STATUTES

INTERNATIONAL TAEKWON-DO FEDERATION

October 2026 edition

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents 2
Statutes of the International Taekwon-Do Federation 6
Definitions 6
Chapter 1: The ITF 9
Article 1. Title, legal form, headquarters and language 9
Article 2. Objectives 9
Article 3. Fundamental principles 10
Article 4. Promoting friendly relations 11
Article 5. Rules of Taekwon-Do and rules of competition 11
Article 6. Conduct of persons and organisations 11
Article 7. Membership 11
Article 8. Application for or reclassification of membership 12
Article 9. Rights of Member Associations 13
Article 10. Obligations of Member Associations 14
Article 11. Suspension 16
Article 12. Expulsion 16
Article 13. Resignation 17
Article 14. Continental federations 17
Article 15. Continental Federations' statutes 19
Article 16. Status and recognition of Regional ASSOCIATIONS 20
Article 17. Status and recognition of Member Associations 21
Article 18. Status of Clubs, Schools, and other groups of stakeholders affiliated to a Member Association 21
Article 19. Honorary appointments and awards 21
Article 20. ITF Governance Regulations 22
Article 21. Bodies 22
Chapter 2: The General Assembly 22
Article 22. Definition and composition of the General Assembly 22
Article 23. Delegates and voting 23
Article 24. Area of authority 24
Article 25. Quorum of the General Assembly 25
Article 26. Decisions of the General Assembly 25
Article 27. Elections 25
Article 28. Ordinary General Assembly 27

Article 29. Ordinary General Assembly Agenda 27
Article 30. Extraordinary General Assembly 29
Article 31. Amendment to the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Order of the General Assembly 29
Article 32. Minutes 30
Article 33. Effective dates of decisions 30
Chapter 3: The Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and the President 30
Article 34. The Board of Directors 30
Article 35. Powers and duties 34
Article 36. Meetings and decisions 35
Article 37. Dismissal of a person or body 36
Article 38. Executive Committee 36
Article 39. President 37
Article 40. Candidates for the office of the President 37
Article 41. Senior Vice President 38
Article 42. Treasurer 38
Chapter 4: The General Secretariat 39
Article 43. General Secretariat 39
Article 44. Secretary General 39
Chapter 5: The Standing Committees and the judicial bodies 40
Article 45. Standing Committees 40
Article 46. Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee 42
Article 47. Do and Ethics Committee 42
Article 48. Grand Master Promotion Commmittee 43
Article 49. National Associations Committee 43
Article 50. Judicial bodies 43
Article 51. Disciplinary Committee 43
Article 52. Appeal Tribunal 44
Article 53. Sanctions 44
Article 54. Anti-doping regime 45
Chapter 6: Dispute resolution 45
Article 55. Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) 45
Article 56. Disputes 45
Article 57. Disputes of national dimension 46
Article 58. Jurisdiction of CAS as an ordinary court of arbitration 46

Article 59. Jurisdiction of CAS as an appeals arbitration body 46
Chapter 7: Miscellaneous 47
Article 60. Finances 47
Article 61. Revenue 47
Article 62. Expenses 48
Article 63. Independent external auditors 48
Article 64. Annual membership & annual individual membership fee subscription 48
Article 65. Competitions 49
Article 66. Rights in competitions and events 49
Article 67. ITF logos & other rights and assets of the ITF registered as trademarks 49
Article 68. International competitions and events 50
Article 69. Approval 50
Article 70. Matters not provided for 50
Article 71. Dissolution 50
Article 72. Transitory provisions 51
Article 73. Adoption of statutes 52
Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes 53
Article 1. Issuance and amendment to the Regulations 54
Article 2. Final competitions 54
Article 3. Conflicts of interest 54
Article 4. Eligibility to participate for associations' national teams 55
Article 5. Principle of promotion 55
Article 6. Nomination of Umpires 55
Article 7. Umpires report 55
Article 8. Matters not provided for 55
Article 9. Enforcement 56
Standing Orders of the General Assembly of the ITF 57
Article 1. Chairperson 57
Article 2. Disciplinary measures 57
Article 3. Appointment of officials 57
Article 4. Order of procedures 58
Article 5. Proposals and motions 58
Article 6. Voting and quorum 59
Article 7. Elections 60
Article 8. Matters not provided for 60

Article 9. Enforcement 60

STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TAEKWON-DO FEDERATION

DEFINITIONS

In interpreting these Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and Standing Orders of the General Assembly:

1. "Board of Directors" means "the strategic and supervisory body elected by the General Assembly".

2. "CAS" means the "Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland".

3. "Club" or "School" means a "professional or an amateur institution which teaches or trains Taekwon-Do under the auspices of and through affiliation to a National Association".

4. "Committee" means "any committee of the ITF as constituted in accordance with the Statutes".

5. "Continental Federation" means "a duly incorporated association consisting of members being National Associations recognised by the ITF that belong to the same continent (or assimilable geographic region)".

6. "Executive Committee" means "the executive body that is defined in Article 38 that is competent to execute the decisions of the Board of Directors and manage the daily affairs of the ITF, with the support of the Secretary General".

7. "Founder" means "the founder of Taekwon-Do, General Choi Hong Hi".

8. "General Assembly" means "the supreme controlling organ and legislative body of the ITF".

9. "Grand Master" means "any Instructor who has been awarded the degree of Grand Master".

10. "Harmony Programme" means "any programme adapted for those aged fifty (50) or older with the aim of improving their quality of life through practising Taekwon-Do".

11. "Instructor" means "any individual who has been awarded the International Instructor Certificate".

12. "International Instructor Certificate" means "the certificate issued to an individual who has a duly completed the relevant course organised by the ITF to 4th degree black belt holders and above, has successfully completed the test and has paid the fee".

13. "ITF" means the "International Taekwon-Do Federation".

14. “ITF Protocol” means “the uniform set of rules that apply the first Tenet identified by the ITF Founder and called courtesy, and which are applicable while practising Taekwon-Do, at promotion examination tests, tournaments and in social sphere”.

15. “ITF-sanctioned Tournaments” means “the ITF World Championships, ITF World Cups and any other event that comes under the umbrella of the ITF and in which the ITF Umpire Committee has been formally invited and subsequently agreed to be the official authority of the event, presiding over and managing the rules of competition and the Umpires”.

16. “Master” means “any Instructor who has been awarded the degree of Master”.

17. “Member Association” means “a National Association which is a member of the ITF”.

18. “National Association” means “the governing body of Taekwon-Do in a country or territory, that is duly registered with the relevant authority in the country, and is recognised as such by the ITF”.

19. “Normalisation Committee” means “a committee composed of individuals appointed by the Board of Directors and which is competent of running the daily affairs of a Member Association until new executive board members have been duly elected by its general assembly”.

20. “Officials” means “all office bearers and members of various Committees, Grand Masters, Masters, Instructors, Umpires, medical officials, staff and any other person responsible for technical, medical and administrative matters in the ITF, the Continental Federations, the Regional Associations, Member Associations, Clubs, Training Centres and Schools.”

21. “Other Taekwon-Do Body” means “the World Taekwondo (WT) federation and any other international Taekwon-Do federations”.

22. “Plaque” means “a certificate evidencing the duly paid individual membership fee for an Instructor that is annually renewable”, and “plaque fee” has a corresponding meaning.

23. “Practitioner” means “any individual licensed with a National Association to practice Taekwon-Do”.

24. “Regional Association” means “a duly incorporated federation consisting of a group of National Associations that was established based on recognised common fundamental reasons and interests of such organization even if its members are located in different continents”.

25. “Regulations” means “without limitation, the rules, regulations, codes, instructions and directives as promulgated by the Board of Directors”.

26. “Stakeholder” means “a person, entity or organisation which is not a Member Association and/or body of the ITF or a Continental Federation but has an interest or concern in the

ITF's activities, which may affect or be affected by ITF's actions, objectives and policies, in particular Clubs, Practitioners, Instructors, Training Centres and Schools".

27. "Simple majority" means "more than fifty percent (50%)".

28. "Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and Standing Orders of the General Assembly" means "rules and regulations promulgated by the General Assembly".

29. "Taekwon-Do" means "the Korean martial art and sport developed by its Founder, General Choi Hong Hi, as described in the books written by General Choi Hong Hi titled "Taekwon-Do" or "Taekwon-Do (The Korean Martial Art of Self-Defence) " or "Encyclopedia of Taekwon-Do".

30. "Taekwon-Do Adapted Program" means "the programme developed by the ITF that, with therapeutic support and early stimulation treatments, supports people with disabilities, in the physical aspect but also in the emotional, moral and mental aspects".

31. "Training Centre" or "Do-jang" means "any facility, used by a School or a Club, fully or partially, dedicated to training and developing the skills and knowledge of Taekwon-Do".

32. "Umpire" means "an official that watches closely a competition and that enforces the rules and arbitrates on matters arising from the competition".

33. "WADA" means "the World Anti-Doping Agency".

NB: Unless the context otherwise requires, references to natural persons include all genders and the singular case applies to the plural and vice-versa.

CHAPTER 1: THE ITF

ARTICLE 1. TITLE, LEGAL FORM, HEADQUARTERS AND LANGUAGE

1. The organisation of Taekwon-Do founded by General Choi Hong Hi in 1966 shall be called the "International Taekwon-Do Federation" or "ITF".

2. The ITF is the world governing body of Taekwon-Do.

3. The ITF is a non-profit association registered pursuant to Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code.

4. The headquarters of the ITF shall be in Lausanne, Switzerland and may only be transferred by a resolution of the General Assembly. The Board of Directors may decide to set up an operational office in a different city in Switzerland or in a different country.

5. The official languages of the ITF shall be English and Spanish. In the event of any differences in any interpretation, the English text shall prevail. English is the official language for minutes, official correspondence and announcements.

ARTICLE 2. OBJECTIVES

1. The objectives of the ITF are:

    a) to strengthen and promote the legacy of the Founder as described in his encyclopaedia of Taekwon-Do, in particular the twenty-four patterns and the philosophy of Taekwon-Do, by organising in particular tournaments, seminars, conferences, and workshops;

    b) to improve the practice of Taekwon-Do constantly and promote, regulate and control it worldwide in its facets as a sport, a martial art, a way of life, and a tool for social, physical and mental development;

    c) to foster friendly relationships between and amongst National Associations, Continental Federations, and other organisations;

    d) to ensure compliance and prevent infringements of the Statutes, Codes, Rules, Regulations, Standing Orders, directives and decisions of ITF and CAS;

    e) to organise and manage international competitions with the support of the Continental Federations, Regional Associations and Member Associations;

    f) to use its efforts to ensure that the practice of Taekwon-Do is available to and resourced for all who wish to participate regardless of gender or age;

    g) to draw up regulations and provisions governing Taekwon-Do and all related matters and ensure their enforcement;

h) to promote the inclusion of all genders in Taekwon-Do, including in its development, and to advance full inclusion of all genders throughout the practice of Taekwon-Do and at all levels, including in governance and technical roles;

i) to protect the interests of its Member Associations and to provide them with relevant support in developing the practice of Taekwon-Do in their respective countries;

j) to promote integrity, ethics and fair play with a view to preventing all methods or practices, such as corruption, doping or competition manipulation, which might jeopardise the integrity of competitions, Practitioners, Officials and Member Associations or give rise to the abuse of Taekwon-Do;

k) to institute strong measures and campaigns against bribery, corruption, drugs and racism in Taekwon-Do;

l) to settle disputes between and amongst Continental Federations, Regional Associations, Member Associations, Officials, Clubs, Schools, Training Centres and other organisations;

m) to disseminate information on the ITF's activities to the Continental Federations, Regional Associations and Member Associations;

n) to safeguard the environment and manage resources in a sustainable way through its practices in hosting events and managing its operations; and

o) to raise funds, purchase or hold any asset for the benefit of, or reinvestment in all levels and areas of Taekwon-Do.

ARTICLE 3. FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

1. The ITF is committed to respecting all internationally recognised human rights and shall strive to promote the protection of these rights.

2. The ITF is neutral in matters of politics and religion.

3. Discrimination of any kind against a country, private person or group of people on account of race, skin colour, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, age, physical appearance, religion, political opinion or any other opinion, wealth, birth or any other status, sexual orientation or any other reason is strictly prohibited and punishable by suspension or expulsion.

4. Harassment of any nature (including sexual harassment) is forbidden.

5. The ITF shall attribute particular attention to the protection of minors throughout the practice of Taekwon-Do and all related activities.

6. The ITF shall manage its affairs independently and with no influence from third parties.

ARTICLE 4. PROMOTING FRIENDLY RELATIONS

1. The ITF shall promote friendly relations between the Continental Federations, Regional Associations, its Member Associations, Clubs, Schools, Training Centres, Officials and Practitioners, and in society for humanitarian objectives.

2. Every person and organisation involved in the practice of Taekwon-Do is obliged to observe the Statutes, Regulations and the principles of fair play as well as the principles of seniority, loyalty, integrity and sportsmanship.

3. The ITF shall, in accordance with these Statutes, provide the necessary institutional means to resolve any dispute that may arise between Continental Federations, Regional Associations, Member Associations, Clubs, Schools, Training Centres, Officials and Practitioners.

ARTICLE 5. RULES OF TAEKWON-DO AND RULES OF COMPETITION

1. The ITF, the Continental Federations, the Regional Associations and the Member Associations shall organise ITF-sanctioned Tournaments in accordance with the official ITF rules of Taekwon-Do, the ITF rules of competition and any other mandatory rule, directive and official document that applies to such tournaments.

ARTICLE 6. CONDUCT OF PERSONS AND ORGANISATIONS

1. Every person and organisation directly or indirectly bound by these Statutes must observe these Statutes and any Regulations, directives and decisions of the ITF.

2. Every person involved in Taekwon-Do must act as good citizen, integrated into a society whose principles are peace, freedom, justice, humanity and morality.

3. Every person and organisation directly or indirectly bound by these Statutes must observe the philosophy of Taekwon-Do.

4. Executive bodies of Member Associations may under exceptional circumstances be removed from office by the Board of Directors following consultation with the relevant Continental Federation, if existing, and replaced by a Normalisation Committee for a specific period of time.

ARTICLE 7. MEMBERSHIP

1. The General Assembly, upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, shall decide whether to admit, suspend or expel a Member Association. The Board of Directors shall issue the Regulations Governing the Admission and Status of National Associations of the ITF.

2. Membership to the ITF is open to National Associations based in a country or a territory which is recognised as an independent state by the majority of members of the United Nations. The National Association will be responsible for governing and supervising the practice of Taekwon-Do in its country or territory and as such may become a Member Association.

3. Only one (1) National Association shall be officially recognised by the ITF in each country or territory that meets the criterion stipulated in Article 7.2.

4. Member Associations shall be registered as a legal entity in the relevant country or territory and/or at the Ministry of Sports or at any similar governmental authority in charge of governing sport in a particular country or territory.

5. Membership is terminated by resignation or expulsion. Loss of membership does not relieve the Member Association from its due financial obligations towards the ITF or other Member Associations, but leads to cancellation of all rights in relation to the ITF.

6. Membership shall be "Ordinary" or "Associate".

   a) "Ordinary Membership" may be granted by the General Assembly to a National Association or to an "Associate" member who has undertaken the minimum period as set out in the relevant regulations;

   b) "Associate Membership" may be granted by the Board of Directors to any new applicant for a period of 3 years.

7. "Ordinary" members shall be entitled to all the rights and obligations of a Member Association as set out in these Statutes.

8. "Associate" members shall be entitled to all the rights and obligations of a Member Association as set out in these Statutes except:

   a) the right to vote at the ITF Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly;

   b) the right of their officials to hold any ITF office; and

   c) the right to receive monies from any development programmes.

9. The Board of Directors may withdraw the status of Ordinary Member Association of a National Association or of an Associate member that does not comply with these Statutes and any Regulations, directives, and decisions of the ITF until the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE 8. APPLICATION FOR OR RECLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. The Regulations Governing the Admission and Status of National Associations govern applications for ITF membership and reclassification of ITF membership status.

2. All applications for membership shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the ITF to the General Secretariat and must comply with said regulations.

3. A new National Association shall acquire membership rights and duties as soon as it has been admitted by the competent body. Delegates representing “Ordinary” members are eligible to vote with immediate effect provided that the delegate with the right to vote has been identified to the General Secretariat under the procedures set out in Article 23.

4. Regardless of the Statues of the recommended candidate (either recommended to be admitted as an Ordinary Member or as an Associate Member), during the period in between the decision taken by the Board of Directors and the date of the General Assembly that will be dealing with the admission or the reclassification ("the Interim Period"), the following will apply:

   4.1 If the Interim Period will be up to two months the recommended applicant will have no official status and will remain as such until its matter will be decided by the general Assembly.
   4.2 If the Interim Period will be longer than two months, the recommended applicant will be granted a provisional status as "Temporary Associate Member" having the rights and obligations of an Associate Member. This provisional status will end at the moment that the decision of the admission will be taken, either being an admission or a denial of the recommendation.
   4.3 A reclassification will enter into force only upon the decision of the General assembly and therefore the recommendation of the ITF Board will not affect the status of the member during the Interim Period.

ARTICLE 9. RIGHTS OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

1. The Member Associations have the following rights:

   a) to take part in the ITF and Continental Federations’ General Assemblies, to know their agendas in advance, to be called to the General Assembly within the prescribed time and to exercise their voting rights;

   b) to draw up proposals for inclusion in the agenda of the ITF General Assembly;

   c) to nominate candidates for the ITF Board of Directors and the Committees;

   d) to participate in and cast their votes at all ITF elections in accordance with the ITF Statutes and the Electoral Code;

   e) to be informed of the affairs of the ITF through the official bodies of the ITF;

   f) to take part in the ITF competitions and/or other activities or programmes organised by the ITF; and

g) to benefit from the rights and privileges granted to them by these Statutes and applicable Regulations.

2. The exercise of these rights is subject to other provisions in these Statutes and applicable Regulations. The exercise of the rights under sub-Articles 9.1 (c), (d),(e), (f) & (g) is conditioned as per Art. 10.3.

ARTICLE 10. OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

1. Member Associations have the following obligations:

a) to comply fully with the Statutes, Codes, Rules and Regulations, directives and decisions of the ITF and decisions of CAS passed in accordance with Article 65 and/or 66 of these Statutes at all times and to ensure that these are also respected by its members;

b) to be duly organised and registered under the laws of their respective country;

c) to ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;

d) to convene its supreme and legislative body at regular intervals, at least every two (2) years;

e) to ratify statutes that are in accordance with these Statutes;

f) to take part in the General Assembly, competitions and other activities or programmes organised by the ITF;

g) to pay their annual membership fee by latest 31 March of each financial year;

h) to pay all fees owed by its affiliated members and/or Practitioners or any other individual practising Taekwon-Do under the respective Member Association;

i) to respect the ITF rules of competition for ITF-sanctioned Tournaments and to ensure that these are also respected by its members through a statutory provision;

j) to adopt a statutory clause specifying that any dispute requiring arbitration involving itself or one of its members and relating to the Statutes, Regulations, directives and decisions of the ITF shall come solely under the jurisdiction of the appropriate arbitration tribunal recognised by the ITF and that any recourse to ordinary courts is prohibited;

k) to communicate to the ITF any amendment of its Statutes, rules and regulations in English as well as the list of its Officials or persons who are authorised signatories, with the right to enter into legally binding agreements with the ITF and third parties;

l) not to maintain any relations of a sporting nature with entities that are not recognised by the ITF or with Member Associations that have been suspended or expelled;

m) to observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through a statutory provision;

n) to observe the mandatory items specified within the relevant Regulations for the duration of their membership;

o) to administer a register of members which shall regularly be updated;

p) to recognise each of the other Member Associations as the sole controlling body of Taekwon-Do in their respective countries and territories;

q) not to form themselves into Regional Associations or federations without the consent of the ITF;

r) to regulate all Clubs, Schools and Training Centres which exist within their geographical territory;

s) to be held responsible for the good conduct and all financial commitments of their members towards the ITF;

t) to notify the ITF promptly of any change in its address and in the name of principal office bearers; and

u) to manage its affairs independently and with no influence from any third parties, even if such third-party influence was not the fault of the Member Association concerned.

w) to be affiliated to, and to maintain membership in, the Continental Federation corresponding to its geographical continent, and to comply with the statutes and regulations of such Continental Federation as approved by the ITF in accordance with these Statutes**.**

2. Violation of the above-mentioned obligations by any Member Association may lead to sanctions provided for in these Statutes. Each Member Association is responsible towards the ITF for any and all acts of the members of their bodies caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of such members.

3. The full and duly payment of all the financial duties under Art. 10.1 (g) & (h) not later than 30 days prior to the date of the General assembly will be a pre-condition for the Ordinary Member to exercise its rights under Art. 9 (1) (c) & (d), as well as a pre-condition for any member (Ordinary and Associate) to execute its rights under Art. 9 (1) (e), (f) & (g). The

suspension of the above-mentioned rights will remain in force until the full payments of the above-mentioned duties.

ARTICLE 11. SUSPENSION

1. The General Assembly may suspend a Member Association solely at the request of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may, without a vote of the General Assembly, temporarily suspend with immediate effect a Member Association that seriously violates its obligations. A suspension approved by the Board of Directors shall last until the next General Assembly, unless the Board of Directors has revoked such suspension prior to the General Assembly.

2. A suspension of a Member Association by the General Assembly requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

3. A suspension of a Member Association by the Board of Directors shall be confirmed at the next General Assembly by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote. If it is not confirmed, such suspension shall be automatically lifted.

4. The General Assembly may lift the suspension of a Member Association solely at the request of the Board of Directors. The lifting of the suspension of a Member Association by the General Assembly requires a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

5. A suspended Member Association shall lose its membership rights. Other Member Associations shall not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member Association. The Disciplinary Committee may impose further sanctions.

6. Member Associations which do not participate in two of the ITF-sanctioned Tournaments as determined by the Board of Directors over a period of two (2) consecutive years immediately prior to a General Assembly shall not be entitled to vote at the General Assembly, except in cases where the non-participation was caused by specific and justified circumstances as defined in the ITF Governance Regulations.

7. Member Associations which did not comply with the payment of all their financial duties, (including their membership fee, the instructor certificate fee, the Plaque fee and any other financial duty) by 31 March of the period prior to the date of the General Assembly may have their right to vote suspended in accordance with the ITF Governance Regulations.

ARTICLE 12. EXPULSION

1. The General Assembly may expel a Member Association solely at the request of the Board of Directors if, without limitation:

a) it fails to fulfil its financial obligations towards the ITF;

b) it seriously violates its own statutes, codes, rules, regulations and standing orders or those of the ITF; and/or

c) it ceases to have the legal status of a National Association in its own country or territory.

2. The presence of an absolute majority (more than 50%) of the Member Associations eligible to vote at the General Assembly is necessary for a vote to expel a Member Association to be valid.

3. The motion for expulsion must be adopted by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

ARTICLE 13. RESIGNATION

1. Subject to Article 13.2, a Member Association may resign from the ITF by giving three (3) months' notice to be notified in writing to the General Secretariat.

2. Resignation shall not affect any existing financial obligations towards the ITF or its Member Associations.

ARTICLE 14. CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS

1. Member Associations that are affiliated to the ITF and belong to the same continent have formed the following continental federations, which are recognised by the ITF:

A) Continental Federation – Africa

B) Continental Federation – Asia

C) Continental Federation – Europe

D) Continental Federation – North America & Caribbeans

E) Continental Federation – Oceania

F) Continental Federation – Central & South America

As a general rule, each Member Association shall be a member of the Continental Federation corresponding to its geographical continent.

2. Recognition of each continental federation by the ITF entails full mutual respect of each other's authority within their respective institutional areas of competence as set forth in these Statutes.

3. The ITF may, in exceptional circumstances, authorise a Continental Federation to grant membership to a Member Association that belongs geographically to another continent and is not affiliated to the Continental Federation on that continent. The opinion of the Continental Federation concerned geographically shall be obtained.

   Any deviation from the general rule of geographical affiliation shall only be permitted in accordance with Article 14.3 and upon express authorisation by the ITF.

4. Each Continental Federation shall have the following rights and obligations:

   a) to comply with and enforce amongst its members compliance with the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the ITF;

   b) to work closely with the ITF in every domain so as to achieve the objectives stipulated in Article 2 and to organise international competitions;

   c) to organise its own competitions, in compliance with the applicable regulations;

   d) to ensure that Regional Associations shall not be formed without its consent and the approval of the ITF;

   e) to nurture relations and cooperation with the ITF actively and constructively for the good of Taekwon-Do through consultative meetings and to discuss and resolve any problems relating to the interests of the Continental Federations and the ITF;

   f) to set up committees that work closely together with the corresponding committees of the ITF;

   g) exceptionally to allow, with the ITF's consent, a Member Association from another Continental Federation (or Clubs or Schools belonging to that Continental Federation) to participate in a competition that it is organising;

   h) with the mutual cooperation of the ITF, to take any action considered necessary to develop Taekwon-Do on the continent concerned, such as arranging development programmes, courses, conferences, etc.;

   i) to set up the bodies necessary to fulfil the duties incumbent upon it; and

   j) to procure the funds necessary to fulfil its duties.

5. The Board of Directors may delegate other duties or powers to one or more (or all) Continental Federations by agreement with such continental federation.

6. The Continental Federations' statutes and regulations, as revised from time to time, shall be submitted to the ITF for approval.

ARTICLE 15. CONTINENTAL FEDERATIONS' STATUTES

1. The Continental Federations' statutes must comply with the principles of good governance, and shall in particular contain, at a minimum, provisions relating to the following matters:

   a) to be neutral in matters of politics and religion;

   b) to prohibit all forms of discrimination;

   c) to be independent and avoid any form of political interference;

   d) to ensure that judicial bodies are independent (separation of powers);

   e) all relevant stakeholders must agree to respect the principles of loyalty, integrity, sportsmanship and fair play as well as the Statutes, regulations and decisions of the ITF and of the respective Continental Federation;

   f) all relevant stakeholders must agree to recognise the jurisdiction and authority of CAS and give priority to arbitration as a means of dispute resolution;

   g) regulation of matters relating to refereeing, the fight against doping, the imposition of disciplinary measures, including for ethical misconduct, and measures required to protect the integrity of competitions;

   h) definition of the competences of the decision-making bodies;

   i) to avoid conflicts of interests in decision-making;

   j) legislative bodies must be constituted in accordance with the principles of representative democracy and taking into account the importance of gender equality in Taekwon-Do;

   k) to ensure that all black belts and all Taekwon-Do teaching members and examiners have an official ITF certification and that all members of the affiliated National Associations are members of the ITF;

   l) to collaborate in the preparation of the yearly ITF calendar of competitions and other activities;

   m) to submit an activity report to the Board of Directors at the end of the first quarter of each calendar year covering the activities during the past year;

n) to collect, upon ITF's request, the annual membership fee from the National Associations on the continent;

o) to organise conferences and workshops within the continent; and

p) organise a yearly budget.

ARTICLE 16. STATUS AND RECOGNITION OF REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

1. Member Associations that are affiliated to the ITF may establish a Regional Association based on recognised fundamental reasons and interests that will be solid enough to convince the Board of Directors of the need of such association even if its members are located in different continents while always considering the best interests of the ITF as a pre-condition to such recognition. Each Regional Association shall be duly registered under the laws of the country in which it has its headquarters.

2. A Regional Association shall have the following rights:

   a) Participate in the proceedings of the ITF General Assembly as observers;

   b) Organise its own competitions, in compliance with the applicable Regulations; and

   c) Benefit from the rights and privileges granted to them by these Statutes and applicable Regulations.

3. A Regional Association shall have the following obligations:

   a) Adopt statutes which comply with the principles of good governance and all ITF recommendations;

   b) Submit its statutes and regulations, as revised from time to time, to the ITF for approval;

   c) Ensure the election of its decision-making bodies;

   d) Invite the ITF to attend its respective general assemblies;

   e) Fully comply with the Statutes, Regulations, directives, and decisions of the ITF; and

   f) Work in close collaboration with the ITF in all spheres, in order to attain the objectives of the ITF.

4. The ITF may allocate other duties or powers to a Regional Federation by way of agreements with the Regional Federation.

ARTICLE 17. STATUS AND RECOGNITION OF MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

1. The executive body of a Member Association shall be elected by its general assembly, even on an interim basis, within the Member Association. The statutes of a Member Association shall provide for a democratic election procedure that guarantees the complete independence of the election.

2. The ITF shall not recognise the executive body of a Member Association, even on an interim basis, if it has not been elected in accordance with Article 17.1, except if the executive body is established as a Normalisation Committee by the ITF.

3. Only decisions passed by bodies that have been constituted in accordance with Article 17.1 and 17.2 may be recognised by the ITF.

4. Member Associations shall manage their affairs independently and without undue influence from third parties.

ARTICLE 18. STATUS OF CLUBS, SCHOOLS, AND OTHER GROUPS OF STAKEHOLDERS AFFILIATED TO A MEMBER ASSOCIATION

1. Clubs, Schools, or any other groups of stakeholders affiliated to a National Association shall be subordinate to and recognised by that Member Association. The Member Association statutes shall define the scope of authority and the rights and duties of these Clubs or Schools. Their statutes and regulations must be approved by the Member Association.

2. Every Member Association shall ensure that its affiliated Clubs and Schools take all decisions on any matters regarding their membership independently of any external body. This obligation applies regardless of their corporate structure.

ARTICLE 19. HONORARY APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

1. Upon recommendation, the Board of Directors may confer Honorary appointments on individuals for meritorious services rendered to the ITF for the development and promotion of Taekwon-Do.

2. The selection criteria for Honorary appointment shall be based at least on the following:

    a) Outstanding achievement in Taekwon-Do, leadership ability and community involvement; and

    b) The individual will have to be free of any disciplinary sanctions or suspensions.

3. Honorary officials may attend and participate in the General Assembly without the right to vote.

ARTICLE 20. ITF GOVERNANCE REGULATIONS

1. The Board of Directors shall establish the ITF Governance Regulations to support and supplement these Statutes setting out the principles of good governance applicable to the ITF.

ARTICLE 21. BODIES

1. The General Assembly is the supreme and legislative body of the ITF.

2. The Board of Directors is the strategic and supervisory body of the ITF.

3. The General Secretariat is the administrative body of the ITF.

4. The Standing Committees shall assist the Board of Directors in the performance of its duties in accordance with the Statutes and ITF Governance Regulations.

5. The judicial bodies of the ITF are the ITF Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Tribunal. The responsibilities and functions of the judicial bodies shall be stipulated in the ITF Disciplinary Code which is issued by the Board of Directors.

6. The independent external auditors shall perform all audits of the ITF's accounts and financial statements as required by Swiss law.

7. The ITF may from time to time establish Ad-Hoc Committees for a limited period of time to support the Board of Directors which it deems necessary for the development of Taekwon-Do.

8. The members of the bodies of the ITF shall be either elected or appointed by the ITF itself (as appropriate) without any external influence and in accordance with the procedures described in these Statutes.

CHAPTER 2: THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 22. DEFINITION AND COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The gathering of the General Assembly is the meeting at which all Member Associations of the ITF convene. It represents the supreme and legislative authority of the ITF. Only a General Assembly that is duly convened has the authority to make decisions.

2. A General Assembly may be an Ordinary or Extraordinary General Assembly. As a general rule, a General Assembly will be conducted in person. However, if the circumstances so require, the Board of Directors may decide that a General Assembly may be held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication.

3. The President shall conduct the General Assembly business in compliance with the Standing Orders of the General Assembly.

4. The honorary officials appointed in accordance with Article 19.1 may take part in the General Assembly. They may join the debates but are not entitled to vote.

ARTICLE 23. DELEGATES AND VOTING

1. Each Member Association is entitled to be represented by a maximum of two (2) delegates to participate in the General Assembly. One (1) of the two (2) delegates shall exercise the right to vote on behalf of the Member Association. "Associate" Member Associations shall be entitled to be represented by a maximum of two (2) delegates to participate in the General Assembly without voting rights.

2. The names of the two (2) delegates must reach the General Secretariat at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the General Assembly indicating the delegate authorised to vote.

3. No delegate shall be allowed to represent more than one (1) Member Association. Only the authorised delegates who are present are entitled to vote. Attendance by teleconference, by videoconference or by any other means of communication shall constitute presence. Voting by proxy or by letter is permitted. When a General Assembly is held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication, voting online is permitted.

4. Delegates must belong to the Member Association that they represent and be appointed or elected by the appropriate body of that Member Association. They must also be able to produce evidence of this upon request.

5. During their term of office, members of the Board of Directors shall not be appointed as delegates for their Member Association.

6. The Board of Directors may at its discretion invite any person or persons to the General Assembly who may attend and participate in the General Assembly without voting rights.

7. The Board of Directors and the Secretary General shall take part in the General Assembly without voting rights.

8. The number of votes (from one (1) to five (5)) for each Member Association at the General Assembly is based on the following criteria:

   a) Each Member Association has one (1) basic vote;

   b) In addition, the number of Plaques holders within each National Association shall provide the following additional votes:

      i) between 0 and 49 Plaques holders, no additional vote;

ii) between 50 and 99 Plaques holders, one (1) additional vote;

iii) between 100 and 199 Plaques holders, two (2) additional votes;

iv) above 200 Plaques holders, three (3) additional votes;

The number of Plaques shall be calculated on the average of Plaques licensed to each Member Association during the two (2) years ending sixty (60) days before the date of the General Assembly.

c) In addition, if a National Association is officially and duly recognised by either the Ministry of Sport, the National Olympic Committee, or by the highest sports authority in its country or territory, one (1) additional vote.

d) The Secretary General shall inform each Member Association at least 30 days prior to the date of the General Assembly about the number of votes that it is entitled to.

ARTICLE 24. AREA OF AUTHORITY

1. The General Assembly has the following authority:

a) adopting or amending the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the General Assembly;

b) appointing three (3) delegates to check the minutes;

c) appointing the scrutineers;

d) approving the minutes of the preceding General Assembly;

e) electing the Board of Directors;

f) electing the judicial bodies upon the proposal of the Board of Directors;

g) approving the financial statements;

h) approving the budget;

i) approving the Secretary General's activity report;

j) appointing the independent external auditors upon the proposal of the Board of Directors;

k) admitting, suspending or expelling a National Association upon the proposal of the Board of Directors;

l) dismissing a person or body;

m) dissolving the ITF; and

n) consider and act upon proposals submitted by a Member Association or the Board of Directors in accordance with these Statutes.

ARTICLE 25. QUORUM OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The quorum for the General Assembly shall be the simple majority (more than 50%) of the Member Associations who are entitled to vote.

2. If a quorum is not achieved the General Assembly will be postponed and, the postponed General Assembly shall take place twenty-four (24) hours after the first, with the same agenda. The quorum for the postponed General Assembly shall be at least one-third (1/3) of the Member Associations entitled to vote.

3. If a quorum is not achieved for the postponed General Assembly, a General Assembly shall be held via videoconference no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the postponed General Assembly.

ARTICLE 26. DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Unless otherwise stipulated in the Statutes, a proposal or motion shall be passed if supported by a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast.

2. Spoiled or blank voting slips or any other forms of abstentions are disregarded in calculating the majority.

3. A decision that requires a vote shall be reached by a show of hands or by means of an electronic count except in cases of elections which shall be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Code. If a show of hands does not result in a clear majority in favour of a proposal or motion, the vote shall be taken by calling the roll in English alphabetical order.

ARTICLE 27. ELECTIONS

1. The Electoral Code and any relevant ITF regulations shall govern any elective General Assembly.

2. The election of office-bearers at the General Assembly shall be by secret ballot. Where a candidate has no opponent for a position, that candidate may be elected by acclamation. Voting by letter or proxy is permitted. The positions listed in Article 34.1(a) to (d), constituting the Executive Committee under Article 38, shall be elected individually and in the following order: (i) President; (ii) Senior Vice President; (iii) Vice President; and (iv) Treasurer. Once those elections have been completed, the election of the positions listed in Article 34.1(e) shall be conducted.

3. The positions listed in Article 34.1 (a) to (d), representing the Executive Committee (Article 38), shall be decided separately as follows:

   a) Where there is more than one candidate for a position on the first ballot, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast by the Member Associations present and eligible to vote is necessary. If no candidate is elected, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. All subsequent ballots shall require the same simple majority. This process shall continue until two candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved; and

   b) Where there is only one candidate for a position, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast by the Member Associations present and eligible to vote is necessary on the first ballot. If the candidate is not elected, a second and final ballot shall take place, in which more than 40% of the valid votes cast by the Member Associations present and eligible to vote is necessary. If the candidate is not elected on the second ballot, the position shall remain vacant and shall be dealt with in accordance with Article 34.14.

4. After completion of the elections referred to in paragraph 3, the positions listed in Article 34.1(e) shall be elected as follows:

   a) Where there are more than one position available and there are candidates in a number equal to the number of the available positions or more, the candidates will be listed according to the number of votes that each candidate acquired where the candidate that obtained the highest number of votes will be located first, than the second, etc. the elected persons will be the ones located at the list in the positions equal to the number of the available positions.

   b) Where the candidates in places 5 & 6 obtained the same number of votes in the first ballot, a subsequent ballot will take place where only these two candidates will stand to be elected and the elected candidate will be elected by a simple majority of the (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Member Associations who are present and eligible to vote.

   c) where there is one (1) position available and more than one candidate on the first ballot, a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Member Associations who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. If no candidate is elected, the candidate obtaining the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated from the subsequent ballot. All subsequent ballots shall require the same simple majority to be achieved. This process shall continue until two (2) candidates remain and a simple majority is achieved.

   d) where there is one (1) position available and only one candidate a simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Member Associations who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. If the candidate is not elected in the first ballot, a second and final ballot will take place where a majority of

more than 40%) of the valid votes cast of the Member Associations who are present and eligible to vote is necessary. If the candidate is not elected in the second ballot the position will remain vacant until the next general assembly.

ARTICLE 28. ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The Ordinary General Assembly shall be held annually.

2. The Board of Directors shall fix the place and date. Notice of the Ordinary General Assembly shall be communicated to all Member Associations in writing not later than six (6) weeks before the scheduled date of the General Assembly unless decided otherwise by the Board of Directors.

3. The Secretary General shall, not later than thirty (30) days before the date of the General Assembly, be communicated to the Member Associations in writing the following:

   a) the agenda of the General Assembly;

   b) the report of the Secretary General;

   c) the budget (if applicable), the financial statements and the independent external auditors' report;

   d) the names of the candidates for election;

   e) proposals for amendments and/or alterations to the Statutes, if any; and

   f) any other proposal submitted by Member Associations or the Board of Directors for which due notice has been given.

ARTICLE 29. ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

1. The Agenda of the General Assembly shall comprise the following:

   a) a declaration that the General Assembly has been convened and composed in compliance with the Statutes;

   b) the approval of the General Assembly's agenda;

   c) an address by the President;

   d) the appointment of three (3) members to check the official minutes;

   e) the appointment of three (3) scrutineers to check the voting;

   f) suspension or expulsion of a Member Association (if applicable);

   g) admission for membership (if applicable);

h) dismissal of a person or body (if applicable);

i) the approval of the minutes of the preceding General Assembly;

j) the Secretary General's report for the period preceding General Assembly;

k) the reports of the Committees and bodies;

l) the approval of the statement of accounts and the independent external auditors' reports;

m) the presentation of the budget for the year following the year of the General assembly, as further detailed in Art. 35 j9 iii)

n) the proposals for amendments and alterations to the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and Standing Orders of the General Assembly (if applicable);

o) consideration of proposals (if any) submitted by Member Associations or the Board of Directors in accordance with these Statutes;

p) appointment of independent external auditors (if applicable);

q) bestowal of Honorary Titles (if applicable);

r) the election of the (as applicable):

i) President;

ii) one (1) Senior Vice President;

iii) one (1) Vice President;

iv) one (1) Treasurer; and

vi) five (5) members.

s) vote on the designation of the host National Association of the World Championship and World Cup (as applicable).

2. Any proposal that a Member Association wishes to submit to the General Assembly shall be sent to the ITF General Secretariat in writing, with a brief explanation, at least six (6) weeks before the date of the General Assembly.

3. Any proposal to amend and/or alter the agenda of an Ordinary General Assembly (the "**Proposal**") shall be sent and delivered to the ITF General Secretariat in writing, with an explanation as well as with supporting documents (where relevant) at least 14 days before the General Assembly. The Proposal shall be dealt in accordance with sequences

of the General Assembly before the approval of the agenda, however only if the same member that sent the proposal will also present before the approval of the agenda a motion (in accordance with Art. 5 of the Standing Orders of the general Assembly of the ITF) to amend the agenda in the exact same terms as requested in the Proposal. The motion must be adopted by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

ARTICLE 30. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened:

   a) by the Board of Directors whenever deemed necessary;

   b) in the event the office of the President falls vacant for more than one (1) year; or

   c) upon a written request by at least one third (1/3) of the Member Associations, within sixty (60) days of receipt of the written request.

2. The date and venue shall be determined by the Board of Directors and notified to the Member Associations together with the agenda at least thirty (30) days before the Extraordinary General Assembly.

3. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened on the initiative of the Board of Directors, it must draw up the agenda. When an Extraordinary General Assembly is convened upon the request of Member Associations, the agenda must contain the points raised by those Member Associations.

4. The motion to amend and/or alter the agenda of an Extraordinary General Assembly must be adopted by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

5. An Extraordinary General Assembly shall be conducted in the same manner as the Ordinary Assembly.

ARTICLE 31. AMENDMENT TO THE STATUTES, REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES AND THE STANDING ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Only the General Assembly may amend or alter the Statutes, the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the General Assembly.

2. Proposals to amend or alter the Statutes may either be submitted by:

   (i) a Member Association and seconded by two (2) other Member Associations to the General Secretariat; or

   (ii) the Board of Directors.

The proposals submitted shall be in writing with a brief explanation.

3. Proposals to amend the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and the Standing Orders of the General Assembly may be submitted by:

   (i) a Member Association to the General Secretariat; or

   (ii) the Board of Directors.

   The proposals submitted shall be in writing with a brief explanation.

4. All amendments and alterations to the Statutes shall only be adopted with the approval of three-quarters (3/4) of the votes cast by the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

5. All amendments to the Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and/or the Standing Orders of the General Assembly shall be adopted only with the approval of a simple majority (more than 50%) of the votes cast by the Member Associations present and eligible to vote.

6. The presence of an absolute majority (more than 50%) of the Member Associations eligible to vote at the General Assembly is necessary for a vote to amend or alter the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes, and Standing Orders of the General Assembly to be valid.

ARTICLE 32. MINUTES

1. The Secretary General shall be responsible for recording the minutes at the General Assembly. The minutes shall be checked by those members designated and finally approved at the next General Assembly.

ARTICLE 33. EFFECTIVE DATES OF DECISIONS

1. Decisions passed by the General Assembly shall come into effect thirty (30) days after the close of the General Assembly, unless the General Assembly fixes another date for a decision to take effect.

CHAPTER 3: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND THE PRESIDENT

ARTICLE 34. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of nine (9) members elected from amongst the candidates nominated by the Member Associations for the following positions:

   a) President;

b) one (1) Senior Vice President;

c) one (1) Vice President;

d) one (1) Treasurer; and

e) five (5) members at large.

A minimum of 2 (two) of the 9 (nine) members must be female and a minimum of 2 (two) of the 9 (nine) members must be male. For the avoidance of doubt, it should be noted that candidates may be nominated for any Board of Director position, if they fulfil the eligibility criteria for such position.

2. Upon being elected, every member of the Board of Directors undertakes, and accepts responsibility, to faithfully, loyally and independently act in the best interest of the ITF and the promotion and development of Taekwon-Do in the world.

3. No member of the Board of Directors shall occupy more than one of the positions listed in Article 34.1 (a) to 1 (e) above.

4. Members of the Board of Directors shall serve the term of four (4) years or until the fourth (4^{th}) General Assembly following the General Assembly in which they were elected in cases where the same fourth General Assembly will be convened later or earlier than 4 years after the General Assembly in which they were elected (yet always within the fourth year following the year in which they were elected) and are eligible for re-election. They shall serve no more than two (2) consecutive full terms of office of four (4) years each for the same position listed in Article 34.1 (a) to (e). After having served two (2) consecutive full terms for the same position, they shall be entitled to run for a different position than the one served and only for another two (2) consecutive full terms of office. For the avoidance of doubt, a member of the Board of Directors can serve a maximum of sixteen (16) years on the Board of Directors. Periods served as a replacement for the remainder of a term of another member shall not be considered in determining the term limit of a member. A member of the Board of Directors shall not at the same time be a member of any of the judicial bodies.

5. Every candidate nominated to the Board of Directors, including the President, shall be under the age of eighty (80) as at the date of the election. Every candidate nominated is required to submit the relevant documents to the General Secretariat for verification in accordance with the ITF Electoral Code.

6. All candidates for the Board of Directors, including the President, must be fit and proper persons who pass an eligibility check carried out by the ITF Electoral Committee in accordance with the ITF Electoral Code. If a candidate for a position listed in Article 34.1(a) to (d) is declared ineligible by the ITF Electoral Committee, the Member Association that nominated that candidate may propose a replacement for the same position within fifteen (15) days from the final and binding decision declaring the original candidate

ineligible. The replacement candidate must satisfy all applicable eligibility, nomination and support requirements.

7. Candidates for the positions listed in Article 34.1(a) to (d), constituting the Executive Committee under Article 38, shall be nominated individually by name. Each candidate shall be proposed by their Member Association in the prescribed form, in accordance with the ITF Electoral Code, and shall be supported by at least five (5) other Member Associations. Each nomination shall be submitted by the Member Association of the candidates and shall reach the General Secretariat not later than four (4) months before the date of the General Assembly.

8. Candidates for the positions listed in Article 34.1 (e) must be by name and shall be proposed by their Member Association in the prescribed forms in accordance with the provisions contained in the ITF Electoral Code and be supported by at least three (3) other Member Associations. Such nomination shall be submitted by the Member Association of each candidate to reach the General Secretariat not later than four (4) months before the date of the General Assembly. Each nomination must be in accordance with the further provisions contained within the ITF Electoral Code.

9. A Member Association shall not propose more than one (1) candidate for the positions specified in Article 34.1 (a) to (e). If a Member Association proposes more than one (1) candidate for a position in the Board of Directors or proposes a candidate for more than one (1) position in the Board of Directors, all proposals submitted by that Member Association shall be declared invalid.

10. No member Association shall be eligible to be represented by more than one (1) member in the Board of Directors.

11. All candidates must be either citizens of the country or territory represented by their Member Associations, or a permanent resident of the country or territory represented by the relevant member association for a continuous period of at least the five years before the date in which the candidate submitted the candidature. In case of permanent residency, the candidate must also hold an official position in the country of residence being either the President or Secretary general or member of the Board or Technical Director of the Member Association in the country or region of residence. The Candidate being a permanent resident of a country in which he is not a citizen must provide within the documents supporting his candidature an official document issued by the country or region of residency confirming this residency for the relevant period as well as signed affidavits by the president and SG of the member association confirming the position of the candidate within the member association. Candidates for President must hold the title of Grand Master (9th degree) or Master (8th degree). Candidates for Senior Vice President must hold the title of Grand Master (9th degree) or Master (7th or 8th degree).

12. The General Secretariat shall notify the Member Associations of the names of proposed candidates at least thirty (30) days before the date of the General Assembly and also publish the names of the proposed candidates on the official ITF website.

13. If the President ceases to carry out or is prevented from performing their duties, the Senior Vice President shall deputise and assume the powers and responsibility of the President until the next General Assembly subject to the provisions of Article 30.1 (b).

14. If a position is vacant for the positions listed in Article 34.1 (a) to (d), the Executive Committee shall fill that position with a member from the positions listed in Article 34.1 (e) and who fulfils the eligibility criteria to fill such position. If no member is eligible to fill that vacant position, an election for such position shall be held at the next Ordinary General Assembly or Extraordinary General Assembly (if applicable).

15. If a position for one or more of the positions listed in Article 34.1 (e), will become vacant within the period between the next three Congresses following the last electoral Congresses, the following possibilities will apply:

    a. If in the previous elections where the acting Board of Directors was elected there were more candidates than positions listed in Art. 34.1 (e), the immediate next candidates that were in line at the list composed pursuant to Art. 27.4 (a) but were not elected shall become members of the Board of Directors for the vacant positions in Article 34,1 (e), and for the remaining term of the Board that they will join, in the order in which they were listed. However, each such nomination will be subject to the following conditions:

    i. If the vacancy/ies occurred during the period between the elections where they were candidates and the consecutive ITF Ordinary or Extraordinary Congress, whichever comes first ("The following Congress"), the Candidate will provide a new updated support letter by its member association (no need for three other member associations) and will present and provide the needed confirmation that he/she meets the requirement under Art. 34 (5) and (11) as well as meet the requirement under Art. 34 (6).

    ii. If the vacancy/ies occurred during the period between the Following Congress and the next ITF Ordinary or extraordinary Congress whichever comes first ("The second next congress"), the Candidate will provide the needed documents and meet the requirements under Art. i above and will also provide three other support letters as per Art. 34.8.

    iii. If the vacancy/ies occurred during the period that starts at the end of tThe second next Congress but before the third next Ordinary Congress an election for such position shall be held at the third next Ordinary General Assembly.

16. Any person who holds a position (either sportive or as an officer or director or in any other managerial capacity) in any Other Taekwon-Do Body either in national or international level, and any person who holds such position in any other sport federation or association being a governing body, either in national or international level, of any martial art or a sport that is considered by the ITF as a competitor of the ITF, will not be eligible to present his candidature to the Board of directors or any other Standing Committee of the ITF.

ARTICLE 35. POWERS AND DUTIES

1. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to make decisions on all matters, which are not exclusive to the General Assembly or are not reserved for other bodies by law or under these Statutes.

2. The duties of the Board of Directors are as follows:

   a) to carry out the objectives and strategy of the ITF;

   b) to prepare and convene the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly of the ITF;

   c) to implement the decisions passed at the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly;

   d) to ensure that the Statutes are applied, and adopt the executive arrangements required for their application;

   e) to approve Regulations stipulating how the ITF shall be organised internally, including the approval of signatory rights and the delegation of rights with respect of signatory rights on behalf of the ITF, in all aspects and regulatory needs ;

   f) to appoint the Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and members of the Standing Committees;

   g) to set up Ad-Hoc Committees and Special designated Committees if necessary at any time;

   h) to review and ratify or dismiss decisions from the Standing Committees;

   i) to propose to the General Assembly the individuals to be elected or dismissed as Chairpersons, Deputy Chairpersons and members of the judicial bodies;

   j) to prepare, approve and submit to the General Assembly the documents containing the following:
      i) the reports of the Secretary General and the various Committees and bodies;

      ii) the financial statements and the independent external auditors' report;

iii) the budget for the year starting on 1 January of the year following the year of the Congress. The Budget as presented, even if approved by the General Assembly, will not prevent the Board of Directors from making adjustments and changes as needed during the relevant year, as long as any such adjustment or change will be approved by the Board of Directors and presented to the general Assembly at the next Congress.;

iv) all proposals for amendments and alterations to the Statutes, Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes and Standing Orders of the General Assembly;

v) other proposals submitted by the Board of Directors members in accordance with these Statutes;

k) to appoint and dismiss the Secretary General on the proposal of the President;

l) to relieve a person of their duties in accordance with Article 45.7;

m) to provisionally dismiss a person or body or provisionally suspend a National Association until the next General Assembly;

n) to fix the basic membership subscriptions; and

o) to determine the official competitions to be organised and to decide the venue for such competitions in accordance with Article 65.

3. The powers and responsibilities of the Board of Directors may be defined in greater detail in the ITF Governance Regulations.

4. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, delegate tasks arising from its areas of authority to the President, to the Executive Committee or third parties.

ARTICLE 36. MEETINGS AND DECISIONS

1. The Board of Directors shall stipulate the terms of reference of the Board of Directors, standing orders for meetings and its ability to make decisions in the ITF Governance Regulations.

2. The Board of Directors shall meet at least two (2) times a year.

3. The President shall convene the Board of Directors meetings. If fifty percent (50%) of the Board of Directors members request a meeting or if the President deems it necessary, the President shall convene it within thirty (30) days.

ARTICLE 37. DISMISSAL OF A PERSON OR BODY

1. The General Assembly may dismiss a person or body. The Board of Directors may place the dismissal of a person or body on the agenda for the General Assembly. The Board of Directors may also dismiss a person or body provisionally until the following General Assembly. Any Board of Directors member may submit a proposal to place such a motion for dismissal on the agenda of the Board of Directors.

2. The motion for dismissal must be accompanied by written reasons. It will be sent to the National Associations along with the agenda.

3. The person or body in question has the right to speak in their own defence.

4. The General Assembly shall reach a decision by means of secret ballot. For the motion to be passed, a majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the valid votes in favour of the motion is required.

5. The person or body dismissed (provisionally) must be relieved of their functions with immediate effect.

ARTICLE 38. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

   a) the President;

   b) the Senior Vice President;

   c) the Vice President; and

   d) the Treasurer.

2. The duties of the Executive Committee are as follows:

   a) to implement the decisions passed by the Board of Directors;

   b) to deal with all matters requiring immediate settlement between meetings of the Board of Directors;

   c) to ensure the day-to-day management of the ITF.

3. The President shall convene the Executive Committee meetings.

4. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall have immediate effect. The President shall notify the Board of Directors immediately of the decisions passed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE 39. PRESIDENT

1. The President represents the ITF generally.

2. The President shall aim to foster a positive image of the ITF and to ensure that the ITF's mission, strategic direction, policies and values, as defined by the Board of Directors, are protected and implemented.

3. The President shall seek to maintain and develop excellent relations between and among the Continental Federations, the Regional Associations, Member Associations, political bodies, and international organisations.

4. The President chairs the General Assembly and the meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. The President shall have one (1) ordinary vote on the Board of Directors and on the Executive Committee.

5. The President shall be an *ex officio* member in all Standing Committees without the right to vote.

6. If the President is absent or unavailable, the Senior Vice President shall deputise.

7. The powers and responsibilities of the President may be defined in greater detail in the ITF Governance Regulations.

8. The President may delegate tasks arising from their areas of authority to another member or members of the Board of Directors or to the Secretary General.

ARTICLE 40. CANDIDATES FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1. The President shall be elected by the General Assembly for a period of four (4) years or until the fourth (4^{th}) General Assembly following the General Assembly in which they were elected in cases where the same fourth General Assembly will be convened later or earlier than 4 years after the General Assembly in which they were elected (yet always within the fourth year following the year in which they were elected). The mandate shall begin after the end of the General Assembly which has elected them. A President may be re-elected subject to the provisions of Article 34.

2. Candidates nominated for the office of the President must be by name and shall be proposed by their Member Association and be supported by at least five (5) other Member Associations. Such nomination shall be submitted to reach the General Secretariat not later than four (4) months before the date of the General Assembly. Each nomination must be in accordance with the further provisions contained in Article 34 and within the ITF Electoral Code.

3. Candidates for the position of President must hold the title of Grand Master (9th degree) or Master (8th degree) in order to be proposed as a candidate.

4. The General Secretariat shall notify the Member Associations of the names of proposed candidates for the office of the President at least thirty (30) days before the date of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 41. SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

1. The Senior Vice President shall:

   a) review and analyse ITF revenues, submit reports and making recommendations to the President regularly;

   b) follow-up on action plans with those responsible and reporting results to the President;

   c) providing solutions and resources necessary to reach objectives;

   d) mediate any conflicts that arises within the ITF;

   e) represent officially the ITF in the absence of the President or upon their request.

2. The Senior Vice President, with the approval of the President, may delegate tasks to the Vice President.

ARTICLE 41.A VICE PRESIDENT

1. The Vice-President shall be responsible for:

   a) developing and maintaining relations with grand masters, masters and instructors.
   b) identifying their needs in technical matters in co-operation with the technical & instruction committee.
   c) conducting surveys, consultations, and analyses of technical needs.
   d) ensuring a good relation between technical decisions and administration.
   e) legal cases in which the itf may be involved in co-operation with the board of directors.
   f) checking applications for the 9th degree and move it forward for approval to the itf board of directors.
   g) promoting development of itf tkd in countries with schools and practitioners.
   h) ascertaining current status in each country and needs for development.
   i) suggesting short-term and long-term priorities.

j) monitoring and controlling the use of the itf name, logo, etc. worldwide.

k) making sure that the itf name is registered as a trademark in all member countries

ARTICLE 42. TREASURER

1. The Treasurer shall:

   a) oversee the financial administration of the ITF;

   b) review procedures and financial reporting;

   c) prepare the budget for the ITF operations, development and promotion of Taekwon-Do;

   d) advise the Board of Directors on financial strategy;

   e) produce detailed quarterly and annual financial statements;

CHAPTER 4: THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

ARTICLE 43. GENERAL SECRETARIAT

1. The General Secretariat shall carry out all the administrative work of the ITF under the direction of the Secretary General.

2. The General Secretariat is supervised by, and is accountable to, the Board of Directors with regard to the discharge of its functions.

3. The powers and responsibilities of the General Secretariat may be defined in greater detail within the ITF Governance Regulations.

ARTICLE 44. SECRETARY GENERAL

1. The Secretary General shall be the Chief Executive of the General Secretariat and shall work under the direction of the Board of Directors.

2. The Secretary General shall be appointed and dismissed by the Board of Directors upon the proposal of the President. The Secretary General shall report to the Board of Directors.

3. The Secretary General must pass an eligibility check carried out by the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee.

4. The Secretary General shall:

   a) implement decisions passed by the General Assembly, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee in compliance with the President's directives;

   b) be responsible for the administration of the General Secretariat;

   c) be responsible for the appointment and discipline of all staff of the General Secretariat;

   d) assist and participate in the General Assembly, Board of Directors, and Executive Committee and Committee meetings;

   e) be responsible for the minutes of all meetings;

   f) be responsible for all publications of the ITF;

   g) be responsible for all correspondence of the ITF; and

   h) sign decisions on behalf of any Committee, provided that no other ruling exists in the relevant regulations.

5. Additional powers of the Secretary General, including the authority to represent the ITF, shall be provided for by the ITF Governance Regulations.

6. In the absence of the Secretary General, an Acting Secretary General shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.

7. The Secretary General shall attend the Committee meetings as an *ex officio* official without the right to vote. In the event the Secretary General is unable to attend the Committee meeting, the Secretary General may suggest, subject to the approval of the President, a representative(s) from the General Secretariat to attend on their behalf.

8. The Secretary General shall not be a General Assembly delegate or a member of any body of the ITF.

CHAPTER 5: THE STANDING COMMITTEES AND THE JUDICIAL BODIES

ARTICLE 45. STANDING COMMITTEES

1. The Standing Committees of the ITF are the:

   a) Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee;

b) Do and Ethics Committee;

c) Grand Master Promotion Committee;

d) National Associations Committee; and

e) Compensation Committee

f) Any other Standing Committee established by the Board of Directors in accordance with Article 45.9.

2. The Standing Committees shall report to the Board of Directors. They shall advise and assist the Board of Directors in their respective fields of function.

3. The standing orders for meetings of the Standing Committees, the conditions for making valid decisions, and other organisational and procedural matters relating to the Standing Committees are governed by the ITF Governance Regulations.

4. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Chairperson of each Standing Committee. The members of each Standing Committee shall be proposed to the Board of Directors by the respective Chairperson on the proposal of the Member Associations. The Board of Directors shall ensure appropriate gender representation on the Standing Committees. Each Standing Committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members and up to six (6) members, including the Chairperson. The term of office for the Chairperson and members of each Standing Committee is four (4) years.

5. Members may be reappointed and may also be relieved of their duties at any time in accordance with these Statutes and the ITF Governance Regulations. Any individual appointed to fill a vacancy on a Standing Committee shall have the right to vote in Standing Committee's meetings.

   Any member may be removed by the Board of Directors if the member will no longer be affiliated or active within its own National association or if the member was expelled or suspended by his/her national association. Yet, the Board of Directors will always have the power and the discretion to check and investigate the grounds of a decision to expel or suspend a member from his/her national association and if a due process was conducted by his/her national association before removing the member also from his/her capacity as a member of a committee.

6. Any decisions and/or policies made by a Standing Committee must be either in accordance with a delegation from the Board of Directors or subsequently ratified by the Board of Directors, in order to take effect.

7. Any member of a Standing Committee who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings or any five (5) meetings during their term without a properly accepted apology is

automatically suspended. A decision shall then be made by the Board of Directors whether or not to dismiss the member, which shall be final.

8. Each Standing Committee may propose amendments to its terms of reference within the ITF Governance Regulations to the Board of Directors.

9. The Board of Directors may establish additional Standing Committees in accordance with the ITF Governance Regulations in order to fulfil the objectives of the ITF.

10. Details of Standing Committee responsibilities are stipulated in the ITF Governance Regulations.

ARTICLE 46. AUDIT, RISK AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

1. The Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee shall:

   a) ensure the completeness and reliability of the financial accounting and review the financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements and the external auditors' report; and

   b) advise, assist and oversee ITF's financial and compliance matters including, in particular, the functioning of the Treasurer or any other official with the authority to either commit the ITF by his/her signature (alone or with other/s) and the distribution and flow of funds from the ITF to its members and officials, and suggest to the appropriate ITF bodies any action that it deems necessary as a result of such monitoring; and

   c) advising the Board of Directors on all matters of strategic and operational risk (political, environmental, social, technological, legal and compliance, media, economic, etc.).

ARTICLE 46 bis COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Compensation Committee will consist of three members, a chairperson being an independent person who is not a member nor related to any ITF member or any other ITF body and two other members. At least one of the members will always be a woman.

The Compensation Committee shall:

   a) be consulted by the Board of Directors in all aspects and regulatory needs before the Board of Directors will approve (as per Art. 35.2 e) the policy of the signatory rights regime of the ITF and the delegation of rights with respect of signatory rights on behalf of the ITF.

   b) determine the individual compensation of the President, of each other Member of the Board of Directors and of each Chair of the Standing Committees.

c) approve the salary and terms of employment of the Secretary General as proposed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 47. DO AND ETHICS COMMITTEE GRAND MASTER PROMOTION COMMMITTEE

1. The Do and Ethics Committee shall promote moral development and ethical behaviour, and ensure the legacy of the Founder regarding the moral culture of Taekwon-Do.

ARTICLE 48. GRAND MASTER PROMOTION COMMITEE

1. The Grand Master Promotion Committee shall implement the procedure and review the application of 8th dan members of the ITF for suitability to be promoted to 9th dan Grand Master and recommend any promotion to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 49. NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE

1. The National Associations Committee shall be responsible for relations between the ITF and its National Associations, the admission and requalification of National Associations to the ITF, as well as National Associations compliance with the Statutes.

ARTICLE 50. JUDICIAL BODIES

1. The judicial bodies of the ITF are:

   a) the Disciplinary Committee; and

   b) the Appeal Tribunal.

2. The responsibilities and functions of the Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Committee shall be stipulated in the ITF Disciplinary Code.

3. The decision-making powers of other committees remain unaffected. The members of the judicial bodies shall not belong to any other body of the ITF at the same time.

ARTICLE 51. DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

1. The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and the number of members deemed necessary by the Board of Directors to function properly. The Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson shall have legal qualifications. The members shall have legal qualifications or related experience.

2. The Disciplinary Committee may pronounce the sanctions described in these Statutes and the Disciplinary Code on all parties set out in these Statutes, the Disciplinary Code and Code of Ethics.

3. The Disciplinary Committee may propose amendments to the Disciplinary Code directly to the Board of Directors.

4. These provisions are subject to the disciplinary powers of the General Assembly and the Board of Directors regarding the suspension and expulsion of a National Association.

ARTICLE 52. APPEAL TRIBUNAL

1. The Appeal Tribunal shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson and the number of members deemed necessary by the Board of Directors for the Appeal Committee to function properly. The Chairperson and all the other members shall have legal qualifications.

2. The Appeal Committee shall have jurisdiction to hear appeals arising from decisions of the ITF Disciplinary Committee that are not declared final pursuant to the Disciplinary Code.

ARTICLE 53. SANCTIONS

The ITF may impose the following sanctions for any violation of its Statutes, Regulations, Disciplinary Code or Code of Ethics :

a) for individuals:

i) warning;

ii) fine;

iii) withdrawal of a title or award;

iv) ban on taking part in any Taekwon-Do activity;

v) Suspension; and/or

vi) expulsion.

b) for Member Association and Clubs and Schools:

i) warning;

ii) fine;

iii) withdrawal of a title or award;

iv) ban on taking part in any Taekwon-Do activity;

v) suspension; and/or

vi) expulsion.

ARTICLE 54. ANTI-DOPING REGIME

1. The ITF and its members are committed to fight against doping and shall have a zero-tolerance policy on doping.

2. The Board of Directors shall issue anti-doping regulations that are compliant with the principles set out by WADA and the WADA code.

3. The Disciplinary Committee and the Appeal Tribunal (Art. 51 & 52) will be the hearing panels for the purpose of the Anti-Doping Regulations.

CHAPTER 6: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

ARTICLE 55. COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT (CAS)

1. The ITF recognises the independent Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) with headquarters in Lausanne (Switzerland) to resolve disputes between the ITF and Continental Federations, Regional Associations, National Associations, Practitioners, Officials, Clubs and Schools.

2. The provisions of the CAS Code of Sports–related Arbitration shall apply to the proceedings.

3. The CAS shall apply the various regulations of the ITF, and additionally, where relevant, the laws of the country agreed by the parties, and in the absence of such choice, either the Laws of Switzerland or the laws of the country that is, in the understanding of the CAS, the most appropriate and relevant to the dispute at hand.

ARTICLE 56. DISPUTES

1. The Member Associations shall agree to recognise CAS as an independent judicial authority and to ensure that their members, affiliated Practitioners, Clubs and Schools and Officials comply with the decisions passed by CAS.

2. Recourse to ordinary courts of law is prohibited unless specifically provided for in any ITF Regulations, or local laws provide for or stipulate mandatory recourse to ordinary courts of law. Recourse to ordinary courts of law for all types of provisional measures is also prohibited.

3. Any violation of this Article shall be sanctioned in accordance with these Statutes and any other relevant Regulation.

ARTICLE 57. DISPUTES OF NATIONAL DIMENSION

1. Member Associations shall insert a clause in their statutes or regulations stipulating that it is prohibited to take disputes within the National Association or disputes affecting Practitioners, Officials, Clubs and Schools, and other Member Association Officials to ordinary courts of law, unless the ITF regulations specifically provide for or stipulate recourse to ordinary courts of law, or local laws provide for or stipulate mandatory recourse to ordinary courts of law.

2. Such disputes in the last instance shall be referred to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal recognised under the rules of the Member Association or to CAS.

3. Member Associations shall ensure that the stipulation in Article 57.1 is implemented within the Member Association, if necessary, by imposing a binding obligation on its members. Member Associations shall impose sanctions on any party that fails to respect this obligation and ensure that any appeal against such sanctions shall likewise be strictly submitted to arbitration, and not to ordinary courts of law.

ARTICLE 58. JURISDICTION OF CAS AS AN ORDINARY COURT OF ARBITRATION

1. CAS shall have jurisdiction, to the exclusion of any ordinary court or any other court of arbitration, to deal with the following disputes in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration:

   a) disputes between the ITF and its Member Associations, Practitioners, Officials, Clubs and/or Schools; and

   b) disputes of international dimension between Member Associations, Practitioners, Officials, Clubs and/or Schools.

2. CAS shall only intervene in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration if the dispute does not fall within the competence of an ITF body.

ARTICLE 59. JURISDICTION OF CAS AS AN APPEALS ARBITRATION BODY

1. Any final decision made by an ITF body may be disputed exclusively before CAS in its capacity as an appeals arbitration body, to the exclusion of any ordinary court or any other court of arbitration.

2. Recourse may only be made to CAS after all other internal ITF channels have been exhausted. Appeals shall be lodged with CAS within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of the decision in question. The relevant ITF Regulations may contain further stipulations or amend this time limit.

3. CAS does not deal with appeals arising from:

   a) violations of the Taekwon-Do rules of competition;

b) suspensions of up to three (3) months (with the exception of doping decisions);

c) decisions which any Regulations declare as final and binding and not appealable; or

d) decisions against which an appeal to an independent and duly constituted arbitration tribunal recognised under the rules of a Member Association may be made.

4. The appeal shall not have a suspensive effect. The appropriate ITF bodies, or alternatively, CAS may order the appeal to have a suspensive effect.

5. Only parties directly affected by a decision may appeal to CAS.

6. The World Anti-Doping Agency is entitled to appeal to CAS against any internally final and binding doping-related decision passed by the ITF.

CHAPTER 7: MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 60. FINANCES

1. The financial period of the ITF shall be one (1) year and shall commence on 1 January of each year.

2. The revenue and expenses of the ITF shall be responsibly managed, including, where appropriate, the creation of reserves.

3. The Treasurer is responsible for drawing up the budget and the annual consolidated accounts of the ITF as of 31 December every year.

ARTICLE 61. REVENUE

1. The revenue of the ITF arises specifically from:

a) member Associations' annual subscription which is required to be paid by 31 March of each year;

b) black belt certificate fees;

c) individual plaque fees which are required to be paid by 30 June of each year;

d) revenues generated through any commercial agreement between the ITF and third parties;

e) revenues generated by the marketing of rights to which the ITF is entitled;

f) fines imposed by the authorised bodies; and

g) other subscriptions and revenues as decided by the Board of Directors from time to time in keeping with the objectives pursued by the ITF.

ARTICLE 62. EXPENSES

1. The ITF bears:

a) the expenses stipulated in the budget;

b) other expenses approved by the General Assembly and expenses that the Board of Directors is entitled to incur within the scope of its authority; and

c) all other expenses in keeping with the objectives pursued by the ITF.

ARTICLE 63. INDEPENDENT EXTERNAL AUDITORS

1. The Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee shall recommend a firm of independent external auditors for a term of four (4) years for approval by the General Assembly. The external auditors' mandate(s) may be renewed.

2. The independent external auditors shall examine and certify the accounts before the same is presented to the Board of Directors and the General Assembly. The auditors shall audit the accounts and annual financial statements, including the consolidated financial statements, approved by the Board of Directors and present a report to the General Assembly in accordance with applicable Swiss civil law.

ARTICLE 64. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE SUBSCRIPTION

1. Member Association shall pay the annual membership fee subscription due by 31 March of each year, and the annual individual plaque fees due by its affiliated members and/or Practitioners or any other individual practising Taekwon-Do under the respective member association by 30 June of each year.

2. The annual subscription for new Member Associations, including "Associate" members, for the year in question shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the close of the General Assembly at which they were admitted.

3. The Board of Directors shall fix the "ITF membership subscription Classification (ITF-MSC)" to apply to each member. The ITF-MSC will contain various levels based – as a ceiling - on the basic membership subscription, while affixing the other fee levels based on various indicators including also the World bank Group Classification

ARTICLE 65. COMPETITIONS

1. The ITF shall have the sole jurisdiction to organise or sanction international competitions in the world in which Member Associations and/or their Clubs/Schools participate.

2. The Board of Directors shall determine the ITF-sanctioned Tournaments to be organised and coordinated by the ITF. The Board of Directors shall decide the venue for the competitions organised by the ITF.

3. The Board of Directors may delegate to Member Associations the authority to organise competitions.

4. The Board of Directors shall set up regulations governing the conditions of participating in and the staging of ITF-sanctioned Tournaments.

5. By the act of entering its team to an ITF-sanctioned tournament, each Member Association and/or Club/School affiliated to a Member Association agrees to comply with the Statutes, Rules and Regulations, directives and decisions of ITF and their bodies.

ARTICLE 66. RIGHTS IN COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

1. The ITF and its Member Associations are respectively the original owners of all of the rights emanating from competitions and other events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and law. These rights include, among others, every kind of financial rights, audio-visual and radio recording, reproduction and broadcasting rights, multimedia rights, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as emblems, logos and rights arising under copyright law.

2. The Board of Directors shall decide how and to what extent the ITF rights are utilised and draw up special regulations pertaining to this. The Board of Directors shall alone decide whether the ITF rights shall be utilised exclusively, or jointly with a third party or entirely through a third party.

3. The ITF and its Member Associations are exclusively responsible for authorising the distribution of image and sound and other data carriers of competitions and events coming under their respective jurisdiction, without any restrictions as to content, time, place and technical and legal aspects.

ARTICLE 67. ITF LOGOS & OTHER RIGHTS AND ASSETS OF THE ITF REGISTERED AS TRADEMARKS

1. The Board of Directors shall establish branding guidelines for the use of ITF logos and Trademarks. Member Associations shall ensure to only utilise the ITF logos as established in the branding guidelines and in fully compliance with the branding guidelines. Member Association will always take due measures to protect the ITF logos and Trademarks within their jurisdictions as stipulated in the branding guidelines.

ARTICLE 68. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

1. The authorisation and organisation of international competitions and events between Member Associations shall be in accordance with the Statutes and any relevant Regulations.

2. The Board of Directors shall compile an ITF International Competitions Calendar that shall be binding upon Member Associations.

ARTICLE 69. APPROVAL

1. Member Associations cannot belong to another Continental Federation or participate in competitions on the territory of another Continental Federation without the authorisation of the ITF and the other Continental Federation.

ARTICLE 70. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

1. The Board of Directors shall have the final decision on any matter not provided for in these Statutes or in cases of force majeure. In such case, the Board of Directors shall be guided by the statutes and by-laws of the International Taekwon-Do Federation that existed and was duly registered in Spain and that was the world-wide governing body of Taekwon-Do prior to the establishment of this association (governed by these Statutes) (hereinafter: "ITF Spain") as long as those do not contradict the ITF Statutes.

2. In matters that are not governed by Regulations, by-laws and directives established and enacted under the authority of these Statutes and the Authority of the competent bodies of the ITF, the ITF and all its competent bodies will always continue to refer and use the relevant by-laws and directive of ITF Spain. In case of dispute or uncertainty as to which is the adequate regulation, by-law or directive to apply to a certain matter, the Board of Directors will have the final decision, after granting the relevant parties the right to be heard in this respect. The decision of the Board of Directors in such cases will be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

ARTICLE 71. DISSOLUTION

1. The ITF may be dissolved by a resolution to that effect passed by not less than three-quarters (3/4) of the Member Associations eligible to vote.

2. Upon the dissolution of the ITF, all its funds and assets shall be entrusted to the appropriate authority of the country of the headquarters until such time the ITF is re-established.

ARTICLE 72. TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

1. Following the amendments to the Statutes as adopted at the General Assembly on 3 October 2022, the following transitory provisions shall apply as from 1 January 2023 and until 31 December 2027, unless amended by the General Assembly.

2. In interpreting these transitory provisions:

   a. "Allied Association" means "an association that is active in Taekwon-Do in a country or territory where a National Association is already recognised by the ITF".

   b. "Specified Allied Association" means "an association that is already a member of the Other Taekwon-Do Body or its members are also affiliated to the Other Taekwon-Do Body".

3. National Associations, Allied Associations, Specified Allied Associations, Schools and Training Centres:

   a) a.1 At the entrance into force of the transitory period pursuant to Art. 72.3 (c), all the National Associations, Allied Associations, Specified Allied Associations, Schools and Training Centers in countries or territories where there are more than one ITF member, shall maintain their status as prior to the adoption of these Statutes and will remain subject to the relevant by-laws of ITF Spain with respect to the possibility of being reclassified in between statuses during the transitory period.

   a.2 Art. 7 of these Statutes will apply with respect to any new membership in same countries or territories subject to the following exceptional and specific terms:
   i. Art. 7.3 will not apply.
   ii. Any new member will be admitted under the statues as in the By-Laws of ITF Spain but only as an Allied Association (AA).
   iii. All the transitory provisions under this Art. 72 will apply also on any new member admitted during the transitory period."

   b) From 1 January 2023 onwards, only National Associations are entitled to vote at the General Assembly.

   c) A transitory period of five (5) years from the entering into force of the transitory provisions, i.e. until 1 January 2028, is given to the National Associations, Allied Associations, Specified Allied Associations, Schools and Training Centres to agree, decide and recognise only one governing body in their respective country or territory as a Member Association (or an Associate Member if so decided by the ITF) becoming this chosen Association also the National Association in case it will be granted the status of Member Association as set out in these Statutes.

d) The criteria to be fulfilled to be recognised by the ITF as a National Association or as an Associate Member Association shall be defined in the Regulations Governing the Admission and Status of National Associations that the Board of Directors shall issue.

e) The National Associations Committee is the competent body to review the status of each National Association, Allied Association and Specified Allied Association throughout the transitory period under Article 87.2 c), and shall recommend to the Board of Directors after the five (5) year transitory period whether:

i) to grant the status of Member Association to an existing National Association;

ii) to grant the status of Associate Member to an existing National Association, Allied Associations or Specified Associations; or

iii) to withdraw the status of National Association or Allied Association or Specified Allied Association to any existing member.

f) Upon recommendation of the Board of Directors, the General Assembly shall decide on the status of a National Association.

4. Board of Directors

a) The term of the current members of the Board of Directors (i.e. the members of the Board of Directors at the time when these Statutes are approved by the General Assembly) is extended until the next General Assembly to be held in 2023.

b) The term limit applicable to the members of the Board of Directors stipulated in Article 34 shall start following the elections of the members of the Board of Directors at the General Assembly to be held in 2023.

5. Secretary General:

a) The incumbent Secretary General shall be entitled to present his candidature for the next elective General Assembly to be held in 2024 for any position on the Board of Directors, subject to complying with the eligibility criteria.

b) In the event, the incumbent Secretary General is elected to the Board of Directors, he shall supervise the handover of the tasks allocated to the newly appointed Secretary General during an interim period of six (6) months from the date of the election.

Article 73. ADOPTION OF STATUTES

1. These Statutes were adopted by the ITF Ordinary General Assembly on 28 September 2026. They supersede all previous texts and come into force on 28 September 2026

On behalf of the Ordinary General Assembly 2026:

GM Paul Weiler

President

GM Tadeusz Loboda

Secretary General

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION OF THE STATUTES

ARTICLE 1. ISSUANCE AND AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS

1. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to issue and amend, without limitation, the following Regulations:

    a) Governance Regulations;

    b) Electoral Code;

    c) Anti-Doping Regulations;

    d) Disciplinary Code;

    e) Regulations Governing the Status and Admission of National Associations;

    f) Grand Master Promotion Regulations;

    g) Branding Guidelines;

    h) Equipment Regulations;

    i) and any regulations relating to tournaments, including but not limited to:

        i) Rules of Competitions;

        ii) Commercial / Marketing Regulations; and

        iii) Bidding Regulations.

2. Should the Board of Directors choose to issue these (and any other) Regulations, they shall be made publicly available on the ITF website.

ARTICLE 2. FINAL COMPETITIONS

1. All competitions of all ITF-sanctioned Tournaments shall be hosted by a Member Association that has been awarded the right to host and organise an ITF-sanctioned Tournament by the General Assembly for the World Cup and World Championship or by the ITF Board of Directors for the other competitions following a transparent bidding process pursuant to the Bidding Regulations.

ARTICLE 3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

1. Officials shall avoid or manage conflicts of interest in accordance with the ITF Governance Regulations.

2. The applicable principles and procedure related to conflicts of interest shall be set out in the ITF Governance Regulations.

ARTICLE 4. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE FOR ASSOCIATIONS' NATIONAL TEAMS

1. The eligibility to participate for a team representing a Member Association shall be governed by the ITF Regulations.

ARTICLE 5. PRINCIPLE OF PROMOTION

1. Before applying for testing for a black belt degree, the candidate must have completed all required conditions.

2. The applicable principles of promotion and the applicable procedure shall be set out in the ITF Regulations.

ARTICLE 6. NOMINATION OF UMPIRES

1. Each Umpire appointed by the Umpires Committee to any ITF-sanctioned Tournament shall belong to a neutral Member Association, unless otherwise previously agreed by the Member Associations concerned.

2. The Umpires chosen to officiate at any ITF-sanctioned Tournament shall be members of the official Umpire list.

3. The financial contribution for the Umpires shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 7. UMPIRES REPORT

1. The Umpire Committee shall send a report of every ITF-sanctioned Tournament within five (5) business days of the competition to the ITF.

2. This report shall be made on the official form given to the Umpire by the Member Association under whose jurisdiction the competition was organised.

3. The report shall record all the disciplinary measures taken and the reasons for these measures.

ARTICLE 8. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

1. Any matters not provided for in these Regulations shall be decided by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 9. ENFORCEMENT

1. These Regulations Governing the Application of the Statutes were approved by the ITF General Assembly on 27 October 2024. They supersede all previous versions and come into force on 1 January 2025.

On behalf of the General Assembly 2024:

GM Paul Weiler	**GM Tadeusz Loboda**
President	Secretary General

STANDING ORDERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ITF

ARTICLE 1. CHAIRPERSON

1. The President of the ITF shall chair the General Assembly. The Senior Vice President shall deputise in the absence of the President.

2. The President may designate the Secretary General to conduct the General Assembly on his behalf with their guidance and supervision. All final decisions in accordance with Article 3 below shall only be made by the Chairperson.

3. The Chairperson shall:

   a) be responsible for the strict application of the Standing Orders;

   b) open and adjourn the sessions and debates;

   c) permit delegates to speak;

   d) conduct the proceedings of the General Assembly;

   e) maintain order at the General Assembly; and

   f) impose disciplinary measures on the delegates who interfere with the proceedings or are guilty of any misconduct.

ARTICLE 2. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

1. In conducting the business of the General Assembly, the Chairperson shall have the right to apply the following disciplinary measures:

   a) a call to order;

   b) censure; and/or

   c) exclusion from one or more sessions.

2. In the case of an appeal, the General Assembly shall decide immediately and without debate.

ARTICLE 3. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

1. The Secretary General shall be responsible for the minutes of the General Assembly. Stenographers may be employed to assist the General Secretary.

2. A number of scrutineers in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes shall be appointed at the beginning of the General Assembly to count the votes for and against whenever a vote is taken.

3. A number of members shall be appointed in accordance with Article 29 of the Statutes to check the official minutes of the General Assembly.

4. Official interpreters shall be appointed to make the translations into the official languages of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 4. ORDER OF PROCEDURES

1. Each discussion on the items on the agenda shall be preceded with a statement:

   a) by the Chairperson or the member designated by the Board of Directors for this purpose; and/or

   b) by the representative of a Committee specially appointed to make a report; and/or

   c) by the representative of a Member Association responsible for the inclusion of the same in the Agenda.

2. The general discussion shall then be open to the delegates.

3. The right to address the General Assembly shall be granted in the order in which it is requested. No speaker shall speak unless permission has been obtained. Speakers shall speak from their designated places and the rest shall remain seated.

4. No permission shall be granted to any member to speak a second time.

ARTICLE 5. PROPOSALS AND MOTIONS

1. All proposals, motions and request for amendments (all of them referred herein as "**proposals" or "motions**") shall be submitted in writing. Proposals which are not relevant to the subject under discussion shall be withdrawn from the debate

2. If a motion for adjournment is proposed, all discussions shall be suspended until a vote has been taken on the motion in two steps (a) a vote on the question whether to vote on the motion and (b) – if the results of the first vote will be in favour of voting on the notion then voting on the essence of the motion.

3. A proposal to close the discussion shall be put to vote without debate. If the motion is approved, permission to speak on the reasons for proposing the discussion shall be granted only to those delegates who have requested to do so before the vote was taken.

4. The Chairperson shall have the authority to close the discussion on any topic unless the General Assembly decides otherwise by a simple majority. The chairperson will inform of his

intention to close the discussion and if no motion is made immediately asking not to close the discussion the discussion will be closed.

ARTICLE 6. VOTING AND QUORUM

1. Voting by secret ballot is prohibited, unless decided by the General Assembly following a motion supported by at least ten (10) Member Associations. Voting by proxy or by letter is permitted at a General Assembly held in person. When a General Assembly is held by teleconference, by videoconference or by another means of communication, voting by correspondence and/or online is permitted.

2. Before each vote, the Chairperson, or the person designated by them, shall read the text of the proposal aloud before the voting and explain the voting procedure and the quorum to the General Assembly. The use of video for the presentation of a proposal is allowed. If an objection is raised on the procedure, the General Assembly shall decide immediately.

3. All proposals may be decided either by a show of hands, the use of electronic equipment, by a roll call or by acclamation as provided for in these Statutes. The use of an Electronic Voting System for all voting during the General Assemblies is allowed and will be conducted in accordance to the specific parts of the Electoral Code and subject to any decision taken in this respect by the Board of Directors.

4. Unless otherwise specifically written in the statutes, the wording "simple majority (more than 50%) of the valid votes cast of the Member Associations who are present and eligible to vote is necessary" means a simple majority of the votes cast of the member Associations present and eligible to vote that voted, i.e. the majority will be calculated based on the votes made and not on the potential number of votes of all the present and eligible Member Associations (that may include also members that decided not to vote).

5. No one shall be compelled to vote.

6. All proposals without objections shall be adopted.

7. All proposals shall be put to vote in the order in which they are submitted.

8. Voting cards shall be visibly held when voting is by a show of hands.

9. Alterations to amendments shall be put to the vote before the amendments proper, and amendments before the main proposal.

10. The Chairperson or the person designated by them shall verify and announce the results of the voting to the General Assembly.

11. Silence shall be strictly observed during voting and until the result has been announced by the Chairperson or the person designated by them. No one may obtain permission to speak during voting and until the result has been announced.

ARTICLE 7. ELECTIONS

1. Elections shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the ITF Electoral Code.

2. The Secretary General shall keep in the General Secretariat all documents required to be archived pursuant to the ITF Electoral Code for a period of ten (10) years after the end of the General Assembly, or such later time as directed by the Board of Directors, at which point they shall be destroyed.

ARTICLE 8. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

1. All matters not provided for in the Standing Orders not relating to elections shall be resolved by the Board of Directors unless decided otherwise by the General Assembly.

2. All matters not provided for in the Standing Orders relating to elections shall be resolved in accordance with the ITF Electoral Code.

ARTICLE 9. ENFORCEMENT

1. The Standing Orders of the General Assembly were approved by the General Assembly on 27 October 2024. They supersede all previous Standing Orders and come into force on 1 January 2025.

On behalf of the General Assembly 2024:

GM Paul Weiler	**GM Tadeusz Loboda**
President	Secretary General