



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF TRADITIONAL SPORT AND GAMES

Statutes

International Council of Traditional Sport and Games
Conseil International pour les Jeux et Sports Traditionnels
Consejo Internacional para los Juegos Tradicionales y Deportes
Conselho Internacional de Esportes e Jogos Tradicionais

الاتحاد العالمي للرياضة التقليدية والألعاب

Международная федерация традиционных видов спорта и игр

国际传统体育和游戏联合会

国際伝統スポーツ競技連盟

국제 스포츠 및 게임 연맹

Table of Contents

<i>Description</i>		<i>Page Number</i>
Background		3
Preamble		5
Article 1	<i>ICTSG</i>	7
Article 2	<i>Abbreviations and Definitions</i>	7
Article 3	<i>Language</i>	9
Article 4	<i>Seat of the ICTSG</i>	9
Article 5	<i>Mission</i>	9
Article 6	<i>Objectives</i>	10
Article 7	<i>The President</i>	11
Article 8	<i>Organs of the ICTSG</i>	12
Article 9	<i>Admission of New Members</i>	19
Article 10	<i>The Council Secretariat</i>	19
Article 11	<i>Financial Management</i>	19
Article 12	<i>Cooperation with External Partners</i>	20
Article 13	<i>TSG Rights</i>	21
Article 14	<i>Rules of Procedures / Bye-laws</i>	21
Article 15	<i>Legal Status</i>	21
Article 16	<i>Interpretation</i>	21
Article 17	<i>Amendments</i>	22
Article 18	<i>Dissolution</i>	22
Schedule I	<i>Principles governing the Bye- laws/Working Programmes of ICTSG</i>	23
Schedule II	<i>Structure of the ICTSG</i>	27

Background:

On the occasion of the 3rd Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials of Physical Education and Sports (MINEPS III), held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in 1999, the international community proposed that a significant action from UNESCO could be initiated within the framework for the promotion and preservation of traditional games and sports.

In this regard, the following important proposals were made during MINEPS III:

- ✓ Member States to be requested to organize and support festivals of traditional sports and games at both national and regional level, and to provide opportunities for participation in the World Traditional Sports and Games;
- ✓ The Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) requested, with the help of the relevant regional and national bodies and networks, and the support of the NGOs, associations, and institutions concerned, to prepare a worldwide list of traditional sports and games, and invited the Director-General of UNESCO, with the cooperation of existing and future regional and national bodies and networks as well as leading eventually to an international charter in traditional sports and games, to be followed by a mid-term and a long plan of action.

As part of the Declaration of Punta del Este, adopted by MINEPS III, Ministers emphasized by the preservation and the appraisal of traditional and indigenous sports from different regional and national cultural heritages, including the establishment of a World Heritage List of Traditional Sports and Games.

During MINEPS IV held in Athens, Greece in 2004, several delegates emphasized the advantages of promoting traditional sports and games within education systems and some further wished for this to be translated into immediate effect, specifically via the introduction of a draft international charter on traditional sports and games. This charter proposed that countries should agree upon a universal reference framework to facilitate and support efforts to protect them.

These recommendations were addressed on the 33rd session of UNESCO's General Conference, held in Paris in 2005, and detailed through the Preliminary Report on the Desirability and Scope of an International Charter on Traditional Sports and Games. During this meeting, attendees were informed that CIGEPS had drafted the international charter on traditional sports and games and the "World Sports Encyclopedia" had been produced under the expertise of Professor Wojciech Liponski of Poland in English and French versions, as a worldwide list of traditional sports and games and about their efforts to preserve and protect them.

Different seminars and round table meetings were held in close cooperation with organizations such as IATWS and UNESCO, including Collective Consultations with the participation and

input by the Members States to create an International Platform for Traditional Sports and during the 2nd Collective Consultation Meeting held at Tehran-Iran in 2009, participants/stake holders approved the creation of international platform to be known as the “ICTSG”.

As a follow-up of the above, the 3rd Collective Consultation on the Safeguarding and Promotion of Traditional Sports and Games held in 2017 at Paris-France created/approved an Ad hoc Advisory Committee on the Safeguarding and Promotion of Traditional Sports by electing its Chairman and appointing Four Working Groups, including one tasked with the establishment of an International Platform. The members of the Advisory Committee, after detailed deliberations and work over the course of the years, endorsed adoption of the recommendation of the 2nd Collective Consultation held in 2009 by establishing the International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG) to control, manage and supervise Traditional Sport and Games in the world.

The International Council of Traditional Sports and Games or ICTSG shall act as an international organization aiming to serve as an international platform for the preservation, promotion and development of traditional sport and games (TSG) at the global level and play an integral part in socio-economic development, cultural heritage promotion, environmental sustainability, healthy lifestyle and a peace-building process.

Its core objectives are, *inter alia*, to help all concerned and interested governmental and non-governmental national, regional and international organizations in the harmonization and coordination of efforts and capacity in view of providing guidance, counseling and to sustain initiatives and programmes that pertain to traditional sports and games for policy-makers, stakeholders and other concerned parties.

In consequence, its key functions are to ensure priority towards advocacy and raising awareness about the challenges and plights that demand decisions, actions and tangible measures in different geographical, cultural and educational contexts. This will help share know-how, knowledge, information and data related to TSG at different levels of incentive and normative needs or initiatives that can contribute to improve the development and promotion of TSG at local, national, regional and international levels.

The ICTSG further aims to undertake endeavours advocating and raising awareness in relation to the cultural diversity and respect of cultural identity within the context of new issues and challenges in a globalized world, where values, knowledge, skills and behaviour are in constant change.

During the 4th Collective Consultation Meeting held at Istanbul, Turkey on 15th August 2018, Ministers, Ambassadors/Permanent Delegates of UNESCO, Representatives of Member States and stakeholders of TSG unanimously approved and adopted these Statutes.

Preamble:

Recalling that the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights has enshrined in its Articles that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein without distinction of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other consideration,

Recalling the principles of the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport adopted by the UNESCO General Conference on November 1978, in particular, which stresses the importance of the national tradition of sport (Article 1.2), sports designed to suit the institutional, cultural, socio-economic and climatic conditions of each country, with priority accorded to disadvantaged groups in society (Article 3.1) and to take into account the opportunities offered by the natural environment (Article 5.3),

Recalling the Declaration of Punta del Este of December 1999, of the Third International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officers in charge of Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS III) that had decided to support a policy of preserving and enhancing traditional and indigenous sports and games based on the cultural heritage of regions and nations, including a worldwide list of Traditional Sports and Games, and of encouraging the organization of regional and world festivals (Declaration 8),

Acknowledging that most of the traditional sports and games are already lost and that the remaining ones are in imminent danger of disappearance and extinction, owing to the various tendencies of globalization and standardization of the rich diversity of sports heritage in the world,

Taking into account the important values that traditional sports and games offer, through the education, culture, communication and health, promoting its role towards the overall development of the individual human as well as one's community,

Bearing in mind that traditional sports and games are expressions of the native culture and life systems contributing to the communitarian identity of human beings,

Considering that traditional sports and games being less susceptible to the temptations of excessive commercialization, manipulation and doping, can strengthen the values of sports activity and the spirit of "fair-play",

Stressing the importance of the traditional sports and games as a safer and a cheaper means of minimizing medical and social costs, as well as the prevention and dissuasion of juvenile delinquency and violence raising from the lack of opportunities for healthy physical activities,

Further taking into account that traditional sports and games do not demand substantial material and financial resources or investments, yet they can contribute to better intercultural understanding and mutual tolerance, both within and amongst the communities of nations, which will contribute to establishing a Culture of Peace,

Proclaims the constitution of the International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG) for the purpose of improving broadening the accessibility to healthy recreation, physical education and sports by preserving, supporting and promoting traditional sports and games all over the world assuring the continuation of the rich diversity of world heritage of sports culture for the services of humankind, and urging the governments; competent non-governmental organizations, educational, cultural and social institutions, communities, families and individuals themselves be inspired thereby, and to disseminate it and to take all efforts to realize it.

Article 1 – International Council of Traditional Sports and Games (ICTSG):

- a) The ICTSG is hereby constituted as an international umbrella organisation to ensure the safeguarding and promotion of traditional sports and games whilst aiming to support and assist governments, non-governmental organisations, as well as the sport movement at national, regional and continental levels through harmonization, coordination of efforts, guidance, assistance and advice. The affairs of ICTSG shall be managed in accordance with and regulated subject to these Statutes.
- b) ICTSG shall be the exclusive and independent body to oversee governance, administration and development of traditional sports and games globally and its primary aim shall be the preservation, promotion and development of traditional, cultural and community values between all stakeholders involved; keeping into consideration underlying objectives such as promotion of gender equality, third world country development and safeguarding cultural heritage through sport traditions.
- c) In pursuance of its mission and objectives, ICTSG shall abide by the principles of mutual respect and recognition, sovereignty and non-interference into the rights of its members. It recognizes the rights of all sport organizations, instances, bodies or network throughout the world to participate in TSG initiatives and activities.
- d) ICTSG shall strictly oppose every form of discrimination for reasons of race, social background, religious consideration, ethnicity, political ideology or position, language, disability, sexual orientation or gender and shall have appropriate systems in place to address such issues.

A detailed structure of the Council is attached herewith as Schedule II.

Article 2 – Abbreviations and Definitions:

In these Statutes, unless the context states or requires otherwise, the following words shall have the meanings ascribed to them hereunder:

- (i) **“CIGEPS”** refers to the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport in UNESCO;
- (ii) **“Continental Unions”** shall mean the bodies governing TSG at the continental levels of Africa, Asia, Europe, Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean;
- (iii) **“Council Commissions”** shall have the meaning ascribed to them under Article 8(d) of these Statutes;
- (iv) **“Council Secretariat”** shall mean the entity described under Article 10;

- (v) **“Education for All”** means the Education for All (EFA) movement launched by UNESCO as a global commitment to provide quality basic education for all children, youth and adults;
- (vi) **“Executive Board”** refers to the board described under Article 8(b);
- (vii) **“Executive Vice-Presidents”** refer to those under Article 8(b)(ii)(i);
- (viii) **“Extraordinary Session”** shall be as described under Article 8(a)(iii);
- (ix) **“General Assembly”** shall mean the authority described under Article 8(a);
- (x) **“General Secretary”** means the person designed as such by the Council;
- (xi) **“ICTSG or the Council”** shall mean the International Council of Traditional Sports and Games;
- (xii) **“IF”** means International Sports Federations;
- (xiii) **“Indigenous People”** as defined by the UN mean indigenous communities, peoples, and nations that, having a historical continuity with pre-invasion and pre-colonial societies that developed on their territories, consider themselves distinct from other sectors of the societies now prevailing in those territories, or parts of them. They form at present non-dominant sectors of society and are determined to preserve, develop, and transmit to future generations their ancestral territories, and their ethnic identity, as the basis of their continued existence as peoples, in accordance with their own cultural patterns, social institutions and legal systems;
- (xiv) **“Individual Members”** means the members referred to under Article 8(g);
- (xv) **“Headquarters”** means the Head Office of the ICTSG;
- (xvi) **“Member States”** shall mean the countries affiliated to the Council;
- (xvii) **“MINEPS”** refers to the International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport;
- (xviii) **“National Associations”** shall mean the national bodies responsible for supervising TSG at the local levels;
- (xix) **“OC or Organizing Committee”** means the Organizing Committee for World Traditional Sports and Games;
- (xx) **“Ordinary Session”** shall be as described under Article 8(a)(iii);
- (xxi) **“President”** shall mean the person elected as such by the Council in accordance with these Statutes;
- (xxii) **“Regional Vice Presidents”** refer to those under Article 8(b)(ii)(iii);
- (xxiii) **“Sustainable Development Goals or SDGs”**, otherwise known as the Global Goals, are the UN’s universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.
- (xxiv) **“TSG”** means and refers to Traditional Sports and Games more particularly described in these Statutes, including but not limited to indigenous sports and games as well;
- (xxv) **“TSG Festivals”** refers to Festivals organized for the promotion of traditional sports and games at regional and national levels;
- (xxvi) **“UN”** means the United Nations;

(xxvii) “UNESCO” refers to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and

(xxviii) “WTSG” refers to World Traditional Sports and Games.

Article 3 - Language

The official working language of ICTSG shall be English.

Article 4 – Seat of the ICTSG

The legal registration of the ICTSG shall be at Pakistan with its Headquarters situated at a location to be determined by the Executive Board upon recommendation of the President.

Article 5 – Mission

The mission of the Council is to:

- a) contribute to the promotion and development of TSG, as a distinct and different category to modern sports, and facilitate the promotion and understanding of TSG as cultural identity and diversity in view of achieving sport for peace in the context of achieving Education for All (EFA) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations;
- b) ensure that TSG fully becomes part of national policy development and be incorporated in development plans at governmental, intergovernmental and civil society levels;
- c) ensure the periodic organization of traditional as well as indigenous sport and game Festivals and meetings/seminars aiming to bring together diverse and various cultural and geographical representations and to address the challenges and issues that requires political and civil society commitment for the advancement of TSG;
- d) advocate and raise awareness on the role and impact of TSG on social and educational demands that can facilitate the achievement of EFA and the SDGs;
- e) encourage and support the promotion of women in TSG at all levels, with a view to implementing the principle of gender equality by safeguarding traditional and indigenous sports and games; and
- f) encourage and support activities blending traditional and indigenous sport with culture and education.

Article 6 - Objectives

The main objectives of the ICTSG, hereinafter referred to as “the Council”, shall be to develop, implement and regularly update a working programme that contributes to:

- a) the promotion and development of international cooperation in the field of traditional and indigenous sport and games with a view of contributing to peace, tolerance, respect and mutual understanding between people of different social and cultural backgrounds;
- b) facilitating the understanding and the integration of the social, economical and educational background of TSG as essential components in the harmonious development of peace and human achievement;
- c) collection of information and the dissemination of research, analysis, publication, data, scientific works, relevant documents and findings related to the improvement of TSG;
- d) organization of TSG events compatible with the objectives of the Council and cooperation in the preparation and organization of such meetings, seminars and/or events, thereby guaranteeing a high level of quality and practicality;
- e) organization and supervision of traditional and indigenous sport events and festivals in collaboration with Member States;
- f) patronizing TSG Festivals/Games around the world at International, Continental, Regional and National levels;
- g) establishing, acquiring or otherwise controlling other legal entities in order to fulfil the Council’s mission and carry out its objectives;
- h) management of, either to improve or otherwise supervise, any property (whether movable or immovable) with all necessary powers in the interest of ICTSG;
- i) marketing, disposing off, or dealing with any rights and assets owned by ICTSG;
- j) affiliating all relevant stakeholders of TSG and indigenous sports;
- k) maintaining harmonious and cooperative relations with governmental and non-governmental organizations around the world;
- l) receiving and generating or raising funds and seeking sources of financing for carrying out the functions of the Council;

- m) facilitating the sharing of know-how, knowledge, information and data related to TSG and indigenous sports at different levels of incentive and normative needs;
- n) developing initiatives that can contribute to the improved development and promotion of TSG at local, national, regional and international levels;
- o) resolution of disputes that may arise, within the framework, between its affiliated members; and
- p) doing all acts and things necessary and proper to carry out the objectives of ICTSG.

Article 7 – The President

- a) For the first six-year term of the Council, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee of UNESCO Traditional Sport and Games shall act as President of ICTSG. Thereafter, the President shall be elected by the General Assembly from amongst themselves in accordance with applicable bye-laws for a period of six years. The President shall be eligible for re-election for one further term of six years, provided that the total tenure of an individual as President shall in no case exceed a period of three consecutive terms.
- b) The President shall perform and exercise the following functions and powers:
 - (i) chair and convene all meetings of the General Assembly and the Executive Board in accordance with these Statutes and as may be required by the Council;
 - (ii) adjourn and generally conduct the aforementioned meetings;
 - (iii) fix the date, time and place of all such meetings, including adjourned meetings;
 - (iv) exercise the right of a casting vote in the event votes are divided equally;
 - (v) determine any matter of procedure concerning the General Assembly or Executive Board, which are not covered by the present Statutes;
 - (vi) represent ICTSG before any other international organisation, body or authority as may be necessary from time to time;
 - (vii) constitute committees as may be necessary to assist the President in performing his/her functions, pursuant to terms of reference approved by the President. Such committees shall directly report to the President;
 - (viii) exercise administrative control over the personnel employed by ICTSG;

- (ix) sign contracts/agreement/memorandum of understandings on behalf of ICTSG;
- (x) do all such acts and take all such measures, including ancillary and incidental matters as deemed appropriate in the interests of ICTSG;
- (xi) for reasons to be recorded in writing act on behalf of the Executive Board only in any emergency or contingency requiring urgent action and to take such action, decision or measure as he deems proper in such situation provided that within fifteen days, a report to the Executive Board regarding the same shall be submitted for ex-post facto ratification or approval of the action, decision or measure so taken;
- (xii) perform any other functions or exercise any other powers as may be delegated by the Executive Board; and
- (xiii) exercise such other functions and powers as provided in these Statutes.

Article 8 - Organs of the ICTSG

The organs of the Council shall be:

a) The General Assembly

- (i) The General Assembly shall be the supreme governing authority in the Council and shall comprise:
 - a) Members of the Executive Board
 - b) Representatives of the Continental Councils for TSG
 - c) Representatives of the National Associations for TSG
 - d) Representatives of International Sports Federations affiliated with ICTSG
 - e) Representative for Indigenous People
 - f) Members of the Council Secretariat (in a non-voting capacity)
- (ii) The General Assembly shall:
 - a) adopt the rules of procedure and agenda
 - b) adopt the activity report of the Executive Board
 - c) confirm the candidatures of new members of the Council as nominated by the Executive Board and take final decisions pertaining to appeals against a refusal to admit an organisation into membership or removal of a member organisation from the Council
 - d) determine the policies and programmes of the Council
 - e) elect Vice-Presidents and members of the Executive Board

- f) nominate Honorary Presidents/Members and Patrons on the recommendation of the President
 - g) appoint auditors to prepare the annual Financial Reports with the General Secretary
 - h) consider the audited Reports of ICTSG
 - i) adopt and approve the annual budget for ICTSG
 - j) have the power to make decisions pertaining to the working programme developed by the Commissions in consultation with the Executive Board and in connection with the mission and objectives of the Council
 - k) have the authority to amend and adopt these Statutes
 - l) upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, appoint Honorary Members of the Executive Board. Such individuals may include, but not be limited to, outgoing members who can no longer play an active role in the work of the Executive Board but whose experience is likely to help the Council in its work.
- (iii) Meetings of the General Assembly:
- a) The General Assembly shall meet in Ordinary Session at least once every two years.
 - b) The General Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Council, or in case he is unable to attend by one of the Vice-Presidents nominated by the President for that particular session.
 - c) The venue, date and provisional agenda of the Ordinary General Assembly Session shall be determined by the President. The General Assembly may modify the provisional agenda if it is deemed necessary or appropriate.
 - d) An Extraordinary Session may be convened if summoned by the Executive Board or at the written request by 50% of its members.
 - e) In all cases, advance notice and an agenda shall be sent to all members at least two months before the scheduled meeting.
 - f) The General Assembly will reach a quorum when the number of votes to be cast at an Assembly Session exceeds half the total number of voting members. Decisions shall be adopted if made by simple majority of those voting, except as otherwise stated in the Statutes.
 - g) The President shall have the power to invite persons to attend the sessions of the General Assembly as consultants or observers. Such consultants or observers shall not have the right to vote.
- (iv) The General Assembly shall be the final authority on all questions relating to the Council and its activities.

b) The Executive Board.

(i) Nine Members shall be elected by the General Assembly for a six-year period as the Executive Board to direct the affairs and activities of the Council in line with the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly whilst exercising all necessary powers on behalf of the General Assembly. In case of emergencies, the Executive Board may take decisions in relation to the most important matters on behalf of General Assembly, provided that such actions or decisions must be submitted promptly for ratification by the competent organ.

(ii) The composition of the Executive Board shall be as follows:

i. President

ii. Two (02) Executive Vice Presidents

The Executive Vice Presidents shall assist the President in discharging his duties under the Statutes and represent the Council at the international level.

iii. Six (06) Regional Vice Presidents

1. Regional Vice Presidents shall be elected keeping in view geographical balance and represent the following regions:

a) Africa;

b) Asia;

c) Europe;

d) Pacific;

e) Latin America; and

f) The Caribbean.

2. The Regional Vice-Presidents will be elected on the basis of their outstanding political, social and cultural commitment in the areas of competence of the Council as defined in its Mission and Objective.

3. The Vice-Presidents may act as Regional Coordinators for their respective regions.

iv. Chairmen of the Council Commissions (ex officio members)

v. General Secretary (non-voting member)

(iii) The Executive Board shall:

i. initiate policies and implement plans of actions in accordance with the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the aims and objectives of the ICTSG;

ii. review implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

iii. appoint the General Secretary upon the recommendation of the President;

- iv. discharge the overall responsibility for the internal governance of the Council;
- v. consider applications for membership in accordance with these Statutes and its bye-laws;
- vi. consider suspension or removal of member organisations in accordance with these Statutes and its bye-laws;
- vii. supervise all programmes and activities of the Council whilst ensuring that appropriate transparency and accountability mechanisms are in place;
- viii. approves all internal governance regulations, bye-laws, financial rules relating to the Council;
- ix. appoint every two years an “*Organizing Committee for World Traditional Sports and Games*” which shall designate, after evaluation and recommendation in accordance with the guidelines defined by the Council, the potential host country from amongst the countries bidding to organize the **World Traditional Sports and Games**;
- x. supervise and coordinate the preparation of the meetings of the General Assembly and submit to the General Assembly a report on its decisions and activities;
- xi. exercises all powers and performs all duties to undertake its functions as prescribed in the interests of the Council;
- xii. have the authority to co-opt any member for any particular meeting; however, such co-opted member(s) shall have no voting rights; and
- xiii. at any time that is deemed desirable, the Executive Board may award prizes, trophies, honours, or distinctions to institutions or personalities who have worked in a notable manner within the field of the Council’s activities. These distinctions shall be awarded by the President. The awardees are selected by the Executive Board which shall proceed to the choice by ballot vote of the nominees and then the awardees.

(iv) Meetings of the Executive Board:

- i. The Executive Board shall meet at least once a year.
- ii. Every member of the Executive Board shall have the right to vote, except for the General Secretary and the Honorary Members of the Executive Board.
- iii. The Executive Board shall reach a quorum when the number of members present exceeds half the number of voting members.
- iv. 1/3rd of the members of the Executive Board shall retire at each session of the General Assembly. To ensure that this rotation is respected, newly elected members of the Executive Board may be selected by to fulfill two-year terms only, until the foreseen rotation of members retiring at each sessions achieved. Any member elected during the Course of a four-year period shall remain in office only for the remaining time of that four-year

period. Candidates are only eligible for two consecutive full four year terms of office. The four-year period shall commence from the year of the General Assembly meeting. Members who have not been active for two years or more may be expelled from the Executive Board by a two-third majority vote of the Executive Board.

- v. When, through force of circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Council, the General Assembly is unable to meet before the expiration of the normal term of the Executive Board, the Board shall remain in office until the Assembly meets next.

c) The General Secretary

- (i) There shall be a General Secretary to coordinate and manage the Council Secretariat, which shall consist of the necessary staff to fulfil the work undertaken by the Council, and implement decisions of the Executive Board and the General Assembly.
- (ii) The General Secretary shall have no right to vote.
- (iii) The General Secretary shall be responsible for the work of the Executive office and assist in the organization of the Council's meetings, as well as for the follow-up of any decisions taken during those meetings.
- (iv) The General Secretary shall ensure geographic balance is encouraged in the staff representation.
- (v) Any other duties of the General Secretary which are not specified in the Statutes shall be determined through internal rules and terms of reference.

d) Council Commissions

- (i) The Executive Board may appoint various Commissions to focus on specialised areas of the Council's work, which shall comprise representatives (one per organization) from major international member associations/organizations affiliated with the Council who are active in the field of TSG, physical activity and education.
- (ii) Each Commission shall act as a forum for inter and multi-disciplinary exchange and cooperation charged with the task of developing and enhancing the Council's mission and objective areas through targeted activities. Their role shall be to lead and coordinate the activities and programmes identified and determined by the General Assembly, Executive Board or President and assigned to them.
- (iii) Each Commission will, in consultation with the General Secretary, prepare its own specialist agenda and working procedures in line with the governance principles listed under Schedule I of these Statutes.

- (iv) Each Commission shall be headed by a Chairman designated by the Executive Board, upon recommendation of the President, and shall become an ex officio member of the Executive Board and have no right to vote.
- (v) The Commissions shall submit items to be included in the agenda of Executive Board Meetings, including recommendations to be presented before the General Assembly.
- (vi) Each Commission shall meet at least once every year. Such meetings will be chaired by the respective Chairman of each Commission and in accordance with the agenda prepared in consultation with the General Secretary. In the particular year a General Assembly meeting is scheduled to be held, the Commission Meeting shall take place before the scheduled General Assembly meeting.
- (vii) Members of the Executive Board may attend meetings of the Commissions as ex officio members.
- (viii) Upon the recommendation of a majority of its members, the Commission may propose to the Executive Board co-option of new members within the Council's membership. The Executive Board shall then submit a draft recommendation to the General Assembly at its next session for examination and decision. Using the same procedure, it may prepare a case for the General Assembly to expel inactive member organizations or organizations which have violated the basic principles of the Council.
- (ix) The Commission may submit to the Executive Board recommendations for the development of existing policies or position statements, research or publication projects in co-operation with other relevant organs of the Council for consideration and endorsement by the Executive Board for forward submission to the General Assembly.
- (x) Members of the Commission(s) shall cooperate closely with the organizers of the World Traditional Sports and Games and endeavour to organize their major conferences occurring in the same year within its framework.
- (xi) Members of the Commission(s) may also receive the Council's patronage for their own events pursuant to the General Assembly's approval.
- (xii) All members of the Commission(s) must clearly display their affiliation to the Council in their promotional and/or business documents.

- (xiii) Internal regulations and terms of reference will define all aspects of the work of the Commissions which are not specified in these Statutes, particularly aspects regarding the development of the working programme and its implementation.

e) **Organising Committee**

- (i) The Organising Committee for the World Traditional Sports and Games as appointed by the Executive Board shall supervise the preparation, organization and follow-up activities leading up to the WTSG.
- (ii) The WTSG shall take place at least once every two years.
- (iii) Organising Committees for Regional and National TSG Festivals shall be appointed by the respective Regional Councils.

f) **Group of Patrons (GoP)**

- (i) The Group of Patrons shall consist of political/diplomatic representatives of the Member States of the Council preferably the country's President or Prime Minister to provide financial and political support to meet the aims and objectives of ICTSG.
- (ii) The Executive Board, on the recommendation of the President, shall nominate Members to this august Group of Patrons.
- (iii) Patrons shall be entitled to attend all the events held under ICTSG and may also attend the General Assembly Meetings upon special invitation as distinguished guests.

g) **Individual Members**

- (i) Individual Members of the Council shall consist of following categories, excluding any commercial organizations:
- i. Group A:
governmental organizations and non-governmental bodies which are recognized in their respective countries as being the major organizations responsible for physical education, sport and TSG;
- ii. Group B:
international organizations responsible for the coordination and promotion of work to unify co-ordinate and promote activities in the field of physical education, sport and TSG, such as international organizations concerned with TSG, physical education, sport and recreation, international sport federations, international organizations (cultural, artistic, scientific) with an interest in sport and physical education and TSG;

- iii. Group C:
governmental and non-governmental organizations at the national level, to the exclusion of those covered under Group A as above;
- iv. Group D:
publicly recognized research institutes and schools of higher Education in sport, physical education and TSG; and
- v. Group E:
Traditional Sport Clubs

(ii) No Modern Sport organisation, Olympic recognized sports, or sports recognized by similar organizations shall be eligible to seek membership with the Council and/or to participate in TSG festivals/events.

Article 9 - Admission of New Members

- a) Any organization for which provision is made under Article 8(g) may become a member of the Council upon adoption of these Statutes and payment of the relevant membership fee determined by the Council. Such membership shall be rectified by the Executive Board and confirmed by the General Assembly.
- b) Internal regulations to be approved by the Executive Board will define affiliation fees and conditions/criteria for membership.

Article 10 – The Council Secretariat

- a) The Secretariat shall support the President and the General Secretary in their efforts to achieve the objectives of ICTSG and implement the mission and work of the Council.
- b) The Secretariat shall facilitate national and international TSG campaign activities.
- c) The President shall determine the procedures regarding the appointment, suspension, salaries and conditions of employment of staff members.

Article 11 – Financial Management

- a) The financial resources of the Council shall be derived from:
 - (i) membership fees;
 - (ii) contributions made by member organizations;

- (iii) funds raised through collections from events organised for the benefit of the Council;
 - (iv) grants from inter-governmental organizations, governments, non-governmental organizations or public bodies;
 - (v) donations, sponsorships, gifts or bequests from private bodies or persons; and
 - (vi) royalties from the sale/licensing of various commercial rights pertaining to WTSG.
- b) The Council may accept contributions and other forms of assistance for general and specific purposes relating to specific projects, provided that such projects have been approved by the President.
- c) No political, economic or other conditions which are incompatible with the objectives of the Council may be attached to contributions made to the Council.
- d) The use of resources by the Council shall be decided on the basis of guidelines laid down by the Executive Board.
- e) If events of an unforeseen nature occur or if deemed appropriate in case of an emergency, the President may settle supplementary expenses for specific budget items in an amount to be defined with the written agreement of the Executive Board and under the condition that the corresponding amount can justifiably be deduced from other budget items.
- f) The funds described above shall be deposited in United States Dollar and Euro savings and/or current bank accounts of the Council approved by the Executive Board.
- g) The General Assembly shall appoint external auditors of the Council from the list of reputable Audit Firms shortlisted by the Executive Board.
- h) All other aspects of financial management and arrangements pertaining to the Council which are not specified in these Statutes shall be defined and governed by regulations to be made by the Executive Board taking into account the national legislation and fiscal rules of the country in which the Council Secretariat and/or the Council bank accounts are situated.

Article 12 - Cooperation with External Partners

The Council shall endeavour to maintain close co-operation with:

- The United Nations systems and its specialized agencies/
- International organizations specialising in the field of TSG as well as physical education and activity.
- International Sports Federations and organizations responsible for TSG.
- National and International Institutions working in the field of TSG.

- Individual experts selected on the basis of their international reputation or outstanding contribution in the Council's fields of activity.
- Relevant corporate partners.

This cooperation may take the form of specific agreements and/or memorandums of understanding.

Article 13 – TSG Rights

- a. ICTSG is responsible for enhancing the values of the traditional and indigenous sports and games and for providing material support in the efforts to organize and disseminate the World Games.
- b. As the international governing body, ICTSG is the owner of all rights in and in relation to the Traditional Sports and Games, which rights have the potential to generate revenues to contribute the Council's fund.
- c. World Traditional Sports and Games / Festivals are the exclusive property of ICTSG which owns all rights and data relating thereto, in particular, and without limitation, all rights relating to their organization, exploitation, broadcasting, recording, representation, reproduction, access and dissemination in any form and by any means or mechanism whatsoever, whether now existing or developed in future.
- d. ICTSG may create one or several emblems to use at its direction. The use of an emblem for any advertising, commercial or profit-making purposes whatsoever must be in accordance with the conditions laid down in the relevant Bye-laws.

Article 14 - Rules of Procedures / Bye-laws

The Executive Board shall have the authority to make internal regulations, rules of procedures and bye-laws etc. to cover all aspects of the Council's administration, regulation of elections, conduct of the Meetings specified in these Statutes and all other ancillary matters.

Article 15 – Legal Status

The President shall have the authority to take such steps as are necessary to ensure the registration of ICTSG as an international non-governmental not-for-profit legal entity in perpetuity with the entitlement to employ staff and hold bank accounts in the country in which the Council Secretariat is located.

Article 16 – Interpretation

The interpretation of these Statutes and bye-laws of the Council are within the mandate of the Executive Board.

Article 17 – Amendments

- a. Proposal(s) to amend the Statutes may be submitted in writing to the President by Council Members not less than four months prior to the scheduled General Assembly Meeting.
- b. These shall be circulated to all members prior to the commencement of the relevant Session of the General Assembly.
- c. A proposed amendment to the Statutes shall be deemed adopted if supported by not less than 2/3rd of the total votes cast by at least 50% percent of the Council Members.

Article 18 - Dissolution

The Council may be dissolved by a two-thirds majority of the total voting strength of the General Assembly, of which four months' notice must be given to the Council Secretariat. In the event of such dissolution, a Commission of Liquidators appointed by the General Assembly shall decide on the division of assets of the Council in favour of one or several national or international organizations/charitable institutions having purposes similar to those of the Council at the General Assembly Meeting at which the Council is dissolved.

Principles governing the Bye-Laws/Working Programmes of the ICTSG

1. *The contribution of traditional sports and games to “Sport for Peace”*

- 1.1 The fundamental right of movement, sport and games as a constituent of the quality of life and development of a whole personality must be guaranteed both within the educational system and in other aspects of social life.
- 1.2 The role, which traditional sports and games can play in the realization of this fundamental right had to be carried out and must be increasingly used.

2. *World heritage of traditional games and sports*

- 2.1 The different native cultures in the world have brought out a diversity of traditional sports and games. They are expressions of the richness of a nation's culture. It is a serious star to preserve and promote the practicing of this diversity.
- 2.2 A lot of the traditional sports and games belong to the national, regional or worldwide culture heritage. It is necessary to strengthen the acknowledgement of traditional sports and games.

3. *The social and cultural values of traditional sports and games*

- 3.1 The traditional sports and games contribute to a life of mutual understanding and peaceful behaviour among different cultural and social groups, communities and nations. They are means of their identity. Therefore, the significance of traditional sports and games must be strengthened and the opportunity for practising them must be held open for all human beings especially for young people, the physically challenged and disadvantaged groups in the society.
- 3.2 Traditional sports and games have their own regulations and standards with no need for globalization or standardization. For their further development, due attention should be given on their values, originality, and the needs of those practicing them. They should be protected from any kind of commercialization that affects the cultural heritage and values of traditional sports and games.
- 3.3 Traditional sports and games while not needing expensive facilities and equipment should be promoted in all parts of the world, especially where the resources are low.

3.4 Traditional sports and games, which did not suffer extensive commercialization and doping manipulation, could be used for promoting the morale and spirit of fair play.

3.5 Traditional sports and games could be an effective tool for the promotion of tolerance, mutual understanding, respect and peace in a culturally diverse society.

4. *Dangers of preserving and practising traditional sports and games*

4.1 All measures should be taken to build awareness towards the significance and importance of traditional sports and games.

4.2 Care should be taken to ensure that the tendencies of globalization and standardization do not lead to wide extinction of traditional sports and games.

4.3 Traditional sports and games could be modernized and adapted cautiously according to the needs of the living generation without affecting their originality. This process must be not misused by touristic interest.

5. *Aims and measures to preserve and promote traditional sports and games*

5.1 Traditional sports and games must be presented at local, national and regional international festivals/events with high publicity to strengthen the awareness of their values, significance and importance.

5.2 Governmental and non-governmental organizations should extend support for planning and organizing festivals/Games of traditional sports and games at all levels and take into account the specific needs of groups like the elderly, handicapped, young people, children etc.

5.3 Traditional sports and games should be incorporated, introduced and promoted in the work of schools, communities, institutions and organizations both governmental and non-governmental.

5.4 Traditional sports and games as well as indigenous sports have to be adopted or implemented in recognized sport programmes like “Sport for Peace” or “Sport and Health” to promote their popularity and survival sports.

5.5 Traditional sports and games have to change in a cautious manner in view of the progress of civilization and must be made fit for the exchange of sport within the different cultures.

- 5.6 All efforts must be made to revitalize traditional sports and games with due respect to the needs of human beings in a modern civilization.
- 5.7 The governmental and non-governmental organizations are required to integrate traditional sports and games in their respective supporting programmes.
- 5.8 The mass media are required to present and promote traditional sports and games in an appropriate manner, in view of their importance and values.

6. *Traditional sports and games as heritage of sport culture*

- 6.1 Traditional sports and games contribute to the world heritage of sport culture. Research, preservation and promotion of traditional sports and games must be at the centre of a global policy on culture and sport.
- 6.2 It is essential to draw up a list / encyclopaedia on the World Heritage of Sports Culture compiling traditional sports and games that meet the following conditions:
- a) A particular role in representing the cultural identity of the concerned people;
 - b) Existence of well-defined rules in the game;
 - c) Role in promoting regional and local consolidation
 - d) A sportive identity opposed to modern sport;
 - e) Specific regional origins and particularities;
 - f) Historical tradition;
 - g) Cultural complexity and ethical quality;
 - h) The relevance of the designation “Sport for Peace” whether in the country of origin or during international exchanges.
- 6.3 It is necessary to establish an Encyclopaedia of Traditional Sports and Games at the local, national, regional, and international levels. All efforts must be made to attain this objective.
- 6.4 The research into traditional sports and games and their contribution to the knowledge of the various cultures and mankind must be intensified, broadened out and supported by governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- 6.5 The effort to conserve dying and bring back lost traditional and indigenous sports and games for the future generation by museum presentation has to be supported.

7. *National and international cooperation*

- 7.1 Interested Member States are invited to increase their moral and material support in preservation and the promotion of traditional sports and game.
- 7.2 The stakeholders of TSG in the world are requested to elaborate mid- and long-term strategies for promotion and protection of the traditional sports and games, as well as to monitor the implementation of the same and the goals and objectives of present Statutes.

Approved and adopted during the 4th Collective Consultation Meeting held on 15th August 2018.

Structure of ICTSG

