



# Statutes of WSPID

## Article 1: Name and registered office

1. The name of the Confederation is: World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID).
2. The office of WSPID will be situated within the contracted society management company at a designated site agreed by the Board.

## Article 2: Objectives

1. To promote a global exchange among people who have special experience and/or interest in the field of pediatric infectious diseases (PID): these activities consist of teaching and training, including exchange appointments and collaborative research.
2. To promote the growth of pediatric ID societies in lower income/developing countries and to promote the study and teaching of infectious diseases in those countries.
3. To organize a 2-yearly scientific meeting (the World Congress of WSPID) to facilitate global exchange of knowledge and science. These meetings should be preferably organized in regions that can assemble colleagues of less economically developed countries for whom otherwise chosen sites would involve long distance trips and high travel costs.
4. To create a global network of PID societies for exchange of information and knowledge between the societies.
5. To facilitate communication between societies by installing a WSPID website for general information, discussion and active input of each participating society and for sharing of educational resources between member societies.
6. To be an overall institution for cooperation with other national and international organizations (societies, committees, agencies, industry, congress organizers).

## Article 3: Members

1. National and international societies for PID can be members of WSPID. Applications for membership by new societies shall be submitted to the Board for approval. WSPID may request an annual contribution from all regional member societies.
2. Members of the regional PID societies will be automatically members of WSPID.

## Article 4: Official Language

1. The official language of WSPID is English.

## Article 5: Board

### 5.1. Composition of the Board

1. The board is formed by two delegates each of PIDS, ESPID, SLIPE, ASPID, AfPIDS and ANZPID. The delegates are appointed by their society, represent their society, and are held to report to their society. Board members are mandated to take decisions.
2. In total, the board has twelve members, including four officers - the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer - who shall constitute the Executive Committee and report to the board.
3. In addition, other persons may be invited to attend board meetings at the discretion of the President, including committee members and the organizers of the next World Congress.

### 5.2. Elections

1. All board members are appointed by the regional member societies.
2. The election of the board members takes place during the board meeting organized during the biennial World Congress.
3. Board members are generally appointed for a 2-year term. They can be re-elected for another 2-year term, subject to continued support by their regional society.

4. Board members choose the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer from their midst.
5. Any board member is eligible for Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer.
6. The President must have previously served on the board for at least 2 years, usually as the Vice President.
7. The terms of office of the Secretary and Treasurer are 2 years. They can be re-elected twice for additional 2-year terms, subject to continued support by their regional society.
8. The term of office of the Vice President is 2 years without the possibility for re-election. The Vice President is intended to become the next President.
9. The term of office of the President is 2 years, and the post is not open for re-election.
10. The maximum duration of continuous board membership is 6 years.
11. Society representatives who have served on the board previously may be re-elected after an interruption period of a minimum of eight years.
12. The board can install Committees for certain tasks (e.g. International Scientific Committee, Education Committee), nominate their members, and determine the terms of office of the Committee members.

### ***5.3. Tasks of the Board members***

1. The President is the primary representative of WSPID and responsible for carrying out decisions taken. He/she chairs the Board and Executive Committee meetings. For any special or general purposes, the President may delegate matters normally dealt with by him/herself as President to the Vice President.
2. The Vice President supports the President in running the Society and performs all duties of the President in his/her absence.
3. The Secretary is entrusted as a primary liaison with the WSPID secretariat and is held to present a secretarial report once-yearly to be approved by the Board.
4. The Treasurer is entrusted with financial matters and is held to present a financial report once-yearly to be approved by the Board.
5. If the President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer resign or are prevented in any way from completing their term of office, the Board will choose one of the other Board members as acting President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer, respectively.

### ***5.4. Board meetings***

1. Board meetings shall be held during the World Congresses, and at least yearly by conference call or during another international meeting (such as IDWeek or ESPID).
2. Notification together with the agenda will be given in writing to Board members at least one month before the date of the Board meeting.

### ***5.5. Decisions and voting***

1. Any decisions shall be taken on the basis of the largest vote. In the case of an election, the candidate receiving the largest number of votes will be elected. In the case of a tie, the President shall have the casting vote.

### ***5.6. Communication with the regional member societies***

1. The regional member societies represented in the Board may be consulted by their representatives for final decision making. All decisions and reports concerning the regional societies will be communicated to the societies by written report.

## **Article 6: World Congress of WSPID**

1. The World Congress is convened by the President of WSPID. If the President is prevented in any way from doing it, the Vice President will take this task.
2. The World Congress will normally be held once in two years.
3. The location of the World Congress is upon decision of the Board after proposals from the regional member societies.

4. The organization and program of the World Congress will be a combined task of the Board, the International Scientific Committee, the local PID Society (or parent society representing PID) of the country where the World Congress will be held, and an international professional congress organizing company (PCO), approved by the Board. The final responsibility for the organization of the World Congress remains at the Board.

## **Article 7: Finances**

### **7.1 Board**

1. The activities of WSPID must be financed from the profit of the World Congress and/or other educational initiatives of WSPID. The proposal for budget and expenditure of the Board must be made by the Treasurer once-yearly and approved by the Board.

### **7.2 World Congress**

1. The organization of the World Congress should be financed from income of registration fees and sponsorships and may not exceed the budgetary funds of that World Congress. Sponsorships from companies to support the organization of the meeting are raised in the name of WSPID.
2. Contracts with sponsor companies, including those negotiated by the PCO, should be signed by the President and the Treasurer or their designate.
3. The Board must approve the budget of the World Congress made by the PCO.
4. Any surplus of the World Congress will be shared between WSPID and the local hosting PID society according to the standard operating procedures of WSPID. The hosting society must use these funds for educational or research initiatives. The hosting society will be required to submit to the board a proposal detailing the initiative(s) proposed, and report to the board following expending the money.

### **7.3 Professional congress organizing company**

1. An international professional congress organizing company (PCO) must be contracted for the management of organization, financial and touristic matters of the World Congress. The PCO is held to present a budget proposal to be approved by the Board and thereafter signed by a detailed contract. The PCO is held to provide the Board once-yearly with a progress report.

## **Article 8: Non-profit-making character**

1. WSPID exclusively and directly pursues non-profit-making objectives.
2. Any funds must be used to support the objectives of WSPID.
3. Any funds should be used for these purposes within a reasonable time period as judged by the Board, allowing for the need to maintain a reasonable reserve fund to protect WSPID's interests and liquidity.
4. Board members of WSPID shall not receive any profit, shares or any other financial benefits from the funds of WSPID in their capacity as members, apart from travel expenses where appropriate. If they cease to be Board members or if the Confederation is dissolved, Board members shall not be entitled to any assets of WSPID.
5. No person will be awarded administrative expenses against activities other than those directly related to the business and objectives of WSPID, nor receive disproportionately high or unrelated remuneration of any other kind.
6. All officers of WSPID work in an honorary capacity. Commercial business in their capacity as officers of WSPID is not permitted.
7. If WSPID is dissolved, or if its purposes otherwise become invalid, all assets shall be assigned to the member societies, which shall use them exclusively and directly for non-profit making purposes.