

International Union of Game Biologists

Constitution

I. General provisions

Article 1

- 1 Under the name International Union of Game Biologists, hereafter "IUGB", exists, for an indefinite period of time, as an association in the terms of articles 60 to 78 of the Swiss Civil Code.
- 2 The IUGB is a non-profit organisation with international membership.
- 3 The IUGB has its legal domicile in Cernier, Switzerland.
- 4 The business year coincides with the calendar year.

II. Aims, objectives and means

Article 2 Aims

The IUGB promotes 1) the advancement of knowledge in biology and management of game animals and of other wild mammal and bird species and of their habitats; 2) the comradeship amongst its associates and participants.

Article 3 Objectives

The IUGB shall

- a) regularly organize an IUGB congress;
- b) promote the concept of sustainable use of wildlife resources as one of the conditions for biodiversity;
- c) stimulate research and international technical cooperation in the elaboration of new models of development and management of renewable resources, integrating the objectives of wildlife conservation, wise land use, economic decisions and socio-cultural policies;
- d) promote awareness and appreciation of wildlife values;
- e) support and advance high standards of education and professional performance in the field of wildlife management;
- f) be committed to the stewardship of wild animals and the conservation of species;
- g) exchange information and encourage other forms of collaboration between this and other associations in allied scientific disciplines;
- h) promote the solidarity amongst its associates and participants in the IUGB Congress and its other events.

Article 4 Means

To achieve its objectives, the IUGB shall

- a) organise, cosponsor and promote scientific meetings, training seminars, excursions and similar events;
- b) undertake publication of the results of its scientific meetings, encourage submission of scientific articles to peer reviewed journals, etc;
- c) issue international directories of institutions and bodies providing education facilities supporting the aims and objectives of IUGB;
- d) encourage student participation through the presentation of awards for scientific contributions;
- e) establish close relationships with governmental agencies, intergovernmental bodies and organisations of the private sector concerned with regulatory matters related to wildlife;
- f) stand up for the concerns and professional interests of its associates and participants;
- g) and any other means necessary to achieve the objectives under article 3.

III. Composition of the IUGB

Article 5 Members and Governing bodies

The current Liaison Officers signing this constitution are the founder Members of the IUGB. New Members are admitted by co-optation; each participating country being entitled to one representative.

The IUGB shall be composed of

- a) the General Assembly of Liaison Officers;
- b) the Board;
- c) the Auditors.

Article 6 The General Assembly

1 The General Assembly consisting of the Liaison Officers (one representative of each participating country) is the supreme body of the IUGB. It is entitled to:

- a) approve the Balance Sheet, the Budget, and to discharge the Board;
- b) decide on possible extra-ordinary contributions;
- c) elect the members of the Board;
- d) elect the Auditors;
- e) decide on the alteration of the Constitution and the dissolution of the IUGB;

2 General Assembly shall hold:

- a) regular meetings at every IUGB congress;
- b) extra-ordinary meetings according to a decision by the Board or upon request of one third of the Liaison Officers.

³ Unless otherwise stated by this Constitution, decisions of the General Assembly are taken by a simple majority of the Members present and voting. For a vote to be valid, at least one third of the Members have to be present or represented. Notwithstanding to Article 10, voting by mail ballot is permitted and has to fulfil the same conditions.

⁴ Liaison officers are responsible for informing the Board of changes in contact details.

Article 7 The Board

1 The Board shall consist of the following eight members:

- a) President;
- b) Two Vice Presidents, namely the Immediate Past President as well as the President elect (which, as a rule, after the next Congress will become President);
- c) Treasurer;
- d) Secretary General;
- e) Two members elected out of the General Assembly;
- f) One member as student representative.

Members of the Board are in principle elected every two years; their mandate shall begin with the closing ceremony of the congress. With the exception of members categories a), b) and c) Board members may be re-elected.

As far as possible, the Board shall be composed as to reflect the international character of the IUGB.

2 The Board decides on all matters of the IUGB, as far as not determined otherwise by the Constitution. It has namely the following responsibilities:

- a) to convene the General Assembly and to decide on its preliminary agenda;
- b) to present the Balance Sheet and the Budget to the General Assembly;
- c) to execute the decisions of the General Assembly;
- d) to issue Rules of Procedure for the General Assembly and the Board;
- e) to conclude contracts on behalf of the IUGB, e.g. regarding the duties and the rights of the Secretary General and of possible staff;
- f) to issue guidelines and advice for the organization and work program of the next IUGB Congress, in particular for the main Congress topics and for the constitution of its Scientific Committee;
- g) to propose nominations for honorary membership;
- h) to judge whether existing national or regional associations or groupings qualify to become sections of the IUGB

3 The Board shall meet at least at the time and venue of each IUGB Congress. For urgent matters, a special meeting may be planned, if requested by the President or by one third of its members. Matters may be communicated and decided by use of written procedures.

4 Travel expenses of Board members may be partially or fully reimbursed within the approved budget.

5 The Board may propose to the General Assembly other categories of membership.

Article 8 The Auditors

1 At each congress, the General Assembly shall elect two Auditors who will be responsible for the auditing. These Auditors can not be members of the Board.

2 The Auditors shall present the detailed results of the audit in a written report to the General Assembly and recommend approval or rejection of the Balance Sheet.

IV. Finances

Article 9 Funding

The IUGB is funded by

- a) a portion of the fees for the attendance of events organised or co-sponsored by the IUGB;
- b) voluntary contributions;
- c) subsidies from national or international agencies, bodies, organisations, etc;
- d) or other sources.

V. Amendments to the Constitution or dissolution of the IUGB Article 10

1 Any proposal to amend the Constitution or to dissolve the IUGB shall be reviewed by the Board. Such proposals have to be communicated in writing by the Board to the General Assembly at least 2 months before the vote is due.

2 Decisions on amendments to the Constitution or of the dissolution of the IUGB shall be taken by the General Assembly by a two-thirds majority. Votes by proxy from those Members unable to attend will be allowed, but such proxy votes have to be submitted to the Board no later than 2 days prior to the General Assembly.

3 If the IUGB is to be dissolved, the General Assembly shall decide on the utilisation of the IUGB assets within the following limits: these have to be transferred to an institution which is tax-exempted in Switzerland, and which commits itself to use the assets for purposes similar to those identified in the present Constitution.

VI Final provisions

Article 11

1 The English version of this Constitution is the original text.

2 The present Constitution enters into force with immediate effect.

3 The first President and other members of the Board, as elected by the founders during the constitutive General Assembly and indicated in the attached list, will stay in office until the end of the next Congress.

The IUGB Constitution was decided on at the 28th IUGB congress in Uppsala, Sweden, 17th August 2007

On behalf of the IUGB:

Founders	Full name	Country	Signature
	Nikolay ZHELEZNOV-CHUKOTSKY	Russia	
	Boguslaw BOBEK	Poland	
	Carlos FONSECA	Portugal	
	Franz-Josef KAUP	Germany	
	Rudolf KROPIL	Slovakia	
	Jaroslav CERVENY	Czech Republic	
	Manel PUIGCERVER	Spain	
	Sandra CELLINA	Luxembourg	
	Claude FISCHER	Switzerland	
	Harto LINDEN	Finland	
	Christos THOMAIDES	Greece	
	Klaus HACKLÄNDER	Austria	
	Sabine BERTOUILLE	Belgium	
	Pierre MIGOT	France	
	Margriet MONTIZAAN on behalf of		
	Jan VAN HAAFTEN	Netherlands	
	Olgirda BELOVA	Lithuania	
	Kjell SJÖBERG	Sweden	
	Kerry NICHOLSON on behalf of		
	Paul KRAUSMAN	USA	

The founding Members of the General Assembly have elected the following Board:

	<i>Full name</i>	<i>Country</i>
President	Vladimir MELNIKOV	Russia
Vice Presidents	Kjell SJÖBERG	Sweden
	Manel PUIGCERVER	Spain
Treasurer	Claude FISCHER	Switzerland
Secretary General	Franz-Josef KAUP	Germany
Board members	Sandra CELLINA	Luxembourg
	Boguslaw BOBEK	Poland
Student member	Kerry NICHOLSON	USA