

COSTITUTION AND by LAWS

Section I. Name, Address and Nature

The International Buffalo Federation (IBF) was founded upon the unanimous recommendation of the General Assembly at the First World Buffalo Congress in Cairo, Egypt in 1985.

The Federation is an independent, non-political, non-religious and non-profit international organization.

The permanent headquarters of the International Buffalo Federation is Rome.

The seat of the Federation is the country which will be hosting the World Buffalo Congress.

Section II. Objectives and Activities

The Federation objectives is to promote the advancement of research and development of Buffaloes throughout the world.

It organizes world congresses and roundtables; promotes the exchange and dissemination of scientific and technological knowledge; facilitates the spread of information on buffalo production and development; promotes internationally planned research; enhances the contact among scientist and extension personnel concerned with buffalo production; assist in strengthening the linkage between national, regional and international; research; establishes and maintains relations with other organizations whose interests are related to the objectives of the Federations.

Section III. The Official Language

The official language at the World Congresses of the Federation is English.

The working language of the Secretariat is English.

Section IV. World Buffalo Congress

The World Congress shall be held every three years. Regional and National Congresses will not be held in conflict with the World Congress.

Section V. Organization and Institution and Election of Officers

The International Buffalo Federation is organized on a regional basis. For the purposes of the Federation, each continent shall be a region.

The Institutions of the International Buffalo Federation are the General Assembly, the Secretariat and The Executive Council.

The Executive Council of the International Buffalo Federation is composed of the elected Chairmen of the Regional Associations, a Secretary appointed by the President, and the President elected in the General Assembly by the representatives of the National Associations.

The Executive Council will be vested of its powers after having been elected (at the end of the World Congress) and its tenure will be for three (3) years.

The Executive Council will meet as often as necessary. An absolute majority is the required quorum for the meetings. Resolutions will be approved by a two-thirds vote. The Presidents does not vote except when the vote is tie. His presence however counts for the quorum.

Members of the Regional Association will elect their own Executive Councils. The Chairman of the Regional association is by right a member of the International Executive Council.

The President of the International Buffalo federation is elected at the World Congress.

Each National Association affiliated with IBF nominate a representative to the World Congress for the purpose of electing the President.

National Associations enjoy equal voting rights, being allowed one vote each.

Nominations for the candidacy to the Presidency of IBF is submitted to the Executive council six months prior to the World Congress. The Executive Council is responsible of circulating information on the up-coming election and about nominees to all IBF members.

The committee organizing the World Congress allocates sufficient time in the official program to hold the election of the President. The election shall be public. Only the official representatives of the National Association duly appointed by them, are considered electors of the President.

The election is to be held by secret ballot. The candidates who obtain the absolute majority, is proclaimed President by the out-going Executive Council of the International Buffalo Federation.

12.1 If no winner can be proclaimed on the first turn a run-off election is held between the two highest vote getters.

12.2 The President serves for a maximum of two terms.

Section VI. Duties of the President

It is the duty of the President to represent the Federation at International meetings, and with International Organizations.

To convene the Executive Council as often as necessary or when at least two Regional Chairman ask for it to be convened.

To promote the initiatives which will further the knowledge in buffaloes and pursuit the objectives of the federation.

To convene the Assembly to discuss the federation's administration, general program, policies and priorities.

Section VII. Membership

National, institutional and individual membership are recognized and encouraged by the International Buffalo Federation. However representation in the Executive Council is accorded

to Regional officers who will be appointed according to the procedures set by in article 6, section IV.

Membership in the International Buffalo Federation is renewable by submitting the application form and dues. Deadlines and fees shall be established by the Executive Council. Non-payment of the fees, actually 100\$/3year, implies forfeiture of membership status.

Membership in the International Buffalo Federation falls into three categories: Collective, Associate and individual members.

3.1 National or Regional associations are Collective members

3.2 Departments and Research Institutes are associate members.

Section VIII. General Assembly Meeting

The General Assembly meets at the World Congresses every three (3) years.

Section IX. Amendments of the Constitution

In order to amend the Bylaws of the International Buffalo Federation a written notice of the amendments must be circulated to all members in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

If a meeting of the General Assembly can not at that time be called, the membership is allowed to express its vote through a written ballot.

The amendment is approved if the majority of the members voting are in favor of it.

Section X. Transitory and Final Provisions

This Constitution and By-Laws adopted by the General Assembly of the Federation, in Caserta on October 16, 1997, promulgated by the President of the International Buffalo Federation, will render the former constitution null and void.

Elections of the Executive of the Regional Associations shall be called within one year of the implementation of this Constitution and By-Laws.

The first IBF Executive Council, under this Constitution and By-Laws, will be composed of the Presidents of the member National Associations until all the regional associations and their executives will not have been set up. The rules pertaining to the quorum and voting regulations shall be the same as those prescribed in article 5 section V of the Constitution and By-Laws

Done in Caserta (Italy) on October 16, 1997.