

**Internationale Gesellschaft für Warenwissenschaften
und Technologie**
International Association of Commodity Science and Technology
Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien / Vienna University of Economics and Business
Administration

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CHARTER
of the
IGWT

**"International Association
of Commodity Science and Technology"**

English Version

August 2008

Registered in Vienna/Austria, date of foundation : 8th October 1978
The corresponding English name (which is not registered) is:
"International Association of Commodity Science and Technology".
For the purpose of this translation the English name will be used in the following.

IGWT

**c/o Department of Technology and Sustainable Product Management
Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration**

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§ 1 NAME AND REGISTERED OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association bears the name „International Society of Commodity Science and Technology (IGWT)“:

The registered office of the Association is at the international IGWT secretariat at the Department of Technology and Commodity Science, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, Augasse 2 - 6, A-1090 Vienna AUSTRIA

E-mail: gerhard.vogel@wu-wien.ac.at

Home page: <http://www.wu-wien.ac.at/itnp/igwt>

It is planned to establish National Associations or working groups in each country within the Association's sphere of action.

The business year coincides with the calendar year.

§ 2 LEGAL CHARACTER OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association's legal character is that of a non profit, non political association.

§ 3 PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association pursues the object of winning every institution, association, society or individual person being engaged in commodity science and technology on the international scene to collaborate in the Association's aims, and of serving, by way of an extensive exchange of knowledge and experience on an international level, the progress of modern commodity science.

Setting out from the realisation that modern commodity science must be based on considering the commodity in its entirety, taking all its aspects into account, the Association advocates the establishment and promotion of scientific institutions capable of meeting such requirements.

The Association supports every effort which may contribute to emphasise the comprehensive knowledge of commodity

- on every level of education,
- in the economy,
- in every branch of public administration and
- with the consumer.

Single measures to pursue the object of the Association will be

1. to publish a common information bulletin (e.g. FORUM WARE, Circulare),
2. to support pertinent scientific work and to publish the results in suitable publications,
3. to hold conventions, conferences, symposia and meetings,
4. to support every effort to harmonise, across national borders, commodity language, classification and information systems,
5. to co-operate with organisations pursuing similar objects.

§ 4 FUNDING

The Association's financial means will come from donations, benefits, legacies, proceeds from symposia, training courses, publications and the like, state subsidies and, if required, from membership fees.

§ 5 TIE UP AND USE OF FUNDS

The Association's activities do not aim at profit-making. Funds will only be used for the purposes laid down in the Charter. The Association's voluntary managing and executive personnel will perform their duties without pay.

Expenditures incurred by activities on behalf of the Association will be reimbursed only within the limits of available funds. Claims beyond this scope will be left unconsidered.

§ 6 MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Association may be

1. Full Members –
these are institutions and associations with pertinent objectives, National Commodity Science Associations and individual persons of countries where there does not yet exist a national association.
2. Honorary Members
3. Supporting Members
4. Corresponding Members

Ad 2. Persons and institutions that have done great service to the Association may be appointed Honorary Members by the General Assembly upon request of the Executive Board.

Ad 3. Supporting Members are those natural and legal persons and private and public bodies corporate who will further the aims of the Association by way of special financial contributions and donations.

Ad 4. Scientists and experts having particularly distinguished themselves in the field of commodity science and technology, so that their co-operation may be expected to contribute to the furtherance of the Association's aims, may be appointed Corresponding Members.

§ 7 BEGIN OF MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Board will decide on the admission of candidates to full membership. Honorary Members or Corresponding Members will be appointed by the General Assembly upon request of the Executive Board.

§ 8 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership will expire

1. by death of a natural person or should a legal person's juridical personality no longer exist,
2. by voluntary withdrawal from membership,
3. by expulsion.

Ad 2. Voluntary withdrawal from membership will be announced by registered letter to the Executive Board not later than three (3) months prior to the end of the calendar year.

Ad 3. The Executive Board may decide on the expulsion of a member because of the following reasons:

1. Dishonourable acts or other malfeasance contrary to the law or to the Association's interests.
2. Serious neglect of one's duties as a member.

The expelled member will be notified of his expulsion in writing. The expelled member may appeal against his expulsion to the General Assembly. Membership rights will be suspended pending the final decision of the General Assembly.

Retired members do not have any claim for reimbursement of membership fees nor on the Association's property.

§ 9 MEMBERSHIP FEES

The financial contributions are determined by the number of members in the national associations. A minimum membership fee may be fixed.

In special cases, the Executive Board may grant reduced fees or even an exemption from fees.

Honorary Members and Corresponding Members are exempted from payment of membership fees.

§ 10 MEMBERS RIGHTS AND DUTIES

National Associations that have a full membership status are entitled to designate a number of representatives proportional to national membership fees, which have the right to vote in the general assembly and are also eligible.

Each National Association has at least one vote, irrespective of the membership fee it pays and depending on the number of the members of the national association additional further votes:

1 to 10 members	0 vote	(all together 1 vote)
11 to 50 members	1 vote	(all together 2 votes)
51 to 100 members	2 votes	(all together 3 votes)
more than 100 members	3 votes	(all together 4 votes)

Other full members, honorary members and supporting members are only eligible to the Association's offices and the right file motions at the general assembly.

After having transferred the member fees to the IGWT, the National Associations are entitled to give their members the full admission for the scientific internet version of "FORUM WARE International".

Every member is entitled to use the Association's facilities. It is every member's obligation to protect, within the scope of his ability, the Association's interests.

Full members are liable to payment of membership fees if such fees have been decreed by the General Assembly.

§ 11 ORGANS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. The General Assembly
2. The Executive Board
3. The Auditor

§ 12 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly will be convened if required by the Association's interests, usually once every two years.

The General Assembly will be convened if required by the Association's interests; this will be usually once every two years, but at least within the period fixed by Austrian law.

The convention will be advised in writing by the Executive Board no later than four (4) weeks prior to the date set for the meeting and at the same time the convention's agenda will be announced. The General Assembly must be called into session if requested in writing by one tenth of the full members qualified to vote. The General Assembly will be chaired by the President or, in case of his absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents or any member of the Executive Board appointed by the President.

Decisions reserved to the General Assembly are:

1. Approval of the progress report and of the balance of accounts for the audit period as well as the approval of the acts of the Executive Board,
2. Election of the Executive Board,
3. Election of the Auditors,
4. Any determination of membership fees,
5. Appointment of Honorary Members and Corresponding Members,
6. Conciliation of disputes related to the membership of the Association,
7. Hearing appeals against a decision to expel members,
8. Amendments to the Charter,
9. Dissolution of the Association.

Motions tabled by full members entitled to vote which shall be discussed by the General Assembly, will be forwarded to the President by registered letter no later than two (2) weeks prior to the date set for the meeting. Members will be advised of these motions prior to the meeting, at the latest at the beginning of the meeting.

Motions filed immediately before or during the general assembly require a two thirds majority to be decided on.

The General Assembly will constitute a quorum only if more than 50% of those National Association members that are entitled to vote are present.

A cession of votes is possible and has to be reported to the president in writing no later than at the beginning of the general assembly.

The maximum number of votes that can be devolved upon one member is five.

Decisions made by the General Assembly will be passed by simple majority; in case of a parity of votes, the President will have the casting vote.

Decisions will be placed on record in the minutes to be countersigned by the Chairman of the General Assembly.

The Secretary will be appointed by the General Assembly.

Amendments to the Charter as well as the decision to dissolve the Association may be passed only by a two-thirds majority of members present and entitled to vote.

§ 13 EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board is made up of the following offices:

1. The President
2. Vice-President – one up to six,
3. The Secretary-general and his deputy,
4. the Treasurer and his deputy,
5. other members of the Executive Board i.e. the Delegates to be appointed in accordance with their national associations.

The Executive Board will be elected for a two (2) years term. Re-election is permissible.

The Executive Board will be called by the President or, in case of absence, by one of the Vice-Presidents in writing or by word of mouth. Upon request of at least three (3) members of the Executive Board, the Board will be called into session within two (2) weeks.

Any Board meeting called according to the rules of the Charter will be qualified to vote.

Decisions made by the Executive Board will be passed by simple majority. In case of a parity of votes, the President will have the casting vote.

The Managing Executive Board, comprising of the President, the Vice-President who has his office at the international secretariat, the Secretary-general and the Treasurer (or their deputies) will be responsible for the implementation of administrative duties and of routine business.

The Executive Board will be responsible for the performance of the following functions:

1. Convention of the regular and extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly,
2. Preparation of the budget estimate and the balance of accounts,
3. Preparation of motions to be dealt with by the General Assembly
4. Implementation of the decisions passed by the General Assembly
5. Admission and expulsion of members,
6. Installation of committees and working groups,
7. Preparation of guidelines for language rules to be observed in the Association's internal correspondence.
8. Establishment of an international secretariat of the Association
9. Decision making on matters not expressly reserved to the General Assembly.

Rules governing the convention of and decision making by the Managing Executive Board

will be identical to those binding on the entire Board. Decisions may be made by written procedure within the Executive Board as well as within the Managing Executive Board.

§ 14 SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The President is the senior member of the Association. He is responsible for representing the Association particularly, vis-à-vis third parties, government departments and all other persons. He will take the chair at the General Assembly and in the Executive Board.
2. Documents and announcements in writing of the Association, above all legal documents, shall be signed both, by the President (or on his behalf by the Vice-President at the international secretariat) and the Secretary-general or by the President (or on his behalf by the Vice-President at the international secretariat) and the Treasurer insofar as financial matters are concerned.
3. If the President is prevented from attending, his place will be taken by the Vice-President at the international secretariat, to be followed by the other Vice-Presidents and when necessary the Secretary-general and Treasurer may be represented by their deputies.

§15 AUDITORS

For the audit of the balance of accounts the General Assembly will elect two auditors. The auditors will report the results to the Executive Board and to the General Assembly.

§ 16 ARBITRATION COMMITTEE

The arbitration committee will resolve all disputes arising from Association matters.

The arbitration committee will consist of five full members of the Association. It will be formed by the disputing parties nominating two members as arbitrators to the President within 21 days. These members will elect by majority vote a chairman of the arbitration committee. In the event of parity of votes, the Chairman will be chosen by lot from those suggested for the office.

When all committee members are present, the arbitration committee reaches its decisions by a majority vote. It will decide with its best conscience. Its decisions cannot be appealed.

§ 17 DISSOLUTION OF ASSOCIATION (VOLUNTARY)

The Association may be dissolved only by a two-thirds vote of National Association Members entitled to vote and present at an extraordinary meeting of the General assembly convened for this particular purpose.

The General Assembly arriving at a decision to dissolve the Association will be obliged to make over the Association's assets either to a scientific institution committed to the Association's aims or to a tax-privileged, non-profit body corporate provided that the beneficiaries will pledge to use conveyed means exclusively for the furtherance of education and training in the spirit of the Association's objects. The dissolution will be performed by the President of the Association.