ambiguity in voting procedures.

6. Editorial and Terminology Updates

Minor editorial improvements have been made throughout the Statutes to:

improve clarity and consistency,

update terminology, and

align language with current governance practice.

These changes do not affect the substance of the Statutes.

Conclusion

The proposed amendments:

- maintain the existing governance structure of ISAG,
- improve clarity and consistency,
- align the Statutes with current operational practice, and
- ensure compliance with modern financial reporting standards.

The Executive Committee recommends approval of the amended Statutes.
