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Section I

The organizations or individuals subscribing to the provisions of these Articles of Association hereby form an association called 'Fédération Internationale des Podologues' (FIP-IFP) and in English 'International Federation of Podiatrists' (FIP-IFP) is governed under the French Act of 1 July 1901 and the French Decree of 16 August 1901.

Section II – PURPOSE

The International Federation of Podiatrists - Fédération Internationale de Podologues (FIP-IFP), grouping members in France, Great Britain, Denmark, Belgium and the United States, was founded in 1947.

The FIP-IFP under its present form was registered on 27 June 1963 and is made up of federations, associations and other organizations of podiatrists and/or individual podiatrists belonging to the field of health professionals on five continents. The purpose of the FIP-IFP is:

- to promotion of podiatric medicine; to implement any and all means possible to develop, enhance and regularly update professional and scientific training;
- to specifically encourage research, the organization of continuous training sessions, conferences, conventions, etc.;
- to promote exchanges between nations by collecting and conveying any and all knowledge and information relating to the field of podiatric medicine;
- to ensure international representation for podiatrists, safeguard of the profession and
- to inform and document the international public regarding the nature and extent of the podiatrist's activities;
- If necessary, to intervene with national Ministries and Governments upon request by a member organization, with the agreement of the General Meeting.

Section III – REGISTERED OFFICE

The registered office of the FIP-IFP is 57 Rue Eugene Carrière 75018 Paris, France.

The registered office may be transferred to any other locality by decision of an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Section IV – STATUS OF MEMBERS

The FIP-IFP is made up of:

1. Active members (federations, associations and other organizations of podiatrists)
2. Associate members (individuals)

3. Honorary members

Section V – MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

1. Any organization submitting an application for admission to the FIP-IFP declares that it has been advised of these Articles of Association and of the Byelaws set down by the Federation; said organization undertakes to comply with, observe and apply the decisions made by the FIP-IFP and attests that its members exercise podiatric medicine as a health profession either independently or on an employee basis. The professionals of each organization are subject to compliance with the professional ethics prescribed by the legislation in their respective countries or with the regulations set down autonomously by appropriate organizations, the purpose of which regulations is to guarantee and develop professionalism, quality and practitioner-patient relations. Whenever a country is already represented by one or more organizations, an application for membership by another organization shall, before being submitted for approval by the Executive Board, obtain the agreement of the member organization or organizations.

In order to acquire membership in the FIP-IFP, an organization must submit an application stipulating its goals and objectives with respect to the development of podiatric medicine and podiatry and enclose with said application:

- A copy of its articles of association
 - A copy of the legislation regulating the profession in its country and all of the legislation regulating the level of studies and the title of the diploma authorizing conferees to practice
 - A copy of the abstract of publication of the regulations governing the profession appearing in the Official Gazette of the corresponding country.
2. Any individuals having a connection with the specific interests of the profession may acquire upon recommendation by several members of the Executive Board or by one or more member organizations. To acquire membership in the FIP-IFP, the candidate must submit curriculum vitae to the Executive Board and a letter stipulating his or her motivations.
 3. Honorary members are recommended by the Executive Board and appointed by the General Meeting.
Honorary membership may be given in recognition of exceptional service to the FIP-IFP. Honorary members may be invited by the Board to offer advice and assistance resulting from their knowledge and expertise of the FIP-IFP, but they do not have voting rights.¹

¹ AGM 2016

Section VI – LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership status is lost:

- by resignation of the member organization or individual member
- by dissolution of the organization
- If an organization or individual has violated the provisions of the Articles of Association or Byelaws, has not complied with decisions of a General Meeting or has committed an act which adversely affects the activity of the FIP-IFP.

The status of an associate member is automatically lost in the event that the organization to which the associate member belongs becomes a member of the FIP-IFP.

A motion to strike the member from the rolls for non-payment of dues within two months following the date of the General Meeting and a formal notice to pay sent by certified mail with confirmation of receipt is submitted by the Executive Board at the next General Meeting.

In the event that actions is taken to strike the member from the rolls, the member organization or individual member involved is requested to provide explanations before the Executive Board. The decision to strike the member from the rolls will be ratified at the next General Meeting by secret ballot on the basis of a of two-thirds majority vote of the members present or represented having voting rights and up to date on the payment of their membership dues.

Section VII – FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The financial resources of the FIP-IFP include:

- active and associate membership dues, the amount of which is set by General Meeting,
- various subsidies and donations of any origin to the extent authorized for associations not recognized public service organizations and whose nature and purpose are compatible with the status of the association
- proceeds from scientific events and publications.

Section VIII – COMMITTEES

Work groups are created on the basis of the following definitions:

COMMITTEES: permanent structure of unlimited duration

COMMISSIONS: work group created at the initiative of the General Meeting or of the Executive Board of the FIP-IFP for tasks of a fixed duration.

Accordingly, the following permanent committees have been created:

- the ECP: European Council of Podiatrists
- Special Olympics Committee
- the Economic & Corporate Development Committee
- the Budget & Finance Committee
- the International Recruitment Committee
- the Articles of Association Committee
- the World Foot Health Awareness Month Committee
- International Academy of Podiatric Medical Educators
- the Website Committee

Other committees or commissions may be created within the FIP-IFP by the General Meeting whenever the necessity for such becomes apparent.

Section IX – EXECUTIVE BOARD

The FIP-IFP is directed by an Executive Board made up of:

- A President
- A Vice-President
- A Secretary General
- A Treasurer General
- A Board Member at Large
- An Immediate Past President

The President and the Vice-President are elected at the same time and preferably, should not be from the same continent. However, an exception may be granted when circumstances make it difficult to find two candidates from different continents.² Their terms of office are not renewable for the same office. At each new election, the continental origin of the President must be different from the origin of his or her predecessor. (In the event of a lack of a candidate, the General Meeting has executive power, if necessary, to accept a candidate from the same continent). This is also applicable to the Vice-President.

The Secretary General and the Treasurer General are elected for two years alternating with presidential and vice- presidential election-years. Their terms are renewable.

The Board Member at Large is elected for a two year period and is commiserate with the term of the Secretary General and treasurer

² AGM 2015

The President, the Vice President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer General must not be of identical nationalities (in the event of lack of candidates, the General Meeting has exclusive power, if necessary, to accept several candidates of like nationality).

The election process of the Board members is described in the Federation's bylaw.³

Podiatrists only may be elected to the Executive Board provided that they are recommended and commissioned by their associations (said associations being up to date on the payment of their dues). Nomination papers should be returned to the FIP-IFP headquarters to arrive no later than one month before the General Meeting. Where there is more than one candidate for the same position on the Board, each candidate drawn by lot will be given an opportunity in the absence of the other candidate to address the meeting.

Voting is conducted by secret ballot on the basis of an absolute majority of the organizations present or represented having voting rights, and the Board is partially renewable each year.

The Executive Board issues an opinion regarding applications for the admission of new members. The Board may recommend striking the organization or an individual from the membership rolls in accordance with Section VI of these Articles of Association. The Board establishes the Byelaws.

The task of the Executive Board is to direct the FIP-IFP in accordance with the decisions made by General Meetings.

The Board gives an account of its activities to General Meetings.

In the event that a General Meeting determines that a specific circumstance exists that would put the FIP-IFP at risk if the election of officers of that year took place, then the General Meeting reserves the right to suspend the election for that year to provide a remedy of the unforeseen event.

In the event that a seat is vacated, the Executive Board temporarily fills seat to replace the vacating member. The replacement becomes final at the time of the next General Meeting. The term of the Board members elected in this manner terminates at the date at which the term of the replaced member normally expires.

The Executive Board meets upon call by the President or, in the event that the President should fail to call a meeting, by the Vice-President.

Decisions are made on an absolute majority-vote basis. In the event of a tied vote, the President will have the casting vote.

The members of the Executive Board who, without valid cause, have not attended 3 consecutive meetings shall be deemed as having resigned.

³ AGM 2016

The chairperson of each permanent committee shall give their report if present, to the AGM in person, by electronic means or through a delegate' in accordance with the 'Terms of Reference' for FIP-IFP committees. The board reserves the right, if needs be, to call one or more committee Chairpersons to attend its meetings.

Section X – AUDITORS

An Auditor and a Deputy Auditor are appointed by the General Meeting from members thereof, with the exception of members of the Executive Board. The task of the Auditors is to verify and review the financial operations of the FIP-IFP and to submit a detailed report on said operations to the General Meeting.

Section XI – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The General Meeting is the entity through which all decisions are made and is comprised of all of the delegates of FIP-IFP member organizations including the staff members, and individual members. Others who may attend the General Meeting: FIP-IFP staff, FIP-IFP Corporate Partners, and non-members with a letter of invitation from the Board President.⁴

The number of delegates appointed by each member organization is set down in the Bylaws.

The General Meeting meets once per year in the first six months or at the time of the FIP World Congress following approval by the prior General Meeting.

Member organizations and individual members are called by the President, in agreement with the Secretary General, no less than two months prior to the date of the meeting. The agenda is stipulated in the meeting call. A call is accompanied by the President's management report, the Treasurer's balance sheet for the year just ended and the Treasurer's budget forecasts.

The President, assisted by members of the Executive Board, chairs the General Meeting and presents his/her management report.

The Treasurer gives an account of his/her management, submits the balance sheet for the previous year and presents the budget forecasts to the General Meeting. The Auditor presents his/her report and submits for vote by the General Meeting, discharge for the Treasurer for the previous year.

No business may be conducted at the General Meeting other than the business appearing on the agenda, except where otherwise decided upon by the Meeting itself.

The General Meeting is empowered to modify the Byelaws.

⁴ AGM 2015

Business conducted by the General Meeting is subject to a quorum of one half of the member organizations registered, and decisions are made on an absolute majority basis of the organizations present or represented having voting rights. In the event that the quorum is not obtained, the General Meeting is called to order one hour after the first meeting. This Meeting may then conduct business regardless of the number of organizations present and the majority required for decisions is two-thirds of the organizations present or represented having voting rights.

Each country is entitled to a single vote in the event that such country is represented by several organizations.

The number of proxies is set down in the Byelaws.

Section XII – EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

For the transfer of the registered office, modifications in the Articles of Association or upon request by half of the registered member organizations plus one, plus one of the members of the Executive Board, the President calls an Extraordinary General Meeting.

Business conducted by the Extraordinary General Meeting is subject to a quorum of one half of the member organizations registered, and decisions are made on an absolute majority basis of the organizations present or represented having voting rights. In the event that the quorum is not obtained, the General Meeting is called to order one hour after the first meeting. This Meeting may then conduct business regardless of the number of organizations present and the majority required for decisions is two-thirds of the organizations present or represented having voting rights.

Section XIII – VOTING RIGHTS

Each active member has one vote. Individual members have no voting rights at General Meetings.

Section XIV – BY-LAWS

These Articles of Association are supplemented by Byelaws set down by the Executive Board and approved by the General Meeting.

The purpose of said Byelaws is to set down certain points which are not provided for in the Articles of Association, specifically those related to the internal management of the FIP-IFP.

The provisions of the Byelaws must be complied with by individual members and member organizations without restriction or reservation.

Section XV – OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official languages of the FIP-IFP are French and English.

Section XVI – DISSOLUTION

The term of the FIP-IFP is unlimited.

Dissolution may be decided upon by an Extraordinary General Meeting specifically called for such purpose and shall assemble no less than three-quarters of the member organizations. Dissolution is accomplished by an absolute majority vote of the organizations present or represented having voting rights. In the event that the quorum is not obtained, a second Extraordinary General Meeting will be called within three months.

In the event of dissolution, one or more liquidators are appointed by the General Meeting and the allotment of assets, if any, will be conducted as provided for under Section 9 of the French Act of 1 July 1901 and French Decree of 16 August 1901. The allotment of the remainder of assets will be conducted in accordance with the decisions made by the Extraordinary General Meeting.

Paris, 25st May of 2016

Matthew G. GAROUFALIS,

FIP-IFP President

Christian Jérôme,

FIP-IFP Vice-President