



BWI Statutes

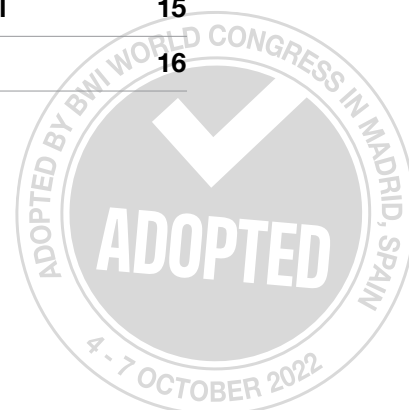
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Contents

| | |
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| Preamble | 3 |
| Article 1. Name, legal form and head office | 3 |
| Article 2. Objectives | 3 |
| Article 3. Methods | 4 |
| Article 4. Membership and affiliation | 5 |
| Article 5. Rights and obligations of membership | 5 |
| Article 6. Termination of membership | 6 |
| Article 7. Migrant members of affiliated organisations | 6 |
| Article 8. Affiliation fees and finance | 6 |
| Article 9. World Congress | 7 |
| Article 10. World Council | 8 |
| Article 11. World Board | 9 |
| Article 12. Presidium | 10 |
| Article 13. General Secretary | 10 |
| Article 14. Auditors committee | 11 |
| Article 15. Regional structures | 11 |
| Article 16. Regional Representatives and Regional Offices | 12 |
| Article 17. Ad hoc working groups | 13 |
| Article 18. Women's structures | 13 |
| Article 19. International Youth Committee | 14 |
| Article 20. Dissolution | 14 |
| Article 21. General provisions | 14 |
| Annex 1: Composition of country groups in World Council | 15 |
| Annex 2: List of allied industries and trades | 16 |



Preamble

The International Federation of Building and Wood Workers, IFBWW, is an International Trade Union Federation, established in 1934 by a merger of the Building Workers International and Wood Workers International. However, the birth of the first international for building and wood workers dates back to 1893. The IFBWW, International Federation of Building and Wood Workers, is a Global Union Federation organising more than 12 million members in 361 trade unions in 115 countries around the world in the building, building materials, wood, forestry and allied industries.

The World Federation of Building and Woodworkers' Unions affiliated with the World Confederation of Labour, is the continuation of the International Federation of Christian Building and Woodworkers' Unions, constituted in Paris on 9 September 1937. The WFBW, World Federation of Building and Woodworkers' Unions, represents 1.5 million workers in the building and wood industry organised in 51 unions in 40 countries all over the world.

The two federations aim for uniting all democratic and independent trade unions in the construction, building, building materials, wood, forestry and allied sectors. Uniting will give more weight to the building, wood and forestry workers world-wide in influencing employer organisations and governments.

Article 1.

Name, legal form and head office

- 1.1 The association consists of affiliates of the International Federation of Building and Wood Workers and the World Federation of Building and Woodworkers Unions. For the purpose of legal definition, the association shall be called "International Federation of Building and Wood Workers - BWI", hereafter referred to as "BWI". The association is governed by Swiss law, in accordance with the Swiss Civil code (article 60-79), with the status of a "not for profit organisation".
- 1.2 The Secretariat shall be located in Carouge, Canton Geneva, Switzerland, and includes regional offices. The World Congress may change the location of the Secretariat by amending the present statutes.

Article 2.

Objectives

- 2.1 BWI is dedicated to improving the quality of life and working conditions of its affiliates' members. It believes in putting people first in global, regional and national economic and social development. It shall support and advance the interests of its affiliates. Its objectives are as follows:
 - a) the formation, growth and strengthening of independent and democratic trade unions of workers in its jurisdiction
 - b) promoting peace, freedom and democracy through independent and democratic trade unions and respect for basic labour standards based on the international conventions of the International Labour Organisation
 - c) bringing together unions regardless of nationality, race, creed or ethnic origin whilst recognising the autonomy of affiliated organisations
 - d) promoting gender equality
 - e) defending and promoting the interests of young members and future generations
 - f) creating solidarity between trade unions in multinational companies with the aim to:
 - build structures for trade union co-operation and co-ordination
 - ensure that multinationals respect basic ILO labour standards, international guidelines, national labour laws and framework agreements wherever they exist



- g) establishing a social dimension to globalisation of the economy by:
 - combating social and economic exploitation in all its forms
 - promoting the recognition and implementation of labour standards and improvement of health and safety for all workers in all countries
 - rejecting all forms of discrimination, racial, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, cultural and religious beliefs
 - defending and promoting the economic, social and cultural rights of workers
 - advancing and representing these objectives in all appropriate international organisations
 - defending and promoting the professional interests of affiliated members including in the informal economy
- h) establishing a social dimension to regional economic integration by ensuring that trade unions have the opportunity to be consulted and to influence decisions of the organisations concerned to promote social justice and to develop a social dialogue between employers and trade unions
- i) defending human rights, including the rights of freedom of speech, expression, creation, association and universal suffrage and the rights of fullest access to the media and means of diffusion of creative activity upon which all other rights and freedoms depend.

Article 3. Methods

The aims and objectives as identified in Article 2 shall be pursued by:

- a) encouraging solidarity between affiliates
- b) assisting and encouraging the organisation of workers falling within the jurisdiction of BWI through union education, training and solidarity activities
- c) considering gender equality within the context of all policy decisions
- d) building global and regional solidarity networks in multinational companies
- e) providing support and assistance to affiliates as appropriate in times of difficulty
- f) establishing common policies and priorities for action to promote and co-ordinate their implementation
- g) collecting and disseminating information on matters of interest to affiliates
- h) establishing information and communication technology networks
- i) negotiating framework agreements
- j) representing affiliates in regional and international economic groupings
- k) representing affiliates in the work of the United Nations, the International Labour Office and other specialised agencies and institutions whose activities affect the social, economic and cultural conditions of affiliates and their members
- l) maintaining close relations with other international organisations of independent and democratic trade unions
- m) holding congresses provided for under the Statutes and any other meetings and conferences that are considered by the World Council to be in the best interests of BWI and its affiliates
- n) working towards the objective of women being represented in all its structures
- o) promoting the participation of young members in its work.



Article 4.

Membership and affiliation

- 4.1 All independent, free and democratic trade unions and trade union organizations which share the objectives of BWI and organise workers in the construction, building, building materials, wood, forestry industry and allied industries and trades, may apply for affiliation. Where affiliates represent workers in industries other than those represented by the BWI its jurisdiction shall extend only to those workers engaged in the construction, building, building materials, wood, forestry and allied industries and trades.
- 4.2 Applications for affiliation will, after appropriate inquiries and consultation, including consultation with existing affiliates within the country concerned, is subject to a decision of the World Board. The application for affiliation and associated documents, the report and recommendation of the BWI regional representative and of any affiliates in the country concerned shall be submitted to the respective Regional Committee for its recommendation.

These documents and recommendations shall then be submitted, together with the Secretariat's recommendation, to the World Board for a decision.
- 4.3 Any appeal against the decision of the World Board to reject an application for affiliation must be made by an affiliate at the following World Council. Council shall decide on the appeal by a two- thirds majority vote, which decision will be final.
- 4.4 Co-operation in BWI shall be based on respect for the autonomy of the affiliates.
- 4.5 The World Board may grant the status of associated member to a trade union or workers' organisation who shares the same values and goals of BWI but unable to affiliate for the following reasons: legal limitation and absence of legal protection to trade unions; due to political affiliation; and other forms of trade union persecution and repression. Such status will be granted on a interim basis with a view to assisting them to overcome obstacles during a phase of transition to affiliation. The World Board shall take decisions on associated membership status based on a special qualification and procedure to be formulated by the World Board.¹²³

Article 5.

Rights and obligations of membership

- 5.1 Affiliates have the following rights and obligations:
 - a) Affiliates that have paid their statutory affiliation fees shall be entitled to participate and exercise all the affiliates' rights at BWI congresses, conferences or meetings
 - b) Observing BWI's Statutes and the policies and decisions that are taken in accordance with these
 - c) Supporting BWI's activities and working for the implementation of Congress decisions
 - d) Meeting promptly requirements for the payment of affiliation fees.
- 5.2 No one shall sit in BWI bodies if the member no longer holds office in the organisation to which the member belonged at the time of the member's election to the BWI body or committee, unless the organisation expressly requires that the member remain on the body or committee.

1 The World Board, shall subject such decisions to review at least once every two years with a maximum association period of four years.

2 Associated organisations shall have the responsibilities set out in Article 5 except that they shall have a negotiated financial obligations towards the BWI.

3 The World Board shall determine the conditions under which associated organisations may participate in the activities of the BWI and at Congress.



Article 6.

Termination of membership

- 6.1 Withdrawal from BWI can take effect only at the end of a calendar year, until which time the affiliate seeking withdrawal must fulfil the full obligations of membership. Notice of intention to withdraw from affiliation must be communicated in writing to the General Secretary not less than three months prior to the end of a calendar year.
- 6.2 Upon termination of affiliation all rights and obligations arising by virtue of the affiliation shall cease.
 - a) Affiliation fees shall be due up to the date of termination of affiliation.
 - b) There shall be no reimbursement of affiliation fees already paid.
- 6.3 The membership of any affiliate may be declared lapsed by the World Board if its affiliation fees are one year or more in arrears.
- 6.4 The World Board shall be empowered to expel from membership any affiliate that deliberately acts against the purpose and aims of the BWI.
- 6.5 Any affiliate that is expelled shall be advised in writing of the decision and the reasons for it. The expelled affiliate shall be entitled to appeal against the decision to the next World Council.

Article 7.

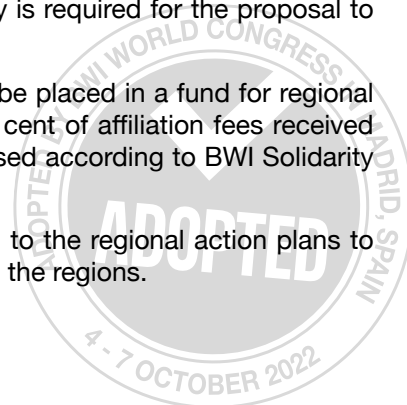
Migrant members of affiliated organisations

- 7.1 Where the members of one of the affiliated organisations are posted to another country, they shall be entitled, on the basis of their membership, to obtain advice and information free of charge from the affiliated organisation(s) in the country of employment.
- 7.2 Where a member of one of the affiliated organisation is migrating to another country, the affiliated organisation in this country shall take the necessary steps to ensure that an uninterrupted membership can be guaranteed.

Article 8.

Affiliation fees and finance

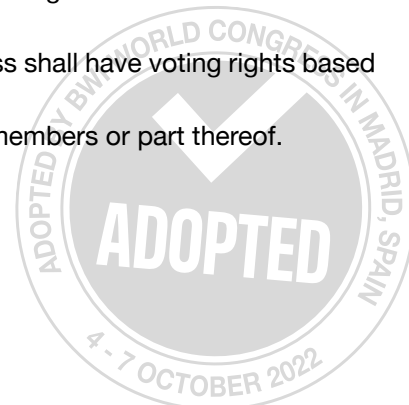
- 8.1 The BWI shall be financed mainly by annual affiliation fees, which shall be set by the World Congress and calculated on the basis of membership figures at 31 December of the previous year.
- 8.2 Affiliation fees shall be paid during the first quarter of the year.
- 8.3 New affiliates will commence payment as from the first day of the month following acceptance.
- 8.4 The World Board may grant reductions in affiliation fees based on recommendations by the Regional Committees in exceptional cases for a limited period of time according to the BWI affiliation fee guidelines. Voting rights are reduced proportionately.
- 8.5 The World Council shall be empowered in exceptional circumstances to impose an additional affiliation fee of the member organisations, in which event a two-thirds majority is required for the proposal to carry.
- 8.6 At least twenty per cent of the affiliation fees received annually shall be placed in a fund for regional activities to be used in developing countries and two and a half per cent of affiliation fees received annually shall be placed in a special fund for solidarity actions and used according to BWI Solidarity Fund Regulations.
- 8.7 The World Board shall allocate budgets to the regional offices linked to the regional action plans to enable the implementation of the global strategy and action plan in all the regions.



Article 9. World Congress

- 9.1 The World Congress shall be the supreme authority of BWI.
- 9.2 Ordinary World Congresses shall be held every five⁴ years at a time and place determined by the World Council with affiliates being advised of the date and agenda not less than eight months prior to the opening day of Congress.
- 9.3 The agenda of an Ordinary Congress shall include the following items:
 - a) election of the Credentials Committee
 - b) election of the Resolutions Committee
 - c) election of Election Committee
 - d) approval of the Congress agenda and the Standing Orders
 - e) report of the General Secretary on activities for the period since the previous World Congress
 - f) financial report
 - g) auditors' report
 - h) motions and resolutions
 - i) determination of the annual affiliation fee
 - j) establishment of strategic plan for the next congress period
 - k) election of the World Council
 - l) election of the President and five (5) Deputy-Presidents with at least one representing the Global South and one representing the Global North. Considering a fair representation from the Global North and Global South, and Gender.
 - m) election of the General Secretary
 - n) election of the Auditors
- 9.4 Motions, resolutions, nominations for President, Deputy Presidents and General Secretary, proposals, amendments to the Statutes or items to be considered by the Congress may be submitted by affiliates, the World Council and the World Board, and must reach the Secretariat at least four months before the date of the Congress.
- 9.5 Emergency resolutions and amendments, with the exception of amendments to the Statutes, may be submitted during the Congress in accordance with the procedures laid down in the Standing Orders of Congress.
- 9.6 The Congress is composed of representatives of the affiliates. Each affiliate may determine the number of participants it sends to Congress and must also pay for their expenses.
- 9.7 Affiliates should aim to ensure that the composition of their delegation is a reflection of the percentage of their women and young members and at least 1/3 women representation in the Congress.
- 9.8 Voting at the Congress is performed by the representatives of the affiliates present.
 - a) The number of votes held by each affiliate is determined by the average amount of affiliation fees due and paid during the past four years.
 - b) New affiliates joining the BWI less than four years prior to Congress shall have voting rights based upon the average affiliation fees paid since their affiliation.
 - c) Each affiliate shall have one vote for every block of 1000 paying members or part thereof.

⁴ The amendment will take effect one congress period after the adoption of the amendment.



- 9.9 Voting shall normally be by show of hands, electronic vote or by card vote. A card or electronic vote shall be conducted if any delegate calls for it. The numbers of votes allotted to each delegation shall be in accordance with Article 9.8.
- 9.10 Decisions shall be by simple majority except in the case of proposals to delete or amend existing Statutes or to introduce new ones, in which event a two-thirds majority is required for the proposal to carry.
- 9.11 Extraordinary Congress may be convened at any time by a two-thirds majority decision of the World Council or on the demand of one fifth of the full paying members of the BWI.

Article 10.

World Council

- 10.1 The World Council shall be responsible for the general policy in the period between World Congresses. In the event of the Statutes being silent on any issue, the World Council shall have the power to determine thereon.
- 10.2 The World Council shall be comprised of:
- The President, the five Deputy-Presidents and five regional Vice-Presidents, one from each Region from those members who in the first instance had been elected to the World Council
 - The Five Regional Vice-Presidents, one from each Region elected by the affiliates in the region and confirmed by the World Council
 - The General Secretary
 - Representatives of the groups of countries elected on the basis of country groups as approved by Congress on the basis of nominations from the affiliates in the country groups. The World Council shall approve changes in the composition of the country groups. For each member, a first and second substitute shall also be elected with the aim of reaching at least 1/3 women representation in each country group.
 - All members of the International Women's Committee
 - All members of the International Youth Committee
 - The Regional Representatives (as ex-officio non-voting members)
 - With the aim of reaching 1/3 women representation in the World Council
- 10.3 The World Council shall normally meet every two years. Extraordinary Meetings of the World Council may be convened by joint decision of the President and the General Secretary or at the request of two-thirds of its members.
- 10.4 The World Council shall be chaired by the President or in his/her absence by one of the five Deputy-Presidents.
- 10.5 Voting shall normally be by show of hands or by card vote.
- 10.6 Vacancies in the World Council arising between congresses shall be filled by the substitute in line until such time as a representative from the respective country group is appointed by the World Council, in consultation with the country group and on the recommendation of the affiliate previously having held the position.
- 10.7 At the meeting immediately after Congress the World Council shall confirm the Regional Vice Presidents elected by the affiliates from the regions. The Regional Vice Presidents shall serve as chair of the respective Regional Conference and Regional Committee.



- 10.8 At the meeting immediately after Congress the World Council shall elect from amongst its members, ten (10) members of the World Board in accordance with Article 11 of these Statutes. Voting for representation on the World Board will be according to the paid-up members.
- 10.9 The costs involved in meetings of the World Council shall be borne by BWI in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.

Article 11.

World Board

- 11.1 The World Board has the right and the obligation to manage the affairs of the association and to represent it in accordance with the statutes. The World Board is responsible for the execution of Congress and Council decisions, the administration, affiliation issues, the annual budget, the implementation of the strategic plan and the yearly plan of activity.
- 11.2 The World Board shall be comprised of:
- a) The President, the five Deputy-Presidents
 - b) Five Regional Vice-Presidents
 - c) The General Secretary
 - d) Ten other members from the World Council
 - e) The Chair of the International Women Committee
 - f) The Chair of the International Youth Committee
 - g) The Regional Representatives as ex-officio (non-voting) members

With a minimum representation of 1/3 of women in the World Board.

The President, the five Deputy-Presidents and the five regional Vice-Presidents and the ten other members from the World Council should be drawn from national member organizations of the annexed country groups, but only one representative per country group, taking into account the number of paid-up members in the respective regions.

For each titular member, a first and second substitute member shall be appointed from the same region. For the President and the five Deputy-Presidents the substitute members shall only represent them in their capacity as members of the World Board.

- 11.3 The World Board shall determine the General Secretary's working conditions in a written contract of employment.
- 11.4 The World Board is authorised to appoint ad hoc working groups to support it in its work. The working groups shall be responsible to the World Board.
- 11.5 The World Board shall meet once a year. BWI shall bear the costs involved in the World Board's meetings, in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.



Article 12.

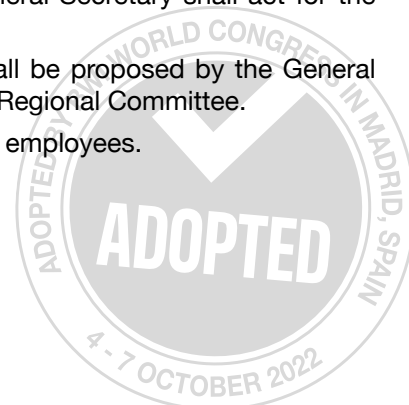
Presidium

- 12.1 The Presidium shall act as the executive body of the World Board. It shall meet regularly in between World Board meetings to monitor the progress of the implementation of the strategic plan and yearly plan of activities adopted by the World Board. The Presidium shall provide political guidance to the General Secretary and shall provide advice and guidance to the General Secretary on major campaigns, negotiations and activities. The Presidium shall perform other tasks assigned by the World Board in between its regular board meetings.
- 12.2 The Presidium shall be composed of the President and the five Deputy-Presidents. The composition of the Presidium shall take into account a fair representation from the Global North and Global South, and Gender. The members of the Presidium shall be elected by the World Congress.
- 12.3 The President shall chair the World Congress and meetings of the World Council and World Board.
- 12.4 The President shall be entitled to attend all other meetings convened by BWI.
- 12.5 The five Deputy-Presidents shall assist the President in the performance of his/her duties.
- 12.6 BWI shall bear the travelling and subsistence expenses of the President incurred during the undertaking of his/her duties of office in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.
- 12.7 Should the President be temporarily absent, his/her duties shall be undertaken by one of the five Deputy- Presidents, in which case BWI shall bear the travelling and subsistence expenses incurred during the undertaking of these duties.
- 12.8 Should the office of President fall vacant between World Congresses, the World Council shall fill the resulting vacancy from amongst their members.
- 12.9 Should the offices of the five Deputy-Presidents fall vacant between World Congresses, the World Council shall fill the resulting vacancies from amongst their members.

Article 13.

General Secretary

- 13.1 The General Secretary shall be elected by the World Congress.
- 13.2 The General Secretary has the right to attend all meetings convened by BWI.
- 13.3 The General Secretary shall be responsible for administration and management of BWI including the finances and shall inform the Auditors and the World Board immediately in case of any concern or irregularity.
- 13.4 The General Secretary shall direct the work of BWI's employees:
 - a) The appointment or dismissal of staff and the fixing of salaries shall be matters for the General Secretary.
 - b) The appointment and dismissal of Assistant General Secretary shall be proposed by the General Secretary and approved by the World Board. The Assistant General Secretary shall act for the General Secretary in his/her absence.
 - c) The appointment and dismissal of Regional Representatives shall be proposed by the General Secretary and approved by the World Board and the appropriate Regional Committee.
 - d) Appropriate contracts of employment shall be concluded with all employees.



- 13.5 The General Secretary shall act in accordance with the Statutes and the decisions of Congress and he/she shall be responsible to the Board, Council and Congress for all activities.
- 13.6 In the case of a vacancy in the office of General Secretary, the President shall inform the World Council and the office of General Secretary, for the unexpired term, shall be filled by the World Council at its next meeting.

Article 14.

Auditors committee

- 14.1 The Auditors shall be elected by World Congress and shall consist of four (4) members including at least one from the global south and one residing in the country where the Secretariat is located. A member of the World Board or the World Council cannot be an auditor.
- 14.2 A chartered accountant firm appointed by decision of the World Board shall perform an audit of the accounts. Their audit report shall be submitted to the World Council and the World Board.
- 14.3 The Auditors' Committee shall hold an audit of the financial administration and management of the General Secretary and the Regional Offices at least once a year and must be satisfied that:
- Expenditure is effected in keeping with the Statutes and decisions of the World Council and the World Board, and that proper vouchers are available for all expenses, and
 - Management is carried out in accordance with the Statutes and decisions of the competent bodies.
- 14.4 The Auditors' Committee shall annually prepare and submit a detailed written report to the World Board. This report shall be examined at a meeting of the World Board at which at least one representative of the Auditors' Committee is present. The Auditors' Committee shall in addition submit a detailed written report to every Congress on its work during the Congress period. This report shall be made available to the affiliated unions at least one month prior to the opening of the Congress.
- 14.5 The costs incurred by the Auditors in carrying out their official responsibilities shall be borne by BWI in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.

Article 15.

Regional structures

- 15.1 Regional structures shall be established in the following regions: Africa, Latin America and Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and North America, with the aim of promoting the objectives of BWI in each of these regions. The regional organisations shall aim at strengthening the regional structures and reaching regional autonomy in determining regional actions regarding regional matters, while being responsible for implementing the global strategy and global policies of BWI in their respective regions.
- 15.2 The work of the regional structures shall be undertaken in conformity with these Statutes as supplemented by the Regional Bylaws approved by the World Council.
- 15.3 The countries and country groups that form part of the regions shall be as determined by the World Council, following consultation with the regions concerned.
- 15.4 The regional structures will include Regional Conferences, Regional Committees, Regional Women's Committees, and Regional Youth Committees. In each region a regional action programme, with regional priorities, shall be prepared within the framework of the current budget and the BWI's global action plan.



- 15.5 Only unions affiliated to BWI shall be eligible for membership within the regional structures.
- 15.6 A Regional Conference shall be convened in each region at least once every five years.
- 15.7 The Regional Committee shall be elected by the Regional Conference and shall meet once a year.
- 15.8 The members of the Regional Women's Committee shall be elected at the Regional Conference and endorsed by the World Board. The Regional Women's Committee shall meet once a year. The Chair of the Regional Women's Committee shall be a full member of the Regional Committee and shall be the member for the region on the International Women's Committee.
- 15.9 All decisions, resolutions, recommendations and motions of the Regional Structures shall be submitted to the World Board for endorsement. Decisions, resolutions, recommendations and motions relating to the development of new policy shall also be referred to the World Council for adoption.
- 15.10 BWI will financially support the work of the regional structures.
- 15.11 The members of the Regional Youth Committee shall be elected at the Regional Conference and endorsed by the World Board. The Regional Youth Committee shall meet once a year. The Chair of the Regional Youth Committee shall be a full member of the Regional Committee and shall be the member for the region on the International Youth Committee.

Article 16.

Regional Representatives and Regional Offices

- 16.1 Regional Representatives shall act and report according to the guidelines of the General Secretary in accordance with the Statutes and shall be responsible for conducting the activities of the International in the region concerned, including:
 - a) The Regional Representative shall be responsible for running the respective regional office within the region and for the political representation of the BWI at regional level.
 - b) The Regional Representatives shall report directly to the General Secretary.
 - c) The Regional Representative shall be responsible for maintaining a well-trained and adequate staff in the Regional office. All appointments and dismissals shall be made with the prior approval of the General Secretary and appropriate contracts of employment shall be concluded with all employees.
 - d) The budgets for the Regional offices shall be drawn up in consultation between the General Secretary and the appropriate Regional Representative and approved by the World Board. The Regional Representative shall ensure that regular and up to date accounts are provided to the Secretariat in the frame of the financial guidelines.
 - e) The Regional Representative shall be responsible for the administration and management of finances in the Regional office and of all activities in the region.
 - f) The Regional Representative shall have the right to attend all regional bodies.
- 16.2 The World Board shall have the right to establish, relocate and dissolve Regional Offices.



Article 17.

Ad hoc working groups

- 17.1 The aims of ad hoc working groups shall be to further the objectives of BWI and to defend and promote the interests of workers in the construction, building, building materials, wood and forestry industry and allied industries and trades. This shall include developing social dialogue, health and safety policies and trade union co-operation.
- 17.2 The World Board may appoint ad hoc Working Groups and shall determine the nature of their tasks, the period of their appointment and the budgetary framework.
- 17.3 Each affiliate with members in the sector concerned will be entitled to participate in the global and regional activities of the sector on their own expense.

Article 18.

Women's structures

- 18.1 The International Women's Committee.
 - a) The International Women's Committee shall be comprised of the chairs of the Regional Women's Committees. For each member, a first and second substitute shall also be appointed. The substitute members will attend International Women's Committee meetings if the member is unable to do so and the substitute will have full voting rights. Only one substitute shall attend in place of a member. The Committee shall meet once a year.
 - b) The World Council shall appoint the chair and first and second vice-chairs of the International Women's Committee based on nominations from the affiliates.
 - c) The chair shall be a member of the World Council and the World Board and the vice chairs shall be substitute members of the World Council and the World Board.
 - d) Vacancies arising in the International Women's Committee shall be filled by the appointment of a representative from the respective region subject to ratification by the World Board.
- 18.2 The costs involved in meetings of the International Women Committee shall be borne by BWI in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.



Article 19.

International Youth Committee

- 19.1 The International Youth Committee.
- a) The International Youth Committee shall be comprised of the chairs of the Regional Youth Committees. For each member, a first and second substitute shall also be appointed. The substitute members will attend International Youth Committee meetings if the member is unable to do so and the substitute will have full voting rights. Only one substitute shall attend in place of a member.
 - b) The World Council shall appoint the Chair first and second Vice-Chairs of the International Youth Committee based on nominations of the regions.
 - c) The chair shall be a member of the World Council and the World Board and the Vice Chairs shall be substitute members of the World Council and the World Board.
 - d) Vacancies arising in the International Youth Committee shall be filled by the appointment of a representative from the respective region subject to ratification by the World Board.
- 19.2 The International Youth Committee meets virtually or in a hybrid structure before World Board one year, and physically the following year following the World Council. The costs involved in meetings of the International Youth Committee shall be borne by BWI in accordance with the regulations laid down by the World Board.

Article 20.

Dissolution

- 20.1 BWI can be dissolved only by a two-thirds majority vote of a World Congress on a motion for dissolution submitted in conformity with the requirements of Article 9 of these Statutes.
- 20.2 Any motion to dissolve BWI must also determine the manner of disposal of the finances and assets of BWI and the manner by which its obligations to its employees are to be fulfilled.
- 20.3 The assets, after execution of the obligations mentioned in Article 19.2, shall be entirely allocated to an institution which pursues a purpose similar to that of the BWI.

Article 21.

General provisions

- 21.1 These Statutes were approved by the Congress of BWI held in Durban, 30 November- 1 December 2017.
- 21.2 These Statutes come into force immediately at the Congress in Durban and all previous Statutes shall be considered null and void.
- 21.3 For the purpose of interpreting these Statutes, the English text shall be the authoritative version.
- Between Congresses the World Board shall interpret the Statutes. Any dispute regarding the interpretation of these statutes by the World Board shall be referred to the World Council.
- 21.4 The World Council shall decide on matters not covered by the Statutes.



Annex 1: Composition of country groups in World Council

The number of World Council members per country group shall be determined by fully paid-up affiliated membership of each group in accordance with the following scale:

- Groups with up to 80,000 members = 1 Member**
Groups with 80,001 to 150,000 members = 2 Members
Groups with 150,001 to 300,000 members = 3 Members
Groups with 300,001 and more members = 4 Members

- Group 1.** Denmark, Faeroe Islands, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
Group 2. Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands
Group 3. Germany
Group 4. Austria, Switzerland
Group 5. France, Italy,
Group 6. Portugal, Spain
Group 7. Republic of Ireland, United Kingdom
Group 8. Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovak Republic
Group 9. Bulgaria, Romania
Group 10. Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia
Group 11. Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Ukraine
Group 12. Cyprus, Greece, Israel, Malta, Turkey
Group 13. Canada, United States
Group 14. Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mali, Niger, Republic of Guinea, Senegal, Togo
Group 15. Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
Group 16. Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, , Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Group 17. Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania, Uganda
Group 18. Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia
Group 19. Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestine, Yemen, Iraq, Kurdistan
Group 20. Hong-Kong, Japan, Mongolia, South Korea, Taiwan
Group 21. Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam
Group 22. Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
Group 23. Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
Group 24. Australia
Group 25. Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela
Group 26. Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay
Group 27. Brazil
Group 28. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama
Group 29. Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, French Guyana, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad y Tobago.



Annex 2: List of allied industries and trades

The BWI World Congress in Bangkok, 4-5 December 2013 approved the following Annex to the BWI Statutes, which interprets the expression “allied industries and trade” as to include the subsectors in the list below, which is based on sub-sectors that affiliates to the BWI have members within and pay membership to the BWI for;

The BWI represents the following categories of employees:

- Wage earners (e.g. blue-collar workers, white-collar workers, informal workers, managerial staff, specialists and administrative staff (with the exclusion of leading top executive staff), false self-employed and “dependent” workers and others in similar active positions)
- Inactive workers (e.g. unemployed, retired, disabled and other workers in similar inactive positions)
- Self-employed workers (provided that they are organized by a trade union affiliated to the BWI)

Forestry

Forestry, including logging, salvaging and related service activities including the production of round wood, firewood, charcoal, pellets and other forestry based bio mass, extraction and gathering of wild growing non-wood forest products, rangers, ranger services and / or nature environmental protection, and/ or eco-services providing organisations.

Other Mining and quarrying:

- Quarrying of stone, sand and clay
- Mining and quarrying n.e.c.
- Quarrying of ornamental and building stone, limestone, gypsum, chalk and slate
- Operation of gravel and sand pits; mining of clays and kaolin

Manufacture of wood, forestry and products of wood and cork, including furniture:

- Manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials
- Sawmilling and planing of wood;
- Manufacture of products of wood, cork, straw and plaiting materials
- Manufacture of assembled parquet floors
- Manufacture of other builders’ carpentry and joinery
- Manufacture of wooden containers
- Manufacture of other products of wood; manufacture of articles of cork, straw and plaiting materials
- Manufacture of laminated and laminated floors
- Manufacture of containers, boxes and wooden pallets
- Manufacture of furniture
- Manufacture and installation of wooden construction elements such as windows, doors and stairs
- Manufacture of wood against laminate
- Manufacture of other wooden, cork, straw and/or braided materials
- Extraction of wood in planted forest
- Extraction of wood in native forest
- Activities to support forestry production
- Planting of degraded and/or deforested areas

Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products:

- Manufacture of bricks, tiles and construction products, in baked clay
- Manufacture of cement, lime and plaster
- Manufacture of articles of concrete, cement and plaster



- Manufacture of concrete products for construction purposes
- Manufacture of plaster products for construction purposes
- Manufacture of ready-mixed concrete
- Manufacture of mortars
- Manufacture of fiber cement
- Manufacture of other articles of concrete, plaster and cement
- Cutting, shaping and finishing of stone
- Manufacture and installation of structural metal products and parts of structures in connection with construction
- Manufacture and installation of construction elements windows, doors, and stairs
- Manufacture of elements for water pipes
- Manufacture of paints, glues and varnishes
- Cutting, shaping and finishing of stone
- Manufacture of insulating materials
- Glass manufacturing
- Manufacture of cement
- Manufacture of artifacts of concrete, cement, fiber cement, plaster and similar materials
- Manufacture of ceramic products
- Maintenance and repair of machines and equipment
- Manufacture of plastic tubes and accessories for use in construction
- Asphalt plants

Chemicals for construction:

- Manufacture of inks, varnishes, enamels, lacquers, and related products
- Manufacture of flat and tubular laminates of plastic material
- Manufacture of plastic tubes and accessories for use in construction
- Treatment and disposal of construction waste
- Other chemicals used in construction

Infrastructure in non-residential buildings and civil engineering:

- Construction and maintenance of road works
- Highway construction and maintenance
- Construction and maintenance of surface and underground railways
- Construction and maintenance of ports, bridges and tunnels
- Construction and maintenance of networks for fluids
- Construction and maintenance of electrical and telecommunications networks
- Construction and maintenance of other civil engineering projects
- Construction and maintenance of water and sewage projects
- Construction and maintenance of airports and ports
- Construction and maintenance of public service projects
- Construction and maintenance of reservoirs and water dams

Construction and maintenance of residential:

- Construction and maintenance of buildings and houses
- Finishing and masonry work
- Electrical, hydraulic and other installations in residential buildings
- Other works in residential real estate projects
- Construction and maintenance of other civil engineering projects n.e.c



Construction of green energy infrastructure:

- Construction and maintenance of hydroelectric power plants
- Construction and maintenance of wind and solar plants
- Installation and maintenance of solar panels
- Construction and maintenance of solid waste disposal infrastructure
- Environmental Recovery Services
- Construction and maintenance of waste reuse services.

Specialized construction activities:

- Demolition and site preparation
- Test drilling and boring
- Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities
- Electrical installation
- Plumbing, heat and air-conditioning installation - Other construction installation
- Building completion and finishing
- Plastering
- Joinery installation
- Floor and wall covering
- Painting and glazing
- Other building completion and finishing
- Other specialized construction activities
- Roofing activities
- Other specialized construction activities n.e.c.
- Wholesale of wood, construction materials and sanitary equipment
- Wholesale of hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies

Development, Architectural, engineering activities, technical services and other activities related:

- Renting of construction and civil engineering machinery and equipment to buildings and landscape activities
- Combined facilities support activities
- Cleaning activities
- Landscape service activities
- Architectural and engineering services; technical tests and analyzes
- Works planning and monitoring services
- Engineering consulting services
- Geotechnical Services
- Land preparation and earth moving services in general
- Dredging
- Administration and construction management
- Restoration of historic buildings



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