



International Seed Testing Association

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Constitution Change Proposals 2010

This document was prepared by the Secretariat of the Association and endorsed by the ISTA Executive Committee to be submitted to the ISTA Ordinary Meeting 2010 for voting by the nominated ISTA Designated Members voting on behalf of their respective Government.

It is submitted to all ISTA Designated Authorities, ISTA Members and ISTA Observer Organisations for information two months prior to the ISTA Ordinary Meeting 2010.

It will be discussed and voted on at the Ordinary Meeting 2010 to be held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 in Cologne, Germany, under Agenda point 9. Constitution Changes.

According to the ISTA Constitution Article IX (b), a motion to alter the Constitution requires for adoption a two-thirds majority of the Designated Members voting at a meeting of the Association, provided a quorum is present.

Constitution Change Proposals 2010

PROPOSAL – REDUCE THE TIME ALLOWED BEFORE MEMBERSHIP IS WITHDRAWN BECAUSE OF NON-PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

1. Background

1.1 ISTA has a financial year which runs from January 1st to December 31st, and according to Article XI (e) of the Constitution, subscriptions for each financial year are payable on January 1st of that year.

1.2 For members who do not pay their subscriptions in a financial year, their membership currently continues, and according to Article XI (d) (1) and (2) of the Constitution, it is only after **more than two years** since the payment was due, that the membership stops.

1.3 Members of ISTA receive ISTA's publications (e.g. the Rules, new Handbooks, Seed Testing International and other services) at no additional cost. This also applies to those who have overdue membership payments but are still officially members according to the Constitution. This is a cost to ISTA.

1.4 This proposal is therefore to reduce the time before membership is withdrawn for non-payment of a subscription from "more than two years" to one year (= the end of the current financial year for which the subscription was payable i.e. December 31st).

1.5 If this proposal is accepted, any member for whom the membership subscription has not been paid by the end of December of that financial year will have their membership and all services withdrawn.

2. Proposal

That the Article XI of the ISTA Constitution be changed as suggested in the proposed version on the following pages.

If accepted by the voting delegates, the proposed changes will come into force with immediate effect.

Constitution Change Proposals 2010 for vote

<u>CURRENT VERSION:</u>	<u>PROPOSED VERSION:</u>
<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XI <i>Finances</i></p> <p>(a) Payment of monies belonging to the Association may be made only in connection with matters directly related to the objects of the Association as provided for in this Constitution.</p> <p>(b) The income of the Association shall be derived from annual membership subscriptions, and from payments and donations received from persons, organisations, or governments for specified or general purposes.</p> <p>(e) The amount of the annual subscription for Members and the additional fee for Accredited Laboratories shall be determined annually at an ordinary meeting of the Association, due consideration being given to statements submitted in accordance with Article VII(c)(9) and paragraph (g) of this Article. Notification of proposals to change the rate of annual subscriptions shall be sent to the Designated Authorities and Members of the Association at least two months prior to an Ordinary Meeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE XI <i>Finances</i></p> <p>(a) Payment of monies belonging to the Association may be made only in connection with matters directly related to the objects of the Association as provided for in this Constitution.</p> <p>(b) The income of the Association shall be derived from annual membership subscriptions, and from payments and donations received from persons, organisations, or governments for specified or general purposes.</p> <p><u>(c)</u> The financial year of the Association shall be from January 1st to December 31st, and subscriptions for each financial year shall be payable on January 1st of that year.</p> <p><u>(d)</u> The amount of the annual subscription for Members and the additional fee for Accredited Laboratories shall be determined annually at an ordinary meeting of the Association, due consideration being given to statements submitted in accordance with Article VII(c)(9) and paragraph (g) of this Article. Notification of proposals to change the rate of annual subscriptions shall be sent to the Designated Authorities and Members of the Association at least two months prior to an Ordinary Meeting.</p>

<p>(d) (1) The representation by any Designated Member, the subscription of or for whom/which is in arrears for more than two years, shall lapse, provided that due notice of arrears in subscription has been given by the Secretary General.</p> <p>(2) The membership of any Member, the subscription of or for whom/which is in arrears for more than two years, shall lapse, provided that due notice of arrears in subscription has been given by the Secretary General.</p> <p>(e) The financial year of the Association shall be from January 1st to December 31st, and subscriptions for each financial year shall be payable on January 1st of that year.</p> <p>(f) Accounts of all monies received and expended by the Association shall be kept by the Secretary General.</p>	<p>(e) (1) The representation by any Designated Member, the subscription of or for whom/which is <u>still</u> in arrears <u>by the end of the current financial year</u>, shall lapse, provided that due notice of arrears in subscription has been given by the Secretary General.</p> <p>(2) The membership of any Member, the subscription of or for whom/which is <u>still</u> in arrears <u>by the end of the current financial year</u>, shall lapse, provided that due notice of arrears in subscription has been given by the Secretary General.</p> <p>(f) Accounts of all monies received and expended by the Association shall be kept by the Secretary General.</p>
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