# STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF DIGITAL MEDICINE



# Statute of the International Society of Digital Medicine

#### NAME, DOMICILE, LANGUAGE AND OBJECTIVES

#### Article 1. Name and Domicile

- 1.1 The name of the Society shall be the "International Society of Digital Medicine (ISDM)". Hereafter referred to as "the Society". This society shall be established as a nonprofit organization.
- 1.2 The legal domicile of the Society shall be in China.

#### Article 2. Language

The official language of the Society shall be English.

# Article 3. Objectives

- 3.1 The objectives of the Society shall be to join together groups and individuals in an international organization in order to establish a platform for academic exchange and collaboration in digital medicine among scientists from different countries who are devoted to digital medicine research and its application to improve diagnosis and treatment, thus promoting the development of medicine.
- 3.2 The Society shall establish an apolitical mechanism to promote communication on digital medicine that is based on principles of openness, equity, transparency, and non-discrimination, while respecting country sovereignty and avoiding interference with domestic policies.
- 3.3 The Society shall be organized and operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes.
- 3.4 To attain these objectives, the Society shall:
  - 3.4.1 Hold an International Congress on Digital Medicine (ICDM) every two years as the pre-eminent forum for interaction among scientists and scholars in the field of digital medicine. During each ICDM, the Society will review achievements and problems in research on digital medicine during the previous two years, recommend further development and trends of research on digital medicine, and prioritize activities of the Society for the next two years.
  - 3.4.2 Operate a permanent website to serve as a medium for the discussion, debate and preparation of ICDM. The website will also be a portal for information and advice on digital medicine. The website will be operated over the interregnum between ICDMs by the Secretariat but will be directly linked to the host of the next ICDM.
  - 3.4.3 Arrange international workshops and symposia as well as other international meetings.
  - 3.4.4 Form relationships and cooperate with other governmental and non-governmental organizations in its academic field.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Article 4. Categories of Membership**

4.1 The Society recognizes the following main categories of members:

4.1.1 Founders: Individuals who shall establish the Society and adopt and sign the original Statute of the Society on June 17, 2016;

- 4.1.2 Individual members: Individuals not affiliated to an association (as defined under Article 4.1.3), with a professional interest in the field;
- 4.1.3 Institutional members: Any other international, regional, national, local, and professional organization with an interest in digital medicine, which must be legally registered in accordance with the laws and customs of their country/state of origin;
- 4.1.4 Honorary members: Individuals who, in the judgment of the Council, have made an exceptional contribution to the Society, or whose work has been of importance in the world, particularly from a medical point of view.

#### **Article 5. Application for Membership**

- 5.1 Members shall be eligible without relation to sex, race, language, religion, politics, or country of origin. All members shall join the Society of their own free will, with the only purpose of being academic exchange.
- 5.2 Application for membership shall be addressed in writing to the Secretary-General of the Society, stating the applicant's intention to join the Society, to approve the objectives of the Society, and to make financial contributions in such form and within such time limits as may be decided by the General Assembly.
- 5.3 Institutional members shall submit a membership list and a copy of their constitution, by-laws or the Statute. Applications for institutional membership shall be approved or rejected by the Executive Committee. Applications for individual membership shall be approved or rejected by the Secretary-General. The individuals concerned shall have the right to lodge an appeal against the decision with the Secretary-General to the Executive Committee. In both cases, notice of the decision shall be sent to the applicants.
- 5.4 Honorary members are entitled by Executive Committee to vote at business meetings of the Society. They are appointed for life by the General Assembly.

#### **Article 6. Termination of Membership**

6.1 Membership may be terminated in the event of:

- 6.1.1 Resignation; in such case he/she cannot claim any of the goods or assets of the Society, nor claim repayment of any dues previously paid;
- 6.1.2 Failure to pay membership fees for two consecutive years;
- 6.1.3 Death of the individual or dissolution of the organization (as defined under Article 4.1.3);
- 6.1.4 Expulsion, voted by the Council by a 2/3 majority for non-compliance with the Statute.

# Article 7. Membership Rights and Obligations

- 7.1 All members shall have equal rights and obligations without relation to sex, race, language, religion, politics, or country of origin.
- 7.2 All members, including the appointed representatives of institutional members shall have the rights to:
  - 7.2.1 Participate in ICDM and other activities of the Society;
  - 7.2.2 Be informed about the budget and activities of the Society;
  - 7.2.3 Vote at the General Assembly (providing that they have paid the relevant conference registration fee or membership fee);
  - 7.2.4 Vote on special issues online during the interregnum.
- 7.3 The members shall have the obligations to:
  - 7.3.1 Support and facilitate the objectives, activities and governance of the Society;

- 7.3.2 Pay an annual membership fee and comply with the Statute of the Society;
- 7.3.3 Promote digital medicine research and application.

#### **Article 8. Membership Fees**

The membership fees shall be fixed by the General Assembly only for academic activities. Institutional members shall pay fees in proportion to the number of their members, and individuals of the institutional members are exempt from additional fees. Honorary Members are exempt from the annual membership fee.

#### **STRUCTURE OF THE SOCIETY**

#### **Article 9. Organizational Structure**

The Society shall have the following organizational structures:

- 9.1 General Assembly;
- 9.2 Council;
- 9.3 Executive Committee;
- 9.4 Secretariat.

# Article 10. General Assembly

- 10.1 The sovereign body of the Society is the General Assembly held at the conclusion of each ICDM. The General Assembly has all the powers not assigned to the Council and the Executive Committee in accordance with the Society's Statute and the law.
- 10.2 The General Assembly confirms the election of the President and the Council members.
- 10.3 At every meeting of the General Assembly, the Council is required to render a report, including a financial statement, and to present its future plans covering the period until the next meeting of the General Assembly.
- 10.4 The General Assembly meets once every two years on the occasion of the Congress mentioned under Article 3.4.1. The General Assembly is convened at least by means of an announcement published on the website of the Society under Article 3.4.2. This announcement is co-signed by the President of the Society and the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Congress. The date and place of the General Assembly are announced in the announcement. An agenda will be issued to the members no less than two months before the date of the meeting.
- 10.5 The Organizing Committee will be established for each approved congress, with responsibilities of overseeing, coordinating, administering and delegating all organizational and management aspects of the congress.
- 10.6 The Chairman of the Organizing Committee is an expert from the congress host country, and automatically takes the responsibilities of preparing and holding the congress since the closing of the previous congress.
- 10.7 The General Assembly considers and confers Honorary Membership as recommended by the Council.
- 10.8 The resolutions of the General Assembly are published in summary on the website of the Society under Article 3.4.2.
- 10.9 The General Assembly takes the responsibility for amending the Society's Statute.

#### Article 11. Council

11.1 The senior governing body of the Society is the Council, which is responsible for the overall

direction, general strategies and conducts of the Society, approving its financial operations, and providing direction to the Secretariat. Council members are in office for a term of four years, which is renewable, but at least 1/3 of the members shall be replaced each term.

- 11.2 Council members will be appointed or elected by the General Assembly.
- 11.3 The Council has the powers assigned to it by the General Assembly.
- 11.4 The President/Vice Presidents of the Society is/are elected by the Council at meetings. The President/Vice Presidents is/are in office for a term of four years, which is renewable, but no more than two terms. Five to eight Vice-Presidents can be nominated by Executive Committee and elected by the Council according to actual conditions.
- 11.5 The Council is convened, if a meeting is to be held, by regular mail addressed to each of its members at least two months prior to the meeting. This mail is signed on behalf of the President by the Secretary-General. An agenda will be included with the mail.
- 11.6 When voting is required to make a decision, votes are taken by ballot.
- 11.7 At each meeting, minutes are taken, adopted by the Council at its next meeting, and then signed by the President and two other Council members as a true and accurate record.

#### **Article 12. Executive Committee**

- 12.1 The Executive Committee consists of 1/3 of the Council members, including the President and Vice Presidents, after election by the Council.
- 12.2 The Executive Committee is responsible for the day-to-day management work of the Society. It will operate under delegation from the Council.
- 12.3 The Executive Committee is convened when necessary according to the instructions of the President.
- 12.4 Without formal approval from the Executive Committee and the Society's legal representative, no person or member of the Society may sign any agreement(s) or contract(s) on behalf of the Society which may bring the Society into any legal, political or religious conflict(s).

# Article 13. Secretariat

- 13.1The Secretariat is responsible for the daily activities (including running the website of the Society and writing newsletters) under the direction of the Executive Committee. The host of the Secretariat should provide necessary space, personnel and financial support for routine work at the Secretariat.
- 13.2 The Secretariat of the Society shall be headquartered in Chongqing, China.
- 13.3 The Secretariat is headed by the Secretary-General, who is nominated by the President and appointed by the Council. The Secretary-General is in office for a term of four years, under the direct leadership of the President.
- 13.4 The Secretary-General is responsible for the management of the Society in accordance with the policies and directives agreed to by the Council.

#### **FINANCES**

# Article 14. Finances

14.1 The Treasurer of the Society will be responsible for preparing and presenting the financial report to the General Assembly. The funds of the Society shall come from:

- 14.1.1 Annual dues;
- 14.1.2 Sponsorships;
- 14.1.3 Donations and bequests;
- 14.1.4 All other legal revenues.
- 14.2 Records of the financial position of the Society are kept by the Council.
- 14.3 A separate bank account for the Society must be established.
- 14.4 The financial records of the Society are subject to an annual independent audit.
- 14.5 The income of the Society shall not be used for the benefit of its officers, members or private individuals.

### **AMENDMENT TO THE STATUTE**

# Article 15. Amendment

An amendment to the Statute can only be made by means of a members' resolution, considered first by the Council and then submitted, with comment, to the General Assembly.

#### **DISSOLUTION**

# Article 16. Dissolution

- 16.1 The Society will only be dissolved by the Council following the adoption of a resolution accepted by a two thirds majority vote of members at a General Assembly.
- 16.2 In the event of dissolution, the General Assembly appoints the liquidators and determines their powers.
- 16.3 The net proceeds, after settlements, shall be distributed, as designated by the Council, to one or several organizations with objectives similar to those of the Society.



Appendix I Emblem of the International Society of Digital Medicine

Appendix II Flag of the International Society of Digital Medicine

