



# Slow Food®

## **SLOW FOOD INTERNATIONAL STATUTE**

**Text approved by the Fifth International Congress**

**November 8-11, 2007 – Puebla, Mexico**

### **NAMES, OFFICES AND DURATION**

Art. 1

An international non-profit association for cultural purposes named Slow Food is hereby formed, hereinafter

referred to as “Slow Food” or “Association”.

Art. 2

The Association is headquartered in Bra (CN), Italy.

The International Board of Directors of the Association can move the headquarters within the commune of

Bra by simple deliberation.

Secondary offices, branches and representative offices may be established according to the procedures

envisaged in the present Statute.

The Association has an unlimited duration.

### **DEFINITION AND AIMS**

Art 3

Slow Food is a democratic and cultural international association to promote the formation of individual and

social aims. Thus it resolves to create a network of local communities.

A Slow Food local community is a group of individuals who share its philosophy and who plan to cultivate

common cultural interests in the field of food.

Slow Food works for the protection of the right to pleasure; for respect of the natural rhythms of life; for a

harmonious relationship with nature; for the pursuit of food quality, which is good, clean and fair; for the

safeguarding of traditional knowledge; for the creation of local economic models and for functional sustainable development to further these aims.

Slow Food intends to:

a) endow with cultural dignity issues connected to food, beverages, diet and gastronomic sciences as a

whole;

b) identify food products and production methods linked to a geographic area to safeguard biodiversity, and promote them as part of our cultural heritage;

c) improve public knowledge of food, particularly for young people, with the aim of increasing awareness of our right to pleasure and taste and the ability to make responsible food choices;

d) promote a different quality of life, one which entails respect for natural rhythms, the environment and the health of consumers, encouraging the consumption and enjoyment of food of the highest possible quality;

e) favor food quality, intended in the broadest sense, which respects three absolutely fundamental elements: sensory goodness; ecological sustainability of the production, distribution and consumption processes; respect for social justice and dignity for all the people involved in the food production chain;

f) promote respect for the world’s cultural diversity through exchange and comparison without any prejudice;

g) achieve and increase the value of local economic models of food production;

2

h) retrieve, document and repropose the local memory and particularly the traditional knowledge



# Slow Food®

linked to the food world;

i) contribute to the development of the Association's international network;

j) realize projects of international cooperation aimed at the protection of food biodiversity and the support of food communities, particularly in developing countries; and

k) encourage public dialogue of environmental themes, particularly the protection of food biodiversity

and the preservation of culinary traditions.

Some examples of how Slow Food will achieve these aims:

a) coordinate and implement projects of research, cataloguing and promoting in order to safeguard food biodiversity, countering the increasing standardization of food, and promoting, organizing and/or participating in projects for the development of ecological forms of agriculture;

b) promote and/or support initiatives that aim to preserve and add value to the historical and cultural

identity of a specific geographical area, linked to a specific food, particularly through the creation of Presidia for the defence of biodiversity;

c) develop a network of relationships, activities and initiatives at a local and international level with

and amongst food communities, formed of all the people and entities working in the sector of food production and processing;

d) encourage knowledge about and use of local products through initiatives which favour the shortening of the distribution chain, a direct rapport between producer and co-producer and the organization of food and wine tourism initiatives;

e) promote, organize, manage and participate in educational activities, including within schools and universities, through research projects, coordination, training and refresher courses, aimed at a comprehensive application of the right to study, to health education, to sensory and taste education and to the development of a appropriate food culture;

f) promote and organize programs of food culture and sensory awareness to be offered to Slow Food

members, the general public and those employed in the food and beverage sector, in order to raise awareness about the historical roots and production processes involved in all the production sectors;

g) encourage and undertake initiatives to improve everyday food consumption, also with respect to the

forms of food service; and

h) promote the work of people inside or outside of the Association who have contributed to the furthering of these aims, by awarding prizes, supplying grants, disseminating and publicizing their achievements and other appropriate means.

To achieve the aims it has set, Slow Food may participate at an international or national level in public or

private organizations, promote groups and meetings, affiliate itself with producers and those working in the

sector and directly manage initiatives, including business ventures, which it feels useful for the attainment of

its social objectives. It may promote and/or support foundations, study centres and publishing and promotional initiatives, and in general undertake any activity that does not conflict with the nature of the

Association.

To this end Slow Food undertakes to raise the financial resources to ensure the activities of the Slow Food

Foundation for Biodiversity ONLUS (the task of which is primarily to finance the Presidia and shortenproduction-

chain projects around the world) and the Terra Madre Foundation (created principally to



# Slow Food®

encourage and develop the global meeting of food communities and the integration of established science

with traditional knowledge). Slow Food is the founder of both of these foundations.

Additionally Slow Food undertakes to ensure the activities and the optimum development of the University

of Gastronomic Sciences, of which it is also the founder. Among the University's aims is the bringing

together of renowned educators from all over the world to teach people who will then be able to spread the

culture of Slow Food and encourage the development of food models which are good, clean and fair.

Slow Food, through the International Board of Directors, undertakes to ensure the coordination of such

entities both among themselves and with every other entity anywhere in the world that has equivalent and

3

shared aims.

Art. 4

Slow Food members are all the people who apply for a membership card and whose membership is

accepted. They also must abide by the rules of this Statute and all attached documents [appendices] and,

where there is a national office, its national regulating statute.

The process for requesting a membership card and payment of the membership fee, any variations in the

membership fee, information on which of the Association's bodies are concerned with the acceptance or

refusal of an application and the means of that refusal, as well as every other condition relative to membership, are specified in the Slow Food Membership Regulations attached to this Statute.

Under the terms of the present Statute, Slow Food members have the right:

a) to vote for or to be elected to any of the institutional structures of the Association according to the

principle of a single vote;

b) to approve the Balance Sheet; and

c) to participate in the Association assemblies and all its activities, as defined herein.

Other associations or entities can join the Association as affiliates, by the means established in the Slow

Food Membership Regulations. They will have the right to participate in the activities of the Association,

expressly excluding the right to vote.

National Board of Directors, where existing, may, in agreement with the International Board of Directors,

provide for special forms of Association membership, i.e. for families, young people, food or learning

communities or others, as long as they respect the principles stated above, as well as the rules of the Slow

Food Membership Regulations.

The membership fee is non transferable and non refundable.

Art. 5

Membership and affiliate status is lost by:

a) non-payment of the annual membership fee

b) non-renewal of the payment of the affiliation fee or by express notice on behalf of the affiliate



# Slow Food®

c) expulsion on serious grounds, for example behaviour or activities in clear conflict with the principles or the aims of the Association, to be decided by the International Board of Directors or the National Boards of Directors, where existing. An appeal against such an exclusion may be lodged with the College of Guarantors.

The verification of the payment of the membership or affiliation fees must be in accordance with what is stated in the Slow Food Membership Regulations.

A member(s) of a Convivium or a National Board of Directors that is suspended or dissolved do not lose their Slow Food membership status.

## **THE INSTITUTIONAL SYSTEM AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS**

Art. 6

The organizational and management levels of the Association are:

a) International Congress

b) International Executive Committee, composed of:

1) International President

4

2) International Board of Directors

3) International Council

c) National Board of Directors, to be founded wherever a National Association (or similar non-profit structure) has been established, and necessarily regulated by the relative Statutes in compliance with this one

d) Convivium

## **THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS**

Art. 7

All members of the international Slow Food association have the right to participate in the International Congress.

Participation in the Congress can be in person or through the delegation of another member.

The International Congress is the highest deliberative body of Slow Food and is held every four years

according to the procedures established by the International Board of Directors through specific regulations

prepared for every individual Congress, with the aim of the full implementation of the Congress's institutional tasks as listed below.

The Congress can however be held at any time whenever necessary.

The International Congress is responsible for:

a) discussing, defining and approving the Association's policies and program of activities;

b) sharing the social information;

c) electing the bodies of the International Executive Committee as stated in this Statute;

d) electing the Board of Auditors and the College of Guarantors; and

e) approving any changes to the Statutes, including the modification of the international Association's

headquarters and the dissolution or liquidation of the Association itself.

The International Congress is convened by the International Board of Directors in any part of the world

through written announcement sent with confirmed delivery via post or electronic mail, with at least two

months' notice and containing the date, time, place and agenda of the meeting.

The regulations of the International Congress must be communicated by the International Board of Directors



# Slow Food®

no later than the moment in which the Congress is convened.

The International Congress resolves on the simple majority of those present, on the condition of the participation of at least half of those who have the right to vote, either directly or by representative.

In cases of the modification of the international Association's headquarters; the dissolution, liquidation or transfer of the assets of the Association, as well as every other modification to this

Statute, a consensus of 80% of those who have the right to vote is required.

## **INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Art. 8

The International Executive Committee is the amalgam of the bodies that have the task of making decisions,

creating consensus and running the international Association.

The International Executive Committee is made up of:

- a) the International President
- b) the International Board of Directors
- c) the International Council

The bodies of the International Executive Committee remain in office for four years or until the 5

nomination/election of new bodies.

## **THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Art. 9

The International President is elected by the International Congress and remains in office until the subsequent International Congress. The International President is the general legal representative for Slow

Food in court and in dealings with third parties.

The International President has the following functions:

- a) member by right, convener and chair of the International Board of Directors;
- b) proposes to the International Congress the candidates to be elected for the International Board of Directors;
- c) appoints the International Secretary;
- d) proposes to the International Council the possible replacements for members of the International Board of Directors who for whatever reason have ceased to carry out their functions;
- e) monitors the normal functioning of the bodies of the International Executive Committee;
- f) exercises the task of delegation and external relations pertaining to the President's functions;
- g) participates, with voting rights, in the meetings of every National Board of Directors, in person or via a representative; and
- h) participates by right in all the National Congresses, in person or via a representative.

The International President nominates one or more Vice-Presidents. Vice-Presidents are automatically

members of the International Board of Directors. The International President also nominates a Deputy from

among the International Board of Directors who will automatically assume the President's powers in the

case of sudden and serious impairment.

The International President, or the Deputy or the International Secretary, are delegated to manage contractual



# Slow Food®

obligations with credit institutions, in particular the opening of bank or post accounts and credit accounts,

and the relationship with the staff on behalf of the International Association.

In the case of urgent necessity the President can exercise the powers of the International Board of Directors,

upon ratification at the first meeting.

## **INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Art. 10

The International Board of Directors is the highest governing body of the international Association and lasts

for the four years between each International Congress.

The International President is a member by right of the Board and chairs the Board. Also members by right

of the Board are the Chairs or the highest executives of every National Board of Directors, as well as the

International Secretary.

The remaining members of the Board are elected by the International Congress from the International

Council, on the recommendation of the International President.

According to the position they hold inside the Association, members by right of the Board will be automatically substituted by eventual successors to that same position.

If for any reason one of the elected members of the International Board of Directors ceases to perform his or

her function, the International President will propose to the International Council the nomination of a

replacement from among the Councillors.

The International Board of Directors is convened by the International President in writing (including electronic mail), with at least seven days' notice and containing an outline of the meeting's agenda.

If there

6

are urgent reasons one day's notice can be sufficient.

The Board resolves on the basis of the majority of those present, in the case of a tie the vote of the International President prevails. Whenever necessary, the Board can meet and deliberate via video

or

telephone conference or via electronic mail, as long as all the members have the possibility of intervening in

the discussions and decision-making process.

Art. 11

In addition to the tasks previously mentioned in this Statute, the International Board of Directors is also

responsible for:

a) taking care of the ordinary and extraordinary administration of the international Association;

b) preparing the balances and the social information as to Art.40;

c) deciding the annual and four-year action plans and estimated budgets;

d) establishing procedures for membership or affiliation which take into account specific socio-economic or

linguistic situations;

e) reviewing the activities and decisions taken by the various National Board of Directors to ensure compliance with the Association's policies, with all the authority assigned by this Statute;

f) proposing to the International Council the establishment of new National Board of Directors;

g) proposing to the International Council the dissolution of National Board of Directors if their existence is



# Slow Food®

- no longer justified by their activities and the Association's development;
- h) authorizing, in the countries where there is no existing National Board of Directors, the implementation of forms of organization between Convivia which render their Association activities more efficient;
  - i) keeping the Convivia of those countries without a National Board of Directors informed of the Association's strategic aims, main initiatives and national campaigns;
  - j) proposing to the International Congress the geographic areas for the election by the Congress of members of International Councillors, in the case of areas where there is no National Board of Directors
  - k) convening the International Council;
  - l) requesting the International Council to appoint certain members of the Council, according to the provisions of this Statute;
  - m) convening the International Congress and on every occasion establish the respective regulations
  - n) proposing the appointment of representatives of the Association to public and private bodies and institutions of which the Association is part of or to which it has the right to do so;
  - o) deciding on the removal from office of any local, national or international executive, in the event that he or she is not performing their duties or is organizing and/or running activities considered by the Committee to be damaging, incompatible or in opposition to Slow Food;
  - p) deciding on the closure of inactive Convivia, or the dissolution of Convivia with just cause, where it is not the responsibility of the relevant National Board of Directors
  - q) inviting representatives from the Association to the International Council to discuss issues of their specific interest and competence: these invited representatives may express non-binding opinions;
  - r) approving regulations containing the principles and means of administrative management and the Association's book-keeping, as well as the drawing up, announcing and approval of the Association's budgets; and
  - s) approving regulations and protocols for the running of the Association's local, national and international bodies and activities.

The members of the Board of Directors take part in the Congresses of the National Associations, where existing, on the recommendation of the International President.

## Art. 12

The International Secretary of the Association has the following tasks:

- a) managing the implementation of the International Board of Director's resolutions and undertaking the operational management of the international Association in conformity with those resolutions in respect to

7

- the role and the functions of the International President and other bodies of the Association; and
- b) recording the minutes of the International Board of Directors.

The International Secretary can be assigned the authority to represent the international Association in relation to specific subjects by the International President or at the request of the International Board of Directors.



# Slow Food®

## THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

### Art. 13

The International Council is the assembly, which represents the main forum for dialog between local Slow

Food representatives regarding the main issues pertaining to the Association.

It is nominated by the International Congress as stated below and lasts for the four years between one

Congress and the next.

It is composed of members by right, proposed by the individual National Board of Directors, and members

elected on the basis of the Congress regulations, taking into account the number of members in each nation

or geographic area.

A representative of the Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity and one of the University of Gastronomic

Sciences are also members of the International Council.

Where there is no National Board of Directors it falls to the International Congress to determine, on the

recommendation of the International Board of Directors, the means of incorporating more countries and the

terms for guaranteeing their representation in the International Council, taking into account the strategic and

development needs of the Association.

Every National Board of Directors has the right to at least two representatives, with these being the Chairman or the highest executive and the Treasurer of the National Board of Directors, in the

International

Council.

A quota of no less than 10% of the members of the International Councillors must be reserved for representatives of food or learning communities, without any limits on the proportionate

representation of

the various countries or geographic areas.

The International Congress determines the initial numerical composition of the International Council,

following the procedures stated in its own Regulations.

Members of the International Board of Directors are by right members of the International Council.

The President of the Board of Auditors and the President of the College of Guarantors are invited by right to

meetings of the International Council.

The members of the International advisory bodies as to Art.31 are also invited to meetings of the International Council.

### Art. 14

The International Council is convened by the International Board of Directors at least once a year for the

approval of the annual final budget. It must be convened by providing notice in writing (including electronically) at least 30 days prior to the meeting, containing information on the date, place and agenda.

The International Council must also be convened whenever it is deemed necessary or when at least a tenth

of the members of the international Association make a reasonable request.

8

### Art. 15

In addition to those previously mentioned, the tasks of the International Council include:



# Slow Food®

- a) defining the policies and major issues facing the Association
  - b) creating international advisory bodies and approving their rules and regulations
  - c) authorizing, at the recommendation of the International Board of Directors, the setting up of new National Board of Directors or the dissolution those already existing
  - d) approving the annual final budget prepared by the International Board of Directors
  - e) revising its own composition based on the Article which follows
- The meeting resolves on the basis of a simple majority of those present, provided that at least half of the Councillors are present. Regarding subjects covered by item e) above, the vote in favour of at least two-thirds of those present is required.

When necessary, the Council can meet and deliberate via video or telephone conference or via electronic mail, as long as all the Councillors have the possibility of participating in the discussions and decisionmaking process.

Any Councillors who also belong to the International Board of Directors cannot participate in the deliberations regarding the annual final budget and their own responsibilities.

Every individual International Councillor represents within the International Council the situation of the

Association relative to their own country or geographic area, proposes to the International Council the organisational structures and projects of their own area and reports back to their area on the decisions and planning policies formulated by the Council.

## Art. 16

The National Executive Committee shall replace a councilor if the requisites which permitted his or her appointment cease to exist or for other reasons, provided that these are grounded.

At the request of the International President's Committee, the International Council is entitled, during its

four-year mandate, to identify new members, numbering no more than 30% of the original membership, to

ensure representation of new convivia or of significant growth in existing convivia.

In this case, limits of proportionality among nations or geographical areas, namely of the quota reserved for

food or learning communities, shall not be taken into account.

## **NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### Art. 17

The National Board of Directors is the representative and coordinating body for all the members and all the

organizational structures of the international Association present in a single country.

It is established when a national Association or an analogous non-profit structure is founded by the members

of Slow Food International within a single country.

The National Board of Directors is made up of representatives of the members as established in the national

Statute.

The establishment of new National Board of Directors, based on the request of active Convivia, is decided



# Slow Food®

by the International Council. The Council also has the right to suspend or dissolve existing National Board of Directors within the terms of the present Statute.

9

The establishment of a National Board of Directors can be provisionally authorized by the International Board of Directors on the basis of a presentation where there is the level of development from a strategic, political and economic perspective.

Art. 18

The relationships between every National Board of Directors and the International Executive Committee are regulated by the present Statute, by the national Statute and by the relevant protocol signed by both the bodies.

The national protocol authorizes a National Board of Directors to use the national Slow Food trademark according to the terms defined by the Code of Use for the Slow Food Logos.

Art. 19

The tasks of the National Board of Directors are:

- a) to implement the resolutions of International Congresses and the decisions of international executive bodies to ensure the harmonious development of the Association in the country represented;
- b) to coordinate and organize national activities in agreement with individual national Statutes, and to define the membership procedure in agreement with the International Board of Directors and in accordance with the Slow Food Membership Regulations;
- c) to support the development of the international Association through its own financial resources;
- d) to establish relationships and collaborations with public bodies, gastronomic and/or environmental associations, non-governmental organizations, protective consortia, producer associations and communication media, in order to contribute to the development and awareness of quality food production;
- e) to keep the Convivia informed of the Association's strategic aims, main initiatives and national campaigns;
- f) to authorize the institution of new Convivia and determine the closure of inactive Convivia or the dissolution of Convivia with just cause;
- g) to set up a National Ark Committee and, if necessary, other advisory committees, made up of experts whose duty will be to propose policies, programs and initiatives for projects which characterize the international Association;
- h) to modify the regulations of the national Statutes which govern the functioning and administration of the national associations in accordance with the international Statute;
- i) to send annually to the International Board of Directors the budget for the current financial year and the one following;
- j) to send monthly to the International Board of Directors the membership data for all new members and data on each new Convivium;
- k) to assign financial resources for the participation of national representatives in Slow Food activities and for the participation of international executives at activities or meetings in their own country; and



# Slow Food®

l) to monitor the use of the Slow Food logo in their own country and to promptly inform the International Board of Directors of any case of incorrect use.

Each National Board of Directors has the right to a part of the membership fee to finance its activities, to be

defined in agreement with the International Board of Directors, and based on the Regulations for Slow Food

Membership.

## **THE NATIONAL STATUTE**

Art. 20

Regarding the individual national regulations, the national Statute must also expressly provide for:

a) the exact nature of the national Association (or analogous established structure) as the local organized

10

structure of the international Slow Food Association, so that belonging to the national Association on the

part of an individual new member presupposes membership in the international Association;

b) conformity of the national Statute with the international Statute and its attachments (Slow Food Manifesto, Code of Use of the Slow Food Logos and Regulations);

c) the definition of the relationships between the National Board of Directors and the Convivia;

d) a National Congress to be held at least every four years for the election of the executive bodies;

e) the means of identifying candidates to represent the national Association in the international executive

bodies;

f) the presence of the International President or their representative within the national governing body; and

g) the determination of one or more administrative bodies and the representative powers of the bodies

themselves, as well as the non-transferability onto the international Association of any obligation assumed

by the national executive bodies, with the exception only of specific and documented exceptions originating

from the International Board of Directors.

## **THE CONVIVIAM, THE CONVIVIAM LEADER, THE CONVIVIAM COMMITTEE**

Art. 21

The Convivium is the Association's basic organizational structure within which members carry out the

Association activities at the local level.

A percentage of the annual membership fee paid by its members will be due to each Convivium, for every

kind of membership and in every country in which the international Slow Food Association is active, under

the terms and conditions stated in the Slow Food Membership Regulations.

If a Convivium wants to close or becomes inactive, or for other duly justifiable reasons, it will be the task of

the International Board of Directors or the National Board of Directors, where existing, to decide on an

alternative destination for the aforementioned percentage of the membership fee.

Art. 22

To establish a Convivium, the founding committee must make a formal request to the National Board of

Directors, where existing, or else directly to the International Board of Directors. These bodies may also



# Slow Food®

allow the Convivium to use the Slow Food logos, in accordance with the relevant means of use contained in the present Statute and the attached Code of Use for the Slow Food Logos. The same bodies may, with just cause, dissolve a Convivium, with a consequent immediate cessation of the use of the Slow Food logos and the possibility of using the Association's tools of identification.

## Art. 23

A Convivium can be established and considered active when it has at least 20 registered and paid members and organizes at least three events per year, including the general meeting of Convivium members. In the absence of these conditions a Convivium will still be considered active if it is recognized as such by the National Board of Directors, where existing, by the International Board of Directors or the International President.

## Art. 24

The Convivium's tasks are:

- a) to promote the philosophy of the Association;
- b) to develop around itself a local network of individuals who share the principles of Slow Food and work for their diffusion; this network is the local community of Slow Food;
- c) to extend the Association's organizational presence by recruiting more members;
- d) to establish relationships and collaborations with public bodies, gastronomic associations, consortia, producer associations and communication media, in order to contribute to the development of sustainable food systems and awareness about food production;
- e) to collaborate with other associations or entities for the protection of the environment and respect for nature, a necessary condition for the safeguarding of gastronomic heritage, as well as the defence and the promotion of traditional knowledge and diverse forms of popular culture;
- f) to establish and maintain collaborative and convivial relationships with other Convivia; and
- g) to implement activities of promotion and support for the Association's international and national projects and programs.

## Art. 25

The general meeting of members of each individual Convivium is made up of all those registered in the Convivium who have paid the membership fee.

The general meeting is convened at least once a year for the approval of the Convivium's financial report

and program of activities. Each member must receive written notice containing the meeting's agenda at least

seven days prior to the meeting. Electronic mail can be used.

A general meeting can also be convened when at least one-third of the Convivium members or the Association's higher level bodies make a request.

The meeting resolves on the basis of a simple majority of those present.

## Art. 26

The Convivium is governed by a Convivium Leader and a Convivium Committee.

## Art. 27

The Convivium Leader of a new Convivium is nominated by the founding committee and later confirmed or



# Slow Food®

substituted by the Congress of the Convivium.

Within one month of being nominated the Convivium Leader must sign a document which, in accordance

with this Statute, regulates the details the relationship of the Convivium to the International Board of

Director's and National Board of Directors, where existing. The agreement is drawn up by the International

Board of Directors and takes into account the specific rules and regulations of any National Statutes, where

applicable and the Convivium's geographic location.

The Congress of the Convivium must be convened according to the means fixed for the general meeting and

must be held at least every four years.

The Convivium Leader's mandate lasts from one Convivium election to the next.

The Convivium Leader can remain in office for up to three successive mandates, after which the Convivium

Congress must elect a new Convivium Leader.

Art. 28

The Convivium Leader represents the Convivium and is responsible for the activities it carries out and for

any kind of obligation towards third parties outside the Association. The Convivium Leader represents the

Association in the Convivium's area and is responsible, in addition to what has been stated above, for the

use of the Association logo according to the principles and means established in the present Statute and the

Code of Use of the Slow Food Logos.

12

The tasks of the Convivium Leader and the Convivium Committee will be further specified by the national

Statutes, where existing.

The Convivium Leader additionally is responsible for:

a) organizing the Association's local activities (at least three initiatives per year, including the general

meeting of members) and encouraging Association membership

b) representing the Association in its relationships with public entities, institutions, communication media

and producers within the area for which he or she is responsible

c) convening the general meeting of the members and the Convivium Congress

d) preparing the annual management report to be presented to the general meeting of members and provide

for the keeping of the Convivium's account and statutory books as well as the list of members

e) promoting and implementing all the strategic initiatives which characterize the Association and are

adopted by the international and national executive bodies and which may, in some cases, be binding and

compulsory

f) control the use of the Slow Food logo in the Convivium's area including prompt notification of the International Executive Committee, or the National Board of Directors where existing, in the case of

use

deemed to be incorrect.

Art. 29



# Slow Food®

The Convivium Committee is elected by the Convivium Congress, who will also determine its size. It holds

office for four years and is presided over by the Convivium Leader.

The Convivium Committee has the task of assisting the Convivium Leader and it must be automatically

consulted by the Convivium Leader in regards to:

- a) planning of the Convivium's activities;
- b) preparation of the annual report;
- c) convening the general meeting of the members on occasions when it appears necessary, at times which differ from what was decided in the annual report;
- d) preparation of the internal rules and regulations that best serve the running and administration of the Convivium;
- e) coordination of administrative activities with directives and regulations set down by the International Executive Committee and the National Board of Directors, where existing; and
- f) evaluation of the correctness of the use of the Slow Food logo in the Convivium's area.

The Convivium Committee also meets, in cases other than the ones stated above:

- a) whenever the Convivium Leader deems it to be necessary or if a third of the Committee members make a request, with a minimum of two members; and
- b) additionally at least once a year to resolve the Convivium's financial report

The Convivium Committee is convened by the Convivium Leader by a written or verbal communication,

normally at least three days prior to the day planned for the meeting.

For resolutions to be valid there must be a majority of Committee members present. Resolutions are passed

by a vote in favour from the majority of those present at the meeting. In the case of a tie the Convivium

Leader's vote will prevail.

Art. 30

The National Board of Directors, or where there is none the International Board of Directors, can decide

specific exceptions to the regulations and the attributions indicated in this present section.

## **INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BODIES**

Art. 31

13

International advisory bodies are created by decision of the International Council.

They have the task of in-depth study, development and proposition of policies and strategies involving

specific issues of interest to the Association, in such a way as to ensure they are managed in full conformity

with the individual circumstances of each country.

Their composition, operating procedures and tasks are defined by the International President.

Art. 32

The International Ark Commission is an international advisory body.

The National Commissions of the Ark and the Presidia, where existing, conform to the proposals and

directives of their respective International Commissions according to the regulations approved by the

International Council.



# Slow Food®

## **THE BOARD OF AUDITORS AND THE BOARD OF GUARANTORS**

Art. 33

The bodies of guarantee and control are:

the Board of Auditors

the College of Guarantors

The members of both bodies are elected by the International Congress and membership lasts from one

Congress to the next.

Both resolve on a simple majority, if necessary via electronic mail.

Art. 34

The Board of Auditors is nominated by the International Congress from among members who do not sit on

the International Executive Committee or any of the National Board of Directors.

It is made up of three permanent members and two substitutes. A President who is permanently invited to

meetings of the International Council is elected from among its members.

The Board has the tasks of verifying that:

a) the law, the Statute and the principles of correct administration are being observed

b) the accounts are being kept correctly

c) the Balance Sheet and the written accounts correspond to the facts of management

It presents a written report of the Association's Balance Sheet.

Art. 35

The College of Guarantors is the body of statutory guarantee and internal jurisdiction and its functions cover

the entire international field.

It is elected by the International Congress. It examines any disciplinary matters referred by the executive

bodies of the Association, whether by groups and single members, following due investigation makes a

decision and within 60 days issues a written ruling containing reasons for the decision.

It is made up of a maximum of five members. A President who is permanently invited to meetings of the

International Council is elected from among its members.

14

Art. 36

All the Association duties are carried out without payment.

Slow Food executives at different levels must adapt their behaviour and their initiatives, within the ambit of

the Association, in order to guarantee that their own interests are not privileged in connection with economic

and professional activities, and that they do not obtain personal benefits from them.

The National Board of Directors or the International Board of Directors has the task of monitoring and

verifying any eventual inappropriateness and taking any resulting decisions, following consultation with the

College of Guarantors.

## **TOOLS OF COMMUNICATION**

Art. 37

The International Board of Directors undertakes to do its best to establish a publication or form of communication for Slow Food members in their local language. The relative costs of the production and

distribution of communication materials must be included within the membership fee.



# Slow Food®

The website [www.slowfood.com](http://www.slowfood.com) is the international site for the whole Slow Food Association. All the sites of National Associations, Convivia or other local Slow Food institutions are required to have a link in their home page to the international Slow Food site.

## **ASSETS AND RESOURCES**

Art. 38

The assets of Slow Food are made up of:

- a) the initial endowment fund, which cannot be disposed of, determined in the Articles of Association;
- b) moveable and immovable goods, property values and contributions which arrive at the Association from public or private parties for any reason, which are expressly designated to increase the assets;
- c) credits arising from the previous items, which are regarded as designated to increase the assets; and
- d) sums deriving from un-used revenues which the International Council decides to designate to increase the assets.

All of the income which is available to the Association for the carrying out of its purposes comes from:

- a) membership fees;
- b) revenue or profit from the assets or economic activities, and related commercial activities; and
- c) donations or contributions from public and private parties that are not expressly designated to increase the assets.

The assets, contributions and donations from public and private parties have the aim of guaranteeing the functioning of the Association, the realization of its aims and the coverage of any deficits in running costs.

Any surplus in the running costs must be entirely allocated to the furthering of the Association's institutional aims. The distribution, whether direct or indirect, of the surpluses of management, funds, reserves of running surpluses or capital during the life of the Association is forbidden, unless in cases where allocation or distribution is required by law.

## **THE TRADEMARK**

Art. 39

The name and logo of the Association may be used exclusively according to the procedures laid down in the present Statute and in the attached Code of Use for the Slow Food Logos. The Code of Use for the Slow Food Logos is an integral part of the present Statute; Slow Food members, Convivia, and National Board of

15

Directors must observe it in full.

Eventual modifications to the Code of Use for the Slow Food Logos must be decided upon by the International Council (or the International Board of Directors, upon ratification at the first successive

meeting) and will be effective immediately without need for approval from the Congress.

## **ACCOUNTING PERIOD, ACCOUNTING, THE BUDGET AND THE SOCIAL INFORMATION**

Art. 40



# Slow Food®

The accounting period lasts from January 1 of the period in which the International Congress is held until

December 31 of the period prior to the successive Congress and is broken into annual administrative periods

of 12 months, from January 1 to December 31 of each year.

The International Board of Directors is responsible for setting up an accounting system which intends to

represent completely and analytically the operations carried out in each financial period.

A yearly final budget must be prepared for each accounting period. It must include supplementary notes and

a report on the management of the Association, representing appropriately the situation of the Association in

terms of assets, economics and finances.

An estimated budget must also be prepared for each administrative period, consistent with the Association's

planned activities.

Moreover a social information must be prepared every four years according to the terms approved at the

International Congress.

## **DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION**

Art. 41

Except for legal reasons, the dissolution of the Association is decided by an Extraordinary International

Congress, convened by the means established in the present Statute, to verify the conditions for the

dissolution. It will nominate one or more liquidators and will define the procedure for the devolution of any

assets to entities which pursue aims similar to those of the Association.

## **FINAL RULES**

Art. 42

The international executive bodies of the Association are not responsible for liabilities incurred by members

or national, regional or local structures, which are solely answerable for their own funds and to their own

executive bodies.

Minutes duly signed by the elected President and Secretary must be written up for every meeting of the

executive bodies.

Art. 43

The following attachments are an integral part of this Statute:

1. The Slow Food Manifesto
2. Code of Use of the Slow Food Logos
3. Slow Food Membership Regulations

16

Art. 44

For any dispute related to this Statute the place of jurisdiction is that of Alba (CN), Italy.

Anything not envisaged by the articles of this statute shall be regulated by existing Italian law and the norms

thereof relative to the matters in hand.

Art. 45

The reference language for this Statute is Italian.

Puebla, Mexico, November 11, 2007