

Asia Pacific Society for Immunodeficiencies (APSID)

APSID Constitution

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Board consists of the President, the President-Elect, the immediate Past President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Chairpersons of all Working Parties. Each term of office is 4 years for the President, Secretary and chairpersons of all Working Parties, and not renewable. The Treasurer can serve 2 terms (8 years). The President-Elect is elected at the General Assembly two years prior to office. Immediate Past-President is part of the Board for two years after his/her presidency, the President-Elect for two years before his/her presidency. In the event of the resignation of a Board member, the Board would fill up the vacancy so created from amongst the EB members.

Decisions are taken by a majority vote. The President has the deciding vote, if the vote is otherwise tied. The Board should meet at least once a year.

APSID Board members must be full members of APSID. They may be citizens from any country, but need to work in Asia Pacific for the time of his/her service.

All APSID Board members shall declare any financial or other possible conflict of interest to the APSID Board in writing.

The members of the Board shall not receive any payment for exercising their office.

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

As APSID is registered as limited company (Asia Pacific Society for Immunodeficiencies Limited) in Hong Kong, the Annual General Meeting of APSID Ltd. will be conducted and will be held with the General Assembly of APSID. The General Assembly is open to all members of APSID. It normally takes place at the time of the Biennial APSID Meeting. It is chaired by the President and includes the Presidential report, the Secretary's report, the Treasurer's report and any other business. The agenda for the meeting is made available over the internet, mailed, and/or published in the APSID website at least one month in advance.

All APSID officers will be elected by electronic voting on the protected part of the APSID website. Votes may only be casted by electronic voting. The poll will open at least one month prior to the General Assembly and will close at the day preceding the day of the General

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Assembly. To facilitate this, at least three months prior to the poll, the Board will encourage APSID members to consider their candidature for available posts. Each APSID member has the right to nominate a candidate who should be an APSID member residing in Asia Pacific for any of the posts in the Executive Board. The nomination needs a seconder. At least one month prior to the meeting, available candidates will present themselves to the APSID members on the APSID website.

Either during the General Assembly or by electronic voting the APSID members also have the following obligations: To elect the President, other Board members and the location of the Biennial Meeting; To decide on the membership fee of APSID as proposed by the Board; To either agree or disagree with policy decisions as proposed by the Board; To make proposals as to starting/discontinuing activities of the Society; To decide about amendments to the Articles, the Constitution and dissolution of the Society (see also §13).

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APSID MEMBERSHIP

APSID members may be citizens of any country, working anywhere in the world, however, they shall be Medical Doctors, PhD Scientists, Veterinarians, Pharmacists, Dentists, or graduate students. APSID members can participate in co-operative APSID studies; they can enter reports on immunodeficiency diseases and patients into the APSID registries; they are entitled to a password to enable them to enter the restricted part of the APSID website. All members are entitled to receive APSID Newsletters and regular information about meetings, co-operative studies and results of APSID research projects, APSID summer schools etc. Full member of APSID would have the rights to vote and to be elected.

The APSID Board has the right to expel an APSID member (e.g. due to malpractice) by a two-thirds majority vote.

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WORKING PARTIES

The Board takes the initiative to establish and close Working Parties. Each Working Party is headed by a Chairperson who becomes a member of the Board. Six Working Parties (Clinical Care, Education & Training, Cellular Therapy & Transplant, Genetics & Genomics, Registry&

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Research, APSID Juniors) are presently operating within APSID, but more can be established if and when required. The Chairperson of each Working Party is elected by electronic voting by all APSID members every four years. The Chairpersons of the Working Parties must be full members of APSID. They may be citizens from any country, but need to work in Asia Pacific for time of his/her service. The substructure of the Working Party is determined by the Chairperson. The Working Party Chairpersons give an annual report to the Board on Working Party activities and publications and a biennial report to the General Assembly. The Chairpersons of the Working Parties shall declare any financial or other possible conflict of interest to the Board in writing.

§5

DEFINITION OF ASIA PACIFIC

For the APSID, Asia Pacific shall be defined as: all Asia Pacific countries or regions as far west as Turkey and shall include the Middle East; as far south as Australia & New Zealand; as far north as Russia; as far east as some Pacific islands in Micronesia & Melanesia, but not including Hawaii.

§6

THE PRESIDENT

The President shall be a full member of APSID. He/she may be a citizen from any country, but needs to work in Asia Pacific for time of his/her service. He/she is elected by electronic voting by all APSID members, and serves for four years. The President cannot stand for re-election. He/she may thus serve for a maximum period of 4 years. The President serves as President-Elect for two years before becoming President and as immediate Past President for 2 years after end of Presidency. The President promotes the activities of APSID. These include fund raising, co-ordination of Working Party activities, giving guidelines to the organizers of the Biennial Meeting, and in negotiations with other organizations.

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THE SECRETARY

The Secretary is elected for four years. He/she must be a full member of APSID. He/she may be a citizen from any country, but needs to work in APSID for time of his/her service. He/she cannot stand for re-election. The Secretary writes the annual business plan, organizes board meetings, agendas, keeps and circulates the minutes, chases up the reports for the General Assembly meetings, writes the agenda and minutes and circulates these to the members through the APSID Newsletter and APSID website.

§8

THE TREASURER

The Treasurer is elected for a period of four years which is renewable two times. He/she must be a full member of APSID. He/she may be a citizen from any country, but needs to work in Asia Pacific for time of his/her service. He/she may thus serve for a maximum period of 8 years. He/she collects the membership fee and accounts for the use of the funds for APSID purposes. He/she is also responsible for fundraising and maintaining the finances to support the infrastructure of APSID.

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SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

APSID encourages the networking with professional societies for immunology, infectious diseases or related disciplines in Asia Pacific. Each of these national or regional societies can participate as APSID society member and designate one of their council members to sit at the APSID Executive Board in order to promote interaction between APSID and their societies. These society representatives have no voting right. The representatives of such a society or network (presumably elected by their societies or networks for a limited time period) would have an advisory function to the Board. They will promote the interaction between APSID and their societies or networks.



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HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Honorary membership will be offered to Board Members of sister societies such as European Society for Immunodeficiencies, Africa Society for Immunodeficiencies, Latin America Society for Immunodeficiencies, and Clinical Immunology Society, as well as Board Members of patient organizations such as International Patient Organisation for Primary Immunodeficiencies. Furthermore APSID Executive Board can recommend such Honorary Membership to eminent persons who are committed to support the mission of APSID. Honorary members enjoy all rights as APSID members except voting rights and being APSID Executive Board members.

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MEMBERSHIP FEE

Each member pays a membership fee to APSID which is fixed by electronic voting of members during the month preceding the General Assembly after proposal by the Board.

Members of 3 categories shall pay a reduced membership fee (50% of the full fee). They are members who are (1) under 40 years of age, (2) coming from certain countries with GDP per capita less than US\$5,000/ a certain amount (Refer to APSID website) and (3) members from PID Alliance[ASID (African Society for Immunodeficiencies), CIS (Clinical Immunology Society), ESID (European Society for Immunodeficiencies) and LASID (Latin American Society for Immunodeficiencies)].

§12

BIENNIAL MEETING

Meetings of APSID take place once every two years. The President and the location of the Biennial Meeting are decided by electronic voting of all APSID members during the month preceding the General Assembly upon proposal by the Board or members. The local host must be a member of APSID. The APSID meeting is organized by a local organizing committee (LOC) in close collaboration with the overseas organizing committee (OOC). The scientific content of

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the meeting is proposed by the LOC & OOC. The APSID Board needs to approve the scientific content of the meeting. In case of a dispute, the APSID Board will have the final say.

§13

USE OF APSID FUNDS

APSID funds consist of subscription fees and of funds raised from public organisations, charities and pharmaceutical companies.

APSID Funds must be used with approval of APSID Executive Board for the following purposes:

1. Funding studies on co-operative Asia Pacific data of immunodeficiency diseases.
2. Funding activities of the Working Parties.
3. Funding the dissemination of information by the Secretary to members of the Group.
4. Funding of other administrative costs considered necessary by the Board.
5. Maintaining the APSID online Registry.
6. Maintaining the APSID website.
7. Organising the APSID Schools, and other events.
8. Publication of the APSID Newsletter, Journal and Supplements.
9. Any other activity approved by the General Assembly.

§14

CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to and changes of the Constitution are made by (1) electronic voting or (2) voting at General Assembly by all attending APSID members with a two-thirds majority vote. Notice of the intention to change the Constitution shall be made available to all members at least 4 weeks before the relevant business meeting of the General Assembly. The result of the electronic voting needs to be ratified by the General Assembly. Any objection to the ratification of the result of the electronic voting needs to be supported by over 50% of the APSID members present in the General Assembly.

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LIQUIDATION OF THE SOCIETY

Following dissolution, the Board members shall liquidate the association. The Board can decide to appoint other persons as liquidators. In the resolution to dissolve the association, the destination of the liquidation balance will be spent in accordance with the goal of APSID to an institution of public utility.