



Regulations of the Extraordinary General World Assembly of World Confederation of the Past Pupils of Don Bosco

To carry out its work, the Extraordinary General World Assembly (EGWA) is agreeing to these regulations which outline the procedures which will regulate its proceedings. These regulations are shared before the Extraordinary General World Assembly and can be updated to facilitate the proceedings.

I. The Convocation of the EGWA

Art 1. The EGWA is the ultimate sign of unity of the Association of Past Pupils of Don Bosco, in all its diversity, how it is organised¹ and regulated through its statutes. It is the fraternal meeting where the Past Pupils and Friends of Don Bosco come together to reflect on the Movement and Association by being faithful to their culture, to the Gospel, the Church, society and to Don Bosco as the animator, guide, inspiration and leader of the Salesian Family².

During the EGWA, guided by the Holy Spirit, in fraternity and synodality, we seek to discern the will of God to offer a better service to families, to the Church, to the Salesian Society, the Movement and the Association.

The EGWA is convened by the World President. (Article 22 (c) of the Statutes).

Art. 2. The EGWA is the highest authority of the Association, under the direction and authority of the Rector Major as the heart of unity of the Salesian Family. In particular, the EGWA establishes the regulations of the Confederation, and discuss the most important

¹ Statutes of the World Confederation of The Past Pupils of Don Bosco, art 21(c), 21(e) and 32 (a).

² Cf. Charter of the Charismatic Identity of the Salesian Family of Don Bosco, Art. 13.

issues. The decisions taken in the EGWA are binding to all its members as soon as they are promulgated by the World President.

II. The objectives of the EGWA

The aims of the EGWA are:

Celebrate the 150th Anniversary: Due to the unfortunate circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to come together to commemorate our 150-year history of achievements. This World Assembly offers a special occasion to honour our rich heritage, pay tribute to the past, and set the stage for an even brighter future. Beyond marking the missed opportunity of our 150th Anniversary, this year the Salesian Family will also commemorate 200 years since the dream that inspired Don Bosco's life project.

Strategic Plan Alignment: The Extraordinary General World Assembly directly responds to our strategic plan, which outlines our vision for the future of the Past Pupils of Don Bosco. By joining, you will have a unique opportunity to contribute your ideas and insights, helping to shape our path forward and ensure continuity in our organization.

Journeying Together - Change for Continuity: Our chosen theme highlights the core values and principles that guided Don Bosco in establishing Salesian spirituality and the mission with the young. By participating in this assembly, you will engage in meaningful reflection and discernment about the evolution of the Past Pupils. Together, we will amend our Statutes to better address the needs and challenges of the 21st century.

Final approval of the Statute

Art. 6 The final approval of amendments to the Statutes of the World Confederation will be taken during the EGWA by online voting which will be then promulgated by the Rector Major.

III. The Opening of the Extraordinary General World Assembly and Appointments

Art. 7 All proceedings of the EGWA are led by the Presidency of the Extraordinary General World Assembly which is chaired by the World President or, in his absence, the Vice President, who is assisted in all the work by the Coordinator of the Extraordinary General World Assembly, the World Delegate, the General Secretary and three moderators.

Art 8 In the first session of the EGWA, the World President will present the Coordinator of the Assembly and three moderators, the Statutes and Voting Commission who are

appointed by the Confederal Executive Committee and confirmed by the World Presidency. The secretaries should know very well the English language and at least another language from the five languages used by the World Confederation.

If required, other persons can be chosen to assist as secretaries or in other positions as appointed by the Executive Council. The secretaries shall be responsible to take minutes of meetings, prepare any acts for the EGWA and record all resolutions that are approved.

Art. 9 After verifying the credentials and the presentation of the Secretaries, the World President will declare the official opening of the Extraordinary General World Assembly.

Art. 10 The three moderators are elected by the voting members of the World Confederation from a list of five names that are proposed by the World Presidency. In the first ballot, each voting member of the World Confederation selects up to three names "*ad validitatem*"³. The proposed candidates with the most votes are elected. The voting members will cast their vote through an online voting system by an established date prior to the opening date of the EGWA.

Art. 11 The World President, the Coordinator of the EGWA, the World Delegate, the Secretary General and the three moderators form the Presidency of the Assembly. They are responsible for the proceedings in line with the articles of these regulations, The Presidency of the EGWA is responsible for:

- a) declaring the opening and closing of the general sessions;
- b) proposing the agenda, the timetable and the schedule;
- c) resolving any doubts "*iuris et facti*"⁴ on the application of the Regulations, unless there is a written appeal signed by one third of the members of the EGWA; in this case the EGWA will decide with a majority of 2/3 of the votes of those present;
- d) proposing to the EGWA any new supplementary rules in the spirit of these regulations.

Art. 12 It is the responsibility of the Coordinator of the EGWA, in agreement with the World President, to take care of the overall coordination of the work of the EGWA and assumes all responsibility for the programme, the work of the secretariat and technical services. It is also his responsibility to inform the EGWA about all proceedings, any communication from the Presidency and any other further information.

The Coordinator and the Secretaries of the EGWA through the assistance of the Statutes and Voting Commission are responsible for verifying the participants who are voting and any appeal that they may make.

Art. 13 The moderators will chair any meeting, by abiding faithfully the relevant rules laid down in these regulations and they are to make sure that members of the Extraordinary General World Assembly adhere to these regulations.

³ For validity.

⁴ Of law and fact..

Until the moderators are elected, it is the Coordinator which will chair the proceedings.

Art. 14 Every speaker has a right to intervene for four minutes, following a written request prior to the session. To facilitate the work of the Secretariat, speakers are to provide a written brief of their speech to the Presidency of the Assembly after their intervention during sessions.

Art. 15. When all prior requested interventions are made in an open session, the floor is opened for feedback. The moderator is responsible for guiding the interventions by contributors from the floor. In this case, each speaker can speak only once for two minutes and is expected to provide a written summary to the Presidency.

IV. Official Language of the Extraordinary General World Assembly

Art. 16. English is the official language of the Extraordinary General World Assembly, with possible simultaneous translation into Italian, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

Art. 17. Appointment and Composition of the Statutes and Voting Commission

The Statutes and Voting Commission is appointed by the Executive Council in accordance with article 32, in the Statutes of the World Confederation.

In this respect, the commission is composed from:

Mr. Peter Kovac as Chair of the Commission in his position of General Secretary, Bro Dominic Nam SDB as World Delegate, Mr. Sergio Rodriguez, and Ms. Paulina Vera.

V. The Voting Commission

Art. 18 Identity and Powers of the Statutes and Voting Commission

1. The Statutes and Voting Commission is the body responsible for collecting the amendments of the Statutes and the voting procedures during the EGWA and to oversee the smooth running of the voting process, by respecting and enforcing the regulations as approved by the same EGWA.
2. Other Powers of the Statutes and Voting Commission as stated in article 32 of the Statute are:
 - a) Draw up the regulations for the voting process;
 - b) Together with the Presidency, define the eligible list of those who have a vote, and the number of votes assigned to those National Federations who have Provincial Federations.;
3. The Statutes and Voting Commission is also responsible for:
 - a) The presentation of the official amendments to the Statute.
 - b) Verification of vote by proxy in accordance with Art. 31 (b) of the Statute.
 - c) Ascertain the persons who are eligible to vote during the EGWA;
 - d) Prepare the online voting process;

- e) Check the validity of the voting process;
- f) Supervise the validity of the online voting process during the EGWA
- g) Announce the results of the voting.

VI. Voting and methods of voting system

Art. 19 The voting by proxy referred to Article 31(b) of the Statutes must be registered in writing through an email or a signed letter and only one person can vote.

1. When Voting by Proxy

The vote by proxy is allowed in the following circumstances:

- a) When the vote is delegated to another member of the same organisation (including members of the Confederal Presidency or between members of the same Confederation and National Federation).
- b) When the representatives of the same Federation, asks a member of another Federation or a member of the Confederation of the same geographical area may be exceptionally appointed.

A person can accept only one vote by proxy.

Members of the Salesian Society can have the vote by proxy delegated to them.

2. Validity of Votes in the Voting.

Art. 20 For the vote to be considered as valid, it must be:

- a) free and responsible;
- b) secret, certain, absolute and determinate (See Code of Canon Law can. 172).

Art. 21 The Statutes and Voting Commission will be responsible to verify the number of votes in accordance with Articles 31 of the Statutes and will give information on the list of those who are eligible for voting.

Art. 22 National Federations who have paid their fee as stated in Article 38(a) of the Statutes agree with the decisions of the Presidency as stated in Article 21(f) are eligible to vote. These are verified by the Statutes and Voting Commission in deciding the voting members and the number of votes in accordance with Article 31.

VII. Approval of the Statutes and other provisions during the Extraordinary General World Assembly.

Art. 23. The World Executive Council appoint the Statutes and Voting Commission to be responsible for all preparations for the voting for the proposed amendments to the Statutes.

Art. 24 Voting for the Amendments to the Articles

The Statutes and Voting Commission will present a list of proposed contributions of the amendments to the Statute which it received by the set date for submissions.

An online vote is taken whether the article in question will be amended or not.

The Statutes and Voting Commission will record all the changes approved by the EGWA.

1. Voting Procedures

Art 25.

- a) To approve any amendments to the articles of the Statutes, the vote requires a majority of 2/3 of the members with voting rights of those who cast their vote in accordance with Article 41(e).
- b) In any other case, including technical and procedural issues, the absolute majority of votes of those present is required unless otherwise stated in these regulations.
- c) In case of two or more proposals for the change of the same issue, the one with most votes will be applied for the formulation of the new statutes if the amendment has obtained a majority of 2/3 of the members with voting rights..

2. Invitations to Experts and the Media

Art. 26 The World President and the Presidency of the EGWA have the right to invite into the Assembly any other person as experts or observers without having any voting rights.

Experts taking part in the discussions may also be asked to address the Assembly if required.

Art. 27 The EGWA during session can express their votes through two methods:

- a) **PLACET** or vote of approval. Meaning that the text is approved in its entirety as proposed for vote.
- b) **NON PLACET** or vote of disapproval. Meaning that the text is not approved in the way that it has been presented.

Art 28. Every voting member is morally committed to vote with responsibility. Abstention is allowed when voting takes place.

Art. 29. After the voting takes place on the amendments of the Statutes, the full text is reviewed by the Statutes and Voting Commission for the finalization of the text.

The Statutes and Voting Commission will propose the final text of the Statutes with all the amendments and inclusions for the final vote of the EGWA where a final vote – ‘placet’ or ‘non placet’ is taken.

Art. 30. To re-open a discussion on what has been approved, one requires a majority of 2/3 of the voting members.

VIII Interpretation of the Regulations

Art. 31. Following the adoption of these Regulations, in case of doubts on their interpretation, the Coordinator of the Extraordinary General World Assembly, the World Delegate, and members of the Statutes and Voting Commission responsible for the legislative

interpretation and any other expert advice from the Salesian Society will be responsible for the interpretation of these regulations.

Art. 32. The Secretaries of the Coordinator are to deliver the minutes and all other acts of the Extraordinary General World Assembly including all records which were presented to them. The Coordinator is to deliver these documents to the Confederal World President which will carefully be preserved in the Archives of the Association.

Art. 33 Once the Extraordinary General World Assembly is dissolved, the World President is responsible to take care to the translation of the Statutes in French, English, Portuguese and Spanish. The Statutes is disseminated to the National Federations and Provinces once it is promulgated by the Rector Major, the Central Delegate of the Salesian Family, World President, the Secretary General and the World Delegate.