

DRAFT

**STATUTORY AND REGULATORY PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE HOLDING OF THE FOUNDING CONGRESS OF THE
NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION ORGANISATION**

Article VIII: Ordinary Sessions

- (a) In the determination of the programme and policy of the Confederation and in the interpretation of this Constitution, the supreme authority shall be the Congress.
- (b) Ordinary Congress sessions shall be convened at least once every four years. Their date and place shall be fixed by the General Council on the basis of proposals made by member organisations, and shall be communicated to member organisations not later than twelve months prior to the Congress.
- (c) The Congress shall consider and decide upon:
 - (i) reports on activities of the Confederation, including financial reports;
 - (ii) general trade union policy questions;
 - (iii) proposals for the activity of the Confederation during the period to follow;
 - (iv) proposals for amendments to the Constitution;
 - (v) any other proposal submitted by member organisations;
 - (vi) reports on the activities of the regional organisations.
- (d) The Congress shall elect the General Council, the General Secretary and the Auditors.

Article IX: Extraordinary Sessions

- (a) An extraordinary Congress shall be called on the authority of the General Council or if one-third of member organisations representing at least 25% of the Confederation's membership apply for it.
- (b) In such a case the General Council shall decide the procedure for establishing the agenda and for the consideration of proposals from member organisations, whenever it is not practical to apply the normal procedure as laid down in this Constitution.

Article X: Composition

- (a) The Congress is composed of delegates representing member organisations, subject to the provisions of Article XXXII(a), on the basis of their paying membership and according to the following scale:

Up to	50,000	members			1 delegate
Between	50,001	and	100,000	members	2 delegates
Between	100,001	and	250,000	members	4 delegates
Between	250,001	and	500,000	members	6 delegates
Between	500,001	and	1,000,000	members	8 delegates
Between	1,000,001	and	2,500,000	members	10 delegates
Between	2,500,001	and	5,000,000	members	12 delegates
Between	5,000,001	and	7,500,000	members	16 delegates
Over	7,500,000	members			20 delegates

Article XI: Delegations and Representatives

- (a) Member organisations shall select their delegates taking into account the aim to actively promote gender parity. Women shall constitute half of the delegations of organisations having 2 or more delegates. Any organisation which has 50,000

members or less should designate a woman delegate, if women represent 50% or more of its membership.

- (b) Taking into account the aim to integrate young workers into the trade union movement, the General Council will set a target before each Congress for the level of youth participation.
- (c) Delegates shall have the right to speak and to vote.
- (d) Delegations may be accompanied by up to four advisers, who may take the floor on behalf of their delegations and with the agreement of the Chairperson but may not vote. Delegations may also be accompanied by not more than two persons who may act as secretaries or interpreters. These persons will have neither the right to speak nor the right to vote.
- (e) The number of representatives of associated organisations shall be determined by the General Council before each Congress. They shall have the right to speak, with the agreement of the Chairperson, but not to vote.
- (f) The international industry federations, associated with the Confederation in accordance with Article VI of this Constitution, are entitled to send representatives having the right to take part in the debates but not to vote, on the following basis:

Up to	-----	members	-----	representatives
Between	-----	members	-----	representatives
Between	-----	members	-----	representatives
Over	-----	members	-----	representatives
- (g) The provisions of Article IX(d) shall also apply to delegations of the international industry federations.
- (h) The Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD is entitled to send one representative and one observer, having the right to take part in debates but not to vote.
- (i) The expenses of delegations and representatives at the Congress shall be borne by their respective organisations.

Article XII: Observers and Guests

- (a) Representatives of other trade union organisations and governmental or non-governmental organisations with which the Confederation maintains friendly relations, may be invited by the General Council to attend the Congress and shall be allowed to address Congress at the invitation of the Chairperson.
- (b) Guests invited to attend the Congress by the General Council will be permitted to address the Congress at the invitation of the Chairperson.
- (c) Members of the General Council who are not members of an accredited delegation shall have the right to attend the Congress as observers and take part in the debates, but shall not have the right to vote.

Article XIII: Credentials and Nominations

- (a) Member organisations must submit the names of their representatives to the General Secretary not later than three months prior to the Congress.
- (b) By the same time limit they shall submit their nominations for:
 - (i) the Credentials Committee;
 - (ii) the Standing Orders Committee;
 - (iii) the General Secretary
 - (iv) the Auditors

Article XIV: Agenda

- (a) The agenda of the Congress shall be prepared by the General Council following consultations with member organisations. It shall include items as stipulated in Article VIII(c) of this Constitution.
- (b) The General Secretary shall communicate to member organisations the agenda not later than six months prior to the Congress, and invite them to send in proposals related to various items of the agenda. These proposals shall be so forwarded as to reach the General Secretary not later than three months prior to the Congress.
- (c) The proposals received shall, prior to their submission to the Congress, be reviewed by the General Council which may direct the General Secretary to circulate any or all of them to member organisations in advance to enable amendments thereto to be forwarded. In this event the General Council shall fix the time limit for submission of the amendments.
- (d) The General Council shall have the power to make recommendations in regard to proposals and amendments. The General Council shall be also empowered to submit proposals directly to the Congress, either on general questions or on matters of emergency which have arisen during or immediately prior to the Congress.
- (e) All proposals or draft resolutions submitted by member organisations after the time limit fixed in paragraph (b) shall be referred to the General Council. The General Council may decide to submit them to the Congress as in paragraph (d) above, but its decision will be final.

Article XV: Statutory Committees

- (a) On the basis of the nominations received from member organisations and applying the principle of gender balance, the General Council or its Executive Bureau shall appoint the members of:
 - (i) the Credentials Committee of seven members,
 - (ii) the Standing Orders Committee of fifteen members.
- (b) These two committees shall be convened immediately prior to the Congress and shall submit their first reports to the first working session of the Congress. In considering these reports the Congress shall also be requested to ratify the composition of the committees.
- (c) The Credentials Committee shall:
 - (i) prepare a list of persons attending the Congress;
 - (ii) report to the Congress on the composition of delegations and on their voting power;
 - (iii) consider any objections to the credentials of delegates;
 - (iv) examine the eligibility of nominees for the General Council and the posts of General Secretary and Auditors and report to the Congress thereon;
 - (v) attempt to effect agreement among the organisations of the regions concerned in cases where there are more nominations than seats allocated for those regions on the General Council and report to the Congress thereon.
- (d) The Standing Orders Committee shall, taking into account any recommendations from the General Council and the Executive Bureau concerning the Congress programme and proposals for Congress decisions:
 - (i) consider the draft Standing Orders and report on them to the Congress;
 - (ii) fix the time-table and order of business for the Congress;

- (iii) make proposals relating to the setting-up, composition, terms of reference and agenda of special Congress committees;
- (iv) consider amendments to the Constitution and report on them to the Congress;
- (v) report to the Congress on any other questions requiring a decision for the proper conduct of its business;
- (vi) consider requests for the circulation to the Congress of documents or materials other than official Congress documents.

Article XVI: Congress Presidency

- (a) The Congress Presidency shall consist of the President, the Deputy President, the Vice-Presidents and the General Secretary of the Confederation.
- (b) The President of the Confederation shall chair the Congress. In carrying out his or her duties the person concerned shall adhere to this Constitution and the Congress Standing Orders.
- (c) In the absence of the President during a sitting or any part thereof, the Deputy President, or in their absence one of the Vice-Presidents of the Confederation shall preside.

Article XVII: Congress Secretariat

The General Secretary of the Confederation shall be the Secretary-General of the Congress, assisted by the Deputy General Secretaries.

Article XVIII: Voting

- (a) The endeavour of the Congress shall be to secure the widest possible measure of agreement on any decisions taken. When a vote is called for on a trade union policy proposal, however, the decision of the Congress shall be by a majority of delegates.
- (b) Voting shall, as a rule, be by show of hands, but at the request of any two or more delegations representing at least 25% of the Congress membership, a roll-call vote shall be taken, in which each delegation shall cast its vote as a unit on the basis of the membership it represents.
- (c) In the case of amendments to the Constitution, a two-thirds majority of the Congress shall be required, except for changes to the Declaration of Principles, Article X and Article XVIII, for which a three-quarters majority of the Congress shall be required.