

# FDI World Dental Federation

## Constitution

**In force from September 2015**  
Amended in September 2016 and in September 2018

## 15 August 1900

### Paris, France

“It all began in the mind of a single man. Dr Charles Godon, Dean of the Ecole Dentaire de Paris, was a gentle, persistently persuasive man, a natural father-figure with his dignified posture and full white beard. It was he who first urged the formation of an international organization of dentists, and it was he who brought together in a room at the Ecole on the morning of August the fifteenth, 1900, five other dentists, all leading men in their own countries: Florestan Aguilar of Madrid, Spain, George Cunningham of Cambridge, England, Elof Förberg of Stockholm, Sweden, A.W. Harlan of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., and E. Sauvez of Paris, France. These men, together with Drs. L. Grevers (Holland), F. Hesse (Germany), and Pichler (Austria), had been elected by the Third International Dental Congress, then in progress in Paris, to be the first executive council of a body to be known as the Fédération Dentaire Internationale. They elected Dr Godon President and Dr Sauvez Secretary General, the positions the two men had held at the Congress”.

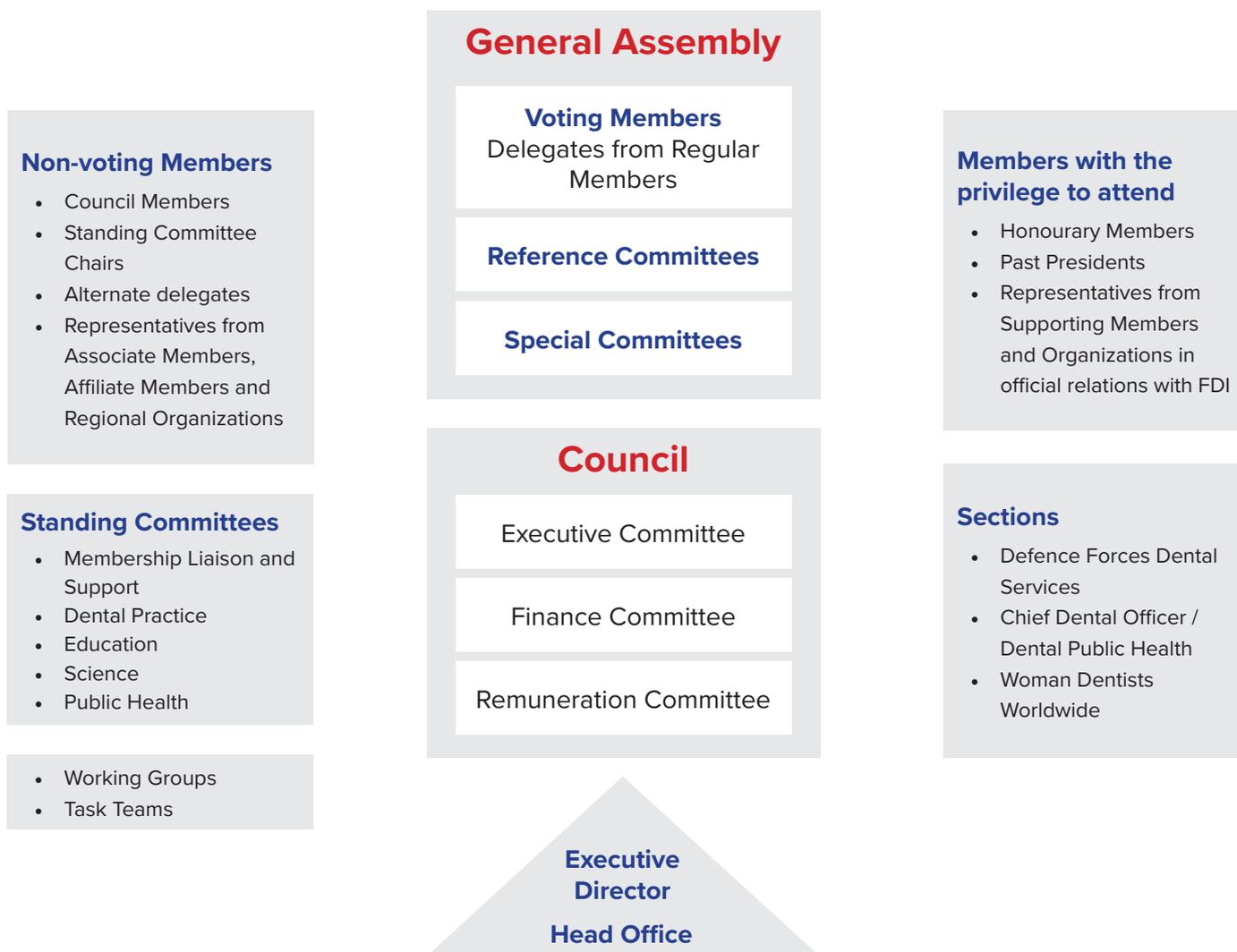
- *The Story of FDI*

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# FDI World Dental Federation Structure

<b>Name</b>	<b>Fédération Dentaire Internationale (FDI)</b>
<b>Corporate image</b>	FDI World Dental Federation
<b>Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular Members (national dental associations)</li><li>• Associate Members (national dental associations)</li><li>• Affiliate Members (international dental associations)</li><li>• Supporting Members (not-for-profit international organizations and national organizations with an international role)</li><li>• Individual Members (members of FDI Regular and Associate Members)</li></ul>
<b>Geographic Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Africa</li><li>• Asia-Pacific</li><li>• Europe</li><li>• Latin America</li><li>• North America</li></ul>
<b>Regional Organizations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• African Regional Organization (ARO)</li><li>• Asia-Pacific Regional Organization (APRO)</li><li>• European Regional Organization (ERO)</li><li>• Latin American Regional Organization (LARO)</li><li>• North American Regional Organization (NARO)</li></ul>
<b>Vision</b>	Leading the world to optimal oral health
<b>Mission Statements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be the worldwide, authoritative and independent voice of the dental profession</li><li>• To promote optimal oral and general health for all people</li><li>• To support the member associations in enhancing the ability of their members to provide oral healthcare to the public</li><li>• To advance and promote the ethics, art, science and practice of dentistry</li></ul>



## Definitions

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### Voting members

Delegates of Regular Members

#### Non-voting members with the right to speak

Council Members, Chairs of Standing Committees, Alternate delegates of Regular Members, one representative from each Associate and Affiliate Member, two representatives from each Regional Organization

#### Non-voting members with the privilege to attend

Honorary Members, Past Presidents, and representatives from Supporting Members and from organizations in official relations with FDI; with no automatic right to speak although the Speaker may allow the privilege of the floor

### COUNCIL

#### Voting members

President, President-elect, Treasurer and 10 Councillors

#### Non-voting members

Speaker of the General Assembly and Executive Director

# Articles

## Article 1 Name and seat

There exists under the name of FDI Fédération Dentaire Internationale (IDF International Dental Federation) (hereinafter: “FDI”) an association in accordance with article 60 and following the Swiss Civil Code, having its registered seat in canton Geneva, at such specific address as may from time to time be decided by the Council.

## Article 2 Purpose

FDI shall have the following purpose: to be the worldwide, authoritative and independent voice of the dental profession; to promote optimal oral and general health for all people; to support the member associations in enhancing the ability of their members to provide oral health care to the public and to advance and promote the ethics, art, science and practice of dentistry.

## Article 3 Language

FDI’s official language is French; its administrative language is English.

## Article 4 Bodies

FDI shall be made up of the following bodies, subject to the detailed provisions hereunder:

- General Assembly of Members
- Council and Council Committees
- Standing Committees
- Executive Director
- Sections

## Article 5 Resources and liability

FDI’s resources shall come from: Members’ contributions; any profits from the annual accounts; gifts and bequests; as well as any profits from the organization of annual general meetings, conferences and the like.

FDI shall be exclusively liable, with its own resources, for its own obligations, to the exclusion of FDI Members.

# Regulations

## Membership

### Chapter 1

#### 1.1 Regular Membership

##### 1.1.1 Definition

Regular Members shall be national dental associations which are recognized by FDI as principal associations and significant representatives of the legal and certified dental profession in their own countries, who have fulfilled the requirements of membership.

The status of Regular Members as a principal national association and a significant representative of the dental profession in their country may – as and when required – be re-evaluated by FDI. If convincing reasons for a change are found, a solution shall be agreed between FDI and the association concerned. Lack of such agreement shall not prevent a solution being presented by the Council to the General Assembly.

Membership of the association should be open to all dentists in the country and the association's mission and goals should be in line with those of FDI.

##### 1.1.2 Application

Application shall be made in writing by the officer responsible for the applicant association. The application shall be accompanied by the

association's constitution, documents attesting to the legal and professional status of the association, and documents verifying the number of current association members.

In cases where there is an existing Regular Member from that country, a letter of intent in relation to paragraphs 1.1.3 and 1.1.5 shall accompany the application.

All documents shall be submitted in English, French, German or Spanish.

##### 1.1.3 More than one national dental association

In countries with more than one national dental association, one of the following rules shall apply:

- A.** Only one national dental association shall be the Regular Member of that country. Applications from other national dental associations from the same country shall be referred to Associate Membership, or
- B.** Regular Membership may be granted to more than one national dental association from the same country, provided a National Committee is agreed and maintained.

Countries with only one national dental association must apply for Regular Membership. They may not be considered for Associate Membership.

### 1.1.4 National Committees

In countries with more than one Regular Member, a National Committee shall be established and maintained for the representation of the associations in the General Assembly and for other issues, as may be agreed between the parties. Such National Committees shall be organized on the basis of a written agreement between the Regular Members, a copy of which shall be submitted to FDI.

Each association which has formed the National Committee has the right to terminate its FDI membership (according to paragraph 1.1.11.A) and should inform the other party/parties forming the National Committee accordingly.

In such cases, remaining associations forming the National Committee should agree on representation at the General Assembly and inform FDI accordingly.

In the case of a dispute between Member Associations from the same country about Regular Membership, Council will review submissions and make a recommendation to the General Assembly.

### 1.1.5 Election

Applications for Regular Membership shall be received by the Council, reviewed and evaluated in relation to paragraphs 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 of these regulations and then submitted to the General Assembly with a recommendation. In the event of the existence of another member in the country, Council shall obtain their written recommendation of the application, before submitting theirs to the General Assembly, whose decision shall be final.

Membership shall commence after approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly present and voting, and after receipt of the first annual subscription fee.

### 1.1.6 Subscription fee

Regular Members, including those that form part of a National Committee, shall pay an annual subscription fee to FDI in Swiss francs according to the following formula:

**For associations with up to 50,000 members:**

$$\frac{M \times GNI \times X}{1000}$$

**For associations with more than 50,000 members:**

For the first 50,000 members

$$\frac{M \times GNI \times X}{1000}$$

plus

$$\frac{0.5 \times \text{additional } M \times GNI \times X}{1000}$$

- M** Is the actual number of members reported by the Regular Member association, based on active dentists who are subject to membership fees.
- GNI** Is the Gross National Income/Index (US\$ per capita) according to the Atlas method of the World Bank, or a comparable official source. If unavailable, FDI reserves the right to make its own assessment.
- X** Is the multiplier, to be determined annually by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Council.

Where an association's subscription according to the above formula is greater than Y% of the total regular members' subscription, a subsequent reduction of Z% shall be applied, where Y and Z are decided by the General Assembly.

- Y** the percentage ratio of total regular member subscriptions according to the above formula
- Z** The reduction percentage

A minimum annual subscription fee shall be determined each year by the General Assembly.

The subscription fees are due and payable on the 1 January of each year. If the subscription fee is not received by 28 February of the current year, interest amounting to one per cent per month will be charged from 1 March of that year until the date of receipt of the subscription fee. In addition, an administrative charge may be levied as determined annually by the Finance Committee.

Reductions in the annual subscription fee or limitation of the annual increase for any one Regular Member may be granted by the Council upon receipt of a written motivation before 28 February each year.

A prerequisite for voting rights in the General Assembly and for the right to nominate candidates for FDI office is that the subscription fees must be fully paid, including any interest charges.

In the case of National Committees, only paid up associations will have voting rights in the General Assembly.

### 1.1.7 Representation

Regular Members of one country shall avoid double counts of members and thus guarantee correct membership fee calculation and fairness in the representation and voting process during the General Assembly.

In the case of a dispute between members of a National Committee regarding representation in the General Assembly, Council will decide on the number of delegates for each member of the National Committee based on their membership numbers.

All delegates will have a vote in the General Assembly.

Regular Members or, when applicable, the National Committee shall have the right of representation in the General Assembly as follows:

Number of Members	Delegates	Alternates
1 – 3,000	1	1
3,001 – 10,000	2	2
10,001 – 20,000	3	2
20,001 – 30,000	4	2
30,001 – 40,000	5	2
40,001 – 50,000	6	2
50,001 – 70,000	7	2
70,001 – 90,000	8	2
90,001 – 110,000	9	2
110,001 – 130,000	10	2
130,001 – 170,000	11	2
170,001 – 210,000	12	2
210,001 – 250,000	13	2
250,001 – 290,000	14	2

### 1.1.8 Liaison

The respective Regular Members, also those forming part of a National Committee, should:

- A.** Inform FDI of the name of the President of the Association.
- B.** Appoint an FDI National Liaison Officer for the promotion of FDI and its programmes.

Administrative and other support for these members and functions should be provided by the Association.

### 1.1.9 Responsibilities

The Regular Members or, when applicable, the National Committees shall:

- A.** Appoint the official Delegate(s) and Alternate(s) to the General Assembly and the persons as indicated in paragraph 1.1.8.
- B.** Provide FDI with information, reports and documents, which may be of interest to FDI.
- C.** Provide FDI with comments and suggestions regarding its working programmes.

- D. Promote FDI's World Dental Congress, publications and other programmes.
- E. Transfer information provided by FDI to all its members through the appropriate communications channels, including association publications, newsletters and other relevant platforms.
- F. Pay FDI's annual subscription fee before 28 February each year.

### 1.1.10 Privileges

- A. The right of representation by Delegates and Alternates in the General Assembly based on membership as indicated in Paragraph 1.1.7.
- B. Delegates will have the right to speak and vote. Alternates will have the right to speak.
- C. The right to nominate members for election to all positions within FDI.
- D. The right to approve the nomination of their members for election to positions within FDI.
- E. The right to use FDI's logo in accordance with FDI Brand Guidelines.
- F. Benefits to members of the association as described in paragraph 1.5.

### 1.1.11 Termination

Membership shall be terminated:

- A. Upon submission of a written resignation to the Executive Director.
- B. Automatically, after non-payment of membership subscriptions for two calendar years. In the case of financial hardship, applications for waiving or reducing membership subscriptions may be made to Council, according to paragraph 1.1.6.
- C. By expulsion, provided that formal, written charges of conduct detrimental to the interests or honour of FDI be presented, through the Council, to the General Assembly which shall render its final decision on the charges by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

- D. Based on a re-evaluation, as indicated in paragraph 1.1.1, the Council may recommend and the General Assembly may resolve to alter an association's membership status or to terminate its membership.

### 1.1.12 Readmission

Applications for readmission of an association whose previous membership was terminated voluntarily, or through failure to fulfil its financial obligations, shall be made in writing by a responsible officer of the applicant association to the Executive Director.

At the discretion of the Council, all fees owing to FDI shall be paid before an application for readmission is presented to the General Assembly for election in terms of paragraph 1.1.5 above.

## 1.2 Associate Membership

### 1.2.1 Definition

Associate Members shall be national dental associations which are recognized by FDI as significant representatives of the legal and certified dental profession in their own countries, who have fulfilled the requirements of membership but for reasons acceptable to FDI, do not wish to hold Regular Membership.

This category of membership is not open to associations that are the sole representative national dental association in that country.

Such associations belong to the category of Regular Members.

Membership of the association should be open to all dentists in the country and the association's mission should be in line with that of FDI.

### 1.2.2 Application

Application shall be made in writing by the officer responsible for the applicant association. The

application shall be accompanied by the constitution of the association, documents attesting to the legal and professional status of the association, and documents verifying the number of current association members.

All documents shall be submitted in English, French, German or Spanish.

### 1.2.3 Election

Applications for Associate Membership shall be received by the Council and then submitted to the General Assembly with a recommendation, further to the membership criteria having been met. In the event of the existence of one or more Regular or Associate Member in the country, Council shall obtain written recommendation of the application, before submitting theirs to the General Assembly whose decision shall be final. Membership shall commence after approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly present and voting; further to receipt of the first annual subscription fee.

### 1.2.4 Subscription fee

Associate Members shall pay an annual subscription fee as determined by Council.

### 1.2.5 Representation

Associate Members shall have one representative at the General Assembly with the right to speak but without the right to vote.

### 1.2.6 Liaison

The respective Associate Members should:

- A.** Inform FDI of the name of the President of the Association.
- B.** Appoint an FDI contact person for the promotion of FDI and its programmes.

Administrative and other support for these members and functions should be provided by the Association.

### 1.2.7 Responsibilities

Associate Members shall:

- A.** Appoint the association's representative to the General Assembly.
- B.** Provide FDI with information, reports and documents, which may be of interest to FDI.
- C.** Provide FDI with comments and suggestions regarding FDI's working programmes.
- D.** Promote FDI's World Dental Congress, publications and other programmes.
- E.** Transfer information provided by FDI to all its members through the appropriate communications channels, including association publications, newsletters and other relevant platforms.
- F.** Pay FDI's annual subscription fee before 28 February each year.

### 1.2.8 Privileges

- A.** The right for one representative to attend the General Assembly with the right to speak but without the right to vote.
- B.** Benefits to members of the Association as described in paragraph 1.5.
- C.** The right to use FDI's logo in accordance with FDI Brand Guidelines.

### 1.2.9 Termination

Membership shall be terminated:

- A.** After written resignation has been submitted to the Executive Director.
- B.** Automatically, after failure to fulfil financial obligations for two calendar years. In the case of financial hardship, applications for waiving or reducing membership subscriptions may be made to the Council before 28 February each year.
- C.** By expulsion, provided that formal, written charges of conduct detrimental to the interests or honour of FDI be presented, through the Council, to the General Assembly which shall render its

final decision on the charges by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

#### **1.2.10 Readmission**

Applications for readmission from an association whose previous membership was terminated voluntarily, or through failure to fulfil its financial obligations, shall be made in writing by the officer responsible for the applicant association to the Executive Director.

At the discretion of the Council, all fees owing to FDI shall be paid before an application for readmission is presented to the General Assembly for election in terms of paragraph 1.2.3 above.

### **1.3 Affiliate Membership**

#### **1.3.1 Definition**

Affiliate Members shall be not-for-profit international dental associations representing dental organizations whose missions are in line with those of FDI.

Affiliate Members must be able to demonstrate that they have a significant international membership and interest, and that membership is open to all qualifying organizations from all countries.

Affiliate Members must be able to demonstrate that they provide services, programmes or resources to their member organizations.

This category is for organizations primarily representing dentists. It is not for industry, commercial organizations or those representing members with commercial interests.

#### **1.3.2 Application**

Application shall be made in writing by the officer responsible for the applicant association. The application shall be accompanied by the constitution of the association, documents attesting to the legal and professional status of the association,

and documents verifying the number of current association members.

All documents shall be submitted in English, French, German or Spanish.

#### **1.3.3 Election**

Applications for Affiliate Membership shall be received by the Council and submitted with a recommendation to the General Assembly, whose decision shall be final. Membership shall commence after approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly present and voting; further to receipt of the first annual subscription fee.

#### **1.3.4 Subscription fee**

Affiliate Members shall pay an annual subscription fee, as determined by the Council.

#### **1.3.5 Representation**

Affiliate Members shall have one representative at the General Assembly with the right to speak but without the right to vote.

#### **1.3.6 Responsibilities**

Affiliate Members shall:

- A.** Appoint a representative to the General Assembly.
- B.** Provide FDI with information, reports and documents, which may be of interest to FDI.
- C.** Provide FDI with comments and suggestions regarding FDI's working programmes.
- D.** Promote FDI's World Dental Congress, publications and other programmes.
- E.** Transfer information provided by FDI to all its members through the appropriate communications channels, including association publications, newsletters and other relevant platforms.
- F.** Pay FDI's annual subscription fee before 28 February each year.

### 1.3.7 Privileges

- A.** The right for one representative to attend the General Assembly with the right to speak but without the right to vote.
- B.** The right to at least one meeting annually with representatives from FDI Council and senior staff.
- C.** The right to use FDI's logo in accordance with FDI Brand Guidelines.

### 1.3.8 Termination

Membership shall be terminated:

- A.** After written resignation has been submitted to the Executive Director.
- B.** Automatically, after failure to fulfil financial obligations for two calendar years. In the case of financial hardship, applications for waiving or reducing membership subscriptions may be made to the Council before 28 February each year.
- C.** By expulsion, provided that formal, written charges of conduct detrimental to the interests or honour of FDI be presented, through the Council, to the General Assembly which shall render its final decision on the charges by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

## 1.4 Supporting Membership

### 1.4.1 Definition

Supporting Members of FDI shall be not-for-profit international organizations or national organizations with an international role, which have objectives in, or are related to the field of dentistry.

Supporting Members shall have direct or indirect involvement in the dental profession and with members of the dental team, but do not qualify for one of the above membership categories.

The organization's mission should be in line with that of FDI.

### 1.4.2 Application

Application shall be made in writing by the officer responsible for the applicant organization. The application shall be accompanied by the constitution of the organization, documents attesting to the legal and professional status of the organization, and documents verifying the number of current organizational members.

All documents shall be submitted in English, French, German or Spanish.

### 1.4.3 Election

Applications for Supporting Membership shall be received by the Council and submitted with a recommendation to the General Assembly, whose decision shall be final. Membership shall commence after approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the General Assembly present and voting; further to receipt of the first annual subscription fee.

### 1.4.4 Subscription fee

Supporting Members shall pay an annual subscription fee, as determined by the Council.

### 1.4.5 Representation

Supporting Members shall have one representative at the General Assembly without the automatic right to speak or the right to vote.

### 1.4.6 Responsibilities

Supporting Members shall:

- A.** Appoint a representative to the General Assembly.
- B.** Provide FDI with information, reports and documents, which may be of interest to FDI.
- C.** Provide FDI with comments and suggestions regarding FDI's working programmes.
- D.** Promote FDI's World Dental Congress, publications and other programmes.
- E.** Transfer information provided by FDI to all its members through the appropriate

communications channels, including association publications, newsletters and other relevant platforms.

- F. Pay FDI's annual subscription fee before 28 February each year.

#### 1.4.7 Privileges

- A. The right for one representative to attend the General Assembly without the automatic right to speak or the right to vote.
- B. The right to at least one meeting annually with representatives from FDI Council and senior staff.
- C. The right to use FDI's logo in accordance with FDI Brand Guidelines.

#### 1.4.8 Termination

Membership shall be terminated:

- A. After written resignation has been submitted to the Executive Director.
- B. Automatically, after failure to fulfil financial obligations for two calendar years. In the case of financial hardship, applications for waiving or reducing membership subscriptions may be made to the Council before 28 February each year.

- C. By expulsion, provided that formal, written charges of conduct detrimental to the interests or honour of FDI be presented, through the Council, to the General Assembly which shall render its final decision on the charges by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

### 1.5. Membership Privileges

- A. To attend meetings of the General Assembly as observers.
- B. To attend the Congresses and other programmes of FDI under conditions designated by the Council.
- C. To receive other membership benefits as designated by the Council.
- D. To receive information about FDI and its programmes through FDI's communication channels as well as those of Regular and Associate Members.

# General Assembly

## Chapter 2

### 2.1 Composition

#### 2.1.1 Voting members

Attendees with voting rights at the General Assembly shall be delegates from the Regular Members designated in accordance with paragraph 1.1.7 of these Regulations.

#### 2.1.2 Non-voting members

Attendees without voting rights at the General Assembly, with the right to speak, shall be:

- Council Members
- Chairs of Standing Committees
- Alternate delegates of Regular Members
- One representative of each Associate Member
- One representative of each Affiliate Member
- Two representatives of each Regional Organization

#### 2.1.3 Privilege to attend

Privilege to attend the General Assembly, without the automatic right to speak or the right to vote shall be granted to:

- Honorary Members
- Past Presidents
- One representative of each Supporting Member
- One representative of each organization in official relations with FDI
- Members of FDI member associations

### 2.2 Certifications

Regular Members shall certify to the Executive Director, not less than 60 days in advance of each meeting, the names of the delegates and alternates wishing to attend.

Alternate delegates may be seated in place of a certified delegate on prior notice in writing to the Executive Director.

## 2.3 Speaker

The Speaker of the General Assembly shall preside over all meetings and shall not have the right to vote. In the event that the Speaker is absent, the General Assembly shall designate a temporary Speaker for the duration of the meeting.

The Speaker shall be nominated by one or more Regular Members and elected by the General Assembly.

## 2.4 Powers and Duties of the General Assembly

The General Assembly shall:

- A. Be the supreme legislative and governing body of FDI.
- B. Set FDI policies, strategic plan, mission and aims and monitor progress on their achievement.
- C. Have the power to enact, amend or repeal the Articles and Regulations.
- D. Have the power to dissolve FDI.
- E. Elect Regular, Associate, Affiliate and Supporting Members.
- F. Elect FDI Councillors and the Speaker.
- G. Elect Honorary Members and grant FDI Awards.
- H. Approve the annual budget and establish the annual subscription of the Regular Members.
- I. Receive and take necessary action on reports of the Council.

## 2.5 Transfer of Powers and Duties in an Emergency

### 2.5.1 Definition of an Emergency

For the purposes of this section, a potential emergency may be said to exist when international

conditions, relating particularly to communications, travel, the transfer of funds, attendance and security of delegates at the World Dental Congress, are such as to cause, or seem likely to cause, grave interference with, or cessation of, the programme of FDI for an indeterminate period.

### 2.5.2 Declaration of an Emergency

All powers and duties of the General Assembly, except the power to enact, amend or repeal the Articles and Regulations, or to dissolve FDI, may be transferred to the Council if either the Council or the General Assembly, by two-thirds (2/3) vote, declare an emergency. An emergency declared by the Council shall immediately be communicated to the Regular Members by the Executive Director. After a declaration of an emergency by the Council, a special meeting of the General Assembly may be called by a majority of the Regular Members.

### 2.5.3 Termination of an Emergency

The state of emergency may be terminated by a majority vote of Regular Members in good standing at the time the emergency was declared or by a majority vote of the Council.

## 2.6 Regular and Special Meetings

### 2.6.1 Regular Meetings

The General Assembly shall hold at least one regular meeting each calendar year. Each meeting may consist of one or more sessions.

Notice of regular meetings shall be issued by the Executive Director at least 90 days prior to such meetings.

### 2.6.2 Special Meetings

The General Assembly shall hold special meetings:

- A. At the direction of the Council, when a call for a special meeting is supported by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Council.

- B.** At the direction of the Executive Committee, when a call for a special meeting is requested by a majority of the Regular Members.

The call for a special meeting shall be issued not less than 60 days in advance by the Executive Director. Business transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to that stated in the official call, except by unanimous consent of the delegates present and voting. The time and place of a special meeting shall be determined by the Council.

Special Meetings may be electronic, during which remote ballots may be conducted.

## 2.7 Reference Committees

- A.** Reference Committee hearings may be held to facilitate the work of the General Assembly.
- B.** The Council will propose Reference Committees for approval by the General Assembly. Reference Committees shall be composed of up to five delegates of the General Assembly; one of whom will be appointed as the Chair. The Reference Committees shall serve only for the duration of a regular or special meeting.
- C.** The Reference Committees shall consider the evidence presented to them and report their recommendations in good time to the General Assembly. They may propose amendments to the resolution(s) before them or propose substitute resolutions on the subject.

## 2.8 Rules of Procedure

### 2.8.1 Reports

In order to be considered by the General Assembly, all reports shall be circulated to the Regular Members not less than 60 days prior to the meeting. Such reports shall be available to the Executive Director before the mid-year meeting of the Council.

Issues not circulated to the Regular Members as indicated above, may be presented to the General Assembly as new business.

### 2.8.2 Presentation of new business

New business may be presented at any session, and shall require approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting for adoption.

### 2.8.3 Quorum

The quorum for the transaction of official business at any regular or special meeting shall be that 30 Regular Members or National Committees where applicable, be represented.

### 2.8.4 Privilege of the floor

Voting and non-voting Members of the General Assembly have the right to speak. The Speaker, with the consent of the General Assembly, may grant the privilege of the floor to any other person.

### 2.8.5 Voting

Each delegate from a Regular Member shall have one vote. Proxy voting shall not be permitted. Voting shall be by show of hands, cards, written ballots, electronic voting or by any other method as the Speaker shall announce, subject to approval by the General Assembly.

A secret ballot shall be conducted if one-third (1/3) of the delegates present and voting support the request for such a ballot.

### 2.8.6 Nominations

- A.** Nominations for Dr Charles Godon Medal of Honour shall be submitted to the General Assembly by the Council.
- B.** Nominations for offices of FDI which fall vacant at the next meeting of the General Assembly shall be submitted to the Executive Director, at least 90 days before that meeting in the case of nominations for Council and 120 days before

that meeting in the case of nominations for Standing Committees. If a vacancy occurs during a meeting of the General Assembly nominations may be received from Regular Members at that meeting. Each nomination shall be supported by the Regular Member Association of the nominee.

### **2.8.7 Elections**

For a contested office, elections shall be conducted by a secret ballot for which electronic voting may be used.

A majority of the legal ballots cast by those delegates present and voting shall be necessary for election to each office.

### **2.8.8 Financial statement**

All resolutions shall be accompanied by a financial impact statement setting forth, as near as can be ascertained, the financial consequences, if any, of the resolution.

### **2.8.9 Approval of the budget**

If the General Assembly agrees by a majority vote to alter the annual budget presented by the Council, the budget shall be returned to the Council for review.

### **2.8.10 Suspension of rules**

These rules, except the rule governing quorum, may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

# Council and Council Committees

## Chapter 3

### 3.1 Composition

- A.** The voting members of the Council shall be the President, President-elect, the Treasurer and 10 Councillors. They shall not be voting delegates of the General Assembly.
- B.** The Speaker and the Executive Director will attend meetings without a vote.

### 3.2 Powers and Functions

The Council shall have:

- A.** Powers not vested with other bodies of FDI, including the power to initiate, conduct, delegate, monitor and coordinate all business of FDI in accordance with these Articles and Regulations, the objectives and mission statements of the organization, and the mandates of the General Assembly.
- B.** Direct the Executive Director in the management and administration of FDI and the maintenance of all property.
- C.** Approve a contract determining the conditions of employment of the Executive Director.
- D.** Assume the powers transferred to it in a period of emergency.
- E.** Nominate candidates for Dr Charles Godon Medal of Honour.
- F.** After obtaining the advice and consent of the Regular or Associate Member Associations of the nominees, elect Members of Standing Committees, appoint representatives of Working Groups and Task Teams and direct their activities.
- G.** Receive and review reports from Members, Regional Organizations, Standing Committees, Working Groups, Task Teams and Sections and make recommendations to the General Assembly.
- H.** Facilitate good liaison between the Council and the Standing Committees and between the Council and the Regional Organizations by appointing one Councillor to fulfil that liaison role (without a vote) with each Standing Committee (except the Executive Committee, Finance Committee and Remuneration Committee) and with each Regional Organization.
- I.** Determine the place and time and direct the organization of World Dental Congresses and the organization of other FDI educational programmes.
- J.** Direct the management of FDI publications.
- K.** Prepare annual budgets for approval by the General Assembly and provide oversight for the financial stability of the organization.

- L. Provide for an annual audit by a chartered accountant.
- M. Establish rules for FDI Awards.

### 3.3 Working Groups and Task Teams

Working Groups and Task Teams may be established by the Council to consider matters which are not falling within the purview of any Standing Committee. The resolution authorizing the Working Group or Task Team shall specify its duties, the number of members, calculated costs and indicate the estimated time frame and mode of presentation.

### 3.4 Eligibility and Criteria

Only dentist members of the Regular Members shall be eligible to become members of FDI Council.

Once a member of Council or the Speaker has been elected, he/she may serve for the elected period of office whether or not his/her national dental association remains an FDI Regular Member.

Criteria for all Council positions will be as set out in the relevant Manual.

### 3.5 Nominations and Elections

Nominations for Council members to be elected by the General Assembly, shall be submitted by one or more Regular Member or by one or more Regional Organization, to the Executive Director at least 90 days before the meeting at which the election will be held. Each nomination must be supported by the nominee's Regular Member Association.

Of the 10 Councillors, at least one shall come from each FDI Geographic Area. To achieve this, when there is no Councillor from an FDI Geographic Area, the first election will be to fill this vacancy.

Only nominees from this FDI Geographic Area will enter the ballot. All voting delegates to the General Assembly will be entitled to vote.

Once a person has been elected from all FDI Geographic Areas, those nominees not elected go back into the ballot for subsequent positions as FDI Councillor. If there is no Councillor from an FDI Geographic Area and no nomination has been received from that FDI Geographic Area, then a vacancy will remain.

No member of Council may also be a member of a Standing Committee (except the Executive Committee, Finance Committee and Remuneration Committee).

### 3.6 Title, Term and Tenure

#### 3.6.1 President and President-elect

The term of office of the President shall be two years following a two-year term as President-elect. The term of office of the President-elect shall be two years followed by a two-year term as President.

The President and President-elect shall be ineligible for re-election.

Any person who has served as FDI President is ineligible for election as a Member of the Council.

#### 3.6.2 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term as Treasurer.

#### 3.6.3 Councillors

The 10 Councillors shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three year term.

### 3.6.4 Speaker of the General Assembly

The Speaker of the General Assembly shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term as Speaker.

### 3.6.5 Duration of service on Council

No person shall serve as a Councillor for more than six years or in any capacity on Council for more than 13 years in total.

## 3.7 Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy in the office of:

### 3.7.1 President

The President-elect shall serve as President until the next regular meeting of the General Assembly, following which his/her regular two-year term as President shall commence. If it is not possible for the President-elect to take up the office of President when it becomes unexpectedly vacant, the Council shall elect a President from among the voting members of Council to serve the unexpired term.

### 3.7.2 President-elect

The office shall be left vacant until the next regular meeting of the General Assembly. The vacancy on the Executive Committee shall be filled by a voting member of the Council, elected by the Council.

### 3.7.3 Treasurer

The Council shall designate the longest serving Member of the Finance Committee to act as Treasurer until the next regular meeting of the General Assembly at which time a successor shall be elected for a new term.

If a vacancy occurs at a regular meeting of the General Assembly due to the outcome of the elections, then nominations for such a position

may be submitted immediately and the election conducted during the same session of the General Assembly.

### 3.7.4 Councillors and Speaker

The office shall remain vacant until the next regular meeting of the General Assembly.

If a vacancy occurs at a regular meeting of the General Assembly due to the outcome of the elections, then nominations for such a position may be submitted immediately and the election conducted during the same session of the General Assembly.

## 3.8 Duties

### 3.8.1 President

It shall be the duty of the President to:

- A. Serve as the principal official representative of FDI in its relations with governments and international organizations.
- B. Preside over all official functions of FDI at the World Dental Congress.
- C. Serve as Chair of both the Council and Executive Committee.
- D. Submit annually a written report of activities and recommendations to the General Assembly.
- E. Carry out such other duties as are assigned by these Articles and Regulations.

### 3.8.2 President-elect

It shall be the duty of the President-elect to:

- A. Succeed to the office of President.
- B. Serve as a voting member of the Council and Executive Committee.
- C. Carry out such other duties as are assigned by these Articles and Regulations.

### 3.8.3 Treasurer

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to:

- A. Serve as a voting member of the Council and Executive Committee and as Chair of the Finance Committee.
- B. Carry out duties in regard to the financial and investment programmes of FDI as assigned by the Executive Committee, Council and General Assembly and to propose recommendations annually in these areas to the Council.
- C. Carry out such other duties as are assigned by these Articles and Regulations.

### 3.8.4 Councillors

It shall be the duty of the 10 councillors to:

- A. Serve as voting members of the Council.
- B. Fulfil a liaison function between the Council and either a Standing Committee or a Regional Organization (without a vote).
- C. Carry out such other duties as are assigned by these Articles and Regulations.

### 3.8.5. Speaker of the General Assembly

It shall be the duty of the Speaker of the General Assembly to:

- A. Carry out the duties designated in paragraph 2.3 of these Regulations.
- B. Attend meetings of the Council in a non-voting capacity.
- C. Carry out such other duties as are assigned by these Articles and Regulations.

## 3.9 Chairing of Meetings

Council meetings attended by the President shall be chaired by the President or a Council member designated by the President.

If the President is absent from an entire meeting, the Council shall be chaired by the President-elect, or a Council member designated by the President-elect.

If both the President and President-elect are absent at the commencement of a Council meeting, a Chair shall be chosen by the Council for that meeting.

## 3.10 Regular and Special Meetings

### 3.10.1 Regular meetings

The time, place and number of regular meetings shall be determined by the Council.

### 3.10.2 Special meetings

Special meetings shall be called by the President at the request of not less than six voting members of the Council, or at the request of the Executive Committee.

The Secretary shall notify all members of the Council not less than 14 days in advance of such a meeting. Business transacted at any special meeting shall be limited to that stated in the official call for such a meeting except by unanimous consent of those present and voting. The time and place of a special meeting shall be determined by the Executive Committee. Exceptionally, 'meetings' may be conducted electronically or by teleconference.

## 3.11 Rules of Procedure

### 3.11.1 Reports

All reports to the Council shall be submitted to the Executive Director not less than 60 days in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered. These reports shall be circulated to the members of Council not less than 30 days prior to the meeting. New business may be presented at any session.

### **3.11.2 Quorum**

Seven voting members shall constitute a quorum for the official transaction of business.

### **3.11.3 Privilege of the floor**

The voting and non-voting members of the Council shall have the privilege of the floor. The Chair, with the consent of the Council, may grant the privilege of the floor to any other person.

### **3.11.4 Suspension of rules**

These rules, except the rule governing quorum, may be suspended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

## **3.12 Executive Committee**

### **3.12.1 Role and responsibilities**

The Executive Committee shall provide guidance to the Executive Director and take urgent decisions that cannot be made by the Executive Director and cannot be referred to Council due to time or other constraints. Such decisions shall be reported to Council within two weeks and shall be subject to ratification by Council at its next meeting.

The members of the Executive Committee have the right to attend all FDI meetings.

### **3.12.2 Composition**

The Executive Committee shall consist of three voting members: the President, President-elect and Treasurer. The Executive Director shall attend meetings without the right to vote.

### **3.12.3 Meetings**

The Executive Committee shall be chaired by the President and meet at the call of the President or at the direction of the other members.

## **3.13 Finance Committee**

### **3.13.1 Role and responsibilities**

The Finance Committee shall prepare the annual budget and scrutinize annual financial reports for the consideration of the Council and the General Assembly. It shall guide the Executive Director in the management of FDI funds. It shall make recommendations to the Council and General Assembly on subscription fees and on the financial affairs of FDI, including the monitoring of investments. It shall monitor the membership numbers provided by members for accuracy.

The Finance Committee shall recommend measures to Council to ensure FDI's financial stability.

### **3.13.2 Composition**

The Finance Committee shall consist of the Treasurer and three members of the Council (elected annually within the duration of their term on Council), all with the right to vote. The Treasurer shall serve as Chair.

### **3.13.3 Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least once a year at the call of the Chair.

## **3.14 Remuneration Committee**

### **3.14.1 Role and responsibilities**

The Remuneration Committee shall be responsible for the regular appraisal of the Executive Director's performance, as well as for negotiating the Executive Director's remuneration package including allowances and expenses.

The Remuneration Committee shall make recommendations regarding allowances, expenses, per diems, etc., for members of Council, Standing Committees, Working Groups and Task Teams.

Recommendations made by the Remuneration Committee, which have financial implications shall be presented to the Finance Committee for approval.

### **3.14.2 Composition**

The Remuneration Committee shall be chaired by the President and be composed of the members of the Executive Committee plus one Councillor

elected by Council. The term of office of members of the Remuneration Committee shall be for the duration of their term of office as Executive Committee Members or as Councillor.

### **3.14.3 Meetings**

The Remuneration Committee shall meet at least once a year at the call of the Chair.

# Standing Committees

## Chapter 4

### 4.1 General

#### 4.1.1 Number

FDI has five Standing Committees, each with a particular sphere of activity and expertise.

#### 4.1.2 Elections

Members of Standing Committees (except the liaison Councillor) shall be elected by the Council and General Assembly in rotation as vacancies occur, based on nominations received from Regular Members.

#### 4.1.3 Criteria

Criteria for membership of all Standing Committees will be as set out in the relevant Manual. An application form for election to a Standing Committee shall list the criteria for membership and shall be completed and submitted in respect of each nominee.

#### 4.1.4 Nominations

Nominations for members of all Standing Committees to be elected by the Council or the General Assembly shall be submitted by one or more Regular Member(s) to the Executive Director

at least 120 days before the meeting at which the election will be held. Each nomination must be supported by the nominee's Regular Member Association.

#### 4.1.5 Consideration of nominations

Nominations will be considered by the Chair, Vice-chair and Liaison Councillor of the relevant Committee.

Nominees failing to meet the criteria will be ineligible for election and will not be presented to the Council or General Assembly.

#### 4.1.6 Accountability

Standing Committees are accountable to Council and shall report at least annually to the Council. The activities of the Standing Committees shall be at the direction of Council and in accordance with FDI's mission, aims and strategic plan as agreed from time to time by the General Assembly.

#### 4.1.7 Staff participation

The Executive Director and/or staff members appointed by the Executive Director shall participate in the meetings of Standing Committees without a vote.

#### 4.1.8 Experts

Standing Committees may appoint experts or advisors needed for the fulfilment of its activities providing there is no financial implication to FDI. Such appointments are subject to Council's approval.

## 4.2 Membership Liaison and Support Committee

#### 4.2.1 Role and responsibilities

The Membership Liaison and Support Committee shall, under the direction of Council, monitor and advise Council on issues concerning communication with FDI Members and FDI's support to members. It will report at least annually to Council.

#### 4.2.2 Composition and terms of office

The Membership Liaison and Support Committee shall consist of six members plus one liaison Councillor.

- A.** The Chair shall be elected by Council in consultation with the Committee members and based on criteria outlined in the relevant manual. The Chair's term of office shall be three years.
- B.** The Vice-chair shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst its members.
- C.** Committee Members shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term.
- D.** If due to the completion of the term of office or a vacancy, the resulting Committee membership is less than one-half (50%) of the experienced voting members, the Committee may elect, from amongst the outgoing members, one or two individuals to maintain one-half (50%) of the experienced members on the Committee for an additional year. Extension of a term under this provision shall be for one year and must be ratified by Council. Extended members will

reduce the number of newly elected members by a like amount for one year.

#### 4.2.3 Vacancies

- A.** Chair: The Vice-chair shall serve as Chair until the new Chair is elected.
- B.** Members: The position shall be left vacant until the next meeting of the General Assembly or the Council.

#### 4.2.4 Regular meetings

The Membership Liaison and Support Committee shall hold regular meetings at the World Dental Congress and at other occasions at the call of the Chair.

#### 4.2.5 Rules of procedure

- A.** Quorum: four voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B.** Mail and electronic ballots may be conducted.

## 4.3 Dental Practice Committee

#### 4.3.1 Role and responsibilities

The Dental Practice Committee shall, under the direction of Council, monitor and advise Council on issues concerning dental practice.

It will report at least annually to the Council.

#### 4.3.2 Composition and terms of office

The Dental Practice Committee shall consist of six Members, plus one liaison Councillor.

- A.** The Chair shall be elected by Council in consultation with the Committee members and based on criteria outlined in the relevant manual. The Chair's term of office shall be three years.
- B.** The Vice-chair shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst its members.

- C.** Committee Members shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term.
- D.** If due to the completion of the term of office or a vacancy, the resulting Committee membership is less than one-half (50%) of the experienced voting members, the Committee may elect, from amongst the outgoing members, one or two individuals to maintain one-half (50%) of the experienced members on the Committee for an additional year. Extension of a term under this provision shall be for one year and must be ratified by Council. Extended members will reduce the number of newly elected members by a like amount for one year.

#### 4.3.3 Vacancies

- A.** Chair: the Vice-chair shall serve as Chair until the new Chair is elected.
- B.** Members: the position shall be left vacant until the next meeting of the General Assembly or the Council.

#### 4.3.4 Regular meetings

The Dental Practice Committee shall hold regular meetings at the World Dental Congress and at other occasions at the call of the Chair.

#### 4.3.5 Rules of procedure

- A.** Quorum: Four voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B.** Mail and electronic ballots may be conducted.

## 4.4 Education Committee

#### 4.4.1 Role and responsibilities

The Education Committee shall, under the direction of Council, monitor and advise Council on issues concerning dental education, the scientific programme of the World Dental Congress and FDI's Continuing Education Programme.

It shall report at least annually to Council.

#### 4.4.2 Composition and terms of office

The Education Committee shall consist of six members plus one liaison Councillor.

- A.** The Chair shall be elected by Council in consultation with the Committee members and based on criteria outlined in the relevant manual. The Chair's term of office shall be three years.
- B.** The Vice-chair shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst its members.
- C.** Committee Members shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term.
- D.** If due to the completion of the term of office or a vacancy, the resulting Committee membership is less than one-half (50%) of the experienced voting members, the Committee may elect, from amongst the outgoing members, one or two individuals to maintain one-half (50%) of the experienced members on the Committee for an additional year. Extension of a term under this provision shall be for one year and must be ratified by Council. Extended members will reduce the number of newly elected members by a like amount for one year.

#### 4.4.3 Vacancies

- A.** Chair: the Vice-chair shall serve as Chair until the new Chair is elected.
- B.** Members: the position shall be left vacant until the next meeting of the General Assembly or the Council.

#### 4.4.4 Regular meetings

The Education Committee shall hold regular meetings at the World Dental Congress and at other occasions at the call of the Chair.

#### 4.4.5 Rules of procedure

- A. Quorum: four voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B. Mail and electronic ballots may be conducted.

### 4.5 Science Committee

#### 4.5.1 Role and responsibilities

The Science Committee shall, under the direction of Council, monitor and advise Council on issues related to oral health.

It shall report at least annually to Council.

#### 4.5.2 Composition and terms of office

The Science Committee shall consist of six FDI members, one liaison Councillor, one member nominated by the International Association for Dental Research (IADR) with the right to vote, one member nominated by the World Health Organization (WHO) without the right to vote and one member nominated by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) without the right to vote.

- A. The Chair shall be elected by Council in consultation with the Committee members and based on criteria outlined in the relevant manual. The Chair's term of office shall be three years.
- B. The Vice-chair shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst its FDI members.
- C. FDI Committee Members shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term.
- D. If due to the completion of the term of office or a vacancy, the resulting Committee membership is less than one-half (50%) of the experienced voting members, the Committee may elect, from amongst the outgoing members, one or two individuals to maintain one-half (50%) of the experienced members on the Committee for an additional year. Extension of a term under

this provision shall be for one year and must be ratified by Council. Extended members will reduce the number of newly elected members by a like amount for one year.

- E. Members from IADR, ISO and WHO are not eligible for any Chair position.

#### 4.5.3 Vacancies

- A. Chair: the Vice-chair shall serve as Chair until the new Chair is elected.
- B. Members: the position shall be left vacant until the next meeting of the General Assembly or the Council.

#### 4.5.4 Regular meetings

The Science Committee shall hold regular meetings at the World Dental Congress and at other occasions at the call of the Chair.

#### 4.5.5 Rules of procedure

- A. Quorum: four voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B. Mail and electronic ballots may be conducted.

### 4.6 Public Health Committee

#### 4.6.1 Role and responsibilities

The Public Health Committee shall under the direction of Council, monitor and advise Council on issues concerning the improvement of oral and general health in disadvantaged populations and on issues surrounding wider health promotion.

It shall report at least annually to Council.

#### 4.6.2 Composition and terms of office

The Public Health Committee shall consist of six FDI members, one member from the Chief Dental Officer/Dental Public Health Section (nominated by the Section, with the right to vote), one liaison

Councillor and one member nominated by the WHO (without the right to vote).

- A.** The Chair shall be elected by Council in consultation with the Committee members and based on criteria outlined in the relevant manual. The Chair's term of office shall be three years.
- B.** The Vice-chair shall be elected annually by the Committee from amongst its FDI members.
- C.** FDI Committee Members shall be elected for a term of three years and, upon completion of one full three-year term, may be elected to only one consecutive three-year term.
- D.** If due to the completion of the term of office or a vacancy, the resulting Committee membership is less than one-half (50%) of the experienced voting members, the Committee may elect, from amongst the outgoing members, one or two individuals to maintain one-half (50%) of the experienced members on the Committee for an additional year. Extension of a term under this provision shall be for one year and must be ratified by Council. Extended members will reduce the number of newly elected members by a like amount for one year.

- E.** Members from the Chief Dental Officer/Dental Public Health Section and WHO are not eligible for any Chair position.

#### **4.6.3 Vacancies**

- A.** Chair: the Vice-chair shall serve as Chair until the new Chair is elected.
- B.** Members: the position shall be left vacant until the next meeting of the General Assembly or the Council.

#### **4.6.4 Regular meetings**

The Public Health Committee shall hold regular meetings at the World Dental Congress and at other occasions at the call of the Chair.

#### **4.6.5 Rules of procedure**

- A.** Quorum: four voting members shall constitute a quorum.
- B.** Mail and electronic ballots may be conducted.

# Special Committees

## Chapter 5

Special Committees may be established by the Council to consider matters, which are not under the purview of any Standing Committee. The resolution authorizing the Special Committee shall specify the duties of the Committee, the number of members, and indicate the estimated time frame and mode of presentation.

### 5.1 Audit Committee

#### 5.1.1 Role and responsibilities

The Audit Committee shall:

- Assess financial control and processes.
- Assess risk management protocols.
- Review past financial reporting.
- Report annually to the General Assembly.

#### 5.1.2 Composition

The Audit Committee shall be composed of three members of the General Assembly. Members shall be elected annually by Council. The term of office of members of the Audit Committee shall be staggered and they will serve a maximum of two years.

# Executive Director

## Chapter 6

The duties of the Executive Director, appointed by Council shall be:

- A.** To serve as the chief administrative and managing officer of FDI, subject to the direction of the Council and the provisions of the Articles and Regulations.
- B.** To accept responsibility, together with the FDI Council, for determining a strategic plan for FDI and achieving its aims and objectives.
- C.** To arrange for the management of all meetings of the General Assembly, Council, Committees and other structures of FDI.
- D.** To manage FDI's Head Office, administrate, preserve, maintain all property and official records as well as engage and supervise all FDI employees.
- E.** To carry out such other duties as are assigned by the Articles and Regulations.

# Sections

## Chapter 7

- A.** Sections are groups of individuals with a common occupation or special interest in a specific area of dentistry.
- B.** An FDI Section may be established by the Council.
- C.** FDI has three Sections: Defense Forces Dental Services, Chief Dental Officer/Dental Public Health Section and Women Dentists Worldwide Section.
- D.** The Section Executive shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Section and the election of the Executive shall be ratified by the Council. All members of the Section Executive shall be proposed by their member associations, which must be either FDI Regular or Associate Members. By-laws of a Section shall be approved by the Council and the Sections shall report and be accountable to the Council.
- E.** Possible costs for the respective Sections shall be estimated and submitted for approval to the Finance Committee.

# Geographic Areas and Regional Organizations

## Chapter 8

### 8.1 Geographic Areas

FDI's Geographic Areas are: Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America.

### 8.2 Regional Organizations

#### 8.2.1 Establishment

There shall be only one Regional Organization for each Geographic Area. Applications for recognition as a Regional Organization must be made to the Council in consultation with FDI Members in the Region or Regions affected by the change with final approval by the General Assembly.

In order to be recognized as a Regional Organization:

- A.** All member associations of the Regional Organization must be Regular or Associate Members of FDI.
- B.** Any FDI Regular or Associate Member in an FDI Geographic Area must be allowed to join the Regional Organization in that FDI Geographic Area.

- C.** At least 50% of FDI Member Associations in the Geographic Area must be members of the Regional Organization.

Approval of an FDI Regional Organization is subject to continued review under the foregoing standards by the Council, which may recommend that the General Assembly terminates the Regional Organization status.

#### 8.2.2 Name

Each Regional Organization, if and when established, shall be termed 'FDI Regional Organization' and include in its designation the name of the area it covers.

#### 8.2.3 Constitution

The Constitution (or equivalent) of an FDI Regional Organization shall be consistent with FDI's Constitution and shall be subject to approval by the Council.

The Constitution, vision and mission of the FDI Regional Organizations shall not be in conflict with those of FDI.

### 8.2.4 Functions

The functions of an FDI Regional Organization or of the Regular Members in other Geographical Areas shall be to:

- A.** Develop policies, reports and resolutions for submission to the Council and the General Assembly.
- B.** Cooperate with the various FDI agencies in promoting its objectives in the region.
- C.** Encourage cooperation amongst national dental organizations of the region in the fields of research, education, practice and public health to help improve the oral and general health of the populations of the region.
- D.** Support candidates for election to Council.
- E.** Carry out such other functions as it seems fit or that may be assigned to it by these Articles and Regulations.

### 8.2.5 President and representation

The President of each FDI Regional Organization must be from an FDI Regular Member Association

in the Geographic Area concerned. Each of FDI's Regional Organizations will be allowed two representatives to the General Assembly, both of whom shall be members of an FDI Regular or Associate Member Association in the Geographic Area concerned.

### 8.2.6 Termination of affiliation

Affiliation of an FDI Regional Organization may be terminated by:

- A.** Resignation: with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of approval by the members of the Regional Organization.
- B.** Failure to meet the requirements and to fulfil its functions as an FDI Regional Organization as laid down in the Constitution. Termination of affiliation shall be approved by the General Assembly by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present and voting.

# World Dental Congress

## Chapter 9

### 9.1 Purpose

The purpose of the World Dental Congress shall be to provide a scientific programme, trade exhibition and international forum for the review and discussion of the advancement of oral health, oral healthcare as well as all other subjects which advance FDI's objectives. It will also provide an opportunity for the strengthening of relations between dental organizations, participants and countries of the world.

### 9.2 Time and Place

The time and place of the World Dental Congress shall be determined by the Council, ideally not less than three years prior to the Congress and after consultation and agreement with the Regular Member association (if any) in that country.

A decision on the place of future General Assemblies/Congresses shall only be taken after the Council has received assurances in writing from the governments of the proposed countries that participants from all countries will be allowed to take part.

### 9.3 Organization

The Council shall provide for the management of each World Dental Congress in cooperation with the member association (if any) of the country.

### 9.4 Financial Arrangements

The financial arrangements associated with the congress shall be determined by written agreement between FDI Council and the member association (if any) of the country.

# Honorary Members, Past Presidents, and Awards

## Chapter 10

### 10.1 Dr Charles Godon Medal of Honour

The List of “Dr Charles Godon Medal of Honour” recipients shall be composed of not more than 30 persons who have made distinguished contributions to FDI, have not served as Presidents, have been nominated by the Council and elected for life by the General Assembly. The rights and privileges of the recipients of Dr Charles Godon Medal of Honour shall be determined by the Council.

### 10.2 Past Presidents

FDI shall maintain a separate list of Past Presidents. The rights and privileges of the Past Presidents shall be determined by Council.

### 10.3 FDI Distinguished Service Award

The FDI Distinguished Service Award is awarded by the Council to any deserving individual to recognize outstanding contributions to FDI, as well as the dental profession, the oral health community, or the oral health of populations worldwide. The criteria and the rights and privileges of recipients of the award shall be determined by the Council.

### 10.4 Certificate of Appreciation

A Certificate of Appreciation may be awarded to recognize and thank individuals – elected or appointed – who have rendered outstanding services to FDI and officers who have completed their term(s) of office. The Certificate may be awarded annually and individuals may receive more than one Certificate. The rights and privileges of recipients shall be determined by the Council.

# Indemnification of Council, Committee Members and Staff

## Chapter 11

FDI shall indemnify and hold harmless FDI Council members, members of FDI Committees, the Speaker, Executive Director and FDI Staff against all claims and liabilities and all costs and expenses, including attorney's fees, reasonably incurred or imposed upon such persons in connection with or resulting from any action, suit or proceeding, or the settlement or compromise of any action taken

or omitted to be taken, in good faith, during such person's term of office.

This right of indemnification shall inure to such persons at the time such liabilities, costs or expenses are imposed or incurred and, in the event of such person's death, shall extend to such person's legal representatives.

# Amendments

## Chapter 12

### 12.1 With Prior Notice

These Regulations may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates present at any session of the General Assembly, provided that the amendment has been circulated to Regular Members no less than 30 days prior to the meeting of the General Assembly at which the amendment will be considered.

### 12.2 Without Prior Notice

The notice of any proposed amendment as required in paragraph 12.1 may be dispensed with by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the delegates of the General Assembly present and voting.

Any such amendment shall require for adoption a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the members of the General Assembly present and voting at any such meeting.





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