

Constitution of
EUROPEAN FOREST NURSERY ASSOCIATION

Preamble. The Committee of Forest Nurseries in the EEC was founded on June 22nd, 1962 in Cologne by representatives of the professional forest nursery associations of the Member States to deal with all matters relating to Forest Reproductive Material.. The constitution was amended at the time of the first expansion of the EEC in 1971 and again in 1994 on the third enlargement. At that time the name of the Committee was changed to the Committee of Forest Nurseries In the European Union. In 2007 the name was again changed to European Forest Nursery Association.

Article 1.

The organisation shall be known as the European Forest Nursery Association.

Article 2.

The Association is constituted from the professional forest nursery associations or other properly constituted bodies representing the forest nursery and seed trades of member states of the European Union.

The role of the Association is to represent and to defend the interests of the private producers of forest seed and plants and of all other activities relevant to the profession and to attempt to mediate between member states when disputes arise. The Association shall be responsible particularly for giving the official views of the private seed and nursery sector on all matters concerning Forest Reproductive Material to the Commission of the European Union.

Article 3.

The Association is composed of delegates, nominated by the professional associations and authorised to represent them on all matters associated with Forest Reproductive Material. . Delegates should be owners or representatives nominated by owners of private forest nurseries and seed companies but delegates from state owned nurseries may represent a member state provided they are members of the active Trade Association in that Member State. In the event of the Trade Association in a Member State not wishing to participate in the Association's activities, individual forest nurseries from that country may attend as Observers without voting rights provided they pay the delegate fee. However if a Member State is represented at meetings by delegates from the Trade Association in that member state, no un-nominated person from that Member State may attend meetings.

At each annual meeting of the Association the country delegates will announce the number of delegates which they wish to nominate to the Association for the following year (1st June to 31st May). The maximum number of delegates per country is five but it is expected that the figure should reflect the relative size of the forest nursery industry in each country. A standard subscription fee will be paid annually for each delegate nominated to the Association (See Article 13)

Each delegation shall appoint a spokesman, who can represent his country in the event of an urgent consultation being required.

The President has the right to request any delegate temporarily to leave the meeting when there may be an issue requiring discussion that may have relevance to that delegate, their employer or their Member State.

In the event of further enlargement of the European Union, the professional organisation in each new member state will be contacted with a view to their nominating an appropriate number of delegates to the

Association. If no such organisation exists in a new Member State, contacts will be made with individual nurseries with a view to their attending as Observers.

Article 4.

Any member of a delegation if prevented from attending, may, with the agreement of their national association, make arrangements to be represented by a deputy.

Article 5.

The Chairman and Secretary of the national associations may attend the meeting of the Association and any working groups created by the Association as observers, without the right to vote. If authorised, they may represent missing delegates.

Article 6.

The Association shall appoint Member States to provide a President and one or more Vice-Presidents who should come from different Member States than the President and themselves. The delegates from these Member States will decide on the specific individuals to fill the role in due time. If possible the Member States should be elected in rotation for both roles.

The Member States of the Presidency and Vice Presidency/presidencies shall be elected for a period of three years and shall be elected by simple majority. They may be elected for additional terms. Each delegate at a meeting can cast one vote but may also act as a proxy if officially authorised for an absent colleague. In the event of a tie a second vote shall be taken immediately after first eliminating any elected or eliminated Member States.

Article 7.

The Secretary of the Association shall be proposed by the President if possible from one of the members present and shall be elected for a three year period by a simple majority of members present. Where possible this appointment should be made so as not to coincide with the three years of the President's appointment. When no member of the Association is prepared to act as Secretary, a nomination from outside the Association may be made provided such person, in the view of the Association, has wide experience within the industry. The Secretary is responsible to the President and Association for his actions and shall be responsible for keeping a detailed record of all his/her expenditure and income. Where the Association feels it to be appropriate a Treasurer may also be appointed to keep detailed records of the Association's income and expenditure.

Article 8.

The Association shall meet at least once a year. Meetings shall be held In Brussels or in turn in different member states. Any proposals requiring decisions should, if possible be forwarded along with the invitation, agenda and any relevant document for the meeting, and if not at least one month before the meeting.

Article 9.

The official language of the Association is English, but, where deemed to be sufficiently important, translation of documents into French and/or German may be authorised by the President.

Article 10.

Decisions are made by a majority of 60% of the members (including proxies) present but in the event of repeated stalemate by simple majority. Abstentions from voting do not affect the above majority. However, any, delegation which has not paid its subscription (See Article 11) for more than one year, may not take part in any votes. However the Secretary will remind any delegation that has not paid its current subscription of that fact one month before the annual meeting in order that it can qualify to vote. Any decision taken that affects only one Member can only be put into effect after obtaining the consent of the competent professional body in that State.

Article 11.

If matters of fundamental importance, which would normally be discussed at the annual meeting, require an urgent decision, the President is authorised to act on his own initiative, although he may wish to consult the Vice-Presidents and spokesmen of each delegation before so doing. All delegations should be formally notified in writing of any such executive decision.

Article 12.

The President shall submit a detailed report of his activities to the annual meeting and the Treasurer or Secretary (or President) shall prepare a detailed statement of the financial position, which should be circulated if possible along with the notice of the meeting (See Article 8). The financial year runs from 1st June to 31st May.

Article 13.

The Secretary shall prepare a draft budget for the coming year, which shall be presented to the annual meeting of the Association. This shall cover the costs of the Secretariat and any translations made. The necessary income to cover these expenses will be raised by annual subscription from Member states and shall be calculated on a per delegate basis and based upon the total number of delegates nominated to the Association for the coming year. This delegate fee shall be agreed at the annual Meeting. Notices of the subscriptions to be paid will be circulated at the start of each new calendar year.

Amendments made following the 54th AGM 11th June 2011.