

**International Association  
for Impact Assessment**

# **HANDBOOK 2008**



## **Administration & By-Laws**

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# HANDBOOK 2008

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>IAIA Context</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Mission Statement	1
1.2	Code of Ethics for IAIA Members	1
1.3	Selected Milestones in IAIA History	1
1.4	Membership Services	4
<b>2</b>	<b>IAIA Organizational Structure</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Overview	4
2.2	IAIA International Headquarters (Administration)	5
2.3	Board of Directors	5
2.4	Council	5
2.5	Branches	5
2.6	Language Services Secretariats	6
2.7	Committees	6
2.8	Sections	7
2.9	Associated Organizations	7
2.10	Informal Group: Student & Early Professional (SEP)	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Terms of Reference for Committees &amp; Sections</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	Notes for All Committees & Sections	8
3.2	Affiliates Committee	8
3.3	Awards Committee	9
3.4	Board Nominations Committee	9
3.5	Conferences Committee	10
3.6	Finance Committee	10
3.7	Journal Editorial Board	11
3.8	Publications Committee	11
3.9	Sections Coordination Committee	12
3.10	Training & Professional Development Committee	13

3.11	Section: Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries	13
3.12	Section: Biodiversity & Ecology	14
3.13	Section: Disasters and Conflict	14
3.14	Section: Environmental Management Systems	15
3.15	Section: Environmental Law, Policies & Practice	15
3.16	Section: Health Impact Assessment	16
3.17	Section: Indigenous People	17
3.18	Section: Public Participation	17
3.19	Section: Social Impact Assessment	18
3.20	Section: Strategic Environmental Assessment	18
3.21	Section: Integrated Assessment of Trade-related Policies	19
<b>4</b>	<b>Key Administrative Arrangements</b>	<b>20</b>
4.1	Format for Submitting Proposals to the Board	20
4.2	IAIA Endorsement of External Proposals	20
4.3	Approval Process for IAIA Proposals	22
<b>5</b>	<b>Key Corporate Activities</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1	Annual General Meeting	22
5.2	Meetings of the Board	22
5.3	Meetings of the Council	23
<b>6</b>	<b>By-Laws of the IAIA</b>	<b>24</b>

# **International Association for Impact Assessment**

## **HANDBOOK 2008**

### **PREFACE**

This Handbook provides general administrative information about the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA). In addition, it gives a structural overview of IAIA for use in the context of cooperative ventures, sponsorship requests, regional or global program development, membership guidance and public reference.

Contact information for current IAIA office-holders is contained in a separate document, which can be obtained from the International Headquarters or on-line at the IAIA web site (<http://www.iaia.org>).

# **1 IAIA Context**

## **1.1 Vision, Values, Mission**

### **Our vision for the International Association for Impact Assessment:**

IAIA is the leading global network on best practice in the use of impact assessment for informed decision making regarding policies, programmes, plans, and projects.

### **Our values:**

IAIA promotes the application of integrated and participatory approaches to impact assessment, conducted to the highest professional standards.

IAIA believes the assessment of the environmental, social, economic, cultural, and health implications for proposals to be a critical contribution to sound decision-making processes, and to equitable and sustainable development.

### **Our mission statement:**

IAIA provides an international forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practice in all forms of impact assessment to further the development of local, regional, and global capacity in impact assessment.

(as adopted by the IAIA Board of Directors 10/02)

## **1.2 Code of Ethics for IAIA Members**

*Under revision 2008*

- The member shall carry out his or her professional activities, as far as possible, in accordance with emerging principles of sustainable development and the highest standards of environmental protection.
- The member shall at all times place the integrity of the natural environment and the health, safety and welfare of the human community above any commitment to sectoral or private interests.
- The member shall insure the incorporation of environmental protection and social or socio-economic impact considerations from the earliest stages of project design or policy development.
- The member shall not conduct professional activities in a manner involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, misrepresentation or bias.
- The member shall not advertise or present the member's services in a manner that may bring discredit to the profession.

## **1.3 Selected Milestones in IAIA History**

### 1980

During the special session on Integrated Impact Assessment at a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the formation of a new organisation was discussed. It would combine the interests of environmental impact assessment, social impact assessment, technology assessment, risk assessment and related fields. A working party was convened to advance the proposal.

### 1981

The International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) was inaugurated, with 160 founding members.

Articles of Incorporation were filed in the State of Georgia, USA.  
Impact Assessment Bulletin, the IAIA journal, was first published.

1982  
First Annual Conference (in conjunction with AAAS)  
IAIA membership numbers in excess of 300, representing 23 nations  
IAIA achieved tax-exempt status in USA

1985  
Fourth Annual Conference, Utrecht, The Netherlands, first event outside of North America and sponsored solely by IAIA

1987  
European Chapter of IAIA was formed  
First female President of IAIA

1988  
IAIA attained registered Non-Government Organisation (NGO) status with the United Nations; IAIA membership reached 500+, representing 45 nations

1989  
Executive Director appointed, based in North Carolina, USA

1991  
First President external to North America

1992  
Membership base expanded to 800+

1993  
IAIA journal name change to Impact Assessment

1994  
Largest Annual conference, 650 delegates, Quebec City, Canada

1995  
IAIA inaugural website  
Executive Office re-located to North Dakota State University, USA

1996  
Electronic communication services expanded; listservs established

1998  
Structural reform within IAIA; progress on internationalisation  
Journal publication changes: merger resulting in Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal, published by Beech Tree in UK

1999  
By-Laws modified to expand Board numbers, promote internationalisation and clarify organisational procedures  
Executive Office gained full-time staff and independent premises

2000  
IAIA committee structure revised  
Individual membership numbers reached 1200, representing 111 nations IAIA Affiliates provide local programs to affiliate participants  
IAIA Strategic Plan presented as “map to the future”

2001  
20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year  
First annual conference held in South America  
Task Force created to examine multi-linguistic service needs  
First Branch established, IAIA-Washington Area Branch  
MoU signed with Ramsar

2002  
Participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development  
MoU signed with the Convention on Biodiversity

2003  
Work begun on Capacity Building in Biodiversity and Impact Assessment grant  
IAIA-WB SEA in China project begun  
Website divided into members and non-members sections  
Training component of website developed with UNEP funds

2004  
Largest Annual Conference, 875 delegates, Vancouver, Canada  
IAIA co-sponsors first Chinese EIA Conference in Bo’Ao, PRC  
Board adopts tiered membership fee structure to be implemented in 2005

2005  
25 Year Anniversary Celebration at IAIA ‘05  
SEA Conference in Prague  
Pilot Branch established in UK-Ireland

2006  
First annual conference held in a Nordic country

Session on IA & HIA at the National Council on Science & Environment, Washington, DC

2007

First annual conference held in Korea

IAIA participates in second EIA Conference in China

Code of Conduct for members adopted by the Board

### **IAIA Presidents**

1981	Edward Wenk	USA
1982	Joseph Coates	USA
1983	Edward Lawless	USA
1984	Richard Schwing	USA
1985	Irvin (Jack) White	USA
1986	Charlie Wolf	USA
1987	Audrey Armour	Canada
1988	Vary Coates	USA
1989	David Marshall	Canada
1990	Rabel Burdge	USA
1991	Henk Becker	Netherlands
1992	Richard Roberts	Canada
1993	Larry Leistriz	USA
1994	Robert Goodland	UK/USA
1995	Alan Porter	USA
1996	Pierre Senecal	Canada
1997	Maria Partidario	Portugal
1998	Alex Weaver	South Africa
1999	Hobson Bryan	USA
2000	Mary Lou Morris	Australia
2001	Elvis Au	Hong Kong
2002	Peter Leonard	Canada
2003	Richard Morgan	New Zealand
2004	Richard Fuggle	South Africa
2005	William Veerkamp	The Netherlands
2006	Ross Marshall	UK
2007	Charlotte Bingham	USA
2008	Sachihiko Harashina	Japan
2009	Nick Taylor	New Zealand
2010		

### **Annual Conference Locations**

Toronto, Canada
Washington, DC, USA
Detroit, USA
New York, USA
Utrecht, The Netherlands
Philadelphia, USA
Barbados
Brisbane, Australia
Montreal, Canada
Lausanne, Switzerland
Urbana-Champaign, USA
Washington, DC, USA
Shanghai, People's Republic of China
Quebec City, Canada
Durban, South Africa
Estoril, Portugal
New Orleans, USA
Christchurch, New Zealand
Glasgow, Scotland
Hong Kong
Cartagena, Colombia
The Hague, Netherlands
Marrakech, Morocco
Vancouver, Canada
Boston, USA
Stavanger, Norway
Seoul, Korea
Perth, Australia
Accra, Ghana
Geneva, Switzerland

## 1.4 Membership Services

IAIA offers an ever-expanding number of products and services to its membership:

- Journal (refereed): *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*
- Newsletter (quarterly), Member Directory and occasional publications
- Website and extensive resource networks
- Training courses and customised training
- Annual International Conferences
- Special interest area meetings
- On-line searchable membership database
- On-line access to *IAPA*
- Electronic discussion groups and news postings
- Regional events
- Organisational linkages
- Resources on state of art developments in environmental assessment
- Input to global environmental policy initiatives

## 2 IAIA ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

### 2.1 Overview

<p><b>IAIA BOARD</b>  President-Director  Past President-Director  President-Elect-Director  Secretary-Director  Treasurer-Director  Total of 9 Directors</p>
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International Headquarters

<p><b>IAIA COUNCIL</b>  Board of Directors  All Committee Chairs  All Section Chairs  Branch(es) Representative  Chief Executive Officer  Executive Assistants</p>
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International Headquarters

<b>IAIA COMMITTEES</b>		
<p>Awards  Affiliates (disbanded 10/07)  Board Nominations</p>	<p>Conferences  Finance  Journal Editorial Board</p>	<p>Publications  Sections Coordination*  Training &amp; Professional Development</p>

<b>IAIA SECTIONS*</b>		
<p>Ag, Forestry &amp; Fisheries (AFF)  Biodiversity &amp; Ecology  Public Participation  Indigenous People</p>	<p>SIA  SEA  HIA</p>	<p>IA Law, Policies &amp; Practice  Disasters and Conflict  Corporate Stewardship &amp; Risk Management  Integrated Assessment of Trade-related Policies (IATRP)</p>

## **2.2 IAIA International Headquarters (Administration)**

The administrative centre for all IAIA activities is the international headquarters (HQ), comprising the Chief Executive Officer and executive assistants. As the communication hub for the entire organisation, the executive office provides vital support for every part of the IAIA structure. Management of the organisation including financial management is carried out by the Headquarters Office under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer.

Inquiries regarding any organisational matter should be directed in the first instance to the Chief Executive Officer.

IAIA International Headquarters  
1330 23<sup>rd</sup> Street South, Suite C  
Fargo, ND 58103, USA  
Tel +1 701 297 7908  
Fax +1 701 297 7917  
E-mail: info@iaia.org

## **2.3 Board of Directors**

*Art IV, Sec 1* of the IAIA By-Laws states that “the affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Board of Directors”. The overall corporate responsibility for the IAIA resides with this part of the organisational structure.

Membership of the Board of Directors is clearly defined in the By-Laws of IAIA as nine persons: 3 presidential officers and 6 directors. The roles include:

- President and Chair of the Board
- Immediate Past President
- President-Elect
- Secretary and Director
- Treasurer and Director
- 4 Directors

Board meetings and communication are facilitated by the Chief Executive Officer with Headquarter’s staff contributing greatly to the administrative effectiveness of the Board.

## **2.4 Council**

The IAIA Council is distinct from but includes the Board of Directors. It is an

advisory resource to the Board, is chaired by the President and has a membership comprising:

- Board of Directors
- All Committee Chairs
- All Section Chairs
- Representative(s) of Branches & Affiliates
- Representative of Journal Editorial Board
- Chief Executive Officer and Executive Assistant

The Board of Directors may designate other members for inclusion on the Council, as appropriate from time to time.

## **2.5 Branches**

Within the structure of IAIA, a designated “Branch” provides a visible ‘shopfront’ or program activity centre in a geographical region of existing strength in IAIA membership numbers. Such a region would also exhibit considerable scope for attracting additional membership. Through a locally selected Management Committee, Branches schedule professional and community interest programs, foster professional links with practitioners, encourage community

access to the broad spectrum of impact assessment, and actively support IAIA global activities, products and services. A distinguishing characteristic of a Branch is that all participants are direct members of IAIA. The Branch Manager or his/her representative is a member of the IAIA Council.

In July 2001, the initial meeting of the first IAIA Branch was held in the Washington, DC Area (IAIA-WAB), with the intent of increasing the frequency of interactions among the area's IAIA members (residents of DC and many IAIA members who visit the area). The resultant change has been from a once-a-year encounter at the international conference event to 6-10 gatherings a year.

A pilot Branch, IAIA Ireland-UK was approved at the midterm Board meeting in 2005. The Ireland-UK pilot Branch has held several very successful mini-conferences in various locations throughout their service area.

## **2.6 Language Services**

In 2001, IAIA created a Task Force to study multi-linguistic services to enable IAIA to cater for other major language needs within our global membership reach. Viable and effective options in working toward our organizational goals are being canvassed and assessed. The most productive arrangement continues to evolve and will be defined with the benefit of experience and being proactive as an organization. Currently, the Board has agreed on a pragmatic approach; that is, not to try to translate everything but to focus on priorities such as the membership brochure and special publications. The Board seeks translations partners.

*To facilitate communication for those whose 1<sup>st</sup> language is not English, the Board also encourages conference presenters to speak slowly and provide a handout or Power Point slide with key points as a bulleted list.*

## **2.7 Committees**

In total there are nine committees, including the Journal Editorial Board, enabling and enhancing the global performance of IAIA. Each role and set of responsibilities is fundamental to attaining the goals of the organisation. Every participant provides an important input to IAIA.

As per the IAIA By-Laws, the Board conveys appointments to chairs and committees. In all instances the designation comes from the Board, acting on the advice and nominations submitted to and from committee chairs and the CEO. The duration of committee membership is normally three years. However, the Board reviews committee appointments annually.

The chairperson of each committee is automatically a member of the IAIA Council and all chairpersons are expected to attend meetings of Council, as practicable. Usually one chairperson is designated per committee.

Normally, committee chairs are appointed for a three-year term but the Board of Directors will review all appointments annually. Any variation in tenure will be addressed at that time. Appointments may be terminated at any time at the request of the chairperson or the Board. It is preferred that chair appointments be limited to one term of office but the Board may vary this.

Chairpersons will provide a progress report 30 days before each meeting of the Board (usually at midterm and in conjunction with the annual conference event). These reports are submitted electronically to IAIA Headquarters for distribution to the Board.

Within the IAIA operational structure for committees, distinctions are based on group function and composition. Some committees include several Board officers and directors in their membership. Examples are the Board Nominations, Conferences and Finance committees. These groups provide essential corporate input to

sustain the annual cycle of membership services, funding, planning and Board appointments thereby facilitating IAIA overall strategic direction. Other committees are composed mainly of non-Board members, but these have a reporting mechanism linking them to the Board.

*All IAIA committees are crucial to the credibility, success and progress of the organisation. For each of the nine committees, the Board appoints a Director to serve as the Board Liaison. The liaison function is essential in maintaining timely and effective communication lines to and from the Board. The Board Liaison is the champion of the particular committee wherever and whenever appropriate in the overall corporate agenda.*

*There is a clear role for each committee, and whether it is guiding excellence in IAIA publications, training programs or selecting deserving recipients for IAIA Awards, these are vital interactive connections for the organisation. They also enable IAIA to have a local and regional presence in the global professional network.*

Committees may nominate a chair but all such recommendations then follow the standard process now established via the Board of Directors for final decision and official appointment (as per *By-Laws, Article VI, Sec 1*). As the Chair of each committee also has a place on Council, there is a substantial communication line between committees, Council and Board.

## **2.8 Sections**

Sections provide a focus for special interest areas within IAIA membership to ensure that the academic, professional, and practical interests of members in all areas of impact assessment are catered for. Sections promote the development of best practice within the Section interest areas, but also strengthen links between their own interest area and the broader remit of IAIA. Sections may pursue opportunities for relevant conferences, workshops, training, projects,

publications and research at the IAIA Conferences and elsewhere.

Section leaders are responsible for coordinating the activities of individual sections, for monitoring the activities of individual sections, for monitoring Section membership, and for acting as the listserv hosts (as applicable). Each Section leader is expected to be a current member of IAIA, serve as a member of the Sections Coordinating Committee, and is elected by the members of the Section, with final appointment to the post approved by the Board of Directors. Joint Section leadership (2 co-chairs) is possible. Realizing the dynamic nature of the field of impact assessment and the resulting fluctuation of interests and needs within the membership of IAIA, Sections will submit a request for review and continuation (or dissolution) to the IAIA Board of Directors once every three years and will report to the Council each year.

## **2.9 Associated Organizations**

Strategic alliances are developed with associated organizations which are completely independent of IAIA but have a similar purpose in their own charter or corporate direction. The category of Associated Organization provides a formal link to IAIA and recognizes the potential of a mutually beneficial relationship through a designated contact person who is also a current direct member of IAIA. *Inquiries regarding the process of becoming an IAIA Associated Organisation should be directed to the International Headquarters office.*

## **2.10 Informal Group: SEP**

The Student and Early Professional (SEP) group strives to provide activities and services of interest to this highly diverse segment of IAIA membership and to recruit new members in this interest area. SEP has initiated a student waiver, room sharing and/or student hostel and the mentoring programs for the annual conferences. SEP

has its own listserve and a best student poster award.

For information, contact IAIA Board member, Paola Gazzola, SEP representative (gazzola@liv.ac.uk).

### **3 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES AND SECTIONS**

#### **3.1 Notes for All Committees\* and Sections**

Major decisions and outcomes require final endorsement by the Board of Directors prior to public release or general membership circulation. Thus, the ultimate responsibility and final decisions rest with the Board. This policy assists organizational cohesiveness in presenting a global statement of direction, policy and administration.

Financial transactions relating to committees, individual sections, and task forces are undertaken by the IAIA Headquarters Office. Any activities with financial implications must be referred to the Chief Executive Officer. The Board Liaison to each committee, in consultation with the committee chair, is responsible for notification of instances requiring authorisation by the IAIA President. In the case of Sections, any activities with financial implications must be referred either to the Chief Executive Officer, who would seek authorization of the IAIA Board on the Section's behalf, as necessary, or to the Section Coordination Committee Chair and who would proceed as above for committees. In all such matters clarification is available from the Headquarters Office.

Committees or Sections may find it helpful to convene task forces to focus on special aspects of their overall responsibilities. This is often a way of doing some research, undertaking a survey, gaining a new perspective or making progress on matters of priority.

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\* Including the Journal Editorial Board

Members interested in committee work or section involvement within IAIA may contact the Chief Executive Officer for further discussion. All inquiries are most welcome and appreciated. It should be noted that all committee and section positions represent the generous contribution of professional and personal time, energy and resources of IAIA members. *Members serve without reimbursement for time or expenses.*

#### **3.2 Affiliates Committee**

*Note: This committee was disbanded by a vote of the Board of Directors at its midterm meeting October 2007. A Global Forum will fill the void of this committee and bring together the leadership of IAIA affiliates, branches, and possibly associated organizations. The pilot meeting of the Global Forum is scheduled in conjunction with the IAIA08.*

##### Membership:

Chairperson (non-Board), plus one representative from each current Affiliate comprise this Committee. The Chair is nominated by the members of the committee. A Director of the Board is the Board Liaison. Membership is reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Directors and subject to the three-year term guidelines [2.7].

##### Responsibilities

Affiliate groups have a number of direct IAIA members in addition to a greatly varying number of local participants. IAIA sets a goal of having all office-bearing members of an affiliate, plus a component (10%+) of the local participants of the affiliate being direct, current membership in IAIA. All members, local or international, of

an Affiliate group accept the purpose and Code of Ethics of IAIA. All affiliates sign individually agreed MoUs with IAIA to keep their affiliate status and rights in effect. The main tasks of the Affiliates Committee are to:

- ensure regular and open lines of communication among and between existing Affiliates, Board, and Headquarters Office
- identify, discuss and resolve issues of common concern (programs, resources, initiatives)
- encourage cooperation of committee members with respect to existing policies and administrative processes of IAIA
- assist in development and evolution of the most effective and cohesive arrangements for Affiliates to further the goals, visibility and support base of IAIA
- share organisational experiences to enhance performance of each group

### **3.3 Awards Committee**

#### Membership:

Chairperson (non-Board), five or six additional members. The Board Liaison is the Past President. Membership is reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors [2.7].

#### Responsibilities

Identify potential candidates, call for nominations, conduct selection assessment process, recommend award recipients to the Board of Directors, and notify recipients following Board decision on recommendations. In addition, plan the annual ceremony for conveying IAIA awards. The present range of honours includes:

- Global Environment Award
- Rose-Hulman Award
- Regional Award
- Institutional Award
- Individual Award
- Corporate Award
- Outstanding Service to IAIA Award

- Certificates of Appreciation
- Best Poster Award
- Best Journal Article Award

Historically, awards are given to IAIA Members who have contributed in an outstanding way to the overall professional excellence and/or program development of the organisation. Awards have also been presented to institutions, and there is sufficient flexibility to nominate a recipient external to IAIA.

Not all awards are given each year.

### **3.4 Board Nominations Committee**

#### Membership:

Chairperson (non-Board) and members appointed annually (as per *By-Laws, Article IV, Sec 5a*). Given the pivotal role of this Committee, the Chair is usually held by a former member of the Board. The responsibilities of this Committee require that the Chair and members have considerable IAIA experience with great proficiency in related communication networks. Provisions pertaining to this Committee are contained in *Article IV, Section 5 of the By-Laws*.

Membership includes the President and President-elect plus three or more individual members with excellent knowledge of the organisation. These others are not Board Members. The Board Liaison is the President-Elect.

#### Responsibilities:

- Canvass nominations for all vacancies that occur on the Board of Directors
- Process nominations having regard to *By-Laws*, organisation timetable, and best practice in equitable representation throughout each stage of communication.

There is a comprehensive and demanding schedule that drives the considerable workload of the Board Nominations Committee. Details regarding the annual

IAIA timetable, information for potential candidates, anticipated commitments of an office-holder and the election process are contained in guidelines available from the Headquarters Office.

### **3.5 Conferences Committee**

#### Membership:

Chief Executive Officer (Chair), President, President-Elect (Board Liaison), Past-President, Treasurer and two or three individual members (not necessarily members of the Board) with specific expertise/interest in the planning of conference events.

#### Responsibilities

- long-term planning and identification of conference destinations
- overall continuity, innovation and relevance in conference themes

Separate Conference Task Forces (generic name) are formed to administer the program and infrastructure of each annual conference event. Thus, if the Conferences Committee identifies hosts for the next 5 years of conference destinations then there will be 5 task forces – one for each event, to focus on local sponsorship, administrative needs, program, logistics, and continuing viability of the selected site.

These task forces will have broad membership and reflect the spectrum of interests and expertise within IAIA. The membership of each will include representation from the Sections Coordination Committee. To readily distinguish the activities of each group, their respective titles will include reference to the year of the event. (Conference Task Force 2001, '02, '03)

Potential hosts for IAIA Conferences will be contacted by IAIA International Headquarters to express interest and to obtain detailed information regarding the process, requirements and administrative assistance. Inquiries from individuals and

their sponsoring institutions are also welcome.

There are also numerous opportunities regarding training courses and workshops associated with the annual conference event. To register interest in any aspect of these highly regarded training sessions, the first point of inquiry is the International Headquarters Office.

### **3.6 Finance Committee**

#### Membership:

Treasurer (Chair), President (Board Liaison), Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, Chief Executive Officer and staff financial manager.

This Committee exists to plan, ensure and strengthen the financial base of the organisation. It is critical to the successful functioning of IAIA and is responsible for overall financial security in implementing the strategic plan. Task forces may be formed to assist the Committee, particularly with strengthening primary sources of income to the organisation, including conferences membership and sponsorship.

#### Responsibilities

- Develop and review the financial plan
- Review the annual budget proposals
- Review and endorse all major proposals
- Make proposals for strengthening the financial base of the organisation
- Develop strategies for securing Institutional/Corporate funding
- Make recommendations regarding membership dues, contributions from Branches and Affiliates, conference fees and other income

The Finance Committee is a central corporate mechanism to foster the continued expansion and success of IAIA program goals.

### **3.7 Journal Editorial Board**

Because the journal is an important component of IAIA there is a separate Editorial Board to advise on matters relating to content.

New members of this Board are recommended by the existing Editorial Board with input from the Editor. Appointments are made by the IAIA Board of Directors; appointments are usually for three years, subject to annual performance appraisal and continuing interest. Members may be reappointed for a normal maximum of three additional years. The Chair of the Editorial Board is appointed by the IAIA Board of Directors; the Chair of the Editorial Board shall not be the Journal Editor. The Journal editor is appointed by the IAIA Board of Directors for a specified number of years (for more information on the appointment and responsibilities of the IAPA editor, see “Guidelines for IAPA Editors” available from IAIA HQ).

#### Membership of the Editorial Board

- Approximately 10 distinguished impact assessment professionals

*Ex-officio*

- Editor of the Journal
- Board Liaison
- Chair or other nominee of the Publications Committee
- Representative of the publisher

#### Criteria for Appointment to the Editorial Board

Appointments to the Editorial Board are based on individual merit and the following criteria:

- high standing in the relevant discipline
- professional capability in English, the language of the IAIA journal
- email accessibility and capability
- gender, geographical, sub-discipline representation

#### Responsibilities of the Editorial Board

- monitor and improve the perceived standing of the journal

- make recommendations to the IAIA Board of Directors regarding appointments of book review editor and other positions as appropriate
- take responsibility for general content policy and solicit contributions
- review submitted articles and books
- determine topics and guest editor(s) for special issues of the journal
- select best published paper each calendar year
- monitor activities and performance of the IAIA journal editorial team
- make recommendations for new members of the Board in consult with the Editor(s) and the publisher
- submit an annual report to the IAIA Board of Directors
- The Chair will be a member of the Publications Committee
- The Chair will liaise with the Publications Committee Chair to clarify roles and responsibilities where there is uncertainty over remit or overlap between the Editorial Board and Publications Committee

### **3.8 Publications Committee**

#### Membership of the Publications Committee:

A Director of the Board is Board Liaison. Chairperson and members of the Committee are appointed by the Board [2.7].

Membership is to be representative of IAIA professional/geographic diversity. Pre-defined places on the committee include:

- Journal Editor
- Representative of International Headquarters

The IAIA Publications Committee has oversight of the IAIA website, newsletter and special publication issues, as requested by the IAIA Board of Directors. In general, the Committee is consulted in publication matters, except those related to the annual conference and the *Journal*. However, upon request of the Board of Directors, the Committee may participate in publication matters related to the *Journal* or the conference.

### Responsibilities of the Publications Committee

This committee has a wide range of general and publication-specific responsibilities associated with printed and electronic communication.

#### *Newsletter*

- determine general policy and make recommendations to Board
- assistance to Newsletter Editor, as required
- assistance to News Network Contributors, as required

#### *Web Site, Key Citation Series*

- monitor and recommend regarding content, updates, facilitators
- respond to request for review/assistance from IAIA HQ and the IAIA Board of Directors

#### *Special Publications*

- review publications on request of the IAIA Board of Directors or IAIA HQ prior to release
- designate task force or working group to assist publications as requested by the IAIA Board or other IAIA entity (e.g., Section, IAIA project or Committee)
- evaluate need for special audience publications

## **3.9 Sections Coordination Committee**

### Membership:

Chairperson (non-Board) is nominated by members of Sections Coordination Committee; members are representatives designated by each Section (one person per Section). Chair and membership of this Committee are reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Directors and subject to the three-year term guidelines [2.7]. A Director of the Board is the Board Liaison.

The Sections Coordination Committee ensures that special interest areas are catered to within IAIA and that the full spectrum of impact assessment issues can be

widely discussed. Current Section descriptions begin at 3.11. The IAIA membership information form requests an indication of Section preference, to increase active participation in existing and evolving categories of interest. Specific qualifications are not a prerequisite. Individual Sections are not authorised to stipulate requirements or conditions upon membership of a particular Section.

Each Section has a Section Representative selected by the members of that Section, who represents the Section on the Sections Coordination Committee. Thus, the Sections Coordination Committee provides a forum for all interest areas to report on activities and priorities and to coordinate joint activities.

### Responsibilities of the Sections Coordination Committee

- provide a focus, within IAIA, to ensure that the academic, professional and practical interests of members are well served by the Organisation
- facilitate interaction between/among Sections, and identify issues in common
- fully support the process for input from Sections to the Board
- assist members wishing to establish new Sections and provide related recommendations to the Board for approval
- ensure that each annual IAIA Conference reflects the complete range of member interests, via Sections Coordination Committee representation on each conference task force
- promote development of best practice within Section interest areas
- promote listserv mechanism to encourage active topical debate
- strengthen links between IAIA and other relevant organisations, as appropriate for the range of Section topics.

There is a meeting of the Sections Coordination Committee in conjunction with the IAIA Conference each year. At that time the activities of the existing Sections will be reviewed and recommendations will be submitted to the Board regarding the

introduction of new Sections. Since the annual conference provides an opportunity for valuable face-to-face interaction, individual Sections also hold meetings of available members.

- developing and implementing quality assurance measures in all IAIA training activities
- analysing and encouraging training in the IAIA affiliates

For more information, contact Arne Dalfelt (arne.dalfelt@nibr.no).

### **3.10 Training & Professional Development Committee**

#### Membership:

Chairperson (non-Board) and members are appointed by the Board. A Director of the Board is the Board Liaison.

#### Responsibilities

- *Promote Professional Development in Impact Assessment*
  - support training and professional development activities at annual conferences
  - support and participate in the Marrakech initiative
  - promote, develop, and nurture IA resources and professional networking among IAIA members (e.g., Learning Exchange)
  - Identify and undertake special initiatives
- *Promote Training Development in Impact Assessment*
  - review and recommend pre-conference training courses
  - identify and solicit new training courses
  - oversee training web-site
  - identify and undertake special initiatives
- *Potential Activities*
  - developing and nurturing liaisons with other professional organizations
  - recommending topics for journal submissions
  - identifying and fostering research on EIA issues with related professional organization
  - assisting IAIA affiliates and regions in the development of specific training initiatives at their request

### **3.11 Section: Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (AFF)**

The formation of this Section followed a well-attended forum on the subject at IAIA '04 in Vancouver. EIA has not been focused on agriculture, forestry and fisheries, despite the massive negative impacts that result from chronic and damaging practices in some terrestrial, aquatic and social-cultural environments. Recent work has demonstrated that obvious benefits can be conferred by the application of EIA tailored to the specific sectoral activities.

#### Objectives:

The overall long-term objectives are to improve and extend the application of EIA to agriculture, forestry and fisheries, and to do this in all possible jurisdictions. Short-term objectives include describing the EIA process as it applies to these sectors at present, building a useful bibliography, show-casing success stories with case studies and relevant experiences from the National Environmental Policy Act (1970) of the USA and beyond.

#### Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=166>

Section listserv: NR (Natural Resources)

#### Section chair:

Patrick Duffy (pjbduffy@cs.com).

### **3.12 Section: Biodiversity & Ecology**

Formed in 1998, the Biodiversity & Ecology Section promotes the development of good practice for 'biodiversity-inclusive' impact assessment and provides a focus for information exchange and collaboration of practitioners working in the public, private, and academic sectors around the world.

#### Activities:

- Organises a Biodiversity workshop stream at the IAIA annual conference
- "Runs" the Biodiversity & Ecology list server (an electronic discussion group which currently has over 100 members)
- Progresses the IAIA Action Programme for Biodiversity & Impact Assessment. This programme sets out a series of activities which the Section is taking forward, including the production of guidelines and collection of case study material.
- Collaborates with biodiversity Conventions (Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ramsar Convention, Convention on Migratory Species (CMS))
- Provides input to the current IAIA project on capacity building for biodiversity in impact assessment (CBBIA)

#### Cooperation:

Cooperation within IAIA, with other sections, outside IAIA with organisations such as World Bank, WHO, other professional groups etc

#### Highlights from 2008:

- Review of the 2006 CBD voluntary guidelines on impact assessment from a Ramsar perspective and production of an annotated version of these guidelines for proposed adoption by Ramsar
- Review and update of the key biodiversity/ecological impact assessment terms for the IAIA glossary
- Continued input into the CBBIA project

- Contribution to preparation of regional guidance manuals for biodiversity inclusive impact assessment , e.g., for South Asia

#### Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=167>

#### Section listserv: BIODIVERSITY

#### Section Chairs:

Asha Rajvanshi (ar@wii.gov.in)

Verina Ingram

(verina\_ingram@hotmail.com)

### **3.13 Section: Disasters and Conflict**

Disasters, conflict and other crisis events have short- and long- term impacts. Opinions differ on whether crises cause, or are simply a catalyst for, these impacts. But it is clear that impact assessments which do not considering possible disasters and crises can produce inaccurate results. The consequences of inaccurate assessments can range from inconvenience in project implementation to, in the extreme, mortality rising above pre-disaster levels.

#### Objectives:

In view of the key role which impact assessment plays in effective response to disasters, the Disasters, Conflict and Other Crises Section:

- Provides a forum for discussions on how to adapt and apply impact assessment principals and procedures in disasters, conflicts and other crises, and
- Serves as a means to increase the awareness of mainstream assessment professionals of the links between disasters, conflicts and other crisis and impact at social and individual levels.

#### Activities:

To these ends, the section will:

- Promote the presentation of papers and discussion on disasters and other crises at IAIA meetings,

- Promote the publication of papers on impact assessment and disasters and crises in professional journals, and
- Encourage discussions with the mainstream IAIA community on considering disasters and other crisis in normal impact assessment.

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=176>

Section chair(s):

Charles Kelly  
(72734.2412@compuserve.com)  
Michel Bouchard  
(michel.a.bouchard@cogeos.com)

### **3.14 Section: Corporate Stewardship & Risk Management**

At the Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Section meeting during IAIA'07, we discussed the need to redefine the EMS Section in order to be more relevant to current interests within the impact assessment field and to increase our value to IAIA members. In October 2007, the IAIA Board of Directors accepted our proposal to broaden our mandate and to rename our Section to "Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management". The goal for the Corporate Stewardship and Risk Management Section is to foster opportunities to explore and discuss application of relevant corporate social responsibility topics. Corporate stewardship is constantly evolving and we hope to explore how the private sector goes beyond legal compliance in order to demonstrate corporate stewardship. This can be achieved through a variety of ways such as establishing innovations in corporate systems of governance, committing to international best practice, and/or reporting on corporate sustainability. We intend to discuss practical applications and learn from experience by means of case studies and

experiences applying the International Finance Corporation's (IFC's) Performance Standards, Equator Principles, and other internationally recognized safeguards.

Objectives and Activities:

We will be using the Section meeting at IAIA08 to discuss our strategy and to develop our objectives and activities for the upcoming year. One key activity will be to ensure that EMS-related material on the IAIA website will be reviewed and updated as needed.

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=168>

Section listserv: EMS

Section chair:

Debra Zanewich (dzanewich@edc.ca).  
*This position will be up for nomination this year.*

### **3.15 Section: Environmental Law, Policies & Practice**

This section changed its scope in 2006. It developed from the section Environmental Law, Policies and Practice into a section that addresses these aspects of Impact Assessment in the broadest sense of the word.

Objectives:

The objectives of the Impact Assessment Law, Policies and Practice section are to provide a forum for information, discussion and exchange on impact assessment law, policies and practice at the international and domestic level. The target audience includes lawyers, judges, enforcement officers, public servants assessment practitioners, economic sectors and civil society. The section aims to improve the development and implementation of impact assessment legislation and build capacity with the aim of strengthening institutions for the development and implementation of impact assessment law and policy. The focus of the section's work includes not only EIA and

SEA legislation but also any institutionalized impact assessment tool.

Activities

- Expand IAIA database to include a database on (environmental and other) impact assessment legislation and key court decisions from around the world
- Work with other organizations to provide technical assistance including the promotion of the adoption of national environmental assessment legislation in all countries
- Explore the possibility to prepare practical legal tools (including a basic, best practices legal framework) for (environmental or other) impact assessment law that could be adapted to a variety of legal systems; (this work maybe prepared through a workshop held in conjunction with an annual conference)
- Prepare guidance material and networks to facilitate temporary assignments/exchanges/internships for impact assessment legal professionals, both nationally and internationally
- Compile a contact list of section members to facilitate future exchanges

Cooperation:

Currently cooperation is limited within IAIA (annual conference)

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=177>

Section listserv: ENVLAW

Section chair(s):

Jan De Mulder  
(jan.demulder@bz.vlaanderen.be); Karen Moore (Karen.Moore@ceaa-acee.gc.ca)

### **3.16 Section: Health Impact Assessment**

This section focuses on Health Impact Assessment (HIA) throughout the world

and on integration of health into other types of Impact Assessment. The section promotes the approach to health as a cross-cutting issue, not merely the bio-medical health approach.

Objectives:

- To further HIA by stimulating learning and mutual exchange of experiences and knowledge
- To promote integration of human and health-concerns into impact assessment
- To promoted integrated impact assessment

The specific topics of interest are community and social empowerment, evaluation of HIA, methods for integrated impact assessment, development of methods/tools for inclusion of health aspects in SEA, and in relation to policy and planning.

Activities:

- Developing joint activities with other Sections
- Developing HIA training course for other IA practitioners
- On-going exchange through the HIA Quarterly
- Active involvement in IAIA-wide activities and committees

Cooperation:

The section co-operates with the Social Impact Assessment section. A joint project with the World Health Organization is being carried out, implementing the Memorandum of Understanding between WHO and IAIA.

Highlights:

Publication of *HIA Principles and Practice* as IAIA special publication.

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=169>

Section listserv: HEALTH

Section chair(s):

Ben Cave (ben.cave@caveconsult.co.uk)  
Suphakij Nuntavorakarn  
(suphakijn@yahoo.com)

### **3.17 Section: Indigenous People**

The formation of this Section followed a well-attended session at the IAIA 2002, Netherlands Congress Centre at The Hague, and interest has now built to where sessions will focus on the IPS with a lot of help and support from other sections such as the EMS and Biodiversity Sections. The Indigenous People Section now has a sufficient abstracts to hold successful sessions at the annual conference.

Objectives:

- Organize and increase the participation of the IPS at IAIA annual conferences.
- Provide input to the IAIA project on Capacity Building for the Indigenous Peoples Section.
- Maintain a positive and interesting session/sessions at IAIA
- Maintain active involvement
- Discuss and improve the best practices for IP

Activities:

Participation throughout the whole IAIA conference

Cooperation:

- within IAIA with other sections
- outside IAIA with organisations such as World Bank, Government Agencies both National and Local

Highlights:

2005 IP section had the great honour of the Maori Queen from New Zealand Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikahu attend the Special Preconference Event: Indigenous Peoples and Impact Assessment.

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=173>

Section chairs:

Antoine Coffin  
(Antoine.coffin@boffamiskell.co.nz)  
Chantal Otter-Tetreault (chantal@gcc.ca)

### **3.18 Section: Public Participation**

The Public Participation Section includes practitioners, academics and students interested in any type of public involvement within the context of impact assessment. It aims to advance and improve the practice of EIA by disseminating information and stimulating discussions and exchanges on public participation practice and experience, elaborating public participation best practice principles, stimulating members to publish papers on public participation and keeping IAIA members informed on public participation issues and challenges.

The section manages the public participation stream at the Annual Conference and lately produced its Public Participation International Best Practice Principles, which were published at the IAIA website.

Objectives:

- Advance and improve the practice of EIA
- Disseminate information and stimulate discussions and exchanges on public participation practice and experience
- Stimulate members to publish papers on public participation
- Keep IAIA members informed on public participation issues and challenges

Activities:

- Lead the Public Participation stream of papers for IAIA08
- Stimulate interaction and exchange between its members both at the Annual Conference and throughout the year

- Create exposure and co-organize participatory and interactive sessions at IAIA08
- Improve the exchange of information on public participation between its members

Cooperation:

The section has a natural link to other IAIA sections as many practitioners are engaged in public participation activities. There is an institutional link to the International Association for Public Participation IAP2.

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=178>

Section chair(s):

Bert Enserink (b.enserink@tudelft.nl)  
 John Devlin (j.devlin@uoguelph.ca)  
 Dusica Radojic (dusica.pula@inet.hr)

### **3.19 Section: Social Impact Assessment**

The general responsibilities of the SIA Section includes the development of professional good practice in all aspects of SIA, drawing on the experience of SIA practitioners in the private, public and academic sectors around the world.

Objectives:

The objectives of the SIA section are:

- To further SIA by stimulating learning and mutual exchange of experiences and knowledge
- To promote integration of human and social concerns into impact assessment
- To promoted integrated impact assessment
- Developing joint activities with other sections
- Disseminate information and stimulate discussions and exchanges social impact assessment practice and experience

Activities:

- Adding to the on-line SIA bibliography, hosted on the IAIA website.

([http://www.iaia.org/Databases/SIA\\_Database/SIA\\_interface.asp](http://www.iaia.org/Databases/SIA_Database/SIA_interface.asp))

Cooperation:

- Working with the Health Impact Assessment section towards integrating health and social impact assessments in practice.

Highlights:

- Produced principles and guidelines for good practice in SIA in October 2004
- Updating the key citations as an introductory resource for practitioners and others interested in SIA (completed and lodged on the IAIA website, 2004)
- Coordinated contributions to a Special Issues of *IAPA*, Volume 21: 2 and 3 which were devoted to the current practice of SIA

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=179>

Section listserv: SIA

Section chair:

Ilse Aucamp (ilsea@lantic.net)

### **3.20 Section: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

The SEA section was set up in the mid 1990s as a reaction to the fast growing interest in the environmental assessment of policies, plans and programmes. Since then it has developed into one of the biggest sections of IAIA. Section members have been involved in various activities, including the preparation of training materials (see eg the distance learning course developed with the World Bank

<http://info.worldbank.org/etools/docs/library/107861/sea/sea/index.html>), the organisation of special SEA related IAIA conferences (ie IAIA in Prague 2005), <http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=27>) or the Ireland-UK branch conference in Liverpool in 2006

[http://www.iaia.org/modx/assets/files/Conclusions%20of%20the%20joint%20RTPI%20\\_3\\_.pdf](http://www.iaia.org/modx/assets/files/Conclusions%20of%20the%20joint%20RTPI%20_3_.pdf)) and others.

Objectives:

- To promote the use of SEA in different systems and situations
- To further SEA theory and practice
- To provide a platform for a critical debate on SEA
- To support practitioners and decisions makers in the effective application of SEA
- To offer our services to those requiring advice on SEA, including governments and authorities, consultancies and those active in the development co-operation

Activities:

Some of the activities have already been mentioned in the introduction. Any potential future activities are discussed at the annual conferences or on the listserve of the section

Cooperation:

We have co-operated on various occasions with the World Bank, The United Nations Development Programme/Environment Programme, and various other national development organisations (i.e., DFID, GTZ ...)

Highlights:

The IAIA special conference on SEA in Prague in 2005 (see above)

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=174>

Section listserv: STRATEGIC

Section chair:

Thomas Fischer (Fischer@liverpool.ac.uk)

### **3.21 Sections: Integrated Assessment of Trade-related Policies (IATRP)**

The main objective of this Section is to promote the adoption of impact assessment of trade-related policies and to further good practice with the context of IAIA.

Objectives:

- provide a forum for discussion of best practices
- advance understanding of the relationships between trade policy, trade negotiations, environmental impact, and sustainable development
- promote impact assessment of trade related policies as a tool to improve decision making and promote sustainable development

Activities:

The Section manages the trade impact stream at the annual conferences, bringing together experts from government, private sector, NGOs, IGOs, consulting and academia to discuss the latest developments in Integrated Assessment of Trade. Members of IATRP are also involved with outreach to improve IATRP's network of trade impact assessment professionals.

Cooperation:

We have also collaborated with UNEP, WB, OAS, DFAIT, EC and CEC in bringing together many experts in EA, SIA and Strategic Assessments of Trade. IATRP has collaborated with IAIA's biodiversity section holding several joint sessions.

Highlights:

Published first *IAPA* Special Issue on Impact Assessment of Trade, December 2006

Section webpage:

<http://www.iaia.org/modx/index.php?id=172>

Section chairs:

Bernice Goldsmith  
(Bernice@encs.concordia.ca)

Rachel McCormick  
(Rachel.McCormick@international.gc.ca)

## **4 KEY ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

### **4.1 Format for Submitting Proposals to the Board**

*Contacting the International Headquarters Office prior to sending any request is strongly recommended.* For most proposals there are specific guidelines available to assist your submission. Proposals submitted with inadequate or inappropriate information will be returned to sender.

To expedite the discussion and decision-making associated with all proposals requiring consideration by the Board it is essential that information is presented with the following Cover Page Format.

Every effort will be made to process proposals as quickly as possible, but it is advisable to give plenty of notice to allow sufficient time for Board consideration. The Board meets twice a year in person and holds electronic discussions during the intervening months. Decisions taken by the Board throughout the year facilitate timely processing of essential business. Adhering to requirements regarding proposal format and ample notification are essential.

The recommended cover page format is to be used for all proposals, including initiatives, collaborative projects, requests for endorsement, initial briefings, advanced reports or other requests for action by the Board.

All proposals should be submitted allowing at least 30 days for an initial electronic indication from the Board or before a scheduled face-to-face meeting. The Headquarters Office can be contacted regarding Board meeting schedule and processing of proposals.

### **4.2 IAIA Endorsement of External Proposals**

As a professional association IAIA considers the merits of numerous requests for the endorsement of activities undertaken by external individuals and organisations. IAIA endorsement reflects approval of an activity and its intended output. While endorsement does permit public statements to that effect, it does not confer any other rights or resources from IAIA, including matters of copyright, legal liability and intellectual property.

**Cover Page Format for All Motions to the Board of Directors**

*(Contact Headquarters Office for Detailed Guidelines)*

**Type of Proposal:** *(specify)* \_\_\_\_\_

- 1. External Proposal.      Endorsement Application, activity external to IAIA
- 2. Internal Proposal.      Members or members plus others, activity of IAIA:  
*IAIA Initiative* -- early stage seeking 'in principle' support (confers no rights, resources, public notice or use of logo)  
*IAIA Project* -- advanced stage seeking official project designation (approved IAIA project, external publicising, use of logo)  
*IAIA Administration* -- related to organisational management
- 3. Other Category.      Misc. briefing, collaboration or notification

**Title of Proposal:**

**Contact Person:** *(name, address, telephone, e-mail, facsimile)*

**Date Submission Forwarded to IAIA:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Motion to the Board of Directors:** *(phrase to allow decision to be taken)*

PLEASE INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON APPENDED PAGES, USING RELEVANT GUIDELINES OBTAINED FROM HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

\_\_\_\_\_  
-- This Area for Recording Board Decision --

<b>Board Decision</b>	<b>Date of Decision</b>	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> approved                      | <input type="checkbox"/> not approved          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> further information requested | <input type="checkbox"/> directed to Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> timelines needed              | _____  |

### **4.3 Approval Process for IAIA Proposals**

There are specific guidelines related to various types of IAIA proposals submitted from time to time and seeking approval from the Board. Such guidelines are readily available from the Headquarters Office and early contact can greatly assist proponents of proposals.

IAIA “in-house” proposals may be undertaken entirely by members or in collaboration with others. It is possible to gain approval in principle for the early stages of a proposal and this carries notional support to further advance the work. It does not confer any rights or resources, or permit any public statement (outside of IAIA) acknowledging this early stage of endorsement. The first stage of a proposal is designated an “IAIA Initiative” and this

term should be used in related motions to the Board.

If proposals advance and gain full approval from the Board then wide publication and promotion as an IAIA project are encouraged. Such projects are also given the right to use the IAIA logo on all related communication. The later stage of a proposal is designated an “IAIA Project” and this term should be used in related motions to the Board.

All proposals submitted to the Board must be presented in the required format and observe the necessary timelines, to facilitate review and consideration by the Board. Further information is available from the International Headquarters Office.

## **5 KEY CORPORATE ACTIVITIES**

### **5.1 Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting is chaired by the current IAIA President. While the newly elected President-Elect may be introduced at this corporate gathering, that person’s term of office as President does not commence until the start of the first Board Meeting after the Annual General Meeting.

All members of IAIA are encouraged to attend this annual meeting as it presents a unique opportunity for interaction regarding the corporate and professional directions of the organisation. The coveted Rose-Hulman Award is often presented at the AGM, acknowledging outstanding service, advancement and commitment to the profession of impact assessment. Likewise the Outstanding Service to IAIA commendation is also presented at the AGM. As with any award category, not all awards are given each year.

It has become regular practice within IAIA to conduct the Annual General Meeting in conjunction with the Annual Conference event. This enables wider attendance and greater visibility for all organisational activities.

### **5.2 Meetings of the Board**

There are very few opportunities for the Board to meet in-person, given the professional and personal resources required for international travel. To maximise efficiency and make progress on the many items of business, Board communication is largely conducted electronically. This enables discussion and decision-making on matters of importance to take place throughout the year. The Board generally meets in conjunction with the Annual Conference and at a midpoint in the IAIA year.

The Board believes in the principle of openness but considers that the most appropriate and effective forum for this wider communication is at Council Meetings. To gain full benefit from the special opportunities of meeting personally, the Board would like to encourage an awareness that Board Meetings are attended solely by designated members of the Board. Subsequent electronic discussion is greatly facilitated by the experience of these meetings and the work of the organisation is able to advance accordingly. Minutes of all Board Meetings are posted on the IAIA web site and highlights are printed in the newsletter.

### **5.3 Meetings of the Council**

Meetings of the IAIA Council are scheduled to coincide with the annual IAIA Conference. These meetings allow the Board of Directors to gain direct input from all available representatives and advisors throughout the organisation.

Subsequent meetings of the Board are then conducted having the advantage of timely input from Council immediately beforehand.

## **6 By-Laws of the International Association for Impact Assessment**

*(as amended 8 May 2008, Perth Australia)*

### **Article I. Name and Legal Status**

Section 1: The name of the Association shall be "The International Association for Impact Assessment, Inc." When proof of corporate status is not necessary, it may be referred to as "International Association for Impact Assessment".

Section 2: The Association is incorporated under the laws of the State of Georgia, United States of America, as per the Association's Articles of Incorporation signed on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 1981, as amended.

Section 3: The location of the registered office of the Association shall be determined by the Board of Directors of the Association.

### **Article II. Purpose**

The Association has as its primary purpose the betterment of society through the encouragement of improved policymaking processes concerning the analysis of the future consequences of present decisions. In furtherance of this purpose, the association may:

- publish, edit or otherwise disseminate to practitioners and the general public articles, journals, books, monographs, audiovisual materials, and newsletters concerning the practice of impact assessment;
- hold meetings, conferences, seminars, and other sessions at which information concerning the practice of impact assessment can be disseminated;
- prompt, enhance, and encourage the exchange of information among practitioners and users of impact assessment and the general public;
- improve the quality and professionalism of persons in the field of impact assessment;

- otherwise encourage the growth and development of the field of impact assessment, the development of techniques in the field of impact assessment, and the public understanding of and participation in the field of impact assessment; and
- undertake such other activities as will further the purposes of the Association.

### **Article III. Membership**

Section 1. The IAIA Board of Directors shall establish categories of membership in the organization, including qualifications, fees, and other requirements for each category of membership. These categories and requirements may be changed by a vote of the Board.

Section 2. The IAIA Board of Directors shall extend voting privileges to members by category of membership, and the categories of eligible voting members shall be established by a vote of the Board.

Section 3. Applications for membership shall be submitted, together with payment of current dues to IAIA Headquarters. The acceptance of an application for membership by the designated administrative officer shall constitute formal recognition of membership.

Section 4. Annual dues for all categories of membership shall be fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Members failing to pay dues shall cease to be members. If dues are paid within sixty days (or other time period as determined by the Board of Directors) of membership expiration, the membership

shall be deemed continuous for purposes of computing years of membership.

Section 6. Members deemed to be in breach of the Association's Code of Ethics may, by resolution of the Board of Directors, be denied continuing membership in the Association.

#### **Article IV. Board of Directors and Officers**

Section 1. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Board of Directors.

Section 2. Any voting member of the Association may serve as a Director or an Officer. Termination of membership shall automatically terminate eligibility to be a Director or an Officer.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall consist of nine members: the President, the immediate Past President, the President-Elect, and six Directors. In addition to regular meetings, actions of the Board of Directors may be taken by mail or electronic communication. Five of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for decisions taken at meetings of the Board of Directors. An absolute majority of all members of the Board of Directors shall be required for decisions taken by electronic communication.

Section 4. Election of a President-Elect shall occur annually. The President-Elect shall serve one term in that capacity, one term as President, and one term as immediate Past President. Two Directors shall be elected annually, each for three-year terms. Official duties commence and cease at the commencement of the first meeting of the Board of Directors after each Annual General Meeting.

Section 5.

[a] A Nominations Committee shall be appointed annually by the Past-President and shall comprise the President, President-Elect and three or more voting members; one of whom shall serve as Chair. The Committee shall seek suggestions of voting

members to be considered as possible candidates for the offices to be filled. In preparation of slates of two or more candidates for each office, the Nominating Committee shall seek to ensure that the Board of Directors maintains a balance of regional, racial, ethnic, gender, experience and professional expertise.

[b] In addition to those individuals who are included in the slates of candidates by the Nominating Committee, nominations signed by at least five nominators and by the nominee, all of whom must be voting members, shall be included on the ballot papers provided that the nomination is received by the designated administrative officer six months prior to the date of the next Annual General Meeting.

[c] The Nominating Committee shall supervise preparation of a ballot and ensure that it is mailed to each voting member of the Association. Ballots received by the IAIA Headquarters Office thirty days prior to the next Annual General Meeting will be counted. Candidates on each slate receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected.

Section 6. In the event that an Officer or Director resigns or is otherwise incapable of completing their term, the Board of Directors shall co-opt as necessary until the following election at which time they shall conduct an election to fill the office for the remainder of the original term.

Section 7.

[a] The immediate Past President shall serve on the Board of Directors of the Association and shall have such duties and powers as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

[b] The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and the Board of Directors, and shall have other duties and powers as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

[c] The President-Elect shall perform all of the duties of the President in the event of the absence or disability of the President, and shall have other duties and powers as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

[d] A Secretary and a Treasurer shall be appointed from amongst the Board of Directors and shall have such duties and powers as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

Section 8. The financial accounts of the Association shall be reviewed by an external auditor annually. The fiscal year shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

#### **Article V. IAIA Headquarters Office and Other Offices**

Section 1. The IAIA Board of Directors shall appoint an administrative office (known at this time as IAIA Headquarters) for such periods and under such conditions as they shall from time to time determine.

Section 2. Other offices, groups or task forces may be appointed to assist the Association in promoting its objectives to special interest groups or to non English speaking members of IAIA. Such relationships will only be established through a special Memorandum of Understanding governing specific activities.

#### **Article VI. Committees, Sections, Council and Organisational Structures**

Section 1. The Board of Directors may establish such Committees, Task Groups, Sections and other organisational structures as may be necessary for the conduct of affairs of the Association. The Chair and members of committees and task groups shall be appointed as appropriate by the Board of Directors for specific periods.

Section 2. The Council of the Association is advisory to the Board of Directors and includes Committee Chairs; representatives of Branches, Affiliates and Associated Organisations, and representatives of

Sections and such other members of the Association as the Board of Directors shall from time to time appoint.

Section 3. The Board of Directors shall recognize the existence of Sections within the Association that have specific defined interests related to the overall purposes of the Association. There shall be a Sections Coordination Committee which shall be charged with coordinating communication between Sections, and advising the Board of Directors on additional Sections to be recognized.

Section 4. Three additional forms of organisational structure shall be recognized by the Association:

Branches - geographically-based groups comprised completely of Association members.

Affiliates - geographical, member-based groups that accept the Association's purpose and include a proportion of Association members.

Associated Organisations - independent organisations which have a purpose similar to that of IAIA and with which a mutually beneficial relationship may result.

Section 5. Recognition of affiliates and associated organizations by IAIA shall be conferred by the Board of Directors on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding with a renewal agreement negotiated on a fixed and agreed time period. Recognition and continued recognition of branches shall be conferred by the Board based on guidelines set by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. The Board of Directors may establish a prescribed fee for registration as a Branch of IAIA, or as an Affiliate of IAIA, or as an Associated Organisation.

#### **Article VII. Meetings**

Section 1. There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the voting members of the Association as determined by the Board of Directors so as to maximize attendance by these members. The date, time and place of

the Annual General Meeting shall be announced to the members at least sixty days in advance.

Section 2. In addition to an Annual General Meeting, Special Meetings of the Association may be called by the Board of Directors or by a special petition signed by at least fifty voting members from at least five countries by giving ninety days notice to the CEO or equivalent administrative officer and indicating the purpose and the business of such Special Meeting.

Section 3. The voting members present at a meeting of the Association called pursuant to Article VII Section 1 or Article VII Section 2 shall constitute a quorum. Acts of the majority of voting members present at a meeting shall be deemed acts of the members of the Association unless the Board of Directors has previously indicated that a mail or electronic ballot of the voting membership should be taken on a particular issue.

Section 4. All records of the Association shall be open to inspection by any member at any reasonable time, provided reasonable notice is given.

Section 5. The Annual General Meeting and all Section Meetings are open to all members. Access to all other business and committee meetings are at the invitation of the President or Chair of each meeting.

#### **Article VIII. Amendment of By-Laws**

Section 1. The by-laws of the Association may be amended by:

1. A two-thirds majority vote of the voting members present at an Annual General Meeting of the association or at a special meeting of the Association called for this purpose; or
2. A two-thirds majority vote of the eligible voting members responding to a mail ballot held for this purpose.

Section 2. Proposals for amendments must be submitted to members at least sixty days

prior to a meeting described in Article VIII Section 1 or mail ballot. Amendments may be proposed by the Board of Directors or by a petition signed by at least fifty members of the Association representing at least five countries.

#### **Article IX. Dissolution**

Section 1. Any proposal for the dissolution of the Association shall be treated as an amendment of the By-Laws and shall comply with the provisions of Article VIII.

Section 2. Upon the dissolution of the Association, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities, dispose of all assets in the manner stipulated in the Articles of Incorporation of the Association.

*Dates of Change (2/81, 5/93, 6/99, 5/08)*