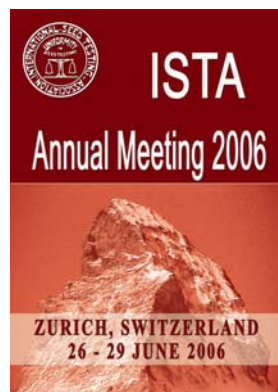


PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ISTA CONSTITUTION

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND DECISION AT THE
ORDINARY MEETING 2006**



INTRODUCTION

The Executive Committee of ISTA is suggesting to amend the ISTA Constitution and is therefore seeking approval by the Designated Members of proposed changes in the following areas:

1. Align the ISTA Membership Categories with the present Subscription Categories
2. Introduce a New Membership Category 'Corporate Member'
3. Introduce a New Membership Category 'Associate Member'
4. Introduce a New Membership Category 'Honorary Life Member'

At the upcoming Ordinary Meeting 2006 in Glattbrugg/Zurich, Switzerland, the Designated Members designated by their respective Designated Authority to vote on behalf of the Government in their country, will be asked to vote area by area. In this document you will find the current text of the Constitution Article of concern on the left side and the proposed new version of the same Constitution Article on the right side. In order to make the necessary changes in the Constitution in one area, it is possible that more than one Article of the Constitution needs to be changed. However, please keep in mind that voting will not be made Article by Article but as a package area by area.

Please take into consideration that according to ISTA Constitution Articles XII (a) and (b), modifications of the text presented in the Constitution Change Proposals can not be made during the Ordinary Meeting.

The Executive Committee of ISTA recommends all of the presented Constitution Change Proposals for adoption by the Designated Members entitled to vote.

According to ISTA Constitution Articles IX (b) and XII (c), the motion to alter the Constitution requires for adoption at least a two-thirds majority of those Designated Members voting, provided a quorum is present.

Pieter Oosterveld
ISTA President

Zurich, February 16, 2006



1.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES

***Align the ISTA Membership Categories
with the present Subscription Categories***



PROPOSAL 1 – ALIGN THE ISTA MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES WITH THE PRESENT SUBSCRIPTION CATEGORIES

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The present Constitution allows four types of membership

viz	Designated Member (person)	}	IV(b)
	Designated Member (laboratory)		
	Member (person)	}	IV(c)
	Member (laboratory)		

IV(d) then goes on to say that “the duly designated Designated Members shall be entitled to vote””, but does not specify whether this refers to a person or laboratory as the Designated Member.

1.1.2 Normally, a member of an association or society pays a membership fee (or subscription). ISTA's membership categories as per the Constitution are not in agreement with the categories of subscription that ISTA currently sets i.e. per laboratory and per person.

1.1.3 The present subscription categories are:

- Member Laboratory
- Personal Member

This would require deleting the present IV(b) from the Constitution, writing a new IV(c) (to define a Member Laboratory) and changing IV(d) to define a Personal Member.

Note that the term 'Designated Member' would be defined in a new IV(b) under the heading 'Designated Member', and would no longer be included under 'Membership'. The definition would make it clear that a Designated Member is a person (who must be a Personal Member) and not a laboratory.



1.2 Proposal

That the present Article IV of the ISTA Constitution be changed to:

CURRENT VERSION:

PROPOSED VERSION:

<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE IV</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Designated Authority</i></p> <p>(a) A Designated Authority is an authority designated by a government of a country or Distinct Economy as recognised by international fora to act on its behalf in designating Designated Members and in liaison with the Association.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership</i></p> <p>(b) Designated Members are persons and/or laboratories engaged in the science or practice of seed testing or in the technical control of such activities, who are designated by their respective Designated Authority and admitted by the Association to participate in the affairs of the Association.</p> <p>(c) A Member is a person or seed laboratory who which supports the Association and its objects and is admitted by the Association.</p> <p>(d) The duly designated Designated Members shall be entitled to vote in meetings of the Association, subject to the provisions of Article IX.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Accredited Laboratory</i></p> <p>(e) An Accredited Laboratory is a member laboratory accredited by the Executive Committee according to the Accreditation Standards approved under Article VII(c)(15) of the Constitution.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE IV</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Designated Authority</i></p> <p>(a) A Designated Authority is an authority designated by a government of a country or Distinct Economy as recognised by international fora to act on its behalf in designating Designated Members and in liaison with the Association.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Designated Member</i></p> <p>(b) <u>A Designated Member is a Personal Member</u> designated by their Designated Authority and, <u>subject to the provisions of Article IX, entitled to vote in meetings</u> of the Association.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership</i></p> <p>(c) A Member <u>Laboratory</u> is a laboratory <u>engaged in the testing of seed</u> which supports the Association and its objects and is admitted by the Association.</p> <p>(d) <u>A Personal Member is a person engaged in the science or practice of seed testing or in the technical control of such activities who supports the Association and its objectives and is admitted by the Association. A Personal Member may be nominated by a Member Laboratory to represent the Member Laboratory in the affairs of the Association.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Accredited Laboratory</i></p> <p>(e) An Accredited Laboratory is a member laboratory accredited by the Executive Committee according to the Accreditation Standards approved under Article VII(c)(15) of the Constitution.</p>
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2.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES

Introduction of a New Membership Category 'Corporate Member'



PROPOSAL 2 – INTRODUCTION OF A NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY ‘CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP’

2.1 Background

Internationally there are many organisations (international, national, private, company, etc) which value ISTA's work and would be prepared to pay an appropriate annual fee to support the Association. It is proposed that a new membership category 'Corporate Member' be introduced.

A Corporate Member:

- would receive two copies of all ISTA's publications including *Seed Science and Technology*
- would nominate one representative to act on behalf of the Corporate Member. That representative would be entitled to pay the ISTA Member registration fees for all ISTA meetings, but could not be designated as a Designated Member and therefore could not vote or hold office in the Association.
- would have their name published annually in the Activity Report under the heading 'Corporate Members' and their name would also appear prominently under the same heading at ISTA Ordinary Meetings and Congresses.

2.2 Proposal

That an addition be made to Article IV of the ISTA Constitution:

CURRENT VERSION:

PROPOSED VERSION:

<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE IV</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Membership</i></p> <p>...</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Accredited Laboratory</i></p> <p>(e) An Accredited Laboratory...</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ARTICLE IV</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Membership</i></u></p> <p>...</p> <p><u>(e) A Corporate Member is any organisation which supports the Association and its objectives, pays an appropriate annual fee to the Association, and is admitted by the Association.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Accredited Laboratory</i></p> <p>(f) An Accredited Laboratory...</p>
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Note: if this proposal is accepted, the present clause '(e)' in Proposal 1 would become '(f)'.



3.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES

Introduction of a New Membership Category 'Associate Member'



PROPOSAL 3 – INTRODUCE A NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY ‘ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP’

3.1 Background

For many individuals, meeting the costs of an ISTA Personal Membership is difficult. ISTA's Technical Committees include people who are not ISTA Members, yet who are obviously interested in ISTA and its goals. To allow an opportunity for more individuals to become ISTA Members, a new membership category 'Associate Member' is proposed, on the clear understanding that while the subscription for this membership category would be lower than that for a Personal Member, the Associate Members will not be entitled to the same level of ISTA services.

i.e. an Associate Member

- would receive priority for membership of an ISTA Technical Committee over individuals who were not ISTA Members
- would be entitled to pay the ISTA Member registration fees for all ISTA meetings.
- would be entitled to purchase ISTA publications at the Member's price
- would receive *Seed Testing International* but not the ISTA Rules, ISTA Handbooks, or *Seed Science and Technology*
- Could not be designated as a Designated Member and therefore could not vote or hold office in the Association.

3.2 Proposal

That an addition be made to Article IV of the ISTA Constitution:

CURRENT VERSION:

PROPOSED VERSION:

<p>ARTICLE IV</p> <p><i>Membership</i></p> <p>...</p>	<p>ARTICLE IV</p> <p><u><i>Membership</i></u></p> <p>...</p> <p><u>(e) An Associate Member is a person who is not a Personal Member, but who supports the Association and its objectives, and is admitted by the Association.</u></p>
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Note: if this proposal is accepted, then clauses '(e)' and '(f)' from Proposal 2 would become '(f)' and '(g)'.



4.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CHANGES

***Introduction of a New Membership
Category 'Honorary Life Member'***



PROPOSAL 4 – INTRODUCTION OF A NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY ‘HONORARY LIFE MEMBER’

4.1 Background

Many organisations have membership categories (e.g. Fellow, Life Member) that recognise the significant contribution made by an individual to that organisation. ISTA has had such individuals over the years and will continue to do so. Some form of ‘recognition’ membership is appropriate. It is proposed that a new membership category ‘Honorary Life Member’ be introduced.

An Honorary Life Member

- would be a person, who in the opinion of the Association, has made an outstanding contribution to the Association
- would be elected by the Executive Committee after the Executive Committee had received a nomination proposed and seconded by ISTA Members accompanied by details of the nominee’s contributions to ISTA
- would not pay a membership fee
- would receive *Seed Testing International* but no other ISTA publications
- would be entitled to pay the ISTA Member registration fees for all ISTA meetings
- would not be designated as a Designated Member and therefore could not vote or hold office in the Association
- would have his/her name published annually in the Activity Report under the heading ‘Honorary Life Members’.

4.2 Proposal

That an addition be made to Article IV of the ISTA Constitution:

CURRENT VERSION:

ARTICLE IV <i>Membership</i> ...
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PROPOSED VERSION:

ARTICLE IV <u><i>Membership</i></u> <u>(g) An Honorary Life Member is a person who in the opinion of the Association has made an outstanding contribution to the Association, and has been honoured by election to the status.</u>
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Note: if this proposal is accepted, the clause ‘(g)’ in Proposal 3 would become ‘(h)’.